

# **SARS-CoV-2-linked hospitalization, ED encounters rare after Paxlovid**

June 29 2022

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Hospitalization and emergency department encounters related to severe

acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2) occur rarely during the five to 15 days after Paxlovid treatment is dispensed for mild-to-moderate COVID-19, according to research published in the June 24 issue of the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention *Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report*.

Deborah E. Malden, D.Phil., from the CDC in Atlanta, and colleagues used electronic health record data from Kaiser Permanente Southern California to describe [hospital admissions](#) and emergency department encounters related to SARS-CoV-2 infections during the five to 15 days after a five-day course of Paxlovid. Of the 5,287 persons aged  $\geq 12$  years who received Paxlovid during Dec. 31, 2021, to May 26, 2022, 73 and 8 percent had received three or more doses of COVID-19 vaccine and were unvaccinated, respectively.

The researchers identified six hospitalizations and 39 emergency department encounters considered related to SARS-CoV-2 infection during the five to 15 days after Paxlovid treatment was dispensed, representing

Citation: SARS-CoV-2-linked hospitalization, ED encounters rare after Paxlovid (2022, June 29) retrieved 27 April 2024 from

<https://medicalxpress.com/news/2022-06-sars-cov-linked-hospitalization-ed-encounters-rare.html>

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