

Molnupiravir



(Say 'mol-noo-PIRRA-veer')

Molnupiravir is given to some people to help fight a COVID-19 virus infection. It may help you get better faster and stay out of hospital.

Molnupiravir reduces the amount of virus in your body if taken within 5 days of the start of your COVID-19 illness. Your doctors will decide whether you need it or not.

Molnupiravir dose: Take 4 capsules 2 times a day for 5 days



Every morning

Take 4 capsules



Every evening

Take 4 capsules

Take each dose of 4 capsules 12 hours apart
(for example, 4 capsules at 8am and 4 capsules at 8pm)

Swallow your capsules whole with a glass of water. Do not open, chew, break or crush them.

You can take your capsules with or without food.

Complete the whole course of treatment, which is **5 days**. You should not stop taking molnupiravir without talking to your healthcare provider, even if you feel better.

If you have missed a dose

 If you have missed a dose **within 10 hours** of the time it is usually taken, take it as soon as you remember.

 If you miss a dose by **more than 10 hours**, skip the missed dose and take the next dose at your regular time.

 Do not take extra doses of molnupiravir to make up for a forgotten dose.

Tell your healthcare provider about all the medicines you take

Ask your doctor or pharmacist if it is safe to take any new medicines, vitamins or herbal supplements. Some medicines can affect molnupiravir.

 **Common, rare and serious side effects are listed on the next page**

Pregnancy and molnupiravir

Contraception is very important for BOTH men and women



Effect on pregnancy:

There is risk of harm to an unborn child when taking molnupiravir.

You should avoid becoming pregnant (ie, use contraception or abstain from sexual activity) while taking molnupiravir AND for 4 days after treatment ends.

If you discover you are pregnant while taking molnupiravir, or soon after, contact your healthcare provider for advice.



Effect on sperm:

It is not known if molnupiravir can affect sperm in humans.

If you are sexually active with a partner who could become pregnant, you should use a reliable method of contraception (birth control) during treatment AND for 3 months after the last dose of molnupiravir.

Are you breastfeeding?

Breastfeeding is not recommended during treatment AND for 4 days after the last dose of molnupiravir.

Tell your healthcare provider you are breastfeeding BEFORE taking this medicine.

All medicines have some side effects

Molnupiravir can cause side effects, although not everyone gets them.

Common side effects

These are usually mild and go away with time or when the medicine is stopped. Tell your doctor if these side effects cause you problems or don't go away:

- runny poo (diarrhoea)
- feeling sick (nausea)
- dizziness.

Rare, serious side effects

Contact your healthcare team or **Healthline on 0800 611 116** immediately if you notice signs of an allergic reaction such as:

- skin rash
- puffiness or swelling of the eyelids or around the eyes, face, lips or tongue
- chest tightness
- trouble breathing.



For more information about molnupiravir, visit hn.org.nz/molnupiravir