Kerala State COVID 19 guidelines Version 3. April 24, 2021

Treatment guidelines for COVID 19 patients

Category A

Symptomatic treatment

Reassessment every 24-48 hours for change in category

Monitor for dyspnoea, hypoxia (SpO2<94%), high grade fever, severe cough, altered sensorium and excessive fatiguability

Category B

Tab Ivermectin 200mcg/kg/day (not exceeding 12mg) once a day for 3-5 days if #risk factors present PLUS

MDI/DPI Budesonide 800mcg twice a day if symptoms (fever and/or cough) are persistent beyond 5 days of disease onset

Category C

Tab Favipiravir 1800mg BD x 1 day then 800mg BD x total 7days OR

Tab Ivermectin 200mcg/kg/day (not exceeding 12mg) once a day for 3-5 days PLUS

MDI/DPI Budesonide 800mcg twice a day if symptoms (fever and/or cough) are persistent beyond 5 days of disease onset

Moderate severity (respiratory rate 24-29/min, SpO2 91-94 on room air)

Inj Methyl prednisolone 0.5-1 mg/kg/day for 5-10 days

Or

Inj Dexamethasone – 0.1-0.2 mg/kg/day for 5-10 days PLUS

Anti coagulation as per state protocol

*see EUA below

Severe (respiratory rate ≥30/min, SpO2 < 90 on room air)
Inj Methyl prednisolone 1-2 mg/kg/day for 5-10 days

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Inj Dexamethasone – 0.2-0.4 mg/kg/day for 5-10 days PLUS

Anticoagulation as per state protocol

*See EUA below

*EUA/Off label use based on limited available evidence and ONLY in special circumstances

REMDESIVIR

- Only in category C moderate and severe disease (ie requiring supplemental oxygen) AND
- Within 10 days of symptom onset
- No renal or hepatic dysfunction(egfr < 30ml/min/m², AST/ALT > 5 times ULN) NOT an absolute contraindication
- Recommended dose is 200 mg IV on day 1 followed by 100 mg IV daily for next 4 days

TOCILIZUMAB

When all below categories are met

- Severe disease (preferably within 24 48 hours of onset of severe disease / ICU admission)
- Significantly Raised inflammatory markers CRP &/or IL-6 (RECOVERY TRIAL cut off > 75mg/L)
- Not improving despite use of steroids
- No active bacterial / fungal / tubercular infection
- Recommended dose is 4-6ml/kg (usually a dose of 400mg in a 60Kg adult) in 100ml NS over 1 hour (Single Dose)

CONVALESCENT PLASMA

- Early MODERATE disease preferably within 7 days of disease onset
- Availability of high titre donor plasma (Signal to cut off ratio S/O ≥ 3.5 or equivalent based on the test used)
 Usual dose is 200ml given over a period of 2 or more hours

IVERMECTIN

- To give in high risk
- Age > 60yrs
- Cardiovascular disease including HTN, CAD
- Chronic lung/liver/kidney disease
- Cerebrovascular disease
- Obesity

- Pregnancy Category C better to avoid
- Excreted in low concentration in human milk Metabolized in liver by Cytochrome p450 isoenzyme 3A4
- Azithromycin co administration may increase serum level of Ivermectin
- Concomittent alcohol use can increase severity of adverse effects

FAVIPIRAVIR can lead to teratogenicity, transaminitis, neutropenia and dose dependent hyperuricemia. Prior to using favipiravir or remdesivir, pregnancy has to be ruled out in all females in reproductive age group. Favipiravir should not be used in pregnant and lactating females. Favipiravir should be stopped if SGPT >5 times upper limit of normal or if creatinine clearance is <30ml/min/m² or if there is doubling of creatinine from baseline without an alternative explanation.

IVERMECTIN and FAVIPIRAVIR are NOT recommended in children.		
Category A	Category B	Category C
Mild sore throat	Fever and/or severe sore throat / cough	Breathlessness, chest pain, drowsiness, fall in
/ cough /	OR	blood pressure, haemoptysis, cyanosis [red
rhinitis	Category-A with any one of the following *risk	flag signs]
/diarrhea	factors	Children with ILI (influenza like illness) with
	Lung/ heart / liver/ kidney / neurological	red flag signs
	disease/ Hypertension/haematological disorders/	(Somnolence, high/persistent fever, inability
	uncontrolled diabetes/ cancer /HIV- AIDS	to feed well, convulsions, dyspnoea
	On long term steroids	/respiratory distress, etc).
	Pregnant lady	Worsening of underlying chronic conditions
	 Age –more than 60 years. 	_