



Health Alert Network Message 21-84: Paxlovid (nirmatrelvir tablets and ritonavir tablets) EUA and Availability

Origination
December 29, 2021

Date:

Revision Dates (List All Revision Dates):

This message is being sent via the Louisiana Department of Health Emergency Operations Center (LDH EOC) Louisiana Health Alert Network (LA HAN) for all Louisiana Enrolled COVID-19 Vaccine Sites. This message is from LDH Office of Public Health (OPH) regarding **Paxlovid (nirmatrelvir tablets and ritonavir tablets) EUA and Availability**. Please read the message attached/below. Please share and distribute with relevant stakeholders and partners through your own distribution channels.

December 29, 2021

Paxlovid (nirmatrelvir tablets and ritonavir tablets) EUA and Availability

On December 22, 2021. The U.S. Food and Drug Administration issued an Emergency Use Authorization for Pfizer’s Paxlovid (nirmatrelvir tablets and ritonavir tablets) for the treatment of mild-to-moderate coronavirus disease (COVID-19) in adults and pediatric patients (12 years of age and older weighing at least 40 kilograms or about 88 pounds) with positive results of direct SARS-CoV-2 testing, and who are at high risk for progression to severe COVID-19, including hospitalization or death.

Paxlovid is available by prescription only and should be initiated as soon as possible after diagnosis of COVID-19 and within five days of symptom onset. **Prescribers should be aware of the potential for significant drug interactions and contraindications for use with certain drugs. In addition, Paxlovid is not recommended in patients with severe kidney or severe liver impairment. In patients with moderate renal impairment, a reduced Paxlovid dose is needed.**

For all prescribing information, including a complete list of drugs that should not be taken in combination with Paxlovid, see the [fact sheet](#) for healthcare providers.

In the state of Louisiana, a very limited number of Paxlovid regimens have been received and have been allocated to a small number of Independent Pharmacies across the state. The list of pharmacies in receipt of the initial, small shipment of Paxlovid are enclosed within this HAN.

For more information on the EUA, including FAQ for prescribers, visit:

<https://www.fda.gov/news-events/press-announcements/coronavirus-covid-19-update-fda-authorizes-first-oral-antiviral-treatment-covid-19>