

**To:** [REDACTED] 5.1.2e )< 5.1.2e @minvws.nl>; [REDACTED] 5.1.2e  
**Cc:** [REDACTED] 5.1.2e )< 5.1.2e @minbuza.nl>; [REDACTED] 5.1.2e )< 5.1.2e @minvws.nl>; [REDACTED] 5.1.2e )< 5.1.2e @minvws.nl>; [REDACTED] 5.1.2e  
**From:** [REDACTED] 5.1.2e )< 5.1.2e @minvws.nl>  
**Sent:** Fri 11/20/2020 7:34:22 AM  
**Subject:** RE: EMBARGOED PRESS RELEASE:WHO Guideline Development Group advises against use of remdesivir for covid-19  
**Received:** Fri 11/20/2020 7:34:22 AM

Ha [REDACTED]

Zie mijn suggesties hieronder.

Nota bene er is reeds een aanzienlijke hoeveelheid remdesivir ingekocht door RIVM en dus beschikbaar. Over 'nieuwe inkoop' van remdesivir nu geen uitzettingen doen want dat is vooralsnog niet aan de orde.

Groet

[REDACTED]

**Van:** [REDACTED] 5.1.2e )< 5.1.2e @minvws.nl>

**Verzonden:** vrijdag 20 november 2020 07:19

**Aan:** [REDACTED] 5.1.2e )< 5.1.2e @minvws.nl>; [REDACTED] 5.1.2e )< 5.1.2e @minvws.nl>; [REDACTED] 5.1.2e )< 5.1.2e @minvws.nl>; [REDACTED] 5.1.2e

**CC:** [REDACTED] 5.1.2e )< 5.1.2e @minbuza.nl>; [REDACTED] 5.1.2e )< 5.1.2e @minvws.nl>; [REDACTED] 5.1.2e

[REDACTED] 5.1.2e )< 5.1.2e @minvws.nl>

**Onderwerp:** RE: EMBARGOED PRESS RELEASE:WHO Guideline Development Group advises against use of remdesivir for covid-19

Goedemorgen [REDACTED]

Dank nog voor de info, het komt nu ook terug in de media. Onderstaand voorstel voor de woordvoeringslijn, akkoord?

- Het negatief behandel-advies van de WHO is een belangrijk inzicht.
- De onderzoeksinstanties als het College Beoordeling Geneesmiddelen (CBG) en de Stichting Werkgroep Antibioticabeleid (SWAB) kijken naar het advies.
- **De onderzoeken naar de werking van Remdesivir trekken wisselende conclusies. Zou deze schrappen**
- Het is aan artsen hoe geneesmiddelen worden gebruikt bij behandeling van patiënten.
- **Totdat er volledig duidelijkheid is over de werking blijft het RIVM in ieder geval inkopen.** Liever: het middel is door rinv  
ingekocht en het is voor artsen en ziekenhuizen beschikbaar indien zij daar om verzoeken
- Uiteraard volgen we onderzoeken over de werking van Remdesivir nauwlettend.

Met hartelijke groet,

[REDACTED]  
5.1.2e

[REDACTED]

#### Directie communicatie

Ministerie van Volksgezondheid, Welzijn en Sport

E: [REDACTED] 5.1.2e @minvws.nl

M: +316 [REDACTED] 5.1.2e



**Van:** [REDACTED] 5.1.2e )< 5.1.2e @minvws.nl>

**Verzonden:** donderdag 19 november 2020 19:04

**Aan:** [REDACTED] 5.1.2e )< 5.1.2e @minvws.nl>; [REDACTED] 5.1.2e )< 5.1.2e @minvws.nl>; [REDACTED] 5.1.2e ,  
[REDACTED] 5.1.2e )< 5.1.2e @minvws.nl>

**CC:** [REDACTED] 5.1.2e )< 5.1.2e @minbuza.nl>; [REDACTED] 5.1.2e )< 5.1.2e @minvws.nl>; [REDACTED] 5.1.2e

[REDACTED] 5.1.2e )< 5.1.2e @minvws.nl>; [REDACTED] 5.1.2e )< 5.1.2e @minvws.nl>

**Onderwerp:** RE: EMBARGOED PRESS RELEASE:WHO Guideline Development Group advises against use of remdesivir for covid-19

Ha all,

Ik stuur het door naar de collega's van RIVM.

Het negatieve advies is m.i. niet heel veel anders dan de eerdere berichtgeving van WHO over (negatieve) onderzoekresultaten m.b.t. remdesivir. Alleen is er nu een negatief behandeladvies, vanwege geen bewijs voor effectiviteit, de relatief hoge kosten en de zorgbelasting die de iv toediening met zich mee brengt.

De SWAB zal het advies in overweging moeten nemen. Tot die tijd zal RIVM aanvragen van ziekenhuizen blijven honoreren neem ik aan.

Wij zullen MMSZ maandag in de curestaf informeren.

@ [5.1.2e] bij vragen kan je mij contacteren.

Groet  
5.1.2e

Van: [5.1.2e] <[5.1.2e]@minvws.nl>

Verzonden: donderdag 19 november 2020 18:24

Aan: [5.1.2e] <[5.1.2e]@minvws.nl>; [5.1.2e] <[5.1.2e]@minvws.nl>; [5.1.2e]

([5.1.2e]) <[5.1.2e]@minvws.nl>

CC: [5.1.2e] <[5.1.2e]@minbuza.nl>; [5.1.2e] <[5.1.2e]@minvws.nl>; [5.1.2e]

([5.1.2e]) <[5.1.2e]@minvws.nl>

Onderwerp: RE: EMBARGOED PRESS RELEASE:WHO Guideline Development Group advises against use of remdesivir for covid-19

Urgentie: Hoog

Dank [5.1.2e]!

@ [5.1.2e] Ik zal deze mail in ieder geval ook nog even met woordvoering delen en aangeven dat ze het best met jou hierover verder contact kunnen hebben. Lijkt me wel goed om hier beide ministers ook over te informeren. Met name ook wat dit betekent voor de uitgifte die nu via RIVM loopt. Schakel jij met RIVM?

Als ik vanavond nog iets kan doen, laat me weten.

Groet  
5.1.2e

Verzonden met BlackBerry Work

([www.blackberry.com](http://www.blackberry.com))

Van: [5.1.2e] <[5.1.2e]@minvws.nl>

Datum: donderdag 19 nov. 2020 4:18 PM

Aan: [5.1.2e] <[5.1.2e]@minvws.nl>; [5.1.2e] <[5.1.2e]@minvws.nl>

Kopie: [5.1.2e] <[5.1.2e]@minbuza.nl>

Onderwerp: FW: EMBARGOED PRESS RELEASE:WHO Guideline Development Group advises against use of remdesivir for covid-19

Beste [5.1.2e] en [5.1.2e]

Hierbij voor jullie nieuwe info vanuit WHO over ontraden van gebruik van remdesivir gebaseerd op recent wetenschappelijk onderzoek

Vriendelijke groeten [5.1.2e]

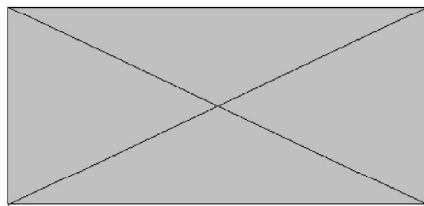
Van: WHO Media <[\[5.1.2e\]@campaign.who.int](mailto:[5.1.2e]@campaign.who.int)>

Verzonden: donderdag 19 november 2020 15:43

Aan: [5.1.2e] <[5.1.2e]@minvws.nl>

Onderwerp: EMBARGOED PRESS RELEASE:WHO Guideline Development Group advises against use of remdesivir for covid-19

No images? [Click here](#)



**Press Release from BMJ:  
Embargo 00:01 UK time on Friday 20 November 2020**

**WHO Guideline Development Group advises against use of remdesivir for covid-19**

***Currently no evidence that it improves survival and other important measures***

The antiviral drug remdesivir is not suggested for patients admitted to hospital with covid-19, regardless of how severely ill they are, because there is currently no evidence that it improves survival or the need for ventilation, say a WHO Guideline Development Group (GDG) panel of international experts in The BMJ today.

The recommendation is part of a living guideline, developed by the World Health Organization with the methodological support of MAGIC Evidence Ecosystem Foundation, to provide trustworthy guidance on the management of covid-19 and help doctors make better decisions with their patients.

Living guidelines are useful in fast moving research areas like covid-19 because they allow researchers to update previously vetted and peer reviewed evidence summaries as new information becomes available.

Remdesivir has received worldwide attention as a potentially effective treatment for severe covid-19 and is increasingly used to treat patients in hospital. But its role in clinical practice has remained uncertain.

Today's recommendation is based on a new evidence review comparing the effects of several drug treatments for covid-19. It includes data from four international randomised trials involving over 7,000 patients hospitalised for covid-19.

After thoroughly reviewing this evidence, the WHO GDG expert panel, which includes experts from around the world including four patients who have had covid-19, concluded that remdesivir has no meaningful effect on mortality or on other important outcomes for patients, such as the need for mechanical ventilation or time to clinical improvement.

The panel acknowledged that the certainty of evidence is low and said the evidence did not prove that remdesivir has no benefit; rather, there is no evidence based on currently available data that it does improve important patient outcomes.

But given the remaining possibility of important harm, as well as the relatively high cost and resource implications associated with remdesivir (it must be given intravenously), they judged this to be an appropriate recommendation.

They also support continued enrolment into trials evaluating remdesivir, especially to provide higher certainty of evidence for specific groups of patients.

In a linked feature article, US journalist Jeremy Hsu asks what now for remdesivir, given that it is unlikely to be the lifesaving drug for the masses that many have hoped for? The full story of remdesivir will not be known until manufacturer Gilead releases the full clinical study reports, writes Hsu, but much will depend on whether future studies are designed to test remdesivir's potential effectiveness.

In the meantime, he says alternative treatments, such as the well known, cheap, and

widely available corticosteroid dexamethasone, that has been proved to reduce mortality among severely ill covid-19 patients, are now impacting discussions about remdesivir's cost-effectiveness.

[Ends]

Link to Academy of Medical Sciences press release labelling system:

<http://press.psprings.co.uk/AMSlabelling.pdf>

Embargoed link to guideline:

<http://press.psprings.co.uk/bmj/november/remdesivir.pdf>

Public link once embargo lifts: <https://www.bmj.com/content/371/bmj.m3379>

Embargoed link to feature:

<http://press.psprings.co.uk/bmj/november/remdesivirfeature.pdf>

Public link once embargo lifts: <https://www.bmj.com/content/371/bmj.m4457>

### Media contacts:

Rapid Recommendation authors available via BMJ / WHO Media Relations:

5.1.2e [REDACTED], BMJ Media Relations, London, UK

Mobile: +44 (0) 5.1.2e

Email: 5.1.2e @bmj.com / 5.1.2e @bmj.com

Tarik Jašarević, World Health Organization Media Relations, Geneva, Switzerland

Mobile: +41 5.1.2e

Tel: +41 5.1.2e

Email: 5.1.2e @who.int

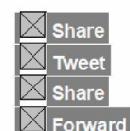
Feature: Jeremy Hsu, Freelance journalist, New York, USA

Email: 5.1.2e @gmail.com

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