

# TEST-TO-TREAT FOR COVID-19

**“Test-to-Treat”** means if you test positive for COVID-19 today, you can get potentially lifesaving treatment right away.

January 2023

## WHAT TYPE OF TREATMENT HELPS WITH COVID-19?

The most effective pill for COVID-19 is Paxlovid (Nirmatrelvir/Ritonavir). It can stop COVID-19 from making you very sick, and help you recover faster. Research shows it can reduce risks for hospitalization and death from COVID-19 by 89%. If Paxlovid is not right for you, there are other treatments available. All effective treatments, including infusions or other therapies for COVID-19, require a prescription.

## HOW DOES IT WORK?

- ▶ Paxlovid works best if you take it within 5 days of the start of your illness, and a positive COVID-19 test.
- ▶ You take 2 pink and 1 white tablet twice per day for 5 days in a row. Do not share your pills with anyone.
- ▶ When you finish the 5-day pack of pills, you are done.

## WHO IS ELIGIBLE?

People 12 years old and older who are more likely to get very ill from COVID-19 are eligible, especially if:

- ▶ You are over age 50, benefits increase the older you are
- ▶ Your immune system doesn't work properly (from cancer treatment, a disease, certain drugs, etc.)
- ▶ You have a medical condition like heart or kidney disease, or some disabilities
- ▶ You have asthma or other respiratory condition
- ▶ You are pregnant or just had a baby
- ▶ You smoke or are overweight

## WHAT'S THE OTHER GOOD NEWS?

### It's safe

When prescribed by a doctor who evaluates it's right for you.

### It's effective

Many patients report that their symptoms also improve while taking Paxlovid.

### It's free!

You do not need health insurance to get Paxlovid.

## WHERE CAN I LEARN MORE?

- ▶ **Reach out to your local community health center** if you need a COVID-19 (or flu test) or if you tested positive for COVID-19.
- ▶ **Find a health center near you** at <https://www.fqhc.org/find-an-fqhc>. You may schedule an in-person or over-the-phone appointment—testing and treatment will not cost you anything. Tell them you need to be seen right away because you are interested in test-to-treat.
- ▶ **Find a test-to-treat location** at <https://aspr.hhs.gov/TestToTreat/Pages/default.aspx> or call your local health department.