Information for Clinicians

Supply of medicines being used in COVID-19

There are currently no medications that have been approved by the Therapeutic Goods Administration for the treatment or prophylaxis of COVID-19. Whilst evidence for the use of various agents is evolving on a daily basis globally, consideration must be given to patients using these agents for established indications.

Position Statement from the CEC AMS Expert Advisory Committee

The following criteria is to be used to prioritise the supply of medications that have potential for off-label and experimental use in COVID-19 –

1. Reserve sufficient stock for use in TGA-approved indications where there is proven efficacy
2. Unreserved stock (stock in excess of reserved stock) can be used in the setting of a current COVID-19 clinical trial
3. As last priority, unreserved stock can be used off-label and experimentally in facilities not participating in clinical trials or in patients who do not meet clinical trial eligibility criteria – with multi-disciplinary input regarding treatment options sought on a case-by-case basis

Clinicians are reminded that correct procedures must be followed if there is an intention to use a medicine for any indication other than those listed in the TGA-approved product information. This includes obtaining approval of the local Drug and Therapeutics Committee and informed patient (or delegate) consent.

The CEC has prepared factsheets for clinicians and pharmacists on lopinavir with ritonavir and hydroxychloroquine – acknowledging that use should be **limited to a clinical trial setting**. These are accessible via the CEC website.

If you require further information, please contact CEC-MedicationSafety@health.nsw.gov.au.