



United States of America
FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION
Southwest Region

Dama J. Brown, Regional Director
Federal Trade Commission – Southwest Region
1999 Bryan Street, Suite 2150
Dallas, Texas 75201

May 1, 2020

WARNING LETTER

Via email: thegoldenroadkratom@gmail.com
Golden Road Kratom
Huntington Beach, California

Re: Unsubstantiated Claims for Coronavirus Prevention and Treatment

To Whom It May Concern:

This is to advise you that FTC staff has reviewed your website at <https://thegoldenroadkratom.com> on April 29, 2020. We have determined that you are unlawfully advertising that certain products prevent or treat Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19).

Some examples of Coronavirus prevention or treatment claims on your website include the following representations concerning kratom made on a webpage titled “Can Kratom Stave Off the Coronavirus – Covid-19”:

- You claim: that “Dr. Usman makes it clear that kratom (*mitragyna Speciosa*) contains a good amount of compounds that can strengthen the immune system and keep the coronavirus at bay.”
- You further claim: “Kratom contains a special compound known as chloroquine or Cq, that research shows is powerfully combative against the coronavirus. There are many viruses that can be harmful to humans and Cq could be a type of master key that protects against all of them.... It’s amazing that this plant so many of us believe in, that so many of us fight to keep legal, can be the key to one of the worst viruses of our lifetime.”

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

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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 product identified above. Thus, any coronavirus-related prevention or treatment claims regarding such product 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 or services and immediately cease making claims that are not supported by competent and reliable scientific evidence.

Within 48 hours, please send a message to Assistant Director Jim Elliott via electronic mail at jelliott@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 Reid Tepfer at rtepfer@ftc.gov.

Very truly yours,

Dama J. Brown
Regional Director, Southwest Region
Federal Trade Commission