



GOVERNMENT OF KARNATAKA

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Karnataka Government Secretariat
Vikasa Soudha
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CIRCULAR

The second wave of Covid-19 pandemic has hit the State severely. The virulence of the virus affecting the citizens in the second wave has put severe strain on the existing health infrastructure. Several steps have been taken by the State in order to face the challenges of the Covid 19 pandemic in its second wave. Of this, the most crucial and critical measure to address the severity of the cases is maintaining proper supply and distribution of medicines and availability of oxygen.

As per the prevailing treatment protocol, Remdesivir is an important drug for COVID-19 patients. There are seven pharma companies who have obtained the license from the original patent holder and are manufacturing the same in India for domestic consumption and exports, the list of manufacturers in the country are:

1. Cadila Healthcare Limited, Navasari, Gujarat
2. Hetero Labs Limited, Siddipet, Telangana.
3. Mylan Pharmaceuticals Private Limited, Bangalore, Karnataka
4. Cipla Limited, Daman
5. Syngene International Private Limited (Biocon), Kamrup, Assam
6. Jubilant Generics Limited, Sahibzaba, Arjit Singh nagar, Punjab
7. Dr. Reddy's Laboratories Limited, Tarapur, Maharashtra

The Ministry of Pharmaceuticals and Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Government of India periodically earmarks the supply of Remdesivir to each State.

Based on the allocation fixed to Karnataka with respect to these seven companies, the daily allocation for the State is obtained from each manufacturer. The physical stock is received from the manufacturers to the respective Carry and Forward (C&F) agents. Each manufacturer has minimum one C&F agent in the State. There has been a huge gap between the demand and the supply of this drug. Hence, the Government of Karnataka (GoK) has put in place a mechanism for the supply and distribution of this drug from manufacturer to the end user. A 24/7 helpline number 8951755722 has been setup to provide the information about hospital wise allocation of Remdesivir and also collect requirement for Oxygen.

Considering the large gap between demand and supply and also to ensure rational distribution of Remdesivir and Oxygen to the needy, the GoK has setup a war room for rational supply and distribution of Remdesivir and Oxygen. Sri Avinash Menon IAS, Additional Commissioner of Commercial Taxes and Sri Nishchith V.D. KSAS, Joint Controller of Accounts KSHIP, PWD Bangalore have been appointed as

Nodal Officer and Assistant Nodal Officer respectively to oversee the rational supply and distribution of Remdesivir across the state vide order no: EDPAR 181 SAS 2021, dated 21st April 2021.

Officers of the rank of Asst Commissioner Commercial Taxes (ACCTs) are posted at every C&F agent along with the jurisdictional Assistant Drug Controller (ADC) in order to ensure that there is transparency and accountability in receipts and disbursement of Remdesivir injection. These officers are co located at these C&F agents and record the actual quantities received, batch number of the vial and date of arrival of Remdesivir drug at their respective C&F agent. The information is relayed to the Nodal Officer of the Office of Drug Control office, Bangalore. The allocation to districts is based on the actual number of vials physically received at the C&F agent on the given day.

In this backdrop, the method of distribution of Remdesivir that shall be followed by the Health Institutions are as given below:

The Health Institutions currently treating Covid Patients are categorized into following Types:

- I. Government patient in Government Hospitals
- II. Government patient in Private Hospitals
- III. Private Patient in Private Hospitals

I. Allocation of Remdesivir for Covid patients in Government health Institution

- Covid patients seeking admission in the Government health facilities are treated by the respective Government health Institutions. All required drugs and consumables are made available to the patients free of cost. The complete supply and logistics and distribution is handled by Karnataka State Medical Supplies Corporation Limited (KSMSCL).
- The Government Health Facilities shall obtain requirements of Remdesivir from KSMSCL.
- The Pharmacist of the Government Health Facilities treating Covid patients shall receive the stock from their jurisdictional warehouse and shall take the allocated Remdesivir into their stock.
- The drug shall be utilized as per the Clinical Protocol issued by the Government of Karnataka.
- The Head of the Institution and Pharmacist of the concerned Government Health Facilities treating Covid patients shall be responsible for maintaining the stock, issue of the Remdesivir drug.
- The treating team shall return the used vials back to the pharmacist, who in turn shall maintain the day-wise account of the vials used along with the details of in-Patient name and IP No and date of issue for future reference