

New Mexico Medical Advisory Team Assessment

MAT Workgroup Name: Clinical Care

Date: April 8, 2020

Question or request:

1. Should Healthcare Workers be given pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP) with Hydroxychloroquine (HCQ)?
2. Should the State of New Mexico consider post-exposure prophylaxis for community members?

Recommendation/s:

- We support clinical trial development for Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis (PrEP) for Healthcare Workers, but we do NOT recommend routine PrEP with hydroxychloroquine for healthcare workers and first responders with HCQ at this time.
- We do not recommend post-exposure prophylaxis (PEP) with hydroxychloroquine for community members who may be asymptomatic but may have had significant exposure at this time.

Assessment:

Pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP) with Hydroxychloroquine

The University of Minnesota, Columbia University, New York University and Henry Ford Health System in Detroit have begun trials of pre- exposure prophylaxis (PrEP) of healthcare workers using HCQ.^{13, 14, 15} The University of New Mexico will begin a similar trial in the next 2-3 weeks. These trials are still in the early stages and efficacy data is not yet available. This protocol requires 600mg HCQ on day 1 followed by daily dosing of 200mg qd for up to 90 days (or total duration of the pandemic). Implementation of this protocol statewide would require a significant increase in the available supply of the medication. Given that the data on efficacy of HCQ as a prophylactic measure is still limited and also given some of the risks and contraindications, we are not recommending wide scale implementation of PrEP at this time.

Post-exposure prophylaxis (PEP) with Hydroxychloroquine

Post-exposure prophylaxis (PEP) with HCQ is also being evaluated in several randomized trials throughout the nation and abroad. The University of Washington trial, for example, uses a 1:1 randomization, but the control group receives vitamin C. As such, this is a not true placebo-controlled randomized, controlled trial. We will continue to monitor the available clinical trial data to explore the efficacy of HCQ PEP for healthcare workers and others in the community who may be asymptomatic but have had a significant exposure.

Red flags and concerns:

There is insufficient data to show the benefit of pre- and post-exposure prophylaxis with Hydroxychloroquine at this time. The MAT will continue to monitor the clinical trial literature and update these recommendations as additional data becomes available.

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Resources/Reference:

University of Minnesota. Post-exposure Prophylaxis / Preemptive Therapy for SARS-Coronavirus-2 (COVID-19 PEP) Available from: <https://clinicaltrials.gov/ct2/show/NCT04308668> [Accessed April 7, 2020]

Columbia University. Hydroxychloroquine Post Exposure Prophylaxis for Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19) Available from: <https://clinicaltrials.gov/ct2/show/NCT04318444> [Accessed April 7, 2020]

Henry Ford Health System “HFHS Leads National Study to Determine Drugs Effectiveness in Preventing COVID-19” Available from: <https://www.henryford.com/news/2020/04/hfhs-leads-national-study-to-determine-drugs-effectiveness-in-preventing-covid19> [Accessed April 7, 2020].