# Understanding Paxlovid (nirmatrelvir <sup>150</sup> mg | ritonavir <sup>100</sup> mg)

## Why have I been prescribed PAXLOVID?

You have been prescribed PAXLOVID because you have been diagnosed with mild-to-moderate COVID-19 and you are at risk of getting serious illness. People with serious COVID-19 sometimes end up in hospital, and they can even die. PAXLOVID can help to stop this happening.

# START TREATMENT NOW

PAXLOVID works best if you start taking it within 5 days after symptoms appeared and as soon as possible after finding out you have COVID-19.

#### How do I take PAXLOVID?

PAXLOVID is made up of two different medicines: pink tablets containing the medicine nirmatrelvir, and white tablets containing the medicine ritonavir.

#### In the morning, take:



#### In the evening, take:



2 pink tablets 1 white tablet

## You must take all 3 tablets together each time for PAXLOVID to work.

For some people, the instructions above may be different. Follow the instructions your doctor has given you.



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You can take
PAXLOVID with or
without food.
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Swallow the tablets whole - do not chew, break or crush.

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Take PAXLOVID for 5 days, even if you start to feel better.

### What if I forget to take PAXLOVID?

- Skip those tablets and take the next lot of tablets at the time you are supposed to.
- Do NOT double up on the tablets at one time to make up for the tablets you have missed.

### Side effects of PAXLOVID

Like all medicines, PAXLOVID can have side effects. Most of them are minor and temporary. However, some side effects may need medical attention.

Speak to your doctor if you have any of the following side effects and they worry you:











High blood pressure





Vomiting

Diarrhoea



Sore or weak muscles

Changes in taste or a metallic taste in the mouth.



Seek immediate medical attention if you experience any unusual effects that concern you.

### Before treatment with PAXLOVID

Tell your doctor if you:



Have any other medical conditions

Have problems with your kidneys or liver

Are taking any medicines, including any vitamins or supplements that you buy without a prescription from your pharmacy, supermarket, or health food shop



Are pregnant or plan to become pregnant, breastfeeding or plan to breastfeed.

### **During treatment with PAXLOVID**

#### Things you should do:

- Tell your doctor if you become pregnant or are breastfeeding. You should not breastfeed whilst taking PAXLOVID.
- ✓ Store PAXLOVID below 25°C in a cool dry place away from moisture, heat, or sunlight.

#### Things you should not do:

- Do not stop taking this medicine or change the number of tablets you take without checking with your doctor.
- ✗ Do not give your medicine to anyone else, even if they have the same condition as you.

# You cannot take PAXLOVID with certain medicines because this may cause serious side effects or change how PAXLOVID works.

Please discuss with your doctor if there are any changes to any other medicines that you are currently taking.

#### For more information about PAXLOVID



Read the <u>Consumer Medicine</u> <u>Information Leaflet</u> or ask you doctor or pharmacist for a copy



Visit www.paxlovideducation.com.au



Speak with your doctor or pharmacist if you have any questions or concerns

This information is for people who have been prescribed PAXLOVID. It does not replace information from your doctor. Talk to your doctor if you have any concerns or questions about taking PAXLOVID.

### PLEASE SEEK IMMEDIATE MEDICAL ATTENTION IF YOU FEEL YOUR CONDITION IS WORSENING OR DOES NOT IMPROVE.

This medicine is subject to additional monitoring. This will allow quick identification of new safety information. You can help by reporting any side effects you may get. You can report side effects to your doctor, or directly at www.tga.gov.au/reporting-problems.

