

Richard A. Quaresima Acting Associate Director Division of Advertising Practices United States of America FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION Washington, D.C. 20580

May 27, 2020

WARNING LETTER

VIA EMAIL TO info@brexobio.com Brexo Bio 4275 Executive Square Suite #200 La Jolla, CA 92037

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://brexobio.com</u> on May 19, 2020. We also reviewed your social media websites at <u>www.instagram.com/brexo_bio/</u> and <u>www.facebook.com/brexobio/</u>, where you direct consumers to your website <u>https://brexobio.com</u>, where they can schedule stem cell therapy sessions and other treatments. We have determined that you are unlawfully advertising that certain services and products prevent or treat Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19).

Some examples of Coronavirus prevention or treatment claims include:

• "We understand that the the [sic] Coronavirus primarily causes inflammation and severe damage to the airways and other structures of the lungs but evidence now suggests that the virus can trigger a cytokine-storm, causing neurological issues, blood clots, inflammation and damage to other organs such as the kidneys and heart. Those that have overcome the virus and have recovered from COVID-19 can expect to have their pulmonary function affected amongst other issues that must must [sic] be addressed before further damage or fibrosis occurs. This is were [sic] Brexo Bio comes in to do our part in helping patients the best way we know how. Starting May 1st until October 31st, 2020 we will be offering a 50% reduction in the comprehensive stem cell treatment costs for all COPD, pulmonary, neurological and post-COVID-19 related cases. Stem Cells' regenerative capabilities and immunomodulatory benefits can be for [sic] offered as preventative measures or to unlock your cellular potential and facilitate faster healing of the lungs and other tissues at a cellular level. Check your email for more details or click the link in bio

and contact a Patient Advocate today to learn more. #stemcelltherapy #brexobio #covid #coronavirus #regenerativemedicine"

[Instagram post dated April 16, 2020, available at <u>www.instagram.com/p/B_CToLOpryZ/</u>; see also Facebook post dated April 16, 2020 at 2:57 a.m. at <u>www.facebook.com/brexobio/</u>]

• "Did you know that STEM CELLS can be administered intravenously and by inhalation through a nebulizer to treat lung damage caused by COVID-19 and other non-related lung conditions such as COPD.

This video is for illustrative purposes only. Brexo Bio is equipped to perform a similar treatment with a higher abundance and viability of stem stem [sic] cells derived from from [sic] umbilical cord blood or bone marrow derived stem cells.

Contact a Patient Care Executive Today at 833.396.7663 to learn more about how we can help you unlock your cellular potential!

https://youtu.be/X5rGgIy7uwQ" [links to a video titled "UAE STEM CELL THERAPY: HOW IT WORKS AGAINST COVID-19," at www.youtube.com/watch?v=X5rGgIy7uwQ. The video states, "UAE researchers have announced pioneering work in stem cell therapy to repair lung damage caused by the coronavirus infection. The new therapy is administered through inhalation[.] 73 coronavirus patients in the UAE have all been successfully treated by inhaling the treatment into their lungs after it was nebulized into a fine mist..."]

[Facebook post dated May 4, 2020 at 5:56 p.m. on www.facebook.com/brexobio/]

It is unlawful under the FTC Act, 15 U.S.C. § 41 *et seq.*, to advertise that a service or product 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 services and products identified above. Thus, any coronavirus-related prevention or treatment claims regarding such services and products 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 services and products and immediately cease making claims that are not supported by competent and reliable scientific evidence. Brexo Bio May 27, 2020 Page 3

Within 48 hours, please send a message to Richard Cleland, Assistant Director via electronic mail at rcleland@ftc.gov 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 Richard Cleland at 202-326-3088.

Very truly yours,

Richard A. Quaresima Acting Associate Director Division of Advertising Practices