

Main Office
184 U.S. 41 East,
Negaunee, MI 49866
www.mqthealth.org



PRESS RELEASE

TO: Marquette County Providers and Media

FROM: Marquette County Health Department

CONTACT: Dr. Bob Lorinser, Medical Director, 906-475-9977

DATE: 01/24/2022

SUBJECT: Update - COVID and Marquette County

The following is a Marquette County COVID-19 update from Medical Director, Dr. Bob Lorinser.

Dr. Bob's Comments:

The case numbers from the last two days have been encouraging!

Cases

Sunday	January 16	95
Monday	January 17	196
Tuesday	January 18	247
Wednesday	January 19	187
Thursday	January 20	212
Friday	January 21	257
Saturday	January 22	92
Sunday	January 23	95
Weekly Cases		1294 <i>*decreased for the first time from last week's 1319</i>
Daily Average		185

Hospitalizations

- The total UP and UPHS-MQT numbers are relatively stable/decreased.
- The counts include all inpatients with COVID-positive testing, regardless of the reason for hospitalization. We are unable to determine if patients are admitted for COVID vs. incidental or a contributory factor for their hospitalization with data from each hospital.

- Of those hospitalized with COVID as a secondary condition, we are unable to determine what percentage of patients were up-to-date on immunizations.

The last two bullets are important public health items to understand the impact of Omicron in our community. I have addressed my concerns with the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) and others.

Outpatient Therapy

mAB (UPHS-MQT) and oral antivirals (Meijer Pharmacy in MQT, Sault Ste Marie, and Escanaba have Paxlovid and all other Meijers have Molnupiravir) are available in limited supplies and are rationed for the highest risk groups meaning those immunocompromised or not up-to-date on COVID vaccinations, combined with older age groups as listed below:

Priority Eligibility Criteria for COVID-19 Outpatient Therapy (Revised January 19, 2022)					
Tier	Eligibility Criteria	Paxlovid PO	Sotrovimab ⁴ IV	Remdesivir IV	Molnupiravir PO
	Preference Per NIH Treatment Guidelines				
	Treatment must be started within (X) days of symptoms:	5 days	10 days	7 days	5 days
	Availability:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Limited Statewide -Select Meijer -Select pharmacies Selected FQHCs Selected THC's 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Statewide -Variable sites 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Statewide -Variable sites 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Limited Statewide -Select Meijer -Select pharmacies
1A	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Any age (per applicable EUA or FDA approval) with <u>moderate to severe immunocompromise</u> regardless of vaccine status or Age ≥75 YO and not up to date on COVID vaccines¹ 	Yes	Yes	Yes	Alternative ²
1B	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Age 65-74 YO, not up to date on COVID vaccines¹, and with MI priority risk factor³ Pregnant and not up to date on COVID vaccines¹ 	Yes	Yes	Yes	Alternative ²
2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Age 65-74 YO and not up to date on COVID vaccines¹ Age <65 YO, not up to date on COVID vaccines¹ with MI priority risk factors³ 	Yes	Yes ⁵	Yes	Alternative ²
3A	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Age ≥75 YO and up to date on COVID vaccines¹ Age 65-74 YO, up to date on COVID vaccines¹, and with MI priority risk factors³ 	Not currently eligible	Not currently eligible	Not currently eligible	Yes
3B	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Age 65-74 YO, up to date on COVID vaccines¹, and with <u>CDC risk factors</u> 	Not currently eligible	Not currently eligible	Not currently eligible	Not currently eligible
4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Age ≥65 YO and up to date on COVID vaccines¹ Age <65 YO, up to date on COVID vaccines¹, and with <u>CDC risk factors</u> 	Not currently eligible	Not currently eligible	Not currently eligible	Not currently eligible

mAb=monoclonal antibody, FQHC=Federally Qualified Health Centers, THC=Tribal Health Centers

¹Those not up to date include those who are not vaccinated, have not completed their initial series, and those not boosted, when eligible as per [Stay Up to Date with Your Vaccines | CDC](#)

²Alternatives include Paxlovid, sotrovimab, remdesivir that are available in a timely manner

³MI priority risk factors include:

- Obesity (BMI ≥ 35)
- Chronic respiratory disease (e.g., COPD, moderate or severe asthma requires daily inhaled corticosteroid, bronchiectasis, CF, ILD)
- Pregnancy (Note: In pregnancy, molnupiravir should not be used and Paxlovid and remdesivir should be used with caution when sotrovimab is unavailable)
- Chronic Kidney Disease (stage III, IV, or end stage CKD-GFR) (special considerations with Paxlovid)
- Cardiovascular disease (e.g., HTN, valvular disease, CVA, PAD, CHF)
- Diabetes

⁴Sotrovimab is currently the only mAb therapy active against the Omicron variant and is in limited supply. Other mAb products may be considered, if indicated.

⁵Use in lower tiers should be done only when higher tiers are able to be treated in a timely manner. Higher tier patients are a priority.