



MISSISSIPPI STATE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

**This is an official  
MS Health Alert Network (HAN) Alert**

**MESSAGE ID:** MSHAN-20220407-00568-ALT (Health Alert)  
**RECIPIENTS:** All Physicians, Hospitals, ERs, ICPs, NPs, PAs, and  
Healthcare Providers – Statewide  
Thursday, April 7, 2022  
**SUBJECT:** Sotrovimab No Longer Authorized for the  
Treatment of COVID-19 Infection in the US

Dear Colleagues,

- Sotrovimab is a monoclonal antibody that has been utilized for the treatment of acute COVID-19 infection that has been broadly distributed and administered in Mississippi.
- Current data indicates that the authorized dose of sotrovimab is not effective against the BA.2 sub-variant of Omicron.
- The BA.2 sub-variant is rapidly increasing in the US and is now the predominant strain of the Omicron variant. The BA.2 sub-variant now accounts for greater than 50% of the circulating viruses causing infection in all US HHS Regions, including Region IV (where Mississippi is located). See [CDC COVID Data Tracker: Variant Proportions](#)
- Omicron (all sub-variant types) remains the predominant variant in Mississippi, accounting for 100% of the sequenced samples, however recent sequencing data does indicate a similar increasing predominance of the BA.2 sub-variant in the state.
- As a result of the data indicating sotrovimab is not effective against BA.2 and the growing predominance of BA.2 in the US, the FDA no longer authorizes the use of sotrovimab in any US state or territory. See [FDA updates Sotrovimab emergency use authorization | FDA](#)
- The Mississippi State Department of Health (MSDH) recommends providers in Mississippi no longer utilize or administer sotrovimab for treatment of acute COVID-19.
- However, there are several other therapeutic options, including remdesivir, bebtelovimab, and the oral antivirals Paxlovid and molnupiravir. Based on similar in vitro assay data available, these products are likely to retain activity against BA.2 For an outpatient therapeutics clinical decision guide, see [Therapeutics Decision Aid \(phe.gov\)](#)
- Oral antivirals are now available to treat patients through community pharmacies. Mississippi physicians and providers are recommended to use these as a routine part of your practice and be prepared in your clinics and settings to utilize these therapeutics to respond to potential future increases in COVID-19 cases.
- Please see the following guidance on the use of oral antivirals for COVID-19.
  - Video: [COVID-19 Therapeutics Information for Healthcare Providers - YouTube](#)
  - Power Point Slides: [PowerPoint Presentation \(ms.gov\)](#)

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- Additional References and Resources:
  - Healthcare provider COVID-19 therapeutics guidance, including the MS COVID-19 Therapeutics locator [Treatment for COVID-19 Infection - Mississippi State Department of Health \(ms.gov\)](#)
  - HAN Message: COVID-19 Therapeutics – UPDATES – Paxlovid and molnupiravir available at Kroger, Wal-Mart, and other community pharmacies, February 18, 2022. [18063.pdf \(ms.gov\)](#)
  - HAN Message: UPDATE: Bebtelovimab Monoclonal Antibody for the Treatment of Mild to Moderate COVID-19 Infection, March 3, 2022 [18252.pdf \(ms.gov\)](#)
  - COVID-19 Outpatient Therapeutics: [Therapeutics Decision Aid \(phe.gov\)](#)
  - [Bebtelovimab Health Care Provider Fact Sheet 03302022 \(fda.gov\)](#)
  - [EUA 108 Merck Molnupiravir FS for HCPs FS Lagevrio 03232022 \(fda.gov\)](#)
  - [Paxlovid HCP FS 03182022 \(fda.gov\)](#)
  - [EUA 046 Veklury \(remdesivir\) FS for HCPs \(01212022\) \(fda.gov\)](#)

Regards,

Paul Byers, MD  
State Epidemiologist



***Alerting Message Specification Settings***

**Originating Agency:** Mississippi State Department of Health  
**Alerting Program:** MS Health Alert Network (MS HAN)  
**Message Identifier:** MSHAN-20220407-00568-ALT  
**Program (HAN) Type:** Health Alert  
**Status (Type):** Actual ()  
**Message Type:** Alert  
**Reference:** MSHAN-00568  
**Severity:** Unknown  
**Acknowledgement:** No  
**Sensitive:** Not Sensitive  
**Message Expiration:** Undetermined  
**Urgency:** Undetermined  
**Delivery Time:** 600 minutes

**Definition of Alerting Vocabulary and Message Specification Settings**

**Originating Agency:** A unique identifier for the agency originating the alert.

**Alerting Program:** The program sending the alert or engaging in alerts and communications using PHIN Communication and Alerting (PCA) as a vehicle for their delivery.

**Message Identifier:** A unique alert identifier that is generated upon alert activation (MSHAN-yyymmdd-hhmm-TTT (**ALT=Health Alert**, **ADV=Health Advisory**, **UPD=Health Update**, **MSG/INFO=Message/Info Service**)).

**Program (HAN) Type:** Categories of Health Alert Messages.

**Health Alert:** Conveys the highest level of importance; warrants immediate action or attention.

**Health Advisory:** Provides important information for a specific incident or situation; may not require immediate action.

**Health Update:** Provides updated information regarding an incident or situation; unlikely to require immediate action.

**Health Info Service:** Provides Message / Notification of general public health information; unlikely to require immediate action.

**Status (Type):**

Actual: Communication or alert refers to a live event  
Exercise: Designated recipients must respond to the communication or alert  
Test: Communication or alert is related to a technical, system test and should be disregarded

**Message Type:**

Alert: Indicates an original Alert



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**Update:** Indicates prior alert has been Updated and/or superseded  
**Cancel:** Indicates prior alert has been cancelled  
**Error:** Indicates prior alert has been retracted

**Reference:** For a communication or alert with a Message Type of “Update” or “Cancel”, this attribute contains the unique Message Identifier of the original communication or alert being updated or cancelled. “n/a” = Not Applicable.

**Severity:**

**Extreme:** Extraordinary threat to life or property  
**Severe:** Significant threat to life or property  
**Moderate:** Possible threat to life or property  
**Minor:** Minimal threat to life or property  
**Unknown:** Unknown threat to life or property

**Acknowledgement:** Indicates whether an acknowledgement on the part of the recipient is required to confirm that the alert was received, and the timeframe in which a response is required (Yes or No).

**Sensitive:**

**Sensitive:** Indicates the alert contains sensitive content  
**Not Sensitive:** Indicates non-sensitive content

**Message Expiration:** Undetermined.

**Urgency:** Undetermined. Responsive action should be taken immediately.

**Delivery Time:** Indicates the timeframe for delivery of the alert (15, 60, 1440, 4320 minutes (.25, 1, 24, 72 hours)).