



### Treatment Suggestions for COVID19

1. Be reasonably confident that your patient has COVID19.
  - a. Use the CDC criteria for symptoms, signs and exposure history
  - b. Medications DO NOT work for prevention or prophylaxis, and excessive, unnecessary use risks overdosing.
  - c. Your patient should have a positive test for COVID19 before taking medication.
2. Explain to patients that there are NO FDA approved medications for this disease.
3. You may explain to patients that there have been some small, preliminary studies that suggest that hydroxychloroquine or chloroquine may be beneficial to prevent lung complications.
4. Although the treatment course is short, consider the patient's other medications (especially any medication that prolongs the QT interval), and explain common side effects: GI upset is most common (nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, abdominal pain) and can be relieved by taking the medication with food, dizziness, headache, anxiety, lack of appetite, and skin/hair discoloration. As usual, patients should report any concerning side effects.
5. The following dosage regimens have been suggested. NOTE: these are short to avoid the risk of overdose and to limit side effects.
  - a. Hydroxychloroquine 200 mg Capsules; One BID x 5 days
  - b. Hydroxychloroquine 400 mg Capsules; One QD x 5 days (note: QD dosing with the higher strength is more likely to cause the GI side effects)
  - c. Chloroquine 500 mg Capsules; One QD x 7 days
  - d. Compounded Products (only available through one pharmacy)
    - i. Hydroxychloroquine/zinc 400/50 mg Capsules; One QD x 5days
    - ii. Chloroquine/zinc 500/50 mg Capsules; One QD x 7 days