



COVID-19 Monoclonal Antibody Treatment Standard of Care for Nursing Home Residents Diagnosed with COVID-19

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The FDA recently issued an Emergency Use Authorization (EUA) for COVID-19 **monoclonal antibody treatment** for bamlanivimab (Eli Lilly) and casirivimab and imdevimab (Regeneron). This includes an indication for people with a positive COVID-19 test who weigh at least 40 kilograms (about 88 pounds) and who are at high risk for progressing to severe COVID-19 and/or hospitalization. **This includes people who are 65 years of age or older or who have certain chronic medical conditions.** Monoclonal antibodies are not authorized for patients who are hospitalized due to COVID-19 or require oxygen therapy due to COVID-19.

The Rhode Island Department of Health (RIDOH) recognizes that monoclonal antibodies, when administered to appropriate patients, is a safe and effective treatment for COVID-19. Treatment of nursing home residents with monoclonal antibodies in the nursing home setting may be the resident's best chance to avoid hospitalization and survive.

RIDOH requires that nursing homes offer monoclonal antibody treatment to every resident who has recently been diagnosed with COVID-19 OR document in their medical record why this treatment was not indicated or appropriate.

Although treatment with monoclonal antibodies is not right for every nursing home resident, it should be considered for every appropriate nursing home resident who has a positive COVID-19 test. The pandemic has been very challenging for nursing home residents, and this is an effective treatment option for those with COVID-19 who are not sick enough for hospital admission.

Monoclonal antibodies are currently in stock at long-term care pharmacies, such as PharMerica and Omnicare, which are the main suppliers to long-term care facilities. These pharmacies will compound and disseminate monoclonal antibodies to long-term care facilities for infusion to residents who are symptomatic and test positive for COVID-19 by antigen or PCR-based testing. **Infusion of monoclonal antibodies will be given by long-term care facility staff under the direction of medical directors of these facilities.**

RIDOH has posted information on [monoclonal antibodies](#) on its healthcare provider web page. This web page contains helpful details about referral, compounding, and RIDOH guidance.