CLAY HIGGINS
3rd District, Louisiana

Member, House Freedom Caucus

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

COMMITTEE ON HOMELAND SECURITY
CHAIRMAN, BORDER SECURITY AND ENFORCEMENT
TRANSPORTATION AND MARITIME SECURITY
COMMITTEE ON OVERSIGHT AND ACCOUNTABILITY
GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS AND THE FEDERAL WORKFORCE
NATIONAL SECURITY, THE BORDER, AND FOREIGN AFFAIRS
COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES
SEAPOWER AND PROJECTION FORCES

September 27, 2024

The Honorable Lloyd J. Austin III
Secretary
United States Department of Defense
1000 Defense Pentagon
Washington, D.C. 20301

Secretary Austin,

As you may recall, in March 2020 the U.S. Army Medical Research and Development Command sponsored the clinical trial "Intermediate-Size Patient Population Expanded Access Treatment Protocol for Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) Remdesivir (RDV; GS-5734™)." According to its description, the trial involved DOD-affiliated personnel and the treatment of COVID-19 with Remdesivir.[1]

Given the significance of this research and ongoing efforts to fully understand the government response to COVID-19, I respectfully request your insight into the clinical trial undertaken by USAMRDC. Specifically, I am requesting:

1. Please provide participant data, including the number of participants, participant mortality rate, and cause of death for participants.
2. If there were mortalities during the trial, was the death caused by COVID-19 complications or from the Remdesivir administered during the trial?
3. What was the dosage of Remdesivir administered to participants throughout the course of the trial?
4. All protocols related to this trial, including amendments and further clarifications that were issued throughout the trial.
5. Was there a final study published? If so, please provide the study findings and results, including all available data as it relates to the safety and efficacy of Remdesivir, internal reviews, adverse event data, and final analysis.
6. Please provide internal reports or analysis regarding the findings of the study and its implications. This includes correspondence between USAMRDC, DOD, FDA, HHS, and other agencies or institutions regarding the trial's results.

[1] "Expanded Access Remdesivir (RSV; GS-5734)" NIH National Library of Medicine, https://clinicaltrials.gov/study/NCT04302766

Providing this information will guide me as Congress continues to ensure that there is proper oversight of the trials undertaken by the federal government in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. As a member of the House Armed Services Committee, House Oversight and Accountability Committee, and House Homeland Security Committee, I believe it is crucial that the DOD and federal government be transparent in how they are using American taxpayer's treasure.

Thank you for your full and fair consideration of this request. Please do not hesitate to reach out to my office.

Respectfully,

Clay Higgins
Member of Congress

CC:
The Honorable Xavier Becerra, Secretary, U.S. Health and Human Services

The Honorable Robert Califf, Commissioner, U.S. Food and Drug Administration

Major General Paula C. Lodi, Commanding General, USAMRDC

Mr. Darryl J. Colvin, Joint Program Executive Officer for Chemical, Biological, Radiological, and Nuclear Defense, Joint Program Executive Office for Chemical, Biological, Radiological, and Nuclear Defense, U.S. Department of Defense