**Template letter regarding Paxlovid treatment**

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| This message was developed by the OMA. It can be adapted by your practice and distributed to your patients. It is aimed at patients who are not likely to be candidates for Paxlovid. You may choose to also include the resource developed by Ontario Health, [Antiviral treatment (Paxlovid) is available for higher-risk individuals with COVID-19](https://www.ontariohealth.ca/sites/ontariohealth/files/2022-04/Paxlovid-PatientFactSheet.pdf). |

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*Insert letterhead for your practice*

Dear Patients,

Paxlovid is an antiviral treatment for COVID-19 that is now available in Ontario. Paxlovid is only for patients who have a higher risk of going to the hospital if they get sick with COVID-19. If you are not at higher risk, then Paxlovid is not appropriate for you.

Most people with COVID-19 can manage at home. For tips on how to care for yourself at home, including when to call a doctor, refer to [this tip sheet](https://www.dfcm.utoronto.ca/sites/default/files/assets/files/q2whentocallfinal2_0.pdf). Patients who are eligible for Paxlovid should call the office if they are feeling sick.

You may be eligible for Paxlovid if you have COVID-19 symptoms and:

* you are at least 70 years old,
* you are at least 60 years old and have less than three COVID-19 vaccine doses,
* you are at least 18 years old and immunocompromised (i.e. you have a condition that affects your immune system),
* you are at least 18 years old, pregnant and have less than three COVID-19 doses,
* you have less than three COVID-19 vaccine doses and at least one risk factor (for example, obesity, diabetes, heart disease, hypertension, congestive heart failure, chronic respiratory disease including cystic fibrosis, cerebral palsy, intellectual or developmental disabilities, sickle cell disease, moderate or severe kidney or liver disease)

To find out if you are eligible for Paxlovid, you can use the [COVID-19 antiviral treatment screener](https://covid-19.ontario.ca/covid-treatment-screener/).

If you think you may be eligible for Paxlovid, it is important that you contact the office or visit a [Clinical Assessment Centre](https://covid-19.ontario.ca/assessment-centre-locations) as soon as possible if you have any COVID-19 symptoms. This is because Paxlovid must be started within five days of your symptoms starting.

Paxlovid interacts with many drugs, so it is important that I know about all the medications you are taking. It may be helpful to write a list of all the medications you are taking, including any non-prescription drugs, herbal products or supplements so that this is ready if we need it.

Paxlovid is free for all Ontarians.

If you have any questions or concerns about Paxlovid, please call the office to book an appointment. You can also refer to [this fact sheet](https://www.ontariohealth.ca/sites/ontariohealth/files/2022-04/Paxlovid-PatientFactSheet.pdf) developed by Ontario Health.

Sincerely,

*Insert physician name*