CLAIMS:

1. Use of 5-nitro-8-hydroxyquinoline, a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, or a prodrug thereof in the preparation of a medicament for preventing or treating a viral infection, wherein:

the virus is human papillomavirus;

the prodrug is (S)-(5-nitroquinolin-8-yloxy)methyl 1-isopropionylpyrrolidine-2-carboxylate.

2. The use according to claim 1, the antiviral drug is for use in a mammal.

3. The use according to claim 1, the antiviral drug is for use in a human.

4. The use according to claim 1 or 3, the virus is selected from the group consisting of: human papillomavirus 6 (HPV6), human papillomavirus 11 (HPV11), human papillomavirus 16 (HPV16), human papillomavirus 18 (HPV18) or a combination thereof.

5. A method for *in vitro* disinfection, comprising the following steps:

contacting the environment or object to be treated with an effective amount of 5-nitro-8-hydroxyquinoline, a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof;

said environment or said object is infected or contaminated by virus;the virus is selected from the group consisting of: human papillomavirus 6 (HPV6), human papillomavirus 11 (HPV11), human papillomavirus 16 (HPV16), human papillomavirus 18 (HPV18) or a combination thereof.