

Republic of the Philippines Department of Health FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION



FDA ADVISORY No. 2020 - 450

2 7 MAR 2020

TO:

All Licensed Drugstores/ Pharmacies/ Boticas/ Hospital Pharmacies and Institutional Pharmacies, and Other Concerned Stakeholders

SUBJECT: Pharmacies to Dispense Hydroxychloroquine to Patients with

Prescriptions for the Drug Use

The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) reiterates to all licensed drugstores and pharmacies to sell drugs and medicines with physician's prescription. This is in reference to the alleged abrupt increase in the purchase of Hydroxychloroquine related to its possible use for COVID-19.

Hydroxychloroquine is an antimalarial drug also indicated and importantly used for the treatment of patients with chronic inflammatory diseases such as rheumatoid arthritis, juvenile inflammatory arthritis, and systemic lupus erythematosus.

The FDA appeals to the pharmacies to cater to patients with established indications of this drug. Amidst the challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic, we do not want to leave our patients who have other life threatening and debilitating diseases with nothing to use for their treatment.

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Director General

