

MEMORANDUM

DATE: February 15, 2022

TO: Long-term Care home Managers, Operators, CNLs, DOCs

FROM: Jae Yon Jones, Director Quality Assurance and Contract Monitoring/Temporary Director for COVID Response

RE: COVID-19 Therapeutics

In recent weeks, Health Canada has approved COVID-19 therapeutics; two of which are currently available in Island Health.

Paxlovid is an oral medication that may be prescribed for the treatment of mild-moderate COVID-19 for eligible residents.

- Providers must determine treatment eligibility based on provincial guidelines then evaluate drug interactions, symptoms and treatment window
 - Treatment is evaluated on a case by case basis as not all residents who test positive are eligible for treatment and risks/benefits need to be carefully considered for those eligible
- A provincial prescription is available for providers to use (<https://www2.gov.bc.ca/assets/gov/health/forms/2368fil.pdf>)
 - Form **MUST BE FAXED TO CENTRAL PHARMACY** as indicated on the form
 - Paxlovid is dispensed through a central pharmacy system separate from your site's regular pharmacy
 - Central pharmacies are located at NRGH and RJH
 - Special Authority page <https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/health/practitioner-professional-resources/pharmacare/prescribers/special-authority> includes additional instructions on how to access Paxlovid for non-BC residents
- A courier system is in place to deliver the medication to long-term care homes once dispensed by central pharmacy
- Medication must not be crushed, broken or chewed (3 tabs, twice daily for 5 days)
- For residents with renal disease, GFR may be needed to inform renal adjustment dosing
- Treatment window is within 5 days of symptom onset
- A Provincial COVID Antiviral Support Line for Clinicians is live. This is staffed by pharmacists to support prescribers and pharmacists with Paxlovid prescribing.
 - **Call 1-866-604-5924 Monday to Friday 8:30-4:30**
 - Be ready to provide caller and resident details for call-back
- Patient Information Paxlovid: http://www.bccdc.ca/Health-Info-Site/Documents/COVID-19_Treatment/Patient_information-PAXLOVID.pdf

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everyone, everywhere, every time.



Sotromivab is an intravenous medication that may be prescribed for the treatment of mild-moderate COVID-19 for eligible residents who are not candidates for Paxlovid

- Providers must consult the [Out-Patient COVID Therapeutics Clinic](#)
 - **Call 250-737-2030, extension 44685 Monday to Friday 10:00-6:00pm**
 - Clinics are currently located at RJH, NRGH, WCGH, CRH
- Treatment is one hour for infusion and an additional hour of monitoring
- Treatment window is within 7 days of symptom onset
- Transport to/from clinics must be considered as well as the resident's care needs during treatment.
- Patient Information Sotrovimab http://www.bccdc.ca/Health-Info-Site/Documents/COVID-19_Treatment/Patient_information-SOTROVIMAB.pdf

RESOURCES:

Health Care Provider Oriented main website: [BC CDC COVID treatment page](#)

- Clinical practice guidelines and tools
- Treatment recommendations
- Updated frequently so website is best source for most recent information

Patient-oriented information main website: [Treatments](#)