



COUNTY OF SAN LUIS OBISPO HEALTH AGENCY
PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

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PROVIDER HEALTH ADVISORY

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Omicron BA.2 Sublineage Update: Pause Use of Sotrovimab in SLO County

Today, the office of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Assistant Secretary for Preparedness and Response called for a pause on the use of Sotrovimab in much of the United States, including California, based on data showing that the BA.2 sublineage of the Omicron variant now accounts for more than 50% of sequenced recent COVID-19 samples.

In the region including California, BA.2 now accounts for 60.5% of recent sequenced samples. SLO County specific data is not available this week due to an inadequate number of specimens available for sequencing. SLO County sequencing data has historically aligned with state-level trends.

The Public Health Department now recommends that providers of monoclonal antibodies pause use of Sotrovimab and consider the use of Bebtelovimab. BA.2 has shown a 16-fold decrease in susceptibility to Sotrovimab, while Bebtelovimab has shown equally strong activity in vitro against both BA.1 and BA.2.

The FDA Fact Sheet for Bebtelovimab is available at: www.fda.gov/media/156152/download

Paxlovid, Evusheld, and Veklury (remdesivir) remain effective against BA.2. As a reminder regarding the availability of these therapies:

- **Paxlovid** is in good supply at ten pharmacies across SLO County and through Community Health Centers of the Central Coast (CHC). See a list of pharmacies at slopublichealth.org/treatments.
- **Evusheld** is available by physician referral from Dr. Barry Eibschutz (805-781-0702) or Dr. Thomas Spillane (805-543-5577).
- **Veklury (remdesivir)** is in adequate supply and may be ordered directly from the manufacturer. In addition to inpatient hospital settings, this medication may now be provided in skilled nursing facilities, home health settings and outpatient facilities. The Public Health Department is available to provide technical assistance to local providers who wish to begin administering this medication to outpatients.

Find updates at SLOPublicHealth.org/COVID19.

Public Health Department

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