

## Remdesivir: Adis Evaluation

### Clinical Considerations

- Antiviral drug with low potential for drug-drug interactions; administered via intravenous infusion
- Improves time to recovery in hospitalized patients
- May have a mortality benefit in hospitalized patients with minimal oxygen requirements
- Reduces the risk of hospitalization or death in outpatients at high risk for disease progression
- Generally well tolerated

### Plain Language Summary

#### *Background and rationale*

- Coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) was first reported in China in 2019 and quickly spread around the world.
- The symptoms of COVID-19 can vary from person to person, with some people having no symptoms and others becoming very unwell.
- Most patients with COVID-19 can treat their symptoms at home, but some patients may be admitted to hospital and/or treated with specialized medications such as remdesivir (Veklury®).
- Remdesivir is an antiviral medicine that can reduce the amount of virus that causes COVID-19. It is given once a day, usually for 5–10 days, as an intravenous infusion.

#### *Clinical findings*

- Remdesivir has been shown to improve the recovery time in hospitalized patients with COVID-19, including children and adolescents.
- It may also reduce the risk of death in hospitalized patients who are not being ventilated before they start treatment.
- A 3-day course of remdesivir is also effective in patients whose age or underlying health puts them at high risk for becoming severely ill.
- The drug is generally well tolerated.

#### *Conclusion*

Remdesivir is a useful treatment option for patients with COVID-19, especially those who require additional oxygen.

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