Paxlovid

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In news- Recently, US Pharma Giant Pfizer has received USFDA emergency use authorization for its Covid-19 antiviral treatment Paxlovid.

About Paxlovid-

- It is an **antiviral Covid-19 treatment candidate**, PF-07321332, which is **administered in combination with low dose HIV medicine ritonavir.**
- It showed a **reduced risk of hospitalisation or death by 89 per cent,** within three days of symptom onset; and 88 per cent, within five days of symptom onset, as compared to the placebo group.
- **Paxlovid can be used to treat adults with Covid-19 who do not require supplemental oxygen** and who are at increased risk of progressing to severe disease.
- Pfizer announced a deal with the United Nations backed public health organization Medicines Patent Pool (MPP).
- Under the deal, it signed a voluntary license agreement for Covid-19 oral antiviral treatment candidate Paxlovid.
- The **agreement will facilitate the production and distribution of Paxlovid by granting sub-licenses to qualified generic medicine manufacturers.**
- The drug, **Paxlovid, is a faster way to treat early COVID-19 infections, though initial supplies will be extremely limited.**
- All of the previously authorized drugs against the disease require an IV or an injection.