Monoclonal Antibody Infusion Discharge Instructions

What treatment did I receive?

Because you have mild to moderate symptoms and have risk factors for developing severe disease, you were treated with a one-time intravenous (IV) infusion of a monoclonal antibody. Our bodies naturally make antibodies to fight infection. Monoclonal antibodies are made in a laboratory and are given to patients directly through an infusion. These treatments may help patients who are at high risk for severe illness avoid hospitalization and/or disease progression.

COVID-19 monoclonal antibody treatments are different from COVID-19 vaccines. Vaccines provide active immunity by triggering the body's natural immune response. Vaccines often require more than one shot and time for the body to develop this immune response. When you have the virus, monoclonal antibody treatments give the body the antibodies it needs to protect itself. The main goal of the treatment is to prevent worsening symptoms that would require admission to the hospital.

Discharge Care Instructions:

- Rest and stay well-hydrated
- Ask your doctor if you can take certain over-the-counter medications (such as Tylenol) to ease your symptoms
- Stay home - quarantine
- Wash your hands often and wear a mask if you must go in public
- Monitor your symptoms carefully. If you experience high fever, trouble breathing, rapid or slow heart rate, confusion, or other concerning symptoms call your healthcare provider immediately. For emergencies call 911 and notify the dispatch personnel that you have COVID-19. **If your symptoms worsen or become severe you should seek emergency medical care.**

COVID-19 Quarantine after Monoclonal Antibody Infusion

While you may start feeling better, it is important for you to know that you can still spread the virus for a period of time.

- Self-quarantine at home for 10 days after your positive test. You do NOT get out of quarantine earlier since you are receiving the infusion and may feel better.
- 10 days after your positive test would be the earliest time you would be considered no longer contagious.
- If you have a medical appointment, call the healthcare provider ahead of time and tell them that you have been diagnosed with COVID-19
- Cover your cough and sneezes with a tissue or use the inside of your elbow
- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds or clean your hands with an alcohol-based hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol
- As much as possible during your 10-day quarantine period, stay in a specific room and away from other people in your home. Also, you should use a separate bathroom and bedroom, if available. If you need to be around other people in or outside your home, **WEAR A MASK**. Avoid sharing personal items with other people in your household, like dishes, towels, and bedding
- Clean all surfaces that are touched often, like counters, tabletops, and doorknobs. Use household cleaning wipes according to the label instructions

- Once self-quarantine ends and symptoms have subsided you may go back to work in accordance with your workplace policies, but continue social distancing, proper hand hygiene, and other guidelines through the CDC and local authorities
- You can determine when you can be around others based on the following Centers for Disease Control and Prevention guidelines:
  *I tested positive for COVID-19 with or without symptoms
    1. 10 days since symptoms first appeared or test collection date, if no symptoms **and**
    2. No fever within 24 hours without the use of fever-reducing medications **and**
    3. Other symptoms of COVID-19 are improving (*loss of taste and smell may persist for weeks or months after recovery and need not delay the end of isolation*)

COVID-19 Vaccine Delay for at least 90 Days

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's Interim Clinical Considerations for use of mRNA COVID-19 Vaccines, "there is currently no data on the safety and efficacy of mRNA COVID-19 vaccines in persons who received monoclonal antibodies or convalescent plasma as part of COVID-19 treatment. Based on the estimated half-life of such therapies as well as evidence suggesting that reinfection is uncommon in the 90 days after initial infection, vaccination should be deferred for at least 90 days, as a precautionary measure until additional information becomes available, to avoid potential interference of the antibody therapy with vaccine-induced immune responses. This recommendation applies to persons who receive passive antibody therapy before receiving any vaccine doses as well as those who receive passive antibody therapy after the first dose but before the second dose, in which case the second dose should be deferred for at least 90 days following receipt of the antibody therapy."

Therefore, you may get the COVID-19 vaccine, but you should wait until 90 days have passed since you received your monoclonal antibody infusion.

If you have any questions, you can contact Floyd Medical Center at 706-509-3915.

Thank you for choosing Floyd for your care!