

In a letter and call with major veterans organizations, Wilkie said the malaria drug hydroxychloroquine was being administered in government-run VA hospitals to virus-stricken patients only in conjunction with a physician's advice.

But Wilkie declined to say how widely the drug was being used at VA for COVID-19 and whether the department had issued broad guidance to doctors and patients on the use of the drug, which has been heavily touted by President Donald Trump without scientific evidence.



[More deaths, no benefit from malaria drug in VA virus study](#)

A malaria drug widely touted by President Donald Trump for treating the new coronavirus showed no benefit in a large analysis of its use in U.S. veterans hospitals.

Marilynn Marchione, The Associated Press

The Food and Drug Administration has warned doctors against prescribing the drug for COVID-19 outside hospitals because of the risks of serious side effects and death.

“Our number one priority is keeping veterans, their families, and our staff safe and healthy,” Wilkie said in the letter, which was obtained by The Associated Press.

He stressed without elaborating that the VA, the nation's largest health care system, was adhering to FDA guidance allowing prescriptions of the drug for COVID-19 in hospitals. Asked about the letter, the VA issued a separate statement saying it “permits use of the drug after ensuring veterans and caretakers are aware of potential risks associated with it, as we do with any other drug or treatment.”

How the Army officer who testified against Trump could end up in a court-martial

[Meghann Myers](#)



October 31, 2019

Army Lt. Col. Alexander Vindman, a military officer at the National Security Council, center, arrives on Capitol Hill in Washington, Tuesday, Oct. 29, 2019, to appear before a House Committee on Foreign Affairs, Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence, and Committee on Oversight and Reform joint interview with the transcript to be part of the impeachment inquiry into President Donald Trump. (Manuel Balce Ceneta/AP)

When [Lt. Col. Alexander Vindman](#) appeared before members of Congress on Tuesday to discuss what he knew about President Trump's [conversations with Ukraine's president](#), he was violating an order from his commander in chief not to cooperate with the [House's impeachment inquiry](#).

He is likely protected from legal ramifications from showing up to testify, a former Army judge advocate told Military Times on Thursday. But it remains to be seen whether what he told legislators could get him charged with a crime — and, of course, how his choice to rebel against his White House chain-of-command will affect his career.

“It’s not far-fetched,” Sean Timmons, a managing partner at Tully Rinckey, said. “It’s a murky issue.”

It comes down to whether Trump’s order was lawful, he said. If Trump was trying to prevent Vindman from sharing sensitive information, it could be. If he was trying to prevent testimony, period, it’s not.

The Military Whistleblower Protection Act prohibits government officials from interfering with a member of the military in communicating with Congress or an inspector general. Adding to the complexity is that the president gets to determine what is and isn’t classified.

“If the president were to order the lieutenant colonel not to testify, that would not be a lawful order,” Timmons said. “However, it gets tricky, because you have to obey orders unless it is manifestly unlawful. It’s not clear if such an order would be manifestly unlawful if the president is using his executive authority to prohibit the communication of information that the executive branch determines to be classified, sensitive, top secret, not to be disclosed to anyone without prior authorization.”

In any case, Vindman’s testimony would need to be limited to avoid disclosing anything out of order, Timmons said.

The White House’s impeachment inquiry policy is laid out in an Oct. 8 letter from its senior counsel, Pat Cipollone, calling the investigation invalid and unconstitutional.

May 25th VFC Meet and Greet Cancelled

The Veterans for Christ Meet and Greet Voter Registration May 25th at Bo Jangles is Cancelled due to the Corona Pandemic and Social Distancing

Mission BBQ: free sandwiches for Veterans, military during Armed Forces Week



Mission BBQ will offer Veterans and active duty military a free sandwich in May on the following dates:

- U.S. Army: 5/11
- U.S. Marines: 5/12
- U.S. Navy: 5/13
- U.S. Air Force: 5/14
- U.S. Coast Guard: 5/15
- All branches: 5/16

Mission BBQ is also hiring Veterans.

[FIND A LOCATION](#)

New FREE COVID Coach app available



If you're feeling worried or anxious about your health, safety, loved ones, finances or uncertainty about the future, you are not alone. The new COVID Coach app can help you learn about self-care and improve your mental health during this difficult time.

The app includes:

- Information to help you stay mentally and physically healthy
- Tools to manage stress and improve your well-being
- Assessments to monitor your well-being, anxiety, mood, and PTSD symptoms over time
- Personal goal tracker
- Direct links to resources for additional support or help

LEARN MORE

IPHONE APP

ANDROID APP



Verse of the Day

*God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble. Therefore will not we fear, though the earth be removed, and though the mountains be carried into the midst of the sea;
Psalms 46:1-2 KJV*

YOU TOO CAN BE A MEMBER OF THE VETERANS FOR CHRIST, INC.

Sign up online to become an associate member. The annual associate membership of \$120.00 which can be used as a tax deduction for supporters. Registration fees can be paid online through our PayPal account. You will get a free VFC T-shirt with your associate membership. Your tax deductible membership fee will support the VFC mission.

All Honorably Discharged Veterans are welcome to come and observe the VFC; feel free to ask questions and learn more. If we don't know the answer we know someone who does. Please browse our web site www.veteransforchristinc.org. There you'll find information on many subjects of interest to veterans. You'll also find a Newsletter for your branch of service and links to Social Security and many other links with an abundance of information.

Our monthly meetings are held at the Wesley Chapel Library at 2861 Wesley Chapel Rd., Decatur, Ga. Our meetings are the fourth Thursday of every month and start at 6:30 (PM) for approximately one hour and a half, unless otherwise advertised. We will be respectful of your time.

Thank you for your interest in the VFC. We look forward to communicating and fellowshiping with you soon. We are looking for a corporate sponsor for our VFC Gerald Prince College Scholarship which is donated each September at our Anniversary Luncheon

“Be on your guard, stand firm in the faith, being men of courage, be strong.” 1Cor 16:13

Sincerely,

William A. Harris, Jr.

William A. Harris, Jr., USAF Retired
President, Veterans for Christ, Inc.

www.veteransforchristinc.org