

## COVID INFUSION THERAPY FAQs

**What is Casirivimab/Imdevimab (REGEN-COV®) Infusion Treatment?** Casirivimab/Imdevimab (REGEN-COV®) is a neutralizing antibody drug. It contains man-made antibodies similar to the antibodies of people who have recovered from COVID. It does not contain any COVID-19 virus or parts and does not come from another person who has had COVID.

**How is Casirivimab/Imdevimab (REGEN-COV®) given?** It is a one-time infusion given through an IV placed in a vein in the arm.

**How long does it take?** The entire process is approximately three hours – including a one-hour infusion, a one-hour monitoring period immediately after, and additional time for starting the IV, providing education, etc.

**Why consider taking Casirivimab/Imdevimab (REGEN-COV®)?** When the COVID-19 virus is in your body, your immune system makes antibodies to fight it off. This can take some time for a new virus and in the meantime, you may become very sick. Clinical trials suggest that the man-made antibodies in **Casirivimab/Imdevimab (REGEN-COV®)** may help limit the amount of virus in your body. This could give your immune system more time to make enough of its own antibodies.

**When should I take Casirivimab/Imdevimab (REGEN-COV®) if I am positive for COVID-19?** This drug is for use in people who meet **ALL** the following criteria:

- Has a positive direct COVID-19 test
- Is not yet sick enough to be admitted to the hospital
- Is not yet sick enough to require additional oxygen
- Is within TEN days of symptom onset
- Is at high risk for progressing to severe COVID-19 and/or hospitalization.

**Who is considered at high risk for severe COVID-19 and should receive Casirivimab/Imdevimab (REGEN-COV®)?** People who meet any **ONE** of the criteria listed below:

- Anyone 65 years of age or older
- 18 years of age and older with a body mass index (BMI) of 25
- 18 years of age or older with a high risk medical condition such as hypertension, cardiovascular disease, chronic lung disease, diabetes, chronic kidney disease, immunosuppressive disease, etc.
- 12-17 years old with certain high-risk medical conditions or a body mass index (BMI) of at least 25

**Can I get Casirivimab/Imdevimab (REGEN-COV®) if I normally wear oxygen at home?** Yes, as long as you are not requiring additional oxygen.

**How do I sign up to receive Casirivimab/Imdevimab (REGEN-COV®)?** Contact your primary care provider as soon as possible and ask for a COVID Patient Infusion Referral to be faxed to the McLeod COVID Call Center at (843) 777-9755. The referral form is located on the main page of McLeodHealth.org. A representative from the McLeod COVID Call Center will then contact you with an appointment time and further instructions.

**Can I take Casirivimab/Imdevimab (REGEN-COV®) if I had the COVID vaccine but still got COVID?** Yes.

**Can I still get the COVID vaccine if I have received Casirivimab/Imdevimab (REGEN-COV®)?** Yes. Wait 90 days after your **Casirivimab/Imdevimab (REGEN-COV®)** treatment to receive the vaccine to ensure it is effective. You will be protected by your own immunity from this infusion for this time period.

**I got diagnosed with COVID, but I don't feel bad. Should I wait to see if I get worse to ask about Casirivimab/Imdevimab (REGEN-COV®)?** No. Data shows that the sooner people receive this treatment, the better their

outcomes. There is no way to predict how sick a person will get with COVID. Delaying treatment could lead to worsening symptoms and becoming ineligible to receive **Casirivimab/Imdevimab (REGEN-COV®)**.

**How much does Casirivimab/Imdevimab (REGEN-COV®) cost?** The drug itself is free and is allocated by the state of South Carolina. However, patients may incur charges for costs associated with administering the drug. These charges vary from person to person based on their insurance. To date, Medicare and BlueCross BlueShield have approved payment for **Casirivimab/Imdevimab (REGEN-COV®)**.

**What if I don't have insurance?** No one seeking the **Casirivimab/Imdevimab (REGEN-COV®)** infusion from McLeod Health is turned away, regardless of their ability to pay.