



**GOVERNMENT OF KARNATAKA**

NO: HFW 305 ACS 2020

Karnataka Government Secretariat

Vikasa Soudha

Bengaluru, dated: 14.08.2020

**CIRCULAR**

**Guidelines for Issue of Injection Remdesivir to Private Hospitals for treating patients referred through Government**

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REMDESIVIR, a nucleotide analogue prodrug that inhibits viral RNA polymerases, has shown in vitro activity against SARS-CoV-2. It is a broad-spectrum can be antiviral medication developed by the biopharmaceutical company Gilead Sciences, used for drug trial on critically ill COVID-19. Cohort studies by Gilead Sciences Inc.'s on patients hospitalized for severe Covid-19 who were treated with compassionate-use REMDESIVIR, clinical improvement was observed in most patients. University of Chicago had conducted drug trial on severe cases of corona virus infection who were treated with daily infusions of REMDESIVIR, most were recovered. It has been authorized for emergency use in the US, India, Singapore, and approved for use in Japan, the European Union, and Australia for people with severe symptoms. It also received approval in the UK in May 2020.

- (i) The Injection Remdesivir is already being used in government hospitals. It has been decided that the same benefit should be extended to the government patients, who are under treatment in private hospitals against 50% of the beds shared in those hospitals.
- (ii) The private hospital will raise a demand for the issue of Inj. Remdesivir to Suvarna Arogya Suraksha Trust (SAST). In case of Bengaluru the request will be sent to the Regional Consultant, SAST and in respect of the other districts, it will be sent to the District Co-ordinator of SAST.
- (iii) SAST will issue an advice to Karnataka State Drugs Logistics and Warehousing Society (KSDLWS) for issue of Injection Remdesivir to Regional Consultant and District Co-ordinator indicating the number of injections to be issued.

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- (iv) The KSDLWS will issue the Inj. Remdesivir on receipt of advice from the SAST to the Regional Consultant, Bangalore, SAST and District Co-ordinator in other district to the private hospitals duly recording batch number, date of manufacture and other relevant details from the District Warehouse of KSDLWS.
- (v) The KSDLWS after issuing Inj. Remdesivir to the hospitals will notify SAST with the relevant details like name of the hospitals, batch number etc., of the Injections issued to respective hospitals.
- (vi) The private network hospital will use Inj. Remdesivir for the COVID-19 patients admitted against the Government quota. The hospital will administer the drug to the patient based on the clinical condition as per the clinical protocol issued by the Clinical Expert Team of Karnataka from time to time. Copy of the existing protocol is attached.
- (vii) Regional Consultants of Bangalore Division will collect the injection Remdesivir from the Karnataka Drug Logistics and Warehousing Society and get it distributed to the hospital where the Government allotted patients are admitted through the District Coordinator. District Co-ordinator will keep the stock at the network hospitals with the Arogya Mitra and the Medical Co-ordinator of the hospital. The injection will be periodically replenished as per the requirement.
- (viii) With regards to other districts the same manner of distribution will be there. The Regional Consultants/ ARC's of SAST will co-ordinate with the District Co-ordinators who will collect the injection Remdesivir from the district ware houses of KSDLWS and distribute to the hospital in the same manner suggested above.
- (ix) The indent for the injection Remdesivir with the name of the patient SRF/district COVID-19 ID number and contact number of the patient will be collected by the Arogya Mitra and Medical Co-ordinator (SAMCO) and will be issued to the ICU/ward for administration to the patient.
- (x) The Cartoon of the injection with the batch number and date of manufacture and expiry will be attached with the case sheet by Arogyamitra the scanned copy of which will be submitted at the time of claims.

- (xi) The case sheet needs have a clear advise from the treating physician which is to be recorded in the case sheet.
- (xii) SAST will validate with respect to the batch number, bar code etc., with the KDLW supply and utilization of the Injection Remdesivir at the time of settling the claims of the hospital.

*Jawaid 14/8/20*  
(Jawaid Akhtar)

Additional Chief Secretary to Govt  
Health and Family Welfare Department

**To,**

1. Principal Secretary, Medical Education, VikasaSoudha, Bangalore
2. Commissioner, Health and Family Welfare Services, AnandRao Circle, Bangalore
3. Mission Director, National Health Mission, AnandRao Circle, Bangalore
4. Director, Health and Family Welfare Services, AnandRao Circle, Bangalore
5. Director, Medical Education Department, AnandRao Circle, Bangalore
6. All Deputy Commissioners,
7. All CEOs of ZPs
8. All District Health and Family Welfare Officers
9. All District Surgeons
10. All District Surveillance Officers

**Copy submitted for kind information to:**

Chief Secretary, Government of Karnataka



## Annexure-Treatment Protocol

### **Indications:**

- Clinical-Moderate Pneumonia with no signs of severe disease.
- SpO<sub>2</sub>: 94%-90% in room air, RR: 24-30/m

### **Contraindications for Inj REMDESIVIR:**

- AST/ALT > 5 times Upper limit of normal (ULN)
- Severe renal impairment (i.e., eGFR < 30ml/min/m<sup>2</sup> or need for hemodialysis)
- Pregnancy or lactating females
- Children (< 12 years of age)
- No dose adjustment for Inj REMDESIVIR if eGFR > 30ml/min

### **Dose:**

- Inj REMDESIVIR 200 mg IV on day 1 followed by 100 mg IV daily for 4 days (total 5 days)

### **Side effects:**

- Raised blood levels of liver enzymes
- Nausea & an infusion-related reaction with low blood pressure, and sweating.
- The most common adverse effects in studies of remdesivir for COVID-19 include respiratory failure and organ impairment, including low albumin, low potassium, low count of red blood cells, low count of platelets that help with clotting, and yellow discoloration of the skin. Other reported side effects include gastrointestinal distress, elevated transaminase levels in the blood and infusion site reactions.

### **Other uses of Remdesivir:**

- Originally developed to treat hepatitis C and was then tested against Ebola virus disease and Marburg virus disease.

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