



What to do if you have a positive Covid PCR Test Monoclonal Antibody Infusion Therapy

Most people who have Covid recover uneventfully at home

- See the Vermont Department of Health website for details
 - <https://www.healthvermont.gov/covid-19/symptoms-sickness/what-do-if-you-test-positive-covid-19>

- **If** – you are 65 or older
- **Or** – you have medical conditions that put you at higher than average risk for a poor outcome with Covid
- **And** – you only have mild to moderate or no symptoms, such that you do not need to be hospitalized for Covid
- **Then** you may benefit from Monoclonal Antibody Infusion Therapy (mAb Tx).
- **Now offered at Copley Hospital**

To be eligible for mAb Tx

- You must have a positive Covid PCR test.
- You must be 12 years of age or older.
- Weigh at least 40 kg or 88 lbs.
- Your symptoms must have started less than 10 days before you will receive mAb Tx.
- If you are asymptomatic, then your positive test must be within 10 days of you receiving mAb Tx.
- You must be 65 or older, or have medical conditions (listed page 2) that puts you at risk for a poor outcome from Covid.

Why you might consider mAb Tx?

- Studies and extensive clinical experience have shown that, in eligible populations, receiving mAb Tx reduces the chances of hospitalization and death by 70% and more.
 - <https://www.nejm.org/doi/full/10.1056/NEJMoa2107934>
- mAb Tx is the accepted standard of care, outpatient treatment for high risk patients with Covid.
- Most hospitals in Vermont are now offering this treatment

If you have tested positive and you think you may be eligible for mAb Tx

- If your Covid test was ordered by a non-Copley practitioner, please discuss mAb Tx with them.
- If your Covid test was ordered by a Copley practitioner, or you don't know how it was ordered, please call 888-8330 to schedule mAb Tx.

Conditions that qualify people under age 65 for Monoclonal Antibody Infusion Therapy (mAb Tx)

- Body mass index (BMI) > 30
- Pregnancy
- COPD or other chronic respiratory disease
- Diabetes
- Immunosuppressive disease
- Currently receiving immunosuppressive treatment
- Coronary artery disease, heart failure, and/or hypertension
- Other cardiovascular disease
- Chronic kidney disease
- Asthma (moderate-to-severe)
- Sickle cell disease
- Neurodevelopmental disorders
- 12-17 years of age AND have: BMI ≥85th percentile for their age and gender based on CDC growth charts
- A medical-related technological dependence, for example, tracheostomy, gastrostomy, or positive pressure ventilation (not related to COVID-19)

Who cannot get mAb Tx?

- Anyone who is allergic to mAb Tx
 - Sotrovimab or Casirivimab & Imdevimab or Bamlanivimab & Etesevimab
- Anyone who is allergic to the non-active ingredients in mAb Txs
 - L-histidine, L-histidine monohydrochloride, L-histidine monohydrochloride monohydrate, L-methionine, polysorbate 80, and sucrose

How is the infusion given?

- An IV is placed as mAb Tx is an IV infusion.
- mAb Tx is given at Copley in a negative pressure isolation room specially designed to allow safe treatment of patients with respiratory illnesses such as Covid.
- It will take roughly 90 minutes to 2 hours.
- Wear comfortable clothing with loose sleeves to facilitate IV placement.
- Bring layers in case the infusion makes you chilly.
- Consider bringing something to occupy your mind during the 30 or so minute infusion and the subsequent 1-hour post-infusion observation.
- No visitors are allowed unless you are a minor or require special assistance.
- You must wear a mask the whole time, we will give you a medical procedure mask if you don't come with one. No fabric masks are allowed.
- Please present to the screeners right on time and tell them you are here for the mAb Tx.
- If you come early, please wait in your car until your appointment time.
- If you are going to be late, please call 802-888-8372 and let us know.

Alternatives to Monoclonal Antibody Infusion Therapy (mAb Tx) to Treat Covid as an Outpatient

- No specific treatment, supportive care at home, much like the cold or flu.
- Hospitalization if the Covid illness becomes more severe.
- The FDA has recently given Emergency Use Authorizations (EUA) to 2 oral medications to treat Covid as an outpatient, at home.
 - Paxlovid & Molnupiravir
 - Both medications are anti-virals, they are intended to reduce the ability of Covid to reproduce themselves in our bodies.
 - In studies on effectiveness
 - Paxlovid appears to be roughly equally effective to mAb Tx.
 - 70 – 80% reduction in hospitalizations and deaths
 - Molnupiravir appears to be significantly less effective, but still somewhat effective
 - 30% reduction in hospitalizations and deaths
- The availability of these new medications or if they can or should be given in combination with mAb Tx is unknown at this time.

What about Omicron?

- Initially there were 3 different mAb Txs.
 - Sotrovimab
 - A combination of Casirivimab & Imdevimab, also known as Regeneron.
 - A combination of Bamlanivimab & Etesevimab
- Of these, only Sotrovimab appears to be effective against omicron.
- Until nearly all infections are omicron, the other two mAb Txs will still be somewhat effective.

Risks & Side Effects of mAb Tx

- For the most part mAb Tx appears to be safe and effective.
- Pain or problems at the IV site are rare, but possible.
- Allergic reactions, including anaphylaxis (a very severe allergic reaction) are also rare, but possible.
- You will be observed for 1-hour after the mAb Tx.
 - As a general rule, most of the reactions that do occur, happen within that hour, very rarely problems can arise later.
- If you experience any of these following the mAb Tx, please contact your practitioner or present to an Emergency Room.
 - Difficulty breathing, or unusual breathing
 - Nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, abdominal cramps
 - Dizziness, fainting or feeling faint, racing or pounding heartbeat, looking and/or feeling flushed
 - Hives, blotchiness, swelling of eyes or lips or tongue or anywhere
 - Feeling disoriented or excessively worried or agitated or seizures
 - Having a decreased level of consciousness
 - Increased sweat or saliva