

## **Breaking News: New guidance to shorten bamlanivimab infusion time**

One of the challenges for skilled nursing facilities to use monoclonal antibody (MAB) therapy has been the nursing time required to administer and monitor the infusion. We are pleased that the FDA just authorized revised preparation and administration instructions in the Fact Sheet for Healthcare Providers for bamlanivimab. This revision allows for the pharmacy to compound smaller IV bags which shorten infusion times.

These changes were made in response to feedback received from front-line healthcare professionals administering these infusions and are aimed at reducing the burden on the healthcare system.

Consonus has bamlanivimab in stock and will reduce the size of the prefilled 0.9% Sodium Chloride IV bag from 250ml to 100ml, which will cut infusion time in half.

We have been encouraged by the positive outcomes we are seeing with bamlanivimab to treat mild to moderate COVID-19. We have had reports of high-risk patients with reduced length of symptoms and no progression to hospitalization. This coupled with early data from our vaccine roll out, which shows a significant reduction in COVID-19 infection rates, shows we are well on the Road to Recovery!

### **Q. When should bamlanivimab be administered to a patient?**

**A.** It is recommended that bamlanivimab be administered as soon as possible after positive viral test for SARS-CoV-2 and within 10 days of symptom onset.

### **Q: Who might benefit from bamlanivimab?**

**A:** Patients with mild to moderate COVID-19 symptoms that are at high-risk, such as those that are at least 65 years old or overweight or have other health conditions. Bamlanivimab is not indicated for hospitalized patients.

### **Q: Which healthcare facilities are eligible to receive bamlanivimab for administration?**

**A:** This infusion is ideal for nursing facilities that handle IVs and have adequate healthcare staffing to safely administer and monitor the therapy. Settings should have immediate access to medications to treat a severe infusion reaction, or the rare event of anaphylaxis.

**Please contact Consonus Pharmacy if you would like to learn more.**

Fact Sheet for Healthcare Providers:

<http://pi.lilly.com/eua/bamlanivimab-eua-factsheet-hcp.pdf>