

# FACT

## EUA Infusions for COVID-19 – The Facts

Over the last year, many patients have been given an antibody infusion called Regeneron (casirivimab and imdevimab) for the treatment or post-exposure prevention of COVID-19. As it did with the COVID-19 vaccines, the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has authorized the emergency use of Regeneron for the treatment of COVID-19 and the post-exposure prevention of COVID-19 under an Emergency Use Authorization (EUA). So, who qualifies for Regeneron and what are its benefits? Get the facts below.

**FACT: You should talk to your doctor about getting Regeneron if you've been diagnosed with COVID-19.**

Regeneron, also known as REGEN-COV, consists of two monoclonal antibodies, casirivimab and imdevimab, given together at the same time through a vein (intravenous or IV) or injected in the tissue just under the skin. If you are receiving an intravenous infusion, it will usually take 20 to 50 minutes. However, it could be longer, as your healthcare provider will determine the duration of your infusion. Talk to your doctor today to find out if you qualify for Regeneron and to let him/her know about any allergies you have, as allergic reactions can occur in some people.

**FACT: REGEN-COV is approved for emergency use at this time.**

The FDA has made REGEN-COV available under an EUA, because it is still being studied. However, the FDA only issues an EUA under the COVID-19 public health emergency when the reviewed drug meets strict FDA criteria. These criteria include data supporting the product's effectiveness against COVID-19, the fact that the potential benefits of the product outweigh its risks and the lack of availability of other approved, adequate alternatives.

**FACT: Monoclonal antibodies are among the most promising treatments for mild to moderate COVID-19.**

Monoclonal antibodies, also known as mAB, are just like antibodies that your immune system naturally produces but are selected for their strong ability to resist the virus. They are produced like a medication and help your body fight illness. After entering your body, monoclonal antibodies look for and attach to the spike protein that sticks out of the coronavirus that causes COVID-19. When monoclonal antibodies attach to the spike protein, they can block the virus's ability to enter cells – and slow down the infection.

**FACT: These infusions do not prevent you from spreading COVID-19 to others.**

Regeneron can prevent your COVID-19 infection from becoming severe, but you still need to isolate from others while you are sick. If you do not have symptoms, isolate at home for at least 10 days after your positive test. If you have COVID-19 symptoms, isolate at home for 10 days after your symptoms first started and until symptoms have improved, and you've been fever free for 24 hours (without the use of fever reducing medications). You should only leave home isolation to receive treatment. When you do, be sure to wear a mask and stay at least six feet away from others.

**FACT: These infusions do not protect individuals from getting infected with COVID-19.**

There is still limited information known about the effectiveness of using REGEN-COV to prevent COVID-19 in people who are at high risk of being exposed to infected individuals. REGEN-COV is not authorized to protect individuals before they are exposed to infected persons, nor is it authorized for the prevention of COVID-19. The best way to protect yourself from becoming infected is to get vaccinated, continue wearing face masks and practice social distancing.

**FACT: After treatment with Regeneron, you will need to wait 90 days before getting a COVID-19 vaccine.**

Based on CDC guidance and evidence suggesting that reinfection with COVID-19 is uncommon within the 90 days after initial infection, vaccination should be deferred for at least 90 days after receiving monoclonal antibodies. If you already received the first dose of a two-dose mRNA vaccine, the second vaccine dose must be deferred at least 90 days after treatment. COVID-19 infection provides protection against re-infection, but the best way to protect yourself and others for longer periods of time is to get vaccinated. For those who were already infected with COVID-19, getting vaccinated adds an extra layer of immunity that the body's natural antibodies cannot produce. Data from the CDC shows unvaccinated people who have had COVID-19 are more than twice as likely to be reinfected with the virus compared with people who were fully vaccinated after contracting the virus.

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Schedule your vaccination appointment on the MyOchsner portal today. Visit [ochsner.org/vaccine](https://ochsner.org/vaccine) for more facts, or call **844-888-2772** with any additional questions. For more COVID-19 information and resources, visit the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention ([cdc.gov](https://cdc.gov)) or the Louisiana Department of Health ([ldh.la.gov](https://ldh.la.gov)) website.

