



STATEMENT REGARDING COVID-19 PREVENTION AND TREATMENT

October 25, 2021

In response to many questions from patients and licensed providers, the Alaska Board of Nursing, Board of Dental Examiners, and the Board of Pharmacy have issued the following statement regarding the prevention and treatment of COVID-19:

- The most effective ways to limit the spread of COVID-19 are to get vaccinated, wear a face mask, stay at least six feet from others in public places, wash hands frequently, and avoid large crowds of people.
- Monoclonal antibodies are FDA-approved for treatment before the onset of severe symptoms.
- Remdesivir has received FDA approval for adults and certain pediatric patients with COVID-19 who are sick enough to need hospitalization.

Though studies of potential treatments are ongoing, use of ivermectin and hydroxychloroquine has not been approved by the FDA for use in treatment of COVID-19. While we have not taken positions on use of experimental or off-label treatments of COVID-19, we recommend the following:

- If your health care provider writes you an ivermectin or hydroxychloroquine prescription, fill it through a legitimate source such as a pharmacy, and take it exactly as prescribed.
- A pharmacist has a legal obligation to ensure a prescription is safe for a patient to consume, so your pharmacist may contact the prescriber with questions. If your prescriber is unavailable for consultation or if the prescription is for an unusual dose, the pharmacist may refuse to fill the prescription.
- Never use medications intended for animals on yourself or other people. Animal ivermectin products, formulations, and dosages are very different from those approved for humans. Use of animal ivermectin for the prevention or treatment of COVID-19 in humans is dangerous.
- If you believe you are experiencing a medical emergency, call your practitioner or seek emergency services as soon as possible.

These boards recommend that patients seek the advice of their Alaska-licensed health care provider about currently available therapies authorized or approved for the treatment or prevention of COVID-19.