


# Baricitinib (Olumiant)

## Emergency Use Evaluation for COVID-19

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# Background

- COVID-19 disease severity may be in due part to a dysregulated inflammatory response
- Regulation of immune response may improve clinical outcomes
- Baricitinib is a selective inhibitor of Janus kinase (JAK)
  - Reduces cellular activation and inflammation
  - Approved for the treatment of RA
  - EUA Nov 2020 for the treatment of COVID-19

ORIGINAL ARTICLE

## Baricitinib plus Remdesivir for Hospitalized Adults with Covid-19

Double-blind, randomized, placebo-controlled trial evaluating baricitinib plus remdesivir in hospitalized adults with COVID-19

**Primary Outcome**

Time to recovery

**Secondary Outcomes**

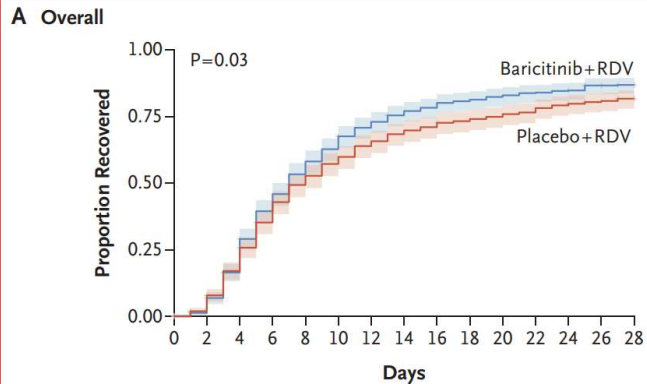
Clinical status at day 15

Mortality at 14- and 28-days

Adverse drug reactions

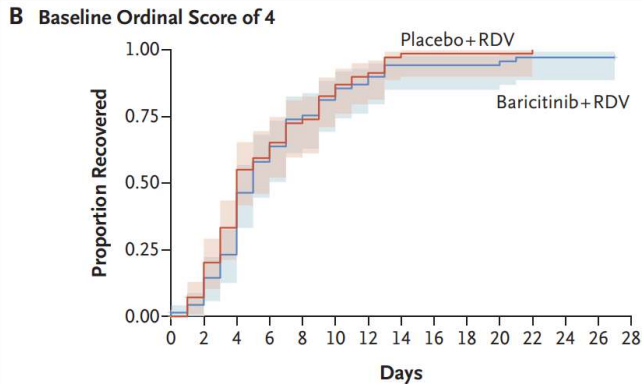
- May 8, 2020 – July 1, 2020
- Randomized 1:1 to receive remdesivir and baricitinib or remdesivir and placebo
- Patients assessed daily during hospitalization from day 1 through day 29
  - Eight-category ordinal scale used to assess clinical status
  - Other experimental treatments were prohibited

<b>Table 1. Demographic and Clinical Characteristics of the Patients at Baseline.*</b>			
<b>Characteristic</b>	<b>All Patients (N=1033)</b>	<b>Baricitinib+RDV (N=515)</b>	<b>Placebo+RDV (N=518)</b>
<b>Age</b>			
Mean — yr	55.4±15.7	55.0±15.4	55.8±16.0
<b>Distribution — no. (%)</b>			
<40 yr	173 (16.7)	87 (16.9)	86 (16.6)
40–64 yr	555 (53.7)	281 (54.6)	274 (52.9)
≥65 yr	305 (29.5)	147 (28.5)	158 (30.5)
<b>Sex — no. (%)</b>			
Female	381 (36.9)	196 (38.1)	185 (35.7)
Male	652 (63.1)	319 (61.9)	333 (64.3)
<b>Race — no. (%)†</b>			
Asian	101 (9.8)	49 (9.5)	52 (10.0)
Black	156 (15.1)	77 (15.0)	79 (15.3)
White	496 (48.0)	251 (48.7)	245 (47.3)
Other or unknown	280 (27.1)	138 (26.8)	142 (27.4)
<b>Disease severity — no. (%)</b>			
Moderate	706 (68.3)	358 (69.5)	348 (67.2)
Severe	327 (31.7)	157 (30.5)	170 (32.8)
<b>Score on ordinal scale — no. (%)</b>			
4. Hospitalized, not requiring supplemental oxygen, requiring ongoing medical care (Covid-19–related or otherwise)	142 (13.7)	70 (13.6)	72 (13.9)
5. Hospitalized, requiring supplemental oxygen	564 (54.6)	288 (55.9)	276 (53.3)
6. Hospitalized, receiving noninvasive ventilation or high-flow oxygen devices	216 (20.9)	103 (20.0)	113 (21.8)
7. Hospitalized, receiving invasive mechanical ventilation or ECMO	111 (10.7)	54 (10.5)	57 (11.0)



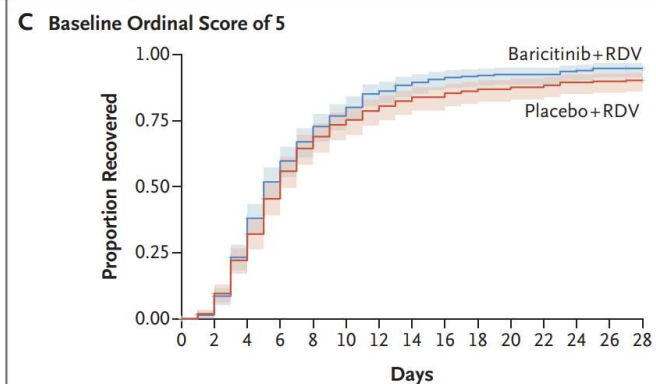
**No. at Risk**

Baricitinib+RDV	515	497	418	302	233	186	145	121	107	95	87	80	76	63	30
Placebo+RDV	518	495	417	322	251	211	178	156	143	131	123	115	102	92	44



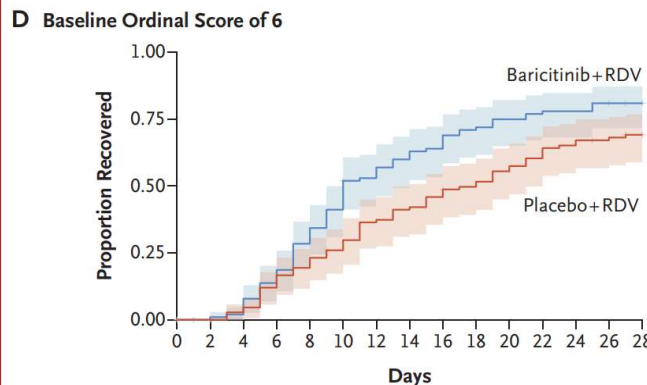
**No. at Risk**

Baricitinib+RDV	70	66	53	29	18	13	9	4	4	4	4	2	2	2	0
Placebo+RDV	72	64	46	28	19	12	7	2	1	1	1	1	0	0	0



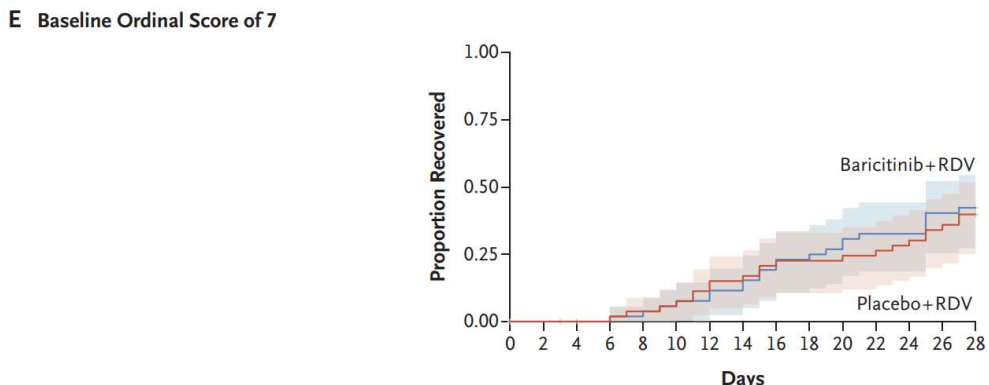
**No. at Risk**

Baricitinib+RDV	288	276	213	133	91	64	41	31	25	22	20	20	17	12	5
Placebo+RDV	276	267	211	146	95	71	57	47	43	37	35	33	28	26	12



**No. at Risk**

Baricitinib+RDV	103	102	100	88	73	60	47	40	36	29	25	23	22	19	10
Placebo+RDV	113	110	106	95	86	78	67	62	57	52	46	41	36	32	16



**No. at Risk**

Baricitinib+RDV	54	53	52	52	51	49	48	46	42	40	38	35	35	30	15
Placebo+RDV	57	54	54	53	51	50	47	45	42	41	41	40	38	34	16

**Table 2. Outcomes Overall and According to Score on the Ordinal Scale in the Intention-to-Treat Population.\***

Outcome	Overall		Ordinal Score at Baseline							
			4		5		6		7	
	Baricitinib (N=515)	Placebo (N=518)	Baricitinib (N=70)	Placebo (N=72)	Baricitinib (N=288)	Placebo (N=276)	Baricitinib (N=103)	Placebo (N=113)	Baricitinib (N=54)	Placebo (N=57)
<b>Recovery</b>										
No. of recoveries	433	406	67	69	262	243	82	73	22	21
Median time to recovery (95% CI) — days	7 (6–8)	8 (7–9)	5 (4–6)	4 (4–6)	5 (5–6)	6 (5–6)	10 (9–13)	18 (13–21)	NE (25–NE)	NE (26–NE)
Rate ratio (95% CI) †	1.16 (1.01–1.32 [P=0.03])		0.88 (0.63–1.23)		1.17 (0.98–1.39)		1.51 (1.10–2.08)		1.08 (0.59–1.97)	
<b>Mortality over first 14 days ‡</b>										
Hazard ratio (95% CI) for data through day 14	0.54 (0.23–1.28)		NE		0.73 (0.16–3.26)		0.21 (0.02–1.80)		0.69 (0.19–2.44)	
No. of deaths by day 14	8	15	0	0	3	4	1	5	4	6
Kaplan–Meier estimate of mortality by day 14 — % (95% CI)	1.6 (0.8–3.2)	3.0 (1.8–5.0)	0 (NE–NE)	0 (NE–NE)	1.1 (0.4–3.4)	1.5 (0.6–3.9)	1.0 (0.1–6.7)	4.6 (2.0–10.8)	7.6 (2.9–19.1)	11.3 (5.3–23.5)
<b>Mortality over entire trial period ‡</b>										
Hazard ratio (95% CI)	0.65 (0.39–1.09)		NE		0.40 (0.14–1.14)		0.55 (0.22–1.38)		1.00 (0.45–2.22)	
No. of deaths by day 28	24	37	0	0	5	12	7	13	12	12
Kaplan–Meier estimate of mortality by day 28 — % (95% CI)	5.1 (3.5–7.6)	7.8 (5.7–10.6)	0 (NE–NE)	0 (NE–NE)	1.9 (0.8–4.4)	4.7 (2.7–8.1)	7.5 (3.6–15.2)	12.9 (7.7–21.3)	23.1 (13.8–37.1)	22.6 (13.5–36.4)

**Table 3. Serious and Non-Serious Adverse Events Occurring in Any Preferred Term by Treatment Group**

Adverse Event	Baricitinib + Remdesivir (n=507) n (%)	Placebo + Remdesivir (n=509) n (%)
<b>Serious Adverse Events (&gt; 1%)</b>		
Any serious event	81 (16)	107 (21)
Respiratory failure	26 (5.1)	37 (7.3)
Acute kidney injury	5 (1.0)	11 (2.2)
Septic shock	4 (0.8)	8 (1.6)
Pneumonia	2 (0.4)	8 (1.6)
Multiple organ dysfunction syndrome	1 (0.2)	6 (1.2)
Acute kidney injury	5 (1.0)	11 (2.2)
Acute respiratory distress syndrome	4 (0.8)	6 (1.2)
<b>Non-Serious Adverse Events (&gt; 5%)</b>		
Any non-serious event	187 (36.9)	220 (43.2)
Anemia	24 (4.7)	31 (6.1)
Reduced glomerular filtration rate	49 (9.7)	42 (8.3)
Acute kidney injury	15 (3.0)	27 (5.3)
Hyperglycemia	25 (4.9)	40 (7.9)
Blood glucose increased	22 (4.3)	27 (5.3)
Lymphocyte count decreased	23 (4.5)	35 (6.9)
Hemoglobin decreased	30 (5.9)	30 (5.9)

ORIGINAL ARTICLE

# Baricitinib plus Remdesivir for Hospitalized Adults with Covid-19

## Conclusions

Baricitinib plus remdesivir was superior to remdesivir alone in reducing recovery time and accelerating improvement in patients with COVID-19, notably among those receiving high-flow oxygen or noninvasive ventilation



# Top Clinical Trials

Study Title	Interventions	Location	Status
Safety and efficacy of baricitinib for COVID-19	Baricitinib	United States	Not yet recruiting
A study of baricitinib in participants with COVID-19	Baricitinib vs placebo	United States	Recruiting
Baricitinib, placebo, and antiviral therapy for the treatment of patients with moderate and severe COVID-19	Baricitinib vs hydroxychloroquine vs placebo	United States	Recruiting
Baricitinib compared to standard therapy in patients with COVID-19	Baricitinib vs standard therapy	Italy	Not yet recruiting
Multi-arm therapeutic study in pre-ICU patients admitted with COVID-19 – repurposed drugs (TACTIC-R)	Ravulizumab vs baricitinib vs standard of care	United Kingdom	Recruiting
Clinical trial to evaluate efficacy of 3 types of treatment in patients with pneumonia by COVID-19	Imatinib vs baricitinib vs supportive treatment	Spain	Recruiting
Clinical-epidemiological characterization of COVID-19 disease in hospitalized older adults	Baricitinib vs anakinra	Spain	Recruiting
Adaptive COVID-19 treatment trial 2 (ACTT-2)	Remdesivir + baricitinib vs remdesivir + placebo	Multiple countries	Completed
Adaptive COVID-19 treatment trial 2 (ACTT-4)	Remdesivir + baricitinib vs Remdesivir + dexamethasone	Multiple countries	Recruiting

Permits use of baricitinib (with remdesivir), for the treatment of COVID-19 in:

- Hospitalized adults and pediatric patients 2 years of age or older AND
- Requiring supplemental oxygen, mechanical ventilation, or ECMO

Inpatient pharmacies must order directly from an authorized distributor of record. List available at:

[www.lillytrade.com](http://www.lillytrade.com)

[www.baricitinibemergencyuse.com](http://www.baricitinibemergencyuse.com)

**Baricitinib  
Emergency Use  
Authorization  
Nov 19<sup>th</sup>, 2020**

“Fact Sheet for Patients” must be completed prior to receiving baricitinib

All serious ADEs to baricitinib must be reported to FDA Medwatch within 7 days

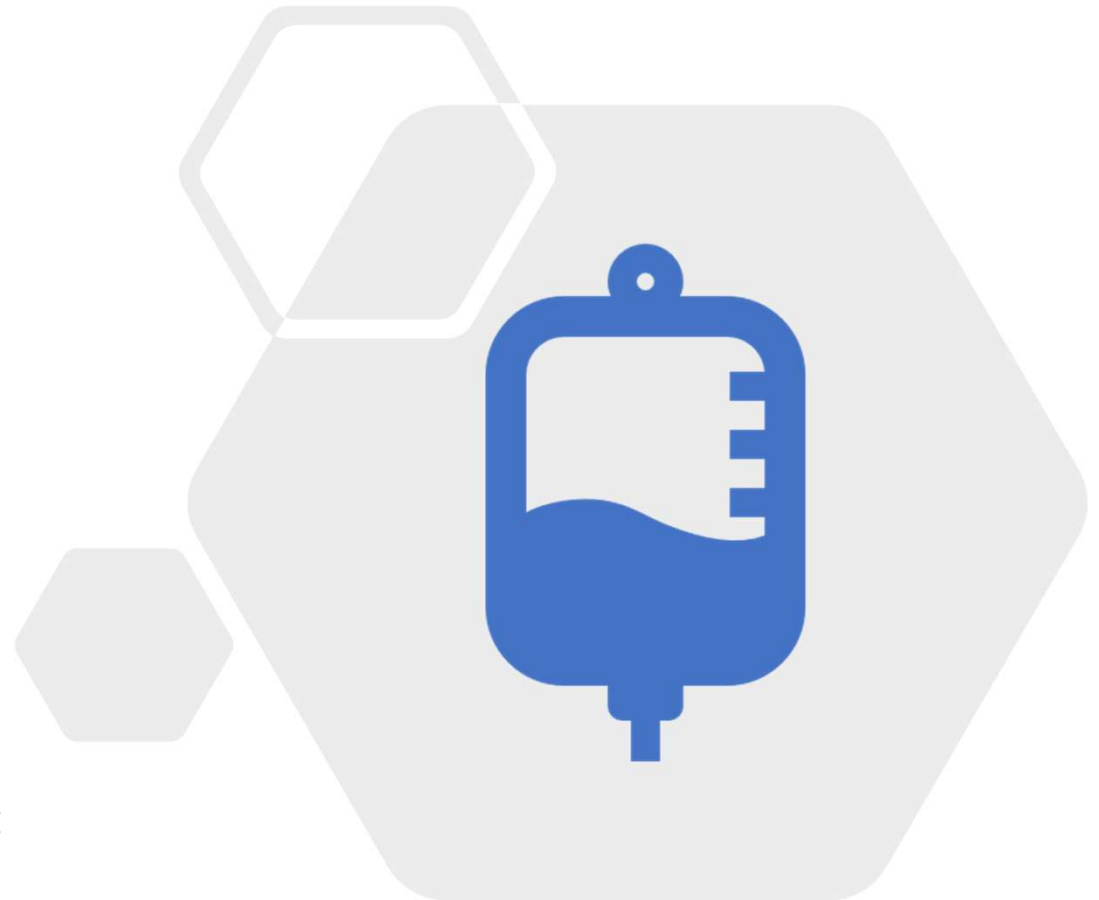
# Dose and Duration

- **Dose**

- Adult and pediatric patients  $\geq 9y$ 
  - 4 mg PO once daily
- Pediatric patients 2 years to  $< 9y$ 
  - 2 mg PO once daily

- **Duration**

- Total of 14 days or until hospital discharge, whichever comes first



# Dose Adjustments

Laboratory Analyte	Laboratory Analyte Value	Recommendation
eGFR	$\geq 60$ mL/min/1.73 m <sup>2</sup>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Patients <math>\geq 9</math> years of age: 4 mg PO daily</li> <li>Patients 2 to <math>&lt; 9</math> years of age: 2 mg PO daily</li> </ul>
	20 to $< 60$ mL/min/1.73 m <sup>2</sup>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Patients <math>\geq 9</math> years of age: 2 mg PO daily</li> <li>Patients 2 to <math>&lt; 9</math> years of age: 1 mg PO daily</li> </ul>
	15 to $< 30$ mL/min/1.73 m <sup>2</sup>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Patients <math>\geq 9</math> years of age: 1 mg PO daily</li> <li>Patients 2 to <math>&lt; 9</math> years of age: not recommended</li> </ul>
	$< 15$ mL/min/1.73 m <sup>2</sup>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Not recommended</li> </ul>
Absolute Lymphocyte Count (ALC)	$\geq 200$ cells/ $\mu$ L	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No adjustment</li> </ul>
	$< 200$ cells/ $\mu$ L	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Consider interruption until ALC is <math>\geq 200</math> cells/<math>\mu</math>L</li> </ul>
Absolute Neutrophil Count (ANC)	$\geq 500$ cells/ $\mu$ L	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No adjustment</li> </ul>
	$< 500$ cells/ $\mu$ L	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Consider interruption until ANC is <math>\geq 500</math> cells/<math>\mu</math>L</li> </ul>
Aminotransferases	If increases in LFTs are observed and drug-induced liver injury (DILI) is suspected	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Interrupt treatment until the diagnosis of DILI is excluded</li> </ul>

US FDA: Fact Sheet for Health Care Providers Emergency Use Authorization (EUA) of Baricitinib. Nov 2020  
 Olumiant (baricitinib). [Package Insert](#). Lilly; 2020.



# Administration

- For patients who are unable to swallow whole tablets:
  - Mix tablet(s) with ~15 mL of room temperature water and disperse
  - Alternative routes
    - Oral dispersion
    - Gastrostomy tube (G tube)
    - Nasogastric tube (NG tube)

Administration	Dispersion Volume	Container Rinse Volume
Oral dispersion	10 mL	10 mL
G tube	15 mL	15mL
NG tube	30 mL	15 mL

# Side Effects

	<b>Placebo n = 1070 (%)</b>	<b>Baricitinib 2 mg n=479 (%)</b>	<b>Baricitinib 4 mg n=997 (%)</b>
Upper respiratory tract infections <sup>a</sup>	125 (11.7)	78 (16.3)	147 (14.7)
Nausea	17 (1.6)	13 (2.7)	28 (2.8)
Herpes simplex <sup>b</sup>	7 (0.7)	4 (0.8)	18 (1.8)
Herpes zoster	4 (0.4)	5 (1.0)	14 (1.4)

<sup>a</sup> Includes acute sinusitis, acute tonsillitis, chronic tonsillitis, epiglottitis, laryngitis, nasopharyngitis, oropharyngeal pain, pharyngotonsillitis, pharyngitis, rhinitis, sinobronchitis, sinusitis, tonsillitis, tracheitis, and upper respiratory tract infection

<sup>b</sup> Includes eczema herpeticum, genital herpes, herpes simplex, ophthalmic herpes simplex, and oral herpes

# Black Box Warnings



## Serious infections

Requiring hospitalization or death, including *M.tuberculosis*



## Malignancies

Including lymphoma and other malignancies



## Thrombosis

VTE prophylaxis recommended unless contraindicated

# Other Warnings and Precautions



## Hepatotoxicity

Increased incidence of LFT elevation; monitor indicated



## Dyslipidemia

Dose-dependent increases in lipid parameters observed



## GI perforations

Use with caution in patients at an increased risk





# Drug Interactions

- Strong OAT2 inhibitors
  - Probenecid co-administration results in a 2-fold increase in baricitinib AUC
- Other JAK inhibitors or biologic DMARDs, or potent immunosuppressants
- Vaccines (live and inactivated)
  - Immunosuppressants may diminish the therapeutic effect of vaccines
  - Vaccinate at least 3 months after immunosuppressant discontinuation
- No clinically meaningful changes in the pharmacokinetics of CYP3A4 and Pgp substrates

# Monitoring

(baseline and daily)

- Complete blood count with differential
- Basic metabolic panel
- Abdominal symptoms
- Signs and symptoms of infection

# Pharmacokinetics

- Absorption
  - Bioavailability: 80%;  $C_{max}$  ~1 hour
- Distribution
  - Distributes well into tissues;  $V_d$  76L; 50% protein bound
  - Substrate of Pgp, OAT3 and MATE2-K transporters
- Metabolism
  - About 6% of dose is metabolized, predominantly via CYP3A4
  - $t_{1/2}$  12 hours
- Excretion
  - About 75% eliminated unchanged in the urine; 20% in feces



Olumiant (baricitinib). [Package Insert](#). Lilly; 2020.

# Cost

<b>Drug</b>	<b>Cost per Day</b>	<b>Cost per Course</b>
Dexamethasone	6 mg, PO = \$1.31 6 mg, IV = \$0.85	10 days, PO = \$18 10 days, IV = \$12
Remdesivir	200 mg (load) = \$1,040 100 mg (maintenance) = \$520	5 days = \$3,120 10 days = \$5,720
Baricitinib	4 mg = \$293	14 days = \$4,102



## Supply and Storage

- How Supplied
  - Available as debossed, film-coated, immediate-release tablets
  - 1 mg; 2 mg
- Storage and Handling
  - Store at 20°C (68° to 77° F); excursions permitted to 15° to 30° (59° to 86° F)

# Special Patient Populations

Limited Data



Pediatrics

Dosing & efficacy data



Pregnancy & Lactation

Maternal and fetal outcomes



Hepatic Impairment

PK/PD & ADRs



Renal Impairment

PK/PD & ADRs

# Baricitinib EUA Requirements Summary

1. Treatment of suspected or confirmed COVID-19 in hospitalized adults and pediatric patients 2 years of age or older requiring supplemental oxygen, invasive mechanical ventilation, or ECMO
2. Patient or parent/caregivers education (“Patient Fact Sheet”) prior to receiving baricitinib. Providers must document in the EMR that the patients received the fact sheet, was informed of alternatives, and was informed that baricitinib is investigational
3. Patients must have an eGFR, aminotransferases, and CBC with differential determined prior to first administration
4. The provider is responsible for mandatory reporting of all medication errors and all serious adverse events within 7 calendar days from the onset of the event
5. The provider and/or the provider’s designee are/is to provide mandatory responses to requests from FDA for information about adverse events or medication errors
6. Adverse events and medication errors must also be reported to Lilly and FDA MedWatch

# Baricitinib Use at RGH

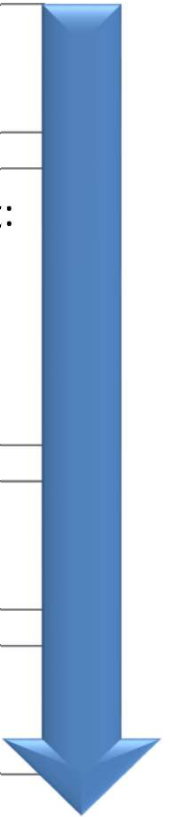
Evaluate for inclusion into ACTT-4 (remdesivir + baricitinib versus remdesivir + dexamethasone)

If patient does not meet criteria or does not want to participate, the following criteria must be met:

- Requiring high-flow O<sub>2</sub> or BiPAP/CPAP
- Receiving remdesivir
- No contraindications to receiving baricitinib
- **Safety data assessing concomitant baricitinib and dexamethasone not available; not recommended**

Infectious Diseases and Pulmonary support use (authorizing provider field in EHR profile)

Baricitinib 4 mg PO daily (or dosing equivalent) up to 14 days approved





# Recommendations



Add baricitinib to formulary



Patient and authorizing  
provider restrictions apply



# EUA Links

- Additional access information: [www.baricitinibemergencyuse.com](http://www.baricitinibemergencyuse.com)
- Lilly's authorized distributors: [www.lillytrade.com](http://www.lillytrade.com)