

July 11th, 2021

To:

MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND MEDICAL SERVICES
FAO: Health Secretary Dr James Fong

Email: james.fong@health.gov.fj

Dear Health Secretary Dr James Fong,

The Evidence-Based Medicine Consultancy Ltd (E-BMC Ltd) is a UK-based independent medical research company that contributes to the quality of healthcare globally through the rigorous evaluation of medical evidence to support clinical practice guidelines. The Frontline Covid Critical Care Alliance (FLCCC) Alliance is a U.S based non-profit humanitarian organization made up of renowned, world-expert clinician-researchers whose sole mission over the past year has been to develop and disseminate the most effective treatment protocols for covid-19.

We commend the efforts of the Republic of Fiji in mitigating the suffering of Fijians at this trying time. According to several news outlets, we understand that Fiji is currently experiencing an increase in Covid-19 infections and associated deaths. You have rightly stated that “severe COVID-19 is a medical emergency and a delay in receiving appropriate medical treatment may result in a higher risk of death”¹. In our view, appropriate medical treatment must involve early treatment, i.e. treating at the earliest signs of symptoms and/or a positive test result.

Over the past four months, E-BMC Ltd has been working together with the FLCCC to encourage governments around the world to adopt re-purposed existing drugs for the early treatment of covid-19. One such drug is Ivermectin, a safe medicine which has been used for nearly 40 years to treat parasitic infections. New evidence show that it has potent antiviral and anti-inflammatory properties as well. E-BMC Ltd’s comprehensive meta-analysis, which has now been published in the peer-reviewed American Journal of Therapeutics, shows that “moderate-certainty evidence” points to a substantial reduction in COVID-19 related deaths with the use of ivermectin.

E-BMC Ltd presented the evidence on Ivermectin to prevent and treat covid-19 to the British Ivermectin Recommendation Development (BiRD) panel in February 2021. The BiRD group includes researchers and doctors from around the world who have been seeking effective treatments to combat the pandemic. The BiRD panel deliberated on the evidence for the use of

¹ <https://asiapacificreport.nz/2021/07/08/fijis-field-hospital-begins-covid-crisis-transition-with-791-new-cases-3-deaths/> accessed on 8th July 2021.

Ivermectin against covid-19 resulting in a recommendation in favour of Ivermectin as a covid-19 frontline therapy.

Most recently, a team of experts lead by Dr. Tess Lawrie from BiRD conducted a systematic review and meta-analysis on ivermectin for Covid-19, the gold standard of evidence, that has been published in the peer-reviewed American Journal of Therapeutics. This review concludes that, based on moderate certainty evidence, the use of ivermectin results in substantial reductions in Covid-19 related deaths and infection.

The BiRD and FLCCC recommend Ivermectin for treatment of covid-19 in early out-patient disease at a dose of 0.2 mg/kg – 0.4 mg/kg and for later phase, hospital patients 0.4 mg – 0.6 mg/kg. In each phase, the higher dose range should be used in more severe illness. We strongly recommend that ivermectin be continued for 5 days or until recovered. In addition, vitamin D, preferably in the form of calcifediol, should be given.

We also recommend that Ivermectin be used as covid-19 prophylaxis on a large scale through mass distribution of ivermectin in the dose of 0.2mg/kg (12mg for a 60 kg person) weekly to adults to decrease transmission amongst the general population in the current crisis. We believe this will save thousands of lives and reduce the suffering of millions.

Stories of Ivermectin's ability to beat covid-19 can be found in many parts of the world, including the Dominican Republic, Peru, Zimbabwe and South Africa, as well as in other African countries where mass administration of ivermectin against parasitic infections is practiced. More than 3.7 billion people have been treated with Ivermectin for parasitic infections and it has been found to be extremely safe.

The BiRD group and the FLCCC wish and pray for the good health of the people of Fiji and reiterates that Ivermectin will save millions of lives. We hope our message is disseminated widely for the better health of Fijians and quick restitution of the Fijian economy.

Yours Sincerely,



Dr. Tess Lawrie on behalf of the BiRD Group, and Dr Pierre Kory on behalf of the FLCCC, and affiliated organisations:



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covid-19



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CANADIAN COVID CARE ALLIANCE
Alliance canadienne pour la prévention et
prise-en-charge de la covid

Doctors for Covid Ethics