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| Remdesivir (Veklury®) for SARS-CoV-2 – Nursing Guide |
| **Background**  Remdesivir is an antiviral medication that directly inhibits viral replication of SARS-CoV-2. It is approved for treatment of COVID-19 in adults and pediatric patients with COVID-19, who are hospitalized, or not hospitalized and are at high risk for progression to severe COVID-19.  **Indication**  For treatment of COVID-19 in adults and pediatric patients (≥28 days old and weighing ≥3 kg) with a positive SARS-CoV-2 viral test or with clinically suspected COVID-19 (based on symptoms and potential exposure) when a test is unavailable, who are:   * Hospitalized, or * Not hospitalized, have mild-to-moderate COVID-19, and are at [high risk for progression to severe COVID-19](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/clinical-care/underlyingconditions.html), including hospitalization or death   **Dosage and Treatment Duration**   * Remdesivir should be initiated as soon as possible after diagnosis of symptomatic COVID-19 and within 7 days of symptom onset * Dosage   + Adults and pediatric patients weighing ≥40 kg     - Loading dose of 200 mg IV ONCE on Day 1, then maintenance dose of 100 mg IV once daily   + Pediatric patients ≥28 days old and weighing ≥3 kg to <40 kg     - Loading dose of 5 mg/kg IV ONCE on Day 1, then maintenance dose of 2.5 mg/kg IV once daily * Recommended treatment duration  |  |  | | --- | --- | | **Outpatient** | **Inpatient** | | **3 days** | **5 days** | | * Adults and pediatric patients who are ≥28 days old, weigh ≥3 kg, and * **NOT** HOSPITALIZED | * Adults and pediatric patients who are ≥28 days old, weigh ≥3 kg, and * HOSPITALIZED, and * Does NOT require invasive mechanical ventilation and/or ECMO at baselinea,b |   a Manufacturer prescribing information recommends 10 days duration for those requiring mechanical ventilation and/or extracorporeal membrane oxygenation (ECMO) (NIH guidelines do not recommend use in this setting), and consideration of extending 5-day courses an additional 5 days if poor clinical response for those not requiring mechanical ventilation or ECMO  *b*  For patients started on remdesivir that progress to requiring mechanical ventilation and/or ECMO, therapy should continue until course is completed  **Administration**   * Assure appropriate IV access prior to obtaining medication; may be given through a peripheral IV or a central line * If using an existing IV, line must be flushed before and after infusion with normal saline (NS) * Do not administer remdesivir simultaneously with any other medication   + Avoid concomitant administration with hydroxychloroquine or chloroquine (potential antagonism) * Stability of prepared infusion bag   + At room temperature (20 °C to 25 °C [68 °F to 77 °F]): up to 24 hours   + Refrigerated (2 °C to 8 °C [36 °F to 46 °F]): up to 48 hours * Entire volume of medication should be administered * Recommended rate of infusion  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | **Infusion bag volume** | **Infusion time** | **Rate of infusion** | | **250 mL** | 30 minutes | 8.33 mL/min | | 60 minutes | 4.17 mL/min | | 120 minutes† | 2.08 mL/min | | **100 mL** | 30 minutes | 3.33 mL/min | | 60 minutes | 1.67 mL/min | | 120 minutes† | 0.83 mL/min |   † Consider to prevent potential infusion reactions  **Monitoring**   * Recommended labs prior to and during treatment: eGFR, hepatic laboratory, prothrombin time testing * Use cautiously in individuals with hepatic impairment * Safety in pregnancy and lactation is not established * Adverse reactions   + Common: nausea, increases in ALT/AST   + Less common: hypersensitivity reaction (including anaphylaxis), bradycardia, generalized seizure * Once drug administration is complete, monitor the patient for at least **one hour**    + If signs and symptoms of a clinically significant hypersensitivity reaction occur, immediately discontinue administration and initiate appropriate treatment * Report any adverse events observed   + To report suspected adverse reactions, contact Gilead Sciences, Inc. at 1-800-GILEAD-5 or FDA at 1-800-FDA-1088 or www.fda.gov/medwatch |
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