

INFORMATION FOR TRANSPLANT RECIPIENTS – FAQ ON EVUSHELD (APRIL 21, 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 those that might not have responded to the COVID vaccine. It is not used for treatment of COVID. It is not meant to be a substitute for full vaccination. Health Canada has authorized Evusheld for immunocompromised individuals age 12 and older who weigh at least 40kg.

How is it given?

It is a liquid medication that is injected into the gluteal (buttock) muscles. One injection is given in each buttock.

Will it have any side effects?

Since Evusheld is an antibody, you could have an allergic or hypersensitivity 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. The risk of hematoma might be higher if you are on blood-thinners. 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 its given. However, the protection might be less because you are on immunosuppressive medications.

Will I need another dose of Evusheld in the future?

Studies are ongoing to see if a repeat dose of Evusheld will be needed. At this time, no repeat dose is being offered.

What if I had COVID-infection before?

If you had COVID infection before and it was proven by Rapid antigen test or PCR, wait for 90 days from infection to get Evusheld.

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

No, antibody checking is not required. In general, anyone with an organ transplant is eligible.

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

You should have had a minimum of 3 doses of COVID vaccine before getting Evusheld. Evusheld is not a substitute for vaccination. You should wait at least 2 weeks after your last COVID vaccine before getting 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 booster.

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. There are reports of breakthrough infection after Evusheld so masking, physical distancing, and handwashing are still important.

Is there any cost for me to get Evusheld?

No, Evusheld will be provided free of charge by UHN once we have a clinic set up and have received supply.