



September 13, 2021

**SUBJECT: New sites added for monoclonal antibody treatments**

In response to an increase in demand for monoclonal antibody treatments for COVID-19 patients, the Louisiana Department of Health is adding new sites for mAb treatment in urban and rural areas of the state. Over the next several weeks, up to 18 new sites will open, offering this infusion service.

Providers who are treating patients who meet the clinical criteria for mAb treatment, can schedule appointments for their patients by calling **LDH's COVID-19 clinical hotline at 1-855-453-0774**. Physicians should select Option 4: *Providers wishing to schedule a monoclonal antibodies treatment appointment*.

Each of these new sites will be open 7 days a week from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. with an ability to serve as many as 150 patients daily at each site.

The first two new mAb sites opened, Sunday, Sept. 12, at the **Rayne Civic Center** in Rayne, LA and at **Byrd Regional Hospital at Deer Creek**.

Monoclonal antibody treatments may be used for the treatment of mild to moderate COVID-19 in adults and pediatric patients who are within 10 days of the start of their symptoms, at least 12 years of age or older and weigh at least 40 kilograms (88 pounds), and are at a high risk for progressing to severe COVID-19 and/or hospitalization.

In order to be eligible for mAb treatment, your patients must meet ALL of the following:

- Have tested positive test for SARS-CoV-2 via a molecular/PCR or antigen test;
- Are within 10 days of the start of their symptoms;
- Are at least 12 years of age or older and weigh at least 40 kilograms (88 pounds);
- Are at a high risk for progressing to severe COVID-19 and/or hospitalization

We ask that you let the patients that you refer to either of these sites know the infusion procedure takes at least two hours. This includes 30 minutes to receive the infusion, then 1.5 hours of observation.

For patients who are taking medications, they should take their regular doses before treatment. It is also okay to eat before the treatment.

LDH has developed more information about mAbs on the website [here](#).