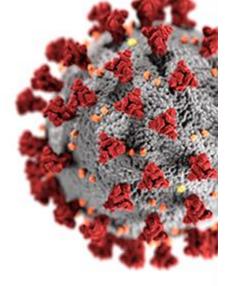




CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19) UPDATE



FROM THE LUPUS FOUNDATION OF AMERICA

We are committed to providing you and your family with the most up-to-date information on the coronavirus outbreak for people with lupus -- including the most recent news, Q&As with experts, the actions we're taking to protect the health and availability of medication for people with lupus, and other resources.

This situation is rapidly changing, and we wanted to provide you with an overview of some important information and resources we have for you. We'll also be continuing to provide updated information at lupus.org/coronavirus.

Updates from the Lupus Foundation of America

 <u>Update on Advocacy</u>: We continue to lead efforts to tackle the shortages of hydroxychloroquine (Plaquenil) and chloroquine (Aralen), including conducting outreach to all of the different stakeholders that can help to ensure the availability of hydroxychloroquine and chloroquine for people with lupus. Patrick Wildman, Lupus Foundation of America's Vice President of Advocacy & Government Relations provides a status update on the actions we've taken in this <u>video</u> interview.

General Resources

- Coronavirus Prevention and Underlying Health Conditions Updates: We've put together the latest updates made by the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) and local health departments that apply to people with lupus. We will continue to update this on an ongoing basis.
- <u>Coronavirus, stress and mental health</u>: The coronavirus outbreak can bring on a lot of different emotions. We've put together healthy, effective ways to manage your stress and anxiety levels during this time.

FAQs

- Frequently Asked Questions about Coronavirus (COVID-19) and Lupus: Our Health Educator team is working tirelessly to support you and the entire lupus community. Check out some of the questions they are frequently asked with answers and resources to help. This includes updated recommendations from the CDC that people wear cloth face coverings when they are in public places.
- Q&A with Rheumatologist Dr. Ashira Blazer: We hosted an interview with Dr. Ashira Blazer, Assistant Professor of Medicine in the Department of Rheumatology at New York University's Langone Medical Center in New York City to answer your questions about the coronavirus and lupus.

Hydroxychloroquine (Plaquenil), Chloroquine and Other Medication Resources

- <u>Hydroxychloroquine (Plaquenil) and Coronavirus</u>: We understand that there has been a lot of news around hydroxychloroquine. This Q&A provides information to commonly asked questions we have received.
- State Action on Hydroxychloroquine and Chloroquine Access: We have put together an easy to use resource to find out what your state is doing to ensure access to these medications for people with lupus. We're tracking what is happening in every state.
- <u>Tips for Refilling Your Hydroxychloroquine (Plaquenil) Prescription</u>: We've put together a list of tips for people with lupus that need to refill their Plaquenil prescriptions during the coronavirus pandemic.
- Are People with Lupus Protected Against Coronavirus?: While hydroxychloroquine is being studied as a potential treatment for coronavirus, there is no evidence that it can effectively prevent a person from contracting the virus. Read this blog post to learn more.
- <u>Prescription Assistance Programs</u>: If you are having difficulty paying for your prescription medications, there are several programs that may be able to help you.
- Medicare to Allow Home Infusions of Benlysta, Other Medications: If you are on
 Medicare and take Benlysta, you will have the option to receive infusions at home a change that we advocated for earlier in March as the coronavirus continued to
 spread.

As always, the health and safety of the lupus community remains our number one priority. We will continue to provide you with the latest information regarding the coronavirus and lupus, and continue to fight for medication access for you during this pandemic.

Stay up-to-date on the latest information about what people with lupus should know about coronavirus at <u>lupus.org/coronvirus</u>, and on our <u>Facebook</u>, <u>Twitter</u> and <u>Instagram</u> accounts.

We're your partner in navigating the unprecedented challenges of lupus and COVID-19. Help us continue the fight to protect the health of people impacted by lupus, our families and communities.



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