# AN SYSTAMATIC REVIEW ON USE OF CHLOROQUINE FOR THE TREATMENT OF COVID-19

Dr.Arun Kumar, Tutor<sup>1</sup>,

Dr.Monisha S.Junior Resident<sup>2</sup>

Meenakshi Academy of Higher Education and Research

senthil666arun@gmail.com

### Abstract:

The therapy of COVID-19 has attracted great interest in Chloroquine. The latest focus on these chloroquine applications has contributed to a survey on the effect and possibility of hormonobiphase dose reaction on extremely biologically different models. The examination showed that chloroquin usually induced hormetal effects that impacted many types of cells, including tumour cell lines (e.g. human breasts, colons, colones) and non-tumor cell lines, improved viral reproduction, motility of semen, varied behavioural endpoints, and decreased the risk of convulsions. These diverse and nuanced findings indicate that hormetic dose reactions with different biological models and endpoints are common in chloroquine treatments. These findings impact the nature of the study, including dosage number and distance, and suggest a variety of clinical challenges and opportunities focused on the expected outcome.

Keywords: Chloroquine, COVID-19, Pandemic, Treatment

### INTRODUCTION

During the COVID-19 pandemic, chloroquine was the subject of widespread attention and hundreds of clinical studies <sup>1,2</sup>. The compound was first found in 1934 and antimalaria since the Second World War has been identified. Further analysis and investigation is performed in relation to the treatment possible for multiple diseases such as autoimmune, rheumatologic, rheumatological and malignant diseases such as malaria, rheumatologic arthritis (RA).

Further research has helped to distinguish a structurally distinct compound called hydroxychloroquine with less toxic chloroquine metabolite <sup>3–6</sup>. It was a molecule of biological significance, with a broad interdisciplinary focus on the biological sciences, which included various biologically-model and endpuncture, despite the increasing public attention on chloroquine. Thus we have been able to investigate the biological reactions to individual doses and the probability of partial identification of findings of the hormetic dose reaction to chloroquine in this dynamic historical record of scientific interests in chloroquine. We therefore undertook an examination to evaluate whether and how the existing research has triggered the future biological and biomedicinal effects for chloroquine and hydroxychloroquine hormesis <sup>7</sup>.

## **HORMESIS**

Hormesis is a low-dose stimuli and high dose inhibition biphasic dose response. Hormesis With a maximal reaction, this biphasic dose reaction has a quantitative properties that are 30–60 percent higher than the group power. The dose/concentration width of the stimulus can be very complex based on the biological model and endpoint. The stimulation dose/concentration width is normally less than 50 times less than the toxicological reaction <sup>8,9</sup>. Hormesis is caused either by a direct stimulus or overcompensation after a disruption in homeostasis and a low-toxicity induction. Whatever mechanism of hormesizontal activation, biological model, measured endpoint, inductive agent, inductive potency and mechanism the quantitative characteristics of the hormetic dose reaction are similar. This shows that the quantitative properties of the hormetic dose response determine the boundaries of a bioplasticity type<sup>10</sup>.

# **USE OF CHLOROQUINE**

The recent advent of COVID-19 triggered hundreds of thousands of deaths and a widespread panic that threatened the world's most advanced security of health. In 2020, chloroquine products were one of the medicines to be studied and displayed an obvious effectiveness in the coronavirus pandemic. Chloroquine and chloroquine molecules have now been proposed as a potential antiviral for the treatment of diseases of COVID-19 which combine the calculations of DFT with molecular docking <sup>11,12</sup>. The process of B3LYP/6-31G\* was investigated using molecular geometries, electronic properties and molecular electrostatic potential. We have found an excellent consensus between theoretical and experimental

geometric parameters (bond lengths and bond angles). The boundary orbital analysis was determined to determine the charge transfer within the molecule at the same level of theory <sup>13,14</sup>. The density of the states was calculated to better represent the FMOs. The electrostatic molecular potential carts were measured for information on the chemical reactivity of the molecule and intermolecular interactions. All these studies help us much to determine the reactivity of the compounds listed. Finally, docking calculations for the pharmaceutical function of chloroquine derivatives against coronavirus diseases were carried out <sup>15,16</sup>. These ligands were chosen based on the antivirals. In December of 2019, the coronavirus was first identified in humans in Wuhan, China, and quickly spread throughout the world. Of the approximately 46 million people worldwide that have been contaminated, over 1.2 million have died. We should note that this virus is very similar to a flu. Symptoms include exhaustion, fever, headache, runny nose and dry cough <sup>14</sup>. So far, there is no effective antiviral treatment or vaccine available. Where the World Health Organization called it the most dangerous health disaster in human history because this virus is accelerating rapidly. Therefore, the hunt for effective antiviral agents is required urgently. These studies are aimed at the development of therapeutic agents for COVID-19 diseases. Fewer side effects are being looked at for several different antiviral agents. The latest research shows that a chemical inhibitor inhibits the development of coronavirus. Clinical studies have been performed on the Chinese patients CoViD-19. The chloroquine has a great impact in terms of clinical outcomes and viral clearance. They have been suggested as an antiviral for COVID-19 diseases based on their antiviral activities.

## **HYDROXYCHLOROQUINE**

Because of the current pandemic triggered by the extreme acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2), researchers and clinicians are trying to find a reliable solution both at preventive and treatment levels. There is no known effective cure or vaccine available to contain the virus disease (COVID-19). In vitro studies have shown potential antiviral activities by type I and III interferons (IFNs), chloroquine (CQ)/hydroxychloroquine (HCQ), and azithromycin (AZM); however, clinical studies have found that combinations of CQ/HCQ and AZM could cause adverse side effects and further study is required <sup>17,18</sup>. The treated with type I IFNs showed positive results. Furthermore, preliminary findings showed the COVID-19 vaccine to produce a high level of neutralising antibodies (NAbs) and specific

T cell-mediated immune response in almost all participants. The present analysis addresses progress on the use of IFNs, CQ/HCQ, and AZM for the treatment of COVID-19. The available data on the anti-epidemic vaccines was also examined for a second time to provide promising possibilities for potential clinical study <sup>19,20</sup>.

More than 1.3 million of 45 million infected people in less than one year have been killed by the 20th century's most lethal virus. No COVID-19 antiviral or vaccine therapy is available, but researchers are searching for therapy and vaccines. So far, there are many approaches to the use of current antivirals, antibiotics and anti-inflammatory medicinal products, including ideal dosages and pharmacokinetics that have well-known properties. In several clinical studies viral clearance and cytokine storm reduction and mechanical ventilation are accelerated, hospitalisation is long and death is minimised by the need for COVID-19 <sup>21,22</sup>. In order to reduce SARS-CoV2 cytokine-related cytokine storms, anti-inflamatory drugs were suggested to lowers or inhibit the release or production of pro-inflammatory cytokines. There are several clinical trials in progress, but none of the drugs have consistently been successful. The most numerous trials and patients in the literature are performed in this combination of CQ/HCQ. In in vitro trials, efficacy has been demonstrated and clinical studies are underway <sup>23,24</sup>. While they are not based on substantial research, there are several special approaches to treat flu. In the United States and China, this involves remedies and convalescents with plasma. Similar therapies are checked for vaccines. An successful vaccine can decrease transmission from person to person, viral elimination and the seriousness of the disease. More than 48 million people worldwide were affected by the outbreak of severe acute respiratory syndrome 2 (SARS-CoV-2) (World Health Organization, 2020; Dong et al., 2020). COVID-19 typical clinical manifestations range from asymptomatic to mild to gradual death (Huang et al., 2020a). The rate of fatality of COVID- 19 depends on the country, the climate, and the age group, vary from about 0.06 to 19% (Anon, 2020a). For hospitalised patients the mortality rate for COVID-19 is higher, with UK data showing that the mortality rate is 26%. Several candidates for the treatment of COVID-19 were suggested, but the priority was paid to chloroquine and hydroxychloroquines (Anon, 2020b). Earlier studies show that antimalarials could have an effect on the viral replication of ARDS viruses in vitro as well as indirectly inflammatory cytokines. A news briefing reported that CQ and HCQ appear to be apparently successful and secure for the treatment of COVID-19 from Chinese studies (Hasan et al., 2020). A second emphasis on antimalarial drugs was documented when a nonrandomised study found that a combination of HCQ and azithromycin eliminated SRA from

the breathing secretions of twenty patients, followed by the presidency's drug combination as a potential cure for COVID-19 patients in the media.

## **DISCUSSION**

Evidentiary medicine is a foundation of quality health treatment. The strongest proof is given by clinical research that have been well planned and carried out. High quality RCTs are subject to rigorous confirmation or refutation of the promising signals in vitro or uncontrolled data. Proof-of-mechanism experiments should be performed to see which methodology works best. This study contributed greatly to the quest for a solution but further measures are required to assess if this is an achievement <sup>25-28</sup>. However, the fact that experiments with methodological flaws have led to ineffective and potentially harmful approaches can only cause harm without any visible benefit. In future clinical trials would have a negative effect. The bark of cinchona trees found in the sixteenth century was Quinine used as an effective treatment for malaria for decades. The Second World War led researchers to develop synthetic medicine because of a lack of quinine under wartime pressure. In 1934, a German scientist synthesised chloroquine as an anti-malarial drug candidate. Because of its toxicity, this medication was not used on a large scale until the latest version of the drug was tested to prove its efficacy and safety by the beginning of the 1940s. The use of hydroxychloroquine in medicines as alternative to CQ was approved in 1946 as an advantageous efficacy and reduced toxicity in 1955 (Browning, 2014). CQ and HCQ were both used for malaria prevention and treatment. In addition, anti-malarial treatment has anti-rheumatic properties and was found to have a prophylactic dose of CQ in troops to treat malaria in the late 1940s (Md Abdul Alim Al-Bari, 2015; Ben-Zvi et al., 2012). Over 70 studies have demonstrated the use of CQ and HCQ in rheumatoid arthritis and systemic lupus erythematosus <sup>29–33</sup>.

Despite the limitation of chloroquine and hydroxychloroquine to malaria because of the emergence of chloroquine- and hydroxychloroquine-resistant plasmodium strains, the possibilities for repurposing chloroquine and hydroxychloroquine have been observed in recent years in the treatment of many other diseases. It was shown that CQ and HCQ may have beneficial effects on thrombosis prevention, reduced cardiovascular disease in RA patients, neoplastic disease treatment and combat against other than malaria bacterial and viral infectious disorders. CQ and HCQ have earned great attention since the 2009 H1N1 outbreak (COVID-19) <sup>34–37</sup>. We are looking at CQ and HCQ's applications and mechanisms

of action in the area of malaria and anti-rheuma and their repurposing anti-virus prospects. Latest experiments and potential future CQ and HCQ implementations are investigated.

## **REFERENCES:**

- 1. Ambar Akkaoui M, Lejoyeux M, Geoffroy PA. Chloroquine-Induced First-Episode Psychosis in a Patient Self-medicated for COVID-19. *Biol Psychiatry*. 2021;89(3):e9. doi:10.1016/j.biopsych.2020.05.032
- 2. Noureddine O, Issaoui N, Al-Dossary O. DFT and molecular docking study of chloroquine derivatives as antiviral to coronavirus COVID-19. *J King Saud Univ Sci*. 2021;33(1). doi:10.1016/j.jksus.2020.101248
- 3. Bakadia BM, He F, Souho T, et al. Prevention and treatment of COVID-19: Focus on interferons, chloroquine/hydroxychloroquine, azithromycin, and vaccine. *Biomed Pharmacother*. 2021;133. doi:10.1016/j.biopha.2020.111008
- 4. Al Bujuq N. Methods of Synthesis of Remdesivir, Favipiravir, Hydroxychloroquine, and Chloroquine: Four Small Molecules Repurposed for Clinical Trials during the Covid-19 Pandemic. *Synth.* 2020;52(24):3735-3750. doi:10.1055/s-0040-1707386
- 5. Ghazy RM, Almaghraby A, Shaaban R, et al. A systematic review and meta-analysis on chloroquine and hydroxychloroquine as monotherapy or combined with azithromycin in COVID-19 treatment. *Sci Rep.* 2020;10(1). doi:10.1038/s41598-020-77748-x
- Hernandez A V, Roman YM, Pasupuleti V, Barboza JJ, White CM. Update Alert 3: Hydroxychloroquine or Chloroquine for the Treatment or Prophylaxis of COVID-19.
  Ann Intern Med. 2020;173(11):W156-W157. doi:10.7326/L20-1257
- 7. Keerthana B, Gayatri Devi R, Lakshmanan G. Chloroquine as a prophylactic agent for covid-19 infection a survey among south Indian population. *Eur J Mol Clin Med*. 2020;7(1):822-831. https://www.scopus.com/inward/record.uri?eid=2-s2.0-85096902790&partnerID=40&md5=ff6220a55da755ec09c7be9ea46c5c7b.
- 8. Vaidya NA, Vyas R. Computational Studies of Hydroxychloroquine and Chloroquine Metabolites as Possible Candidates for Coronavirus (COVID-19) Treatment. *Front Pharmacol.* 2020;11. doi:10.3389/fphar.2020.569665
- 9. Cassone A, Iacoviello L, Cauda R. Knowing more about

- chloroquine/hydroxycloroquine in COVID-19 patients. *Future Microbiol*. 2020;15(16):1523-1526. doi:10.2217/fmb-2020-0247
- 10. Wiwanitkit V. QTc interval prolongation, COVID-19 and chloroquine. *Netherlands Hear J.* 2020;28(11):621. doi:10.1007/s12471-020-01506-x
- 11. Zhang X-L, Li Z-M, Ye J-T, et al. Pharmacological and cardiovascular perspectives on the treatment of COVID-19 with chloroquine derivatives. *Acta Pharmacol Sin*. 2020;41(11):1377-1386. doi:10.1038/s41401-020-00519-x
- 12. Nessaibia I, Siciliano D, Tahraoui A. Why nobody discusses the adverse psychiatric effects of chloroquine in case it might become the future treatment against COVID-19? *Int J Health Plann Manage*. 2020;35(6):1311-1313. doi:10.1002/hpm.3057
- 13. Hernandez A V, Roman YM, Pasupuleti V, Barboza JJ, White CM. Update Alert 2: Hydroxychloroquine or Chloroquine for the Treatment or Prophylaxis of COVID-19. *Ann Intern Med.* 2020;173(7):W128-W129. doi:10.7326/L20-1054
- 14. Sun J, Chen Y, Fan X, Wang X, Han Q, Liu Z. Advances in the use of chloroquine and hydroxychloroquine for the treatment of COVID-19. *Postgrad Med.* 2020;132(7):604-613. doi:10.1080/00325481.2020.1778982
- 15. Semedo E, Kapel GF, Van Opstal J, Van Dessel PFHM, Khan H, Camm CF. Drug-induced "Torsade de Pointes" in a COVID-19 patient despite discontinuation of chloroquine. Importance of its long half-life: A case report. *Eur Hear J Case Reports*. 2020;4(FI1). doi:10.1093/ehjcr/ytaa218
- Mallhi TH, Ahmad A, Butt MH, Misbah S, Khan YH, Alotaibi NH. Chloroquine and Hydroxychloroquine in COVID-19: Practice Implications for Healthcare Professionals. *J Coll Physicians Surg Pakistan*. 2020;30(2):S124-S128. doi:10.29271/JCPSP.2020.SUPP2.124
- 17. Chen X, Geiger JD. Janus sword actions of chloroquine and hydroxychloroquine against COVID-19. *Cell Signal*. 2020;73. doi:10.1016/j.cellsig.2020.109706
- 18. Ramotar D. The status surrounding chloroquine and other drugs as potential anti-infective agents for COVID-19. *Expert Rev Respir Med.* 2020;14(9):863-864. doi:10.1080/17476348.2020.1782199
- 19. Hernandez A V, Roman YM, Pasupuleti V, Barboza JJ, White CM.

- Hydroxychloroquine or Chloroquine for Treatment or Prophylaxis of COVID-19: A Living Systematic Review. *Ann Intern Med.* 2020;173(4):287-296. doi:10.7326/M20-2496
- 20. Chevalier MTM, Moncada SS. Hydroxychloroquine/ chloroquine as a treatment choice or prophylaxis for Covid-19 at the primary care level in developing countries: A Primum non Nocere dilemma. *J Neurol Sci.* 2020;415. doi:10.1016/j.jns.2020.116972
- 21. White CM, Hernandez A V. Why Your Patients' Believing Hydroxychloroquine and Chloroquine Are 90% Effective for COVID-19 Is 100% Dangerous. *J Clin Pharmacol*. 2020;60(8):949-953. doi:10.1002/jcph.1687
- 22. Cirino G, Ahluwalia A. The many mechanisms of action of Chloroquine: to use or not to use (in COVID-19) that is the question. *Br J Pharmacol*. 2020;177(15):3361-3362. doi:10.1111/bph.15177
- 23. Verscheijden LFM, van der Zanden TM, van Bussel LPM, et al. Chloroquine Dosing Recommendations for Pediatric COVID-19 Supported by Modeling and Simulation. *Clin Pharmacol Ther*. 2020;108(2):248-252. doi:10.1002/cpt.1864
- Piszczatoski CR, Powell J. Emergency Authorization of Chloroquine and Hydroxychloroquine for Treatment of COVID-19. *Ann Pharmacother*. 2020;54(8):827-831. doi:10.1177/1060028020925558
- 25. Erratum: Correction: Should Clinicians Use Chloroquine or Hydroxychloroquine Alone or in Combination With Azithromycin for the Prophylaxis or Treatment of COVID-19? (Annals of internal medicine (2020) 173 2 (137-142)). *Ann Intern Med*. 2020;173(2):166. doi:10.7326/L20-0684
- Qaseem A, Yost J, Etxeandia-Ikobaltzeta I, et al. Should Clinicians Use Chloroquine or Hydroxychloroquine Alone or in Combination With Azithromycin for the Prophylaxis or Treatment of COVID-19? Living Practice Points From the American College of Physicians (Version 1). *Ann Intern Med.* 2020;173(2):137-142. doi:10.7326/M20-1998
- 27. Qaseem A, Yost J, Etxeandia-Ikobaltzeta I, et al. Update Alert: Should Clinicians Use Chloroquine or Hydroxychloroquine Alone or in Combination With Azithromycin for the Prophylaxis or Treatment of COVID-19? Living Practice Points From the

- American College of Physicians. *Ann Intern Med.* 2020;173(2):W48-W51. doi:10.7326/M20-3862
- 28. Wang L-Y, Sun H. Caution of retinal toxicity using chloroquine and hydroxychloroquine in the treatment of COVID-19 [应用氯喹和羟氯喹治疗新型冠状病毒肺炎需警惕视网膜毒性]. *Int Eye Sci.* 2020;20(7):1290-1294. doi:10.3980/j.issn.1672-5123.2020.7.39
- 29. Liu X, Chen H, Shang Y, et al. Efficacy of chloroquine versus lopinavir/ritonavir in mild/general COVID-19 infection: a prospective, open-label, multicenter, randomized controlled clinical study. *Trials*. 2020;21(1). doi:10.1186/s13063-020-04478-w
- 30. Das R, Behera B, Mishra B, Naik S. Effect of chloroquine and hydroxychloroquine on COVID-19 virological outcomes: An updated meta-Analysis. *Indian J Med Microbiol*. 2020;38(3-4):265-272. doi:10.4103/ijmm.IJMM\_20\_330
- 31. Abbasinazari M, Azizian H. Probable QT prolongation between chloroquine/hydroxychloroquine in treatment of COVID-19 infection and other medications. *J Cell Mol Anesth*. 2020;5(3):212-213. doi:10.22037/jcma.v5i3.30319
- 32. Rossi Monteiro EM, Lima Nascimento MF, Cangussu Brito TR, Lima MC, Sefair LR, Pedrosa MM. Chloroquine and COVID-19: Should we care about ototoxicity? *Int Arch Otorhinolaryngol*. 2020;24(3):359-363. doi:10.1055/s-0040-1714142
- 33. Ruamviboonsuk P, Lai TYY, Chang A, Lai C-C, Mieler WF, Lam DSC. Re: Chloroquine (CQ) and Hydroxychloroquine (HQ) Retinal Toxicity Consideration in the Treatment of the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19). *Asia-Pacific J Ophthalmol (Philadelphia, Pa)*. 2020;9(4):375-376. doi:10.1097/APO.00000000000000316
- 34. Wiwanitkit V. Chloroquine, Hydroxychloroquine, Retinal Toxicity, and COVID-19. Asia-Pacific J Ophthalmol (Philadelphia, Pa). 2020;9(4):374. doi:10.1097/APO.0000000000000315
- 35. Sinkeler FS, Berger FA, Muntinga HJ, Jansen MMPM. The risk of QTc-interval prolongation in COVID-19 patients treated with chloroquine. *Netherlands Hear J*. 2020;28(7-8):418-423. doi:10.1007/s12471-020-01462-6

- 36. Sharma A, Kumar Sharma S, Shi Y, et al. BCG vaccination policy and preventive chloroquine usage: do they have an impact on COVID-19 pandemic? *Cell Death Dis*. 2020;11(7). doi:10.1038/s41419-020-2720-9
- 37. Weehuizen JM, Hoepelman AIM. An open-label cluster-randomized controlled trial of chloroquine, hydroxychloroquine or only supportive care in patients admitted with moderate to severe COVID-19 (ARCHAIC)—Protocol publication. *Eur J Clin Invest*. 2020;50(7). doi:10.1111/eci.13297