



Health Services
LOS ANGELES COUNTY

MEDICINES FOR COVID-19

You should get COVID-19 medicines if you have COVID-19, have symptoms, and have a higher chance of getting very sick. Medicines can help keep you out of the hospital. Get tested right away, even if you are not that sick. Call your clinic to get tested or use a home test. **Do not wait on testing! COVID-19 medicines work best if you take them as soon as possible.**

You can get medicines if you have symptoms, a positive COVID-19 test, and are 65 years or older. You can also get medicines, no matter what age, if you:

- Have heart, kidney, or lung problems
- Have an immune system that is not normal
- Are pregnant, overweight, have cancer, diabetes, had a stroke, or have dementia. *

**You may be able to get medicines if you have other problems not listed here. Ask your doctor for more information.*

Any positive test for COVID-19 infection, including home tests, can be used.

Types of Medicines

There are 2 types of medicines for COVID-19 – antivirals and monoclonal antibodies:

1. **Antivirals** stops viruses from making more viruses in the body
2. **Monoclonal antibodies** stick to the virus and help the body to get rid of it.

Pills

You take these medicines by mouth. You **must start this medicine within 5 days** of getting symptoms. All DHS pharmacies have this medicine. Your doctor will need to give you a prescription.



- **Paxlovid** (antiviral) – for people 12 years or older who weigh at least 88 pounds.
- **Molnupiravir** (antiviral) – for adults 18 years or older, and not pregnant.

Injections

These medicines are given intravenously (into a vein). You **must start this medicine within 7 days** of getting symptoms. You can get this medicine by appointment at some DHS sites in LA County.



- **Remdesivir** (antiviral) – for adults, children, and infants who weigh at least 3kg (about 7 pounds). Given once a day for 3 days.
- **Bebtelovimab** (monoclonal antibody) – for people 12 years or older who weigh at least 88 pounds. Given as one dose.

How to Get the Medicines



- Call your primary doctor by phone
- Message your primary doctor through LA Health Portal and app
- Call the DHS nurse advice line



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