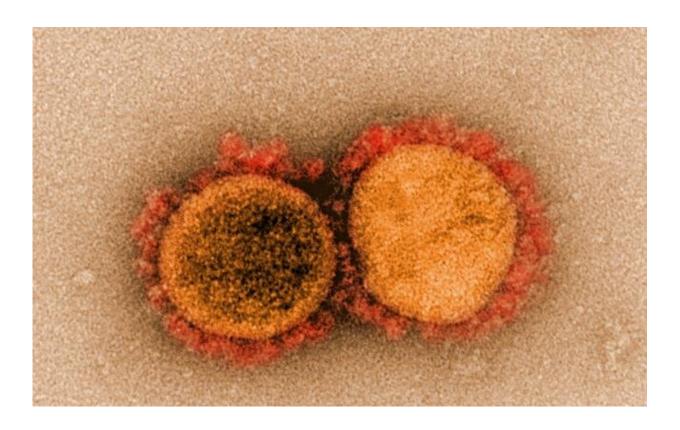


Antibody combo prevents infection from SARS-CoV-2 exposure

August 5 2021



Transmission electron micrograph of SARS-CoV-2 virus particles, isolated from a patient. Image captured and color-enhanced at the NIAID Integrated Research Facility (IRF) in Fort Detrick, Maryland. Credit: NIAID

(HealthDay)—For household contacts of infected persons, subcutaneous REGEN-COV, a combination of the monoclonal antibodies casirivimab and imdevimab, prevents symptomatic and asymptomatic severe acute



respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2) infection, according to a study published online Aug. 4 in the *New England Journal of Medicine*.

Meagan P. O'Brien, M.D., from Regeneron Pharmaceuticals in Tarrytown, New York, and colleagues randomly assigned participants aged 12 years and older enrolled within 96 hours after a household contact received a diagnosis of SARS-CoV-2 <u>infection</u> to receive 1,200 mg REGEN-COV or matching placebo by <u>subcutaneous injection</u>.

The researchers found that symptomatic SARS-CoV-2 infection developed in 1.5 percent of the 753 participants in the REGEN-COV group and in 7.8 percent of 752 participants in the placebo group (relative risk reduction, 81.4 percent). In weeks 2 to 4, 0.3 and 3.6 percent of participants in the REGEN-COV and placebo groups, respectively, had symptomatic SARS-CoV-2 infection (relative risk reduction, 92.6 percent). Symptomatic and asymptomatic infections were prevented by REGEN-COV (relative risk reduction, 66.4 percent). With REGEN-COV versus placebo, among symptomatic infected participants, median time to resolution of symptoms was shorter (1.2 versus 3.2 weeks), as was the duration of a high viral load (0.4 versus 1.3 weeks).

"A need will persist for a complementary approach to prevent the spread of SARS-CoV-2 infection in persons who are not vaccinated, who have waning vaccine-mediated protection over time or because of the emergence of variants, or who are immunocompromised and cannot mount an antibody-mediated antiviral response," the authors write. "REGEN-COV has potential use as long-term prophylaxis in persons at risk for SARS-CoV-2 infection."

The study was partially funded by Regeneron Pharmaceuticals and F. Hoffmann-La Roche.



More information: <u>Abstract/Full Text</u>

Copyright © 2021 HealthDay. All rights reserved.

Citation: Antibody combo prevents infection from SARS-CoV-2 exposure (2021, August 5) retrieved 7 May 2024 from https://medicalxpress.com/news/2021-08-antibody-combo-infection-sars-cov-2exposure.html

This document is subject to copyright. Apart from any fair dealing for the purpose of private study or research, no part may be reproduced without the written permission. The content is provided for information purposes only.