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MONOCLONAL ANTIBODY TREATMENT

THE IMPORTANCE OF ACTING IMMEDIATELY AFTER A COVID POSITIVE TEST

After launching a public awareness campaign, and great efforts to make monoclonal antibody treatments available locally, over 125 high risk people who are COVID positive in our community have been successfully treated and some likely avoided hospitalization. There have been others in our community that may not have known about the treatment, or waited too long to take them. We must get the word out clearly that if you fit the criteria in the accompanying letter for receiving this treatment you **MUST NOT WAIT** after getting a positive Covid test--even if you are feeling fine. This treatment has thus far demonstrated to be very effective but **MUST** be administered right after a Covid positive test--whether or not you have any symptoms. If you are in **ANY** of the high risk categories listed in the antibody criteria you must contact one of your Doctors or Patient Advocates ASAP in order to efficiently be guided through the process.

This treatment is not a cure and should not be thought of as an alternative to protecting yourself from getting infected in the first place. Continue to take all measures to avoid infection including masking, avoiding gatherings, continue social distancing and hand washing. If you, nonetheless, contract Covid you should **ACT IMMEDIATELY** by following the guidance on the accompanying letter in conjunction with your Doctor's advice. Monoclonal Antibody treatment is allowed to be given under an Emergency Use Authorization (EUA) granted by the FDA only in the first few days after diagnosis and is proving, so far, to be very effective. After that early window closes, its use is no longer allowed since it is not effective, and you will not be able to receive it.

This therapy is outpatient, the side effects in the experience of the medical centers are minimal if any, and the treatment is standardized; so it can be accessed wherever is easiest and fastest to get an appointment.



Attention: Antibody Treatments Now Available

If you test COVID positive and meet the criteria below, it is urgent that you obtain an antibody infusion as soon as possible after your positive test.

Please contact one of the community patient advocates listed in this memo if you meet the FDA criteria outlined below so that they can work with your doctor and schedule you for the outpatient infusion .

Our community patient advocates are keeping tabs on where the antibodies are available and how best to schedule you in for a slot. The infusion process is short and you should be back home in a few hours.

It is best to get these antibodies as soon as possible after receiving a COVID positive PCR test result. *Once you receive the antibodies, please continue to practice social distancing and masking as you can still spread the virus to others.*

If you are not currently infected, please continue to avoid getting infected with COVID; It is critical to implement proper distancing, masking, etc. There is no guarantee that any particular treatment will help an individual. This is a challenging period as many people in the community have been infected. Keep yourself and your family safe.

If you receive the antibody treatment, you should wait 90 days and consult with your doctor before getting vaccinated.

Dr. Albert Bassoul, MD

Alan Esses, Hatzalah

Dr. Albert Ftiha, MD

Dr. Victor Grazi, MD, Mt Sinai

Dr. David Khaski, MD, NYU

Dr. Ralph Madeb, MD, NYCH

Dr. Daniel Matalon, MD, NYU

Dr. Stanley Schrem, MD, NYU



Patient Advocates to Contact

NYC:

Alan Esses: 917-969-6620

Nathan Hoffman 917-681-2969

Nancy Sutton 718-614-6711

NJ:

Maurice Zekaria 732-829-1124

Ike D Massry 732-598-9399

Mark Massry 732-718-2535

Florida:

Gershon Fink, MD 786-521-1587

Baruch Sandhaus 786-626-6261

Medical Centers offering Monoclonal Antibodies for Outpatient Infusion

Mt Sinai

New York Community Hospital

Maimonidies

HNMC, Teaneck

Monmouth Medical Center

Mt Sinai of Miami Beach

Memorial Hospital

Aventura Hospital

FDA Inclusion Criteria

The antibody treatments are for high risk patients. High risk is defined as patients who meet at least one of the following criteria:

- Obesity with a body mass index (BMI) ≥ 35
- Have chronic kidney disease
- Have diabetes
- Have immunosuppressive disease
- Are currently receiving immunosuppressive treatment
- Are ≥ 65 years of age
- Are ≥ 55 years of age AND have:
 - cardiovascular disease,
 - OR
 - hypertension,
 - OR
 - chronic obstructive pulmonary disease/other chronic respiratory disease.
- Are 12 – 17 years of age AND have
 - BMI ≥ 85 th percentile for their age and gender based on CDC growth charts,
https://www.cdc.gov/growthcharts/clinical_charts.htm,
 - OR
 - sickle cell disease,
 - OR
 - congenital or acquired heart disease,
 - OR
 - neurodevelopmental disorders, for example, cerebral palsy,
 - OR
 - a medical-related technological dependence, for example, tracheostomy, gastrostomy, or positive pressure ventilation (not related to COVID-19),
 - OR
 - asthma, reactive airway or other chronic respiratory disease that requires daily medication for control.



Summary Chart from Memorial Hospital, FL:

<p>Adult Inclusion Criteria Adult patient weighing at least ≥ 40 kg with confirmed COVID-19 PLUS one of the following high risk factors (must select one):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Body Mass Index (BMI) ≥ 35 <input type="checkbox"/> Chronic kidney disease <input type="checkbox"/> Diabetes <input type="checkbox"/> Immunosuppressive disease OR receiving immunosuppressive treatment <input type="checkbox"/> ≥ 65 years of age or older <input type="checkbox"/> ≥ 55 years of age or older PLUS cardiovascular disease OR hypertension OR COPD OR other chronic respiratory disease 	<p>Adult Exclusion Criteria</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Body weight < 40 kg <input type="checkbox"/> Hospitalized patient due to COVID-19 <input type="checkbox"/> Patients requiring oxygen therapy due to COVID-19 <input type="checkbox"/> Patients requiring an increase in baseline oxygen flow rate due to COVID-19 in those on chronic <input type="checkbox"/> Oxygen therapy due to underlying non-COVID-19 related comorbidity <input type="checkbox"/> None of the above
<p>Pediatric Inclusion Criteria Patient age 12 – 17 years and weight ≥ 40 kg with confirmed COVID-19 PLUS one of the following high risk factors (must select one):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Body Mass Index (BMI) $\geq 85^{\text{th}}$ percentile for their age and gender based on CDC growth charts <input type="checkbox"/> Sickle cell disease <input type="checkbox"/> Congenital or acquired heart disease <input type="checkbox"/> Neurodevelopmental disorders (e.g., cerebral palsy) <input type="checkbox"/> Medically-related technological dependence (e.g., tracheostomy, 	<p>Pediatric Exclusion Criteria</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Patient age < 12 years <input type="checkbox"/> Body weight < 40 kg <input type="checkbox"/> Hospitalized patient due to COVID-19 <input type="checkbox"/> Patients requiring oxygen therapy due to COVID-19 <input type="checkbox"/> Patients requiring an increase in baseline oxygen flow rate due to COVID-19 in those on chronic oxygen therapy due to underlying non-COVID-19 related comorbidity <input type="checkbox"/> None of the above

For any COVID-19 related updates please check our website scaupdates.org/covid19

This communication is provided for informational purposes only and does not constitute the provision of medical advice. The information is being made available in the context of the public health emergency related to COVID-19, has been obtained from publicly available sources, and has not been subjected to review or investigation that typically would be performed in a non-emergent situation. This information is not meant to be complete, exhaustive, or a substitute for medical professional advice, diagnosis, or treatment and should be adapted to a patient's specific needs, available resources, and any other unique circumstances. Neither the Sephardic Community Alliance, nor any contributor to this communication, makes any representations or warranties, express or implied, with respect to the information provided herein or to its use.