

Dear State and Territorial Health Officials:

Thank you for your continued partnership throughout the COVID-19 response. As you know, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Office of the Assistant Secretary for Preparedness and Response (HHS/ASPR) currently oversees the allocation and distribution of COVID-19 therapeutics administered under Emergency Use Authorization. In support of this responsibility and to assist you in your allocation and distribution efforts, HHS/ASPR is implementing a new federal allocation program called the Special Projects for Equitable and Efficient Distribution (SPEED).

The goal of SPEED is to assist states and territories with identifying and allocating monoclonal antibodies (mAbs) to non-hospital facilities that serve priority populations, including nursing homes and federally qualified health centers (FQHCs). It should be noted that SPEED is separate and complementary to the state-based mAb allocation system.

SPEED will be conducted in partnership with national organizations and associations that will assist with educating members (and non-members) and identifying those who are able and willing to administer these infusions. Membership in participating associations is not required for participation as a SPEED facility.

The first two SPEED initiatives will be launched this week and include:

**1. Home infusion in nursing homes and assisted living facilities**

- a. *Description:* Home infusion providers in 46 states and the District of Columbia will dispense and provide nursing support for administration of mAbs to residents of nursing homes and assisted living facilities
- b. *Patient courses (initial):* 560
- c. *Launch date:* 12/12/20
- d. *Partner:* National Home Infusion Association

**2. Direct allocation to long-term care pharmacies**

- a. *Description:* mAbs will be pre-positioned with long-term care pharmacies for ready deployment when cases occur in nursing homes and assisted living communities served by each pharmacy
- b. *Patient courses:* TBD
- c. *Launch date:* Week of 12/14/20
- d. *Partners:* American Society of Consultant Pharmacists; AMDA – The Society for Post-Acute and Long-Term Care Medicine

Additional SPEED initiatives are being explored for FQHCs, state/local correctional facilities, dialysis centers, and other settings. Treatment courses allocated through SPEED will be communicated with states for tracking and coordinating purposes.