COVID-19 Therapeutics Provider Weekly News Digest  
June 27th, 2022  
36th Edition

Inventory Reporting Now Required Twice Per Week in HPOP

The Office of the Assistant Secretary for Preparedness and Response (ASPR) has changed the reporting requirement for COVID-19 therapeutics to twice per week. Providers should report the inventory information in HPOP on Mondays and Thursdays.

In addition, please complete your inventory immediately before placing a request so that DSHS has the most complete picture of your usage and on-hand inventory when the requests are reviewed.

For each product, report:
- The count of patient courses administered/dispensed since the last entry and
- The count of patient courses on-hand

You do not need to enter zeros for products that are not in your inventory.

4th of July Holiday: Shipping and Allocation

DSHS will be closed on Monday, July 4. 2022. Therefore, all therapeutics requests will be reviewed on Tuesday, July 5.

The distributor, AmerisourceBergen, will not ship product for delivery on July 4. If you wish to hold delivery of therapeutics on Friday, July 1, please email c19therapies@amerisourcebergen.com.

Reminder: Requests for Bebtelovimab are Reviewed the Following Week

For all requests for monoclonal antibodies placed before 5 pm on Friday, DSHS will allocate and order the following week. For example, a request for Bebtelovimab placed on Thursday, July 7, will be reviewed by DSHS at the beginning of the week of July 11. Please plan your requests accordingly.

At this time, requests for Evusheld and oral antivirals will be reviewed and approved throughout the week. See 5/17 DSHS communication. Federal allocations to DSHS, and therefore DSHS reviews of the request, are delayed if a federal holiday falls on a Monday.

Provider Resources

Access provider resources by visiting the Information for COVID-19 Therapeutics Providers page.

Review answers to commonly asked provider questions in the recently updated FAQ for Therapeutics Providers.

Review the COVID-19 Therapeutics Product Guide to see which therapeutics are distributed by DSHS, along with their reporting requirements and resources.

Federal Resources

HHS/ASPR leads two webinars for clinicians on alternating Fridays from 11:00am - 12:00pm CT.
- COVID-19 Therapeutics Clinical Webinar
- Medical Professionals COVID-19 Roundtable

Weekly HHS/ASPR Conference Call for the Distribution and Administration of COVID-19 Therapeutics on Wednesdays at 2:15-3:15PM CT.

Please email COVID19Therapeutics@HHS.gov for zoom links to any of these meetings.
**NIH Treatment Guidelines for Therapeutics**

Paxlovid (ritonavir-boosted nirmatrelvir) is the preferred treatment recommended by the NIH Treatment Guidelines for high-risk patients with symptomatic COVID-19 infection. Additional clinical considerations for Paxlovid can be found at the NIH Treatment Guidelines section on Paxlovid and prescribing tools and resources can be found at the DSHS webpage. The US has sufficient supply of both oral antivirals, and any licensed pharmacy may enroll with Texas DSHS to receive the oral antiviral medication.

Other options in the NIH treatment guidelines include Veklury (remdesivir), Bebtelovimab, and Lagevrio (molnupiravir). Veklury can be purchased from the distributor for outpatient use. Use the Guide For Healthcare Professionals for directions on ordering remdesivir for outpatient use.

Please see the side-by-side overview for a comparison of available therapeutics. Providers should reserve Bebtelovimab for their patients who are unable to receive or access one of the preferred treatments – Paxlovid and Veklury.

Per the NIH Guidelines for Therapeutic Management of Non-Hospitalized Adults update on April 8, 2022, the preferred therapies are listed in order of preference:

- Paxlovid (ritonavir-boosted nirmatrelvir)
- Veklury (remdesivir)

Alternative therapies for use only when neither of the preferred therapies are available, feasible to use, or clinically appropriate. Listed in alphabetical order:

- Bebtelovimab
- Lagevrio (molnupiravir)

**Evusheld Updates Expected Soon**

The first expiration dates for lots of Evusheld are this summer. DSHS fully expects that the expiration dates will be extended, as they have been for every COVID-19 monoclonal antibody.

Evusheld is to be maintained in the refrigerator, even past potential initial expiration dates, until the FDA has reviewed the extension requests and DSHS has provided an update.

An update on the dosing schedule for Evusheld is also anticipated in the next few weeks.

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**EUAs & Fact Sheets for COVID-19 Therapeutics**

To view the EUAs, fact sheets, and other resources associated with each COVID-19 therapeutic, please select the links below:

- Bebtelovimab
- Paxlovid
- Lagevrio
- Evusheld

**Locating Therapeutics**

- U.S. HHS COVID-19 Public Therapeutic Locator
- U.S. HHS Oral Antiviral Location Finder – including Test to Treat sites
- HRSA HCCT Providers for Oral Antivirals

**Contact Us**

If you have therapeutics-related questions, or if a member of your facility would like to be added to or removed from this newsletter’s mailing list, please contact us by email at: therapeutics@dshs.texas.gov or by phone at (833) 832-7068, Option 0.
Resources Available for Therapeutic Providers

Access the links below to review any new and updated resources shared by the CDC, FDA, IDSA, and Pfizer.

- Review the updated Paxlovid Patient Eligibility Screening Checklist Tool for Prescribers. Prescribers can use this updated checklist from the FDA to support clinical decision making for prescribers.

- Review the updated guidance from the CDC regarding the evidence document for the Underlying Medical Conditions Associated with Higher Risk for Severe COVID-19 Infection.

- Access the overview of COVID-19 and Immunocompromised Populations shared by the CDC and the Infectious Disease Society of America.

- Pfizer has produced an hour-long video, 'Understanding Paxlovid' for prescribers. Registration with Medscape may be required.

Check Short Dated Products for Expiration Date Extension

Many COVID-19 therapeutics, including Bebtelovimab, Sotrovimab, Paxlovid, have received expiration date extensions. Check the Product Information page or with the manufacturer for the expiration date for the specific lots of any product that is short dated.

CDC Archived Webinar: “What Clinicians Need to Know About Available Therapeutic Options for COVID-19”

On Thursday, June 16, 2022, CDC hosted the webinar, 'What Clinicians Need to Know About Available Therapeutic Options for COVID-19' which discussed therapeutic options, including indications, efficacy, and distribution.

- Medications that are available that can reduce chances of severe illness and death from COVID-19 infection.
- Oral antivirals that are available that can reduce chances of severe illness and death from COVID-19 infection.

- The Food & Drug Administration emergency use authorizations (EUA) for certain antiviral medications and monoclonal antibodies to treat mild to moderate COVID-19 in people who are more likely to get sick.

- The National Institutes of Health COVID-19 treatment guidelines for healthcare providers for treating COVID-19 at home or in an outpatient setting.

View the archive of the call at:
https://emergency.cdc.gov/coca/calls/2022/callinfo_061622.asp

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**Be Aware of New Paxlovid NDC**

Providers may see an additional national drug code (NDC) for the packages of Paxlovid containing 300 mg nirmatrelvir and 100 mg ritonavir.

Pfizer has expanded manufacturing capability and has added an additional supplier of ritonavir. **The new NDC will not affect either reporting or ordering in HPOP**; however, the specific NDC will be needed for transfers and wastage. See page 29 of the Paxlovid Fact Sheet for additional information.