



NIRMATRELVIR/RITONAVIR (PAXLOVID) PHARMACIST COUNSELLING CHECKLIST

**This checklist is intended for use by pharmacists as a quick reference guide and should not be regarded as a substitute for clinical judgement and patient-specific counselling as required by the Health Professions Act. Documentation or filing of this form is not required.*

Overview	<input type="checkbox"/> Nirmatrelvir/ritonavir (Paxlovid) is used for the treatment of mild to moderate COVID-19 in eligible patients to prevent hospitalizations due to COVID-19 . This medication does not prevent future infections. <input type="checkbox"/> Nirmatrelvir prevents viral replication, and ritonavir prevents breakdown of nirmatrelvir. <input type="checkbox"/> The drug should be started within 5 days of symptom onset to be effective.
Dosage and Administration	<input type="checkbox"/> Nirmatrelvir/ritonavir should be taken by mouth, twice a day, for 5 days <input type="checkbox"/> Each daily blister has separated parts for the morning dose (the yellow side) and evening dose (the blue side). <input type="checkbox"/> Each dose consists of 3 tablets: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2 nirmatrelvir 150 mg (pink tablets), and • 1 ritonavir 100 mg (white tablet) <input type="checkbox"/> Take all morning tablets at the same time and take all the evening tablets at the same time. <input type="checkbox"/> Take the medication with or without food. <input type="checkbox"/> Complete the entire 5-day course , even if you feel better. <input type="checkbox"/> If moderate renal impairment (eGFR \geq 30 mL/min to $<$ 60 mL/min): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reduced dose: Take 1 tablet of nirmatrelvir 150 mg and 1 tablet of ritonavir 100 mg every 12 hours for 5 days.
Side effects	<input type="checkbox"/> Most side effects are mild . Common side effects may include altered sense of taste, diarrhea, nausea, vomiting, muscle aches, headache, and increased blood pressure. <input type="checkbox"/> Other side effects that are not listed may also occur. <input type="checkbox"/> Call the pharmacist if worried about a side effect or notice other side effects that are not listed. (Note: If patients report an adverse reaction to nirmatrelvir/ritonavir, pharmacist should report the reaction to Health Canada: https://www.canada.ca/en/health-canada/services/drugs-health-products/medeffect-canada/adverse-reaction-reporting.html) <input type="checkbox"/> Describe symptoms of an allergic reaction and management plan.
Drug Interactions	<input type="checkbox"/> Provide patient-specific drug-interaction education and management strategies . <input type="checkbox"/> If possible, do not start any new medications, OTCs, herbals, supplements, etc. Call the pharmacist prior to initiation of any new drug or product.

	<input type="checkbox"/> Provide directions on how to manage any modified medications once nirmatrelvir/ritonavir treatment finishes or the treatment is stopped early. <input type="checkbox"/> Acetaminophen, ibuprofen, naproxen, and dextromethorphan are safe to take with nirmatrelvir/ritonavir if these medications are otherwise safe for patient to take.
Monitoring	<input type="checkbox"/> Call 911, go to an urgent care clinic, or emergency department if: having difficulty breathing, chest pain, difficulty drinking or swallowing, feeling very sick, feeling confused, or experiencing any loss of consciousness <input type="checkbox"/> Call 811 if worsened symptoms while taking nirmatrelvir/ritonavir or not feeling better after 5 days of taking nirmatrelvir/ritonavir. <input type="checkbox"/> Provide patient-specific monitoring parameters and plan. <input type="checkbox"/> Inform patient that the pharmacist will call for follow up in 6-10 days.
Missed dose protocol	<input type="checkbox"/> ≤ 8 hours: Take missed dose as soon as possible, and resume normal dosing schedule thereafter. <input type="checkbox"/> > 8 hours: Skip missed dose and take the next dose at the regularly scheduled time, then resume normal dosing schedule thereafter. <input type="checkbox"/> Do not double the dose to make up for a missed dose.
Storage	<input type="checkbox"/> Store at room temperature, not in the bathroom or kitchen. <input type="checkbox"/> Keep out of the reach of children.
Infection control strategies	<input type="checkbox"/> Follow PHO orders , even if feeling better. (See site for updated PHO orders: https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/covid-19/info/restrictions) <input type="checkbox"/> COVID-19 vaccine initiation or completion of series/booster is encouraged, as appropriate. (Last update from BCCDC on Nov 2021 indicates patients can receive COVID-19 vaccines as soon as they feel better and no longer have to isolate. http://www.bccdc.ca/Health-Info-Site/Documents/COVID-19_vaccine/Vaccination_After_COVID19.pdf)
Resources (for pharmacists)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BC COVID Therapeutics Committee (CTC) Clinical Practice Guide, Practice Tools: http://www.bccdc.ca/health-professionals/clinical-resources/covid-19-care/clinical-care/treatments • BCCDC Patient Information on nirmatrelvir/ritonavir: http://www.bccdc.ca/Health-Info-Site/Documents/COVID-19_Treatment/Patient_information-PAXLOVID.pdf • BC-Cfe Guidelines for the use of Paxlovid® and ARVs: http://www.bccfe.ca/therapeutic-guidelines/bc-cfe-guidelines-use-paxlovid-and-arvs • University of Liverpool COVID-19 Drug Interaction checker: https://www.covid19-druginteractions.org/checker • Health Canada Product Monograph: https://pdf.hres.ca/dpd_pm/00064313.PDF