



Board of Nursing

Larry Hogan, Governor · Boyd K. Rutherford, Lt. Governor · Robert R. Neall, Secretary

To All Licensed Health Care Providers with Prescriptive Authority:

Please be advised that the Maryland Board of Nursing has received reports of potential hoarding and fraudulent prescribing activity related to the medications **Chloroquine**, **Hydroxychloroquine** (sold under the brand name **Plaquenil**), and **Azithromycin**. In particular, the Board has received reports that licensed prescribers are inappropriately hoarding and prescribing these medications for family, friends, coworkers, and themselves without any apparent medical indication, or in anticipation of COVID-19 related illness.

It is a violation of the Nurse Practice Act and the Nursing Code of Ethics to:

- Knowingly participate in or condone dishonesty, fraud, deceit, or misrepresentation;
- Divert any medication or provide false or misleading information to a pharmacist to obtain or attempt to obtain any medication;
- Using, possessing, supplying, administering, or attempting to use, possess, supply, or administer prescription drugs or controlled dangerous substances without valid medical indication; and
- Engaging in unprofessional or immoral conduct.

Md. Code Ann., Health Occ. § 8-316(a)(25) (2014 Repl. Vol.); COMAR 10.27.19.B.(1), C.(4), C.(8), and C.(12).

If you are engaged in any such activities, you are advised to stop immediately. If you are aware of any licensed prescriber engaging in such activities, please contact the Board of Nursing via email at mbon.complaintsinvestigations@maryland.gov.

Thank you for your cooperation.

Sincerely,

Karen E.B. Evans, MSN, RN-BC, SD-CLTC, CLC
Executive Director, Maryland Board of Nursing