Staff FAQ – Evusheld

What is Evusheld?
Evusheld is a combination of two long-acting monoclonal antibodies intended for pre-exposure prophylaxis (to prevent COVID-19 infection prior to exposure) in certain individuals. The EUA specifies use for immunocompromised individuals and those individuals with a history of severe adverse reactions to COVID-19 vaccine and/or vaccine component(s) for whom COVID-19 vaccination is not recommended.

Who is eligible for Evusheld?
Eligibility for Evusheld is determined based on our supply and guidance from our state or county public health departments. Evusheld is indicated for prevention of COVID-19 in high-risk individuals who are *not* currently infected with COVID-19, and who have not had a recent known exposure to COVID-19.

SCCA is currently prioritizing individuals who meet the following criteria (based on NIH Tier 1 prioritization criteria)**:**

- Pre-transplant (active)/Hematopoietic cell transplantation (HCT) with chronic GVHD or who are taking immunosuppressive medications for another indication.
- CAR T cell recipients.
- Hematologic malignancy in active treatment.
- Patients who are within one year of receiving B-cell depleting therapies (e.g., rituximab, ocrelizumab, ofatumumab, alemtuzumab).
- Patients receiving Bruton tyrosine kinase inhibitors
- Patients with severe combined immunodeficiencies
- Lung transplant recipients
- Patients who are within 1 year of receiving a solid-organ transplant (other than lung transplant)
- Solid-organ transplant recipients with recent treatment for acute rejection with T or B cell depleting agents
- Patients with untreated HIV who have a CD4 T lymphocyte cell count <50 cells/mm^3

When can my patient get their first dose?
Evusheld is being distributed to states by the federal government and we have a limited initial supply. Providers for Heme and BMT/IMTX patients who are receiving treatment at South Lake Union and meet the above criteria will discuss Evusheld with patients to assess interest and confirm eligibility.

What happens after a patient's eligibility is confirmed?
If patient is eligible their provider will need to document Evusheld using the Evusheld Smartphrase and contact Gabe Zecha for hematologic malignancy and Christine Yennaco for BMT/ CAR T cell patients with names of interested patients who will be added to a standby list. They will place order for Evusheld and coordinate scheduling appointments with TCs.

Last updated Jan. 31, 2022

Can Evusheld be used in place of COVID vaccination?
Evusheld is not a replacement for COVID vaccination; it is a means of enhancing protection for certain at-risk populations, many of whom, including cancer patients, may not mount an adequate response to vaccination. If a patient is eligible to receive the vaccine and has not yet been vaccinated, counsel the patient that Evusheld is not a substitute for vaccination and offer the vaccination prior to offering Evusheld.

What data support use of Evusheld for pre-exposure prophylaxis?
Initial reports indicate that Evusheld significantly reduces the risk of developing symptomatic COVID-19 (77% at primary analysis, 83% at six-month analysis) when compared to placebo. Preliminary data suggest that Evusheld has retained neutralizing activity against the Omicron variant though it is reduced. The clinical significance of the reduced in vitro potency of Tixagevimab/Cilgavimab against the Omicron variant is unknown at this time. Additional studies are forthcoming.

Can Evusheld be used to treat COVID-19?
No, Evusheld is not authorized by the FDA to treat COVID-19.

In addition to Evusheld, the center has a very limited supply of Sotrovimab, a monoclonal antibody used for treatment of patients with COVID-19. The center also has a limited supply of Paxlovid, an antiviral for treatment of COVID-19. The Infectious Disease Team reviews all positive patients and offers treatment to eligible patients. If you have a patient with a new positive COVID-19 test, either at home or in the community, please notify the Infection Prevention inbox (ip@seattlecca.org) so that they can be reviewed for treatment options.

Can Evusheld be used post-exposure?
No, Evusheld is not authorized for use in people who have been exposed to someone infected with SARS-CoV-2. At this time, Evusheld is only authorized by the FDA for those individuals who have not had a known exposure to COVID-19 (pre-exposure prophylaxis).

What are side effects of Evusheld?
Like other monoclonal antibody treatments, allergic reactions are possible during and after drug delivery. Patients receiving the drug—particularly those with pre-existing heart disease—may also have an increased rate of heart complications, although it is not known if this is directly related. Other unknown or unexpected side effects can occur whenever using a new drug.