

# Sotrovimab for treatment of COVID-19

## Who is this information for?

This information leaflet has important information for patients that receive the medicine called sotrovimab to treat COVID-19 and their families and carers.

## What is the potential benefit of sotrovimab for COVID-19?

- Sotrovimab has been developed for the treatment of COVID-19
- If given in the first 5 days of COVID-19 infection, sotrovimab may reduce the chances of being admitted to hospital or dying by up to 85%
- You will need to provide consent (approval) before you receive the medication. As part of this process, the doctor will discuss the potential benefits as well as any risks with you. You can always change your mind about treatment with sotrovimab and withdraw consent at any time.

## How is sotrovimab given?

- Sotrovimab is given into a vein (intravenous administration) by a doctor or nurse and normally takes about 30 minutes
- You will be observed by the nurse or doctor for one hour after receiving sotrovimab to make sure that you do not have an allergic reaction.

## Please let your doctor know before using sotrovimab

- Any medical conditions you have
- Previous allergic reactions to any medicines or other substances
- All medicines that you have recently taken, including over-the-counter and complementary medicines e.g. vitamins, minerals, herbal or naturopathic medicines
- If you are pregnant or may be pregnant or if you are planning to become pregnant
- If you are breastfeeding
- Any recent vaccinations or if you are planning to receive any vaccinations.

## What are the side effects of sotrovimab?

Most people who receive sotrovimab do not experience side effects. However, you should be aware that some possible side effects are:

Common side effects (between 1 in 100 patients and 1 in 10 patients)

- Non-allergic reactions while receiving the sotrovimab infusion:
  - Fever or chills
  - Chest pain or pressure
  - Fast, slow or abnormal heartbeat
  - Upset stomach or diarrhoea
  - Headache or dizziness
  - Throat irritation or shortness of breath
  - Itchiness and mild skin rash (hives)
- Allergic reactions:
  - Feeling short of breath, wheezing, difficulty breathing
  - Swelling of the face, lips, tongue or other parts of the body
  - Severe skin rash, itching, hives

There is a possibility of experiencing other unknown side effects with sotrovimab that are not listed above.

**If you experience any side effects tell the doctor or nurse immediately.**

## Are there special precautions with sotrovimab?

- Use with other medicines –
  - So far no medicine interactions have been identified for sotrovimab
  - However, it is important that you tell the doctors and other health professionals (such as nurses and pharmacists) all medications you take or are planning to take. This includes over-the-counter and complementary medicines e.g. vitamins, minerals, herbal or naturopathic medicines
- Vaccination –
  - It is recommended that you do not receive your COVID-19 vaccination for at least 3 months (90 days) after receiving sotrovimab. You will be provided with a medical exemption letter for this 90 day period.
  - It is very likely sotrovimab and your COVID-19 infection will prevent you from getting COVID-19 again within these 3 months (90 days)
  - Your doctor will be able to provide advice about other vaccines.
- Fertility, pregnancy and breastfeeding –
  - Sotrovimab has not been tested on pregnant or breastfeeding women who have COVID-19
  - The effect of sotrovimab on fertility is unknown
  - If you are pregnant, breastfeeding or planning a family, please discuss this with the doctor.

## What do I need to do after I have had my dose of sotrovimab?

- Continue to follow the health advice provided by the team who are providing your COVID-19 care and the Department of Health. Monitor for the symptoms of COVID-19, as they may still occur.
- If you start to feel unwell or your symptoms get worse but are not serious, report these to the team who are providing your COVID-19 care (GP or local COVID-19 Care Pathway). Alternatively, please call the COVID-19 hotline.
- If you have serious symptoms, like difficulty breathing, call 000 and ask for an ambulance. Make sure you say that you have COVID-19 and are in isolation
- If anyone else you are living with developed symptoms – no matter how mild – they should get tested and isolate. The Department of Health will tell them when they can stop isolating
- If you think you have developed a possible side effect from the sotrovimab, contact the team who are providing your COVID-19 care (GP or local COVID-19 Care Pathway). Alternatively, please call the COVID-19 hotline.

### For information



Sotrovimab Infusion Clinic (10.00am to 6.30pm)

- General information: [Sotrovimab@MonashHealth.org](mailto:Sotrovimab@MonashHealth.org)
- Bookings, transportation or cancellations: **0448 872 398**

COVID-19 Hotline

- Reporting increased symptoms or side effects (24 hours)
- **1800 675 398**



If you require an interpreter, please call **131 450**

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**This document is intended for information purposes only and does not replace discussion or advice that your healthcare team gives you**