



HEALTH INFORMATION FOR HEALTH CARE PROVIDERS

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**COVID-19 THERAPEUTICS UPDATE: PAUSE IN THE DISTRIBUTION AND ADMINISTRATION
OF SOTROVIMAB**

Dear Healthcare Partners,

*If you have provided us with an email address, this information will be or has been emailed to you.

This alert is also posted on our website.*

Please see below for important information from the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS):

On March 29, the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) released data to support that the BA.2 variant is now circulating with a frequency of greater than 50% in HHS Region 5 (Michigan, Illinois, Indiana, Ohio, Wisconsin, and Minnesota). [CDC Nowcast](#) estimates that the BA.2 Omicron variant represents about 35% of SARS-CoV-2 variants currently circulating in the United States and has increased transmission compared to the BA.1 Omicron variant.

Results from in vitro assays that are used to assess the susceptibility of viral variants to monoclonal antibodies suggest that sotrovimab is not fully active against the BA.2 variant.

As a result, the Assistant Secretary for Preparedness and Response (ASPR), in conjunction with the U.S. Food and Drug Association (FDA) amended the Emergency Use Authorization (EUA) for the monoclonal antibody (mAb), sotrovimab. Therefore, ordering, administration, and distribution of sotrovimab in Michigan has been paused at this time.

Providers are encouraged to use available COVID-19 therapies such as:

- Paxlovid
- Bebtelovimab
- Remdesivir
- Molnupiravir

All health care providers are encouraged to continue to monitor information from the CDC and state authorities regarding the prevalence of the BA.2 variant.

It is important to note that the oral antivirals Paxlovid and molnupiravir are readily available in Meijer, Walgreen, select Rite Aid and other independent pharmacies statewide. These medications should be considered in all COVID positive individuals at high risk for morbidity and mortality. For information about where to obtain COVID-19 therapies please visit: www.michigan.gov/covidtherapy

Health care providers should review the Antiviral Resistance information in Section 15 of the authorized Fact Sheets for each monoclonal antibody and oral antiviral therapy available under an EUA for details regarding specific variants and resistance. Health care providers should also refer to the CDC website (<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/cases-updates/variant-proportions.html>) and information from state and local health authorities regarding reports of viral variants of importance in their region to guide treatment decisions.

COVID-19 therapies available under an EUA must be used in accordance with the terms and conditions for the respective authorization, including the authorized labeling. The Letters of Authorization may be accessed at: <https://www.fda.gov/emergency-preparedness-and-response/mcm-legal-regulatory-and-policy-framework/emergency-use-authorization#coviddrugs>.

If you have not already done so, please consider providing your email address to the Lenawee County Health Department enabling us to email you these healthcare alerts. As in the past, alerts for healthcare providers will continue to be faxed, but the faxed alert will now direct you to our website to access the information: <http://www.lenawee.mi.us/187/Health-Department> then click on SERVICES and then INFORMATION FOR HEALTHCARE PROVIDERS.