

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

June 1, 2020

WARNING LETTER

Via U.S. Mail and Email to: koniverMD@gmail.com

Dr. Laura E. Koniver

Intuition Physician, LLC 5501 Merchants View Square, Suite 700 Haymarket, Virginia 20169-5439

Re: Unsubstantiated Claims for Coronavirus Prevention and Treatment

Dr. Koniver:

This is to advise you that FTC staff reviewed your website at https://www.intuition-physician.com on May 18, 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:

- On a page titled "Coronavirus Recommendations Part 1: Prevention," you claim:

"There are 9 key things you can do right now to boost your immune system and decrease your chances of getting any and all viral illnesses this winter... and yep, that includes the coronavirus....

Use colloidal silver spray, both internally and on surfaces.

Colloidal silver is a wonderful antiviral that you can use immediately after a suspected exposure to a viral illness.

If you found yourself standing next to someone in line who coughed nonstop over your shoulder — go ahead and spray your oral mucosa with a purified colloidal silver supplement and instantly decrease your chance of picking up their pathogen.

Find the best colloidal silver spray supplements in my online dispensary here [link to https://us.fullscript.com/welcome/IntuitionPhysician]."

- On the same page, you claim:

"Take immune boosting supplements.

My three non-negotiable favorite immune boosting supplements to take all winter are:

- Vit C (1,000 mg a day)
- Vit D (1,000 IU a day) [sic]
- Probiotics (1 5 billion CFUs a day)...

Vitamin C is viricidal and bactericidal, so boosting your intake of a high quality Vitamin C supplement...is probably my favorite way right now to stop any viral transmission of illness in it's tract [sic]. To me, everyone (especially those who are traveling) should be on high dose vitamin C right now....

Again, you can find all of my very favorite, pharmacy grade, pure and potent supplements in <u>my online dispensary here</u> [link to https://us.fullscript.com/welcome/IntuitionPhysician]"

- On a page titled "Coronavirus Recommendations Part 2: Treatment," you claim:

"For more ideas on how to decrease your chance of contracting sepsis from coronavirus and other viral illnesses, <u>read the full</u> article I wrote for you here.

In it, I recommended everyone go on high dose Vit C during the cold and flu season, as well as during any viral outbreaks such as with the coronavirus.

So now, if you'd like to replicate the entire vitamin cocktail studied in this sepsis analysis, here's what you'll want:

So now you know.

You can fight inflammation at home with:

Vitamin C, Vitamin B1, Serrapeptase and Curcumin

- 1. Vitamin C (buffered Vit C is best.) My favorite is Buffered Vitamin C by Integrative Theraputics [sic].
- 2. Vitamin B1 (aka thiamine.) My favorite is Thiamine by Seeking Health.
- 3. Serrapeptase (enteric coated is best.) My favorite is Enteric Coated Serrapeptase by Source Naturals.
- 4. Turmeric (curcumin + bioperin is best!). My favorite is Curcumin 500 + Bioperin by Pure Encapsulations.

I have every single one of these supplements available to you in my <u>online dispensary right here</u> [link to https://us.fullscript.com/welcome/IntuitionPhysician], at a nice discount just because you are a reader of mine!"

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 identified above. Thus, any coronavirus-related prevention or treatment claims regarding such 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 products 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 BROWN Digitally signed by DAMA BROWN Date: 2020.06.02 14:23:50-05'00'

Dama J. Brown

Regional Director, Southwest Region

Federal Trade Commission