A pathway for mild-moderate COVID-19 treatment was developed for BC. Patients at high risk of severe disease are eligible for testing and treatment. Nirmatrelvir/ritonavir (Paxlovid) is available for people who tested positive for COVID-19 and who are at higher risk of hospitalization; alternatives are available if Paxlovid cannot be used due to drug interactions or contraindications. Variations from the pathway will occur as individual clinician discretion is exercised to meet the needs of the individual patient.

The COVID-19 Therapeutics Pathway is available for clinicians to help their patients appropriately navigate through the current available resources so as to receive appropriate, effective and timely care. Key messages include:

- The pathway is grounded in the latest evidence and clinical experience provided by BC’s COVID Therapeutics Committee (CTC).
- Not all eligible patients should be prescribed COVID-19 therapeutics. These decisions will be made between the patient and clinician.
- Persons whose symptoms have not resolved within 12 weeks should be re-assessed and considered for referral to the Post-COVID-19 Interdisciplinary Clinical Care Network. Note: a full medical work-up is required before post-COVID referral.

**Therapeutic Care Pathway for Mild-Moderate COVID-19**

**COVID-19 Therapeutic Primary Care Assessment**
- Investigate symptoms as clinically indicated
- Support and reassure patient

**Is patient eligible for treatment? (see eligibility criteria)**

**YES**
- Investigate symptoms of COVID-19 with a RAT or PCR test (viral testing guidelines*).
- Counsel patient to test at onset of symptoms that are consistent with COVID. If Day 1 – 5 from symptom onset: Test with Rapid Antigen Test (RAT); repeat RAT daily if results are negative and symptoms persist.
- Day 6 onwards from symptom onset: No need for further COVID-19 testing unless directed by physician.

**NO**

**If negative on serial RAT testing, and symptoms worsen or remain persistent**, then a clinician can decide on whether a PCR is required. To increase the sensitivity of the RAT, the test can be repeated daily within the antiviral treatment window. Treatment may be initiated if suspicion is very high.

**If positive**, use the Step-by-Step Guide for prescribing COVID-19 Therapeutics for patients who are appreciably symptomatic from COVID-10.

**Eligible for treatment, appropriate for Paxlovid (summary handout)**

Assess and manage Drug-Drug Interactions using Practice Tool 3 – Drug Interactions and Contraindications. For support, call your local pharmacist, PCN pharmacist, or the Ministry of Health’s Patient and Client Relations at 1-844-915-5005 (Monday to Friday, 8:30 am to 4:30 pm).

**Nirmatrelvir/ritonavir (Paxlovid)** is prescribed using a special prescription or through eForms. Step-by-Step Guide can be found on BCCDC. Not all pharmacies stock paxlovid. The prescription can be faxed to one that does, click here.

If drug-drug interactions need to be managed by temporarily modifying current drug therapy, suggestions on safe changes (i.e., dose, timing and duration of modification) are also located in Practice Tool 3 – Drug Interactions and Contraindications.

**Patients who are not candidates for nirmatrelvir/ritonavir due to drug-drug interactions or contraindications and are in the highest risk category (≥5%) can be referred to the nearest Health Authority remdesivir infusion clinic.**

**If drug-drug interactions need to be managed by temporarily modifying current drug therapy**, suggestions on safe changes (i.e., dose, timing and duration of modification) are also located in Practice Tool 3 – Drug Interactions and Contraindications.

**Proactive Action Plan for Patients**
- **COVID Action plan**

**Emailable Patient Resources**
- Paxlovid handout
- Paxlovid Q&A
- Remdesivir handout
- Sotrovimab handout

This document provides guidance only; patients defined above are those who may benefit from treatment. Case-by-case assessment is required, and the totality of risk factors needs to be considered when offering treatment. RACEapp can be used for clinical consultation services in complex patients requiring Infectious Diseases expertise and input.