



Memo

Date:

October 3, 2022

To: Health care providers

From: Brian Ktytor, Chief Regional Officer, North East and North West
Anna Greenberg, Chief Regional Officer, Toronto and East
Susan deRyk, Chief Regional Officer, Central and West

CC: Dr. Chris Simpson, Executive Vice President, Medical
Mark Walton, Senior Vice President, COVID-19 Pandemic Response

Re: Expanded access and eligibility for Evusheld

As of October 2022, Ontario is expanding eligibility and access pathways for Evusheld, a prophylactic monoclonal antibody therapy against COVID-19. This memo is intended to inform health care providers about who can receive Evusheld and how to access it for eligible patients.

Background on Evusheld

Evusheld is a prophylactic monoclonal antibody therapy authorized by Health Canada in April 2022 for the prevention of COVID-19 in immunocompromised adults and children 12 years of age and older. To date in Ontario, Evusheld has been available to certain severely immunocompromised adults and has been administered via select hospital-based clinics, including cancer and transplant programs and some clinical assessment centres.

Who can receive Evusheld as of October 2022

In Ontario, Evusheld can be administered to individuals with the highest risk of a severe outcome from COVID-19, including:

- solid organ transplant recipients;
- stem cell transplant recipients;
- CAR-T therapy recipients; and
- other hematologic cancer patients undergoing treatment;
- people receiving anti-B-cell therapy (e.g., rituximab) **(new as of October 2022)**
- people with significant primary immunodeficiency **(new as of October 2022)**

Pathways to access Evusheld

There are various pathways to access Evusheld available to health care providers and patients. Health care providers who may be prescribing or administering Evusheld through these pathways should review [Information about Evusheld \(Tixagevimab and Cilgavimab\)](#) for more information.

1. Access to Evusheld is offered through select hospital-based clinics, including cancer and transplant programs and some clinical assessment centres. Some clinics may accept referrals from providers in the community (check with the Ontario Health regional contact below).
2. Evusheld can be dispensed through pharmacies (**new pathway effective October 3, 2022**).
 - Physicians and nurse practitioners can prescribe the drug for pickup at a local pharmacy, with administration (i.e., injection) completed by the prescribing clinician or an appropriate health care provider. Note that prescriptions for Evusheld may not be available for pick up same-day as pharmacies are likely to place orders for Evusheld upon receipt of a prescription (1–2 day turnaround).
 - Evusheld requires refrigeration storage (2°C – 8°C) and appropriate cold chain must be maintained.
 - Pharmacies can dispense 300 mg or 600 mg doses (must be specified on the prescription).
 - All prescribers who administer Evusheld will need to obtain patient consent and file a report with their local Public Health Unit as soon as possible to allow for entry into the COVaxOn reporting system. A consent and reporting template is available [here](#).

As additional pathways to access Evusheld become available, we will provide further information to health care providers.

Resources for health care providers who may be prescribing or administering Evusheld

Ontario Health has revised our toolkit to support health care providers who may be prescribing or administering Evusheld.

The toolkit includes the following resources:

- [Information about Evusheld \(tixagevimab and cilgavimab\): Reference for health care providers who may be prescribing or administering Evusheld](#)
- [Patient handout on Evusheld](#)

Questions about how to access Evusheld may be directed to the Ontario Health regional contacts listed below. Thank you for your attention to this information and for your ongoing dedication to providing the best possible care for your patients.

Ontario Health regional contacts

Central	Mira Backo-Shannon (Mira.Backo-Shannon@ontariohealth.ca) David Pearson (David.Pearson@ontariohealth.ca)
East	Farrah Hirji (Farrah.Hirji@ontariohealth.ca) Lesley Ng (Lesley.Ng@ontariohealth.ca)
Toronto	TOTherapeutics@ontariohealth.ca
West	Karen M. Bell (Karen.M.Bell@ontariohealth.ca) Heather Byrnell (Heather.Byrnell@ontariohealth.ca) Tammy Meads (Tammy.Meads@ontariohealth.ca)
North East and North West	Jennifer MacKinnon (Jennifer.MacKinnon@ontariohealth.ca) Robert Barnett (Robert.Barnett@ontariohealth.ca)