

McLeod Health Outpatient COVID-19 Treatment Algorithm

For patients eligible to receive outpatient therapy for mild to moderate COVID-19, **treatment should be started as soon as possible after developing COVID-19 symptoms and/or test positive for SARS-CoV-2**. These therapies have proven beneficial only in mild to moderate disease; therefore, patients do not qualify for these treatments if they have a new requirement for supplemental oxygen or an increased need from their baseline supplemental oxygen rate due to COVID-19 since this classifies them as severe disease.

- The greatest benefit is **within 5 days of symptom onset**, but some therapies may be used up to 7 days.
- All therapies listed are authorized for use in individuals **aged 12 years and older** except molnupiravir is only approved for people aged 18 years and older.
- Bebtelovimab or remdesivir are preferred in **pregnant patients**.
- These therapies have not been studied in combination. Patients should only receive **one** regimen.
- All listed medications (except remdesivir) are under Emergency Use Authorization (EUA) through the FDA. Patients should be counseled on the risks and benefits of therapy and provided with a Fact Sheet for Patients and Caregivers for the specific medication before prescribing EUA therapies. Remdesivir is FDA approved and therefore does not require the Fact Sheet.

Tier	Risk Group	Preferred Outpatient Therapy Options (in order of preference, taking into account availability) SELECT ONLY ONE
1A	Unvaccinated pregnant person OR Severely immune compromised individual (see Table 1) not expected to mount an adequate immune response to COVID-19 vaccination or SARS-CoV-2 infection due to their underlying conditions, regardless of vaccination status	1. Nirmatrelvir/ritonavir (PAXlovid) PO BID x 5 d 2. Bebtelovimab IV once – priority for pregnancy, hyperemesis, or major drug interactions to PAX (see Table 3) 3. Remdesivir IV daily x 3 d – priority if major drug interactions to PAX (see Table 3)
1B	Vaccinated pregnant person without a booster OR Unvaccinated individuals at the highest risk of severe disease, defined as at least one of the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Aged ≥ 75 years • Aged ≥ 65 years with any clinical risk factor (see Table 2) 	
2	Vaccinated pregnant person with a booster OR Unvaccinated individuals at risk of severe disease not included in Tier 1 AND meeting at least one of the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Aged ≥ 65 years • Aged < 65 years with any clinical risk factor (see Table 2) 	1. Nirmatrelvir/ritonavir (PAXlovid) PO BID x 5 d 2. Bebtelovimab IV once – priority for pregnancy, hyperemesis, or major drug interactions to PAX (see Table 3) 3. Remdesivir IV daily x 3 d – priority if major drug interactions to PAX (see Table 3) 4. Molnupiravir oral twice daily x 5 d*
3	Vaccinated individuals regardless of booster status but at risk of severe disease, defined as at least one of the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Aged ≥ 75 years • Aged ≥ 65 years with any clinical risk factor (see Table 2) 	
4	Vaccinated individuals regardless of booster status but at risk of severe disease, defined as at least one of the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Aged ≥ 65 years • Aged < 65 years with any clinical risk factor (see Table 2) 	

*DO NOT use molnupiravir in pregnancy. Patients of reproductive age should be counseled on the risks of fetal toxicity.

MEDICATION AVAILABILITY MAY BE LOCATED AT: <https://healthdata.gov/Health/COVID-19-Public-Therapeutic-Locator/rxn6-gnx8>

Oral therapies are available at select Walgreens pharmacies in South Carolina and by mail order.

Providers/offices may call 866-935-0867 to be connected to a Walgreens representative for help if needed.

A few select locations known to have availability are listed in Table 3.

There are several non-Walgreens pharmacies across both South and North Carolina who now stock oral therapies as well.

Table 3. Locations in SC and select NC Counties with Oral Medications

Provider Name	City	County
White Oak Pharmacy Inc	Spartanburg	SPARTANBURG
Walgreens Store #11270	NORTH CHARLESTON	CHARLESTON
Walgreens Store #11210	ROCK HILL	YORK
V07 534 Charleston, SC	CHARLESTON	CHARLESTON
Walgreens Store #11724	SUMTER	SUMTER
Walgreens Store #10329	HARTSVILLE	DARLINGTON
Walgreens Store #09834	GEORGETOWN	GEORGETOWN
Walgreens Store #21270	LEXINGTON	LEXINGTON
Walgreens Store #02452	ANDERSON	ANDERSON
Walgreens Store #07648	SPARTANBURG	SPARTANBURG

Provider Name	City	County
Randolph Medical Pharmacy	Charlotte	MECKLENBURG
DAVIDS PHARMACY	Charlotte	MECKLENBURG
SOUTHEASTERN REGIONAL MEDICAL CENTER	LUMBERTON	ROBESON
ATRIUM HEALTH PHARMACY KENILWORTH	Charlotte	MECKLENBURG
CAROLINA FAMILY HEALTHCARE	CHARLOTTE	MECKLENBURG
PHARMERICA CHARLOTTE	MINT HILL	MECKLENBURG
SCOTLAND MEMORIAL HOSPITAL	LAURINBURG	SCOTLAND
DAVIDSON FAMILY MEDICINE	DAVIDSON	MECKLENBURG
Walmart Pharmacy #4065	Wilmington	NEW HANOVER
Queen City Pharmacy	Charlotte	MECKLENBURG

Supplemental Information:

Nirmatrelvir/ritonavir (Paxlovid) - FREE

- **Dose:** Two 150 mg tablets of nirmatrelvir (300 mg total per dose) + one 100 mg tablet of ritonavir PO twice daily (dispensed from pharmacy in blister packs)
 - AVOID if creatinine clearance (CrCl) is less than 30 mL/min or end stage renal disease
 - CrCl between 30-59 mL/min: 1 tablet nirmatrelvir 150 mg + 1 tablet ritonavir 100 mg PO twice daily x 5 days
 - AVOID in patients with severe hepatic impairment
- **FDA EUA Indication:** 12+ years old weighing > 40 kg
 - [Paxlovid Fact Sheet for Patients, Parents, and Caregivers](#)
- **Drug interaction screening is extremely important due to known major and potentially life-threatening drug interactions with ritonavir (see [NIH Statement on Paxlovid Drug Interactions](#) for more information).**
- **Access Pathway:** Prescriptions must be sent to SC DHEC-designated Walgreens (see Table 3)

Bebtelovimab

- **Dose:** 175 mg IV push once
- **FDA EUA Indication:** 12+ years old weighing > 40 kg
 - Fact Sheet will be provided at infusion center
- **Access Pathway:** Patient referral to COVID infusion center by visiting [McLeodHealth.org](#)

Remdesivir (Veklury)

- **Dose:** 200 mg IV once x 1 day then 100 mg IV daily x 2 days (3 days total)
 - Avoid if CrCl < 30 mL/min, known hepatic disease or ALT > 10 x ULN
- **FDA Approved Indication:** 12+ years old weighing > 40 kg
- **Access Pathway:** Patient referral to COVID infusion center by visiting [McLeodHealth.org](#) (Only offered when monoclonal antibody not available)

Molnupiravir (Lagevrio) - FREE

- **Dose:** Four 200 mg tablets (800 mg total per dose) by mouth twice daily x 5 days
- **FDA EUA Indication:** 18+ years old
 - [Molnupiravir Fact Sheet for Patients and Caregivers](#)
- DO NOT USE in pregnancy. Consider confirming negative pregnancy test.
- Patients of reproductive potential should be counseled to use a reliable method of contraception correctly and consistently for the 5-day duration of molnupiravir plus an additional 4 days after completing therapy for females and an additional 3 months for males with partners who may become pregnant.
- **Access Pathway:** Prescriptions must be sent to SC DHEC-designated Walgreens (see Table 3)

Table 1. Severe Immune Compromising Conditions

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Within 1 year of receiving B cell-depleting therapies (e.g., rituximab, ocrelizumab, ofatumumab, alemtuzumab)• Receiving Bruton tyrosine kinase inhibitors• Chimeric antigen receptor T cell (CAR-T) recipients• Post-hematopoietic cell transplant recipients who have chronic graft versus host disease (GVHD) or who are taking immunosuppressive medications for another indication | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Hematologic malignancies on active therapy• Lung transplant recipients, regardless of date of transplant• Within 1 year of receiving a solid-organ transplant (other than lung)• Severe combined immunodeficiencies• Untreated HIV with a CD4 cell count < 50 cells/mm³ |
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Table 2. Clinical Risk Factors for Progression to Severe COVID-19

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Adult with BMI > 35 or pediatric patient > 85th percentile for weight• Immune compromising condition other than Tier 1 severe immune compromising condition (listed in Table 1)• Cancers other than Tier 1 hematologic malignancies (listed in Table 1)• Diabetes mellitus, type 1 or 2• Chronic kidney disease• Chronic lung disease• Neurodevelopmental disorder | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Cerebrovascular disease• Chronic liver disease• Heart condition• Hypertension• Medical-related technology dependence (e.g., tracheostomy, gastrostomy)• Sickle cell disease• Smoking, current or former |
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