MedStar Health

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Remdesivir Job Aid for Nurses

Background Information:

- Remdesivir (RDV) is approved in the United States for use under an Emergency Use Authorization (EUA) for the treatment of patients with suspected or laboratory-confirmed SARS-CoV-2 infection and severe COVID-19.
- Remdesivir is authorized for adult or pediatric patients who are admitted to a hospital and for whom use of an IV agent is clinically appropriate.
- Remdesivir is an anti-viral drug that is administered intravenously.
- Remdesivir is not considered a hazardous drug.

Criteria for Use:

- Covid-19 positive patient with significant hypoxemia treated with supplemental oxygen but not requiring high-flow oxygen, mechanical ventilation or ECMO.
- No improvement in respiratory function
- Reasonable expectation of survival
- eGFR >30, not on renal replacement therapy
- AST/ALT < 5x upper limit normal (ULN)
- Patient will not have a medical condition(s) that will result in near-term mortality (life expectancy less than 6 months) even with aggressive therapy
- Patient will not have an advanced and irreversible neurologic event or condition such that patient will be unable to later perceive the benefits of having received treatment

Administration:

- Requires patient or surrogate verbal informed consent, with witness, documented in the eMAR prior to administration. Consent includes discussion that RDV is not yet approved by the FDA, but that limited quantities are available under an emergency use authorization.
- Remdesivir will be reconstituted in the pharmacy and delivered to the RN on the unit.
- Nursing will sign for the medication upon delivery to the unit.
- The time stamp of reconstitution and delivery will be written on the delivery sheet. **Remdesivir expires 4 hours after reconstitution**
- Nursing will call pharmacy for the bolus and maintenance dose. Once the bolus is completed, nursing will notify the pharmacy to prepare the maintenance dose.

Remdesivir should not be administered simultaneously with any other medication. The compatibility of Remdesivir injection with IV solutions and medications other than saline is not known.

For adult and pediatric patients ≥40 kg:

- Recommended Treatment Course is 5 days (or until discharge, whichever is sooner)
- Day 1: Single loading dose of 200mg infused intravenously over 30-120 minutes
- Days 2-5: Once-daily maintenance doses of 100mg infused intravenously over 30-120 minutes for 4 days
- Treatment may be extended to a total of 10 days in mechanically ventilated patients if the patient has not demonstrated clinical improvement by day 5
- After infusion is complete flush with at least 30 mL of 0.9% saline

Signs and Symptoms of Infusion-Related Reactions may include:

- Nausea/vomiting
- Elevated aminotransferase
- Headache
- Constipation
- Phlebitis
- Pain in extremity

If signs and symptoms of a clinically significant infusion reaction occur, immediately discontinue administration and initiate appropriate treatment. Enter a patient safety event (PSE) in RL solutions.

Additional Information: Provider Requirements

- Ensure the fact sheet has been reviewed with the patient or designee, including:
    - The FDA has authorized the emergency use of remdesivir, which is not an FDA approved drug
    - The patient or parent/caregiver has the option to accept or refuse remdesivir
    - The significant known and potential risks and benefits of remdesivir, and the extent to which such risks and benefits are unknown
    - Information on available alternative treatments and the risks and benefits of those alternatives
    - Link to the patient fact sheet: https://www.fda.gov/media/137565/download
- All serious adverse events must be reported to the FDA, details include:
    - Reporting of all medication errors and adverse events (death, serious adverse events) considered to be potentially related to remdesivir
    - Reporting adverse events occurring during remdesivir treatment within 7 calendar days form the onset of the event

Refer to Medication Management
http://starport.medstar.net/msh/NaP/EmployeeInitiatives/Documents/Coronavirus/Covid%20Medication%20Treatment%20Guidelines%20v9.1%208.6.20.pdf for more information.