



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts  
Executive Office of Health and Human Services  
Department of Public Health  
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CHARLES D. BAKER  
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Lieutenant Governor

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Dear Provider:

We are writing to let you know about a new one-page [Paxlovid Treatment Guide with the latest information about Paxlovid \(nirmatrelvir/ritonavir\)](#), which continues to be the preferred treatment for most patients with mild-to-moderate COVID-19 infection. Paxlovid is in ample supply and widely available in Massachusetts.

We need your help to ensure that Paxlovid and other COVID-19 treatments are offered to all patients eligible to receive them. Any patient 12 years or older who tests positive for COVID-19 should be evaluated and prescribed Paxlovid or other treatment, as appropriate.

Patients may also use the Commonwealth's new free [Telehealth Service for COVID Treatment](#), available to anyone 18 years or older living in Massachusetts. The telehealth service is a quick, easy and free way for individuals to see if Paxlovid is an appropriate treatment for them. Each prescription is an opportunity to prevent severe disease. Please note:

- **COVID-19 treatments should be considered for all your patients 12 or older** and prescribed to all patients appropriate for treatment. **This group includes over 40% of all MA residents eligible** due to risk factors including those age >65, or with asthma, diabetes, heart, lung, liver, or kidney disease, cancer, disability, pregnancy, substance use disorder, mental health disorder, overweight/obesity, current/former smoker, or immunocompromise.
- **COVID-19 treatments work best when given as early as possible** in the course of illness – and Paxlovid and [Molnupiravir](#) must begin within five days of symptoms.
- **PCR testing is not necessary** – positive antigen tests (even those administered at home or school) are sufficient to prove infection and prescribe treatment.
- **Massachusetts has supply available** to meet the needs of all eligible residents.
- [Treatments are widely available](#) via retail pharmacies across the Commonwealth.

More information can be found here: [MA COVID Treatment Information for Patients and Providers](#)  
[FDA PAXLOVID Patient Eligibility Screening Checklist Tool](#)

Thank you for your assistance and cooperation to provide these life-saving treatments to your patients.

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