

# KershawHealth

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **KERSHAWHEALTH OFFERING MONOCLONAL ANTIBODY TREATMENT FOR COVID-19 PATIENTS**

*Hospital among first in South Carolina to begin offering new therapy designed to  
lessen severity of virus*

**December 11, 2020 (Camden, SC)** - KershawHealth announced today the hospital is offering bamlanivimab, a new monoclonal antibody therapy, for treatment of non-hospitalized patients with a mild or moderate case of COVID-19. Developed by pharmaceutical company Eli Lilly, the drug recently received emergency use authorization (EUA) from the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and is now being allocated by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) in partnership with the South Carolina Department of Health & Environmental Control (DHEC) and other state agencies.

Monoclonal antibodies are laboratory-made proteins that mimic the immune system's ability to fight off harmful viruses. Bamlanivimab is specifically designed to help block the *SARS-CoV-2* virus and prevent the virus from further infecting healthy cells. Administered intravenously, this innovative treatment is designed to help lessen the severity of COVID-19 in individuals who are COVID-19-positive and are at risk for developing a severe form of the disease.

“KershawHealth is proud to offer this treatment locally for qualifying patients, and our team has seen promising results in our initial patients,” said Tallulah Holmstrom, MD, MBA, CPPS, chief medical officer at KershawHealth. “Offering this treatment locally is an important step forward in helping prevent the most at-risk patients from being hospitalized due to COVID-19.”

Patients must meet specific clinical criteria including having a lab-confirmed case of COVID-19 that is mild or moderate; having underlying health conditions or > 65 years of age; and being stable enough not to require hospitalization. As bamlanivimab is an investigational treatment, the hospital's supply is limited and carefully allocated by DHEC and requires an order from the patient's provider.

For more information about monoclonal antibody treatment now available at KershawHealth, click here <https://www.kershawhealth.org/covid-19-treatment/>.

**About KershawHealth:**

Founded in 1913 as Camden Hospital, KershawHealth is a full-service healthcare system proudly serving its community members in Kershaw county and the surrounding areas. A part of LifePoint Health, KershawHealth consist of facilities in Camden, Elgin, Lugoff, and Kershaw, including the 119-bed Medical Center and the 20-bed Geriatric Psychiatric Unit in Camden, Outpatient Center and Urgent Care in Elgin, Sleep Diagnostics Center, and Physical Therapy. KershawHealth employs more than 800 dedicated staff. For more information, visit [www.KershawHealth.org](http://www.KershawHealth.org).

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