



Addressing the COVID-19 Crisis: An Open Forum Webinar Series for Pharmacists

April 2, 2020



Michael D. Hogue, PharmD, FAPHA, FNAP
Dean and Professor
Loma Linda University School of Pharmacy
President, APhA

Host and Moderator

Today's Focus:

COVID-19 Tests

Fraudulent Activity Related to Tests and Medical Products



Ilisa BG Bernstein, PharmD, JD, FAPhA
Senior Vice President, Pharmacy Practice and
Government Affairs
American Pharmacists Association

COVID Fraudulent Activity



Lisa M. Koonin DrPH, MN, MPH
Health Preparedness Partners, LLC
A subcontractor of General Dynamics Information
Technology (GDIT)
Senior Advisor in support of the CDC 2019 Novel
Coronavirus (nCoV) Response
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)

CDC Update



Daniel Zlott, PharmD, BCOP
Vice President, Professional Education
Resources
American Pharmacists Association

Subject Matter Expert: Q&A

Format for Today's Webinar

- 20 minutes: Introduction and overview of COVID-19 tests and COVID-19 related fraudulent activity in the marketplace – *Ilisa Bernstein* and CDC Update – *Lisa Koonin*
- 10 minutes: Q&A focused on COVID-19 tests and fraudulent activity and CDC update – *Michael Hogue, Ilisa Bernstein, Dan Zlott, and Lisa Koonin*
- 20 minutes: Open Forum: A Minute for Your Thoughts – *Michael Hogue*
- 10-minute Wrap Up: Review of APhA's Ongoing Activities and What's Coming

COVID-19 Tests – A Rapidly Evolving Market

- Currently 22 FDA approved tests under Emergency Use Authorization (EUA)
- Most tests take several days to a week for results
- Recently, several rapid diagnostic tests approved under EUA that deliver results in 5-15 minutes

Test Kit Manufacturers and Commercial Laboratories Table:

Search: Show 100 entries

Date EUA Issued	Manufacturer	Diagnostic (Letter of Authorization)	Fact Sheet for Healthcare Providers	Fact Sheet for Patients	Manufacturer Instructions / Package Insert	Other Documents
03/30/2020	QIAGEN GmbH	QIAstat-Dx Respiratory SARS-CoV-2 Panel	Healthcare Providers	Patients	IFU	None
03/30/2020	NeuMoDx Molecular, Inc.	NeuMoDx SARS-CoV-2 Assay	Healthcare Providers	Patients	IFU	None
03/27/2020	Luminex Molecular Diagnostics, Inc.	NxTAG CoV Extended Panel Assay	Healthcare Providers	Patients	IFU	None
03/27/2020	Abbott Diagnostics Scarborough, Inc.	ID NOW COVID-19	Healthcare Providers	Patients	IFU	None
03/26/2020	BGI Genomics Co. Ltd	Real-Time Fluorescent RT-PCR Kit for Detecting SARS-2019-nCoV	Healthcare Providers	Patients	IFU	None

<https://www.fda.gov/medical-devices/emergency-situations-medical-devices/emergency-use-authorizations>

Fraudulent medical products & scams

Vaccines



Tests



Personal Protection Equipment



Drugs/Dietary Supplements



Examples of claims....

--“provides a real prevention regimen for a number of maladies – including the Corona Virus known as COVID19.”

-- “Saline therapy also helps the lungs fight against the novel Coronavirus”

Rogue online sellers

FREE WORLDWIDE SHIPPING NOW AVAILABLE



CORONAVIRUS PANDEMIC

Due to the recent outbreak for the Coronavirus (COVID-19) the World Health Organization is giving away vaccine kits. Just pay \$4.95 for shipping.

You just need to add water, and the drugs and vaccines are ready to be administered. There are two parts to the kit; one holds pellets containing the chemical machinery that synthesizes the end product, and the other holds pellets containing instructions that tell the drug which compound to create. Mix two parts together in a chosen combination, add water, and the treatment is ready.

ORDER NOW



U.S. v. JOHN DOE, a/k/a "coronavirusmedicalkit.com"
– Exhibit A Case No. A-20-CV-306

CANADIAN Health&Care Mall™

HOME HOW TO ORDER HEALTH NEWS FAQ CONTACT US



US Approves Anti-Malarial Drug Chloroquine For Use Against Coronavirus



DONALD TRUMP
US PRESIDENT



Lopimune coronavirus disease (COVID-19)

BESTSELLERS

- Viagra
- Cialis
- Levitra
- Viagra Professional
- ED PowerPack
- Viagra Soft Tabs

Coronavirus is spreading through different countries, so the humanity needs effective remedies which can treat the disease. It has been appeared that well-established antivirals may provide necessary help. A combined medication **Kaletra** is one of the most discussed ones, as it has been shown to have decent efficiency in fighting against coronavirus-caused illness.

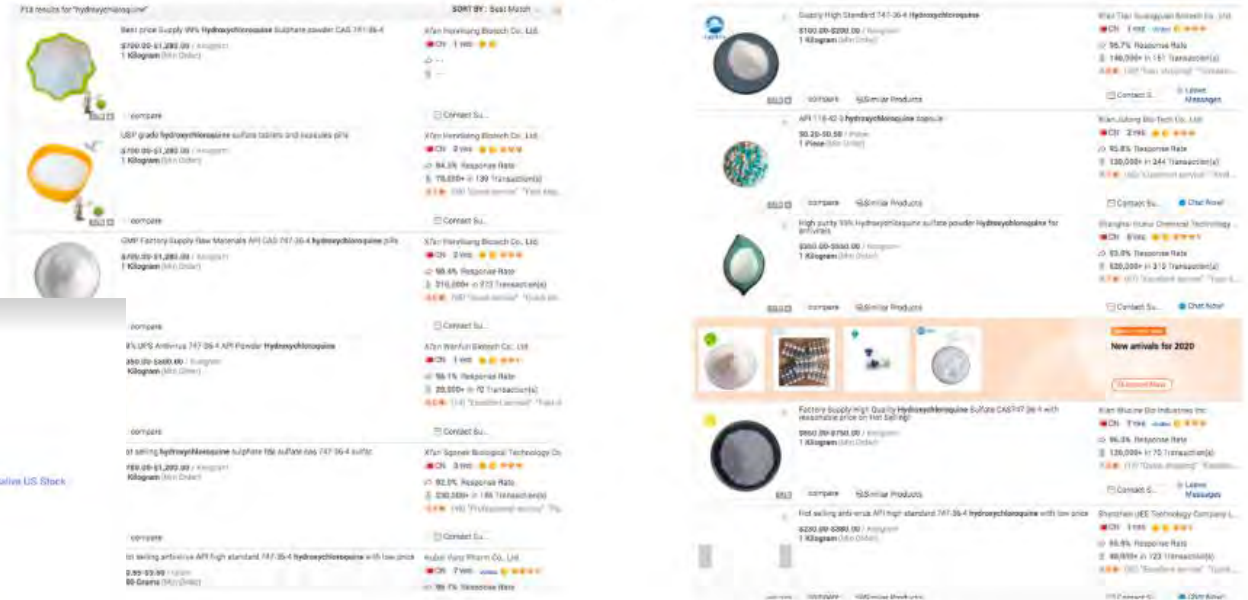
RATING: ★★★★★
5.00 based on 29 customer reviews

Antimalarials promoted on a rogue internet pharmacy that typically markets ED medication

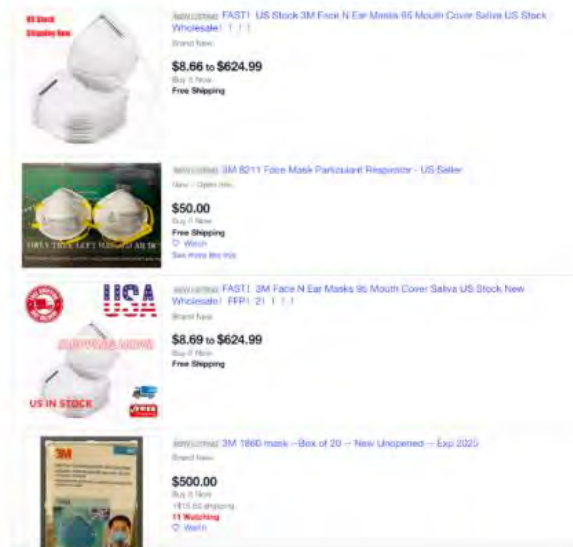
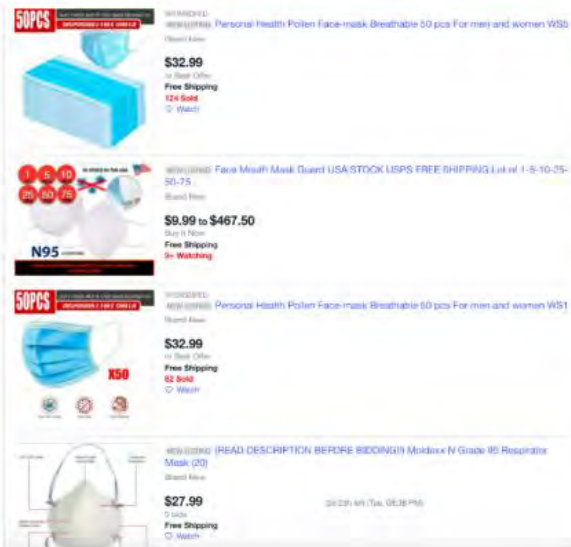
<https://www.legitscript.com/blog/2020/03/bogus-cures-and-unapproved-treatments-for-covid-19-flood-the-internet/> (March 26, 2020)

Rogue online sellers

Alibaba 4/1/20 Search term: "hydroxychloroquine"



eBay 3/28/20 Search term: "n95 mask"



Source: Alliance for Safe Online Pharmacies

Beware of Fraudulent Coronavirus Tests, Vaccines and Treatments

Warning Letters

Search:

Date Issued	Firm Name	Product Name and
03/30/2020	JRB Enterprise Group Inc. DBA Anti Aging Bed	Colloidal silver products
03/30/2020	Halosense Inc.	Salt therapy products
03/30/2020	Bioactive C60/FullerLifeC60 LLC	FullerLifeC60 ↗
03/26/2020	Corona-cure.com	Corona-Cure Coronavirus Infection Prevention Nasal Spray
03/26/2020	Carahealth	Herbal products, including Carahealth Immune
03/06/2020	Xephyr LLC dba N-ergetics	Colloidal Silver 1100 PPM ↗ , Colloidal Silver 500 PPM, Colloidal Silver 30 PPM, Colloidal Silver Advanced 20 PPM
03/06/2020	GuruNanda, LLC	Essential oil products
03/06/2020	Quinessence Aromatherapy Ltd	Essential oil products
03/06/2020	Vivify Holistic Clinic	Formula #1 ↗ , Formula #2 ↗ , Formula #3 ↗ , and <i>Eupatorium perfoliatum</i> (Boneset) ↗
03/06/2020	Colloidal Vitality LLC	Products labeled to contain silver

FDA NEWS RELEASE

Coronavirus Update: FDA and FTC Warn Seven Companies Selling Fraudulent Products that Claim to Treat or Prevent COVID-19


FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION
PROTECTING AMERICA'S CONSUMERS

[Contact](#) | [Stay Connected](#) | [Privacy Policy](#) | [FTC en español](#)

Search
[ABOUT THE FTC](#)
[NEWS & EVENTS](#)
[ENFORCEMENT](#)
[POLICY](#)
[TIPS & ADVICE](#)
[I WOULD LIKE TO...](#)
[Home](#) » [News & Events](#) » [Press Releases](#) » [FTC Warns Nine VoIP Service Providers and Other Companies against 'Assisting and Facilitating' Illegal Coronavirus-related Telemarketing Calls](#)

FTC Warns Nine VoIP Service Providers and Other Companies against 'Assisting and Facilitating' Illegal Coronavirus-related Telemarketing Calls

SHARE THIS PAGE



Related Resources

[Coronavirus Warning Letters](#)

FOR RELEASE

March 27, 2020

COVID related domain registration ramping up

In March 2020:

- At least 100,000 new domain names were registered
 - Terms like “covid,” “corona,” and “virus”^[1]
 - More domains registered to sell items such as medical masks.^[2]
 - Domains were used to spam out advertisements for COVID-themed scams.
- Phishing....The number of confirmed *malicious* COVID-related domains is in the thousands.
- New domain names fitting the phishing profile are being registered at the rate of around 1,000 per day.^[3]

^[1] Don't Panic: COVID-19 Cyber Threats.” Palo Alto Networks Unit 42 blog, 24 March 2020, at: <https://unit42.paloaltonetworks.com/covid19-cyber-threats/>

^[2] “Domain Name Registration Data at the Crossroads: The State of Data Protection, Compliance, and Contactability at ICANN.” Interisle Consulting Group, LLC, 31 March 2020, page 18, at: <http://bit.ly/DataCrossroads>

^[3] *Id.*

Scams



Coronavirus Scam Audio Samples

Test Kit Phone Scam

▶ 0:00 / 0:15

Audio transcript: ...[The Coronavirus] Response Act has made coronavirus testing more accessible immediately. If you want to receive a free testing kit delivered overnight to your home, press 1. If you do not want your free testing, press 2. (Audio source: YouMail)



FTC Scam Bingo

Want to help warn others about scams? Post on your social media (w/ #FTCScamBingo) and play with your friends. Want to let us know what's going on? **When you have bingo, share with the Federal Trade Commission on Facebook (@FederalTradeCommission) or Twitter (@FTC)!**

Got a robocall



Got a scam call

"Lower your interest rate"

"Problem with SSN"

"COVID-19 cure!"



"Treat COVID-19"

"Get COVID-19 test kit"

"Utilities problem"

Blocked a caller

Reported a scam

Fill in

"Lower your debt"



"Refi your mortgage"

"Forgive student loans"

Call from similar #

COVID-19 phishing scam



"Get health insurance"

Pressure to act NOW



Call from "Scam Likely"

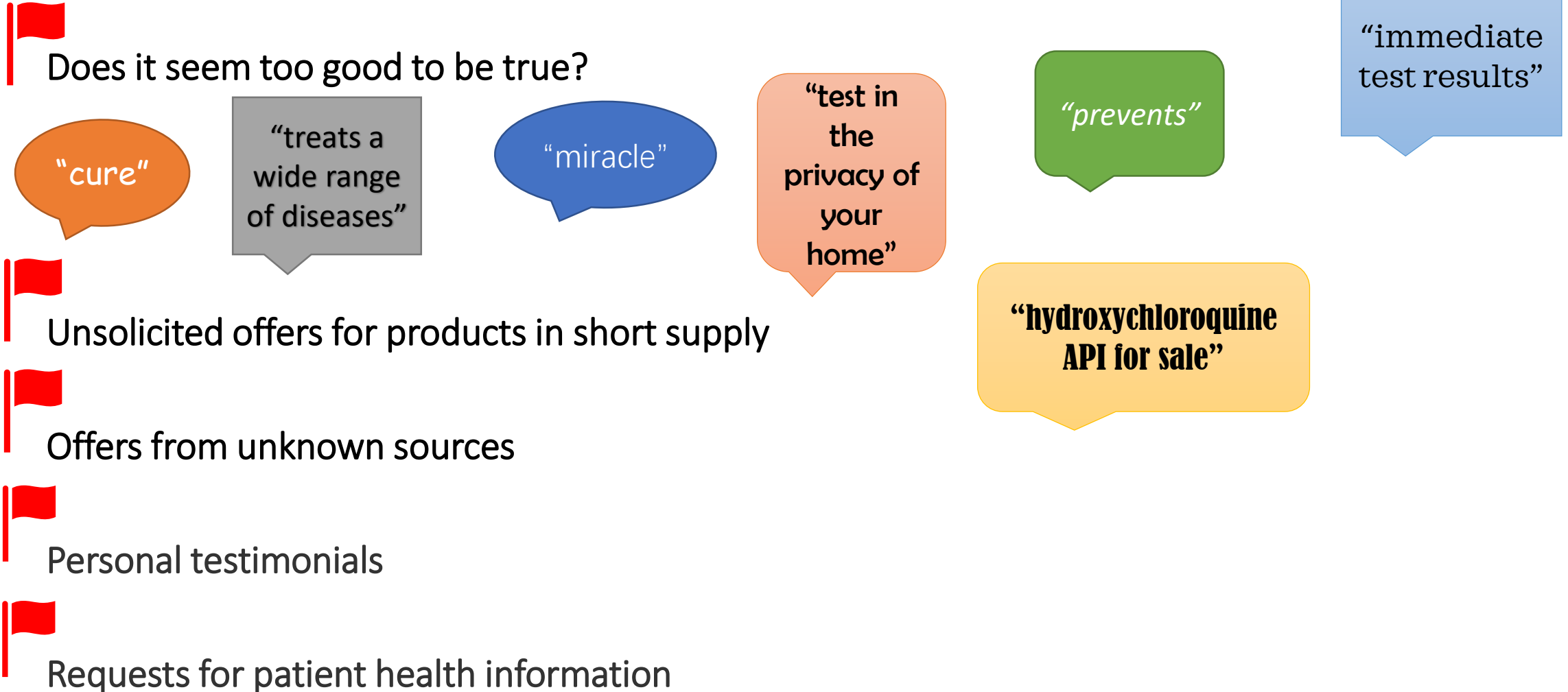
Hung up on robocall

Fill in your own

Learn more about spotting and reporting scams at consumer.ftc.gov. Sign up for Consumer Alerts at ftc.gov/subscribe.



Red flags



Protect your pharmacy and patients

✓ Be informed -- Fact check

- Is the product FDA approved or cleared or under an Emergency Use Authorization (EUA)
 - ☐ For drugs check: <https://www.accessdata.fda.gov/scripts/cder/daf/index.cfm>
 - ☐ For biologics check: <https://www.fda.gov/vaccines-blood-biologics/biologics-products-establishments>
 - ☐ For devices check: <https://www.fda.gov/medical-devices/products-and-medical-procedures/device-approvals-denials-and-clearances>
 - ☐ For EUAs: <https://www.fda.gov/emergency-preparedness-and-response/mcm-legal-regulatory-and-policy-framework/emergency-use-authorization#2019-ncov>
- Is the product on the drug shortage list?
 - ☐ Check: <https://www.accessdata.fda.gov/scripts/drugshortages/default.cfm>

✓ Know your source

- Only buy from trusted sources. Do your due diligence.

✓ Protect patient information

✓ Practice smart online safety

✓ Report suspected fraud to FDA, FTC, FCC (check their websites for reporting portals)

Polling Question

You received the following email. Should you accept this offer?

BUY NOW: COVID-19 TESTS FOR YOUR PATIENTS!

TO: APHA PHARMACY
FROM: WESELLTESTS INC.
SUBJECT: EXCLUSIVE COVID-19 TEST KIT PRESALE

APhA Pharmacy,

You are in luck. Based on your excellent business record and reputation in your community, your pharmacy is eligible to place pre-orders for COVID-19 test kits that will be available for sale in the very near future. These tests will provide immediate results. The tests are exempt from FDA approval.

The tests will only be sold at pharmacies, doctor offices, clinics, and other medical professional outlets.

Supplies will be limited at first, so act now to reserve tests for your patients.

[Click here](#) for more information.

BUY NOW: COVID-19 TESTS FOR YOUR PATIENTS!

TO: APHA PHARMACY

FROM: WESELLTESTS INC.

SUBJECT: EXCLUSIVE COVID-19 TEST KIT PRESALE

APhA Pharmacy,

You are in luck. Based on your excellent business record and reputation in your community, your pharmacy is eligible to place pre-orders for COVID-19 test kits that will be available for sale in the very near future. These tests will provide immediate results. The tests are exempt from FDA approval.

The tests will only be sold at pharmacies, doctor offices, clinics, and other medical professional outlets.

Supplies will be limited at first, so act now| to reserve tests for your patients.

[Click here](#) for more information.

Breaking Information:

CDC Information for Healthcare Professionals Pharmacists and Pharmacy staff



Lisa M. Koonin DrPH, MN, MPH
Health Preparedness Partners, LLC
A subcontractor of General Dynamics Information
Technology (GDIT)
Senior Advisor in support of the CDC 2019 Novel
Coronavirus (nCoV) Response
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)

Open Forum Ground Rules

- Use the **Questions** field on the GoToWebinar toolbar to submit comments and questions related to the topic discussion
- Individuals whose submissions are selected will be asked by the moderator to state the comment or question for the audience. The line for the individual will be unmuted to read their comment or question.
- To maximize the number of questions/comments addressed, **a 60-second time limit** will be in effect for each individual to state their question or comment.
- We will try to get to as many comments and questions as possible. We have created a new forum for COVID-19 discussions where further discussion post-webinar. Information on participating in this forum will be provided at the end of the open forum.



Open Forum Discussion: Part 1

Comments, Questions, Feedback on COVID-19 Tests and Fraudulent Activity

Open Forum Discussion: Part 2:

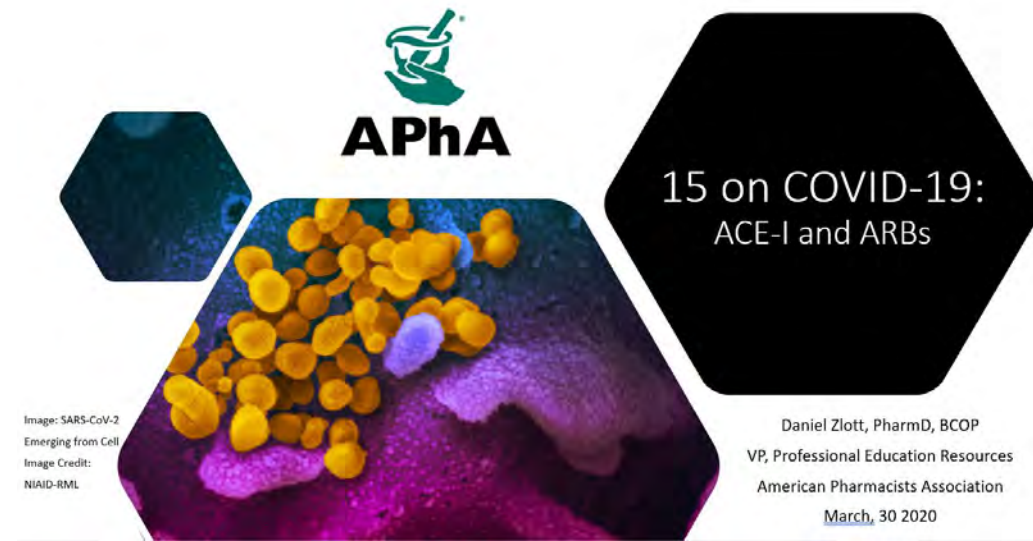
A Minute for Your Thoughts

Review of APhA's Ongoing Activities and What's Coming

NEW Episodes – APhA's 15 on COVID

An education series designed to help you sort COVID-19 fact from fiction. Each episode is 15-20 minutes and provides CPE.

- **Episode 3: NSAIDs in COVID-19 (3/27)**
<http://elearning.pharmacist.com/products/6031/15-on-covid-19-03-27-2020-nsaids>
- **Episode 4: ACE-Inhibitor/ARB Therapy and COVID-19 (3/30)**
<http://elearning.pharmacist.com/products/6034/15-on-covid-19-03-30-2020-ace-i-arbs>



Advocating for You on Coronavirus



In the past week....

- **Pharmacist Safety:** APhA requested OSHA to clarify protections for pharmacists and pharmacy staff as front-line providers of patient care. New OSHA COVID-19 Guide: <https://www.osha.gov/Publications/OSHA3990.pdf>
- **Compounding:** APhA sent [joint comments](#) to FDA urging flexibility to allow pharmacists to compound products that are at risk of shortage and flexibility for the temporary compounding of alcohol-based sanitizer guidance in light of ingredient shortages
- **Inappropriate Prescribing:** APhA issued statements, alone and jointly with AMA and ASHP, on inappropriate prescribing and dispensing of COVID-19 off-label medications



APhA statement on Inappropriate Ordering, Prescribing and Dispensing of Medication and Supplies



Joint Statement of the American Medical Association, American Pharmacists Association, and American Society of Health-System Pharmacists on Inappropriate Ordering, Prescribing or Dispensing of Medications to Treat COVID-19

NEW COVID-19 Practice Resources

- COVID-19 Basics
- FAQ's on Medications
- Managing Suspected Cases
- Tips for Protecting Community Pharmacist and Pharmacy Staff from COVID-19 Crisis
- Resources on Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)
- More resources on the way

<https://www.pharmacist.com/coronavirus/resources-training>

COVID-19 Resources and Training for You



Webinars

- April 2: Register for [Addressing the COVID-19 Crisis: An Open Forum Webinar Series for Pharmacists](#).
- March 26: [Access this recording and view the slides](#).

Training

APhA's **15 on COVID-19 Series** is designed to provide you with the answers you need to educate yourself, your colleagues, and your patients about COVID-19.

- **March 30:** This episode explores potential connections between ACE-inhibitor/ARB therapy and COVID-19 disease.
- **March 27:** This episode explores the facts and myths related to the use of NSAIDs in COVID-19, and attempts to explore the source of the confusion about whether or not it is safe to use NSAIDs in patients with COVID-19.
- **March 24:** This episode provides a broad overview of COVID-19.
- **March 23 (Inaugural Episode):** This episode explores the role of two older antimalarial drugs in COVID-19. One drug that has rapidly captured the attention is chloroquine and its close relative, hydroxychloroquine. Join APhA experts as we explore the science behind the drug, and attempt to separate truth from fiction in this rapidly changing series of events.

Resources

March 30

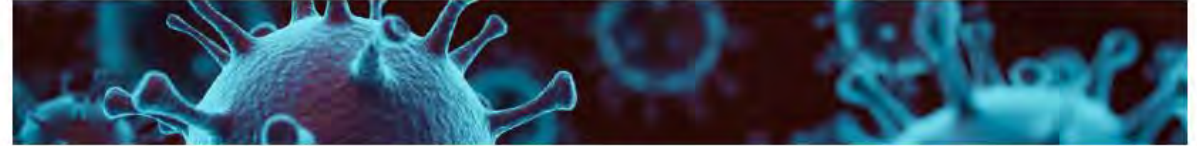
- [COVID-19 Basics: What Pharmacy Personnel Need to Know During the COVID-19 Crisis](#)
- [FAQs on Medications Being Studied for Potential Use in the Treatment of COVID-19](#)
- [Key Facts About Commercially Available Medications Being Studied for COVID-19](#)
- [Managing Suspected Cases of COVID-19 in Ambulatory Care/Community Pharmacy Setting](#)
- [Protecting Yourself, Your Patients, and Your Family: How to Optimize and Effectively Use Personal Protective Equipment \(PPE\) for Pharmacy Personnel During the COVID-19 Crisis](#)
- [Tips for Protecting Community Pharmacists and Pharmacy Staff from COVID-19](#)

NEW What Pharmacists Need to Know

**Access publicly available
resources for what
pharmacists
need to know**

[https://www.pharmacist.com/
coronavirus/pharmacy-topics](https://www.pharmacist.com/coronavirus/pharmacy-topics)

COVID-19 Resources by Pharmacy Topic Area



Clinical Links for Pharmacists' Care of Patients

- Guidance for People with Asthma and COVID-19
- Guidance for COVID-19: What People with HIV Should Know
- CDC's COVID-19: What Older Adults Need to Know
- 10 Ways to Manage Respiratory Symptoms at Home

Managing Your Pharmacy with COVID-19

- Get Your Clinic Ready for Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19)
- Guidance on Preparing Workplaces for COVID-19
- State Health Department Guidance for COVID-19
- Healthcare Professional Preparedness Checklist For Transport and Arrival of Patients With Confirmed or Possible COVID-19
- CDC Resources to Hang or Distribute in Your Pharmacy (e.g., Posters, Fact Sheets, Patient Take-Home Materials)
- Criteria for Return to Work for Healthcare Personnel with Confirmed or Suspected COVID-19 (Interim Guidance)

Pharmacist Well-Being and Resilience

- Reducing Stigma During COVID-19
- Emergency Responders: Tips for Taking Care of Yourself

Frequently Asked Questions

- CDC: COVID-19 Frequently Asked Questions
- CDC: Healthcare Professionals: Frequently Asked Questions and Answers on COVID-19
- CDC: Frequently Asked Questions about Hand Hygiene for Healthcare Personnel Responding to COVID-2019

Next Steps



- Continue the discussion on the Pharmacy's Response to COVID-19 ENGAGE Community - [**https://apha.us/covid19engage**](https://apha.us/covid19engage)
- Recording of the webinar will be posted at [**www.pharmacist.com/coronavirus**](http://www.pharmacist.com/coronavirus) within 24 hours
- Next week's webinar will be announced tomorrow (Friday) in various APhA communications vehicles and posted on the APhA ENGAGE Communities
- Weekly webinar #3 will be conducted same day, same time, same place: Thursday, April 9, from 1-2 pm ET. We hope you can join us!