



YELLOWHAWK

TRIBAL HEALTH CENTER

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COVID-19 Treatment Options

Your Primary Care Provider (PCP) might recommend over the counter medications or at home therapies to relieve symptoms such as:

- Taking Acetaminophen or Ibuprofen to reduce fever.
- Drinking water or clear non-caffeinated fluids to stay hydrated.
- Getting plenty of rest to help the body fight the virus.

For persons at high risk of disease progression of COVID-19, your PCP may recommend that you receive additional treatment, like a Monoclonal antibodies, (mAbs) treatment. Your Primary Care Provider will decide which, if any, treatment is appropriate to treat your illness. The mAbs treatment does not replace the need for the immunity from the vaccine but it can help you if you are at high-risk for developing serious COVID-19. Please note some treatments are not effective against the Omicron variant which is now prevalent in the U.S.

To be assessed for further treatment after testing positive for COVID-19, please call your PCP and ask about your specific options. Infusion therapy is referred to St. Anthony's emergency department for administration with the recommendation from your PCP. Due to high demand and low supply, oral anti-viral treatments are limited but may be available through the coming weeks. The Yellowhawk Public Health team is collaborating with our Medical team, please contact your PCP for further questions.

Due to limited supplies and high demands of treatments, precautions are still our best option for fighting illness. **Vaccination, washing hands, wearing a proper mask and social distancing are still critical.**

Antigen vs. Antibody:

Antigens and antibodies play vital but distinct roles in illness and disease. One tries to wreak havoc on our health while the other fights to protect it. Antigens can make you sick, and antibodies are how your body defends itself against antigens. A positive **antigen** test means that the person being tested has an active COVID-19 infection. A positive **antibody** test means that the person being tested was infected with or exposed to COVID-19 in the past and that their immune system developed antibodies to try to fight it off. Not everyone who has a positive antibody test will know that they had COVID-19 and it does not indicate that they are immune.

What is a monoclonal antibody?

Your body naturally makes antibodies to fight infection. However, your body may not have antibodies designed to recognize the virus that causes COVID-19. Monoclonal antibodies, or mAbs, are made in a laboratory to fight a particular infection and are given to you directly in an infusion. The mAbs treatment may help if you are at high risk for serious symptoms or a hospital stay.

If you have the virus, the mAbs treatment gives your body the antibodies it needs to protect itself. The mAbs **treatment does not replace the need for the immunity from the vaccine** but it can help you if you are at risk for developing serious COVID-19.



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How Yellowhawk eligible patients may receive these antibodies:

If you have had symptoms or tested positive less than 10 days ago or have been in close contact with someone who has recently tested positive, you should be referred for treatment by your Primary Care Provider (PCP) and you may be directed to St. Anthony hospital for mAbs therapy completion.

The mAbs treatment is given through an intravenous (IV) infusion or shots. Depending on the mAbs treatment you receive, the whole process can take 2-3 hours.

Antibody treatments do not contain any live SARS-CoV-2, so there is no risk you will get COVID-19 from mAbs treatment. However, like with any treatment, the antibody treatment may have side effects.