



**Date:** August 26, 2021

**To:** Oregon Health Plan providers

**From:** Nathan Roberts, Traditional Programs manager  
Medicaid Programs

**Subject:** Oregon Health Plan (OHP) monoclonal antibody coverage for COVID-19 treatment

OHP covers monoclonal antibodies (mAb) and administration services, including subcutaneous injection or intravenous infusion and monitoring, in all health care settings where mAb may be appropriately and safely administered (including hospital, clinic, pharmacy or the patient's home).

Coverage is limited to treatment or post-exposure prophylaxis of members who are at high risk for progression to severe COVID-19. Eligibility is based on risk factors that include but are not limited to the factors listed below.

- Age
- Obesity
- Diabetes
- Chronic lung disease
- Chronic kidney disease
- Cardiovascular disease
- Pregnancy
- Sickle cell disease
- Neurodevelopmental disease
- Medical-related technological dependence such as tracheostomy
- Other factors or medical conditions

Other factors can be associated with increased risk for progression to severe COVID-19, including race and ethnicity. For example, data show that patients of color or from Tribal communities are most harmed by health inequities, and the risks of hospitalization and death for these groups are greater than those of white patients. These patients may face higher risk than white patients due to longstanding societal injustices such as racism, discrimination and colonization, which have and continue to negatively impact health outcomes.

## Why is this happening?

As COVID-19 cases surge in Oregon and across the country, the Oregon Health Authority encourages providers to use every tool available. [Monoclonal antibody treatment](#) for some COVID-19 patients can save lives and greatly reduce the burden on Oregon's hospitals and health systems.

## What should you do?

Please consider the individual patient's risk factors when assessing patient eligibility for mAb COVID-19 treatment. Because systemic racism can increase health risks for people of color and members of Tribal communities, race and ethnicity can also determine eligibility for this treatment. Learn more about additional risk factors on the [CDC website](#).

To bill for mAb treatment:

- Bill the member's coordinated care organization (CCO), or OHA for members not enrolled in a CCO.
- Only bill for mAb drugs purchased at cost. Do not bill for drugs obtained at no cost through the federal HHS allocation.
- Refer to the [Oregon Medicaid COVID-19 Provider Guide](#) for OHA's billing codes and rates.

## **Questions?**

- For CCO questions and billing details, [please contact the member's CCO](#).
- For other questions, contact the Provider Services Unit at 800-336-6016 (Option 5).

Thank you for your continued support of the Oregon Health Plan and the services you provide to our members.