

CORRESPONDENCE

Is remdesivir unique remedy to combat newly arrived COVID-19 pandemic?

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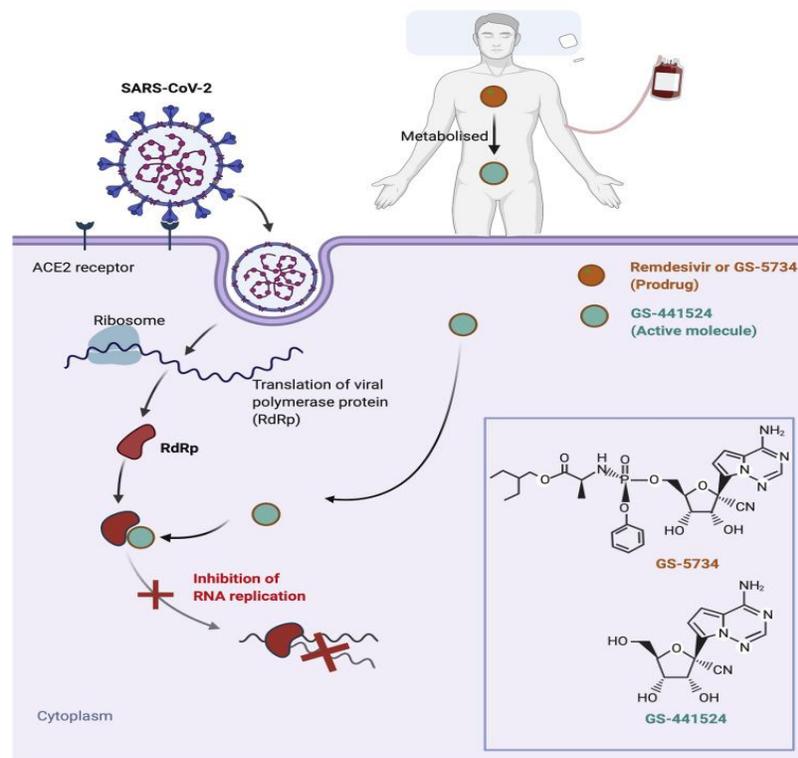


Figure 1: Mechanism of action of remdesivir [5].

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Efficiency of remdesivir:

Remdesivir is used to treat COVID-19 infections caused by the SARS-CoV-2 (figure 1) in hospitalized patients of 12 years old and elders of 40 kg weight. It stops the spread of the virus in question. However, it may cause serious reactions during and after the injection, for

instance, sweating, nausea, shivering, chills, dizziness after standing, swelling of the throat, face, eyes, lips, tongue, wheezing or shortness of breath, either fast or slow heartbeats, rash, and vomiting [1]. In accordance with all India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS), New

Delhi, joint monitoring group under the Union Health Ministry, and the ICMR-Covid19 national task force, remdesivir may be applied to victims of the pandemic under study who have temperate to severe disease within the period of ten days after onset of symptoms [2].

The shortage of remdesivir was reported [2]. In India also, insufficient supply of it was reported in 2021. World Health Organization (WHO) and Magic Evidence Ecosystem Foundation opposed the idea of using remdesivir to treat the patients [3].

Alternatives:

Diverse alternatives have been reported that replace remdesivir. Dexamethasone is cost-effective steroid and decreases mortality up to 1/3 in the patients who are hospitalized and suffering from severe respiratory complications as reported in the clinical trials conducted by Oxford Based Recovery Trials [4]. In contrast, WHO proposes corticosteroid aiding in the decrease in the length of time on a ventilator and helps in saving lives of the patients who have a severe as well as critical health problems [4].

Moreover, FabiFlu contains Favipiravir as its active component, and acts as an anti-inflammatory agent [4]. It is useful for treating the patients with mild-to-

moderate complications appeared because of COVID-19 [4]. To add, Tocilizomab is also used as efficient anti-inflammatory drug to treat the patients of the disease [4]. However, we should not completely rely on the discussed drugs since the virus family is evolving in nature leading to offer the scope for global researchers to work on novel drug discovery. We recommend all international and national organizations to support the collaborative research to prevent or treat the possible future health hazards by coronaviridae family viruses.

Competing Interest: Authors declare that no competing interest exists.

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