

# Prevent Getting Very Sick From COVID



**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)**