



JPM CBRN MEDICAL'S DEVELOPMENT OF REMDESIVIR: A BROAD-SPECTRUM ANTIVIRAL DRUG

The Joint Project Manager for Chemical, Biological, Radiological, and Nuclear Medical (JPM CBRN Medical) aims to provide U.S. military forces and the nation with safe, effective, and innovative medical solutions to counter chemical, biological, radiological, and nuclear threats. The JPM CBRN Medical facilitates the advanced development and acquisition of medical countermeasures and systems to enhance the nation's biodefense response capability.

OVERVIEW

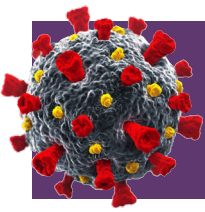
The Department of Defense (DOD), in collaboration with Gilead Sciences, Inc., is developing Remdesivir, a broad-spectrum intravenous antiviral drug with activity against a number of virus families including coronaviruses (COVID-19, MERS, SARS) and filoviruses (Ebola, Marburg). While there are currently no U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) approved drugs for these diseases, Remdesivir is now permitted for immediate use as a COVID-19 treatment under an Emergency Use Authorization (EUA) issued on May 1, 2020.

WHY DOES DOD NEED THIS?

- Remdesivir will be used to treat warfighters infected with viral diseases that are readily spread among DOD personnel, who often operate in close quarters; prompt treatment of infected personnel preserves the fighting strength, and facilitates readiness
- Development of effective antiviral treatments as critical medical countermeasures is both a national security and defense priority, particularly now as the nation responds to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic
- Availability of treatments like Remdesivir, coupled with JPM CBRN Medical-developed diagnostic testing equipment for viral disease, provides a full-spectrum solution that currently does not exist for lethal viral infections adversely affecting unit readiness and mission accomplishment

WHY THE JPEO-CBRND?

- Focal point for development, acquisition, fielding, and life cycle support of chemical and biological defense equipment and FDA-approved medical countermeasures
- Has active contractual relationships with industry partners that could accelerate capability development of broad-spectrum antivirals; the Force Health Protection program at the U.S. Army Medical Materiel Development Activity leveraged the JPEO-CBRND's existing partnership with Gilead Sciences, Inc. to enter into a Cooperative Research and Development Agreement that provides Remdesivir for the treatment of DOD personnel afflicted with COVID-19 in the absence of any approved treatment options
- Has a proven track record of providing a broad array of therapeutic products to meet the needs of the warfighter for chemical and biological defense



“THE JPEO-CBRND’S DIVERSE PORTFOLIO ALLOWS US TO RESPOND TO THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC THROUGH A COMPREHENSIVE THREE-PRONGED APPROACH. COORDINATED EFFORTS TO PREVENT, DETECT, AND TREAT THIS DISEASE WILL FACILITATE THE DELIVERY OF EFFECTIVE MEDICAL COUNTERMEASURES THAT PROTECT BOTH WARFIGHTERS AND CIVILIANS ALIKE.” - COL RYAN ECKMEIER

Government Partners

- U.S. Army Medical Research Institute of Infectious Diseases (USAMRIID)
- U.S. Army Medical Materiel Development Activity (USAMMDA), Force Health Protection (FHP) program
- National Institutes of Health (NIH)

Industry Partners

- Gilead Sciences, Inc.

