

**Date:** November 4, 2021  
**Topic:** Monoclonal Antibody Therapy Clinic  
**To:** All Health Care Providers and Facilities  
**From:** Jim Barbee, Churchill County Manager  
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While we know that prevention is key to ending the COVID-19 pandemic, having a treatment option is just as important to potentially save lives and relieve the burden on our health care system. Churchill County is pleased to announce we are accepting patient referrals to the outpatient Monoclonal Antibody Therapy clinic. We will begin treatments on Friday, November 05, 2021.

### **Background**

Monoclonal antibody treatments have been authorized by the Federal Drug Administration (FDA) for emergency use to treat high-risk patients who have contracted or been exposed to COVID-19. The antibodies help the immune system recognize and respond more effectively to the virus. In clinical trials, monoclonal antibody therapy treatment showed a 70% reduction in hospitalization and death among high-risk patients.

### **Eligibility for mAb Treatment**

Monoclonal antibody therapy may be prescribed by health care providers to non-hospitalized patients 12 years of age and older who have been diagnosed with COVID-19 and are experiencing mild to moderate symptoms or individuals who have been exposed to someone with COVID-19 and are at high risk for severe illness and/or hospitalization.

High-risk patients should get treatment as quickly as possible after testing positive for COVID-19 and within ten days of symptom onset. Examples of medical conditions that may pose a higher risk for severe illness and could potentially benefit from this treatment, include but are not limited to:

- $\geq 65$  years of age
- Body mass index (BMI) of  $\geq 25$  kg/m<sup>2</sup>, or if 12-17 have BMI  $\geq 85^{\text{th}}$  percentile for their age and gender
- Chronic Kidney Disease
- Diabetes
- Pregnancy
- Immunosuppressive Disease
- Currently receiving Immunosuppressive treatment
- Cardiovascular Disease (including congenital or acquired heart disease)
- Hypertension
- Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease/other Chronic Respiratory diseases
- Sickle Cell disease
- Neurodevelopmental disorders such as Cerebral Palsy

- A medical-related technological dependence- for example, tracheostomy, gastrostomy, or positive pressure ventilation (not related to COVID-19)
- Asthma, reactive airway, or other chronic respiratory disease that requires daily medication for control

### **Exclusion Criteria**

Patients are not eligible for mAb treatment if any of the following apply:

- Patient hospitalized due to COVID-19
- Patient requiring oxygen therapy due to COVID-19
- Patient on chronic oxygen therapy requiring an increase in baseline oxygen flow rate due to COVID-19

### **How is MAB Administered?**

Monoclonal antibody therapy is primarily administered through IV infusion. Infusion takes approximately one hour and the patient is required to remain at the clinic for an additional hour to be monitored for any adverse reactions.

The FDA also authorized subcutaneous injection for certain monoclonal antibody therapy treatments, including Regeneron. Subcutaneous injection is an alternative route of administration when IV infusion is not feasible and would lead to delay in treatment.

### **Patient Referral**

The patient referral process is similar to other outpatient treatments. Walk-in patients **will not** be accepted at the clinic.

When referring patients, providers must do the following:

- Ensure the patient being referred is eligible to receive the treatment.
- Provide the Fact Sheet for Patients, Parents, and Caregivers to the patient.
- Review and explain the risks and benefits of receiving monoclonal antibody therapy with the patient.
- Inform the patient that mAb is an experimental drug, which has received emergency use authorization from the FDA.

Providers may also fax the referral form to 775-423-8507 or email Churchillcovid@churchillcounty.org. Sending the referral form does not schedule the patient for treatment. You will also need to call the office at 775-423-6695 option 2 to schedule a time for the treatment.

### **Location and Hours of Clinic**

The clinic will be located at the Churchill County Public Health Miners Road Site, 485 Miners Road, Fallon, NV 89406. Signs will be placed to assist patients in navigating to the clinic.

Patients should expect to be at the infusion clinic for up to three hours to allow for check-in time and preparation, treatment, and post-treatment monitoring.

Patients must wear a mask at all times while at the clinic and will not be allowed to have visitors with them. Should the patient have a caregiver or require assistance, please contact the office at 775-423-6695 option # 2.

**Cost of Treatment**

There is no cost of monoclonal antibody therapy clinic to the patient.

**Provider Resources**

Monoclonal Infusion Referral and Scheduling Form upon request

Fact Sheet for Patients, Parents and Caregivers for EUA of REGEN-COV -

<https://www.fda.gov/media/145612/download>

Fact Sheet for Healthcare Providers for EUA of REGEN-COV -

<https://www.fda.gov/media/145611/download>

Tools for Your Practice - <https://combatcovid.hhs.gov/hcp/resources>

FDA Frequently Asked Questions on the EUA of REGEN-COV -

<https://www.fda.gov/media/143894/download>