

## COVID-19

## Therapeutics: monoclonal antibodies and antivirals

Talking points

- People who have tested positive for COVID-19 and are at <u>high risk</u> of getting very sick may be able to get therapeutic treatment to help them recover. It's important that people seek treatment within a few days of testing positive. One of the most common high risk conditions is being overweight or obese.
- There are two main types of treatments: monoclonal antibody therapy and antivirals.
- Monoclonal antibody therapy gives you extra antibodies to help fight COVID-19. They help fight the infection faster than your body could do on its own.
- As of April 5, due to increases in the proportion of COVID-19 cases caused by the omicron BA.2 sub-variant, <u>sotrovimab is no longer authorized by the FDA</u> for use in any U.S. state or territory. Research shows it is unlikely to be effective against the BA.2 sub-variant.
- There are two different types of monoclonal antibody therapies available in Colorado. Only people aged 12 years and older who weigh at least 40 kilograms (about 88 pounds) can receive these treatments.
  - Bebtelovimab is for people who already have COVID-19, have mild to moderate symptoms, are at high risk of getting very sick, and can't take other treatments.
  - Evusheld is for people who are moderately to severely immunocompromised or who can't get vaccinated against COVID-19. It can help keep you from getting sick with COVID-19. It isn't for people who already have COVID-19 or have recently been exposed to COVID-19.
- Antivirals are medicines that can help treat COVID-19. They can be either pills or IV infusions. Antivirals require a prescription.
- There are three different types of antivirals available in Colorado.
  - Paxlovid is a pill for people who have mild or moderate COVID-19 symptoms and are at high risk of getting very sick. People aged 12 years or older who weigh at least 40 kilograms (about 88 pounds) can take Paxlovid.
  - Molnupiravir is a pill for people who have tested positive for COVID-19, are at high risk of getting very sick, and cannot receive other COVID-19 treatments.
     Adults aged 18 years and older can take molnupiravir.

- Remdesivir (Veklury) is an IV infusion for people who have tested positive for COVID-19 and are at high risk of getting very sick. Remdesivir can be given to patients of all ages, including adults and children.
- The best way for Coloradans to seek treatment is to reach out to their doctor or health care provider.
- Coloradans who do not have a doctor or health care provider can reach out to a
  provider who has treatments available. The <u>ASPR COVID-19 Therapeutics Locator</u> is a
  map of providers with COVID-19 therapeutics across the United States. A list of
  providers and pharmacies with treatments can also be found here:
  <a href="https://covid19.colorado.gov/getting-covid-19-treatment">https://covid19.colorado.gov/getting-covid-19-treatment</a>.
- As of March 2022, Coloradans can use the new federal <u>Test to Treat program</u> to seek antiviral treatment. In this program, people can get tested for COVID-19, get a prescription for treatment from a health care provider (if appropriate), and have their prescription filled all at one location (if they are positive and treatments are appropriate). People can also use a self-test at home before seeking treatment at a Test To Treat location. <u>Find Colorado's "One-Stop Test to Treat" sites</u>.
- Learn more about COVID-19 therapeutics:
  - CDPHE: Getting outpatient treatment for COVID-19
  - CDPHE: <u>Information about outpatient COVID-19 therapeutics for health care</u> providers
  - HHS: Possible treatment options for COVID-19