

Ivermectin Prescriptions: Overcoming Barriers to Access

How We Got Here:

1. FDA tweets a joke about Americans using a “horse drug”
2. Exaggerated reports of calls to poison control centers
3. False reports of animal product overdoses filling ERs
4. CDC issues bulletin emphasizing ivermectin not approved for COVID-19
 - NOTE: NIH remains silent
5. State Departments of Health issue warnings to licensed doctors
6. Pharmacies and individual pharmacists refuse to fill valid COVID-19 early treatment prescriptions
7. Despite these concerted actions, TOTAL PRESCRIPTIONS CONTINUE TO RISE IN THE U.S.!

THE FIVE MISTRUTHS: I cannot fill your prescription for ivermectin...

1. due to corporate policy
2. because we are out of stock
3. because we cannot order more
4. because it is not FDA approved for COVID-19
5. because I refuse to put my license on the line

The FIVE TRUTHS

1. Walgreens, CVS, and Rite-Aid have **NO CORPORATE POLICY** against filling ivermectin scripts. Nor do the major grocery-chain pharmacies (e.g., Kroger, Publix, Walmart, Costco, and Sam’s Club).
2. **NO NATIONAL SUPPLY SHORTAGE** in the United States at this time.
3. **VERY FEW CIRCUMSTANCES** where a pharmacy/pharmacist cannot obtain a supply of ivermectin within 24-48 hours of ordering.
4. **FDA APPROVAL for COVID-19 is NOT REQUIRED** to prescribe ivermectin off-label. In fact, 20% of all prescriptions written in the U.S. are off-label.
5. **VERY FEW U.S. STATES** allow pharmacists to refuse to fill a valid prescription.
 - Exceptions include errors in the script or a dangerous drug-drug interaction.
 - Even fewer states allow pharmacists to “abandon” the patient by not providing them an alternate place to get the prescription filled.
 - Check the law in your state: <https://www.ncsl.org/research/health/pharmacist-conscience-clauses-laws-and-information.aspx>

Overcoming Barriers to Access

Take Action and Report

- Corporate pharmacy chains **WANT TO KNOW** who is not filling ivermectin:
 - **DOCUMENT** the number and location of the store as well as the name of the pharmacist refusing to fill the valid prescription.
 - **REPORT** the name of the store and pharmacist (see “Contact List for Corporate Chains”, pg. 7).
 - Call, email, or direct message on Twitter.
 - **STOP REFUSALS** by their employed pharmacists by presenting the 5 Truths above.
 - If you believe your pharmacist has lied, **REPORT** them to the state pharmacy board.
 - Be sure to **explicitly** say that the pharmacist “knowingly lied” in any complaints.

How to Get Ivermectin

1. To find a pharmacy that fills in your zip code (for U.S.):
 - Email Edenbridge Pharmaceuticals, the largest manufacturer of ivermectin for human use in the U.S., at sales@edenbridgepharma.com for a list of pharmacies in your area.
2. Look to Online and Compounding Pharmacies as an option.
 - For a complete list of pharmacies that will fill and ship prescriptions, see the FLCCC Pharmacy Directory at <https://covid19criticalcare.com/pharmacies/>.

KNOW YOUR RIGHTS

A Guide to Challenging Pharmacists

Barrier #1 – “Ivermectin is out of stock, back ordered, or unavailable.”

- Customer:
 - I would like to document what I am hearing. What is your full name? What is your store number?
- Customer:
 - Therefore, you are saying (repeat what pharmacist said) ...
- Customer:
 - Your corporate office has indicated that they want customers to report any pharmacist and store refusing to fill ivermectin scripts.
 - What is your email address so I can connect both of us directly with your customer service department?
- Customer:
 - Edenbridge Pharmaceuticals says there is no supply issue anywhere in the country.
 - They are the only pharmacy in the U.S. authorized by the FDA to manufacture and distribute ivermectin for human use.
 - They want to be connected directly to any pharmacist stating there is an issue so it can be resolved immediately.
 - So I will connect the two of us via email directly to your customer service department at corporate.
- Customer: Thank you for your assistance.

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A Guide to Challenging Pharmacists

Barrier #2 – “FDA has not approved its use in COVID-19.”

- Customer:
With respect, I have researched this topic extensively and would like to offer the following:
 - Ivermectin is, in fact, an FDA-approved drug and has been for decades.
 - As you are aware, over 20% of all prescriptions written in the U.S. annually are for off-label use.
 - It is also important to note that the NIH has a “neutral” recommendation for ivermectin use in COVID, not an “against” recommendation.
 - Please tell me you are not attempting to interfere with the sacred relationship between my physician and myself to treat my illness.
- Customer:
 - The customer service department at your corporate office has indicated that they want customers to report any pharmacist and store refusing to fill ivermectin scripts.
 - What is your email address so I can connect the two of us directly with your customer service department so that we can resolve this immediately?
- Customer:
 - My intention is not to be difficult, but please understand that if this is not resolved today, I will be filing an official complaint through my attorney with the State Pharmacy Board.
 - Unless we are in one of the rare states that allows pharmacists to do this, what you are attempting to do is known as “engaging in the practice of medicine” and it is illegal.
- Customer: Thank you for your assistance

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Barrier #3 – “Our corporate policy dictates that we do not fill your prescription.”

- Customer:
 - So, and I would like to document this, what you are saying is (repeat what pharmacist said) ...
- Customer:
 - (1) Ivermectin prescriptions for COVID are not against your corporate policy, and
 - (2) The customer service department at your corporate office has indicated that they want customers to report any pharmacist and store refusing to fill ivermectin scripts.
- What is your email address so I can connect both of us directly with one of your customer service representatives so that we can get this resolved immediately?
 - My intention is not to be difficult, but please understand that if this not resolved today, I will be:
 - Filing an official complaint through my attorney with the State Board because, unless we are in one of the rare states that allows pharmacists to do this, what you are attempting to do is known as “engaging in the practice of medicine” and it is illegal.
- Further, although what you are doing may be technically legal in this state, it almost certainly violates the spirit and intention of the original law.
 - I would like to be able to provide feedback to the Board of how you are applying the law in the hope they may be interested in amending its language to not restrict the provision of life-saving medicines to their states’ citizens.
- Customer: Thank you for your assistance.

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KNOW YOUR RIGHTS

A Guide to Challenging Pharmacists

Barrier #4 – “I will not put my license on the line to fill an unapproved drug.”

- I would like to document what I am hearing. What is your full name and store number?
- Customer:
 - With respect, I have researched this topic extensively and would like to offer the following:
 - Please tell me you are not attempting to interfere between the sacred relationship between my physician and myself to treat my illness.
 - Are you in a state that allows you to refuse to refill a prescription on this basis?
- Customer:
 - The customer service department at your corporate office has indicated they want customers to report any pharmacist and store refusing to fill ivermectin scripts.
 - What is your email address, so I can connect the two of us directly with your customer service department, so that we can resolve this immediately?
- Customer:
 - My intention is not to be difficult, but please understand that if this is not resolved today, I will be filing an official complaint through my attorney with the State Pharmacy Board.
 - Unless we are in one of the rare states that allows pharmacists to do this, what you are attempting to do is known as “engaging in the practice of medicine” and it is illegal.
- Customer: Thank you for your assistance.

Contact Lists for Corporate Chains

1. Walgreens
 - 1-800-WALGREENS
 - 1-800-925-4733
 - Website: <https://www.walgreens.com>
 - Email: <https://www.walgreens.com/mktg/contactus/contact-us-forms.jsp?tier3ld=1125>
 - Chat: <https://www.walgreens.com/rx-utility/pharmacychat>

2. CVS Pharmacy
 - Call 1-877-287-2040 for 24/7 access to live support.
 - Website: [CVSHealth.com/EthicsLine](https://www.cvs.com/ethicsline)
 - Use this website to make a report by telephone or by online form. If you report by telephone, you will receive a 12-digit report key to include in any written submission.

3. Walmart
 - Website: <https://www.walmart.com/cp/1088604?gbo=1>
 - Chat: Under Help and “Contact Us”

4. Sam’s Club
 - Call 1-800-607-6861
 - Website: <https://www.samsclub.com/pharmacy/>
 - Link to email: <https://www.samsclub.com/help-center/additional-help?xid=help-centercontact-representative>

5. Costco
 - Website: <https://www.costco.com/pharmacy/home-delivery>
 - Link to Email form: https://customerservice.costco.com/app/answers/detail/a_id/1218

6. Kroger
 - Call: 1-800-KROGERS (1-800-576-4377)
 - Questions about prescriptions: 1-855-489-2502
 - Website: <https://www.kroger.com/health/pharmacy>
 - Email & Chat: <https://www.kroger.com/hc/help/contact-us>

7. Publix
 - Call: 1-800-242-1227
 - Email form: <https://www.publix.com/contact/contact-us>
 - Website: <https://www.publix.com/pharmacy>