Chloroquine (CQ) and Hydroxychloroquine (HCQ) DRUG-DRUG INTERACTIONS (DDIs)

Pharmacodynamic DDIs may occur because CQ and HCQ prolong QT-interval. Drugs like amiodarone, methadone, tricyclic antidepressants and some anti-emetics may risk malignant arrhythmia

Pharmacokinetic DDIs

1. P-glycoprotein transport system may increase levels of cyclosporin and digoxin
2. P450: may be impaired by cimetidine, gemfibrozil, clopidorel, cardiac drugs, antifungals, antbiotics. HCQ may raise metoprolol levels!

CQ/HCQ +
QT-prolongating drugs
may cause **arrhythmias**

CQ/HCQ +
P-gp or P450 enzyme drugs
may alter serum levels and
risk toxicity

CQ and HCQ are being proposed as off-label treatments for COVID-19. Clinicians should be aware that significant pharmacodynamic and pharmacokinetic DDIs involving both drugs have been recognized.