

## Guidance for Management of Patients Requiring Chronic Hydroxychloroquine During COVID-19

There is a national shortage of hydroxychloroquine that is impacting patients' ability to obtain supply from local pharmacies for treatment of chronic rheumatologic and dermatologic conditions.

There is limited preliminary data around the safety and efficacy of hydroxychloroquine for the treatment or prevention of COVID-19. Multiple professional societies have recommended against the use of hydroxychloroquine for the treatment or prevention of COVID-19 outside of clinical trials. Additional efforts to ensure adequate supply and recommendations to prioritize supply are needed.

### Recommendations for Ambulatory Prescribing of Hydroxychloroquine at YNHHS

#### **Hydroxychloroquine should NOT be prescribed for treatment or prevention of COVID-19 in the ambulatory setting.**

##### **Chronic Hydroxychloroquine Maintenance Therapy**

- Evaluate if patient can maintain disease control with lowering dosage or decreasing frequency from twice daily to once daily
- Evaluate if patient would be appropriate for alternative maintenance therapy
- Continue refilling therapy as a 30-day supply to local pharmacies. Diagnosis is required upon signing of prescription in Epic

##### **New Start Hydroxychloroquine Therapy**

- Avoid starting patients on new chronic therapy and consider alternative treatments until supply becomes more stable and readily available
- If patient has a specific indication requiring new start therapy, send prescription for 30-day supply to local pharmacy. Diagnosis is required upon signing of prescription in Epic