**Procedure for trial medication preparation if the patient has already received dexamethasone on the day of screening**

**If the patient has received 6 mg of dexamethasone or less (corresponding to 7.2 mg dexamethasone phosphate or less)**

1. Stop the regular dexamethasone
2. Screen, randomise and administer trial medication to the patient today as follows:
   1. If the patient is **randomised to 12 mg**: Administer bolus injection of **6 mg dexamethasone in isotonic saline (bolus volume 5 ml)**. Administer bolus injections of 12 mg dexamethasone for the remaining days of the intervention period.
   2. If the patient is **randomised to 6 mg**: Administer **bolus injection of 5 ml isotonic saline only for this day**. Prepare and administer bolus injections of 6 mg dexamethasone for the remaining days of the intervention period.

**If the patient has received > 6 mg of dexamethasone (corresponding to >7.2 mg dexamethasone phosphate)**

1. Stop the regular dexamethasone
2. Screen the patient 12 h (or later) after the last administration of dexamethasone; if still eligible, randomize, prepare and administer trial medication to the patient then. Please beware that use of dexamethasone for 5 consecutive days or more is an exclusion criterion.

If your site uses another steroid for COVID-19 in clinical practice (e.g. methylprednisolone), please request a document specific for this drug.