

United States of America FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION Southwest Region

1999 Bryan St., Ste. 2150 Dallas, Texas 75201

May 13, 2020

WARNING LETTER

VIA EMAIL TO info@AmericanChineseMedicineAssociation.org

ACMA (American Chinese Medicine Association) Clinic 2432 McKenzie Court Aurora, Illinois 60503

Re: Unsubstantiated Claims for Coronavirus Prevention or Treatment

To Whom It May Concern,

This is to advise you that FTC staff has reviewed your website at <u>https://americanchinesemedicineassociation.org/</u> on May 9, 2020. We have determined that you are unlawfully advertising that certain products or services that you offer at your clinic, or through tele-health options, treat or prevent Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19).

Some examples of Coronavirus treatment or prevention claims on your website include:

• In marketing materials titled "On Coronavirus," in a section titled "Treatment," you claim that:

"For 20 years, ACMA Cold/Flu treatment has successfully treated many cold/flu patients each year. All ACMA cold/flu patients have recovered after ACMA Cold/Flu treatment and no one died of cold/flu in past 20 years. If patients took ACMA Cold/Flu treatment right away after getting cold/flu, the average recovery time was 12 hours, and the fastest recovery time was 4 hours.

"Since October 2019, ACMA Cold/Flu treatment has successfully treated many flu patients with coronavirus' signs and symptoms. As discussed above, if the coronavirus is the flu virus of this year, above flu patients probably got coronavirus although they did not do testing due to the expensive testing cost. After receiving ACMA Cold/Flu treatment, all of them have been recovered very quickly and no one died. For the fastest case, the patient got recovered 4 to 12 hours after taking ACMA Cold/Flu treatment.

"With 20 years of successful experiences in treating various cold/flu viruses, we are confident that the coronavirus can be effectively treated, patients' lives can be saved, and the coronavirus epidemic or pandemic can and will be stopped soon."

It is unlawful under the FTC Act, 15 U.S.C. § 41 *et seq.*, to advertise that a product or service can prevent, treat, or cure human disease unless you possess competent and reliable scientific evidence, including, when appropriate, well-controlled human clinical studies, substantiating that the claims are true at the time they are made. For COVID-19, no such study is currently known to exist for the products or services identified above. Thus, any Coronavirus-related prevention or treatment claims regarding such products or services are not supported by competent and reliable scientific evidence. You must immediately cease making all such claims.

You are also advised to review all other claims for your products and services and immediately cease making claims that are not supported by competent and reliable scientific evidence.

Within 48 hours, please send a message to James E. Elliott via electronic mail at <u>jelliott@ftc.gov</u> describing the specific actions you have taken to address the FTC's concerns. If you have any questions regarding compliance with the FTC Act, please contact Zachary A. Keller at <u>zkeller@ftc.gov</u>.

Very truly yours,

Dama J. Brown Regional Director Southwest Region