

COVID-19: Dispensing Limitations on Hydroxychloroquine

April 16, 2020



What is Hydroxychloroguine?

Hydroxychloroquine has been used for treatment of lupus and rheumatoid arthritis, and malaria.

Why is Hydroxychloroquine being prescribed for patients with COVID-19?

Hydroxychloroquine is currently under investigation in clinical trials for pre-exposure or post-exposure prophylaxis and treatment of patients with mild, moderate, and severe COVID-19. Although US Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has NOT approved hydroxychloroquine specifically for the treatment of patients with COVID-19 some clinicians are anecdotally prescribing this medication for COVID-19 diagnosis.

AMDA- The Society for Post-Acute and Long-Term Care Medicine discourages the off-label use of Hydroxychloroquine to prevent or treat COVID-19 until efficacy and safety have been tested in clinical trials.

Can Consonus dispensed Hydroxychloroquine for non-FDA approved treatment or prophylaxis for COVID-19?

Some pharmacy boards have put limitations on the dispensing of Hydroxychloroquine. Please see below for the limitations in your location.

OREGON:

- May be dispensed to COVID-19 positive patients in hospital or non-hospital institutional setting
- May be dispensed to non-hospital patients with lupus, rheumatoid arthritis, and malaria diagnoses

NEVADA:

- Only dispensed to COVID-19 positive patients in hospital or Skilled Nursing Facility
- 30-day supply may be dispensed to non-hospital patients with lupus, rheumatoid arthritis, and malaria diagnoses

WASHINGTON:

- May be dispensed to patients based on provider and pharmacist discretion
- Prescribing prophylactically for COVID-19 is discouraged

CALIFORNIA:

No restrictions from CA Board of Pharmacy as of April 2, 2020

IDAHO:

- Prescription order bears written diagnosis from the prescriber with the evidence for its use
- Prescriptions limited to 14-day supply unless patient was taking medication prior to 3/19/20
- No refills are permitted without a new prescription

Do prescription orders for Hydroxychloroquine for COVID-19 positive patients have any special requirements?

Yes. Consonus is participating in a national program to make hydroxychloroquine available to COVID-19 positive patients. Please provide a prescription order that indicates the medication is being used for a patient with a COVID-19 positive diagnosis. The medication will be supplied at no charge.