

COVID-19 TOWN HALL Q&A – February 16, 2022

**Thank you for joining our informative discussion with
Alex Vosooney, MD; Sterling Ransone, MD, FAAFP; and Julie Wood, MD, MPH.**

MEMBER QUESTIONS	AAFP RESPONSES
What are the benefits and risks of the new oral antivirals Paxlovid and molnupiravir?	This question was answered live during the Town Hall session. Please see the response at the 6-minute mark in the video replay . Additional information is available on the AAFP's COVID-19: Clinical Resources & Patient Education webpage .
Are Paxlovid and molnupiravir available options for individuals who are pregnant?	This question was answered live during the Town Hall session. Please see the response at the 8-minute mark in the video replay .
How are you counseling your patients about oral antiviral medications?	This question was answered live during the Town Hall session. Please see the response at the 9-minute mark in the video replay .
States and jurisdictions are handling COVID-19 differently. How are things being done in Minnesota?	This question was answered live during the Town Hall session. Please see the response at the 14-minute mark in the video replay .
Should we conduct a comprehensive metabolic panel before considering Paxlovid or molnupiravir? There may not be enough time, as patients may present with symptoms on the fourth or fifth day.	This question was answered live during the Town Hall session. Please see the response at the 16-minute mark in the video replay .
Dr. Ransone mentioned a limited supply of therapeutics. Are others experiencing shortages of other items like COVID-19 tests or personal protective equipment (PPE)?	This question was answered live during the Town Hall session. Please see the response at the 17-minute mark in the video replay .
Can you provide the latest information about remdesivir? Is it appropriate for children?	This question was answered live during the Town Hall session. Please see the response at the 19-minute mark in the video replay . More information is available on the AAFP's Respond to Coronavirus (COVID-19) webpage .
What is the latest information about monoclonal therapies?	This question was answered live during the Town Hall session. Please see the response at the 21-minute mark in the video replay .
What are the most significant communication challenges about vaccines for young children?	This question was answered live during the Town Hall session. Please see the response at the 24-minute mark in the video replay .
Are other vaccines authorized in the United States?	This question was answered live during the Town Hall session. Please see the response at the 26-minute mark in the video replay .
How should we address other physicians prescribing ivermectin?	This question was answered live during the Town Hall session. Please see the response at the 40-minute mark in the video replay .
I have heard that Novavax is a similar technology to the Shingrix vaccine. Is that a fair comparison to discuss with patients?	This question was answered live during the Town Hall session. Please see the response at the 43-minute mark in the video replay . It should be noted that the Novavax vaccine platform uses the same polysaccharide adjuvant as the Shingrix vaccine.
Is Johnson & Johnson's Janssen vaccine no longer available?	This question was answered live during the Town Hall session. Please see the response at the 43-minute mark in the video replay .

What is the data on the effectiveness of therapeutics on long COVID-19?	This question was answered live during the Town Hall session. Please see the response at the 44-minute mark in the video replay .
Can you give a recommendation for administering a third vaccine dose to an at-risk elderly patient who had Johnson & Johnson's Janssen vaccine and a booster?	This question was answered live during the Town Hall session. Please see the response at the 45-minute mark in the video replay .
Are there any over-the-counter recommendations for the prevention of COVID-19?	This question was answered live during the Town Hall session. Please see the response at the 46-minute mark in the video replay .
Are there any over-the-counter (OTC) recommendations for the <i>treatment</i> of COVID-19?	There are currently no OTC treatments for COVID-19 infection itself. Symptoms may be managed using OTC medications (e.g., fever reducers, cough suppressants).
I'm having success with Paxlovid for patients at high risk, but it is hard to find and requires understanding of medication interactions and careful documentation for pharmacists.	This comment was addressed live during the Town Hall session. Please see the response at the 46-minute mark in the video replay .
What is the recommendation about timing of vaccines and boosters after oral therapeutics?	This question was addressed live during the Town Hall session. Please see the response at the 48-minute mark in the video replay . It should be noted that there is no recommendation for delaying a vaccine or booster following receipt of oral therapeutics. Similar to other vaccines, individuals should wait until their symptoms have resolved and they have completed quarantine/isolation.
What is the latest information about administering a fourth booster vaccine in high-risk patients?	This question was answered live during the Town Hall session. Please see the response at the 48-minute mark in the video replay .
Are there any applications where you input information such as age, medical history, and length of illness, and it will provide therapeutics options? Or do you use the AAFP resource page?	This question was answered live during the Town Hall session. Please see the response at the 50-minute mark in the video replay .
Some of my patients were told they must wait 90 days after contracting COVID-19 to get vaccinated even though they don't have monoclonal antibodies. However, a patient should be able to get vaccinated after they end isolation. Is that correct?	This question was answered live during the Town Hall session. Please see the response at the 51-minute mark in the video replay . It should be noted that since vaccine supply is no longer limited, there is no need for individuals who have COVID-19 to wait 90 days to be vaccinated.
When will Paxlovid be widely available?	This question was answered live during the Town Hall session. Please see the response at the 52-minute mark in the video replay .
Can you share your thoughts about the new data from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) regarding waning effectiveness of mRNA boosters for preventing hospitalizations, emergency department visits, and urgent care visits after four months?	This question was answered live during the Town Hall session. Please see the response at the 53-minute mark in the video replay .
Is it OK to give a COVID-19 vaccine with routine vaccines in our pediatric patients?	Yes, COVID-19 vaccines can be given with other routine immunizations. More information is available on the CDC Vaccines & Immunizations webpage .