

Texas Department of State Health Services

January 3, 2022

Dear Therapeutic Provider:

The Texas Department of State Health Services (DSHS) would like to provide information and resources regarding the use of monoclonal antibodies in the treatment of COVID-19.

Currently, the CDC estimates that Texas and surrounding states (Region 6) have greater than 85% prevalence of the Omicron variant. Bamlanivimab/Etesevimab (BAM/ETE) and REGEN-COV (REG) are **NOT** effective in the treatment of patients infected with the Omicron variant. Sotrovimab remains effective against all variants of concern, including Omicron, but is currently in limited supply.

Providers requesting BAM/ETE and REG as therapeutic options should ensure that there is **laboratory evidence** that the patient is **NOT** infected by the Omicron variant. If a provider would like to request a quantity of BAM/ETE and REG to have on hand to treat a patient that is **NOT** infected by the Omicron variant according to **laboratory evidence**, please contact DSHS at therapeutics@dshs.texas.gov.

Providers are encouraged to review the updated Food and Drug Administration (FDA) Health Care Provider Fact Sheets for <u>BAM/ETE</u> and <u>REGEN-COV</u> as they contain specific information regarding expected activity against the Omicron variant. Additionally, please continue to assess local data and review current <u>National Institutes of Health (NIH) guidelines</u> to help inform treatment decisions. Providers are invited to visit the <u>DSHS COVID-19 Therapeutics</u> webpage along with the recent Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Health Alert.

DSHS continues to urge Texans to get vaccinated as soon as possible, get a booster shot when eligible, and to use the methods that have proven successful in weathering this epidemic: hand hygiene, distancing, improved ventilation in indoor settings, and the use of a masks in social and public environments.