



Yavapai County

Our Mission: "Yavapai County will serve and protect its citizens through efficient management of all its resources to enhance the lives of those we serve."



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Antiviral Covid-19 Treatment Molnupiravir

Today, Merck is seeking US Food and Drug Administration emergency use authorization for its experimental antiviral Covid-19 treatment. If authorization is granted, this will be the first antiviral drug treatment in pill form. The drug treatment is an orally ingested antiviral pill, is used to treat mild to moderate adult cases of COVID-19 at risk of worsening to severe COVID-19 or hospitalization, according to the companies. It was created by researchers at Emory University in Atlanta and is given as four pills taken twice a day for five days.

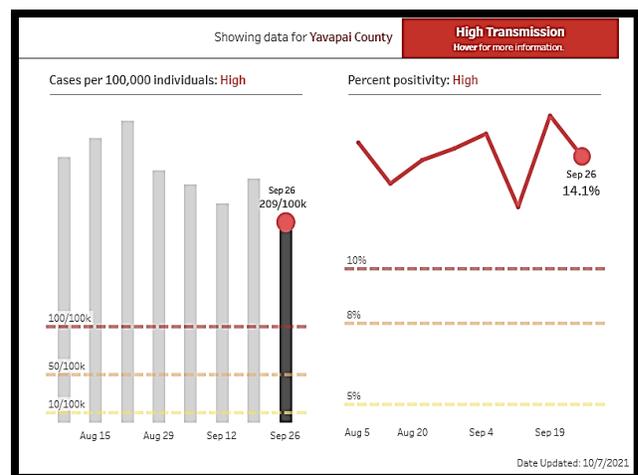
Molnupiravir would be a significant step forward in fighting the pandemic, as it would allow for the treatment of COVID-19 at home and is markedly cheaper than other treatments. An interim analysis from a clinical trial found the antiviral medicine reduced the risk of hospitalization or death by approximately 50%. If molnupiravir is approved, it will supply 1.7 million doses to the U.S. government for distribution.

The prospect of a COVID-19 pill comes amid other encouraging signs: New cases per day in the U.S. have dropped below 100,000 on average for the first time in over two months, and deaths are running at about 1,700 a day, down from more than 2,000 three weeks ago.

Yavapai County reports **167** COVID-19 Cases and **3** Deaths since Friday. The county has tested 147,488 residents for COVID-19 and there have been **26,951** positive cases and **652** deaths since the beginning of the pandemic. Yavapai Regional Medical Center reports **37** COVID-19 patients, VVMC reports **18**, and the VA has 1 COVID-19 patient. The County is still experiencing high transmission of COVID-19 with a 14.1 % positivity and 209 cases per 100,000 residents for the week ending October 2nd.

The best way to prevent illness is to avoid being exposed to the COVID-19 virus is to get vaccinated. Appointments for the COVID-19 vaccine can be made through www.yavapaiaz.gov/chs or www.vaccine.gov. If you are experiencing symptoms of COVID-19 or what seems to be a bad cold, please get tested for COVID-19 and/or Flu. Testing sites: <https://yavapaiaz.gov/Portals/39/COVID-19/TestingSitesinYavapaiCounty.pdf>.

ADHS COVID-19 Hotline – (844) 542-8201 (select Option 8) – offers assistance in English and Spanish from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. seven days a week, except for major holidays. Information on boosters also is posted at azdhs.gov/Boosters. Information on Monoclonal Antibodies in English: [ADHS - Everyone - Monoclonal Antibodies \(mAbs\) \(azdhs.gov\)](http://azdhs.gov), and in Spanish: [ADHS - Todos - Anticuerpos Monoclonales \(azdhs.gov\)](http://azdhs.gov).



Community Transmission of COVID-19 as of 10/2/21