

## Monoclonal Antibody Treatment Program

Full memo is available here: <https://sharedhealthmb.ca/files/covid-19-mab-memo.pdf>

Manitoba is launching a **by-referral** monoclonal antibody treatment program at a number of locations across the province. The following information should be shared broadly with providers.

Additional information is available and will be updated as needed, at <https://sharedhealthmb.ca/covid19/mab/>. Information for patients is available at <https://manitoba.ca/covid19/treatment/index.html>.

Monoclonal antibody treatment for COVID-19 is a one-time intravenous treatment that can be offered to unvaccinated, partially vaccinated or immunocompromised individuals who meet the criteria below. It is expected to reduce the severity of illness and hospitalization rate for some patients by promoting an initial immune response in those with no prior antibodies to COVID-19. This response is also expected to help prevent severe COVID-19 illness in people with weakened immune systems who may not generate a robust response to the COVID-19 vaccines.

While monoclonal antibody treatment is showing some effect in treating COVID-19, a full vaccine regimen remains the best way to prevent COVID-19. This is especially true for the emerging Omicron variant, for which the third dose is showing markedly superior protection. Individuals who have received monoclonal antibody treatment should continue to be encouraged to receive the COVID-19 vaccine, but should wait 90 days post administration of the treatment before being vaccinated. No waiting period is required for non-COVID-19 vaccines.

Health-care providers are encouraged to use the [referral form](#) for patients who meet the eligibility requirements. Clients whose eligibility is not related to a health condition may be referred to Health Links-Info Sante. Clients whose eligibility is related to a health condition, must receive a referral from a health-care provider. The treatment is available to eligible patients across the province. Select sites are administering this treatment beginning Monday December 20, 2021. Other sites will begin offering this service in the coming days.

**Eligibility Criteria Please Note: To be eligible, patients must meet all criteria and must receive the treatment within seven (7) days of symptom onset.**

To qualify for this treatment, patients must meet the following criteria:

Confirmed SARS-CoV-2 infection by COVID-19 test <b>AND</b> COVID-19 symptoms less than 7 days <b>AND</b> <b>one</b> of the following:		*Examples including but not limited to one of the following: active treatment for solid tumor or
Group 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Unvaccinated or partially vaccinated, AND;</li><li>- Have no history of COVID-19 infection, AND;</li><li>- 40 years or older</li></ul>	
Group 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Unvaccinated or partially vaccinated, AND;</li><li>- Have no history of COVID-19 infection, AND;</li><li>- 18-40 years old, AND;</li><li>- Conditions/risk factors such as diabetes, smoking, obesity, heart disease, kidney disease, lung disease, or cancer</li></ul>	
Group 3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- 18 years or older (regardless of vaccination status or previous COVID-19 infection) AND;</li><li>- Immunocompromised*</li></ul>	

hematological malignancies; solid organ transplant recipient receiving immunosuppressive drug therapy; receiving CAR-T cell therapy or hematopoietic stem cell transplant within the last 2 years; moderate to severe primary immunodeficiency; advanced untreated HIV or AIDS; active receipt of anti-B cell therapies (e.g. rituximab, ocrelizumab, obinutuzumab); high-dose systemic steroids ( $\geq$  20mg prednisone equivalent daily for at least 14 days); Alkylating agents (e.g. cyclophosphamide, cisplatin), antimetabolites (e.g. methotrexate, 5-flucytosine); Anti-TNF agents (e.g. infliximab, adalimumab)

Additional information for providers is available here:

- [Information for health-care providers](#)
- [Referral algorithm](#)

For patients who meet these criteria, a referral form must be completed.

**Eligibility criteria, locations and referral fax information are available by referring to the full memo here:** <https://sharedhealthmb.ca/files/covid-19-mab-memo.pdf>