

To: [REDACTED] [REDACTED]@rivm.nl]
Cc: [REDACTED] [REDACTED]@rivm.nl]
From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Thur 4/9/2020 10:54:24 AM
Subject: FW: info about Favipiravir / Avigan needed
Received: Thur 4/9/2020 10:54:32 AM

Hi [REDACTED],

Zie ondertand de reactie van Zweden en Slowakije alvast.

Groet, [REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]@mzv.sk <[REDACTED]@mzv.sk>
Sent: donderdag 9 april 2020 12:45
To: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@gov.se>; [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@msz.gov.pl>; [REDACTED]@bmeia.gv.at;
 [REDACTED]@diplobel.fed.be; [REDACTED]@mfa.bg; [REDACTED]@mvep.hr; [REDACTED]@cyprusmission.ch;
 [REDACTED]@mzv.cz; [REDACTED]@um.dk; [REDACTED]@mfa.ee; [REDACTED]@formin.fi; [REDACTED]@diplomatie.gouv.fr;
 [REDACTED]@genf.diplo.de; [REDACTED]@mfa.gr; [REDACTED]@mfa.gov.hu; [REDACTED]@dfa.ie; [REDACTED]@esteri.it;
 [REDACTED]@mfa.gov.lv; [REDACTED]@gmail.com; [REDACTED]@sam.lt; [REDACTED]@mae.etat.lu;
 [REDACTED]@gov.mt; [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@minbuza.nl>; [REDACTED]@mne.pt; [REDACTED]@gov.si;
 [REDACTED]@maec.es
Cc: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@mz.gov.pl>; [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@gov.se>
Subject: RE: info about Favipiravir / Avigan needed

Thank you, dear [REDACTED], dear [REDACTED],

For this sharing and questioning. It is considered to be useful for Slovak team as well.

I received a feedback on some clinical trials as follows (see below).

Best,

[REDACTED]

There is practically very few in official sources (CDC, EMA, FDA, etc.) (except for older work in the context and other viral diseases)

In brief (and speed), allow a few points:

1. The work : Chen Ch. et al: Favipiravir vs. Arbidol for COVID-19: A Randomized Clinical Trial. (preprint, <https://www.medrxiv.org/content/10.1101/2020.03.17.20037432v2>), it is certainly valuable but compares two drugs (favipiravir / arbidol) as an add-on to "standard" care, of which the other (arbidol) is not proven to be effective for COVID-19). The drug is actually being investigated in clinical trials (see below).

I attach other works (+ brief description of what they contain), which I found relatively relevant:

2. - Cai et al. Experimental Treatment with Favipiravir for COVID-19: An Open-Label Control Study. (preprint: <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.eng.2020.03.007> compares favipiravir + interferon alpha (aerosol inhalation) vs. lopinavir / ritonavir + interferon alpha (aerosol inhalation), with favipiravir in this combination proving to be more effective, but the results should be evaluated with caution for methodological reasons (as indicated by the authors themselves),

3.- Shio-Shin J et al. Treatment options for COVID-19: the reality and challenges. (preprint: <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.imii.2020.03.034>),, contains a brief but very useful KF characteristic of favipiravir (at p. 8-9) among other topical drugs,

4- - Behaldi D. et al. A brief review of antiviral drugs evaluated in registered clinical trials for COVID-19. (preprint: <https://doi.org/10.1101/2020.03.18.20038190>), includes the characteristics of clinical trials in the COVID-19 indication and the place of favipiravir therein (a useful weighted review, with minimal information on the drug itself in the table),

5.- Rosa C, Santos W.C. Clinical trials on drug repositioning for COVID-19 treatment. (preprint: <https://doi.org/10.26633/RPSP.2020.40>, provides an overview of clinical trials in COVID-19 registered in the clinicaltrials.gov database (virtually no specific information about favipiravir except for its place in the CTs registered there).

From: 5.1.2e <5.1.2e@[gov.se](mailto:5.1.2e@gov.se)>

Sent: Thursday, April 9, 2020 12:31 PM

Dear 5.1.2e

Please find the response from the Swedish MPA to your question:

Favipiravir is approved in Japan for the treatment of influenza viruses that are not sensitive to other medications. In addition, it has reportedly have been approved in Japan and China for covid. The basis for this approval is unclear. Favipiravir is not approved in the EU/US for any indication.

Sars-Cov2 is significantly less sensitive to favipiravir than the influenza virus. The EC50 for Sars-Cov2 is in the same order of magnitude as for Ebola. For Ebola, the approved favipiravir dose was considered to be too low. A higher dose was studied during the West African outbreak and was compared to a historical control (the JIKI study). No effect could be shown. Available data on clinical efficacy of favipiravir for covid are limited and inconclusive. The efficacy and safety of favipiravir for covid has not been established. Larger randomized clinical trials would be required for this. There is currently no treatment indication with favipiravir outside clinical trials.

I hope this provides guidance to your colleagues in Warsaw. Let me know if they want direct contact with our MPA.

Best regards,

5.1.2e

Från: 5.1.2e <5.1.2e@[msz.gov.pl](mailto:5.1.2e@msz.gov.pl)>

Skickat: den 8 april 2020 18:36

Till: 5.1.2e @[bmeia.gv.at](mailto:5.1.2e@bmeia.gv.at); 5.1.2e @[diplobel.fed.be](mailto:5.1.2e@diplobel.fed.be); 5.1.2e @[mfa.bg](mailto:5.1.2e@mfa.bg); 5.1.2e @[mvep.hr](mailto:5.1.2e@mvep.hr);
 5.1.2e @[cyprusmission.ch](mailto:5.1.2e@cyprusmission.ch); 5.1.2e @[mzv.cz](mailto:5.1.2e@mzv.cz); 5.1.2e @[um.dk](mailto:5.1.2e@um.dk); 5.1.2e @[mfa.ee](mailto:5.1.2e@mfa.ee); 5.1.2e @[formin.fi](mailto:5.1.2e@formin.fi);
 5.1.2e @[diplomatie.gouv.fr](mailto:5.1.2e@diplomatie.gouv.fr); 5.1.2e @[genf.diplo.de](mailto:5.1.2e@genf.diplo.de); 5.1.2e @[mfa.gr](mailto:5.1.2e@mfa.gr); 5.1.2e @[mfa.gov.hu](mailto:5.1.2e@mfa.gov.hu);
 5.1.2e @[dfa.ie](mailto:5.1.2e@dfa.ie); 5.1.2e @[esteri.it](mailto:5.1.2e@esteri.it); 5.1.2e @[mfa.gov.lv](mailto:5.1.2e@mfa.gov.lv); 5.1.2e @[gmail.com](mailto:5.1.2e@gmail.com);
 5.1.2e @[sam.lt](mailto:5.1.2e@sam.lt); 5.1.2e @[mae.etat.lu](mailto:5.1.2e@mae.etat.lu); 5.1.2e @[gov.mt](mailto:5.1.2e@gov.mt); 5.1.2e @[minbuza.nl](mailto:5.1.2e@minbuza.nl);
 5.1.2e @[mne.pt](mailto:5.1.2e@mne.pt); 5.1.2e @[mzv.sk](mailto:5.1.2e@mzv.sk); 5.1.2e @[gov.si](mailto:5.1.2e@gov.si); 5.1.2e @[maec.es](mailto:5.1.2e@maec.es); 5.1.2e
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Ämne: info about Favipiravir / Avignan needed

Dear Colleagues,

I am writing to you with kind request to share information regarding the effects of using the medicine with active substance called Favipiravir. The commercial name of this medicine is AVIGAN (produced by Japanese company Fuji). Similar medicine based on the same substance is produced by Chinese company Zhejiang Hisun Pharmaceutical Co., Ltd.

My colleagues in Warsaw need urgent information if anyone knows what is the effectiveness of treatment COVID-19 with Favipiravir / AVIGAN.

If you have any info on this, or you can send me contact details to anyone who is able to say something on this, this will be highly appreciated. .

We need this information urgently, in the coming days, unfortunately, and I will be very grateful for any help.

my best regards,

5.1.2e

Stałe Przedstawicielstwo RP przy Biurze NZ w Genewie
 Permanent Mission of the Republic of Poland to the UN Office in Geneva
 l'Ancienne Route 15, 1218 Grand-Saconnex

5.1.2e

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**Permanent Mission
of the Republic of Poland
to the United Nations Office
in Geneva**

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