



LMAP  
2023

LIVERPOOL MASTERCLASS IN  
ANTIVIRAL PHARMACOLOGY



# Renal Dosing of Antiviral Agents for COVID-19 (Case)

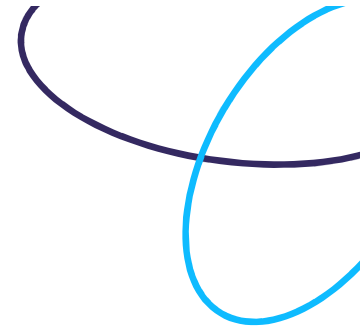
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Toronto General Hospital/University of Toronto



# Disclosures

- Unrestricted educational and research grants (paid to institution/organization):
  - Abbvie, Gilead, Merck, ViiV
- Speaker honoraria/consulting/advisory board:
  - Gilead, Merck, Pfizer, ViiV





# Case

- 68 yo male, HIV+ 1986, virally suppressed since 2004.
- Comorbidities include hepatitis B, seizure disorder, depression, CKD (eGFR ~27). Resides in assisted living home.
- Medications:
  - Bictegravir/emtricitabine/TAF, levetiracetam 500 mg BID, atorvastatin 10 mg, olanzapine 25 mg, sertraline 25 mg, calcitriol 0.25 ucg, acetaminophen prn
- Oct/2023 → Diagnosed with COVID



# Renal Impairment & COVID-19

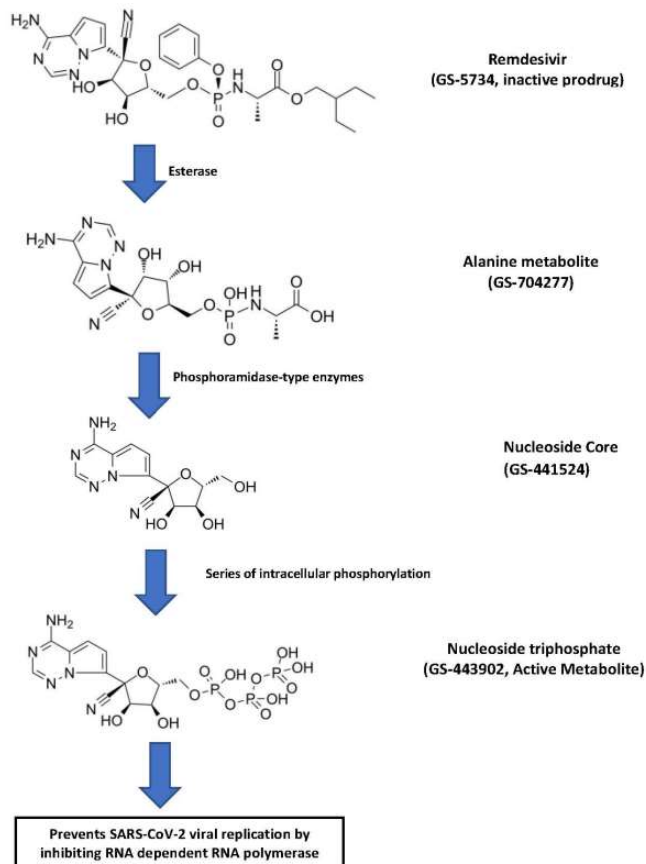
- Patients with renal impairment at increased risk for severe outcomes with COVID-19
- COVID-19 can cause renal issues (AKI, tubulopathy, glomerulopathy)
- Need to know how to dose COVID agents in people with renal impairment
  - However, limited PK/safety data in this population
  - Exclusion from clinical trials, monograph restrictions



# COVID Antivirals in Renal Impairment

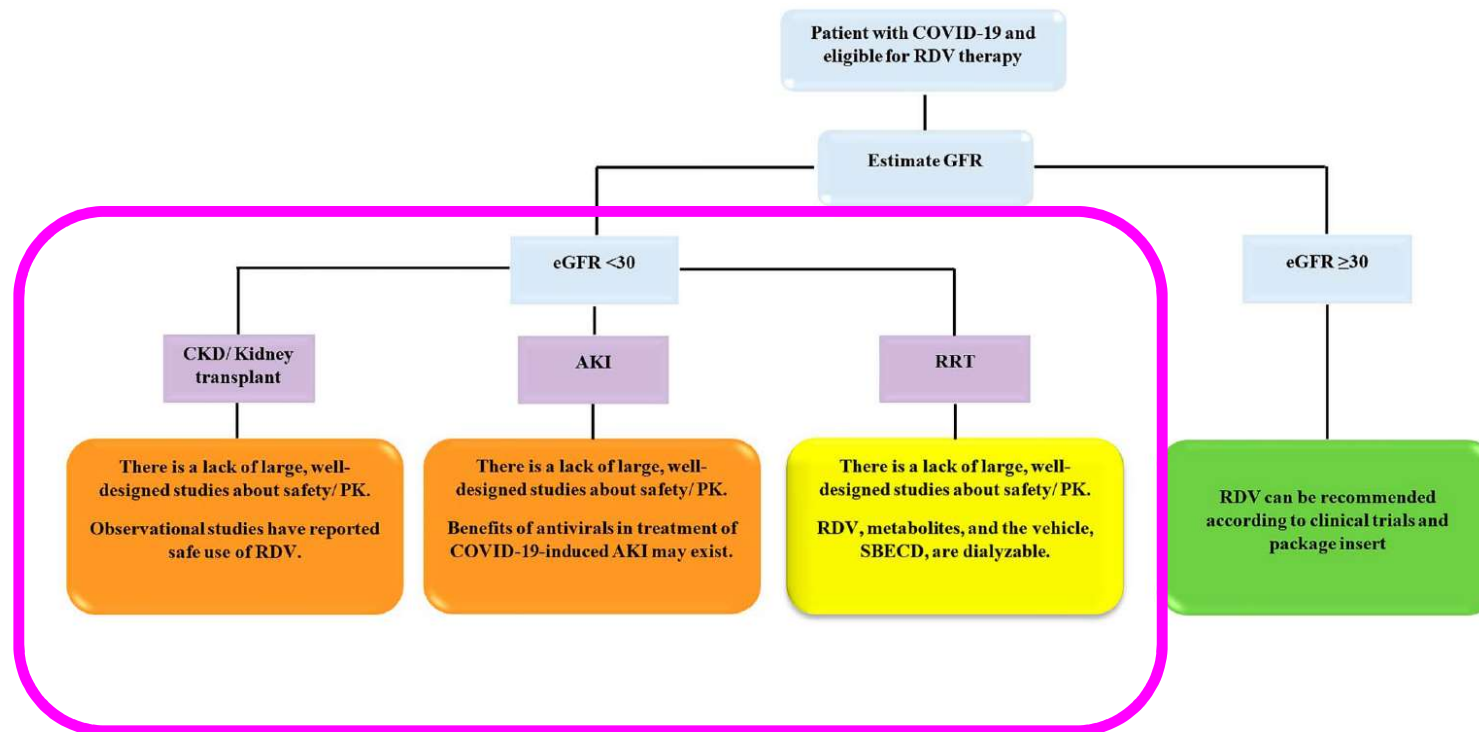
- Remdesivir
- Molnupiravir
- Nirmatrelvir/ritonavir
  
- Focus on experience in patients with advanced renal impairment (eGFR<30)

# Remdesivir Pharmacokinetics



- Dosing: 200 mg IV day 1, then 100 mg IV daily
  - Mild-moderate: 3 days total
  - Hospitalized: 5 days total, can be extended to 10
- Remdesivir is rapidly converted to nucleoside core (GS-441524), activated intracellularly to TP analogue GS-443902
- GS-441524 primarily undergoes renal clearance

# Remdesivir in renal dysfunction



- Not recommended in eGFR<30 (manufacturer)

Davoudi-Monfared et al. American Journal of Therapeutics (2022) 29(5)

# RDV in renal dysfunction: concerns

## Mitochondrial toxicity

### Potential nephrotoxicity

- Observed after prolonged exposure
- Increased kidney injury not observed in RDV trials (Wang et al. 2020)

### Accumulation of SBECD vehicle

### Potential risk of kidney or hepatic toxicity

- Toxicity in animal models @ doses 50- to 100-fold ↑ than clinical
- Accumulates in renal impairment but is not resorbed

### Limited PK

3-fold to 6-fold ↑ in RDV parent & metabolite in hemodialysis (n=1)

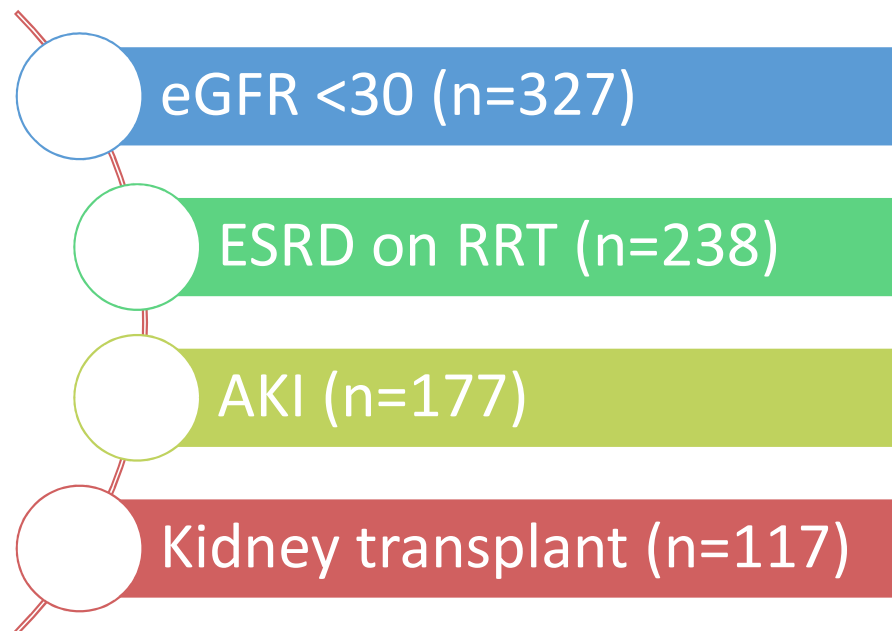
- New data and clinical experience available



# RDV in COVID-19 patients with renal impairment: systematic review

Eligible studies (n=22)  
including:  
Cohort (n=8)  
Observational (n=8)  
Case series (n=3)  
Case report (n=3)

- No increase in adverse effects (hepatic, renal, GI) attributable to remdesivir vs. patients with normal renal function were reported



Review

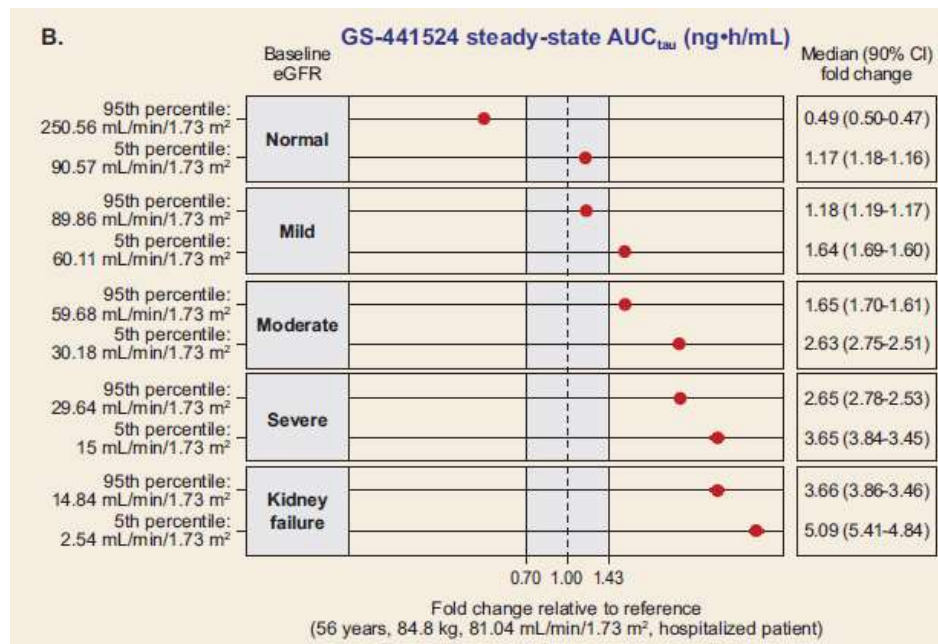
# Remdesivir Use in the Real-World Setting: An Overview of Available Evidence

- Included 4 additional publications of patients with renal impairment vs. previous systematic review
  - Hemodialysis (n=436) Lim et al. 2022; Kikuchi et al. 2021.
  - Kidney transplant (n=165) Elec et al. 2022
  - Advanced kidney disease eGFR<30 (n=444) Stancampiano et al. 2022
- *“All real-world studies showed that remdesivir was relatively safe and well-tolerated in patients with severe renal disease”*

Akinosoglou et al. Viruses 2023;15:1167

# REDPINE: Safety of RDV in hospitalized patients with moderate/severe renal insufficiency

- PopPK modeling:
  - Up to 5-fold  $\uparrow$  AUC metabolite



RDV, remdesivir; IV, intravenous; IMV, invasive mechanical ventilation.

<sup>a</sup>249 participants were randomised, but 6 were not treated.

<sup>b</sup>If a participant was discharged prior to Day 29, a phone follow-up was completed on Days 29 and 60.

- No significant difference in all-cause death or IMV by day 29
- No new safety signals identified with increasing concentrations of the GS-441524 metabolite or the excipient SBECD

# Remdesivir in eGFR<30 mL/min



10/2023

No dose  
adjustment  
required



07/2023

No dose  
adjustment  
required



06/2023

Do not use.  
Discontinue  
immediately if  
eGFR<30

# Remdesivir in eGFR < 30 mL/min

JAMA  
Network | **Open**<sup>™</sup>

Research Letter | Infectious Diseases

## Remdesivir in Patients With Severe Kidney Dysfunction A Secondary Analysis of the CATCO Randomized Trial

Matthew Cheng, MD, CM; Rob Fowler, MDCM, MS(Epi); Srinivas Murthy, MD, CM, MHSc; Ruxandra Pinto, PhD; Nancy L. Sheehan, PharmD, MSc; Alice Tseng, PharmD

### Discussion

In patients with eGFR less than 30 mL/min/1.73 m<sup>2</sup> at baseline who received remdesivir, there was no increased risk of transaminitis or toxic kidney effects at day 5.

JAMA Network Open 2022;5(8):e2229236.

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# Molnupiravir Pharmacokinetics

- Prodrug of NHC, rapidly converted to NHC-TP
- Minimal renal excretion
- EUA label:
  - Population PK analysis: no impact of mild/moderate RI on PK of NHC
  - PK not evaluated in  $eGFR < 30$
  - Severe RI, ESRD, dialysis not expected to have significant impact on NHC pk
- **No dose adjustment required in any degree of renal impairment**

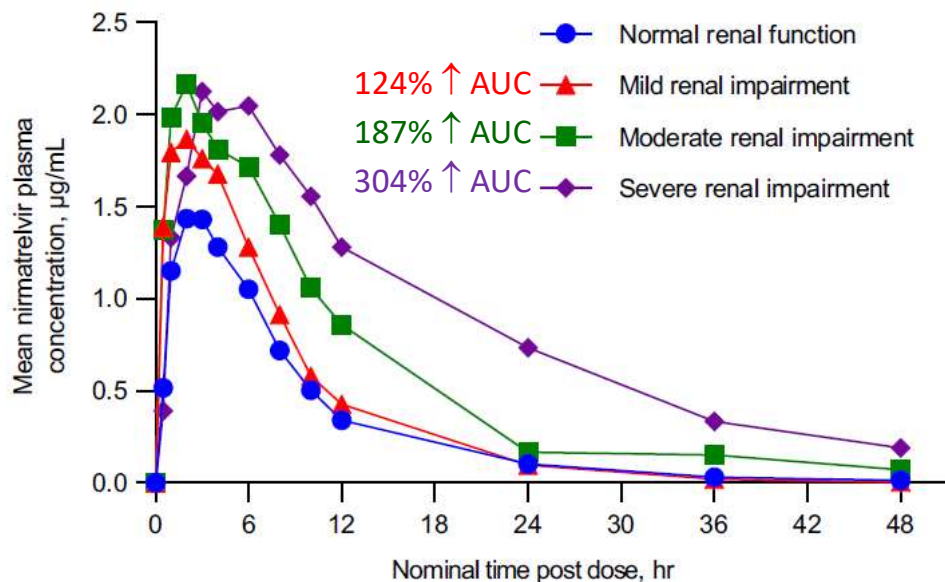
# Molnupiravir Safety in Severe Renal Impairment

- Phase III study in outpatients (MOVE-OUT) excluded eGFR<30 or dialysis patients
- Real-world experience:

Study	Stage of CKD	Adverse effects
Dufour et al. (2023)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• N=3 maintenance hemodialysis</li><li>• N=1 stage 4: transplant (eGFR 18)</li><li>• N=1 stage 5 (eGFR 11)</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• None reported</li><li>• Renal function remained stable</li></ul>
Cho et al. (2023)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• N=11 stage 4 (eGFR 15-30)</li><li>• N=1 stage 5 (eGFR &lt;15)</li><li>• N=1 stage 5D (eGFR&lt;15 on RRT)</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• GI upset (n=3), leading to early drug d/c in 2</li><li>• 1 patient with schizoaffective disorder hospitalized on day 3 due to worsening insomnia &amp; visual hallucinations</li></ul>

Dufour et al. *Kidney Res Clin Pract* 2023;42:275-8. Cho et al. *Nephrol Dial Transplant* 2023;38:1912-4.

# Nirmatrelvir is a CYP3A4 substrate but metabolic clearance is minimal when boosted with ritonavir

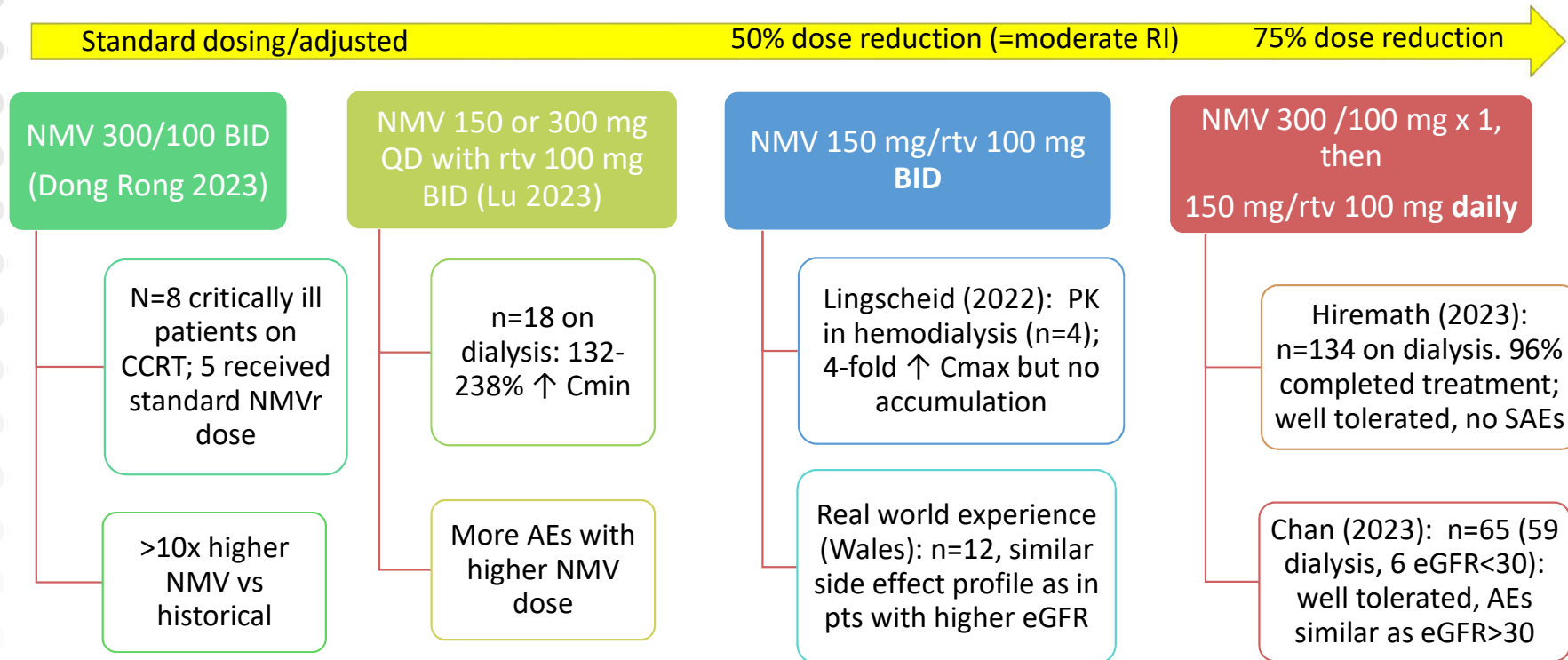


eGFR mL/min	Recommendation (monograph)
60 to <90 (mild)	Standard dose
30 to <60 (moderate)	↓ to 150/100 mg BID
<30 (severe)	Not recommended

Toussi S et al. CPT 2022;112:892-900. Cdn Paxlovid monograph, 3/10/2023



# NMV/r in dialysis or eGFR<30: data

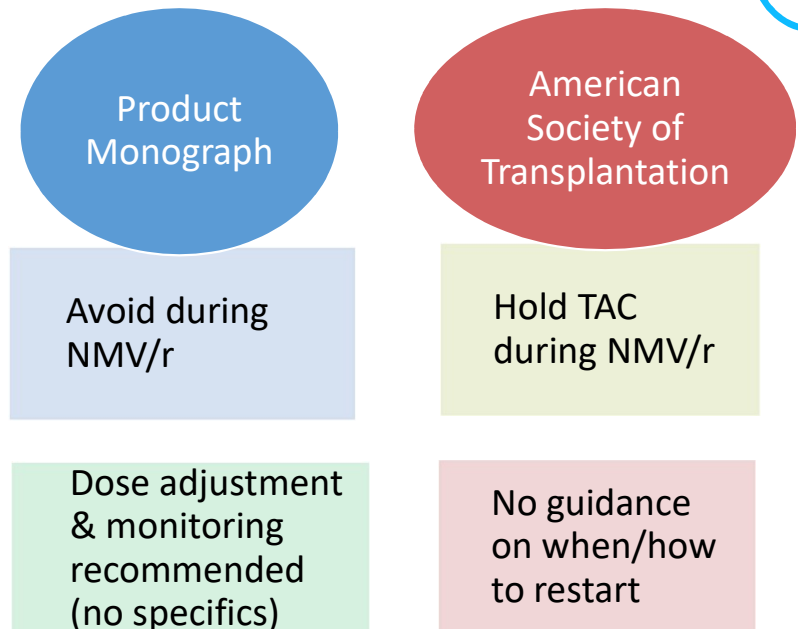


Lingscheid et al. AAC 2022;66:1-4. UKRPG 2023. Lu et al. Front Pharmacol 2023; Hiremath et al. CJASN 2023;18:485-90. Chan et al. CID 2023.



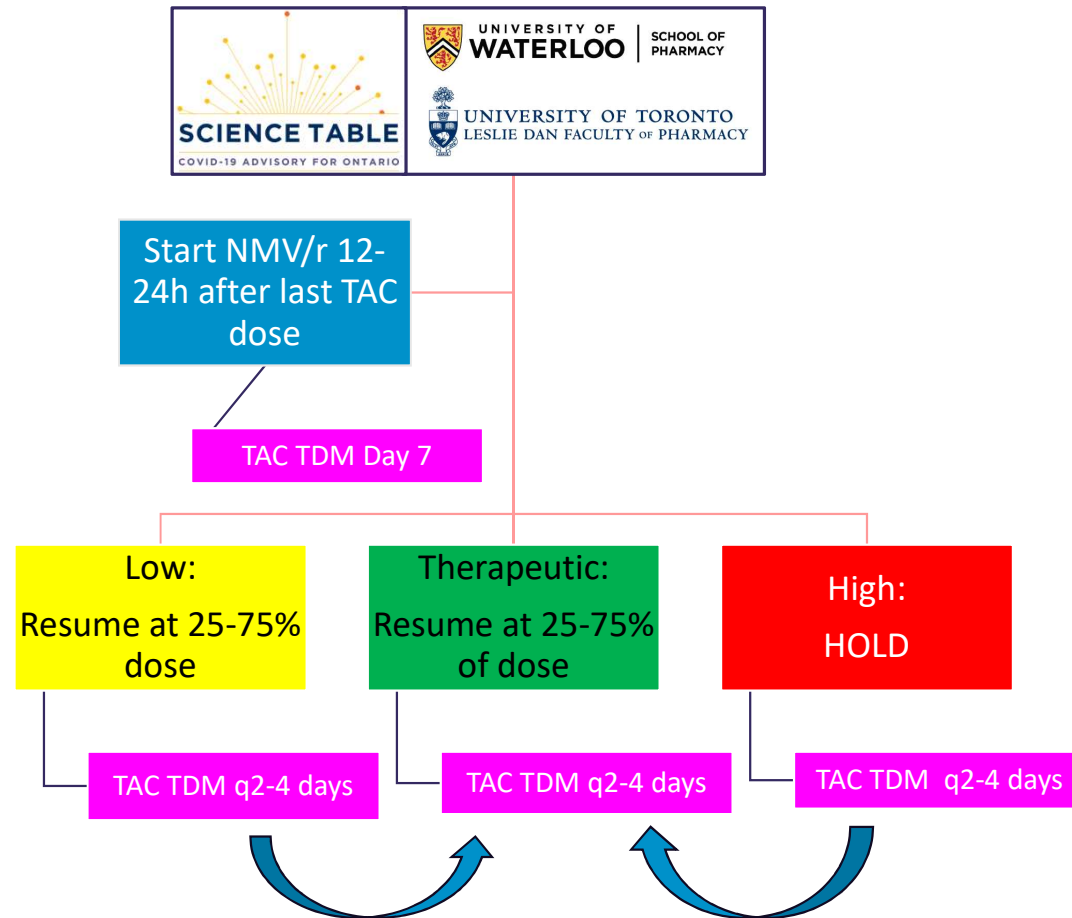
# Dosing NMV/r in kidney transplant patients

- Transplant immunosuppressives:
  - Up to 10-fold ↑ in CNI concentrations
- NMV/r + tacrolimus<sup>1</sup>: significantly associated with AKI (41.13%), serum creatinine ↑ (14.18%), renal impairment & renal failure (@2.84%)



1. Qin et al. Exp Opin Drug Safety 2023.

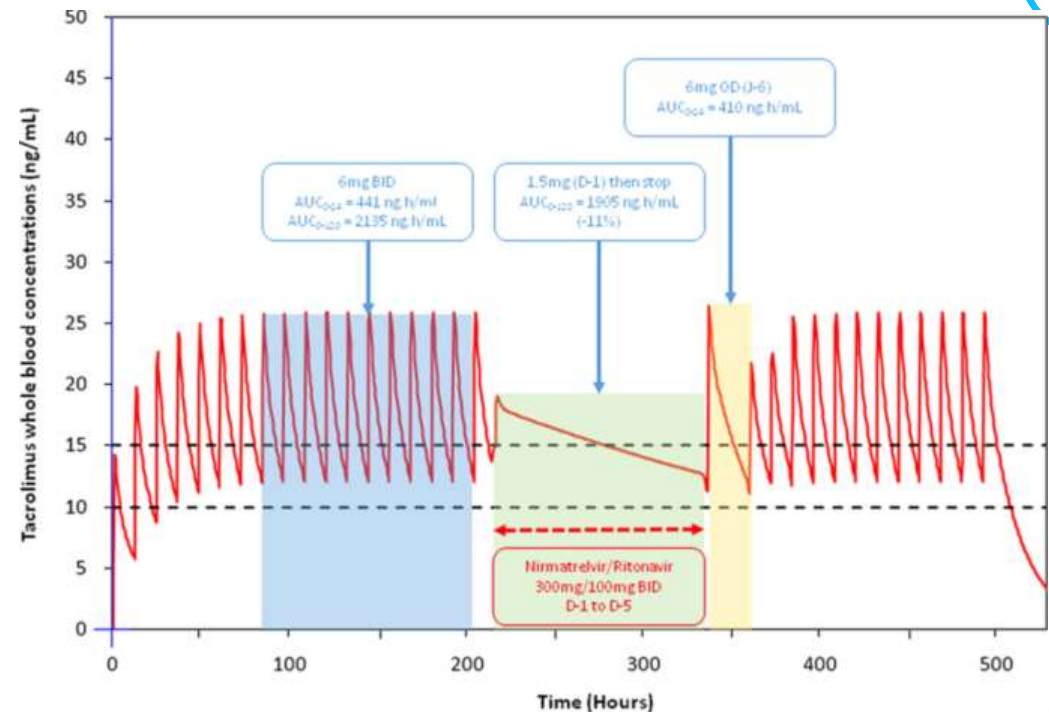
# Dosing NMV/r with tacrolimus: initial



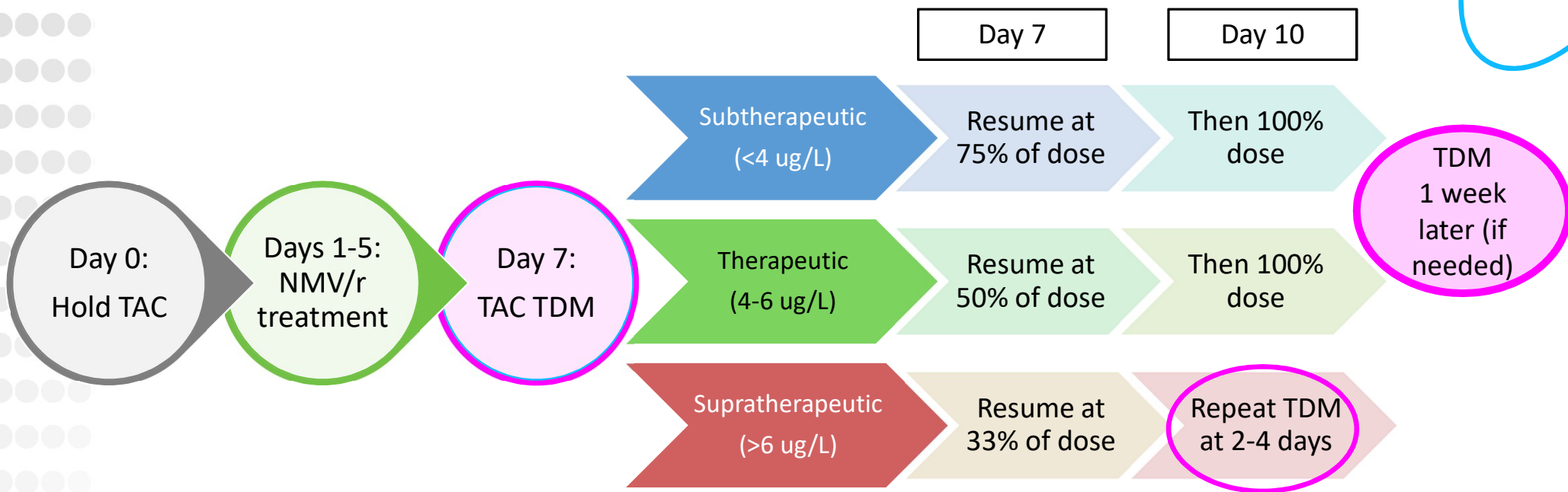
# Yes We Can (Use Nirmatrelvir/Ritonavir Even in High Immunological Risk Patients Treated with Immunosuppressive Drugs)!

Proposed algorithm (based on simulation model):

- Day 1 (start of NMV/r): 1/8<sup>th</sup> TAC dose
- Days 2-5: hold TAC
- End of Day 6: 50% TAC dose
- Day 7: 75% TAC dose
- Day 8: 100% TAC dose





# Simplified TAC dosing with NMV/r



- Similar proportion of patients within therapeutic range by 2<sup>nd</sup> TDM with simplified protocol (n=20) vs standard OST protocol (n=24)
- Low incidence of TAC toxicity, no episodes of acute rejection



# Case

- 68 yo male, HIV+, hepatitis B, seizure disorder, CKD (eGFR 27), in assisted living home
  - Medications: B/F/TAF, levetiracetam, atorvastatin, olanzapine, sertraline, calcitriol, acetaminophen
-  Remdesivir: not logistically feasible
-  Molnupiravir: not available in Canada

# Case

- COVID: prescribed NMV/r at modified dose

## Special Dosing Considerations:

eGFR<sup>†</sup> < 30 mL/min:

Day 1: Nirmatrelvir 300 mg and ritonavir 100 mg

Days 2-5: Nirmatrelvir 150 mg and ritonavir 100 mg once daily.

- DDIs:
  - Held: atorvastatin
  - Continued other comedications including ARVs

Updated: December 12, 2022

**Nirmatrelvir/  
Ritonavir** (*Paxlovid*<sup>TM</sup>)   
What Prescribers and Pharmacists Need to Know 





# Summary

- Emerging data support use of COVID antivirals in patients with severe renal impairment
- Remdesivir & molnupiravir:
  - Standard dose in renal impairment
  - Potential access/logistical barriers
- Nirmatrelvir/ritonavir:
  - Dose reduction in  $eGFR < 30$
  - Simplified algorithm for dosing with transplant immunosuppressives