COVID-19
Provincial Guidance on Management for Pharmacists

Please be advised:
• There is no proven effective antiviral treatment or vaccine for COVID-19 at this time.
• COVID-19 clinical trials are ongoing and results will guide future management.
• For COVID-19 status and guidance, please refer to updates from your site, health region, Shared Health and/or Manitoba Health.

The majority of patients with COVID-19 infections recover without treatment or hospital admission. Patients with more serious complications may require hospitalization.

Summary of available information to date:
• Oseltamivir did not appear to have clinical benefit based on early reported experience.¹
• Investigational antivirals, protease inhibitors and biologics are being assessed within clinical trials.
• Access to investigational antivirals through Canada’s Special Access Programme (SAP) may be possible, but timelines for access are unknown at this time
• Drugs under investigation (ClinicalTrials.gov search March 9, 2020) include:
  o remdesivir (investigational; as of March 16, 2020 potentially available through Health Canada Special Access Program); https://www.canada.ca/en/health-canada/services/drugs-health-products/special-access/drugs/remdesivir.html
  o protease inhibitor combinations (e.g. lopinavir/ritonavir, darunavir/cobicistat)
  o hydroxychloroquine and chloroquine
  o other antiviral combinations
• The optimal antiviral treatment regimen is not known at this time.

This is a rapidly evolving situation and treatment options may change as experience grows. Key clinical stakeholders and leaders will provide clinical guidance as this situation evolves.

Coronavirus Resources
• Manitoba Health, Seniors and Active Living – Coronavirus (http://www.manitoba.ca/health/coronavirus/index.html)
• Shared Health - Provincial coronavirus resources for health care providers and staff (https://sharedhealthmb.ca/health-providers/coronavirus-resources/)

References