**Frequently Asked Questions for Providers talking with patients and caregivers**

**What are COVID-19 monoclonal antibodies?**

* There are multiple COVID-19 monoclonal antibodies. These are medications that are intended to bind the SARS-CoV-2 virus to prevent further viral replication and stop further progression of the disease.
* These medications are not FDA-approved, but available under an FDA issued Emergency Use Authorization (EUA)
* Bebtelovimab is currently the only product available under an EUA that has activity against the Omicron variant BA.2; the variant that is most widely circulating in Nebraska.

**What is the evidence that COVID-19 monoclonal antibodies work?**

* In clinical trials of adult and pediatric patients with and without high-risk conditions, these drugs showed the potential to reduce hospitalization when infected patients are given the drug early in their COVID-19 infection or as post-exposure prophylaxis in certain patient populations to prevent infection or severe disease if infected.
* Bebtelovimab is not approved for post-exposure prophylaxis.

**Who can receive COVID-19 monoclonal antibodies?**

* At Children’s Hospital & Medical Center, a child can be considered for these medications if they meet the following qualifications. These qualifications are specified in the emergency use authorization (EUA) granted by the FDA. The provider in the SPC Infusion Center will determine which product is best for your child.
	+ Weight: ≥ 40 kg (~88 pounds)
	+ Child needs to have a high-risk condition (examples include diabetes, obesity, sickle cell disease, congenital heart disease, immunosuppressive therapy, and several others)

***AND:***

* + Positive COVID-19 testing: Either PCR or Antigen testing
	+ Mild to moderate illness (non-hospitalized children, not requiring oxygen)
	+ Drug must be given within 7 days of child developing symptoms of COVID-19 infection

**How can a child receive COVID-19 monoclonal antibodies?**

* A parent/guardian can discuss with their primary care or specialty physician to determine if their child should receive this treatment. Physician/APP reviews EUA fact sheet with patient/family- [Bebtelovimab EUA](https://www.fda.gov/media/156152/download)
* The physician request treatment using this link (<https://forms.office.com/r/KyyR1f2UyM>). Request will be reviewed Monday-Friday 8-4 pm
* The parent/guardian should seek medical attention immediately if their child’s condition worsens and not wait for their monoclonal antibody therapy appointment.

**How is this medication given?**

* The medication is given through an IV infusion. The infusions will occur at the Infusion Center in the Specialty Pediatric Center at Children’s Hospital & Medical Center. The child and parent/guardian should plan to be at the Infusion Center for up to 4 hours.

**What are the side effects?**

* Overall, these medications have been very well-tolerated in the clinical trials. Some patients experienced some symptoms of fevers, chills, or rash when the drug was infusing (this is called an infusion-related reaction); this was improved by slowing or stopping the infusion. As with all drugs, there is a risk of allergic reaction.

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