

Monoclonal Antibody Therapy (mAb) for Treating COVID-19



Monoclonal Antibody Therapy, or mAb for short, is a treatment for COVID-19. It is not a cure for COVID-19, but it may lessen your symptoms and help keep you out of the hospital.

When you are sick, your body makes antibodies on its own to fight the illness. Monoclonal antibodies are made in a lab. They act like our own antibodies. They are the extra help your body needs to fight the COVID-19 virus.

If you test positive for COVID-19, ask your health care provider about this treatment right away. If you do not have a healthcare provider you may be evaluated over the internet by going to [medstarhealth.org/evisit](https://www.medstarhealth.org/evisit). If you do not have access to the internet you may call 410-649-6122 to get information on monoclonal therapy over the phone.

Who Can Get Monoclonal Antibody Treatment?

You may be eligible for treatment if you:

- Test positive for COVID-19
- Have mild to moderate symptoms that started in the last 10 days
- Are at high risk
- Are 12 years of age or older

Eligibility also includes people who are not fully vaccinated, those who are vaccinated but not expected to have an adequate immune response to the vaccine, and those who are in living situations such as nursing homes and prisons and have been exposed to a known or suspected case of COVID-19.

How To Get Treatment:



Step 1

Test positive for COVID-19 with symptoms starting in the last 10 days



Step 2

Get a referral from your health care provider



Step 3

Have your provider refer you to an infusion center

Who Is High Risk?

Being high risk means that if you get COVID-19, you could get very sick, end up in the hospital, or even die. If you are not sure if you are high risk, ask your health care provider.

If you are 65 and older, you are high risk. You do not need to have any other health problems.

No matter how old you are, you are high risk if you have one of these:

- Chronic kidney disease
- Diabetes
- Body mass index over 35
- Immunosuppressive disease
- Currently receiving immunosuppressive treatment



If you are 55 to 64 years old, you are high risk if you have one of these:

- Cardiovascular disease
- Hypertension
- Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD) or other chronic respiratory disease



If you are 12 to 17 years old, you are also high risk if you have one of these:

- High body mass index
- Sickle cell disease
- Congenital or acquired heart disease
- Neurodevelopmental disorders
- A medical-related technological dependence
- Asthma or other chronic respiratory disease (medicated daily)



What Should I Expect?

You will get the treatment by an IV. Treatment can take up to an hour. Medical staff will then watch over you for another hour. It is rare, but you could have an allergic reaction or other side effect.

Right now, there is no cost to you for the drug. There may be some cost for giving you the treatment. Your insurance may pay these fees.

For [FAQs on monoclonal antibody treatment for COVID-19](#), visit covidLINK.maryland.gov.