

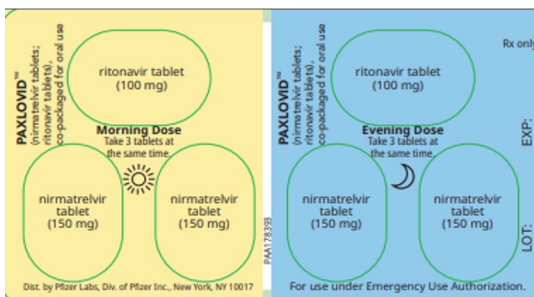
Nirmatrelvir/ritonavir (Paxlovid™) Nursing Administration Information

Indication

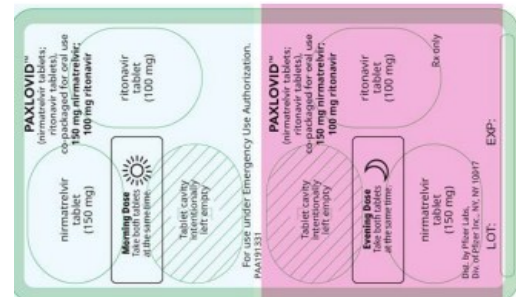
- Nirmatrelvir/ritonavir (Paxlovid™) is an antiviral medication that has been approved by Health Canada for the treatment of mild-to-moderate COVID-19 in adults who are at high risk for progression to severe COVID-19, including hospitalization or death
- Taking nirmatrelvir/ritonavir (Paxlovid™) does not change isolation requirements for residents with COVID-19
- Nirmatrelvir/ritonavir (Paxlovid™) has a number of contraindications and drug interactions so thorough resident screening by the prescriber and a pharmacist occurs prior to prescribing and dispensing
- The PCH prescriber may need to adjust some of the resident's other medications during the time they are on the nirmatrelvir/ritonavir (Paxlovid™) and for a 3-5 days after the treatment is complete (e.g. holding doses, dose increases, or dose decreases)

Supplied

- Paxlovid™ contains two antiviral medicines co-packaged together - nirmatrelvir 150 mg (pink tablets) and ritonavir 100 mg (white tablets)
- Nirmatrelvir/ritonavir (Paxlovid™) is supplied from the manufacturer in boxes containing five blister cards each. Each blister card contains all the medication required for one day of treatment and each box contains all the medication required for a five day treatment course
- Pharmacy will dispense nirmatrelvir/ritonavir (Paxlovid™) in the original manufacturer's packaging
- The manufacturer produces regular dosage packs and renal dosage packs of nirmatrelvir/ritonavir (Paxlovid™)
 - ◇ Regular Dosage Pack:
 - Each blister card is divided into a *Morning Dose* section (the yellow left half side of the blister card) and an *Evening Dose* section (the blue right half side of the blister card)
 - Each section of the blister card contains two pink nirmatrelvir 150 mg tablets and one white ritonavir 100 mg tablet
 - ◇ Renal Dosage Pack:
 - Each blister card is divided into a *Morning Dose* section (the green left half side of the blister card) and an *Evening Dose* section (the pink right half side of the blister card).
 - Each section of the blister card contains one pink nirmatrelvir 150 mg tablet and one white ritonavir 100 mg tablet.



Blister card for a Regular Dose Pack



Blister card for a Renal Dose Pack

Dosage

- Nirmatrelvir/ritonavir (Paxlovid™) is administered orally every 12 hours for 5 days.
- Regular dosing: nirmatrelvir **2** x 150 mg po q12h and ritonavir 100 mg po q12h for 5 days
- Renal dosing: nirmatrelvir **1** x 150 mg po q12h and ritonavir 100 mg q12h daily for 5 days
- Transcribe the dose prescribed or pharmacist-adjusted dose on the resident's medication administration record (MAR)

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Administration

- The nirmatrelvir and ritonavir tablets MUST be given together every 12 hour for 5 days
- Both nirmatrelvir and ritonavir tablets can be taken with or without food
- Crushing the tablets is not recommended in the manufacturer's drug monograph*
**While some guidance documents available in other jurisdictions may include instructions for the disintegration (not crushing) of nirmatrelvir tablets, this method could result in reduced absorption which makes treatment less effective compared to taking tablets whole*
- If the resident is unable to take the tablets whole, please contact the PCH prescriber



Regular Dose

- When the morning dose is due: Remove and administer the two nirmatrelvir 150 mg tablets (total dose 300 mg) and the single ritonavir 100 mg tablet from the *Morning Dose (yellow)* section of the blister card
- When the evening dose is due: Remove and administer the two nirmatrelvir 150 mg tablets (total dose 300 mg) and the single ritonavir 100 mg tablet from the *Evening Dose (blue)* section of the blister card

Renal Dose

- When the morning dose is due: Remove and administer the single nirmatrelvir 150 mg tablet and the single ritonavir 100 mg tablet from the *Morning Dose (green)* section of the blister card
- When the evening dose is due: Remove and administer the single nirmatrelvir 150 mg tablet and the single ritonavir 100 mg tablet from the *Evening Dose (pink)* section of the blister card

Missed Doses

- If it has been less than 8 hours since the missed dose, give the missed dose
- If it has been more than 8 hours since the missed dose, do not give the missed dose. Discard these tablets in the pharmaceutical waste and resume administration at the next scheduled dosing time
- Do not double the dose to make up for a missed dose
- Give all of the doses of nirmatrelvir and ritonavir, even if the resident is feeling better

Monitoring

- Nirmatrelvir/ritonavir (Paxlovid™) is generally well tolerated and most people experience mild side effects
- **Possible side effects may include*:**
 - *As this is a relatively new medication, other side effects are possible and are still being identified*
 - ◇ Altered or impaired sense of taste
 - ◇ Diarrhea
 - ◇ Nausea and/or vomiting
 - ◇ Headache
 - ◇ Muscle aches
 - ◇ Abdominal pain
 - ◇ Increased blood pressure
- Nirmatrelvir/ritonavir (Paxlovid™) may interact with other medications. This could result in severe adverse effects or cause a medication to be less effective. The prescriber may need to adjust or monitor other medications to manage these interactions for the duration of the treatment and for 3-5 days after the treatment is complete

Paxlovid™ Product Monograph: <https://covid-vaccine.canada.ca/info/pdf/paxlovid-pm-en.pdf>
Paxlovid™ Patient Information Sheet:
English: <https://sharedhealthmb.ca/files/covid-19-paxlovid-patient-info.pdf>
French: <https://sharedhealthmb.ca/files/covid-19-paxlovid-patient-info-fr.pdf>