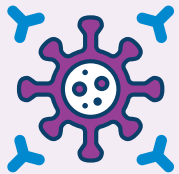# Monoclonal Antibodies for Treatment of COVID-19

If you have recently tested positive for COVID-19 or been exposed to someone with COVID-19, then monoclonal antibody therapy may help you feel better faster and prevent the need for hospitalization from COVID-19.

What are monoclonal antibodies?

Monoclonal antibodies, or mAbs, are made in a laboratory to fight a particular infection — in this case, the virus that causes COVID-19 — and are given to patients directly with an infusion or a shot. That's why mAb treatment may help patients who are at high risk for severe symptoms or hospitalization. The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has issued Emergency Use Authorization (EUA) to allow the use of monoclonal antibody therapies for the treatment of mild to moderate COVID-19 in certain high-risk patients. This treatment is not a substitute for vaccination against COVID-19.

Who is eligible for monoclonal antibody treatment?

Adults considered at high-risk for severe COVID-19 and high-risk youth ages 12-17 who weigh at least 88 pounds may be eligible for treatment. Individuals who have recently tested positive for COVID-19 and have had symptoms for 10 days or less, should talk to their healthcare provider to see if monoclonal antibody treatment is right for them. Some people who have been exposed to COVID-19 may qualify for treatment even before testing positive for COVID-19. If you do not have a healthcare provider, you can find one offering mAb treatment at covid.infusioncenter.org.

Are monoclonal antibodies safe?

In most cases, the benefits of treatment outweigh any potential risks. While extremely rare, some severe allergic reactions have been reported with the use of monoclonal antibodies. Individuals should talk to their healthcare provider to see if monoclonal antibody treatment is right for them.

How much will this treatment cost?

The federal government is distributing antibody therapies at no cost to patients. However, providers may charge an administration fee for treatment. Medicare and many commercial insurance companies are covering all costs for patients. Individuals should check with their health plan to determine if they will have to bear any costs.

For more information:

covid19.ncdhhs.gov/about-covid-19/treatment

combatcovid.hhs.gov

Find a treatment center near you:

covid.infusioncenter.org

Federal monoclonal antibody call center: For English (1-877-332-6585) or for Spanish (1-877-366-0310).