PUBLIC HEALTH ADVISORY

COVID-19 Mortality Prevention | Long Term Care Facility Residents

Marin County Public Health has initiated a mortality review process for COVID-19 deaths in Long Term Care Facilities (LTCF) that has revealed a critical opportunity to increase the utilization of pharmaceutical interventions that reduce mortality risk.

This advisory is intended for clinicians who care for LTCF residents (including Residential Care Facilities for the Elderly [RCFE] and Skilled Nursing Facilities [SNF]) to support competent and effective provision of Evusheld and Paxlovid to reduce COVID-19 deaths. Marin healthcare providers should stay up to date on the evaluation and management of COVID-19, maintain therapeutic prescribing competence, and remain aware of the treatment resources available to patients.

Background

COVID-19 community transmission rates in Marin County have remained high for the past 10 weeks. This has been associated with increased LTCF outbreaks and increased mortality among facility residents. Since May 1, 2022, six Marin County residents have died from COVID-19, a significant increase over the prior two months. Four of these deaths were among LTCF residents.

While vaccinations and 2nd boosters remain critical for preventing adverse outcomes related to COVID infection, Evusheld and Paxlovid play significant and important roles in reducing the risk of hospitalizations and death.

Evusheld for Pre-exposure Prevention of COVID-19

All Marin LTCF residents should be evaluated for pre-exposure prophylaxis with Evusheld. Many LTCF residents may meet criteria for treatment as it is indicated for even moderately immunocompromised individuals,

Evusheld (tixagevimab co-packaged with cilgavimab) is given as two separate consecutive intramuscular injections. It is authorized for the pre-exposure prophylaxis COVID-19 in those at least 12 years old and at least 40 kg:

- Who are not currently infected with SARS-CoV-2 and who have not had a known recent exposure to someone infected with SARS-CoV-2; and,
- Who have moderate to severe immune compromise due to a medical condition or immunosuppressive therapy; or,
- For whom COVID-19 vaccine is not recommended due to a history of severe adverse reaction to a COVID-19 vaccine(s).

In February 2022 FDA revised the recommended dosing for Evusheld. Individuals who received the previously authorized dose (150 mg of tixagevimab and 150 mg of cilgavimab) should receive an additional Evusheld dose as soon as possible.
Evusheld is not authorized for:
- Pre-exposure prophylaxis with Evusheld is not a substitute for vaccination in individuals for whom COVID-19 vaccination is recommended.
- In individuals who have received a COVID-19 vaccine, Evusheld should be administered at least two weeks after vaccination.

Providers are encouraged to gain the capacity to acquire and provide Evusheld:
- Provider administered Evusheld: Email mhoac@marincounty.org to secure doses of Evusheld to provide onsite at LTCFs.
- Refer patients to Asthma & Allergy Clinic of Marin & San Francisco, Inc. for outpatient treatment:
  - The referring provider must e-Fax [(415) 461-1660] the following items to the Marin Asthma and Allergy Clinic:
    - Patient identifying information
    - Order for the medication (prescription for Evusheld including dose)
    - Indication for medication
    - Patient insurance information
    - Prior Authorization, if required by Insurance Provider
    - Patient’s medication list, current
  - The patient will be provided the medication based on the referring provider’s determination of eligibility and safety. The patient will not be evaluated by Asthma & Allergy Clinic of Marin & San Francisco, Inc. This referral is for treatment and post-injection observation only.
  - Location of treatment:
    - Asthma & Allergy Clinic of Marin & San Francisco, Inc.
    - Marin Office Location:
      - 1000 S. Eliseo Drive, #101
      - Greenbrae, CA 94904
      - Phone: (415) 461-8909

Paxlovid for the Treatment of Symptomatic COVID-19 Infection
Most LTCF residents meet criteria for treatment with Paxlovid if they become infected. Information on eligibility for and access to and dosing of Paxlovid was previously published in Marin County Public Health Advisories:

- MCHHS Public Health Advisory (4.20.22) contains prescribing protocol and clinical criteria for Paxlovid.
- MCHHS Public Health Advisory (5.18.22) contains Test-to-Treat site protocols and actions requested of providers.
- MCHHS Public Health Advisory (5.24.22) informs about CDC alert on the potential for recurrence of COVID-19 (rebound).