



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@mind-bodyacupuncture.com

Mind & Body Acupuncture
2001 S. Barrington Avenue, Suite 111
Los Angeles, California 90025

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 <https://mind-bodyacupuncture.com/> and your social media postings on Facebook (<https://www.facebook.com/MindBodySpiritAcupuncture>) on May 10, 2020. We have determined that you are unlawfully advertising that certain products treat or prevent Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19).

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

- In marketing materials titled “TCM [traditional Chinese medicine] and COVID-19—Reference information from China,” accessible through a prominent link on your website’s homepage, you claim that “[i]ntegrating traditional Chinese medicine with Western medicine to treat the novel coronavirus patients has been proven to be effective. A large number of clinical practices have confirmed the effect of the combined treatment of TCM and Western medicine on new coronavirus pneumonia patients. TCM can rapidly improve symptoms in patients with mild symptoms, shorten the course of illness for patients with severe symptoms, and reduce the possibility of mild infections from becoming severe.”
- In marketing materials titled “TCM [traditional Chinese medicine] and COVID-19—Reference information from China,” accessible through a prominent link on your website’s homepage, you claim that “Citing the latest clinical research on 102 patients with light symptoms, TCM treatment can shorten the average length of patient stay in the hospital by 2.2 days while enhancing the recovery rate by 33 percent compared with the control group . . . Apart from medicines, TCM treatment also included acupuncture, ear

acupuncture point application and Baduanjin (a fitness practice with a history of 800 years), improving patients' sleep and facilitating their recovery.”

- In marketing materials titled “A Powerful herb—Tiger Cane,” you claim that “Hu zhang is the Chinese name given to a plant with the scientific name of *Polygonum cuspidatum*. . . It has antibiotic, antibacterial, anti-inflammatory, astringent and antifungal effects. In the last few months, TCM experts in China have found Hu zhong has strongest effect for Anti coronavirus.”
- In marketing materials titled, “Lian Hua Qing Wen Jiao Nang (Lotus flower brand Clearing Epidemic Toxin Capsules),” you claim that “[t]his is one of most common used patent formula in China for cold/Flu, and recently has been effectively used for mild cases or the beginning stage of COVID-19. Function: Clears epidemic toxin, disseminates lungs and drains heat. . . Indications: For the treatment of influenza attacking lung manifested as: fever or high fever, muscle soreness, nasal congestion runny nose, cough, headache, sore throat, tongue red, and yellow coating, etc.”
- In a March 17 Facebook post, claiming that the herbal product “Lian Hua Qing Wen Jiao Nang (Lotus flower brand Clearing Epidemic Capsules)” is the “[m]ostly [sic] common used patent formula for Flu and has been effectively used recently for beginning stage of Corona Virus.”

It is unlawful under the FTC Act, 15 U.S.C. § 41 *et seq.*, to advertise that a 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 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 James E. 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 Zachary A. Keller at zkeller@ftc.gov.

Very truly yours,

Dama J. Brown
Regional Director
Southwest Region