Dear Colleagues,

The Mississippi State Department of Health (MSDH) has received and distributed more than 10,000 vials of Remdesivir to Mississippi hospitals throughout the state for treatment in severely ill COVID-19 patients. The final federal allocation of this medication donated from Gilead has been dispersed by the Public Health Pharmacy.

Remdesivir will still be available for Mississippi hospitals for use in severely ill patients but going forward hospitals must procure Remdesivir through the commercial marketplace. The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) will continue to allocate Remdesivir to Mississippi; the state allocation will be based on hospital data submitted through the TeleTracking web portal and hospital allocations will be coordinated through data submitted to the Mississippi State Department of Health. A brief outline of the current process is:

- Hospitals submit data to HHS every two weeks using the TeleTracking web portal;
- HHS determines state allocation and sends that information to MSDH;
- MSDH collects hospital data to determine hospital allocation, fills out the ABC DOH RDV template spreadsheet and send to AmerisourceBergen;
- AmerisourceBergen calls the hospitals to see if they want their allocation;
- If the hospital wants their allocation, AmerisourceBergen ships to the hospital with invoice.

The HHS Office of the Assistant Secretary for Preparedness and Response (ASPR) has released the fact sheet What You Need to Know: Remdesivir for the Commercial Marketplace. Please see https://www.phe.gov/emergency/events/COVID19/investigation-MCM/Pages/factsheet.aspx for the fact sheet.

If your hospital does not already have an account with AmerisourceBergen or ASD Healthcare, this form https://www.whcsupport.com/static/documents/ASD-Bayer-DB-Questionnaire.pdf, should be completed and emailed to accountsetup@asdhealthcare.com. Once the form is received by account set up, ASD Healthcare will pre-populate the application and send it to the hospital listed contact within 1-2 days for review and execution. Account set up can be expedited if hospitals include a copy of pharmacy permit, W9, and tax exemption certificate (if applicable).

Regards,
Paul Byers, MD
State Epidemiologist
**Alerting Message Specification Settings**

- **Originating Agency:** Mississippi State Department of Health
- **Alerting Program:** MS Health Alert Network (MS HAN)
- **Message Identifier:** MSHAN-20200713-00456-ALT
- **Program (HAN) Type:** Health Alert
- **Status (Type):** Actual
- **Message Type:** Alert
- **Reference:** MSHAN-00456
- **Severity:** Unknown
- **Acknowledgement:** No
- **Sensitive:** Not Sensitive
- **Message Expiration:** Undetermined
- **Urgency:** Undetermined
- **Delivery Time:** 600 minutes

**Definition of Alerting Vocabulary and Message Specification Settings**

- **Originating Agency:** A unique identifier for the agency originating the alert.
- **Alerting Program:** The program sending the alert or engaging in alerts and communications using PHIN Communication and Alerting (PCA) as a vehicle for their delivery.
- **Message Identifier:** A unique alert identifier that is generated upon alert activation (MSHAN-yyyymmdd-hhmm-TTT (ALT=Health Alert, ADV=Health Advisory, UPD=Health Update, MSG/INFO=Message/Info Service)).
- **Program (HAN) Type:** Categories of Health Alert Messages.
  - **Health Alert:** Conveys the highest level of importance; warrants immediate action or attention.
  - **Health Advisory:** Provides important information for a specific incident or situation; may not require immediate action.
  - **Health Update:** Provides updated information regarding an incident or situation; unlikely to require immediate action.
  - **Health Info Service:** Provides Message / Notification of general public health information; unlikely to require immediate action.
- **Status (Type):**
  - **Actual:** Communication or alert refers to a live event
  - **Exercise:** Designated recipients must respond to the communication or alert
  - **Test:** Communication or alert is related to a technical, system test and should be disregarded
Message Type:
Alert: Indicates an original Alert
Update: Indicates prior alert has been Updated and/or superseded
Cancel: Indicates prior alert has been cancelled
Error: Indicates prior alert has been retracted

Reference: For a communication or alert with a Message Type of “Update” or “Cancel”, this attribute contains the unique Message Identifier of the original communication or alert being updated or cancelled. “n/a” = Not Applicable.

Severity:
Extreme: Extraordinary threat to life or property
Severe: Significant threat to life or property
Moderate: Possible threat to life or property
Minor: Minimal threat to life or property
Unknown: Unknown threat to life or property

Acknowledgement: Indicates whether an acknowledgement on the part of the recipient is required to confirm that the alert was received, and the timeframe in which a response is required (Yes or No).

Sensitive:
Sensitive: Indicates the alert contains sensitive content
Not Sensitive: Indicates non-sensitive content

Message Expiration: Undetermined.

Urgency: Undetermined. Responsive action should be taken immediately.

Delivery Time: Indicates the timeframe for delivery of the alert (15, 60, 1440, 4320 minutes (.25, 1, 24, 72 hours)).