



Medicine Supply Notification

MSN/2022/104

Remdesivir (Veklury®) 100mg powder for concentrate for solution for infusion vials

Tier 2 – medium impact*

Date of issue: 09/12/2022

Link: [Medicines Supply Tool](#)

Summary

- Very limited supplies of remdesivir (Veklury®) 100mg powder for concentrate for solution for infusion (vials) remain available for the NHS.
- We expect current supplies to the NHS to be exhausted by, or before, w/c 26th December, following this we do not currently have a date for further availability.
- Given the current supply situation a complete stock out is increasingly likely. It is recognised that under these circumstances mutual aid will become more challenging.
- Alternative treatments remain available and can support an uplift in demand.

Actions Required

Trusts/Health Board pharmacy teams should work with clinical leads to ensure that:

- if Trusts are able to assist other local providers with spare stock this would still be encouraged via the Regional Procurement Pharmacy Specialists or;
- if mutual aid is no longer possible see advice on alternative treatment options below.

Clinical information

The information below has been taken from the respective [UK Interim Clinical Commissioning Policies](#) and is a reminder to clinicians of the clinical considerations when prescribing remdesivir.

1. For patients admitted to hospital due to COVID-19:

- There is no routinely available antiviral alternative to remdesivir in this cohort, but other COVID-19 treatments (dexamethasone, IL-6 inhibitors and baricitinib) should be considered either individually or in combination in line with the published Interim Clinical Commissioning Policy and accompanying clinical guide.
- The opportunity to recruit into the RECOVERY trial should also be considered; medicines currently being studied within the RECOVERY platform trial include high-dose vs standard

*Classification of Tiers can be found at the following link:

<https://www.england.nhs.uk/publication/a-guide-to-managing-medicines-supply-and-shortages/>

corticosteroids, empagliflozin (a drug for diabetes and heart and kidney disease), sotrovimab (Xevudy®) (a monoclonal antibody treatment against the spike protein), molnupiravir (Lagevrio®) (an antiviral treatment), and nirmatrelvir/ritonavir (Paxlovid®) (an antiviral treatment)

2. For patients hospitalised for indications other than COVID-19, who then develop COVID-19 ('hospital-onset'):

- Consider nirmatrelvir/ritonavir (Paxlovid®), which is the first line treatment option for adults with hospital-onset COVID-19, or sotrovimab (Xevudy®) in line with the Interim Clinical Commissioning Policy: Treatments for hospital-onset COVID-19.

3. For non-hospitalised patients at highest risk:

- Consider nirmatrelvir/ritonavir (Paxlovid®), which is the first line treatment option for adults with non-hospitalised patients at highest risk, or molnupiravir (Lagevrio®), or sotrovimab (Xevudy®) in line with the Interim Clinical Commissioning Policy: Treatments for non-hospitalised patients with COVID-19.

Links:

- [CAS - Remdesivir for patients hospitalised due to COVID-19](#)
- [CAS - Interleukin-6 inhibitors \(tocilizumab or sarilumab\) for adult patients hospitalised due to COVID-19](#)
- [CAS - Baricitinib for patients hospitalised due to COVID-19 \(Adults and Children aged 2 years and over\)](#)
- [CAS - Treatment of Hospital-Onset COVID-19 in Adults and Children](#)
- [CAS - Treatments for Highest Risk Non-Hospitalised Patients \(Adults and Children\) with COVID-19](#)

Enquiries

Enquiries from NHS Trusts in England should in the first instance be directed to your Regional Pharmacy Procurement Specialist, who will escalate to national teams if required.

REGION	Full Name	Email
Midlands	Andi Swain (East Midlands)	andi.swain@nhs.net
	Diptyka Hart (West Midlands)	Diptyka.Hart@uhb.nhs.uk
East of England	James Kent	james.kent@nhs.net
London	Jackie Eastwood	jacqueline.eastwood@gstt.nhs.uk
North East and Yorkshire	David Allwood (Yorkshire)	davidallwood@nhs.net
North West	See Mun Wong	SeeMun.Wong@liverpoolft.nhs.uk
South East	Richard Bateman (South East Coast)	richard.bateman2@nhs.net
	Alison Ashman (Thames Valley & Wessex)	Alison.Ashman@berkshire.nhs.uk
South West	Danny Palmer	danny.palmer@uhbw.nhs.uk

Scotland

nss.nhssmedicineshortages@nhs.scot

Wales

MedicinesShortages@gov.wales

Northern Ireland

RPHPS.Admin@northerntrust.hscni.net

All other organisations should send enquiries about this notice to the DHSC Medicine Supply Team quoting reference number MSN/2022/104

Email: DHSCmedicinesupplyteam@dhsc.gov.uk.