



Almost half of all COVID-19 deaths (47%) in the first wave were in care homes. Almost half of all resid homes are vitamin C deficient, according to a study from the MRC Human Nutrition Research unit in C

#### **Could lack of vitamin C be a contributor to low survival?**

People deficient in vitamin C are particularly susceptible to severe respiratory infections, such as pneu Pneumonia was the major cause of death in those with scurvy, the severe deficiency disease that wip of sailors in the 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> century.

Severe respiratory infections can also cause vitamin C levels to drop dramatically due to the enhanced and turnover of the vitamin during infections <sup>7</sup>. A survey of elderly Scottish patients hospitalized with infections found that 40% had deficient levels of vitamin C <sup>8</sup>. People who are already low in vitamin C, particularly susceptible to further depletion due to severe infections such as COVID-19, and may not s result.

Since 2008 Public Health England and the Food Standards Agency have conducted a 'National Diet ar Survey' which measures a cross-section of people's vitamin C levels. In their latest survey testing vitar they report that 4% of those over age 65 - that's 480,000 people – have vitamin C deficiency. However, section excludes residents in care homes.

"The last study we have of residents in care homes, showing that 40% are deficient, is over twenty yea then, there is growing evidence that older people with chronic health conditions may have much high vitamin C than the basic 'RDA' level of around 100 mg/d – what you'd get in two oranges." says vitam Anitra Carr, Associate Professor and Director of Nutrition in Medicine Research Group at the Universit Christchurch, in New Zealand.

We want to test residents in care homes using an inexpensive 20 second dipstick urine test for vitam Pauling Institute estimate that older people in care homes may need at least 400 mg of vitamin C – th the recommended intake and eight orange's worth – to have normal vitamin C status. We are seeking the UK who would be willing to test their residents, then supplement increasing amounts up to 1,000 r standard dose in most supplements, to see how much they really need. The evidence for vitamin C is than that for vitamin D, which is now being given to vulnerable people in care homes.





#### **Why is vitamin C being ignored?**

It is inexpensive, completely safe and known to reduce duration of infections and hospitalisation. It cost saver.

As part of our team of experts, which includes Professor David Smith from Oxford University, Professor from NHS Wales and Swansea University, Professor Paul Marik, an expert in critical care medicine from Medical School and Assoc Prof Anitra Carr who have submitted evidence to NICE and PHE regarding the prevention of respiratory infections including Covid.

So far we've heard nothing from any government agency. Mainstream media, too, seem to be ignoring there are over 100 relevant studies and 45 currently underway specifically on vitamin C and Covid prevention. Vitamin C could improve vaccine responsiveness, especially in the elderly, both of which are goal of enhancing your immune system's response when under attack.

We may be seeing millions die effectively with, or of, scurvy. You can't survive a strong viral infection with low vitamin C levels. We have to find out how much our loved ones in care homes really need to have a fig and then make sure they get it.

#### **So how can you help?**

Our [crowdfunder](#) ends tomorrow so please donate if you can so we can make this study happen. We are £7,500 short for this. For everybody who has donated so far, thank you.

Please also keep spreading the word, we need more people to sign the [petition](#) and [donate](#) if they can. This week we've had over 1,000 people sign and join the campaign. Every person makes a difference.

From the VitaminC4Covid team,

Patrick, Rob, Rebecca, Chantal, Andrew and Gaby

If you don't already please follow us on our social media accounts below:

Instagram: [C4COVID](#)  
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