

COVID-19 Specific Investigational Treatment Recommendations

- There is no current treatment well supported by evidence for COVID-19 infection.
- All specific therapies are investigational.
- It would be strongly preferred to enrol a patient in a clinical trial, if available, as opposed to empiric treatment with these agents.
- Many of these agents are in short supply and may not be available.
- **We recommend** against prophylaxis with hydroxychloroquine.

Outpatient Management

- Supportive care
- No specific antimicrobial therapy recommended
- **We recommend against** treatment with hydroxychloroquine.
- **We recommend against** treatment with combination of hydroxychloroquine and azithromycin.
- **We alert providers to the potential for drug-drug interactions** with hydroxychloroquine and azithromycin.

Admitted – Confirmed cases

No oxygen requirement

- Supportive care
- No specific antimicrobial therapy recommended

Confirmed COVID + Oxygen requirement + Comorbidities¹ or Age above 65

- Supportive care
- Phone consultation to Infectious Diseases Physician
- Consider treatment with Hydroxychloroquine² 400 mg PO BID on day 1, then 200 mg PO BID for 4 days

Confirmed or Suspected COVID Admitted to Critical Care Unit

- Supportive care
- Consider Ceftriaxone 1 g IV daily for 5 days
- Consult Infectious Diseases Physician
- Hydroxychloroquine 400 mg PO BID on day 1, then 200 mg PO BID for 4 days
- Consider Remdesivir³ 200 mg IV on day 1, then 100 mg IV daily (if available)

1 - Comorbidities defined as: respiratory system or cardiovascular disease, hypertension, diabetes, immunocompromised states (e.g. transplant, HIV).

2 - In-vitro antiviral activity against SARS-CoV-2, supply

3 - See Appendix 1 for further information

COVID-19 Specific Investigational Treatment Recommendations

Appendix 1 – Obtaining Remdesivir

SAP Access General Information

<https://www.canada.ca/en/health-canada/services/drugs-health-products/special-access/drugs/remdesivir.html>

Remdesivir is an investigational nucleotide analog with broad-spectrum antiviral activity – it is not approved anywhere globally for any use. Remdesivir has demonstrated *in vitro* and *in vivo* activity in animal models against the viral pathogens MERS and SARS, which are also coronaviruses and are structurally similar to COVID-19. The limited preclinical data on remdesivir in MERS and SARS indicate that remdesivir may have potential activity against COVID-19.

- Available through SAP
- Clinical trials underway
- Check drug interactions: <https://hivclinic.ca/wp-content/plugins/php/app.php>

1. Submit a request to Gilead through Gilead portal (<https://rdvcu.gilead.com/>)

Key Inclusion criteria:

- Hospitalization
- Confirmed SARS-CoV-2 by PCR
- Invasive (i.e. Intubated or Tracheostomy) Mechanical Ventilation

Key Exclusion criteria:

- Evidence of Multi-organ failure
- Vasopressor requirement to maintain blood pressure
- ALT levels > 5 X ULN
- Cr Clearance <30 mL/min or dialysis or Continuous Veno-Venous Hemofiltration

2. Submit a request to the Special Access Program (SAP)

[canada.ca/en/health-canada/services/drugs-health-products/special-access/drugs/special-access-request-form.html](https://www.canada.ca/en/health-canada/services/drugs-health-products/special-access/drugs/special-access-request-form.html)