



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

II. Allocation of Remdesivir to patients occupying Government beds in Private Hospitals

- The increased load and severity of infection has led the state Government to seek the beds in the private health facilities. The cost of treatment for these patients occupying the Government quota beds in private health institution are financed through reimbursement mode by the Government of Karnataka through Suvarna Arogya Suraksha Trust (SAST) under Department of Health and Family Welfare, Government of Karnataka .
- The Private Health Facilities shall indent their requirement to Arogya Mitra appointed by Suvarna Arogya Suraksha Trust (SAST) to their respective hospital.
- The Arogya Mitra appointed by Suvarna Arogya Suraksha Trust (SAST) shall submit the indent to the District Co-ordinator of SAST of their district.
- The District Co-ordinator of SAST shall collate the hospitalwise indent of their district and submit the same to their district warehouse of KSMCL.
- The District Warehouse of KSMCL shall in turn collate the district wise indent and submit the requisition to KSMCL Headquarters.
- The KSMCL at the headquarters shall obtain the Remdesivir drug from the manufacturers and in turn shall allocate the available Remdesivir drug to District Warehouse of KSMCL .
- The District Warehouse of KSMCL shall in turn release the Remdesivir drug to the District Coordinator of SAST based on the indent raised.
- The District Coordinator of SAST shall collect the Remdesivir drug and issue the same to the Arogya Mitra appointed by Suvarna Arogya Suraksha Trust (SAST) based on the requisitions raised by the respective health facilities.
- The private hospitals treating patients occupying the Government quota shall follow the guidelines issued by SAST. The private hospitals are required to return the vials used along with the required documents of case sheet, supporting treatment documents, diagnostics etc to SAST as per the guidelines in order to claim the reimbursement of the treatment cost incurred to these patients for claiming their reimbursement as per the guidelines/ instructions/circulars issued by Government and SAST from time to time.

III. Indenting of Remdesivir for Private patient in Private hospital

The supply and distribution of Remdesivir is now been overseen by the Government, through the Nodal Officer and the Assistant Nodal Officer appointed for this purpose. Until now the procedure was that indents

from all the private health facilities falling in the jurisdiction of an Assistant Drug Controller (ADC) were collected by the ADC.

The indents from the private health facilities were collated in the Drug Controller office at the war room. The district wise allocation was done on a pro rata basis by the Nodal Officer in-charge for Remdesivir at the War Room. The allocation within the district to the health facilities are also done on prorata basis depending on the indents received from the hospitals within the jurisdiction of respective ADC.

After allocation to the districts the drugs were moved to the respective distributors at various location in the State for onward distribution to the private hospitals under the supervision of the jurisdictional ADC. The representatives of the hospitals must collect the allocated drug from their respective distributors.

It was observed there has been a lot of issues with respect to distribution and allocation to patients. There have been cases of illegal sales of the Remdesivir drug. In order to bring in a system based approach of an online indenting distribution and issuing application has been jointly developed by the Nodal Officer and the Assistant Nodal Officer appointed for this purpose by the Government and the National Informatics Centre (NIC), Govt of India. The online indenting method aims at providing complete transparency, accountability, traceability and tracking of Remdesivir drug to the last mile i.e., to the private patients at private health facilities. The application seamless enables the hospital to list out the patients requiring Remdesivir and indent its request to ADC and in turn the allocation is also made online based on availability of stock of Remdesivir. The private hospitals in turn shall receive the stock and issue it to the patients who have been enrolled for the drug.

Online indenting method for Private patient in Private hospital

- All health facilities in the State are required to register under Karnataka Private Medical Establishment (KPME) Act, 2007 with the competent authority.
- The Private Health Facilities shall fill in the details using the One-Time Online Data Collection Form. The form is available online on <https://kpme.karnataka.gov.in/>
- After the submission of the One-Time Online Data Collection Form the users are provided with the login credentials to login to online Remdesivir indenting form.
- The private hospital registered on <https://kpme.karnataka.gov.in/> only shall be

- The private hospitals treating covid patients shall use the online indenting for the private patients through this having the provision to submit the indent
- The online application is designed to obtain the identity of Covid patients by entering the SRF ID/District patient code. The private hospitals shall enter the SRF/ District patient on the patient registering form.
- The application draws the name, age, gender and the phone number used for generation of SRF ID at the time of testing from the back end which is maintained at the State Covid war room.
- The hospital shall have to then enter the in-patient number, date of admission, CT score and type of bed occupied.
- The hospital shall have to then enter the quantity of indent for each private patient against the name of those patient who are eligible to take Remdesivir Injection as per the Clinical Protocol issued by the State Government. The online application allows a max of six vials to be raised for each of the private patient.
- The Hospital shall add the patients one-by-one along with the above details for each patient for a given day and submit their indent.
- The line listed indents of the private patients so raised by the private hospitals shall be then collated and forwarded automatically to the jurisdictional ADC to whom these hospitals have been mapped.
- The ADC shall have line listing of the hospital wise indents raised by each of hospitals under his/her jurisdiction for a given day.
- The ADC/district wise indent are then collated at the war room at the Head office located in Office of Drug Controller, Bangalore. The allocation is done after ascertaining the physical quantity of Remdesivir received at each C&F agent from manufacturers. The ADCs are communicated with the allocation for the respective circles.
- The ADCs should be physically present at the distributor location and ensure the distribution of the drugs is made as per the allocation done by the nodal officer and his team.
- The ADC shall assign the quantity of vials hospital wise earmarked for his circle by the nodal officer to those hospitals that have raised online indent in the Remdesivir indenting application for the given day.
- The hospitals shall receive the vials allocated to the respective facilities and shall record it as the stock taken in the online portal.
- The private health institution shall disburse/utilize these Remdesivir drug by issuing the vials against each of the patient admitted in the

health facility as per the Clinical Protocol issued by the State Government. The issue can be against to those patients who have been registered by the private hospital while submitting their online indents. Each private patient is eligible to get maximum of six vials as per the existing treatment protocol.

- The stock position available at private hospital gets automatically updated once the hospital utilizes the stock of drugs allocated to them on a given day by the jurisdictional ADC.

- The moment private hospital issue/utilize the drug through the online portal the patient/his/her attendant whose mobile number has been used to generate the SRF ID shall get a detailed SMS on the quantity of vials issued to the patient by the respective private health facility.

- The hospitals shall consume the stock allocated for them at the earliest in order to raise fresh indent. The hospitals who do not consume the stock or do not show utilization would be rendered a reduction in the allocation in the next indent or may not receive any fresh stock until the existing stock is consumed/utilized.

Notwithstanding anything contained in a subsisting circular, in order to meet emergent exigency Remdesivir requirements, the State Nodal officer for Remdesivir may obtain the requirement for Remdesivir from a hospital/hospitals. The same shall be considered for allocation of Remdesivir till the hospital has moved into online system of indenting. This provision shall not be extended beyond 14th May 2021. Private Hospitals failing to get into online Remdesivir indenting application shall not be eligible for any allocation in future.

These guidelines are issued under Section 24 of the Disaster Management Act 2005 and section 4 of the Karnataka Epidemic diseases Act 2020. Any violation of these guidelines will attract penalties under relevant sections of the above-mentioned acts and the IPC.

(P. Ravi Kumar)
Chief Secretary to
Government and Chairman,
State Executive Committee, SDMA

To:

1. Chief Commissioner, BBMP
2. Deputy Commissioner of all Districts
3. All CEOs of ZPs
4. The Special Commissioner-Health, BBMP, Bengaluru
5. All District Health Officer
6. The Chief Health Officer (Public Health), BBMP, Bengaluru
7. The District Surveillance Officer, All districts
8. Drug Controller, Karnataka

9. Assistant Drug controllers of all districts

Copy for information:

1. Additional Chief Secretary to Govt, H&FW department
2. Principal Secretary to Government, Revenue department (Disaster Management)
3. Commissioner, Department of HFW
4. Mission Director, National Health Mission
5. Director, HFW services
6. PS to Hon'ble Minister for Health and Family Welfare and Medical Education