

WY P&T Committee
Emergency Email Meeting Minutes
Monday March 30, 2020 – Wednesday April 1, 2020

Aimee opened an emergency email meeting Monday March 30, 2020 at 7:48 pm to discuss the status of hydroxychloroquine and chloroquine. There is significant concern about the potential for misuse and hoarding of these agents during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Aimee had previously discussed the issue with Dr. Choo. His comments are as follows:

Hydroxychloroquine is not FDA approved for COVID 19. Proposed or treatment dosage used 200 TID for about 5-10 days. I would not recommend anyone to use it while they are in the outpatient setting for COVID 19. Adverse effects includes, nausea vomiting, QT prolongation. Ekg should be considered prior to starting. Hence there should be concern with prescriptions written for 10 days duration etc.

Dr. Choo does not believe we should deny it outright, but should have a PA in place for its use.

Aimee provided the following information from LexiComp regarding the use of hydroxychloroquine for treatment of COVID-19:

Coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19)Level of Evidence [C]

Data from a limited number of hospitalized patients in a small, open-label, nonrandomized study suggest hydroxychloroquine may be beneficial for the treatment of coronavirus disease 2019 by reducing the duration of viral shedding.

Aimee recommended that hydroxychloroquine and chloroquine be limited to FDA approved indications.

Hydroxychloroquine is approved for lupus erythematosus, malaria, and rheumatoid arthritis.

Chloroquine is approved for malaria and extraintestinal amebiasis.

Use outside of these indications would require prior authorization with a manual review by the Department of Health.

Dr. Johnson provided information regarding an emergency approval for use of hydroxychloroquine for COVID-19 early in the day. The scope of this approval (hospitalized patients vs. outpatient) is unclear, however, it appears to be intended for hospitalized patients at this time.

Dr. Johnson and Dr. Horam provided information from the Board of Medicine regarding avoiding use of hydroxychloroquine and chloroquine except for existing FDA indications.

There was a motion and second to limit hydroxychloroquine and chloroquine to FDA approved indications. After receiving a majority of aye votes and no nay votes, Aimee closed the emergency meeting on Wednesday April 1, 2020 at 9:06 am.