



1. **Question:** How was the amount of bamlanivimab per hospital determined for the first allotment from AmerisourceBergen?

A: Allocation was based on COVID cases entered into the HRTS COVID system on 11/10/20 for the prior seven days. HHS used that data to determine a distribution to each state department of health who in turn allotted vials to each hospital based on their cases. AmerisourceBergen Corporation (ABC) was notified of the amount allotted to each hospital and has reached out to confirmed cold chain storage capacity and delivery of the product.

2. **Question:** Is there a charge for bamlanivimab, and may the facility charge for the medication?

A: No. The product has been purchased by the Federal government through Operation Warp Speed and is allocated to the stated free of charge. Therefore, the medication is provided to a patient free of charge.

3. **Question:** Going forward, how are future allocations to hospitals determined?

A: HHS will pull data from their reporting system each Wednesday for the prior week to determine the next purchase allocation. The State will allocate the number of vials for each hospital based on the number of positive patients entered for each site during the previous 7 days.

4. **Question:** How will the hospital know what the allocation is and communicate whether it wants to receive the allocation or not?

A: The listed contact will receive a high priority email from the State on Wednesday or Thursday of each week that there is an allocation for the hospital. The deadline for emailing confirmation of allocation acceptance or declination is required by noon every Thursday. If a confirmation is not received by this deadline, the State will attempt to contact someone at the allocated hospital by phone to acquire a confirmation. The deadline for statewide allocations to be submitted to the HHS and ABC is Thursday afternoon of each week.

5. **Question:** Is it allowable to transfer bamlanivimab to a nearby or sister facility in need?

A: Yes, provided the cold chain is maintained throughout the transfer.

6. **Question:** If a site within an organization/corporation has a facility in an adjacent state that needs more bamlanivimab and the facility in Tennessee can spare product, may the facility with stock transfer their product out of state?

A: A quantity of product received by a facility that is a part of a common large corporation may be shifted to another facility that is within the same corporation within Tennessee. However, product may not be shifted to facilities outside of Tennessee.

7. **Question:** Is a hospital required to accept a weekly allocation of bamlanivimab?



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A: No. A hospital may decline a portion or all of a weekly allocation. It is important to remember that allocations are offered, and acceptance or declination is confirmed only once a week.

8. **Question:** Is a hospital offered the same bamlanivimab quantity allocation every week?

A: No. The calculation of bamlanivimab vials may vary from week to week, depending on the data the hospital enters in the State system daily. For the smaller hospitals, if a hospital has had even one patient entered in the system over the previous 7-day period, one vial will be allocated for that week and offered to the hospital. If the allocation is accepted, it will be delivered within the week.

9. **Question:** If a hospital declines a weekly allocation, will the hospital be contacted the next week for another allocation?

A: Yes, if there are positive COVID patient numbers entered in the State system within the 7 days prior to the allocation.

10. **Question:** What day of the week are the bamlanivimab shipments anticipated?

A: Allocations are submitted to the HHS and ABC for hospitals on Thursday, and shipments of that allocation are delivered within the following days up until the next allocation. The State is not notified which sites will receive deliveries on which days of the week. The State is only notified of deliveries after they begin transit.

11. **Question:** If the weekly allocation was declined and over the weekend there is a sudden increase in bamlanivimab usage, may a facility request a shipment?

A: It is possible that a shipment or increase in shipment may be arranged by emailing Calita.Richards@tn.gov, but this is only possible until Tuesday morning. This is not possible after Tuesday morning, and the facility should attempt to borrow from a larger facility within their geographical region for an adequate supply until an allocation process occurs for shipment later in the week. Of course, the cold chain must be maintained during transfer.

12. **Question:** What steps should be taken if a delivery of a shipment occurs that was not confirmed as accepted or is a duplicate shipment delivered within one week?

A: Notify the State by emailing Calita.Richards@tn.gov with the details as soon as this occurs. Also, include whether the hospital wants to keep the shipment or not. Arrangements will be made by the State based on the direction of the hospital.

13. **Question:** What steps should be taken if a delivery is not received following the confirmed acceptance of allocation?

A: Notify the State by emailing Calita.Richards@tn.gov about the missed delivery. The State will contact a specific ABC individual dedicated to the bamlanivimab shipments about the missed delivery. The State will communicate with the hospital with updates in receiving the missed delivery.

14. **Question:** What is the shelf life/expiration date of the bamlanivimab being shipped?

A: The first cycle shipments have an shelf life/expiration date of 09/09/21 and 09/27/21.



Department of
Health

COVID-19

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Contacts

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