

Interim Guidance for COVID-19 Outpatient Treatment at Nationwide Children’s

Updated 8/18/2022

Treatment for mild to moderate COVID-19 is available for patients who are at least 28 days old, weigh at least 3 kg, and are at high risk for progression to severe disease. At this time, the FDA has granted Emergency Use Authorization (EUA) for monoclonal antibodies and oral antivirals – given the paucity of pediatric data, these therapies remain investigational in children at this time. In addition, remdesivir is now FDA approved and may be used in 3 daily IV doses for outpatient treatment of COVID-19. At Nationwide Children’s, treatment is available for patients who have risk factors for progression to severe disease (see below). To access therapy, call Physician Direct Connect (614-355-0221) and speak with the Infectious Diseases physician on call. Patients approved for therapy will receive monoclonal antibody (bebtelovimab), oral antiviral (Paxlovid: nirmatrelvir and ritonavir), or IV remdesivir depending on eligibility and current inventory. Clinicians may also prescribe Paxlovid to retail pharmacies or NCH Blue pharmacy – all prescriptions will undergo review by an NCH pharmacist prior to transmission to the pharmacy.

Criteria for COVID-19 Treatment:

1. Age 28 days or older (for Paxlovid or bebtelovimab, must be 12 years or older)
2. Weighs at least 3 kg (for Paxlovid or bebtelovimab, must weigh at least 40 kg)
3. Positive viral test for SARS-CoV-2 (including home tests)
4. Has mild to moderate symptoms of COVID-19 and able to be treated within 5 days (Paxlovid) or 7 days (bebtelovimab or remdesivir) of symptom onset
5. Is not hospitalized due to COVID-19, requiring oxygen therapy due to COVID-19, or requiring an increase in oxygen flow rate due to COVID-19 (for those on chronic oxygen therapy)
6. Has at least one of the following risk factors for progression to severe disease:
 - Older age (for example, age ≥ 65 years of age)
 - Obesity (BMI ≥ 30 kg/m² or $\geq 95^{\text{th}}$ percentile for age – see table below)
 - Pregnancy
 - Chronic kidney disease
 - Chronic liver disease
 - Diabetes
 - Immunosuppressive disease or immunosuppressive treatment
 - Cardiovascular disease (including congenital heart disease) or hypertension
 - Chronic lung diseases (for example, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, bronchiectasis, severe persistent asthma, interstitial lung disease, cystic fibrosis, and pulmonary hypertension)
 - Sickle cell disease
 - Neurodevelopmental disorders (for example, cerebral palsy) or other conditions that confer medical complexity (for example, genetic or metabolic syndromes and severe congenital anomalies)
 - Has a medical-related technological dependence (for example, tracheostomy, gastrostomy, or positive pressure ventilation (not related to COVID 19))

Obesity Definitions by BMI:

Age	BMI: weight in kg / (height in m) ²	
	Male	Female
2	19.3	19.1
3	18.2	18.3
4	17.8	18
5	17.9	19.3
6	18.4	18.8
7	19.2	19.7
8	20.1	20.7
9	21.1	21.8
10	22.2	23
11	23.2	24.1

Age	BMI: weight in kg / (height in m) ²	
	Male	Female
12	24.2	25.3
13	25.2	26.3
14	26	27.3
15	26.8	28.1
16	27.6	28.9
17	28.3	29.6
18	29	30
19	29.7	30
20+	30	30

Contact Us

If you think your patient may meet criteria, please call the Physician Direct Connect Line, our 24-hour physician/provider consult-transfer center, at (614) 355-0221 or 1 (877) 355-0221 to make a referral.

More information on monoclonal antibody therapy can be found at:

[NationwideChildrens.org/For-Medical-Professionals/Refer-A-Patient/Covid19](https://www.nationwidechildrens.org/For-Medical-Professionals/Refer-A-Patient/Covid19)

