

Prevent Getting Very Sick From COVID



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Some people who get COVID get so sick that they need hospital care. They can even die.

Staying up to date with your COVID vaccine is the best way to protect yourself from getting very sick from COVID.

Even if you're vaccinated, you're more likely than others to get very sick from COVID if any of these apply to you:

- You're 50 or older
- You have a compromised or weakened immune system
- You have one or more health issues, such as severe asthma; diabetes; obesity; or chronic heart, lung, or kidney conditions



FDA-authorized or -approved treatment is available to help prevent severe illness

The following treatments are available for people at increased risk for severe illness from COVID.

Treatment	What it is	Who it's for	When to start taking it
Antiviral pills	5-day course of antiviral pills	People 12 and older	Within 5 days of when symptoms start
Antiviral IV infusion	3-day course of an IV infusion, or drip, in which the medicine is delivered slowly into a vein with a needle	People 28 days and older	Within 7 days of when symptoms start

Don't wait to get treatment

Even if your symptoms are mild, treating your COVID early with medicine prescribed by a doctor or other authorized health care provider can make your infection less severe and help keep you out of the hospital. **It could save your life.**

Learn more at [cdc.gov/covidtreatment](https://www.cdc.gov/covidtreatment)