

United States of America FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION Southwest Region

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

April 13, 2020

WARNING LETTER

VIA EMAIL TO info@windhorsenaturopathic.com

Windhorse Naturopathic Clinic 63 Western Ave. Brattleboro, Vermont 05301

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>http://www.windhorsenaturopathic.com/</u> on April 9, 2020. We have determined that you are unlawfully advertising that certain products treat or prevent Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19).

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

• In marketing materials titled "Intravenous Vitamin C in the treatment of severe Covid-19 Infections," you claim that "Vitamin C used intravenously is gaining very promising clinical findings as a safe, inexpensive, and effective treatment to improve the outcomes of Covid-19 infections in critically ill patients . . . Vitamin C also has antiviral effects and thus helps to target viral infections directly. The Windhorse Clinic is currently administering IVC to WELL PATIENTS for prophylactic immune support."

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 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 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