



NEW YORK CITY DEPARTMENT OF
HEALTH AND MENTAL HYGIENE
Dave A. Chokshi, MD, MSc
Commissioner

2022 Health Advisory #2

Paxlovid is Available for COVID-19 Treatment in New York City

- Paxlovid is in stock and available to treat mild-to-moderate COVID-19 in high-risk patients within 5 days of symptom onset.
- Take steps to ensure that people with risk factors for severe COVID-19 get tested and referred for treatment as soon as possible after onset of COVID-19 symptoms.

February 1, 2022

Dear Colleagues,

[Paxlovid](#), an oral antiviral for treatment of symptomatic COVID-19, is currently in stock in NYC and can be prescribed through Alto Pharmacy. Prescribers can call 800-874-5881 to speak with an Alto pharmacist about medication interactions or other questions. Refer to the NYC Health Department's [COVID-19 Therapeutics Webpage](#) for eligibility criteria, prescribing instructions, supply updates, clinical considerations, and other resources. Providers can also visit the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) [COVID-19 Therapeutics Locator](#) to check daily stock on hand.

The availability of Paxlovid has improved in recent weeks and other outpatient therapeutics are also available, including another oral antiviral (molnupiravir), monoclonal antibodies (sotrovimab) and remdesivir. Refer to the [HHS decision support tool](#) for help determining appropriate treatment options for your patients.

Providers are encouraged to prescribe or refer high-risk patients for COVID-19 treatment to reduce their risk of hospitalization and death. COVID-19 therapeutics can be given within 5 days (oral antivirals) or 10 days (monoclonal antibodies) of symptom onset and are most effective when given early. Advise patients who are at [increased risk for severe COVID-19](#) to get tested immediately if they develop symptoms or were recently exposed, and explain the importance of promptly seeking treatment if they test positive (including with an at-home test).

While supplies remain limited, the New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene will use the Health Advisory Network to notify providers when NYC has received a new supply of Paxlovid.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Celia Quinn'.

Celia Quinn MD, MPH
Deputy Commissioner
Division of Disease Control