



# NEBRASKA ACADEMY OF FAMILY PHYSICIANS

*"Promoting, supporting, and serving our  
members as they strive to improve the  
health of all Nebraskans."*

The Nebraska Academy of Family Physicians, which represents 1,300 members acknowledges the challenges facing the healthcare system in addressing the Covid-19 pandemic including testing, treatment, and prevention.

The NAFP urges caution as no medication has been approved by the FDA for use in patients who have COVID-19. Further, there is currently no substantial evidence supporting the off-label use of medications, such as chloroquine, hydroxychloroquine, and azithromycin for the treatment of COVID-19. While there have been limited studies performed, with varying degrees of success, the data does not support improved patient-oriented outcomes with these medications. Until further testing is completed, the NAFP cautions against prescribing these medications outside of their current indicated uses.

In addition, the NAFP advises against these medications being stockpiled or prescribed as a preventive measure for the public at large. Family physicians should continue to provide these medications for conditions where there are approved indications, such as for patients who have autoimmune disorders or parasitic infections and should not be penalized for doing so.

The NAFP also supports the rapid evaluation of potential treatments through registered clinical trials and calls for the publications of full results in a transparent and timely manner.

The NAFP calls for clinicians, healthcare systems, and policy makers to carefully consider the evidence and effectively weigh the benefits and the harms of any treatment. Given the increased burden on the healthcare system at this time, judicious and evidence-based use of limited resources is even more critical.

Based on the fact that there is currently no definitive treatment or vaccine available, the NAFP has the following recommendations, based on the best available evidence:

- 1) Wearing masks in public
- 2) Hand washing
- 3) Social distancing of at least 6 feet
- 4) Testing per published guidelines
- 5) Contact tracing