

PHARMACY BULLETIN



Advisor:

Pn Nur Shazrina Ahamad

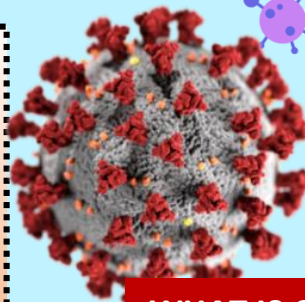
Editor:

Pn Kek Siok Ling

Co-editor:

Kamaleshwary Periasamy

Hazirah binti Berahim



CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19)

WHAT IS CORONAVIRUS?

Coronaviruses are a large family of viruses that cause illness in human and animals. Coronaviruses can cause illnesses ranging in severity from the common cold to Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARs).

In This Edition..

1. COVID-19 Information
2. Clinical Management for COVID-19
3. Drug Safety Update
4. Newly Approved Drugs
5. Product Brand Changes
6. Pharmacy Activities
7. Anugerah Perkhidmatan Cemerlang 2019
8. Pharmacy Staff Movement

COVID-19

PERSON UNDER INVESTIGATION (PUI)



- Acute respiratory infection (sudden onset of respiratory infection with at least one of the symptoms: shortness of breath, cough or sore throat) with or without fever
- AND**
- Travelled to / resided in foreign country within 14 days before the onset of illness
- OR**
- Close contact in 14 days before illness onset with a confirmed case of COVID-19
- OR**
- Attended an event associated with known COVID-19 outbreak

Ministry Of Health Malaysia



myhealth.kk



What are the symptoms of infection?



Most people confirmed to have coronavirus infection feel sick with the following symptoms:



1 Fever with body temperature 38°C and above.



2 Cough.



3 Difficulty in breathing.

If you develop the above symptoms, seek medical attention immediately at the nearest clinic or hospital.

During Movement Control Order: 3 Simple Ways To Prevent COVID-19

1 PERSONAL HYGIENE



Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. Don't touch your eyes, nose and mouth with unwashed hands.

Cover mouth and nose with tissue when coughing or sneezing, dispose tissue in closed bin and wash hands.



Do not share personal items, such as toothbrushes, towels, eating utensils and personal electronic devices.

2 DISINFECTION

Clean and disinfect commonly touched surfaces, such as door handles, light switches, bathroom fixtures, phones and remote controls. Regular household disinfectants can be used.

3 SOCIAL DISTANCING

Maintain a distance of at least 1 metre from others.

Keep in touch with family members and friends through calls and texts.

Ministry of Health Malaysia



6 STEPS OF HANDWASH TECHNIQUE



1

Rub hands palm to palm



2

Right palm over left dorsum with interlaced fingers and vice versa



3

Palm to palm with fingers interlaced



4

Back of fingers to opposing palms with fingers interlocked



5

Rotational rubbing of left thumb clasped in right palm and vice versa



6

Rotational rubbing, backwards and forwards with clasped fingers of right hand in left palm and vice versa



MINISTRY OF HEALTH
UKK@MOH

CLINICAL MANAGEMENT OF CONFIRMED COVID CASE

Clinical Staging of Syndrome Associated with COVID-19

Clinical Stages	
1	Asymptomatic
2	Symptomatic, No Pneumonia
3	Symptomatic, Pneumonia
4	Symptomatic, Pneumonia, Requiring supplemental oxygen
5	Critically ill with multiorgan

Warning signs: Fever, Dropping ALC, Increasing CRP, Tachycardia



**Stage 2 and 3 can be further classified based on the presence or absence of warning signs*

Specific Treatment

- No specific treatment for COVID-19 infection is currently approved.
- There are limited data on experimental agents including chloroquine, hydroxychloroquine, Lopinavir-ritonavir, interferon, ribavirin etc.
- The treatment regime suggested below is likely to change as new evidence emerges. Kindly discuss with ID physician or ID paediatricians for specific treatment.

Clinical Stages	
1	No treatment required
2	Hydroxychloroquine 400mg BD for 1 day and 200mg BD for 4 days Alternative: Chloroquine 500mg BD for 5 days
3	Hydroxychloroquine 400mg BD for 1 day and 200mg BD In the presence of warning signs Add Lopinavir/Ritonavir 2 BD Duration – 7-14 days
4	Hydroxychloroquine 400mg BD for 1 day and 200mg BD and Lopinavir/Ritonavir 2 BD Duration – 7-14 days
5	Hydroxychloroquine 400mg BD for 1 day and 200mg BD and Lopinavir/Ritonavir 2 BD, Ribavirin 2.4gm stat and 1.2gm BD OR S/C Interferon Beta-1b 250mgm/8mIU EOD for 7 doses Look for evidence of cytokine release syndrome

Warning signs: Fever, Dropping ALC, Increasing CRP, Tachycardia



CLINICAL MANAGEMENT OF SEVERE ACUTE RESPIRATORY INFECTIONS (SARI)/PNEUMONIA TRO COVID-19

- All patients with suspected pneumonia should be managed in PUI/SARI wards with adequate PPE.
- All cases must be screened for the aetiology.
- If COVID-19 is suspected, treatment can be started early with Hydroxychloroquine or other drugs as recommended.
- Treatment for SARI may be stopped if aetiology has been identified and COVID-19 is negative.

ADULT DOSAGE OF HYDROXYCHLOROQUINE

May start hydroxychloroquine if there is no contraindication:

*400mg at diagnosis; 400mg 12hours later;
followed by 200mg BD up to Day 5

If no hydroxychloroquine available:

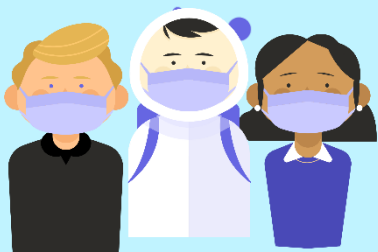
*Use chloroquine base 600mg (10mg/kg) at diagnosis and 300mg (5mg/kg) 12 hours later,
followed by 300mg (5mg/kg) BD up to Day 5

PAEDIATRICS DOSAGE OF HYDROXYCHLOROQUINE

The dose of hydroxychloroquine in children* :

*10mg/kg PO BD for 2 days, then 3mg/kg PO TDS
(total duration:5 days)

*based on University of Michigan protocol



CLINICAL MANAGEMENT OF SARI/PNEUMONIA TRO COVID-19 IN OBSTETRICS

- To be prescribed to Obstetric & Gynaecology patients when the advantage is more than the risk
- Chloroquine has not been formally assigned to a pregnancy category by the FDA. There are no controlled data in human pregnancies.
- Chloroquine should only be given during pregnancy when need has been clearly established.

OBSTETRIC DOSAGE OF HYDROXYCHLOROQUINE

400mg/kg BD on Day 1 then OD for 5 days;

OR

400mg/kg BD on Day 1 then 200mg BD for 4 day

OR

600mg BD on Day 1, then 400mg OD Day 2-5

REFERENCES

- 1) *Centres for Disease Control and Prevention. (2019). Retrieved 18 April 2020, from <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/communication/print-resources>.*
- 2) *Guidelines Covid-19 Management in Malaysia No. 05/2020 (5th Edition)*
- 3) *Guidelines of Infection Control and Clinical Management of Severe Acute Respiratory Infections (SARI)/ Pneumonia TRO Covid-19, updated 3th April 2020.*
- 4) *Official Portal Ministry of Health Malaysia. (2020). Retrieved 18 April 2020 ,from <http://www.moh.gov.my/index.php/pages/view/2264>*





ONDANSETRON: BIRTH DEFECTS

Background of Safety Issues

The National Pharmaceutical Regulatory Agency (NPRA) received information from the European Medicines Agency (EMA) on the association of ondansetron with the risk of birth defects. EMA requested all product registration holders of ondansetron-containing products to update product information with this new safety information.

This action was taken following two recent epidemiological studies based in the United States related to the use of ondansetron in pregnancy, published by Zambelli-Weiner et al. (2019) and Huybrechts et al. (2018).

These studies suggested an association between ondansetron exposure during the first trimester of pregnancy and an increased risk of orofacial cleft malformations. However, there were conflicting results for cardiac malformations.

The same signal has been identified by the United Kingdom, showing consistency with the results from previous studies.

Adverse Drug Reaction Reports

NPRA has received 29 reports with 42 adverse events suspected to be related to ondansetron. However, **no event related to birth defects has been reported.**

Advice for Healthcare Professionals

- Ondansetron is not indicated for treatment of nausea and vomiting in pregnancy and should not be used in the first trimester of pregnancy.
- The risk of birth defects associated with ondansetron-use should be considered before prescribing ondansetron to patients.
- If women of childbearing potential require treatment with ondansetron, they should be informed and understand the potential risk of birth defects associated with ondansetron use in pregnancy and should consider the use of contraception.
- Please report all suspected adverse events associated with ondansetron-containing products to the NPRA.



INTRAVENOUS IRON-CONTAINING PRODUCTS: KOUNIS SYNDROME

Overview

Intravenous iron-containing products are indicated for treatment of iron deficiency.

Background

The National Pharmaceutical Regulatory Agency (NPRA) received information from the European Medicines Agency (EMA) on the association of intravenous iron-containing products with the risk of Kounis syndrome. Iron sucrose, iron dextran and iron isomaltoside are in the scope of EMA's review.

Kounis syndrome is defined as acute coronary syndromes with mast cell and platelet activation caused by allergic, hypersensitivity or anaphylactoid reactions. It is not considered a rare disease but it is a condition which is infrequently diagnosed clinically.

Based on all available evidence from clinical trials, post-market reports, and literature, EMA concluded that all product registration holders of iron-containing products under the review would need to update their product information with the risk of Kounis syndrome.

Adverse Drug Reaction Reports





NPRA has received 162 reports with 368 adverse events, 322 reports with 755 adverse events, and 11 reports with 28 adverse events suspected to be related to iron sucrose, iron dextran and iron isomaltoside respectively.

To date, **no event related to Kounis syndrome has been reported locally.**

Advice for Healthcare Professionals

- Advise patients to inform their doctor immediately if they experience chest pain, which could be a sign of a potentially serious allergic reaction.
- Be alert on the risk of Kounis syndrome associated with the use of intravenous iron-containing products.
- Consider the diagnosis of Kounis syndrome if patients simultaneously develop hypersensitivity reaction and acute coronary syndromes during or after intravenous iron therapy.
- Report all suspected adverse events associated with iron-containing products to the NPRA.

NEWLY APPROVED DRUGS

<p>Prednisolone Acetate 1% Eye drop</p>	<p>T. Solifenacin 5mg</p>
 <p>The image shows the packaging for Prednisolone Acetate 1% Eye drop. On the left is a white box with a red top section containing the Allergan logo and the text 'PRED FORTE® prednisolone acetate 1% OPTHALMIC SUSPENSION STERILE 5 mL'. To the right of the box is a white plastic eye drop bottle with a white cap and a label that matches the box.</p>	 <p>The image shows the packaging for Solifenacin 5mg. It includes a white box with a red and white design, labeled 'Vesicare® 5 mg Solifenacin succinate tablet'. In front of the box are two blister packs and a single tablet. The blister packs are labeled 'Solifenacin succinate Vesicare® 5 mg tablet' and 'astellas'. The single tablet is white and oval-shaped, labeled '5 mg 30 Tablets'.</p>
<p>Desmopressin 0.1mg Tablet</p>	<p>Akurit-4</p>
 <p>The image shows the packaging for Desmopressin 0.1mg Tablet. On the left is a white plastic bottle with a white cap, labeled 'Minirin® Desmopressin acetate 0.1 mg'. To the right is a white box with a blue and red design, labeled 'FERRING Minirin® Tablets 0.1mg Desmopressin acetate 30 Units'.</p>	 <p>The image shows two blister packs of Akurit-4 tablets. The left blister pack is orange and contains six tablets. The right blister pack is white and contains six tablets. The tablets are white and oval-shaped.</p>

DRUGS WITHDRAWN FROM HOSP SEGAMAT

Diclofenac 100mg Suppository

Ethyl Chloride Spray

Inj Leucovorin 50mg

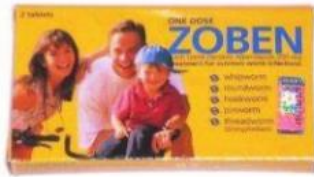
Inj Thiopentone 500mg

Gamma Benzene Hexachloride 0.1% Lotion (Lindane®)

Insulin Glulisine 100IU/ml solution

PRODUCT BRAND CHANGES: JAN-MARCH 2020

Albendazole 200mg Tablet

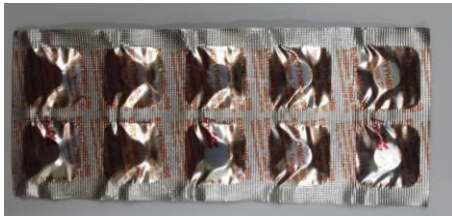


Previous Brand: Zoben
 Manufacturer: Pharmaniaga Manufacturing Berhad



Current Brand: D - Worms
 Manufacturer: Upha Pharmaceuticals Mfg Sdn Bhd

Amiodarone 200mg Tablet



Previous brand: Eurythmic
 Manufacturer: Unimed Sdn Bhd



Current brand: Amiohexal
 Manufacturer: Imeks Pharma Sdn.Bhd.

Amoxicillin 500mg Tablet



Previous Brand: Z Mox 500
 Manufacturer: Aurobindo Pharma Ltd.



Current Brand: Amoxicap 500
 Manufacturer: Hovid Berhad

Azithromycin 250mg Tablet



Previous Brand: Zithrolide
 Manufacturer: Pharmaniaga



Current Brand: Azimax-250
 Manufacturer: Hovid Berhad

PRODUCT BRAND CHANGES: JAN-MARCH 2020

Budesonide 200mcg/dose Inhaler



Previous Brand: Budesonide
 Manufacturer: Glenmark Pharmaceuticals (M) Sdn. Bhd.



Current Brand: Budecort 200
 Manufacturer: Cipla Malaysia Sdn. Bhd.

Chlorpromazine 100mg Tablet



Previous Brand: Matcine
 Manufacturer: Atlantic Laboratories (M) Sdn. Bhd.



Current Brand: Chlorpromazine
 Manufacturer: Idaman Pharmaniaga

Cloxacillin 500mg Tablet



Previous Brand: Dyna Cloxacillin Capsule 500
 Manufacturer: Dynapharm (M) Sdn. Bhd



Current Brand: Cloxacap 500
 Manufacturer: Hovid Berhad

Ethinylestradiol 20mcg + Levonorgestrel 100mcg Tablet



Previous Brand: Loette
 Manufacturer: Pfizer Ireland Pharmaceuticals



Current Brand: Minipril 20
 Manufacturer: Exeltis Pharma Sdn. Bhd.

PRODUCT BRAND CHANGES: JAN-MARCH 2020

Frusemide 20mg/2ml Injection



Previous Brand: Akoset
 Manufacturer: Duopharma (M) Sdn. Bhd



Current Brand: Fusix
 Manufacturer: SM Pharmaceuticals Sdn Bhd

Gabapentin 300mg Tablet



Previous Brand: Gabenil 300
 Manufacturer: Remedica Ltd



Current Brand: Gabapin-300
 Manufacturer: Intas Pharmaceutical Ltd

Heparin 5000iu/ml Vial



Previous Brand: Heparinol
 Manufacturer: Ain Medicare Sdn. Bhd.



Current Brand: Unihepa
 Manufacturer: Duopharma (M) Sdn. Bhd.

Lignocaine 10% w/w Spray



Previous Brand: Lox 10% Spray
 Manufacturer: Neon Laboratories Limited



Current Brand: Lignoral
 Manufacturer: European Egyptian Pharm. Ind.

PRODUCT BRAND CHANGES: JAN-MARCH 2020

Losartan 50mg Tablet



Previous Brand: Zylvoava
 Manufacturer: Xepa-Soul Pattinson (M) Sdn Bhd

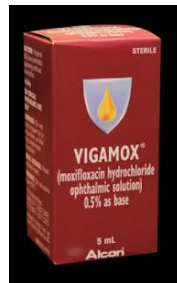


Current Brand: Rosart
 Manufacturer: Ranxaby

Moxifloxacin Ophthalmic Solution 0.5%



Previous Brand: Mosi
 Manufacturer: FDC Limited



Current Brand: Vigamox
 Manufacturer: Novartis

Paracetamol 500mg Tablet



Previous Brand: Uphamol 500
 Manufacturer: CCM Pharmaceuticals

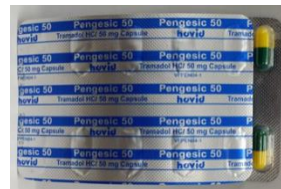


Current Brand: Fepril
 Manufacturer: Idaman Pharma Manufacturing Sdn. Bhd

Tramadol 50mg Tablet



Previous Brand: Acugesic
 Manufacturer: Duopharma (M) Sdn. Bhd



Current Brand: Pengesic 50
 Manufacturer: Hovid Berhad

Aktiviti Jabatan Farmasi

**Majlis Perpisahan Encik Hoo Kien Heng & Puan Rumiliyana
pada 11 Mac 2020**



**Lawatan ke Rumah Warga Emas di Pusat Jagaan Bakti
Murni, Bukit Siput, Segamat pada 05 Mac 2020**



Anugerah Perkhidmatan Cemerlang Jabatan Farmasi 2019



**Cik Thevashantini
A/P Kasinathan,**
Pegawai Farmasi
UF44



**En. Muhammad
Zulhilmi Bin
Shamsudin,**
Pegawai Farmasi
UF44



Pn. Kan Xin Yuan,
Pegawai Farmasi
UF44



**Pn. Nur Syafiqah
Binti Anuar,**
Pegawai Farmasi
UF44



**En. Syamshul
Syahinaz Bin Aon,**
Penolong Pegawai
Farmasi U29



**En. Hamdan Bin
Othman,**
Pembantu
Perawatan
Kesihatan U14



PHARMACY STAFF MOVEMENT



Pegawai Farmasi (Kontrak)



**Cik Helena
Sentiago**



**Cik Miranda Go
Chen Miow**

PRP Lantikan Baru



**Cik Durgesvari
A/P Rajganesh
Sivam**



**Puan Siti
Nabiella Binti
Noor Azmi**

Transfer Out (Jan – May)

- Encik Hoo Kien Heng
- Puan Rumiliyana Tusiman

