



## Test to Treat: Getting Started with Molnupiravir

### Possible Side Effects of Molnupiravir

- Allergic reactions. Severe allergic reactions (known as anaphylaxis) can happen, even after only one dose. Stop taking molnupiravir and call your health care provider right away if you have any of the following symptoms: *trouble swallowing or breathing; swelling of the mouth, lips, or face; throat tightness; hoarseness; sudden skin rash or hives.*
- Other possible side effects. Some of the most common are *nausea, diarrhea, and dizziness.* These can be normal and not necessarily a reason to stop taking molnupiravir. Contact your health care provider if you are experiencing any symptoms you are concerned about.

### Taking care of yourself or your family member with COVID-19

- Supportive care includes rest, hydration, and nutrition. Talk to your doctor about other treatments that can relieve your symptoms (i.e., headaches, muscle aches, fever, and cough) while you recover from COVID-19.
- You are still contagious; remain isolated per your local guidelines, wear a mask if you must be around others, and wash your hands frequently to reduce the spread of COVID-19. Talk to your health care team if you have questions about isolation and/or quarantine.
- Vaccination is the most effective way to reduce the risk of infection and progression to severe illness, hospitalization, and death. Get vaccinated and/or boosted if you are not already.

**RED FLAGS:** Even if you are taking molnupiravir, seek immediate medical attention if you develop any of the following emergency signs or symptoms: worsening breathing or shortness of breath; severe, unrelenting chest pain; severe weakness; confusion or lethargy.

#### Contact Information:

My health care team: \_\_\_\_\_

My nearest emergency care: \_\_\_\_\_

Test to Treat is a strategy that links symptomatic patients with testing, diagnosis, and evidence-based care for COVID-19, including the use of oral antivirals for eligible patients.

**What is molnupiravir?** Molnupiravir is a new oral antiviral medicine used to treat mild to moderate COVID-19.

**Who can take molnupiravir?** Adults (age 18 and over) with a positive SARS CoV-2 test result within five days of symptom onset and who are at high risk for progression to severe COVID-19, including hospitalization or death.

You have been given this fact sheet because your health care provider believes it is beneficial to provide you with the oral antiviral medication called molnupiravir for the treatment of mild to moderate coronavirus disease (COVID-19) caused by the SARS-CoV-2 virus. This fact sheet contains information to help you understand the risks and benefits of taking molnupiravir, which you have or may receive. It explains how to take molnupiravir and how to report side effects or problems with the appearance or packaging. Talk to your health care provider if you have any questions.

Molnupiravir has been granted Emergency Use Authorization by the FDA in the United States, and is recommended by the World Health Organization as a treatment for COVID-19. Molnupiravir is considered investigational because it is still being studied. There is limited information about the safety and effectiveness of using molnupiravir to treat people with mild to moderate COVID-19, but the available data support it as a recommended treatment.

### Things to tell your health care provider before starting molnupiravir

- All medications, supplements, herbal medicines, or vitamins you are currently taking or should be taking
- Any serious illnesses or chronic diseases
- Any allergies
- Possibly pregnant or may become pregnant
- Breastfeeding a child

*If you answered “yes” to any of these conditions, tell your health care provider. You can still be treated for COVID-19. See inside for more information.*

Recommendations based on [Fact Sheet for Patients and Caregivers](#) Emergency Use Authorization (EUA) of LAGEVRIO™ (molnupiravir) capsules for Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19); Merck & Co., Inc; Revised: June 2022.

## How do I take molnupiravir?

- Take four capsules of molnupiravir every 12 hours (for example, at 8 AM and 8 PM).
- Take molnupiravir for five days. It is important to complete the full five days of treatment. Do not stop taking molnupiravir before the full five days, even if you feel better.
- Take molnupiravir with or without food.
- Swallow capsules whole. Do not open, break, or crush the capsules. If you cannot swallow capsules whole, tell your health care provider.

## Tips for Taking Molnupiravir

**What to do if you miss a dose:** If it has been less than 10 hours since the missed dose, take it as soon as you remember. If it has been more than 10 hours since the missed dose, skip the missed dose and take your dose at the next scheduled time. Do not double the dose of molnupiravir to make up for a missed dose.

**Talk to your health care provider if you start to feel worse or if you do not feel better after five days. If you feel better but then start to feel worse again at any point after you complete your course of molnupiravir, talk to your health care provider and repeat COVID-19 testing.**

## How to Store Molnupiravir

Store capsules at room temperature between 68°F to 77°F (20°C to 25°C). Keep molnupiravir and all medicines out of the reach of children and pets.

If you have concerns about the appearance of the packaging or tablets, or if you have concerns about possible side effects or medication interactions, contact the health care provider or facility where you were prescribed molnupiravir.



800 mg (or FOUR 200 mg CAPSULES)

Capsule images for illustrative purposes only.



TAKEN ORALLY  
EVERY 12 HOURS



FOR  
5 DAYS



WITH OR  
WITHOUT FOOD

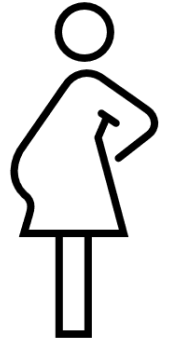
## Who generally should not take molnupiravir?

- You are allergic to any ingredients in molnupiravir.
- You are pregnant, planning to become pregnant, or breastfeeding.
- You are not at risk for severe illness, hospitalization, or death related to COVID-19.
- You are taking certain medications.

## What is the most important information I should know about molnupiravir?

### Molnupiravir is not recommended for use during pregnancy.

It is not known if molnupiravir will harm your baby if taken during pregnancy. Molnupiravir has not been studied in human pregnancy. When studied in pregnant animals, molnupiravir caused harm to their unborn babies.



### For individuals who are able to become pregnant:

- Use a reliable method of birth control (contraception) consistently and correctly during treatment with molnupiravir and for four days after the last dose. Talk to your health care provider about reliable birth control methods.
- Before starting treatment with molnupiravir, your health care provider may do a pregnancy test to see if you are pregnant. *Tell your health care provider right away if you become pregnant or think you may be pregnant during treatment with molnupiravir.*
- *Breastfeeding is not recommended during treatment with molnupiravir and for four days after the final dose.* A lactating individual may consider interrupting breastfeeding and consider pumping and discarding breast milk during treatment and for four days after the last dose.

### For males who are sexually active with partners who are able to become pregnant:

- It is not known if molnupiravir can affect sperm. While the risk is regarded as low, animal studies to fully assess the potential for molnupiravir to affect the babies of males treated with molnupiravir have not been completed. A reliable method of birth control (contraception) should be used consistently and correctly during treatment with molnupiravir and for at least three months after the last dose. Talk to your health care provider if you have questions or concerns about contraception or how molnupiravir may affect sperm.