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January 24, 2022

The Honorable Xavier Becerra
Secretary
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
200 Independence Ave SW
Washington, D.C.

Dear Secretary Becerra:

We write today to express our concern regarding the nationwide shortage of monoclonal antibody treatments. As the omicron variant is causing record-high cases across the country we ask that you continue to work to get all the resources necessary to states like Wisconsin to defeat COVID-19 and save lives.

As you know, there are three monoclonal antibody treatments that have received an emergency use authorization (EUA) to treat COVID-19. These treatments have been proven to be a valuable asset in fighting this disease and keeping patients from becoming seriously ill.

Most recently, the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) released data showing that two of the three monoclonal antibody treatments from Regeneron and Eli Lilly do not thwart the omicron variant of the coronavirus. However, the treatment developed by GlaxoSmithKline and Vir Biotechnology, called sotrovimab, is effective against the omicron variant.¹

To that end, we are disappointed to learn that only 300,000 doses will be available for distribution this month. 300,000 doses will not be sufficient. We write to request an overview of monoclonal antibody treatment resources currently deployed to our state and an estimate for when additional treatments like sotrovimab will be made available to Wisconsin. It is essential that the administration provide us with a detailed plan to ensure that we do not again face critical shortages of lifesaving treatments.

We look forward to your response and we stand ready to work with you to address the needs of the American people during this challenging time.

Sincerely,

BRYAN STEIL
Member of Congress

GLENN GROTHMAN
Member of Congress

TOM TIFFANY
Member of Congress

SCOTT FITZGERALD
Member of Congress

¹ <https://www.fda.gov/news-events/press-announcements/coronavirus-covid-19-update-december-23-2021>