

AM I AT RISK?

MANY PEOPLE WHO ARE AT
HIGH RISK FOR DEVELOPING
SEVERE COVID-19
DON'T KNOW THEIR RISK.

COVID-19 MAY STILL BE A THREAT TO YOUR HEALTH

Despite the success of vaccines in reducing severe illness and declining numbers of infections in many areas, COVID-19 remains a threat and **some people are more vulnerable to severe illness from the virus.**

There are treatment options available that can help reduce the severity of symptoms and the risk of hospitalization and death among people who are at high risk for severe COVID-19. Unfortunately, many of those who need COVID-19 treatments don't know treatments are an option and aren't getting them.

AM I AT RISK FOR DEVELOPING SEVERE COVID-19?

Age is the biggest risk factor for severe COVID-19 and those 50 or over are considered to be at high risk of severe COVID-19. You are also at greater risk of severe COVID-19 if you have certain health conditions or are impacted by social factors, including:

- Asthma
- Lung disease
- Smoking
- Cancer
- Kidney disease
- (current and former)
- Diabetes
- Obesity
- Substance use disorders
- Disabilities
- Mental health conditions
- Heart conditions

Many vulnerable communities may also be at greater risk of severe COVID-19 and are less likely to receive treatment. According to the CDC, people from racial and ethnic minority groups could be nearly **twice as likely** to face serious complications from COVID-19.

It is important to know if you have one or more risk factors for severe COVID-19 and to be prepared to start treatment within days of getting COVID-19.

Being up-to-date on your vaccine reduces the risk of developing severe COVID-19.

SAFE AND EFFECTIVE TREATMENT OPTIONS ARE AVAILABLE TO FIGHT COVID-19

- If you have COVID-19 symptoms, contact your healthcare provider today to learn about treatment options, including **antivirals** – pills and IV treatments that can help prevent more serious impacts of COVID-19, such as hospitalization or death.¹
- Keep a list of all medications that you are currently taking to share with your healthcare provider to help determine the best treatment option for you.
- Antivirals are authorized and/or approved by the FDA for use by those most at risk of progression to severe COVID-19.
- Antiviral treatments for COVID-19 must start within five to seven days after onset of symptoms to be effective.²

Oral antivirals will continue to be free of cost for everyone in the U.S. until federally distributed supply is depleted,³ likely in the fall of 2023. After that, oral antivirals will transition to traditional insurance coverage. Out-of-pocket costs will vary according to your insurance plan, though people covered by Medicaid will continue to receive COVID-19 tests and oral antiviral treatments for free until at least September of 2024.

¹National Institutes of Health. "Antivirals, Including Antibody Products." Reviewed May 11, 2013. <https://www.covid19treatmentguidelines.nih.gov/therapies/antivirals-including-antibody-products/>

²Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. "People with Certain Medical Conditions." Reviewed May 11, 2023. <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/need-extra-precautions/people-with-medical-conditions.html>

³Kaiser Family Foundation, February 13, 2023. "Commercialization of COVID-19 Vaccines, Treatments, and Tests: Implications for Access and Coverage." Reviewed May 11, 2013. <https://www.kff.org/coronavirus-covid-19/issue-brief/commercialization-of-covid-19-vaccines-treatments-and-tests-implications-for-access-and-coverage/>



Scan to learn more about risk factors for severe COVID-19 and what to do if you have symptoms, or visit covidvaccineproject.org/treatments.

**COVID-19 VACCINE
EDUCATION and
EQUITY PROJECT**