



**NEVADA
HEALTH
RESPONSE**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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COVID-19 Press Bulletin for February 24, 2022

Carson City, NV — Today, Dr. Rashid Chotani, medical director for the COVID-19 treatment center in Las Vegas, joined Division of Public and Behavioral Health Deputy Administrator Julia Peek and David Wuest of the Nevada State Board of Pharmacy to provide updates on Nevada's COVID-19 Response.

This bulletin provides facts, figures, and informational items from the call. As a reminder, data is provided in a dashboard on the home page of the [Nevada Health Response](#) website.

SUMMARY:

- The State's first order of at-home test kits have all arrived in Nevada. These were provided to community partners to hand out at their sites and events.
- Tests can be found in many locations which are being updated on the [Nevada Health Response website](#).
- The State has expanded the call center to support not only vaccinations, but now also testing and therapeutic services.
- Part of the testing services will be to help residents use their kits, understand the results and if the results are positive, the team will help them calculate their isolation period, notify contacts and also determine if they may be a good candidate for therapeutics to lessen the severity of disease.
- The call center can be reached daily at 1-800-401-0946.
- Therapeutics are a foundational aspect to allow us to live with COVID-19, but it is not a replacement for vaccination.
- In December more than \$19 million was approved for therapeutics and if you are sick, this free treatment option is potentially available.
- For therapeutics services, it will be a combination of telehealth services, with fixed sites, and mobile or home-health type visits to provide the therapy.

- There are a variety of COVID-19 therapies approved under Emergency Use Authorization to reduce the risk of severe disease and death.
- The therapy includes pre-exposure medications for residents who may be immunocompromised and in need of another layer of protection.
- Other therapeutics include antivirals to reduce the ability of the virus to replicate once you are infected or monoclonal antibody treatment to limit the amount of virus in your body.
- In Northern and rural counties, Nevada is supporting services in a fixed site location in Reno, as well as home-health delivery of services for those who are unable to travel, and telehealth visits for oral antivirals.
- To find out if the treatment is something you can qualify for the State has developed a pre-screening tool that can be accessed online or through the call center.
- There are currently two oral antiviral medications being utilized in Nevada.
- These are Paxlovid and Molnupiravir. These medications have been shown to reduce the risk of severe disease substantially but must be provided to the patient very soon after their symptoms start.
- In addition to medications that are provided after infection occurs, the state is also providing free Evusheld to eligible residents.
- The drug can provide protection for those not expected to mount an adequate immune response following vaccination, including those who are immunocompromised due to a medical condition or immunosuppressive medications, as well as those individuals for whom COVID-19 vaccination is not recommended.
- If you have tested positive for COVID-19 review these options to see if therapeutics are an option to lessen the severity of disease.

LAS VEGAS COVID-19 TREATMENT CENTER:

- The clinic is open 7 days a week with patient appointments from 8:30 am to 4:30 p.m.
- Appointments are made through physician referral, by calling 702-481-4209 or walk ins may be accepted.
- The clinic has bilingual staff, and each person speaks with a medical provider in-person prior to receiving treatment.
- There are a variety of COVID-19 treatments currently available, and our clinic receives an allocation of Evusheld, Sotrovimab and Bebtelovimab each week.