EXPERIENCE OF USING REMDESIVIR IN THE TREATMENT OF PATIENTS WITH SARS-COV2 INFECTION

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BACKGROUND AND IMPORTANCE
Remdesivir was the first antiviral authorised by the European Medicines Agency for the treatment of CoV19 disease.

AIM AND OBJECTIVE
To describe the effectiveness and safety of remdesivir in patients with SARS-CoV-2 infection in real clinical practice.

MATERIALS AND METHODS
Observational, descriptive, retrospective study in a level-II hospital.

Variables: sex, age, recommendations of remdesivir datasheet (time from symptom onset to administration ≤7-days, dosing regimen, duration of treatment and Glomerular Filtration Rate (GFR) (Contraindicated if <30mL/min).

Effectiveness assessment
- Hospital stay.
- Intensive Care Unit (ICU) admission.
- Clinical recovery in patients with 5-day treatment.

Safety assessment
- Elevated transaminases (pre-and-post-remdesivir levels)
  - Contraindicated if ≥ 5 times upper limit of normal-LSN.

RESULTS
59 patients were included (64% male). Median age 67 (30-101) years.

- 100% started within 7 days of symptomatology onset and complied with the recommended dosing regimen.
- 93.2% (55) patient’s treatments duration was 5 days.
- 1.7% (1) patient remained on treatment for 7 days.
- 5.1% (3) discontinued earlier due to clinical worsening.

Effectiveness assessment
The median hospital stay was 8 days (3-133 days).
During the hospital stay:
- 20.3% (12) patients required admission to the ICU, two of whom died.
- 90.9% (50) of 5 days treatment achieved clinical recovery.
- 11.9% (7) patients died with a median age of 85 years (59-95).

Safety assessment
Prior to administration:
- 22.1% (13) patients showed transaminase levels above the LSN, including one patient with 5LSN.
After administration:
- Transaminases increased in 31.1%, including 5 patients with 5LSN (2 of whom had initially normal values).

CONCLUSION AND RELEVANCE
- All patients received remdesivir as early as recommended and according to the conclusions of the pivotal clinical trial, where this subgroup was postulated to have the greatest clinical benefit.
- Although one third of patients had elevated transaminasemia, none required discontinuation of treatment. However, other parameters would need to be collected to assess safety more comprehensively.
- Despite the limitations of the study, in our experience, remdesivir appears to have a good effectiveness and safety profile and may be a therapeutic alternative in the treatment of COVID-19 disease.