

COVID Doc: Hydroxychloroquine 'Highly Effective,' Fears Are 'Overblown'

A Tennessee physician has a message for COVID-19 patients: Use hydroxychloroquine "if you can find a doctor with guts enough to prescribe it."

Meanwhile, U.S. Food and Drug Commissioner Stephen Hahn said some studies "suggest a benefit" to using the drug on COVID-19, despite the fact that the government agency issued guidance stating the use of the drug should be avoided unless it's being studied in a clinical trial or for hospital use. In a radio interview, Hahn reiterated the fact that doctors are free to prescribe the drug "off label," and that the FDA "does not regulate the practice of medicine."

Dr. Tom Rogers is one of those physicians who prescribe hydroxychloroquine to his COVID-19 patients. He told CBN News he personally has found the drug to be a "highly effective" way to treat the virus, provided the drug is prescribed in the early stages of the disease and is combined with the antibiotic azithromycin and a zinc supplement.

"It's a very controversial, kind of 'Trump drug'," he told CBN News. "There were initially a bunch of studies that said it worked, and then the powers that be came out with some other studies that said it didn't work. But there are many, many studies and many doctors who I've talked to personally, on the front lines that use it all the time, and it works."

He continued, "You have to use it very early," he said. "The studies that said it didn't work—those were hospitalized patients that were very sick."

He said possible negative consequences of taking

hydroxychloroquine are overblown. “They’re claiming it causes cardiac arrhythmia, which is rare,” he says. “I’ve never seen that. I’ve talked to rheumatologists who’ve used it for decades, they’ve never seen it.”

Read the rest of this story from our content partners at CBN News. {eo}