Available oral antiviral medicines

- Nirmatrelvir 150 mg and ritonavir 100 mg (Paxlovid™) tablets, pack of 30.
- Molnupiravir 200 mg (Lagevrio®) capsules, bottle of 40.

Determining patient eligibility and suitability

- Only patients that met the eligibility criteria specified in the ACI Model of Care may be prescribed an oral antiviral medicine for COVID-19 in NSW.
- Additionally, careful consideration of patient parameters including (but not limited to): renal function, pregnancy status and drug interactions is required prior to prescribing. Refer to the CEC Drug Guidelines and Product Information (links provided below) for more detailed information.
- A GP is notified after completion of the primary survey on Service NSW and secondary NSW Health questionnaire that they have a high-risk COVID-19 positive patient who may be suitable for this treatment and the GP may contact the patient proactively to commence assessment and treatment if appropriate.
- Confirmation of COVID-19 diagnoses should occur through visualising the patient's PCR SMS sent by NSW health or confirmatory SMS sent through the RAT Service NSW registration process or receipt of a direct referral with patient details from NSW Health.

Access to these medicines

- Currently, the oral antiviral medicines are only available for dispensing to patients at select NSW Health Pharmacy Departments. **They will not be available at local or community pharmacies (until PBS review for listing is approved).**

For patients in the community

- To obtain supply of one of these medicines from NSW Health Pharmacy Departments, you will need to complete a *Prescription and Declaration – Oral antiviral medicines for COVID-19* form and send it via fax or email to a specified NSW Health Pharmacy Department (list available on Page 2 of the form). **This document acts as both a prescribing declaration and prescription.**
    - This form can also be accessed on the Health Pathways portal.
- **All fields on the form are mandatory.**
- A copy of Pages 1 and 2 of the form must be kept in the patient's medical record and NOT provided to the patient.
- No other prescription formats will be accepted by NSW Health Pharmacy Departments (including hard copies of the CEC form).

For patients in residential care facilities

- The National Medical Stockpile (NMS) will directly supply Residential Care Facilities (RCFs) with the oral antiviral medicines.
- In the instance that supply is required immediately, and it is not able to be obtained in a timely manner from the NMS, the Director of Pharmacy at the local NSW Health facility can also provide supply as an urgent use medicine.
- For RCF patients accessing an oral antiviral medicine from stock **supplied by the pharmacy service of a local NSW Health facility**, a copy of the *Prescribing Declaration – Oral antiviral medicines for COVID-19 [RCFs]* must be filled out and returned via email to CEC-MedicationSafety@health.nsw.gov.au by the prescribing Doctor.
- Prescribers utilising stock supplied directly from the NMS are requested to complete the same form for their own records and to be sent via email (CEC-MedicationSafety@health.nsw.gov.au) to the CEC for data collection and reporting purposes.

- In RCFs, a prescriber must chart the order on a medication chart such as the National Residential Medication Chart (NRMC) or an electronic NRMC (eNRMC) so that a nurse may administer to the patient regardless of where the supply is obtained from.

Information to provide to the patient

- Page 3 of the form should be filled out and provided to the patient (in hard copy or electronic format). This page contains important information about the name of the medicine they have been prescribed and the dispensing location. **Please note the collection point may differ from the site that accepts the prescription.**
- The patient should be informed that dispensing will only occur within the stated operating hours on Page 2 of the Prescription and Declaration form (if urgent dispensing is required outside of these hours, the GP should contact the Department of Pharmacy by phone immediately to make a suitable arrangement for the patient).
- The patient will be contacted by the Hospital Pharmacy or a representative to organise collection of their medicine. The collection point will be determined in negotiation with the patient.
- The patient will be provided with written information (Patient Information and Consumer Medicines Information leaflets) with their medicine.

Important resources

Drug Guideline		Australian Product Information		Consumer Medicines Information	
Nirmatrelvir and ritonavir (Paxlovid™)	Molnupiravir (Lagevrio®)	Nirmatrelvir and ritonavir (Paxlovid™)	Molnupiravir (Lagevrio®)	Nirmatrelvir and ritonavir (Paxlovid™)	Molnupiravir (Lagevrio®)
Patient Consent Form		ACI Model of Care for the use of anti-SARS-CoV-2 monoclonal antibodies and antivirals for people with mild and moderate COVID-19		Patient Information Leaflet	
Nirmatrelvir and ritonavir (Paxlovid™)	Molnupiravir (Lagevrio®)			Nirmatrelvir and ritonavir (Paxlovid™)	Molnupiravir (Lagevrio®)