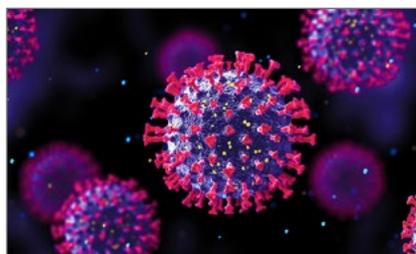


## Practice-Changing Pharmacy Updates: Pain Points & Solutions

### Clarify the Role of Paxlovid or Molnupiravir for COVID-19

**Pain Point:** New oral antivirals are being authorized for outpatients with mild to moderate COVID-19. Clinicians need clarity on where these fit in with other available options, and how to triage use due to supply limitations.



**Solution:** Our [Pharmacist's Letter](#), [Prescriber's Letter](#), [Pharmacy Technician's Letter](#), [Hospital Pharmacist's Letter](#), [Hospital Pharmacy Technician's Letter](#), [Pharmacist's Letter Canada](#), and [Pharmacy Technician's Letter Canada](#) articles clarify when to consider a 5-day course of Paxlovid or molnupiravir, as well as how these options compare to a single infusion of the monoclonal antibody sotrovimab or a 3-day IV course of remdesivir. Our recommendations include how to find local supply, and considerations beyond package labeling when local supply is tight. Our Pharmacist's Letter and Pharmacy Technician's Letter articles give additional advice on how to adjust blister packs for patients with kidney disease, and our Hospital Letters discuss handling patients admitted while taking the new oral antivirals. All of the Letters highlight the reproductive risks with molnupiravir, including the need for reliable contraception during use and for 4 days afterward in women and at least 3 months afterward in men. Our chart, [Outpatient COVID-19 Treatment Options](#), includes updated details as well as other medication recommendations.

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## Community Pharmacies

### Reduce HIV Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis (PrEP) Stigma

**Pain Point:** Pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP) is available for at-risk patients, to decrease the chance of contracting HIV. However, cost of medications and testing have been significant limitations, as has been clinician reluctance to discuss PrEP.

**Solution:** Our [Pharmacist's Letter](#), [Prescriber's Letter](#), [Pharmacy Technician's Letter](#), and [Hospital Pharmacist's Letter](#) article recommendations highlight ways to support HIV prevention in various practice settings, including how most patients can now get PrEP with no co-pay under the Affordable Care Act...or the Ready, Set, PrEP program for those without insurance. Pharmacist's Letter and Pharmacy Technician's Letter articles note that more pharmacists can now start PrEP under state protocols or collaborative agreements and address the point that PrEP can be discussed with ALL sexually active patients, to raise awareness and reduce stigma. This article is the Editor's Pick for Prescriber's Letter and includes recommendations for testing prior to initiation of therapy. The Hospital Pharmacist's Letter includes recommendations about referring at-risk patients from the emergency department. Our checklist, [Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis \(PrEP\)](#) provides more about patient identification, screening, and drug interactions, and monitoring.

## Hospital Pharmacies

### Know the Latest About COVID-19 MABs and Remdesivir

**⚠ Pain Point:** There are newly-authorized COVID-19 monoclonal antibody (MAB) products and changes to the preferred MAB for treatment of mild to moderate COVID-19. Plus remdesivir use is now expanded to outpatient.

**🔗 Solution:** Our [Hospital Pharmacist's Letter](#), [Hospital Pharmacy Technician's Letter](#), [Prescriber's Letter](#) articles clarify the role of COVID-19 MABs and remdesivir for outpatient treatment of mild to moderate COVID-19. We review the evidence supporting these changes and practical considerations when implementing them at your hospital, including how to address eligible inpatients who test positive during a NON-COVID-19 admission. We also review the new MAB, tixagevimab/cilgavimab (*Evusheld*), for PRE-exposure prophylaxis. Our resources, [Treatments of Interest for COVID-19](#) and ["MABs" for COVID-19](#), provide additional details to support the role of these medications.

## Natural Medicines

### COVID-19: Sniffing Out Treatments for Loss of Smell

**⚠ Pain Point:** Loss of smell and taste is a well-recognized complication of COVID-19 infection. Some people continue to experience long-lasting disturbances in smell and taste, even after other symptoms have resolved. There is growing interest in the use of natural remedies to speed the return of smell, or 'retrain' the nose, and patients might be asking questions about their options.

**🔗 Solution:** We recently published a new [Natural Medicines](#) article about treatments for loss of smell from COVID-19. There are many studies under way that are evaluating a wide range of natural products for this purpose, including vitamin A, fish oil, and essential oils. Most recently, a study evaluating palmitoylethanolamide (PEA) and luteolin garnered some media attention. This study seemed to suggest that taking this combination could be beneficial, but due to issues with the study the jury is still out on the actual likelihood for benefit. There is also interest in using strong scents and tastes, such as chili peppers and ginger, to try to kickstart the nose. We cover all of this and more in this article.



## Product Spotlight: RxAdvanced



**RxAdvanced** is a new offering that provides pharmacists with engaging advanced training, supported by activities that deepen knowledge and practical skills in critical subjects.

We studied pharmacists' expressed needs for training — accuracy, efficiency, affordability, practicality, relevancy — and developed an effective training offerings. RxAdvanced provides pharmacists with continuing education (CE) credits from an ACPE-accredited provider and gives valuable training to help them keep pace and practice with confidence.

### Available RxAdvanced Programs:

- [Antimicrobial Stewardship](#)
- [Anticoagulation Management](#)
- [Hazardous Drugs](#)
- [Sterile Compounding](#)
- [Opioid Stewardship](#)
- [Guide to Natural Medicines](#)
- [Leadership & Communication](#)

Now available for individual and group purchases.



## Transitions of Care Resource Hub

Our Transitions of Care Resource Hub provides resources to help improve medication management and reduce medication errors during transitions of care. Resources include:

- Article: [Anticoagulants During Care Transitions](#)
- Chart: [Transitions of Care Checklist](#)
- Article: Flu Season Facts: [Hospital-At-Home Care](#)

[Check out the Transitions of Care Resource Hub here!](#)

## Diabetes ResourceHub

Our Diabetes Resource hub provides recommendations, charts, and other resources to help your patients use diabetes meds safely, reach their A1C goals, and stay healthy. Resources include:

- Article: [Metformin Tolerability](#)
- Chart: [Drugs for Type 2 Diabetes](#)
- FAQ: [Prediabetes](#)

[Visit the Diabetes Resource Hub](#)



## News & Events



### Hot Topic Webinar

For February, we have a new on-demand webinar available featuring an expert panel discussion and clinical guidance on **Duration of Dual Antiplatelet Therapy (DAPT) After Coronary Stent**. Listen as Steven E. Nissen MD MACC, Chief Academic Officer, Heart and Vascular Institute, Lewis and Patricia Dickey, Chair in Cardiovascular Medicine, Professor of Medicine, Cleveland Clinic Lerner School of Medicine at Case Western Reserve University, Cleveland, OH, and other panelists discuss and answer common clinical questions. Click [here](#) to watch for free.

[Check out our other on-demand webinars here.](#)



### CriticalPoint Upcoming Trainings

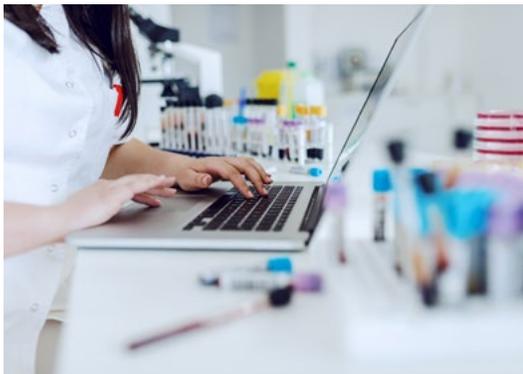
Enroll your pharmacy team in CriticalPoint's industry-leading training program to improve compounding competency and pharmacy expertise. Hosted at the CriticalPoint Center for Training and Research in Totowa, New Jersey, your team will receive expert advice from compounding specialists and learn first-hand about best practices for nonhazardous sterile-to-sterile compounding. Live trainings available starting in May 2022. [Register today!](#)

[Click here to check out all upcoming CriticalPoint webinars](#)

## Our Most Popular Charts for February



- Hospital Pharmacist's Letter: [Hyperglycemia in the Hospital](#)
- Hospital Pharmacy Technician's Letter: [Antiplatelets for Recurrent Ischemic Stroke](#)
- Pharmacist's Letter: [Fertility and Ovulation Trackers](#)
- Pharmacy Letter Canada: [IBS Drug Comparison](#)
- Pharmacy Technician's Letter: [HIV Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis \(PrEP\)](#)
- Pharmacy Technician's Letter Canada: [Choosing a Hormonal Contraceptive](#)
- Prescriber's Letter: [PPIs: Appropriate Use and Safety Concerns](#)



## Continuing Education

TRC Healthcare's accredited learning center for medication management offers continuing education in 13 categories, including:

- Disease State Management / Drug Therapy
- HIV / AIDS
- Law
- General Pharmacy
- Patient Safety / Medication Errors
- Archived Webinars
- Competency
- Compliance
- Hospital / Specialty
- Preceptor
- Training
- Immunization
- Compounding



## FREE DOWNLOAD! FEBRUARY CE COURSE CATALOG

Check out our latest CE Course Catalog featuring new courses offered for February, general CE, live CE/CME, patient safety, and more!

[Click here to download](#)

