



MEDICATION UPDATE

March 19, 2024

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NS Health COVID-19 Non-Severe Treatment Team

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Pharmacy Association of Nova Scotia, Nova Scotia College of Pharmacists, Nova Scotia Health, IWK Health, Primary Health Care, Doctor's Nova Scotia

ISSUE

- Best practice
- Drug shortage
- Pack size/packaging change
- Medication change
- Recall
- Medication Advisory
- Other: Medication Update

Nirmatrelvir/Ritonavir (Paxlovid™) Updates

As of March 31, 2024, the federal government will no longer provide a free supply of nirmatrelvir/ritonavir (Paxlovid) to the provinces and territories. The recommended pathway to achieve the most timely nirmatrelvir/ritonavir (Paxlovid™) assessment is referral to the NS Health COVID-19 Non-Severe Treatment Team using the [Nova Scotia Health Report and Support form](#). The [form](#) can be completed online at <https://c19hc.nshealth.ca/self-report> or by calling 1-833-797-7772 (option 2).

Patients at high risk for developing severe disease may be prescribed nirmatrelvir/ritonavir (Paxlovid™) by a [designated prescriber](#) using the NS Health [referral criteria](#) and provided federally-procured stock that is of no cost to the patient.

Please review the information contained in the following NS Health and Pharmacare links:

- [Nova Scotia Health Nirmatrelvir/Ritonavir \(Paxlovid\) Updates For Health Care Professionals](#)
- [Pharmacare News Pharmacists Bulletin](#)
- [Pharmacare News Physician Bulletin](#)

The COVID-19 Non-Severe Treatment Team is available to assist health care professionals completing assessments and to provide support for nirmatrelvir/ritonavir (Paxlovid™) questions. The service will respond as soon as possible 7 days a week and may be contacted by phone: 1-833-714-2784 or e-mail: COVIDTreatment@nshealth.ca. The phone number and email are only intended to be used by health care professionals and should NOT be provided to the public.