



People at high-risk for severe COVID-19 may avoid hospitalization with monoclonal antibodies

If you've tested positive for COVID-19 or if you have been exposed to someone who has tested positive for COVID-19, you are likely wondering if there is anything you can do to reduce the risk of getting very sick? The good news is, there are treatments that may reduce that risk.

Early treatment with monoclonal antibodies may prevent people who are at high-risk for severe COVID-19, including people with kidney disease at any stage, those on dialysis, and kidney transplant recipients, by preventing illness or the need for hospitalization if they become COVID-19 positive.

About monoclonal antibody COVID-19 treatments

Monoclonal antibodies are like your body's own antibodies as they help your immune system quickly destroy the COVID-19 virus before it harms you. The US Food and Drug Administration has authorized monoclonal antibody treatment for emergency use for eligible patients.

If you test positive for COVID-19, have COVID-19 symptoms, or have been in close contact with someone who has COVID-19, talk to a healthcare provider right away

Monoclonal antibody treatment must be given as soon as possible after exposure to someone with known COVID-19 or within 10 days of testing positive or getting symptoms. These treatments are of little to no cost to you and are given through a one-time IV infusion, which takes about 15 minutes to an hour, or a series of 4 separate injections during a single appointment followed by 1 hour of observation.

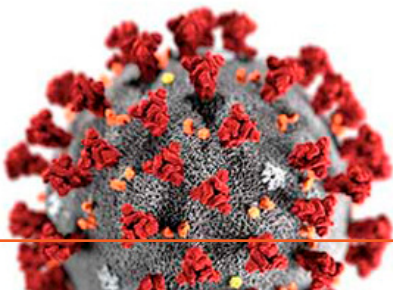
Effectiveness of monoclonal antibody treatment

Data from clinical trials showed that high-risk COVID-19 patients treated with monoclonal antibodies had a 70% reduction in relative risk of progression to severe disease or hospitalization compared to patients who did not receive monoclonal antibodies. The treatment is most effective when given shortly after symptoms appear, so it is important to get tested and treated as soon as possible.

Side effects from monoclonal antibody treatment

Some treatment-related side effects are possible. For those who receive an infusion, note that an infusion of any medicine may cause brief pain, bleeding, bruising of the skin, soreness, swelling, fever, chills, tiredness, nausea, headache, and possible infection at the infusion site. Hypersensitivity and allergic reactions may happen during and after an antibody infusion. Trained healthcare staff will monitor you for allergic reactions.

COVID-19 monoclonal antibodies do not contain any live virus—you cannot get COVID-19 from the treatment



FAQs about monoclonal antibodies for prevention and treatment for COVID-19

Q: What are the high-risk factors for severe COVID-19?

A: Any medical condition or other factors including:

- Being 65 years of age or older
- Obesity or being overweight
- Pregnancy
- Kidney disease at any stage
- Diabetes
- Immunosuppressive disease or on immunosuppressive treatment
- Cardiovascular disease or high blood pressure
- Chronic lung diseases
- Sickle cell disease
- Neurodevelopmental disorders
- Having a medical-related technological dependence (for example: tracheostomy, gastrostomy, or positive pressure ventilation not related to COVID-19)

Q: If I receive monoclonal antibodies, do I still have to isolate?

A: Yes. You must still follow isolation requirements to protect yourself and others.

Q: Can I still get the COVID-19 vaccine if I receive monoclonal antibodies?

A: Yes, but you should wait 90 days after treatment to get the vaccine.

Q: If I have received the vaccine, can I still receive monoclonal antibody treatment?

A: Yes. People who develop COVID-19 infection despite vaccination can receive monoclonal antibody treatment.

Monoclonal antibodies can cut the risk of hospitalization and death by 70% in patients with mild-to-moderate COVID-19

Q: Who cannot get monoclonal antibody treatment?

A: People are **not** eligible for treatment if they:

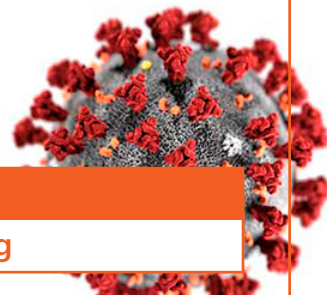
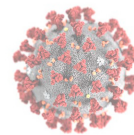
- Are hospitalized due to COVID-19
- Require oxygen therapy due to COVID-19
- Require an increase in baseline oxygen flow rate due to COVID-19 for those on chronic oxygen therapy due to an underlying non-COVID-19 related health issue

Q: How can I find an infusion center to get monoclonal antibody treatment?

A: The treatments are offered at approximately 5,000 locations across the United States. These include infusion centers, urgent care clinics, emergency rooms, and dialysis centers. Find infusion locations in your area by:

- **Visiting** the [HHS Protect Infusion Site Locator](#) and the [National Infusion Center Association Locator](#)
- **Calling** 877.332.6585 for English or 877.366.0310 for Spanish
- **Contacting** infusion location(s) to learn about their referral procedures, if there are costs, and whether they are accepting new patients

For more information, visit [CombatCOVID.hhs.gov](https://www.combatcovid.hhs.gov)



For more information, contact the National Kidney Foundation

Toll-free help line: **855.NKF.CARES** or email: nkfcare@kidney.org