

## Provider Newsbrief – Feb. 2, 2022

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### UPDATE: COVID Oral Antiviral Medications

#### WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW:

- Based on increasing availability of oral antiviral medications in Arizona, the AZ Department of Health Services expanded the patient prioritization to the “Tier 2” criteria.
- Prescribers should consider oral antiviral therapy for patients who meet Tier 1 or Tier 2 criteria (summarized below).
- A select list of pharmacies are carrying oral antiviral products. Visit the site below for additional information and for the list of pharmacies to which Paxlovid may be prescribed.
  - o [azdhs.gov/antivirals](https://azdhs.gov/antivirals)
  - o [azdhs.gov/findtreatment](https://azdhs.gov/findtreatment)

#### PATIENT PRIORITIZATION:

- Tier One
  - o Patients 70 years of age or older
  - o OR who have major immune suppression (i.e., HIV, severe primary immunodeficiency, cancer and/or transplant patients, or patients on chronic steroids or other immunosuppressive drugs)
- Tier Two
  - o Tier 1 and Age 50 years or older with one or more CDC high risk conditions for COVID-19 disease progression. CDC High Risk Health Conditions include (listed alphabetically):
    - Cancer
    - Chronic kidney disease
    - Chronic liver disease
    - Chronic lung diseases
    - Dementia or other neurological conditions
    - Diabetes (type 1 or 2)
    - Down syndrome
    - Heart conditions
    - HIV infection
    - Immunocompromised state (weakened immune system)
    - Mental health conditions

- Overweight and obesity
- Pregnancy
- Sickle cell disease or thalassemia
- Smoking & Tobacco Use
- Solid organ or blood stem cell transplant
- Stroke or cerebrovascular disease, which affects blood flow to the brain
- Substance use disorders
- Tuberculosis