



SARA BOSSE
Public Health Director

SIMON PAUL, M.D.
Health Officer

HEALTH UPDATE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

September 15, 2021

CONTACT: (559) 514-4857

phmedia@maderacounty.com

Expanded Availability at Madera Community Hospital of Outpatient Monoclonal Antibody Treatment for COVID-19 Patients

Summary

The purpose of this Health Update is to inform clinicians in Madera County about the expanded availability of outpatient monoclonal antibody (MAB) therapy at Madera Community Hospital (MCH) for high-risk patients with mild to moderate SARS-CoV-2 infections who are not hospitalized.

Madera Community Hospital (MCH) along with other hospitals in our region continue to be at capacity and experience a high number of COVID-19 hospitalizations. Monoclonal antibodies are an important treatment that may shorten the duration of symptoms and lessen the burden on the local hospital system. The antibody infusion may prevent severe illness, emergency room visits, hospitalizations, and deaths in high-risk individuals. MABs have Federal Drug Administration (FDA) emergency use approval for the treatment of mild to moderate COVID-19 positive patients within the first 10 days of diagnosis who are at high risk for progressing to severe COVID-19 and/or hospitalization.

The Madera County Department of Public Health (MCDPH) recommends monoclonal antibodies as a COVID-19 treatment option to eligible patients.

Who is Eligible?

To be eligible for outpatient MAB at Madera Community Hospital, a patient must meet **ALL** the following screening criteria:

- Positive SARS-CoV-2 PCR or antigen test
- Within 10 days of symptom onset
- Mild to moderate COVID-19

Categories of Health Alert Messages:

Health Alert: Conveys the highest level of importance; warrants immediate action or attention

Health Advisory: Provides important information for a specific incident or situation; may not require immediate action

Health Update: Provides updated information regarding an incident or situation; unlikely to require immediate action

Health Information: Provides general health information which is not considered to be of emergent nature



- Outpatient
- 12 years of age or older
- Minimal weight of 40 kg or 88 lbs.

They must also meet **at least one** of following criteria:

- ≥ 65 years of age
- Obesity or overweight (BMI >25 kg/m² or if age 12-17 BMI ≥ 85 percentile)
- Pregnancy
- Have chronic kidney disease
- Have diabetes
- Have immunosuppressive disease
- Are currently receiving immunosuppressive treatment
- Cardiovascular disease including congenital heart disease
- Hypertension
- Chronic lung disease (for example COPD, asthma, interstitial lung disease, cystic fibrosis, and pulmonary hypertension)
- Sickle Cell Disease
- Neurodevelopmental disorders (for example, cerebral palsy) or other conditions that confer medical complexity
- Medical related technological dependence (for example, tracheostomy, gastrostomy, or positive pressure ventilation (not related to COVID 19)
- Other medical conditions or factors (e.g. race or ethnicity) may also place individual patients at high risk for progression to severe COVID-19.

MAB is **not authorized** for use in patients who:

- Require oxygen therapy due to COVID-19
- Require an increase in baseline oxygen flow rate due to COVID-19 in those on chronic oxygen therapy due to underlying non-COVID-19 related comorbidity.

How Can I Refer My Patients to Treatment at Madera Community Hospital?

Clinicians should pre-screen patients based upon the provided criteria. Patients who meet the criteria can be provided the phone number to the **Madera Community Hospital Antibody Clinic Provider: (559) 675-2688**. The MCH Antibody Clinic Provider will further screen and evaluate patients to determine treatment eligibility. Services are limited and patients at the highest risk will be prioritized. Services are not available on a “walk-in” basis.

Is there A Cost for Treatment at Madera Community Hospital?

Categories of Health Alert Messages:

Health Alert: Conveys the highest level of importance; warrants immediate action or attention

Health Advisory: Provides important information for a specific incident or situation; may not require immediate action

Health Update: Provides updated information regarding an incident or situation; unlikely to require immediate action

Health Information: Provides general health information which is not considered to be of emergent nature



Insurance will be billed for the consultation, infusion, and follow-up visit. There is no sliding fee for the infusion but there is for the consultation. Costs are subject to change and should be discussed with MCH.

Resources

- Casirivimab/Imdevimab [factsheet](#)
- FDA [Emergency Use Authoration for casirivimab and imdevimab](#)
- [Madera County Department of Public Health MAB webpage](#)

Categories of Health Alert Messages:

Health Alert: Conveys the highest level of importance; warrants immediate action or attention

Health Advisory: Provides important information for a specific incident or situation; may not require immediate action

Health Update: Provides updated information regarding an incident or situation; unlikely to require immediate action

Health Information: Provides general health information which is not considered to be of emergent nature

