

Transcript for Video-Audio Clips for Dr. Mark Meeker, vp for community health, OSF Multispecialty Group

Dr. Meeker says OSF HealthCare pivoted to a new and improved monoclonal antibodies from the initial regimen of Bamlanivimab.

“When that data became apparent, we stopped infusing BAM as we called it at the time, and we switched to REGEN-COV. REGEN-COV is effective against the variants, and it’s still available and we’re still using it for specific people who get symptomatic COVID,” says Dr. Meeker.

Dr. Meeker recognizes there is a preventative benefit and says OSF HealthCare is looking at wider use.

“If someone is at high risk of getting bad COVID and they know they have an exposure because the person they had contact with has tested positive and is sick, then we can give monoclonal antibodies to the exposed person to prevent illness. Instead of waiting for them to get sick and catch up, we can give it in a preventative fashion so that they have less risk of getting sick.”

Dr. Meeker says the novel virus has accelerated medical response out of necessity, and so as new data comes in and the virus changes, so will the approaches to containing and treating the disease.

“We’re changing as rapidly as we can to try to keep up with the knowledge that’s being gained from across the world, not just the country. It’s a moving target. It’s a fascinating time and I would just encourage you, if you have any questions, talk with your physician or your APP (advanced practice provider).”