



COUNTY OF SAN LUIS OBISPO HEALTH AGENCY  
PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

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## PROVIDER HEALTH ADVISORY

**Date:** February 18, 2022

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### COVID-19 Treatment Update: Paxlovid Oral Antiviral Now Available to Tier 3 in SLO County

#### Importance

Paxlovid™ (nirmatrelvir tablets and ritonavir tablets, co-packaged for oral use) is highly effective in preventing severe COVID-19 illness and hospitalization in eligible patients when started within the first 5 days of COVID-19 infection. Paxlovid supply has expanded in SLO County and providers are encouraged to prescribe it when clinically indicated for eligible patients. This is an important tool not only to protect individual health but also to protect community hospital capacity.

#### Paxlovid Supply at SLO County Pharmacies

Patients can currently fill Paxlovid prescriptions at four pharmacies in SLO County:

- [Rite Aid Atascadero](#) (7025 El Camino Real in Atascadero, 805-466-8722)
- [Rite Aid San Luis Obispo](#) (1251 Johnson Ave in San Luis Obispo, 805-545-0655)
- [Vons in San Luis Obispo](#) (3900 Broad Street in San Luis Obispo, 805-541-1132)
- [Cayucos Pharmacy](#) (72 S. Ocean Avenue in Cayucos, 805-995-3538)

[Community Health Centers of the Central Coast](#) (CHC) is providing Paxlovid for CHC patients.

#### Eligibility

Under its emergency use authorization (EUA), this treatment may be prescribed to individuals ages 12 and older weighing at least 40 kg, with mild to moderate symptomatic COVID-19 who are at high risk<sup>1</sup> for progression to severe disease. Timely prescription and treatment of Paxlovid is crucial as patients already admitted to the hospital with COVID-19 are no longer eligible. Paxlovid is not intended to prevent COVID-19 infection.

<sup>1</sup> Underlying Medical Conditions Associated with Higher Risk for Severe COVID-19:  
[www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/clinical-care/underlyingconditions.html](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/clinical-care/underlyingconditions.html)

With available supply, **Public Health has now expanded eligibility to include Tiers 1-3** of the [National Institutes of Health COVID-19 Treatment Guidelines for Patient Prioritization](#) (below). Please ensure any patients you refer for this medication lie within the following risk groups:

[see chart on page 2]

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#### Public Health Department

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[www.slopublichealth.org](http://www.slopublichealth.org)

[Eligibility cont.]

Tier	Risk Group
1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Immunocompromised individuals not expected to mount an adequate immune response to COVID-19 vaccination or SARS-CoV-2 infection due to their underlying conditions, regardless of vaccine status (see Immunocompromising Conditions below); <i>or</i></li><li>• Unvaccinated individuals at the highest risk of severe disease (anyone aged <math>\geq 75</math> years or anyone aged <math>\geq 65</math> years with additional risk factors).</li></ul>
2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Unvaccinated individuals at risk of severe disease not included in Tier 1 (anyone aged <math>\geq 65</math> years or anyone aged <math>&lt; 65</math> years with clinical risk factors)</li></ul>
3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Vaccinated individuals at high risk of severe disease (anyone aged <math>\geq 75</math> years or anyone aged <math>\geq 65</math> years with clinical risk factors)</li></ul> <p><b>Note:</b> <i>Vaccinated individuals who have not received a COVID-19 vaccine booster dose are likely at higher risk for severe disease; patients in this situation within this tier should be prioritized for treatment.</i></p>

### For More Information

- FDA Fact Sheet for Healthcare Providers: Emergency Use Authorization for Paxlovid: [www.fda.gov/media/155050/download](http://www.fda.gov/media/155050/download)
- FDA Fact Sheet for Patients, Parents, and Caregivers Emergency Use Authorization of Paxlovid: [www.fda.gov/media/155051/download](http://www.fda.gov/media/155051/download)
- Frequently Asked Questions on the Emergency Use Authorization for Paxlovid: [www.fda.gov/media/155052/download](http://www.fda.gov/media/155052/download)

### Stay Informed

For updates on COVID-19 treatments in SLO County, visit [slopublichealth.org/covid19](http://slopublichealth.org/covid19).