



Office of the Chancellor

THE TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY SYSTEM

February 1, 2021

MEMORANDUM

TO: Presidents, Faculty, and Staff
FROM: John Sharp, Chancellor
SUBJECT: Monoclonal Antibodies

The State of Texas has a large supply of two new drugs, known as “monoclonal antibodies,” that can be important therapeutics for individuals who contract COVID-19.

Chief Nim Kidd of the Texas Division of Emergency Management alerted me to the availability of these medications, which can significantly reduce the effects of coronavirus if taken early enough. I wanted to make information on how to access the drugs available to all of our member universities and agencies as you continue to deal with the pandemic.

Here is the background information on the drugs and how to obtain them:

The FDA has granted Emergency Use Authorization (EUA) for two new treatments for COVID-19. These treatments are what is referred to as monoclonal antibodies, and both have been approved to treat non-hospitalized adults and children over age 12.

Monoclonal antibodies are laboratory-produced molecules that act as substitute antibodies to restore, enhance, or mimic the immune system’s function to attack foreign cells, in this case the COVID-19 virus. These treatments attack the COVID-19 protein making it more difficult for the virus to attach to and enter human cells.

These treatments are designed for non-hospitalized adults and children who have recently (less than 10 days) tested positive for COVID-19 and are at high risk for progressing to severe COVID-19 and/or hospitalization. This includes people who are:

- Persons over the age of 65
- Have moderate to severe obesity
- Have certain chronic medical conditions

Clinical studies among patients with mild or moderate illness as defined by National Institute of Health (NIH) criteria have shown that in the case of Regeneron there were fewer hospitalizations, emergency department visits, and physician visits, including a reduction from a rate of 6.5% for hospitalizations, ED visits or physician visits among those not treated to 2.8% for those who are treated. With Bamlanivimab, that same analysis of the hospitalization rate was 15% among those not treated and 4% for those treated. There was no benefit among those patients treated with a monoclonal antibody therapeutics who were hospitalized or had severe illness.

**To request infusion of monoclonal antibodies, you may call the
24-hour Infusion Hotline at **1-800-742-5990**.**

Be sure to inform them you are with The Texas A&M University System

An Infusion Specialist will record your information and process your request. Once complete, a specialized medical team trained in the administration of monoclonal antibodies can dispatch to your facility within 24 hours of your request. These teams are equipped with all the necessary supplies, equipment, and knowledge to administer therapeutics to patients who meet criteria for infusions.

Be advised, there is a specific set of criteria that must be met to be eligible to receive the treatment, however the most critical is an oxygen saturation of 94% or higher.

Please note that these services are offered at no cost to your facility.