



## INFORMATION FOR TRANSPLANT RECIPIENTS – FAQ ON EVUSHELD

(Updated September 22, 2022)

### **What is Evusheld?**

Evusheld is a monoclonal antibody. It contains antibodies that prevent COVID-19 infection. Evusheld is used for prevention of COVID-19 in immunocompromised persons that might not respond well to the COVID vaccine. It is for persons aged 12 and older who weigh at least 40kg (88 pounds). It is not used for treatment of COVID. It is not meant to be a substitute for full vaccination or boosting.

### **How is it given?**

It is a liquid medication that is injected into the gluteal (buttock) muscles. A total of two injections are given (generally one in each buttock).

### **Will it have any side effects?**

Since Evusheld is an antibody, you could have an allergic reaction. This is rare. You could also have pain, itching, redness at the site of injection. An injection into the buttock may be uncomfortable and there is a slight risk of a hematoma (local bleeding). The risk of hematoma might be higher if you are on blood-thinners or have low platelet counts. A very small number of patients had heart problems after Evusheld but it is not known if these were directly related to Evusheld.

### **Will it interact with my transplant medications?**

Evusheld will not interact with your transplant medications or affect the transplanted organ.

### **How long will it protect me?**

Evusheld has shown to have protection up to 6 months after it's given. However, the protection may not last as long because you are on immunosuppressive medications or be as effective against future variants.

### **Will I need another dose of Evusheld in the future?**

Evusheld is recommended to be given every 6 months. If you received your first dose 6 or more months ago, you should call your provider to discuss receiving a second dose.

### **What if I had COVID-infection before?**

If you had COVID infection before, you can still receive Evusheld after you fully recover.

**Do I need my COVID antibodies checked to see if I'm eligible for Evusheld?**

No. You do not need to have antibody testing before you receive Evusheld. In general, anyone with an organ transplant is eligible.

**How many doses of COVID vaccine should I get before getting Evusheld?**

You should receive all the recommended doses of COVID vaccine, including the recommended booster doses. Evusheld is not a substitute for vaccination, rather, it is considered as a supplement to vaccination. You should wait at least 2 weeks after your last COVID vaccine before getting Evusheld. Ask your transplant provider about when you should receive Evusheld.

**When can I get my next booster of COVID vaccine?**

You can get your next booster anytime after receiving Evusheld as long as enough time has passed from your last vaccine dose.

**Will I still need to wear a mask after I get Evusheld?**

Yes, it is very important to continue to protect yourself from COVID-19 so masking, physical distancing, and handwashing are still very important. While Evusheld offers protection against the COVID virus, there have been reports of breakthrough infection.

**Is there any cost for me to get Evusheld?**

No, there is no cost for the Evusheld itself. However, some centers may need to charge an administration fee, which is usually covered by insurance. This will vary from center to center, so please ask your provider whether there will be a fee and if your insurance will cover it.

**Where can I get Evusheld?**

The United States government has created a website to locate therapies. This can be accessed at: <https://covid-19-therapeutics-locator-dhhs.hub.arcgis.com/>