

DOH COVID-19 Vaccine Implementation Collaborative Minutes:

Special Briefing – COVID-19 Therapeutics

April 27th, 2022 | 4:00pm – 5:00pm

I. Welcome & Land Acknowledgment

• COVID-19 Therapeutics – Ezra Stark and Sarah Mehdoava, DOH Medical Countermeasures Team

- For detailed slide deck, please see [here](#)
- Treatment Options and How to Access:
 - Monoclonal antibody treatments are provided in outpatient settings.
 - Monoclonal antibodies have been around through state allocation since September.
 - The window for treatment is 7 days.
 - To date we have distributed 64,550 monoclonal antibody (mAb)
 - There have been over 100,000,000 worth of federally purchased therapeutics.
 - One difference regarding distribution is that monoclonal antibodies have to be through the provider compared to the vaccine you can push it out to Local Health Jurisdictions and hospitals.
 - One challenge with strovimab was that it was an IV whereas many sites that were doing monoclonals were doing subcutaneous administration
 - Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis for COVID-19 is medication designed to block a virus from attaching and entering human cells. See this [Link](#) for more information.
 - Pre-exposure prophylaxis is for those who are moderate to severely immune compromised.
 - For additional context, SVI stands for Social Vulnerability Index, see her for a map: <https://fortress.wa.gov/doh/wtn/WTNIBL/>
 - Oral Antivirals – This is a treatment in pill form and it helps by stopping the virus from multiply.
 - There are two oral antivirals which are Paxlovid™ (Pfizer) and Lagevrio/molnupiravir (Merck).
 - There is a list of health centers and clinics that can receive oral antivirals from the Federal government. The benefit is to have greater access in more areas.
- Path forward for oral antivirals:
 - Below are the key objectives: (1) Increase oral antiviral dispensing locations and availability. (2) Increase awareness and education of oral antivirals. (3) Continuing to look for ways to increase equity. (4) Look at innovative options to support the “Test to Treat” concept.

- Here is a resource shared by a Collab partner: “In regard to Telemedicine access- resource: Section 508 Best Practices Webinar: Accessible Data Visualization: Addressing Barriers and Implementing Section 508 Solutions- For more details or to register, visit www.accessibilityonline.org.”
- The “Test to Treat” program includes testing, provider evaluation, and dispensing medications on site. The program is working to expand telehealth access.

II. Closing

- We launched a poll to see if participants would be interested in continuing the COVID-19 Therapeutics conversation at a later date. There were 19 responses for “yes” and 1 response for “no”. We hope to host an additional special briefing session in the upcoming month related to COVID-19 Therapeutics progress updates, share additional material and resources and address any questions/concerns.
- For any additional questions you can email the Medical Countermeasures team at mcm@doh.wa.gov