



NEW JERSEY SENATE

SENATE CHAMBERS

CN099

TRENTON, NEW JERSEY 08625-0099

March 17, 2020

Honorable Judith Persichilli  
Commissioner, Department of Health  
PO Box 360  
Trenton, New Jersey 08625-0360

Dear Commissioner Persichilli,

I am sharing with you studies that show that the anti-malarial drug, Chloroquine may have the ability to be used both as a prophylactic and therapeutic agent in the fight against Covid-19. Chloroquine has a seventy-year record as being safe and effective.

I would ask your Department to study the possibility of fast tracking a decision as to whether New Jersey would allow Chloroquine to either be sold over the counter, or allowing any prescribing health care provider to prescribe Chloroquine as an off label drug for prophylactic use against Covid-19.

There are some contraindications to Chloroquine which should clearly be highlighted. To determine if Chloroquine could be used as a therapeutic drug in the treatment of Covid-19, I would ask you also to fast track a decision as to what, if any, protocol should be allowed for treating infected patients. This decision would be in keeping in line with the National trends of patients being given, "the right to try."

During these trying times, I thank you for your consideration.

<https://www.pharmaceutical-technology.com/comment/parallel-export-covid-19/>

[http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/2020-02/17/c\\_138792545.htm](http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/2020-02/17/c_138792545.htm)

<https://www.peakprosperity.com/forum-topic/chloroquine-use-in-korea-and-china/>

<https://onedrive.live.com/view.aspx?resid=34225D6F64DEA848!31117&ithint=file%2cdocx&authkey=!AGSm-oWkaownkzo>

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Joe Pennacchio".

Joseph Pennacchio

c. Governor Phil Murphy