

Remdesivir

Sounds like 'rem-DE-si-vir'

Remdesivir is an antiviral medicine that can reduce the amount of virus that causes COVID-19. It is used to treat people with COVID-19 infection who meet certain criteria for its use. It is only useful when given within 7 days of the start of your COVID-19 illness so your doctors will decide whether you need this. It may help you stay out of hospital and get better sooner.

Remdesivir is given by slow injection



Remdesivir is given ONCE a day, usually for 3 days.



It is given by a slow injection into your vein (called an intravenous infusion), over 30 to 120 minutes.



Your doctor will decide what dose is right for you.

Monitoring during infusion

For some people remdesivir may cause a reaction so you will be monitored carefully during the infusion.

Tell your doctor or nurse immediately if you experience any of the following symptoms during or after the infusion:

Chills or shivering, nausea, vomiting, sweating, dizziness when standing up, rash, wheezing or shortness of breath, or swelling of the face, throat, tongue, lips or eyes.

Your doctor or nurse may need to slow down your infusion or stop your treatment if you experience these reactions.

For more information about remdesivir : visit www.hn.org.nz/remdesivir/

All medicines have some side effects

Remdesivir can cause side effects, although not everyone gets them.

Common side effects

These are usually mild and go away with time or when the medicine is stopped. Tell your doctor if these side effects cause you problems or don't go away:

- feeling sick (nausea)
- runny poos (diarrhoea)
- headache
- pain, soreness or swelling at the injection site.

Rare, serious side effects

Contact your healthcare team or **Healthline on 0800 611 116** immediately if you notice these side effects and tell them you are taking remdesivir:

- Signs of an allergic reaction such as a skin rash, puffiness or swelling of the eyelids or around the eyes, face, lips, or tongue.
- Signs of liver problems such as yellow eyes or skin, dark pee, or pain or discomfort in the upper stomach area.