

Prevent Getting Very Sick From COVID



Some people who get COVID get so sick that they need hospital care. They can even die.

Staying up to date with your COVID vaccine is the best way to protect yourself from getting very sick from COVID.

Even if you're vaccinated, you're more likely than others to get very sick from COVID if any of these apply to you:

- You're 50 or older
- You have a compromised or weakened immune system
- You have one or more health issues, such as severe asthma; diabetes; obesity; or chronic heart, lung, or kidney conditions



FDA-authorized or -approved treatment is available to help prevent severe illness

The following treatments are available for people at increased risk for severe illness from COVID.

| Treatment | What it is | Who it's for | When to start taking it |
|-----------------------|--|--------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Antiviral pills | 5-day course of antiviral pills | People 12 and older | Within 5 days of when symptoms start |
| Antiviral IV infusion | 3-day course of an IV infusion, or drip, in which the medicine is delivered slowly into a vein with a needle | People 28 days and older | Within 7 days of when symptoms start |

Don't wait to get treatment

Even if your symptoms are mild, treating your COVID early with medicine prescribed by a doctor or other authorized health care provider can make your infection less severe and help keep you out of the hospital. **It could save your life.**

Learn more at [cdc.gov/covidtreatment](https://www.cdc.gov/covidtreatment)