



United States of America
FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION
MIDWEST REGION

Todd M. Kossow
Regional Director
230 S. Dearborn St., Suite 3030
Chicago, Illinois 60603

June 10, 2020

WARNING LETTER

Via FedEx

Alan Darash, M.D., P.C.
d/b/a NewSkin Laser Center
8540 Reseda Blvd #103
Northridge, CA 91324

Re: Unsubstantiated Claims for Coronavirus Prevention or Cure

To Whom It May Concern,

This letter informs you that Federal Trade Commission (FTC) staff reviewed your websites at www.coronavitaminciv.com and www.newskinlaser.com in May and June of 2020. We also reviewed your social media websites at <https://www.facebook.com/NewSkinLaserCenter/> and <https://www.instagram.com/newskinlasercenter/>, where you direct consumers to your website www.newskinlaser.com, where they can schedule intravenous therapy and other treatments. We have determined that you are unlawfully advertising that certain products or services treat or prevent Coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19).

Some examples of Coronavirus prevention or cure claims on your websites include:

- On the homepage of your www.coronavitaminciv.com website, you state, “Corona Vitamin C IV[.] CoronaVirus | DarMon Cocktail To help with immune system | Medical Grade[.] To help your body fight off infection especially with CoronaVirus. DarMon cocktail entails high dose Vitamin C, Thiamine more [link to <https://www.newskinlaser.com/can-vitamin-c-prevent-and-treat-coronavirus>, which is titled, “Can Vitamin C Prevent and Treat Coronavirus?”].” Directly below this language is a “VISIT US” button, which when clicked leads to <https://www.newskinlaser.com/>.
- On the same webpage, you state “Corona Virus Vitamins... Chinese scientist [sic] used antiviral medications and high dose Vitamin C IV and Thiamine to help your immune system fight off the virus High dose of vitamin C and thiamine can not be achieved by taking pills. Give your body the best chance to fight off Corona virus...”

- On the webpage <https://newsinlaser.com/darmon-cocktail-medical-grade-immune-booster>, which is titled, “DarMon Cocktail | Vitamin C & Coronavirus,” you state, “Medical Grade Vitamin C for Coronavirus Treatment ... This Vitamin cocktail has had multiple randomized clinical trials revealing to [sic] lower mortality and decreased hospitalization stay. Major hospitals in the US are using DarMon Cocktail,” and “DarMon Cocktail has revealed to [sic] reduce mortality in septic patients (sepsis) when compared to placebo.... Infections (bacterial or viruses) increase the cell death via oxidation and stress which [] Vitamin C helps to reduce and help the body fight off this overwhelming attack. **High doses of vitamin C** is needed during critical illness.”
- On the webpage <https://newsinlaser.com/can-vitamin-c-prevent-and-treat-coronavirus>, you state, “High Dose Vitamin C as a Therapy for Coronavirus... As more and more people are being infected with Coronavirus, scientist [sic] and doctors are looking for potential therapies to treat or prevent Coronavirus. Now Chinese teams are adding high dose Vitamin C and Thiamine to the list of potential therapies against COVID-19. Chinese doctors... initiated clinical studies to test efficacy of Vitamin C infusions for the treatment of severe respiratory infections associated with Coronavirus. Vitamin C studies are promising against Coronavirus as it reduces the inflammation and damage to the lungs ... Vitamin C high doses (DarMon Cocktail) is an antioxidant that may help reduce inflammation and fibrosis (scarring) of the lungs.... There are many more clinical trials now in china [sic] working on high dose Vitamin C for treatment of COVID-19.... Preliminary results of the clinical studies are very promising based on the medical investigators in china [sic].”
- In two Facebook posts dated March 15, 2020, you state: “CORONAVIRUS DarMonCoctail [sic] Immune Boost IV Drip... Let’s fight with Coronavirus. We offer Immune Boot [sic] IV with High Dose Vitamin C as a Therapy For Coronavirus. This IV contains : Vitamin C, Vitamin B Complex, thiamine, Folic Acid[.]... To learn more about this please read the Blog and call our office.”
- In a Facebook post dated March 12, 2020, you state: “Some common sense - Coronavirus precautions[.] Are you worried or having fear of Coronavirus.... There is no specific treatment for Coronavirus, the best we can do is to prevent it or to improve our immune system to decrease the risk of contracting it. Coronavirus precautions: ... Boost your immune system. Vitamin C will help. DarMon Cocktail helps to increase immune system [sic]. It is medical grade vitamin C (high doses needed) with other vitamins to boost your immune [sic]. Weight based Vitamin C. Small doses given does not work well. This is used in the hospitals or Intensive care units in patients with severe respiratory distress syndrome to help fight the infection.”

It is unlawful under the FTC Act, 15 U.S.C. § 41 *et seq.*, to advertise that a product or service can prevent, treat, or cure human disease unless you possess competent and reliable scientific evidence, including, when appropriate, well-controlled human clinical studies, substantiating that the claims are true at the time they are made. For COVID-19, no such study is currently known to exist for the products or services identified above. Thus, any coronavirus-

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related prevention or treatment claims regarding such products or services are not supported by competent and reliable scientific evidence. You must immediately cease making all such claims.

You are also advised to review all other claims for your products and services and immediately cease making claims that are not supported by competent and reliable scientific evidence.

Within 48 hours, please send a message to Jason Adler, Assistant Director, via electronic mail at jadler@ftc.gov, describing the specific actions you have taken to address the FTC's concerns. If you have any questions regarding compliance with the FTC Act, please contact David A. O'Toole at dotoole@ftc.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Todd M. Kossow". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Todd Kossow
Director
Midwest Region