



Regional Infusion Center for COVID Monoclonal Antibody Therapy

In order to assist STRAC Regional Hospitals, a coalition of area Hospital Systems, STRAC, the San Antonio Fire Department and the UT Health San Antonio, Office of the EMS Medical Director have established a **Regional Infusion Center (RIC)** to administer COVID 19 Monoclonal Antibodies to outpatients **referred from area Physicians, Clinics, Urgent Care Centers and Emergency Departments.**

The goal of this project is to prevent hospitalizations/ER visits for select patients with COVID 19 infection. The antibody is particularly effective for high risk COVID positive patients with mild/moderate symptoms who are < 10 days from onset of symptoms.

Treatment involves infusion of investigational medications that are NOT FDA approved, but rather authorized, under an FDA Emergency Use Authorization (EUA). A recent study has shown that these medications may prevent hospitalizations/ER visits from COVID 19 infection, particularly in patients at high risk for progression. The most benefit seen in the initial Monoclonal Antibody study was seen in Adults age ≥ 65 and those with a BMI ≥ 35 . Monoclonal antibodies should NOT be used for those requiring hospitalization or oxygen therapy due to COVID-19.

Medications are provided by HHS and will be offered free of charge by the cooperating STRAC partner entities. This Regional Infusion Center will provide a safe outpatient venue for infusion of these medications to ambulatory COVID positive patients. This will allow existing Hospital-Based Infusion Centers to be used primarily for children, immunosuppressed and cancer chemotherapy patients.

This **Regional Infusion Center** will be located at the Alternative Care Center adjacent to the COVID testing Center at the Freeman Coliseum complex. The RIC will be staffed with:

- EMS/ Emergency Medicine Physicians and Advance Practice Providers from UT Health San Antonio
- Registered Nurses from area hospital systems
- Paramedics from the San Antonio Fire Department
- Administrative, IT and Logistical support from STRAC.

Referrals for high risk **COVID positive patients** with **less than 10 days from onset of symptoms** can be referred for possible inclusion in this program for treatment starting Monday afternoon November 30th, 2020.

NOTE: These drugs are in very limited supply, and criteria may change based on availability.

High risk Adult COVID 19 patients are defined as those who *meet **one or more*** of the following criteria:

<input type="checkbox"/> Are ≥ 65 years of age	<input type="checkbox"/> BMI ≥ 35	<input type="checkbox"/> Chronic kidney disease
<input type="checkbox"/> Diabetes (poorly controlled or HgbA1C >7)	<input type="checkbox"/> Immunosuppressed condition***	
<input type="checkbox"/> Currently receiving immunosuppressive treatment *** (see qualifier below)		

<input type="checkbox"/> Are ≥ 55 years of age	AND	<input type="checkbox"/> Cardiovascular disease, OR
<input type="checkbox"/> Hypertension, OR	<input type="checkbox"/> Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease / other chronic respiratory disease	



***Definition of immunosuppressed condition:

solid organ transplant, bone marrow transplant, primary immune deficiencies, HIV with a low cd4 cell count, HIV not on treatment, prolonged use of corticosteroids, or use of other immunosuppressive therapies.

Definition of immunosuppressive treatment: mycophenolate, sirolimus, cyclosporine, tacrolimus, etanercept, rituximab, certain anti-cancer agents

Physicians, Clinics, Urgent Care Centers and Emergency Departments can fax/email the attached referral form to the STRAC RIC for screening for inclusion in the program.

Email refer@strac.org

FAX- 210-208-5295

Phone 210-934-0733

The patient will be contacted for further screening and scheduling. Currently we have two infusion sessions a day available 0800-1200 and 1300-1700 Monday-Friday

Patient will be seen by a Physician /APP to confirm inclusion, to provide further education and the provider will obtain consent.

David Miramontes MD FACEP FAEMS
UT Health San Antonio
CMO Office of the Medical Director
miramontesd@uthscsa.edu

CJ Winckler MD
UT Health San Antonio
Deputy Medical Director
Winckler@uthscsa.edu