**NHS Highland Community Pharmacy Dispensing Oral Antiviral Agents for the Treatment of Covid-19**

**Introduction**

This is a process outline for the supply of Paxlovid or molnupiravir, for non-hospitalised COVID positive patients in identified high risk groups via Community Pharmacy.

# Background

National commissioning guidance has been released to NHS Boards requiring the deployment of new Covid-19 treatments which are evidenced to significantly improve the clinical outcomes in non-hospitalised patients with COVID-19 who are at high risk of progression to severe disease and/or death.

The Flow Navigation Centre Clinicians will assess and prescribe the appropriate treatment, either **Paxlovid** or **molnupiravir**, for non-hospitalised COVID positive patients in identified high risk groups. Community Pharmacies are asked to dispense and supply the medication.

# **Aim**

Improve timely access to the supply of evidence-based COVID19 treatments to eligible patients who have tested positive for COVID and are symptomatic. Assessment and supply will occur in a timely manner to meet the strict time windows for treatment and avoid hospital admissions.

## **Eligibility – assessed by FNC Clinicians (detail can be found on TAM)**

**Patient access to the pathway and CP process**

Information on the available treatments and eligibility is available on [NHS Inform](https://www.nhsinform.scot/illnesses-and-conditions/infections-and-poisoning/coronavirus-covid-19/coronavirus-covid-19-treatments). NHS Highland has a single point of access telephone number (0800 085 1558) for patients to call if they believe they are eligible. Clinical assessment will be available from the FNC Monday to Friday, between 9am and 5pm. Risk assessment of potential drug interactions and renal function will be identified and mitigated for prior to the prescription being sent to the community pharmacy.

FNC Clinicians will contact Patients’ Pharmacy of choice by phone and follow up with e-mailed prescription including any additional relevant clinical information. FNC will ensure hard copy of prescription is posted to Community Pharmacy within 72 hours.

Community Pharmacy should immediately order stock from AAH. A limited number of geographically spread CPs will hold stock for urgent use (or if remote and long supply lead time) if required.

Stock is currently available free of charge to contractors however this may change as nationally procured stock is used or expires.

**Patient Information Leaflets**

EMC Paxlovid [Pfizer leaflet](https://www.medicines.org.uk/emc/product/13145/pil) - supplied in carton.

[Molnupiravir Leaflet on TAM](https://eur01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Frightdecisions.scot.nhs.uk%2Fmedia%2F3871%2Fappendix-4-ukhsa_12222_covid-19_patient-discharge-information-molnupiravir.pdf&data=05%7C01%7CFiona.Macfarlane4%40nhs.scot%7C04a7e75ebbbe40b94c7408dbcefaa47e%7C10efe0bda0304bca809cb5e6745e499a%7C0%7C0%7C638331349124536945%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=%2FcXmXTFDKYZkvgyKXf4lmXogErsOz8qyVfsYQeac1W8%3D&reserved=0) - please print and give to women of child-bearing potential.

Paxlovid Reduced Dose PIL – please provide to the patient where a reduced dose has been requested (attached).

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# Training

* TURAS module available called "Prescribing Paxlovid for COVID-19 Infection" <https://learn.nes.nhs.scot/59984> which explains the drug interactions and how to manage them.
* Clinical guidance documents shared by NHS Highland via TAM, see supporting resources.

**Claims and payment**

## Pharmacies should opt in to this service by completing this [Microsoft Form](https://forms.office.com/e/kLYrAPBt2t)

First supply by pharmacy paid at £45, subsequent supplies attracts a fee of £15

Delivery fee only if patient unable to arrange collection, should be by exception.

# Supporting Resources

* NHS Inform, COVID19 Treatments: [Coronavirus (COVID-19): Treatments | NHS inform](https://www.nhsinform.scot/covid19treatments)
* Antivirals and neutralising Monoclonal Antibodies (nMABs) for COVID-19 - Non-hospitalised patients with symptomatic COVID-19 infection (available on [TAM](https://tam.nhsh.scot/for-healthcare-professionals/covid-19-coronavirus/treatment-covid-19/antivirals-and-neutralising-monoclonal-antibodies-nmabs-for-covid-19/non-hospitalised-patients-with-symptomatic-covid-19-infection/) website [Non-hospitalised patients with symptomatic COVID-19 infection (Guidelines) | Right Decisions (scot.nhs.uk)](https://rightdecisions.scot.nhs.uk/tam-treatments-and-medicines-nhs-highland/therapeutic-guidelines/covid-19-coronavirus/treatment-covid-19-guidelines/antivirals-and-neutralising-monoclonal-antibodies-nmabs-for-covid-19/non-hospitalised-patients-with-symptomatic-covid-19-infection-guidelines/))
* TURAS module available called "Prescribing Paxlovid for COVID-19 Infection" <https://learn.nes.nhs.scot/59984> which explains the drug interactions and how to manage them.
* Drug interactions are checked by FNC Clinicians using <https://www.covid19-druginteractions.org/checker>. This website also contains other prescribing resources including resuming paused medication and crushing tablets.

**Additional Information**

**Pre-dispensing checklist Paxlovid :**

* Patient counselled on administration and missed doses
* If the patient is of child-bearing age, confirm they are not pregnant and have been counselled on pregnancy risk and the need for effective contraception during the treatment course and until one full menstrual cycle after.
* In moderate renal impairment, the patient has been counselled on the reduced dose to be taken

*For reduced dose in renal impairment*

* confirm extra tablets removed from each blister
* patient counselled

**Molnupiravir**

There are no drug interactions with molnupiravir (see page 9 of [1utgq37fynfe3ojp883mj72k2mga (liverpool-covid19.s3.eu-west-2.amazonaws.com)](https://eur01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fliverpool-covid19.s3.eu-west-2.amazonaws.com%2F1utgq37fynfe3ojp883mj72k2mga%3Fresponse-content-disposition%3Dinline%253B%2520filename%253D%2522Covid_Metabolism_2022_Nov21.pdf%2522%253B%2520filename%252A%253DUTF-8%2527%2527Covid_Metabolism_2022_Nov21.pdf%26response-content-type%3Dapplication%252Fpdf%26X-Amz-Algorithm%3DAWS4-HMAC-SHA256%26X-Amz-Credential%3DAKIAI7XER5GUPWKQNOYA%252F20231017%252Feu-west-2%252Fs3%252Faws4_request%26X-Amz-Date%3D20231017T101449Z%26X-Amz-Expires%3D300%26X-Amz-SignedHeaders%3Dhost%26X-Amz-Signature%3D853163749cbc53e2feddf9ea8bc8f4e4bfb99bf189d0ac3ef87ba64e3a9fd6e1&data=05%7C01%7CFiona.Macfarlane4%40nhs.scot%7C04a7e75ebbbe40b94c7408dbcefaa47e%7C10efe0bda0304bca809cb5e6745e499a%7C0%7C0%7C638331349124380730%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=OxZ%2F19O8VzPwsTH2Q6%2FhPdfwF0lb2nPNQ%2BLP9sagowY%3D&reserved=0) and no dose reduction in renal impairment but the drug must be avoided in pregnancy. There is an additional MHRA patient information leaflet (on [TAM](https://eur01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Frightdecisions.scot.nhs.uk%2Fmedia%2F3871%2Fappendix-4-ukhsa_12222_covid-19_patient-discharge-information-molnupiravir.pdf&data=05%7C01%7CFiona.Macfarlane4%40nhs.scot%7C04a7e75ebbbe40b94c7408dbcefaa47e%7C10efe0bda0304bca809cb5e6745e499a%7C0%7C0%7C638331349124536945%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=%2FcXmXTFDKYZkvgyKXf4lmXogErsOz8qyVfsYQeac1W8%3D&reserved=0)) which must be supplied with the drug if the patient is a female of child-bearing potential.

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**Declaration:**

**• I am the representative of the Community Pharmacy NHS Contractor detailed below**

**• I understand that:**

* I have completed the required training.
* This service must be provided in accordance with the SLA including only sourcing medicines from the specific supply route set out in the relevant service pack within this agreement.
* The information I have given on this form is both accurate and complete.

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| **Trading name of pharmacy** |
| **Contractor Code** | **Pharmacy Stamp/ Pharmacy Address** |
| **Contractor Representative Name** | **Contractor Representative Signature** |
| **Date** |

This document will become part of the annual contractor’s review and sign-up process each April. NHS Highland reserves the right to cancel this SLA and withdraw this service if required.

Please retain a copy of this in the pharmacy and return the completed declaration form to: nhsh.cpsoffice@nhs.scot by return.