

COVID-19 Treatment

THE ROLE OF COMMUNITY PHARMACY

The NHS is offering treatments to those people with COVID-19 who are at highest risk of becoming seriously ill.

People are eligible for COVID-19 treatment without being admitted to hospital if all the following apply:

- aged **12 or over**
- at **highest risk** of getting seriously ill from COVID-19
- **have symptoms** of COVID-19
- **tested positive** for COVID-19



**Further information
including the people at
higher risk available here**

Access to treatment is now managed by the local health system.

A patient will ring their GP or NHS 111 who will refer them to the COVID-19 Medicines Delivery Unit (CMDU) for assessment. If eligible, **a prescription will be issued for oral antivirals**, which is to be dispensed by a community pharmacy.

What pharmacy needs to do

- If a patient or their representative attends the pharmacy asking for COVID-19 treatment and they do not present a prescription, ensure to check the NHS spine for an electronic prescription.
- Order stock free of charge from Alliance Healthcare to fulfil the prescription (they have the only distribution agreement with the Department of Health and Social Care) . It will be delivered as part of your usual Alliance Healthcare delivery service; same day delivery is available.

Description	Item size	PIP	SPC Adult dose	NICE status*
PAXLOVID FC TABS 150MG/100MG (Nirmatrelvir 150mg tablets and Ritonavir 100mg tablets)	30	8051773	300 mg nirmatrelvir (two 150 mg tablets) with 100 mg ritonavir (one 100 mg tablet) all taken together orally twice daily for 5 days.	Recommended
LAGEVRIO CAPS 200MG (Molnupiravir 200mg capsules)	40	8051765	800 mg (four 200 mg capsules) taken orally every 12 hours for 5 days.	Under review

Brief all staff,
including locums, on
this process.

“Out of stock”?
Back up stock available
call AH customer
services 0330 100 0448

DISPENSE THE PRESCRIPTION AS SOON AS POSSIBLE AND LET
THE PATIENT KNOW IT IS READY - BOTH TREATMENTS ABOVE
SHOULD BE STARTED WITHIN 5 DAYS OF THE ONSET OF
SYMPTOMS AND THE SOONER THE BETTER.

NICE
guidance*



Reimbursement for dispensed products** The usual Drug Tariff fees will be paid in relation to the dispensing of prescriptions for these products.

As the stock has been supplied free of charge from the Government stockpile, contractors will receive a nominal reimbursement amount of £2.50, which DHSC has set to recognise the purchase margin contractors would ordinarily retain on products they had purchased to fulfil a prescription. **<https://cpe.org.uk/our-work/representation/covid19/antiviral-treatments-for-covid-19/>