



CORONAVIRUS

UPDATE

CDC

COVID-19 Update, 3\23

March 23, 2020 | [ARKMED.org/covid19](https://arkmed.org/covid19)

Status Update as of 3\23, from ADH Website:

ADH has created a dashboard of statistics, along with an interactive map. It will be updated four times a day, and you can [view the site here](#).

- Confirmed Cases of COVID-19 in Arkansas - 174
- Recovered COVID-19 Patients - 5
- COVID-19 Patients in the Hospital - 9
- COVID-19 Patients on Ventilators - 6
- Confirmed cases of COVID-19 in nursing homes - 38

Use of Hydroxychloroquine and Chloroquine

The Arkansas Department of Health is concerned about the issuance of prescriptions by physicians for and dispensing hydroxychloroquine and chloroquine for prevention and treatment of COVID-19. These drugs should be restricted to patients who are admitted to hospitals with COVID-19 infections and should be discussed with an infectious disease physicians at the healthcare facility. [Read the entire statement here](#).

HIPPA Allowances for Telemedicine Technology

The Division of Medical Services at DHS issued a memo on 3/23 regarding HIPPA requirements during COVID-19 outbreak. Physicians who use audio or video to provide telemedicine during this emergency can use any non-public facing remote communication product that is available to communicate with patients. This applies to telehealth provided for any reason, regardless of whether the telehealth service is related to the diagnosis and treatment of health conditions related to COVID-19.

Under this notice, covered providers may use popular applications that allow for video chats, including:

- Apple FaceTime
- Facebook Messenger video chat
- Google Hangouts video
- Skype

[Click here to view the entire DMS statement](#)

Return to Work for Infected/Exposed Healthcare Personnel

The following guidance has been issued regarding when healthcare personnel who have potential exposure to patients with COVID-19 in the healthcare setting may return to work. These recommendations are from the CDC based on the known information about COVID-19. [Click here to read all ADH/CDC recommendations.](#)

Got Questions? Let Us Help.

The Arkansas Medical Society is here to serve our physician members and their medical teams. On our website, we have a place that you can send us questions or share what you're experiencing. Visit [ARKMED.org/covid19](https://www.arkmed.org/covid19) and click on the Got Questions box. We will respond to your question as soon as possible. Thank you for your hard work and together we will make it through this crisis.

For more AMS COVID-19 Resources, visit [ARKMED.org/covid19](https://www.arkmed.org/covid19).