



**WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT**  
*of* **HEALTH SERVICES**

## COVID-19 Update

**Weekly Update: March 28, 2022**

---

**Ask Your Doctor About COVID-19 Treatments if You Have Symptoms**

# Oral Antiviral Pills Authorized to Treat COVID-19



- In December, The Food and Drug Administration announced the emergency use authorization of the first oral antiviral pills Paxlovid and molnupiravir to treat COVID-19.
- They are only available by prescription from a health care provider for eligible individuals. They need to be taken within 5 days of symptom onset. If you have symptoms, do not delay in asking your doctor if these pills are right for you.
- Continue to take steps to not get COVID-19: get vaccinated and a booster.

**YOU STOP THE SPREAD**



[Treatment](#) for COVID-19 is available through your healthcare provider [throughout the state](#). Oral antiviral medications reduce the chances of severe COVID-19 illness, hospitalization, and death for people with mild to moderate COVID-19 and can shorten the length of illness. Oral antivirals Paxlovid and molnupiravir were authorized by the FDA in December 2021. They work by stopping the virus that causes COVID-19 from replicating in your body.

If you are at [high risk](#) for severe illness, and develop symptoms, call your doctor to ask if you are eligible to take these treatments.

---

**Staying Up to Date with Your Vaccine**

Am I **up to date**  
on my COVID-19  
vaccines?

If you're **12 years or older** and received an  
**mRNA COVID-19 vaccine**, you should get

**1st Dose** ✓  
+  
**2nd Dose** ✓  
+  
**Booster** ✓  
=  
**Up to Date** ✓



**If you are moderately or severely immunocompromised**, please  
read the specific COVID-19 vaccine recommendations for you at  
<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/recommendations/immuno.html>



WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT  
of HEALTH SERVICES

**YOU STOP THE SPREAD**

Being [up to date](#) on your COVID-19 vaccines ensures you have the best protection possible against severe illness, hospitalization, and death.

To be **up to date** with your COVID-19 vaccines, you will need to be fully vaccinated **and** get a booster dose when eligible.

- The primary series includes two doses of Moderna or Pfizer or one dose of Johnson & Johnson.
- People who are moderately to severely immunocompromised should get an [additional](#) primary dose for the best protection.

- Everyone 12 years and older should get a [booster](#) dose to stay up to date with your COVID-19 vaccines and boost protection against COVID-19.

If you are moderately or severely immunocompromised, you will need to get an additional dose for better protection. Visit [CDC's website](#), call 211, or talk to your health care provider to learn more.

---

### Spring Break COVID-19 Safety

A graphic titled "SPRING BREAK TO DO LIST:" set against a background of travel items including a camera, a globe, a watch, a hat, a smartphone, and a face mask. The list contains four items, each preceded by a checkmark. A small circular logo is located at the bottom right of the list area.

# SPRING BREAK TO DO LIST:

- ✓ Stay up to date with COVID-19 vaccines
- ✓ Wear a well-fitting mask on all public transportation and in High Level COVID-19 Communities
- ✓ Check airline and destination COVID-19 requirements
- ✓ Get tested for COVID-19 before traveling

The Wisconsin Department of Health Services (DHS) is encouraging Wisconsinites planning or returning from [spring break travels](#) to take simple public health precautions to prevent illness. Although overall COVID-19 case numbers are declining, students and other travelers can still become ill or spread COVID-19 to others. DHS recommends getting tested before traveling and

after returning home if you've been to a location with high COVID-19 Community Levels. Continuing to layer prevention strategies is essential for staying safe, protecting the most vulnerable in our families and communities, and reducing strain on health care systems in communities across the country.

If Wisconsinites do travel, DHS recommends they know the [COVID-19 Community Level](#) of their destination and follow the appropriate precautions. Wisconsinites should not travel if they:

- Have [symptoms](#) of COVID-19.
- Have tested positive for COVID-19 and have not completed their [isolation](#) period.
- Have recently been exposed to COVID-19 and are recommended to [quarantine](#).
- Are awaiting COVID-19 test results.

Mask wearing is still required on all forms of [public U.S transportation](#). Wisconsinites are also responsible for knowing and complying with all airline and destination requirements. We urge all Wisconsinites to continue to use a combination of COVID-19 prevention strategies, even while traveling, that will allow us to continue to keep our communities safe and healthy.

---

## Two New Bills to Support Healthcare Providers and Patients

Gov. Tony Evers signed two bills to [support Wisconsin's healthcare providers and patients](#). The first bill signed by Gov. Evers continues the innovative Acute Hospital Care at Home program, which was established during the pandemic to allow hospital services to be provided in a home setting if the federal Centers of Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) has approved a hospital to provide the hospital-associated service.

Additionally, the governor signed a second bill making it a Class H felony to assault or threaten healthcare providers or staff members and their families.

"We've learned critical lessons during this pandemic, including the need to ensure everyone has access to quality, affordable healthcare, and that includes finding innovative tools to bring quality care right to patients' doorsteps," said Gov. Evers. "This pandemic has also underscored the importance of our healthcare workers and all they do to support our families, our communities, and a healthier state, and they deserve to be safe doing their life-saving work."

---

## \$86 Million in Grants to Assist Diverse Businesses

Gov. Tony Evers today awarded more than [\\$86 million in grants](#) to support small businesses in communities disproportionately impacted by the pandemic that have historically had difficulty accessing credit and capital. A list of grant awardees and additional information can be found on the [program website](#) (see award announcement).

Wisconsinites can visit [BadgerBounceback.wi.gov](#) to view pandemic-related assistance information for families, farmers, businesses, organizations, and communities, as well as the latest data and success stories about how COVID-relief investments are making a difference across the

state. For updates on other recovery-related grant opportunities, sign up for the [Badger Bounceback](#) update list.

---

### ICYMI: Recent DHS COVID-19 News

- [DHS Confirms Three Pediatric Influenza-Associated Deaths](#)
- [Governor Evers, DHS Announce Statewide Tour to Recognize COVID-19 Heroes](#)

### Vaccine Distribution Summary

Check out the latest data on [Wisconsin's vaccination effort](#). DHS updates provider data every Tuesday, and the administered number is updated every weekday at 2 p.m.

### COVID-19 by the Numbers

- [Cases](#)
- [Deaths](#)
- [Disease Activity](#)
- [Race and Ethnic Disparities](#)
- [Vaccine](#)



### Resilient Wisconsin

Building resilience—the ability to adapt and recover from adversity—within ourselves, our relationships, and in our communities matters. When we find healthy ways to cope with trauma and toxic stress, especially during tough times, we take a step closer to becoming more resilient.

If you are experiencing emotion distress, or the effects of collective trauma, the Disaster Distress Hotline is here for you. Call or text (800)985-5990 to be connected with a trained, caring counselor – 24/7. Remember, it is okay to ask for help.

[Resilient Wisconsin has information and tools to support good health for you, your friends, and your family.](#)

---

### Other Languages, Graphics, and Print Materials

DHS materials are available in multiple languages as electronic files you can view online or download and print. You can use these materials at home or for your business. Visit the [DHS website](#) to view what resources are available to you.

---



## Media Briefing

There was no media briefing last week.

## Social Media

Follow DHS on social media for the most up-to-date information on the COVID-19 response and vaccine rollout.

- @DHSWI on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#)
- dhs.wi on <https://www.instagram.com/dhs.wi/>

## Newsletter

Looking for previous newsletters? To view past versions of this newsletter, visit the [DHS website](#).

Please do not respond to this email. Additional information about COVID-19 is available at the [Wisconsin Department of Health Services](#) website.

Stay Connected with the Wisconsin Department of Health Services



[Unsubscribe](#) | [Help](#)

---

This email was sent to [swiemer@shsst.edu](mailto:swiemer@shsst.edu) using GovDelivery Communications

Cloud on behalf of: Wisconsin Department of Health Services · 1 West Wilson Street **GOVDelivery**  
· Madison, WI 53703