

## COVID-19 Daily Digest



## Today's News: Wednesday, April 22

### **PPP Funding Vote Tomorrow**

The House plans to vote on additional funding for the Paycheck Protection Program tomorrow, and House leadership is expecting about 350 Members present, approximately 215 of which will be Democrats. In addition to the funding, House leadership plans to create a special committee to oversee the program, to be chaired by Majority Whip Jim Clyburn.

### **The Battle for Proxy Lacks Moxy**

Speaker Pelosi and House Democrats have backed off their plan for proxy voting after speaking to Minority Leader Kevin McCarthy. The two leaders plan to work together to find out how best to keep Members safe while traveling to Washington during the crisis.

### **NIH Recommends Against Hydroxychloroquine and Azithromycin Combo**

A panel of medical experts convened by the U.S. National Institutes of Health (NIH) recommend against the use of hydroxychloroquine and azithromycin for the treatment of

COVID-19. Their findings show the combination of hydroxychloroquine and azithromycin can be associated with QT prolongation, which increases the risk of sudden cardiac death. The panel also said that they could not make a recommendation for or against taking hydroxychloroquine by itself, however.

As you may recall, President Trump has previously [touted](#) the use of hydroxychloroquine and azithromycin together on social media and in press briefings on the coronavirus.

### Trump's 60-day pause on green cards

President Trump announced a 60-day pause for immigrants seeking green cards. Trump said the executive order is an effort to ensure American workers protection from competition and that it would be reviewed at the period to decide the necessity of further 30+ days renewal. The 60-day pause will not apply to temporary workers and there are carve outs for essential employees, including health care and farm workers.

### CDC's Director's Dire Winter Predictions

Center for Disease Control and Prevention Director Robert Redfield warns that the next outbreak of the coronavirus is likely to be worse than the current outbreak, as it is likely to coincide with the beginning of flu season. Redfield believes that combination of the seasonal flu epidemic and coronavirus pandemic could put huge stress on our health care systems and would likely be more devastating than the current outbreak that has already killed more than 42,000 people. Redfield stressed the need for both federal and state officials to begin preparing now so our health care systems are ready for an outbreak.

### Oktoberfest Canceled

German officials announced yesterday that the famous two-week fall celebration in Munich will be canceled this year out of concern surrounding COVID-19. Had it not been canceled, this would have been the 187<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the beer themed festivity.



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