

Prescribing COVID-19 Therapeutics for LTC MRP

There are two new therapies available for mild to moderate COVID-19 infection at Island Health.

1. Nirmatrelvir/ritonavir (Paxlovid) - an oral antiviral drug now available from retail pharmacies in British Columbia. Any physician is now authorized to prescribe this medication using a special prescription form. The drug will be dispensed from community pharmacies.
2. Sotrovimab - an intravenous monoclonal antibody therapy which can be administered at one of four infusion sites within Island Health. Outpatient therapy requires referral to the Outpatient Covid Therapeutics Clinic (OCTC). Sotrovimab may also be administered to patients in the emergency room or to those who are hospitalized with mild Covid-19 but does require approval by an ID physician.

COVID-19 Treatment Process Summary:

1. Confirm patient is Covid positive (by either PCR or RAT) and within first 5-7 days of illness. Must meet criteria for mild disease: must be symptomatic but not require oxygen support. If met, evaluate if patient is treatment eligible for [paxlovid OR sotrovimab](#).
2. Evaluate patient for [COVID-19 treatment criteria](#). Patient must be in one of the high risk groups in at increased risk for progression to hospitalization to qualify for treatment.
3. If patient meets criteria for treatment, assess for appropriateness of Paxlovid therapy. Physicians need to perform a medication history to assess for serious drug interactions.
4. If clinical case review and assistance is required, contact OCTC Doctor of the Day. OCTC: 250-737-2030 ext 44685.
5. If pharmacist support or resources are needed, please use [appropriate online tool](#), or phone one of the two pharmacist resource lines available: Provincial pharmacist support line available for any clinician to contact: Mon-Fri 0830-1630; 1-866-604-5924.
6. If patient is a Paxlovid candidate, any physician can write the [prescription](#). Download the prescription, fill it out, and it can be given to patient/family member or faxed. The BC Pharmacy Association has a ['locator'](#) with pharmacies known to stock Paxlovid.
7. If the patient is not a candidate for Paxlovid but meets criteria for sotrovimab, refer them to the [OCTC clinic](#) for evaluation and potential treatment at an infusion clinic. A referring physician may phone the line and leave a message or the patient may contact the clinic directly without referral. OCTC: 250-737-2030 ext 44685.

Please see the full guide developed by the B.C. COVID-19 Therapeutics Committee for more information: [Clinical Practice Guide for the Use of Therapeutics in Mild-Moderate COVID-19](#)

Other Supports for Physicians

Docs of BC Town Hall: Prescribing Therapies for Mild-Moderate COVID-19 [webinar](#)

Docs of BC [summary document](#) from that session