



Healthcare Worker Access to Molnupiravir: a case series

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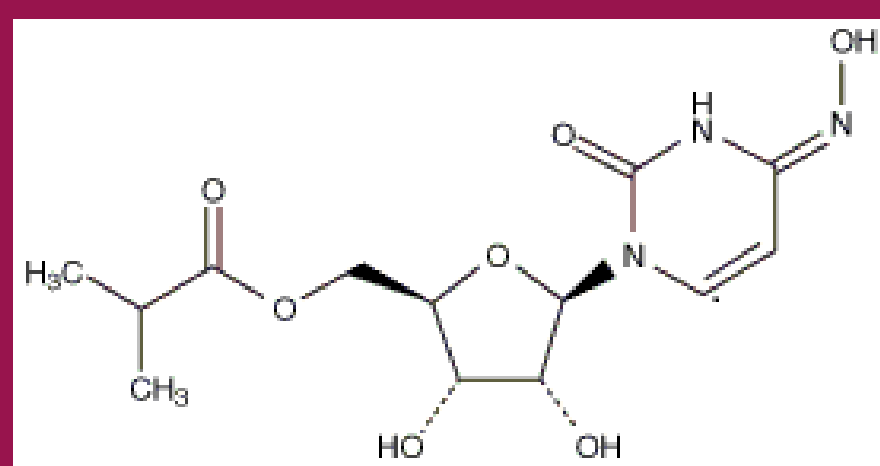
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OBJECTIVE

- Hospital staffing has been significantly affected by COVID-19
- The health and wellness of affected individuals and staff carrying additional workloads is an ongoing concern
- This case series reports the outcomes of providing access to molnupiravir to a cohort of COVID-19 positive healthcare workers (HCW) not qualifying for Pharmaceutical Benefit Scheme (PBS) treatment



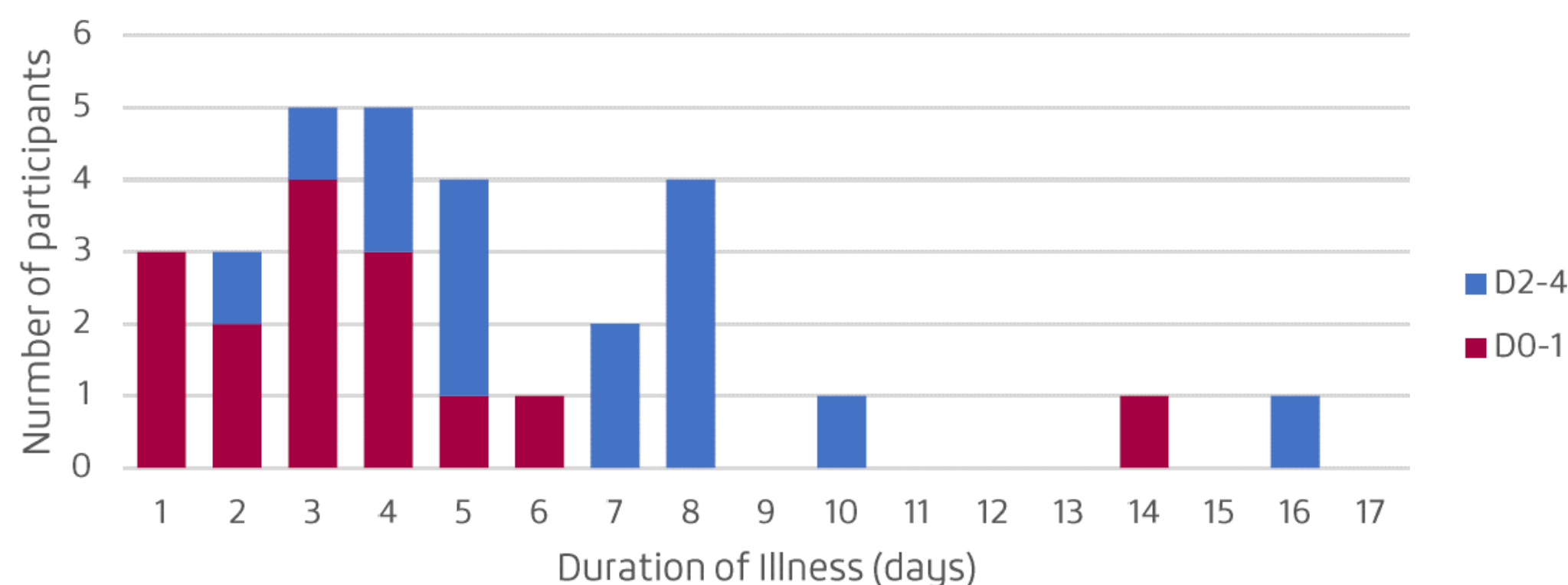
OUTCOMES BASED ON MOLNUPIRAVIR COMMENCEMENT

Day of antiviral treatment from symptom onset	No. RAT Negative at day 5 of treatment *	%	No. Asymptomatic from symptom onset [#]	%	No. of RAT Negative AND Asymptomatic at Day-5	% (Total = 27, D0-1 = 14, D2-4 = 13)	% (Total = 30, D0-1 = 15, D2-4 = 15)
D0-1	13	93%	13	87%	11	79%	73%
D2-4	9	69%	7	47%	5	38%	33%
Total	22	81%	20	67%	16	59%	53%

*No. of people who performed a RAT on Day-5 total = 27, D0-1 = 14, D2-4 = 13

[#]No. Of people who were asymptomatic: Total population = 30, D0-1 = 15, D2-4 = 15

DURATION OF ILLNESS BY DAY ON MOLNUPIRAVIR PRESCRIPTION



CLINICAL FEATURES

- Thirty staff received molnupiravir treatment within the first five days of COVID-19 illness from the National Stockpile
- State Health Department and ethics approval were obtained for the pilot

LITERATURE REVIEW

Molnupiravir reduces COVID-19 severity but is available on the PBS only for people less 70 years if risk factors exist^{1,2}

PARTICIPANT DETAILS

	Number	Percentage (Total = 30)
Age (years)	21-69	Median: 43
Female	22	73%
≥1 Comorbidity	None	24
	Hypertension	3
	Ischaemic Heart disease	1
	Asthma	2
	Diabetes Mellitus	1
Day of Illness	0-4	Median: 1
Occupation	Doctor	7
	Nurse	15
	Patient Service Assistant	1
	Allied Health	3
	Administration	3
	Other	1

PHARMACIST INTERVENTION

- Initial planning, coordinating supply through the National Stockpile
- Pre-labelling stock for Staff Care to facilitate a drive through pickup
- Arranging supply on weekends for contactless delivery
- Provision of consumer information and telehealth backup

OUTCOMES

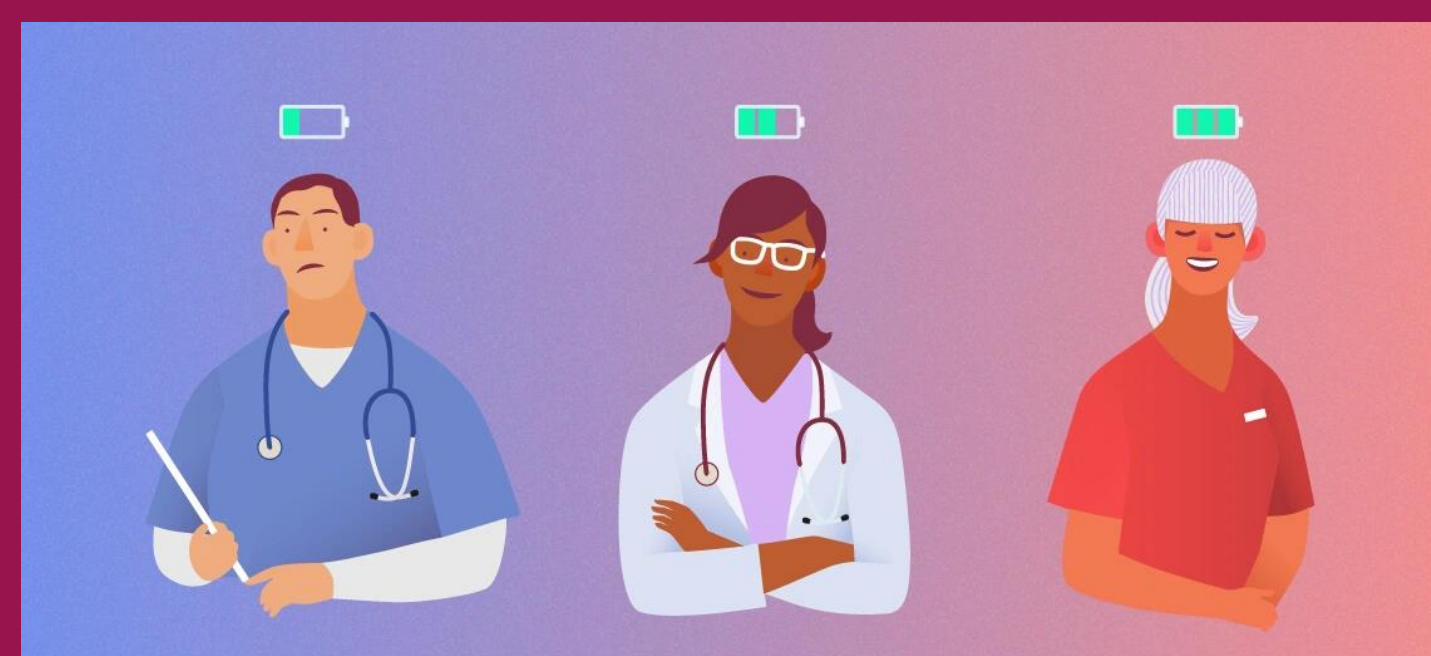
	Number	Percentage (Total = 30)
Adverse Events	None	22
	Diarrhoea	4
	Dizziness	3
	Nausea	2
No. of people with issues accessing the drug	0	0%
No. of people self-reporting completing treatment course	30	100%
No. of people with further COVID-19 cases in the household after treatment commenced (Total = 27 – participants with other people in the house)	6	22%
	<48hrs after commencing treatment	3*
	>48hrs after commencing treatment	2*
No. of people who performed a RAT on day 5 of treatment	27	90%
No. of people who had a NEGATIVE RAT on day 5 of treatment	22	73%
No. of people who were fit to return to work by day 7	22	73%

*One person did not report the time frame in which household members became positive

DISCUSSION

A policy allowing access to molnupiravir for HCWs in this case series demonstrated a range of health and well-being benefits.

A larger study of 300 HCWs is underway and outcomes may support an early return to work policy namely 5 days. Subsidy through the PBS is required for sustainability



REFERENCES

1. Bernal et al (2022) Molnupiravir for oral treatment of COVID-19 in nonhospitalised patients. New England Journal of Medicine. 386. 509-250. DOI: 10.1056/NEJMoa2116044
2. Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme. Molnupiravir. Australian Government Department of Health. <https://www.pbs.gov.au/medicine/item/12910L>