Do You Know the Drug Interactions Related to Hydroxychloroquine and Chloroquine?

1. www.cdc.gov/epilepsy/data/index.html
5. Plaquenil Prescribing Information, Concordia Pharmaceuticals, Inc., January 2020

**BRAIN**
- Hydroxychloroquine lowers the seizure threshold. The activity of antiepileptics might be impaired if co-administered with Hydroxychloroquine.

**HEART**
- Concomitant Hydroxychloroquine and Digoxin therapy may result in increased serum digoxin levels.
- Hydroxychloroquine prolongs the QT interval and should not be administered with other drugs that have the potential to induce cardiac arrhythmias. Some commonly prescribed drugs that prolong QT interval include: antipsychotics (eg. Quetiapine), antidepressants (eg. Fluoxetine), and other drugs (eg. Methadone).
- There is an increased risk of inducing ventricular arrhythmias if Hydroxychloroquine is used concomitantly with other arrhythmogenic drugs such as Amiodarone.

1 in 5 (approximately) people with atrial fibrillation in the US are taking Digoxin

**LIVER**
- Hydroxychloroquine may enhance the effects of hypoglycemic treatment. Dose adjustments of insulin or antidiabetic drugs may be required.
- An increased plasma Cyclosporine level was reported when Cyclosporine and Hydroxychloroquine were co-administered.

10.5% (34.2M people) of the U.S. population has diabetes

**STOMACH**
- Antacids and Kaolin can reduce absorption of Chloroquine; an interval of at least 4 hours between intake of these drugs and chloroquine should be observed.
- Cimetidine can inhibit the metabolism of Chloroquine, increasing its plasma level. Concomitant use of Cimetidine should be avoided.
- Chloroquine has been reported to reduce the bioavailability of Praziquantel.

3.47M (3M adults, 47M children) people in the U.S have active epilepsy

Learn more about Hydroxychloroquine and Chloroquine Therapeutic Drug Monitoring

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