COVID-19 Medications: Evusheld

Evusheld is a monoclonal antibody therapy used for pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP) against COVID-19. Evusheld can help prevent COVID-19 in people 12 years and older who have conditions that cause moderate to severe weakening of their immune system.

A person’s immune system is what fights disease, by using antibodies that it makes. Antibodies are special proteins. Monoclonal antibodies work the same way but are made in a laboratory.

Evusheld monoclonal antibody therapy is given by injection to help prevent COVID-19 in people whose bodies have trouble making antibodies. It is used before someone gets sick, not after.

You may be able to get this medication if:

- Your immune system is weak because of a medical condition or because you are taking medications that make it weaker and you are not expected to build up enough of an immune response to COVID-19 vaccination.

OR

- You have a history of very bad reactions to a COVID-19 vaccine and/or substance of a COVID-19 vaccine, and because of it, you are not recommended to get COVID-19 vaccine.

AND

- You are not currently infected with the virus that causes COVID-19.
- You have not recently been in close contact with someone who has COVID-19 (exposure).

For most people, vaccination is recommended as the best way to protect yourself against COVID-19. Evusheld is not a substitute for vaccination in people who are recommended to get the COVID-19 vaccine. You should wait at least two weeks between getting vaccinated for COVID-19 and getting Evusheld.

Most COVID-19 medications are available at no cost to you.

Visit COVID-19 Medication Options (www.health.state.mn.us/diseases/coronavirus/meds.html), or talk with your doctor or another health care provider to see if you may be able to use this medication and to find a clinic.

Tell your health care provider if you:

- Are pregnant or plan to become pregnant
- Are breastfeeding
- Are taking any medications
- Have low numbers of blood platelets or a bleeding disorder
- Have any allergies
- Have any serious illnesses, especially heart problems, or are at high risk for heart attack or stroke
For more information, you may call the COVID-19 Public Hotline at 833-431-2053, from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. Monday through Friday and from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturdays.

Wear a mask. Wash your hands. Stay 6 feet from others. Stay home if you feel sick.