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**HEALTH INFORMATION FOR HEALTH CARE PROVIDERS**

**For more information, contact:**

Meredith Mackey, 517-264-5243, Meredith.Mackey@lenawee.mi.us

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**MDHHS COVID-19 THERAPEUTICS UPDATE**

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

The Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) remains committed to mitigating the spread of COVID-19. This includes campaigns to provide education for the public related to COVID-19 Testing and Therapeutics. MDHHS encourages all clinicians to integrate opportunities to discuss the availability of therapeutics into visits related to COVID as well as routine visits with their patients. Evaluating patients who have conditions that make them eligible under the FDA EUA and communicating that direction should they need to get medications in advance allows our Michiganders to stay informed and empowered to seek potentially lifesaving medications when needed. This includes identifying those who are immunocompromised and would qualify for the pre-exposure prophylaxis medication, Evusheld.

The Communicable Disease Division continues to monitor COVID-19 case rates in Michigan. Further, cases are slowly increasing, with increases occurring more in Southeast Michigan.

- The proportion of BA.2 in the U.S. and Michigan continues to rise
- 65% of Sentinel Wastewater Epidemiology Evaluation Project (SWEET) sites saw an increase in the most recent week and another 20% of sites saw a plateau in trends. For further information please visit: [Coronavirus - Sentinel Wastewater Epidemiology Evaluation Project \(SWEET\) \(michigan.gov\)](https://www.michigan.gov/coronavirus-sweep)
- Case trends are increasing for many age groups and for Asian/Pacific Islanders

## Revised Emergency Use Authorization for Paxlovid

On April 14, 2022, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) revised the Emergency Use Authorization (EUA) for the COVID-19 oral antiviral therapeutic Paxlovid to authorize an additional dose pack presentation with appropriate dosing for patients with moderate renal impairment within the scope of the EUA. The FDA has updated the [Letter of Emergency Use Authorization](#), [Provider Fact Sheet](#), and the [Provider Letter](#).

Paxlovid will soon be available in two package presentations:

- The standard packaging that is currently in distribution:
  - 300 mg nirmatrelvir; 100 mg ritonavir - Each carton contains 30 tablets divided in 5 daily-dose blister cards. Each blister card contains 4 nirmatrelvir tablets (150 mg each) and
  - 2 ritonavir tablets (100 mg each). Nirmatrelvir tablets and ritonavir tablets are supplied in separate blister cavities within the same child-resistant blister card.
- The new packaging option that will be in distribution in the coming weeks:
  - 150 mg nirmatrelvir; 100 mg ritonavir - Each carton contains 20 tablets divided in 5 daily-dose blister cards. Each blister card contains
  - 2 nirmatrelvir tablets (150 mg each) and 2 ritonavir tablets (100 mg each). Nirmatrelvir tablets and ritonavir tablets are supplied in separate blister cavities within the same child-resistant blister card.

## COVID-19 Oral Antivirals Prescribing Updates

Given current availability, and to facilitate prescribing COVID-19 Oral Antivirals, MDHHS has lifted the restriction on phone prescriptions for COVID-19 oral antivirals, making prescribing by phone an option for providers. Moreover, MDHHS has modified the oral antiviral script templates to include the new medication dosage of Paxlovid available for moderate renal impairment individuals. A copy of the Interim Instructions on Prescribing Paxlovid and Lagevrio (molnupiravir) for COVID-19 and script templates of Paxlovid (in both doses) and Lagevrio have been attached to this alert. For more information about oral antivirals and prescribing, please visit [Coronavirus - COVID-19 Therapeutics Information Page \(michigan.gov\)](#).

**This alert is also posted on the Lenawee County Health Department website at :**

<http://www.lenawee.mi.us/187/Health-Department> then click on SERVICES and then INFORMATION FOR HEALTHCARE PROVIDERS.