

COVID-19 Chloroquine and Hydroxychloroquine Checklist

Protecting Against COVID-19

Ohio Department of Health Director Amy Acton, M.D., MPH, strongly recommends that all Ohioans are aware of the emergency rule filed by the State of Ohio Board of Pharmacy regarding prescription requirements for chloroquine and hydroxychloroquine:

- The Board of Pharmacy does not have a formal position on the use of chloroquine or hydroxychloroquine to treat patients diagnosed with COVID-19. The purpose of the rule is to ensure that patients who have conditions such as malaria, rheumatoid arthritis, and lupus that are being treated with these medications do not experience shortages during the COVID-19 outbreak.
 - a. To not disrupt patient access, any prescription issued prior to March 22, 2020, including refills, may be dispensed without a documented diagnosis code.
 - b. While the rule does permit the treatment of a COVID-19 patient with a confirmed diagnosis, the State of Ohio Board of Pharmacy defers to the U.S. Food and Drug Administration and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) to determine whether chloroquine or hydroxychloroquine is appropriate in the treatment of COVID-19. More information on treatment options is available at <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/therapeutic-options.html>.
- Unless otherwise approved by the Pharmacy Board's executive director, no prescription for chloroquine or hydroxychloroquine may be dispensed by a pharmacist or sold at retail by a licensed terminal distributor of dangerous drugs unless all of the following apply:
 - a. The prescription bears a written diagnosis code from the prescriber.
 - b. If written for a COVID-19 diagnosis, the diagnosis has been confirmed by a positive test result, which is documented on the prescription and the prescription is limited to no more than a 14-day supply and no refills may be permitted unless a new prescription is furnished.
- Prescriptions for either presumptive positive patients or prophylactic use of chloroquine or hydroxychloroquine related to COVID-19 is strictly prohibited unless otherwise approved by the Pharmacy Board's executive director in consultation with the Board president, at which time a resolution shall issue.

- The rule only applies to prescriptions that are dispensed for outpatient use (i.e. does not apply to inpatients, including those who are currently being treated in a hospital), per guidance issued by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/therapeutic-options.html>.
- A frequently asked questions document for licensees is available at <http://www.pharmacy.ohio.gov/COVIDrx>.

For additional information, visit [coronavirus.ohio.gov](https://www.coronavirus.ohio.gov).

For answers to your COVID-19 questions, call 1-833-4-ASK-ODH (1-833-427-5634).

If you or a loved one are experiencing anxiety related to the coronavirus pandemic, help is available. Call the Disaster Distress Helpline at 1-800-985-5990 (1-800-846-8517 TTY); connect with a trained counselor through the Ohio Crisis Text Line by texting the keyword "4HOPE" to 741 741; or call the Ohio Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services help line at 1-877-275-6364 to find resources in your community.

Additional resources:

State of Ohio Board of Pharmacy: <https://www.pharmacy.ohio.gov/>

CORONAVIRUS DISEASE 2019 Ohio

Department
of Health

Protect yourself and others from
COVID-19 by taking these precautions.

PREVENTION

For additional information call 1-833-4-ASK-ODH or visit coronavirus.ohio.gov.



STAY HOME



PRACTICE
SOCIAL
DISTANCING



GET ADEQUATE SLEEP
AND EAT WELL-
BALANCED
MEALS



WASH HANDS OFTEN
WITH WATER AND SOAP
(20 SECONDS
OR LONGER)



DRY HANDS WITH
A CLEAN TOWEL
OR AIR DRY
YOUR HANDS



COVER YOUR MOUTH
WITH A TISSUE OR
SLEEVE WHEN
COUGHING OR SNEEZING



AVOID TOUCHING
YOUR EYES, NOSE,
OR MOUTH WITH
UNWASHED HANDS
OR AFTER
TOUCHING SURFACES



CLEAN AND DISINFECT
"HIGH-TOUCH"
SURFACES OFTEN



CALL BEFORE VISITING
YOUR DOCTOR



PRACTICE GOOD
HYGIENE HABITS

For more information, visit: coronavirus.ohio.gov