RESPIRATORY ILLNESS TREATMENTS

VDH VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

	COVID-19	FLU
ABOUT TREATMENT	› COVID-19 treatment can help prevent severe illness, hospitalization, and death › Treatments are available by prescription only	› Flu treatment can help prevent severe illness, hospitalization, and death › Treatments are available by prescription only
WHO SHOULD GET TREATMENT	**People with mild to moderate COVID-19 symptoms who are at increased illness for severe illness. This includes:** › Adults aged 50 years and older › People with certain health conditions (lung disease, heart disease, asthma, current and former smokers) › People living in a nursing home or other long-term care setting › People with a weakened immune system › People who are unvaccinated or are not up to date on their COVID-19 vaccines	**People with flu who are very sick or are at high risk of serious complications. This includes:** › Adults aged 65 years and older › Children less than five years of age › Pregnant people › People with a weakened immune system › People with certain health conditions (asthma, diabetes, severe obesity, heart, liver, lung, and/or kidney disease) › People living in a nursing home or other long-term care setting
WHEN TO GET TREATMENT	› As soon as symptoms start › COVID-19 treatment is most effective when started within five to seven days after symptoms start	› As soon as symptoms start › Flu treatment is most effective when started within two days after symptoms start
WHERE TO GET CARE	› A healthcare provider › Urgent care center › Free clinics in Virginia: vafreeclinics.org/clinics-in-virginia › Federally Qualified Health Centers: vcha.org/locations › A Test to Treat location (COVID-19 only): treatments.hhs.gov	
HOW TO PAY FOR TREATMENT	› Most health insurance plans, including Medicaid and Medicare, cover the costs of treatment—call your insurance company to determine the costs › Financial assistance programs can help cover costs whether you have health insurance or not: • Paxlovid: paxlovid.com/paxcess • Lagevrio: merckhelps.com/lagevrio • Veklury: gileadadvancingaccess.com/patient/covid-19	› Most health insurance plans, including Medicaid and Medicare, cover the costs of treatment—call your insurance company to determine the costs › Some treatments are available as a generic drug, which is cheaper. Talk to a health care provider about this option.
FOR MORE INFORMATION	VDH's Respiratory Diseases in Virginia webpage: vdh.virginia.gov/epidemiology/respiratory-diseases CDC's Treatment of Respiratory Viruses webpage: cdc.gov/respiratory-viruses/treatment/index.html If you have questions, talk with a healthcare provider or your local health department: vdh.virginia.gov/health-department-locator	

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