



# #GETCOVIDMEDS FAQs

Have questions on how to #GETCOVIDMEDS? We have answers!

## 10 Frequently Asked Questions

**What are Monoclonal antibodies?** Monoclonal antibodies, or mAbs, are immune system proteins created in a laboratory to fight infections like SARS-CoV-2, the virus that causes COVID-19, and are directly given to patients with an infusion.

**Why are Monoclonal antibodies important to fighting COVID-19?** Monoclonal antibodies or mAbs may help patients who are at high risk for severe COVID-19 symptoms or having to be hospitalized to recover faster from COVID-19 or reduce the likelihood of being hospitalized.

**What is the difference between the COVID-19 Vaccine and Monoclonal antibody treatment?** Monoclonal antibody treatment for COVID-19 is different from a COVID-19 vaccine. A vaccine activates the body's natural immune response but can take weeks to develop enough antibodies to prevent some kinds of infection. For example, some vaccines for COVID-19 require two shots so that the body can develop its own immune response to the disease. But if you already have the COVID-19, Monoclonal antibody treatment gives your body the antibodies it needs to protect itself.

**What are the current Monoclonal antibody treatments?** As of June 2021, two experimental Monoclonal antibody treatments have received Emergency Use Authorization from the FDA: [casirivimab and imdevimab](#) or [bamlanivimab and etesevimab](#) (click the links to learn more about each treatment).

**How are Monoclonal antibody treatments given, and are they safe?** Monoclonal antibody treatment happens at an infusion center through an intravenous (IV) infusion. Depending on the mAb treatment you receive, the whole process takes about 2 to 3 hours. More than 400,000 people have been treated with Monoclonal antibodies. Researchers continue to study treatments for safety and effectiveness.

**Who can get Monoclonal antibody treatment?** People aged 12 or older may be considered at high risk for developing more serious symptoms—making them eligible for mAb treatment—depending on their health history and how long they have had symptoms of COVID-19. Learn more at [combatcovid.hhs.gov/i-have-covid-19/how-do-i-know-if-im-high-risk](https://combatcovid.hhs.gov/i-have-covid-19/how-do-i-know-if-im-high-risk) or call 877-414-8106.

**How can I get Monoclonal antibodies?** People who have had COVID-19 symptoms for 10 days or less should contact their healthcare provider to be referred for treatment at an infusion location. If you do not have a healthcare provider, call the Combat COVID Monoclonal Antibodies Call Center at 1-877-332-6585. There is no cost to anyone for the antibodies themselves, but there may be treatment fees. If you do not have insurance, ask the facility if there will be a charge.

**What if I do not qualify for Monoclonal antibodies?** Clinical trials may be an option for you. Learn more at [combatcovid.hhs.gov/clinicaltrials](https://combatcovid.hhs.gov/clinicaltrials) or call 877-414-8106.

**Where can I find additional resources for patients on Monoclonal antibodies?** For more resources, visit [combatcovid.hhs.gov/i-have-covid-19-now/faqs-about-mono-clonal-antibodies-consumers](https://combatcovid.hhs.gov/i-have-covid-19-now/faqs-about-mono-clonal-antibodies-consumers).

**Where can I find additional resources for health care professionals on Monoclonal antibodies?** For more resources, visit [combatcovid.hhs.gov/hcp](https://combatcovid.hhs.gov/hcp) or [combatcovid.hhs.gov/hcp/resources-clinicians](https://combatcovid.hhs.gov/hcp/resources-clinicians).