

# Oral Treatment Options for COVID-19

LEARN ABOUT AT-HOME ORAL MEDICATION TO TREAT MILD-TO-MODERATE COVID-19



**Paxlovid™** and **Lagevrio™** are oral antiviral medications. They are approved medications for emergency use authorization by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration to treat COVID-19. And, they have been proven to be **safe and effective**.

These oral antiviral treatments **are not meant to replace vaccinations and booster shots**. They help reduce the risk of you having to go to the hospital – or worse, death – due to COVID-19.

If you have COVID symptoms and have tested positive for COVID-19, these outpatient COVID medications can be prescribed to help combat mild-to-moderate symptoms. You should begin taking the medications as soon as possible after testing positive for COVID. And, you should take them within five days of symptom onset.

## Paxlovid

The COVID-19 Treatment Guidelines Panel recommends Paxlovid as the preferred COVID-19 treatment for people who have tested positive using SARS-CoV-2 viral testing. And, for those at high risk of getting severe COVID-19. (This includes being admitted to a hospital or death.)

## Lagevrio

The Treatment Guidelines Panel suggests using Lagevrio **only when Paxlovid is not available**. Or, when Paxlovid cannot be used.

**Be sure to speak to your provider if you have symptoms or test positive for COVID. Doctors at both Babylon and urgent care can prescribe oral COVID treatments.**

For more information about Paxlovid and Lagevrio, see the chart on page 2.  
(continued)



## Find pharmacies easily

These COVID-19 oral antiviral pills are available by prescription only. Find a pharmacy that carries them:








1 Use this QR code:



Or, visit this COVID-19 treatment [website](#).

- 2 Click in the *search box* and type an address or ZIP code.
- 3 Then press enter for a list of nearby pharmacies.

## COVID-19 antiviral pills: Facts At-a-Glance

	Paxlovid (Pfizer) (Nirmatrelvir/ritonavir)	Lagevrio (Merck) (Molnupiravir)
What should you take this for?	Use these to treat mild to moderate COVID-19 symptoms.	
How do you take it?	 Take <b>three pills</b> by mouth twice a day – morning and evening (six pills total, per day). Take them with – or without – food. Must be swallowed whole.	 Take <b>four pills</b> by mouth twice a day – morning and evening (eight pills total, per day). Take them with – or without – food. Must be swallowed whole.
Who can take it?	 Ages 12+, weighing 88+ pounds and at high risk.	 Ages 18+ and at high risk. <sup>1</sup> <b>Not approved for use in patients younger than 18</b> , since this drug may affect bone and cartilage growth.
How does it work?	Blocks a protein the virus uses to grow.	Inserts itself into the virus' genetic make-up.
How effective is it?	Lowers the risk by <b>almost 90%</b> .	Lowers the risk by <b>about 30%</b> .
How do patients get the medication?	 Prescription only.	
When should it be prescribed?	 Start within five days after symptoms first begin.	
How long do you take the pills?	 Five days.	

<sup>1</sup>Should only be used when no other treatment is available for mild to moderate COVID-19.



Call California Health & Wellness toll free with questions 877-658-0305 (TTY: 711) Monday–Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.