In order to assist STRAC Regional Hospitals, a coalition of area Hospital Systems, STRAC, the San Antonio Fire Department and the UT Health San Antonio, Office of the EMS Medical Director have established a Regional Infusion Center (RIC) to administer COVID 19 Monoclonal Antibodies to outpatients referred from area Physicians, Clinics, Urgent Care Centers and Emergency Departments.

The goal of this project is to prevent hospitalizations/ER visits for select patients with COVID 19 infection. The antibody is particularly effective for high risk COVID positive patients with mild/moderate symptoms who are < 10 days from onset of symptoms.

Treatment involves infusion of investigational medications that are NOT FDA approved, but rather authorized, under an FDA Emergency Use Authorization (EUA). A recent study has shown that these medications may prevent hospitalizations/ER visits from COVID 19 infection, Particularly in patients at high risk for progression. The most benefit seen in the initial Monoclonal Antibody study was seen in Adults age > 65 and those with a BMI >35. Monoclonal antibodies should NOT be used for those requiring hospitalization or oxygen therapy due to COVID-19.

Medications are provided by HHS and will be offered free of charge by the cooperating STRAC partner entities. This Regional Infusion Center will provide a safe outpatient venue for infusion of these medications to ambulatory COVID positive patients. This will allow existing Hospital-Based Infusion Centers to be used primarily for children, immunosuppressed and cancer chemotherapy patients.

This Regional Infusion Center will be located at the Alternative Care Center adjacent to the COVID testing Center at the Freeman Coliseum complex. The RIC will be staffed with:

- EMS/ Emergency Medicine Physicians and Advance Practice Providers from UT Health San Antonio
- Registered Nurses from area hospital systems
- Paramedics from the San Antonio Fire Department
- Administrative, IT and Logistical support from STRAC.

Referrals for high risk COVID positive patients with less than 10 days from onset of symptoms can be referred for possible inclusion in this program for treatment starting Monday afternoon November 30th, 2020.

NOTE: These drugs are in very limited supply, and criteria may change based on availability.

High risk Adult COVID 19 patients are defined as those who meet one or more of the following criteria:

- Are ≥ 65 years of age
- BMI ≥ 35
- Chronic kidney disease
- Diabetes (poorly controlled or HgbA1C >7)
- Immunosuppressed condition***
- Currently receiving immunosuppressive treatment *** (see qualifier below)
- Are ≥ 55 years of age AND Cardiovascular disease, OR
- Hypertension, OR Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease / other chronic respiratory disease
***Definition of immunosuppressed condition:
solid organ transplant, bone marrow transplant, primary immune deficiencies, HIV with a low CD4 cell count, HIV not on
treatment, prolonged use of corticosteroids, or use of other immunosuppressive therapies.
Definition of immunosuppressive treatment: mycophenolate, sirolimus, cyclosporine, tacrolimus, etanercept, rituximab,
certain anti-cancer agents

Physicians, Clinics, Urgent Care Centers and Emergency Departments can fax/email the attached referral form to the STRAC RIC for screening for inclusion in the program.

Email refer@strac.org  FAX- 210-208-5295  Phone  210-934-0733

The patient will be contacted for further screening and scheduling. Currently we have two infusion sessions a day available 0800-1200 and 1300-1700 Monday-Friday

Patient will be seen by a Physician /APP to confirm inclusion, to provide further education and the provider will obtain consent.

David Miramontes MD FACEP FAEMS  CJ Winckler MD
UT Health San Antonio  UT Health San Antonio
CMO Office of the Medical Director  Deputy Medical Director
miramontesd@uthscsa.edu  Winckler@uthscsa.edu