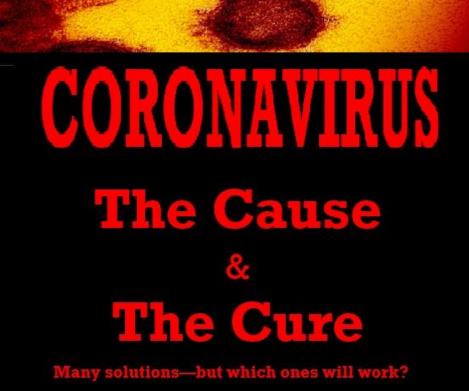
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https://letsgopublish.com/covid/corona.pdf in April 2020. I hope you enjoy the book as it should fill in some of the gaps from the nightmare we all faced.

Most of my books had previously been published on Amazon.

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By

Brian W. Kelly



CORONAVIRUS

The Cause & The Cure

Many solutions—but which ones will work?

It seems that 2020 so far has been a nightmare that won't end. When it seems like it is over, the end point gets stretched out—often past the point of tolerance. Like the pandemic of 1917 and 1918, the coronavirus has the world in a tizzy from which there seems to be no escape.

Even New Yorkers and others from big cities who thought they could find solace in their lakeside or mountain retreats to escape the contagion of the big city, have had to go underground in their cabins as their new small-town neighbors are being interviewed on local radio & TV complaining of them bringing the big city coronavirus to their small burgs.

The Wuhan or China or Coronavirus COVID-19, a derivative of SARS, has arrived with a vengeance in all countries of the world. Now, what? It is called novel, meaning new, and because of its newness, there are no cookbook cures for this plague. And so, death is often a result of a long illness with this virus. Too many deaths!

So what to do? In this book we tell you about how this virus got its start in China in December and how it made its way across the world in record time. We talk about the measures the President of the US, Donald Trump has taken to keep America as safe as possible and we tell you about some promising therapeutics that in some cases cure the virus and in other cases, serve as a prophylaxis to prevent people from contracting the potentially deadly COVID-19.

We wrap this book up by offering a very simple way to reopen America—sooner, not later. This book addresses the major problems with the pandemic but it does not leave the reader hanging. Instead, in simple terms, it presents the issues and the cures and more than an ounce of prevention. This is so important to our lives this year that you won't be able to put this book down before you know what you can do to help yourself and your family cope with this horrific pandemic. Any other president might be inclined to make the issues in the coronavirus saga a political football. President Trump and his task force will solve it! In this book, your author gives President Trump a few can't miss tips to both get the economy rolling & relieve the frustration of the lockdown, & keep the population safe.



BRIAN W. KELLY

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Dedication

I dedicate this book to all of the great health care workers and first responders. God bless you and thank you for your great assistance during the Coronavirus crisis

Thank You All!

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Acknowledgments

I appreciate all the help that I have received in putting this book together as well as all of my other 224 other published books.

My printed acknowledgments had become so large that book readers "complained" about going through too many pages to get to page one of the text.

And, so to permit me more flexibility, I put my acknowledgment list online, and it continues to grow. Believe it or not, it once cost about a dollar more to print each book.

Thank you and God bless you all for your help.

Please check out <u>www.letsgopublish.com</u> to read the latest version of my heartfelt acknowledgments updated for this book. FYI, Wily Ky Eyely loves this book and recommends it to all. Click the bottom of the Main menu on the web site!

Thank you all!

x Coronavirus the Cause & the Cure

Preface:

Rarely does a book title explain exactly what a book is about. This book is the exception. This book explains in detail the rationale behind the virus, the cause, and it offers information about how to prevent it and to cure it. There is no question about it. It then makes a recommendation to the President for the best way to restart the economy.

It seems that 2020 so far has been a nightmare that won't end. When it seems like it is over, the end point gets stretched out often past the point of tolerance. Like the pandemic of 1917 and 1918, the Coronavirus has the world in a tizzy from which there seems to be no escape.

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We wrap this book up by offering a very simple way to reopen America sooner, not later. This book addresses the major problems with the pandemic but it does not leave the reader hanging. Instead, in simple terms, it presents the issues and the cures and more than an ounce of prevention. This is so important to our lives this year that you won't be able to put this book down before you know what you can do to help yourself and your family cope with this horrific pandemic. Any other president might be inclined to make the issues in the coronavirus saga a political football.

President Trump and his task force are determined to solve the problem. In addition to the cause and the cure, your author gives President Trump a few can't miss tips to both get the economy rolling, relieving the frustration of the lockdown, and to keep the population safe.

Why did Brian W. Kelly write this book?

Brian W. Kelly wrote this book because he cares about the United States and the other countries affected by this nasty virus. I am publishing this book because I care.

I hope you enjoy this book and I hope that it inspires you to take the individual actions necessary to help us all during this pandemic crisis. Government should be a helpful tool in solving this deep moral and potentially existential dilemma for our country.

I wish you the best.

Brian P. Kelly, Publisher Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania

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About the Author



Brian W. Kelly retired as an Assistant Professor in the Business Information Technology (BIT) program at Marywood University, where he also served as the IBM i and Midrange Systems Technical Advisor to the IT Faculty. Kelly designed, developed, and taught many college and professional courses. He continues as a contributing technical editor to a number of IT industry magazines, including "The Four Hundred" and "Four Hundred Guru," published by IT Jungle.

Kelly is a former IBM Senior Systems Engineer and IBM Mid Atlantic Area Specialist. His specialty was designing applications for customers as well as implementing advanced IBM operating systems and software facilities on their machines.

He has an active information technology consultancy. He is the author of 224 books and numerous technical articles. Kelly has been a frequent speaker at COMMON, IBM conferences, and other technical conferences.

Brian was a candidate for US Congress from Pennsylvania in 2010 and he brings a lot of experience to his writing endeavors.

Brian Kelly knows that the Pandemic crisis can be solved with the right therapeutic in the short term. Keep the faith, we'll be on the streets soon.

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Chapter 1 The Coronavirus Saga

Tell me about the problem?



Javits Center, NYC conversion to a 2900 bed hospital for COVID-19

The US Center for Disease Control has been working overtime for most of 2020 and part of 2019 in response to a pandemic of respiratory disease spreading from person-to-person. It has been caused by a novel (new) coronavirus. There have been other coronaviruses but this one is different and it has received more attention than any virus in recent history.

The disease has been named "coronavirus disease 2019" (abbreviated "COVID-19"). It comes with a very serious public health risk. The federal government of the US is very concerned for the safety of US citizens and has been working closely with state, local, tribal, and territorial partners, as well as public health partners, to respond to this bleak situation. COVID-19 can cause mild to severe illness; most severe illness occurs in adults 65 years and older. For some reason it creates a fatal situation in many adults over 65 years of age.

The United States is the leader of cases in the world

It began slowly in the US and as soon as President Trump saw its lethality. And its origin in China, he cut off all travel to China and later Europe and then Great Britain in an attempt to keep the virus from our shores. Different parts of the US have been experiencing different levels of COVID-19 activity.

The United States nationally is coming out of the acceleration phase of the pandemic. The duration and severity of each pandemic phase can vary depending on the characteristics of the virus and the public health response. It seems like the model projections have the infection and death curves flattening meaning the virus has been substantially but not entirely mitigated. CDC and state and local public health laboratories have been testing for the virus that causes COVID-19.

CDC Recommendation

With over 25,000 deaths already in the US, and the cases increases substantially in recent weeks, The CDC suggests that everyone can do their part to help the country respond to this emerging public health threat. Here are some of the CDC's important guidelines to which all Americans are asked to adhere.

Part of the CDC recommendation is for individuals to use a cloth face covering to keep people who are infected but do not have symptoms from spreading COVID-19 to others.

The cloth face cover is meant to protect other people in case you are infected and it offers some protection for you from others. The cloth face coverings recommended for the general population are not surgical masks or N-95 respirators. Medical face masks such as N-95 are critical supplies that should be reserved for healthcare workers and other first responders, as recommended by CDC. If the supply of the N-95 were adequate in the US, there would be no restrictions on the type of face covering for individuals who are not part of a medical team.

The cloth face cover is not a substitute for social distancing, the primary means that the US is deploying to stop the spread of the virus.

The CDC continues to recommend that people try keep about 6 feet between themselves and others.

The White House's "Slow the Spread" guidelines came after the 15day shutdown and are in place until April 30. These are part of the nations effort to slow the spread of COVID-19 through the implementation of social distancing at all levels of society.

People 65 years and older and people with severe underlying medical conditions should take special precautions because they are at higher risk of developing serious COVID-19 illness. The death rate is substantially higher for elderly patients.

If you are a healthcare provider, use your judgment to determine if a patient has signs and symptoms compatible with COVID-19 and whether the patient should be tested. If there were enough tests for everybody more people would be advised to get tested but the tests are in short supply but this situation is getting better.

Those people who get a fever or cough should consider whether they might have COVID-19, depending on where they live, their travel history or other exposures. All of the U.S. has been seeing some level of community spread of COVID-19. Testing for COVID-19 may be accessed through medical providers or public health departments, but there is no treatment for this virus. Hydroxychloroquine has shown some promise as a prophylaxis and as a cure for the virus but there are no confirmed studies of this as of yet.

The good news is that most people have mild illness with the disease and are able to recover at home without medical care. Some have major illnesses however, and need hospitalization.

If you are returning from a country with travel restrictions, you should stay home and monitor your health. All other international travelers please follow CDC instructions during this time. Your cooperation is integral to the ongoing public health response to try to slow spread of this virus.

The complete clinical picture with regard to COVID-19 is not fully known. Reported illnesses have ranged from very mild (including some with no reported symptoms) to severe, including illness resulting

in death. While information so far suggests that majority of COVID-19 illnesses are mild. About 16% of the cases reported from China were very serious.

A CDC Morbidity & Mortality Weekly Report that looked at severity of disease among COVID-19 patients in the United States by age group found that 80% of deaths were among adults 65 years and older with the highest percentage of severe outcomes occurring in people 85 years and older. People with serious underlying medical conditions like serious heart conditions, chronic lung disease, and diabetes, for example — also seem to be at higher risk of developing serious COVID-19 illness.

The COVID-19 is a pandemic. FYI, a pandemic is a global outbreak of disease. Pandemics happen when a new virus emerges to infect people and can spread between people sustainably. Because there is little to no pre-existing immunity against the new virus, it spreads worldwide.

The virus that causes COVID-19 is infecting people and spreading very easily from person-to-person. On March 11, the COVID-19 outbreak was labeled a pandemic by the WHO.

This is the first pandemic known to be caused by this new coronavirus. In the past century, there have been four pandemics caused by the emergence of new influenza viruses. As a result, most research and guidance around pandemics is specific to influenza, but the same premises can be applied to the current COVID-19 pandemic.

Pandemics of respiratory disease follow a certain progression outlined by the CDC. They begin with an investigation phase, followed by recognition, initiation, and acceleration phases. The peak of illnesses occurs at the end of the acceleration phase, which is followed by a deceleration phase, during which there is a decrease in illnesses.

Different countries or parts of countries can be in different phases of the pandemic at any point in time and different parts of the same country can also be in different phases of a pandemic.

Risk Assessment

Risk depends on characteristics of the virus, including how well it spreads among people; the severity of resulting illness; and the medical or other measures available to control the impact of the virus (for example, vaccines or medications that can treat the illness). There are no vaccines or medications specifically intended to fight this virus.

In the absence of vaccine or treatment medications, nonpharmaceutical interventions become the most important response strategy. These are community interventions that can reduce the impact of disease.

The risk from COVID-19 to Americans can be broken down into risk of exposure versus risk of serious illness and death.

Risk of exposure:

Cases of COVID-19 and instances of community spread are being reported in all states.

People in places where ongoing community spread of the virus that causes COVID-19 has been reported are at elevated risk of exposure, with the level of risk dependent on the location.

Healthcare workers actively caring for patients with COVID-19 are at an elevated risk of exposure. Close contacts of persons with COVID-19 also are at elevated risk of exposure.

Travelers returning from affected international locations where community spread is occurring also are at elevated risk of exposure, with level of risk dependent on where they traveled.

Risk of Severe Illness:

Based on currently available information and clinical expertise, older adults and people of any age who have serious underlying medical conditions might be at higher risk for severe illness from COVID-19. Based on what we know now, those at higher risk for severe illness from COVID-19 are:

- People 65 years and older
- People who live in a nursing home or long-term care facility
- People of all ages with underlying medical conditions

Chapter 2 Origin of COVID-19



Coronavirus illustration (stock image). Credit: © pinkeyes / Adobe Stock

On March 17, 2020, Scripps Research released a press release explaining the origins of the COvid-19 pandemic that the world is now enduring. Much of the information in this chapter has been culled from their report as well as that from genengnews.com

On March 19, Geneng News put out a report that discussed the origins of the Coronavirus. In it they posture that the virus evolved naturally, and 'Is Not a Laboratory Construct.' This was proven by their genetic study.

What is the official name and why?

Official names have been announced for the virus responsible that is responsible for COVID-19. (It had previously been known as "2019 novel coronavirus") and the disease it causes. The official names are shown on the next page:

Disease name

```
coronavirus disease name is (COVID-19)
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Virus name

Severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 is (SARS-CoV-2)

The term *Novel* is used with this and means the following in this book:

Novel: new and not resembling something formerly known or used.

Why do the virus and the disease have different names?

Viruses, and the diseases they cause, often have different names. For example, HIV is the virus that causes AIDS. People often know the name of a disease, but not the name of the virus that causes it. There are different processes, and purposes, for naming viruses and diseases.

Viruses are named based on their genetic structure to facilitate the development of diagnostic tests, vaccines and medicines. Virologists and the wider scientific community do this work, so viruses are named by the <u>International Committee on Taxonomy of Viruses (ICTV)</u>.

Diseases are named to enable discussion on disease prevention, spread, transmissibility, severity and treatment. Human disease preparedness and response at a world level right now is the role of the World Health Organization (WHO), so diseases are officially named by WHO in the International Classification of Diseases (ICD).

Origin of the disease and virus

The novel SARS-CoV-2 coronavirus emerged from the city of Wuhan, China, in late 2019. It has since caused a large scale COVID-19 epidemic (declared a pandemic on March 11, 2020) and it has spread to more than 209 countries and territories as of April 7, 2020. This disease is the product of natural evolution, according to findings published recently in the journal Nature Medicine.

The analysis of public genome sequence data from SARS-CoV-2 and related viruses found no evidence that the virus was made in a laboratory or otherwise engineered. Despite this analysis, pundits across the world have voiced suspicion with the proximity of the

outbreak to a large lab in the Wuhan province. Though early indications were that the source was the Wuhan Wet markets, further information has become available that the virus may have escaped from one of the two labs in Wuhan. Though the source of the virus is likely the labs, there is no evidence to suggest that the virus is manmade. The official word is that the disease and the virus are the product of nature and were not manufactured for bio-war purposes. Here's how the scientists know.

"By comparing the available genome sequence data for known coronavirus strains, we can firmly determine that SARS-CoV-2 originated through natural processes," said Kristian Andersen, PhD, an associate professor of immunology and microbiology at Scripps Research and corresponding author on the paper.

In addition to Andersen, authors on the paper, "The proximal origin of SARS-CoV-2," include Robert F. Garry, of Tulane University; Edward Holmes, of the University of Sydney; Andrew Rambaut, of University of Edinburgh; W. Ian Lipkin, of Columbia University.

What are Coronaviruses?

Coronaviruses are a large family of viruses that can cause illnesses ranging widely in severity. The first known severe illness caused by a coronavirus emerged with the 2003 Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS) epidemic in China. A second outbreak of severe illness began in 2012 in Saudi Arabia with the Middle East Respiratory Syndrome (MERS).

On December 31 of last year, Chinese authorities alerted the World Health Organization of an outbreak of a novel strain of coronavirus causing severe illness. This was subsequently named SARS-CoV-2. As of April 7, 2020, nearly 1,380,397 cases have been documented, although many more mild cases have likely gone undiagnosed. The virus so far has killed over 78, 313 people. The official account of recovered people (no trace of the virus) is 295, 812. In the US the #s at the time were as follows:

United States Stats Cases: 388,757 Deaths: 12,400 Pennsylvania Stats Cases: 14,559 Deaths: 162

What do we know now about the disease and the virus?

Very shortly after the epidemic began, Chinese scientists sequenced the genome of SARS-CoV-2 and made the data available to researchers across worldwide. Let me explain how significant this was.

Two biologists from John Hopkins, Peter Thielen and Tom Mehoke have spent years sequencing the genome of influenza. They were naturals to examine the work of the Chinese scientists as this new strain of coronavirus spread across the globe,. These biologists y are now using their experience from the Johns Hopkins' Applied Physics Laboratory to better understand the virus that causes COVID-19.

With software and molecular biology approaches developed in part at their Applied Physics Laboratory, Thielen and Mehoke use a handheld DNA sequencer to conduct immediate on-site genome sequencing of SARS-CoV-2—the virus that causes COVID-19.

"This information allows us to track the evolution of the virus," Thielen said. "It gives us a sense of where the new cases coming into Baltimore could've originated, and insight into how long transmission may have occurred undetected. There are a lot of things we can glean from that."

The virus causing COVID-19, Thielen said, does not appear to be mutating as fast. "When this virus was first sequenced in China, that information was helpful in starting the process to develop a vaccine," Thielen explained. "What we're doing informs whether or not the virus is mutating away from that original sequence, and how quickly. Based on the mutation rate, early data indicates that this would likely be a single vaccine rather than one that needs to be updated each year, like the flu shot." In the near-term, the mutations inform how the virus is spreading.

The resulting genomic sequence data has shown that Chinese authorities rapidly detected the epidemic and that the number of COVID-19 cases have been increasing because of human to human transmission after a single introduction into the human population.

Andersen and collaborators at several other research institutions used this sequencing data to explore the origins and evolution of SARS-CoV-2 by focusing in on several tell-tale features of the virus.

With the United States continuing to ramp up testing and mitigation capabilities, the ability to understand how outbreaks are linked gives public health departments another tool for evaluation. Mutations can explain how long the virus may have gone undetected and the supposition that there are likely far more cases than diagnosed, and can advise on what measures to put in place (such as the socialdistancing efforts and closings that are ongoing nationwide).

Sequencing of the virus' genome is being performed by scientists all over the globe as they work to trace the source of regional outbreaks. In northern California, for example, news reports suggest that genome sequencing has linked the Bay Area outbreak to the Grand Princess cruise ship, which linked back to the virus found in Washington State, which likely came from China.

That's the type of insight—a DNA fingerprint, if you will—that Thielen and Mehoke will gain as more virus genomes are sequenced from the Baltimore and Washington, D.C., regions.

These two biologists along with other scientists analyzed the genetic template for spike proteins, armatures on the outside of the virus that it uses to grab and penetrate the outer walls of human and animal cells. More specifically, they focused on two important features of the spike protein: the receptor-binding domain (RBD), a kind of grappling hook that grips onto host cells, and the cleavage site, a molecular can opener that allows the virus to crack open and enter host cells.

For a layman, that explains it very well.

The scientists found that the RBD portion of the SARS-CoV-2 spike proteins had evolved to effectively target a molecular feature on the outside of human cells called ACE2, a receptor involved in regulating blood pressure. The SARS-CoV-2 spike protein was so effective at

binding the human cells, in fact, that the scientists concluded it was the result of natural selection and not the product of genetic engineering.

In other words, this refutes some popular conspiracy theories suggesting that the virus from Wuhan may have been man-made and may have been intentional.

The team found that this evidence for natural evolution was supported by data on SARS-CoV-2's backbone -- its overall molecular structure. If someone were seeking to engineer a new coronavirus as a pathogen, they would have constructed it from the backbone of a virus known to cause illness. But the scientists found that the SARS-CoV-2 backbone differed substantially from those of already known coronaviruses and mostly resembled related viruses found in bats and pangolins.

"These two features of the virus, the mutations in the RBD portion of the spike protein and its distinct backbone, ruled out laboratory manipulation as a potential origin for SARS-CoV-2" said Andersen. Josie Golding, PhD, epidemics lead at UK-based Wellcome Trust, said the findings by Andersen and his colleagues are "crucially important to bring an evidence-based view to the rumors that have been circulating about the origins of the virus (SARS-CoV-2) causing COVID-19."

"They conclude that the virus is the product of natural evolution," Goulding adds, "ending any speculation about deliberate genetic engineering."

Possible origins of the virus

Based on their genomic sequencing analysis, Andersen and his collaborators concluded that the most likely origins for SARS-CoV-2 followed one of two possible scenarios.

In one scenario, the virus evolved to its current pathogenic state through natural selection in a non-human host and then jumped to humans. This is how previous coronavirus outbreaks have emerged, with humans contracting the virus after direct exposure to civets (SARS) and camels (MERS). The researchers proposed bats as the most likely reservoir for SARS-CoV-2 as it is very similar to a bat coronavirus. There are no documented cases of direct bat-human transmission, however, suggesting that an intermediate host was likely involved between bats and humans.

In this scenario, both of the distinctive features of SARS-CoV-2's spike protein -- the RBD portion that binds to cells and the cleavage site that opens the virus up -- would have evolved to their current state prior to entering humans. In this case, the current epidemic would probably have emerged rapidly as soon as humans were infected, as the virus would have already evolved the features that make it pathogenic and able to spread between people.

In the other proposed scenario, a non-pathogenic version of the virus jumped from an animal host into humans and then evolved to its current pathogenic state within the human population. For instance, some coronaviruses from pangolins, armadillo-like mammals found in Asia and Africa, have an RBD structure very similar to that of SARS-CoV-2. A coronavirus from a pangolin could possibly have been transmitted to a human, either directly or through an intermediary host such as civets or ferrets. Amazing!

The other distinct spike protein characteristic of SARS-CoV-2, the cleavage site, could have evolved within a human host, possibly via limited undetected circulation in the human population prior to the beginning of the epidemic. The researchers found that the SARS-CoV-2 cleavage site, appears similar to the cleavage sites of strains of bird flu that has been shown to transmit easily between people.

SARS-CoV-2 could have evolved such a virulent cleavage site in human cells and soon kicked off the current epidemic, as the coronavirus would possibly have become far more capable of spreading between people.

Study co-author Andrew Rambaut cautioned that it is difficult if not impossible to know at this point which of the scenarios is most likely. If the SARS-CoV-2 entered humans in its current pathogenic form from an animal source, it raises the probability of future outbreaks, as the illness-causing strain of the virus could still be circulating in the animal population and might once again jump into humans. The chances are lower of a non-pathogenic coronavirus entering the human population and then evolving properties similar to SARS-CoV-2.

Funding for the research was provided by the US National Institutes of Health, the Pew Charitable Trusts, the Wellcome Trust, the European Research Council, and an ARC Australian Laureate Fellowship.

For a non-scientist and a non-biologist such as myself, I am glad there is no test on the information above. It pleases me to no end, however, that there are such brilliant people with such great knowledge to study and dissect the makeup of this current pandemic. They not only pass these tough tests every day, they construct tests so that others can learn from their work.

They are working to make our world a safer place to live and to create the biological armaments to fight and defeat diseases and viruses such as those associated with Covid-19.

Chapter 3 Coronavirus Changed Relationship of US & China



Writer Julian E. Barnes has found some issues regarding the Chinese reporting of the Coronavirus cases to the world community and has cautioned the CIA to pay attention to the facts on the ground. Parts of this chapter are based on his analysis and his cautions to the US CIA His article was published originally on April 2, 2020 and it was updated on April 7 to reflect new information.

He reported that the C.I.A. has been warning the White House since at least early February that China had vastly understated its coronavirus infections and that its count could not be relied upon by the rest of the world's concerned community.

As the US has been compiling major predictive models to reflect the truth of the virus spread information to be able to effectively fight the

virus, things are not adding up according to current and former intelligence officials.

The intelligence briefings in recent weeks, based at least in part on information from C.I.A. assets in China, played an important role in President Trump's negotiation recently of an apparent détente with President Xi Jinping of China. Since then, both countries have ratcheted back criticism of each other. The President of course is no longer firing barbs at China and the Chinese communists are no longer pushing that US soldiers started the virus in Wuhan in China

US scientists have been trying to obtain a more accurate count of the Chinese rate of infection and deaths from the virus because it has worldwide public health implications. This is a time of grave uncertainty over the virus; its speed of transmission; and other fundamental questions. For American officials, having access to and understanding the data is critical to getting a better perspective of how Covid-19 will affect the United States in the months to come.

Perhaps even more importantly, the data is critical to understand the effectiveness of countermeasures such as social distancing, according to American intelligence agencies and White House officials. Can the information from China other than the virus sequencing, which appears truthful, be trusted? So far, to the frustration of both the White House and the intelligence community, the agencies have been unable to glean more accurate numbers through their collection efforts. China can do better if it chose to do so.

And so, American intelligence agencies have concluded that the Chinese government itself does not know the extent of the virus and is as blind as the rest of the world. Midlevel bureaucrats in the city of Wuhan, where the virus originated, and elsewhere in China have been lying about infection rates, testing and death counts, fearful that if they report numbers that are too high they will be punished, lose their position or worse, current and former intelligence officials said.

Bureaucratic misreporting is a chronic problem for any government, but it has grown worse in China as the Communist leadership has taken a more authoritarian turn in recent years. **P**resident Trump has been behaving more diplomatically in recent days regarding China. For example, he stopped calling the virus the Wuhan virus and the Chinese virus after he explained why he can't change facts as it really is the Wuhan virus and it is also the Chinese virus because that is where it originated. He articulated this at one of the daily Coronavirus briefings with his task force. In recent days, he had a conversation with Xi Jinping in which he discussed the country's relationship but he had little to say to the corrupt media about his conversation.

World Health Organization (WHO) & the President

This is a time in history when the President of the United States is counting our allies . You are either with the US or against the US. If you are against the US, you should not expect to receive millions of dollars from the US. For example, the WHO collected over \$400 million last year from the US. The President said this will either end or be substantially curtailed.

In the second week of April in the Tuesday press briefing, after his normal remarks, President Trump read what appeared to be prepared statements about his position on the World Health Organization. He said that the United States was preparing to put a hold on its funding for the organization because "they called it wrong" and have a, as he claims, a strong bias for China.

Later during the Q&A portion, he softened that position to say the administration would look into it.

"They called it wrong," Trump said at the start of the briefing. "They missed the call. They could have called it months earlier. They would have known. And they should've known. And they probably did know. So we'll be looking into that very carefully. And we're going to put a hold on money spent to the WHO. We're going to put a very powerful hold on it."

"I'm not saying I'm going to do it," Trump later answered. When a reporter reminded him that he did in fact say he would put a hold on funding, Trump pushed back: "No I didn't, I said we're going to look at

it, we're going to investigate it, we're going to look at it, but we will look at ending funding."

Earlier that Tuesday, the President tweeted criticism at the WHO, who in some pundits' minds are a source of blame for the spread of the virus in the U.S., writing "The WHO really blew it. For some reason, funded largely by the United States, yet very China centric."

WHO What's the issue?

It is a big one. When the W.H.O. declared a global public-health emergency at the end of February, it heaped praise on China's "extraordinary" efforts to combat the coronavirus epidemic and urged other countries not to restrict travel to China. Considering that US health officials credit Trump's travel ban with saving American lives, WHO's praise of China was just the opposite position. Its praise for China, which was not at all forthright in its official comments on aspects and origins of the disease. Many accuse the Chinese Communists of outright lying. On April 14, President Trump cut the funding (\$480 million) until an evaluation is completed

The World Health Organization's \$4.8 billion budget is not selfsustaining. The US pays a good part of the freight, providing over \$480 million just last year. China, in contrast, contributed \$44m. The Trump administration has already requested a major reduction for 2021. Trump does not see the value for Americans for what the US pays.

James Kraska of "WarontheRocks.com' wrote a piece recently about whether China is legally responsible for COVID-19 damage and he suggests that the claims against the country could be in the trillions.

The truth appears to be that the novel coronavirus incubated in Wuhan from mid-December 2019 to mid-January 2020. The story is that the Chinese state made intentional misrepresentations to its people concerning the outbreak. For example, they provided false assurances to the population preceding the approach of the Lunar New Year celebrations on Jan. 25. An example cited was from the celebration of the Lunar New Year. Pan Chuntao, unaware of the epidemic in progress, a 76-year old from Wuhan, told family that he was feeling festive. He knew there were reports of a virus in his city. However, local officials urged calmness. They assured him that there was no evidence it was transmitted person to person, they said. They offered that they had not reported a new case in days.

To go have a good time, Pan took off on Jan. 16. The 76-year-old left his two-bedroom apartment to attend a government-organized fair. His family was concerned. "We told him not to go because we saw some rumors on WeChat of doctors getting infected," said Pan's son-in-law, Zhang Siqiang. "But he insisted on going. He said, 'The government says it's not a problem, there are no cases

It was what appears to have been a deadly mistake for Pan. In fact, chances are, he and his daughter may now be among the 14,300-plus people infected with a new strain of coronavirus — an outbreak that has killed (if you can believe the numbers) at least 304 people in China, spread to more than 20 countries, disrupted the global economy, and left 55 million people in China's Hubei province under an unprecedented lockdown. Obviously the numbers are far greater today.

In mid-December, an outbreak of a novel influenza-like illness was traced to workers and customers of the city's Huanan Seafood Wholesale Market, aka a Wet Market. In April upon further analysis, it appears the virus came from one of two labs in WHuhan but was not man-made.

The Wet Markets contained exotic and wild animal species. On Dec. 26, multiple Chinese news outlets released reports of an anonymous laboratory technician who made a startling discovery: The sickness was caused by a new coronavirus that was 87 percent similar to SARS, or Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome.

Li Wenliang, serving as an ophthalmologist at Wuhan Central Hospital, sounded the alarm in an online chatroom on Dec. 30. That night, Wuhan public health authorities solicited information on the emergence of a "pneumonia of unclear cause," but omitted Li's discussion about SARS or a novel coronavirus. Li and other medical professionals who tried to disclose the emergence of the virus were either suppressed or jailed by the regime. There was no room for the truth.

On Jan. 1, the state-run Xinhua News Agency warned: "The police call on all netizens to not fabricate rumors, not spread rumors, not believe rumors." The coverup was in full bloom and the people had to mind the instructions or face a major retribution. Perhaps they would disappear.

It took just four days after Li's chatroom discussion, that officers of the Public Security Bureau forced him to sign a letter acknowledging that he had made "false comments," and that his revelations had "severely disturbed the social order."

It was reported that Li, who has become something of an underground folk hero in China against chicanery by state officials, ultimately died of the disease. China silenced other doctors raising the alarm, minimizing the danger to the public even as they were bewildered and overwhelmed.

The numbers coming from China have been questioned for veracity according to US officials. The story is that the State media "suppressed information" about the virus. Although authorities closed the Wuhan "wet market" at the epicenter of the contagion, they did not take further steps to stop the wildlife trade.

By Jan. 22, when the virus had killed just 17 yet had infected more than 570 people, China tightened its suppression of information about the coronavirus that it deemed "alarming," and further censored criticism of its malfeasance. "Even as cases climbed, officials declared repeatedly that there had likely been no more infections."

President Trump found that the WHO was complicit in verifying China's reporting as being accurate.

US officials had a difficult time discovering what was true and what was fabricated in the Chinese statements. For example, on Dec. 31, the Wuhan Municipal Health Commission falsely stated that there was no "human-to-human transmission" of the disease, which it described as a seasonal flu that was "preventable and controllable." Later, the WHO backed this.

On Feb. 1, the New York Times reported that "the government's initial handling of the epidemic allowed the virus to gain a tenacious hold. At critical moments, officials chose to put secrecy and order ahead of openly confronting the growing crisis to avoid public alarm and political embarrassment."

Importantly, China "failed to expeditiously share information" with the World Health Organization (WHO) on the novel coronavirus. For example, China waited until Feb. 14, nearly two months into the crisis, before it disclosed that "1,700 healthcare workers were infected." Some US officials believe that WHO was notified but kept it a secret to help the Chinese look better to the world.

It is a fact that such information on the vulnerability of medical workers is essential to understanding transmission patterns and to devise strategies to contain the virus. The experts at WHO were reportedly stymied by Chinese officials for data on hospital transmissions.

Moreover, China's failure to provide open and transparent information to WHO is more than a moral breakdown. It is also the breach of a legal duty that China owed to other states under international law, and for which injured states — now numbering some 150 nations — may seek a legal remedy.

Kraska writes that "unfortunately, China's evasions are part of the autocratic playbook, repeating its obstruction of information that 'worsened the SARS crisis'18 years earlier. In that case, 'China, which led WHO member states to adopt' the new International Health Regulations in 2005.

"In both cases, China and the world would have been spared thousands of unnecessary deaths had China acted forthrightly and in accordance with its legal obligations. Although China's public health system has been modernized, observed Jude Blanchette, head of China Studies at the Center for Strategic and International Studies, "its political system has regressed."

Is China in compliance with the world?

China has memberships in may world organizations and the memberships all seem important to them. For example, it is one of the 194 states party to the legally binding 2005 International Health Regulations. Therefore it is not optional for China to do its legal part such as its duty to rapidly gather information about and contribute to a common understanding of what may constitute a public health emergency with potential international implications.

The IHR is legally binding and they were adopted by the World Health Assembly in 1969, to control six infectious diseases from back then. The diseases are 1. cholera, 2. plague, 3. yellow fever,4. smallpox, 5, relapsing fever, and 6. typhus. The 2005 revision added smallpox, poliomyelitis due to wild-type poliovirus, SARS, and cases of human influenza caused by a new subtype, set forth in the second annex.

In Article 6 of the International Health Regulations, it demands that states provide expedited, timely, accurate, and sufficiently detailed information to the World Health Organization about the potential public health emergencies identified in the second annex. This is in order to galvanize efforts to prevent pandemics. W.H.O. also has a mandate in Article 10 to seek verification from states with respect to unofficial reports of pathogenic microorganisms. Membership does not come without requirements.

Member states are required to provide timely and transparent information as requested within 24 hours, and to participate in collaborative assessments of the risks presented. Yet President Trump noticed that China failed to do its duty regarding the Coronavirus even before it was judged to be a pandemic.

China in fact, backed by the WHO, rejected repeated offers of epidemic investigation assistance from WHO in late January (and the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention in early February), without explanation. The US was serious in its offer of help with the epidemic. China seemed more concerned with secrecy and President Trump noticed. The Washington Post, not a friend of the WH, reached this conclusion in a story on Feb. 26 that China "was not sending details that WHO officials and other experts expect and need." It must have hurt them to admit that China was not performing as it had promised.

While the World Health Organization later lauded China for its efforts, Mara Pillinger of Georgetown's O'Neill Institute for National and Global Health Law concluded that Beijing's partial collaboration "made it politically tricky for the W.H.O. to be able to publicly contradict" China while still getting at least some useful data from China. President Trump thus sees W.H.O. as a conspirator that took US funds and backed China. They are not a victim in this scenario.

The big question is: Is China legally responsible to the world of nations?

China's intentional conduct is clearly wrongful. The question across the world is: *"is it unlawful?*" If so, do other states in the big world have a legal remedy?

We can discuss Article 1 of the International Law Commission's 2001 Responsibility of States for Internationally Wrongful Acts. This states clearly that states are responsible for their internationally wrongful acts. This commission's restatement of the law of state responsibility was developed with the input of states to reflect a fundamental principle of international customary law, which binds all nations.

In this scenario, "wrongful acts" are those that are "attributable to the state" and that "constitute a breach of an international obligation" (Article 2). Conduct is attributable to the state when it is an act of state through the executive, legislative, or judicial functions of the central government (Article 4). So where does that leave us?

Kraska's writings lead us down a path to say that this was the snapshot chronological scenario: China's failures began at the local level, then they quickly spread throughout China's government, all the way up to Xi Jinping, the general secretary of the Chinese Communist Party. The General Secretary, who our President wishes to maintain a cordial relationship, is now being pilloried by Chinese netizens for his failures of action and inaction. The most prominent critic, Chinese tycoon Ren Zhiqiang, lambasted Xi for his mishandling of the coronavirus, calling him a "power hungry clown." Ren soon disappeared. No, we are not kidding about that.

Powerful people can commit atrocities and scare everybody from calling them out. Did something bad happen to Ren for offering his true feelings? Will he ever reappear. China is China and does not have a Constitution or a Bill of Rights.

Responsibility for the Coronavirus pandemic flows from local Wuhan authorities to Xi himself, which are all organs of the state of China, and whose conduct is therefore attributable to China. An "organ of the state" includes any person or entities that are acting in accordance with national law.

Suppose China were to disavow conduct by local authorities or state media as not necessarily directly attributable to the national government, such actions nevertheless are accorded that status if and to the extent the state acknowledged and adopted the conduct as its own, as was done by the officials in Beijing (Article 11). American Journalists who were from the left, and mostly in favor of the Chinese actions, were unexpectedly removed from China as life became uncomfortable answering questions about the Coronavirus. So, America has not natural means of finding out the truth of what is happening now.

We all know that wrongful acts are those that constitute a breach of an international obligation (Article 11). A breach is an act that is "not in conformity with what is required of it by that obligation"

China's failure to expeditiously and transparently share information with W.H.O. qualifies as a bad act in accordance with the International Health Regulations. It constitutes an early and subsequently extended breach of its legal obligations (Article 14). So is China responsible or just a bit player in a plot by some of its local officials?

Not at all. China, as a signatory, bears legal responsibility for its internationally wrongful acts (Article 28). The consequences may include full reparations for the injury caused by the wrongful acts. But, are they collectible?

Most third parties believe that China did not intentionally create a global pandemic. However, it was guilty of malfeasance which was certainly a cause of it. The world knows even if the world is not speaking openly.

There is one epidemiological model at the University of Southampton who found that if China had acted responsibly just one, two, or even three weeks more quickly, the number affected by the virus would have been cut by 66 percent, 86 percent, and 95 percent, respectively.

In other words, besides those suffering from the virus themselves, those whose lives were snuffed out by this invisible virus could be alive today if China had acted responsibly.

Even though the Chinese Communist Party had signed legal commitments to the International Health Regulations, the Chinese Communist Party's failure to abide by its promises has let loose a global contagion, with mounting material consequences. No apologies have been forthcoming—not that seeking forgiveness would bring any lives back. But, how about a simple "I'm sorry!" None came.

Here I am in the early part of April 2020, and the high cost of the coronavirus grows daily, with increasing incidents of sickness and death. There is no quick end to the contagion that affects the whole world.

The mitigation and suppression measures enforced by states to limit the damage to people are wrecking the global economy This too is against the rules.

Under Article 31 of the Articles of State Responsibility, nation states are required to make full reparations for the injury caused by their internationally wrongful acts. Injuries include damages, whether material or moral. Injured states are entitled to full reparation "in the form of restitution in kind, compensation, satisfaction and assurances and guarantees of non-repetition" (Article 34).

Restitution in kind means that the injured state is entitled to be placed in the same position as existed before the wrongful acts were committed (Article 35). To the extent that restitution is not made, injured states are entitled to compensation (Article 36), and satisfaction, in terms of an apology and internal discipline and even criminal prosecution of officials in China who committed malfeasance (Article 37).

Finally, injured nation states are entitled to guarantees of nonrepetition, although the 2005 International Health Regulations were designed for this purpose after SARS (Article 48). As the world continues to suffer the costs of China's breach of its legal duties, it remains to be seen whether the injured states can be made whole.

James Kraska in his extensive commentary, writes the following as a wrap-up:

No one expects that China will fulfill its obligations, or take steps required by the law of state responsibility. So, how might the United States and other nations vindicate their rights? The legal consequences of an internationally wrongful act are subject to the procedures of the Charter of the United Nations.

Chapter XIV of the charter recognizes that states may bring disputes before the International Court of Justice or other international tribunals. But the principle of state sovereignty means that a state may not be compelled to appear before an international court without its consent. This reflects a general proposition in international law, and its fundamental weakness.

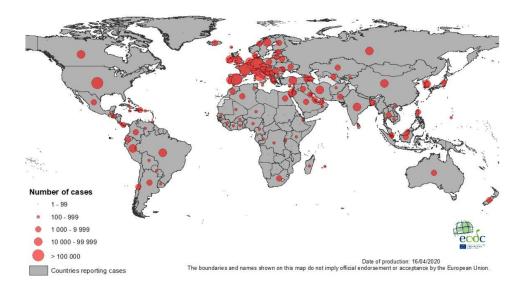
Still, injured states are not without remedy. Barring any prospect for effective litigation, states could resort to self-help. The law of state responsibility permits injured states to take lawful countermeasures against China by suspending their own compliance with obligations owed to China as a means of inducing Beijing to fulfill its responsibilities and debt (Article 49). Countermeasures shall not be disproportionate to the degree of gravity of the wrongful acts and the effects inflicted on injured states (Article 51). The choice of countermeasures that injured states may select is wide open, with only minimal limitations. For example, countermeasures may not involve the threat or use of force or undermine the human rights of China (Article 50). Except for these limitations, however, the United States and other injured states may suspend existing legal obligations or deliberately violate other legal duties owed to China as a means to induce Beijing to fulfill its responsibilities and address the calamitous damages it has inflicted on the world.

The menu for such countermeasures is as limitless as the extent that international law infuses the foreign affairs between China and the world, and such action by injured states may be individual and collective and does not have to be connected explicitly to the kind or type of violations committed by China.

Thus, action could include removal of China from leadership positions and memberships, as China now chairs four of 15 organizations of the United Nations system. States could reverse China's entry into the World Trade Organization, suspend air travel to China for a period of years, broadcast Western media in China, and undermine China's famous internet firewall that keeps the country's information ecosystem sealed off from the rest of the world. Remember that countermeasures permit not only acts that are merely unfriendly, but also licenses acts that would normally be a violation of international law.

But the limitations still leave considerable room to roam, even if they violate China's sovereignty and internal affairs, including ensuring that Taiwanese media voices and officials are heard through the Chinese internet firewall, broadcasting the ineptness and corruption of the Chinese Communist Party throughout China, and reporting on Chinese coercion against its neighbors in the South China Sea and East China Sea, and ensuring the people of China understand the responsibility of the Chinese Communist Party in unleashing a global contagion.

Chapter 4 The Virus Remedy Across the World!



Why did it happen? Why was the world response so inept? Why did so many people die? Has washing hands and avoiding neighbors ever solved a pandemic in our past?

The whole world did not completely go in total lockdown but from those of us living through this nightmare, no matter in which country we live, it sure seems total.

As of today, there are 208 countries and territories that are affected by the coronavirus. It is worthy of note that Sub-Sahara Africa's numbers of cases and deaths are substantially less than most countries which have the virus.

Why? Because the areas discussed are mosquito malaria prone. The people who live there, if they are living, after DDT was banned have already been treated with chloroquine or hydroxychloroquine for years to prevent and to cure their malaria in this area of the world. For many years US travelers have taken prophylactic shots (small dosages with effects lasting several or more weeks) to not get malaria while they hunted big game in Africa. If the big game had its way, it would have banned both chloroquine and hydroxychloroquine. Meanwhile, since the evidence of a COVID-19 cure is only anecdotal, the rest of the world is struggling more so and dying with the pandemic.

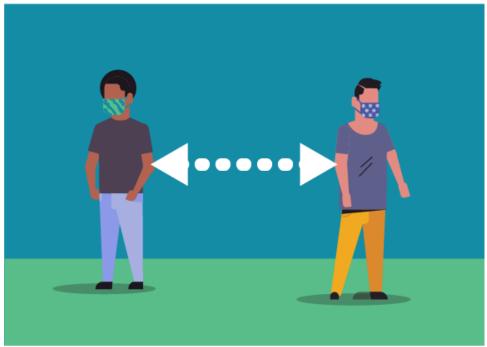
The story of this nasty bug as noted in prior chapters shows that it first surfaced in the Chinese seafood and poultry market late last year, and migrated through human transfer to the 208 assorted countries killing more than 90,000 and sickening more than one and a half million in just a matter of weeks. The World Health Organization wasted no time declaring the situation a pandemic.

As a result of the penetration and spread of the virus, almost all countries instituted a number of remedies to mitigate the virus.

Almost simultaneously, countries adopted similar approaches to keep from contracting this deadly virus. Still the officials suggest that limiting face-to-face contact with others is the best way to reduce the spread of coronavirus disease 2019 aka (COVID-19). Besides quarantine, a major recommendation is to wash hands frequently with soap and water or hand sanitizers and practice as technique that has been dubbed as social distancing.

Social distancing is also called "physical distancing." It is a selfdescribed term in many ways meaning *keeping space between yourself and other people outside of your home.* To practice social or physical distancing, here are some basic rules:

- Stay at least 6 feet (2 meters) from other people
- Do not gather in groups
- Stay out of crowded places and avoid mass gatherings



Picture is worth a thousand words What is social distancing?

In addition to everyday steps to prevent COVID-19, keeping space between you and others is one of the best tools we have to avoid being exposed to this virus and slowing its spread locally and across the country and world. Since there are no recommended therapeutics and there is no vaccine for the COVID-19, the objective is to not get it. Stay away from other humans who do not live in your immediate residence.

Here are some other recommendations:

When COVID-19 is spreading in your area, everyone should limit close contact with individuals outside your household in indoor and outdoor spaces. Since people can spread the virus before they know they are sick, it is important to stay away from others when possible, even if you have no symptoms. Social distancing is especially important for people who are at higher risk of getting very sick – those with other health issues and those over 65-years of age.

Why should I practice social distancing?

COVID-19 spreads mainly among people who are in close contact (within about 6 feet) for a prolonged period. Spread happens when an infected person coughs, sneezes, or talks, and droplets from their mouth or nose are launched into the air and land in the mouths or noses of people nearby. Just because you don't see it happening, does not mean it is not happening. Imagine that everybody you speak with or come closer than 6 feet or so to you is spreading these contagious droplets and this makes you even safer.

The droplets can infect just by being in the opening passages of your airways but can also be inhaled into the lungs. Recent studies indicate that people who are infected but do not have symptoms likely also play a role in the spread of COVID-19.

You can also get the COVID-19 virus by touching a surface or object that has the virus on it and then touching your own mouth, nose, or eyes. However, this is not thought to be the main way the virus spreads. COVID-19 can live for hours or days on a surface, depending on factors such as sun light and humidity. Social distancing helps limit contact with infected people and contaminated surfaces.

Although the risk of severe illness may be different for everyone, anyone can get and spread COVID-19. Everyone has a role to play in slowing the spread and protecting themselves, their family, and their community. For some people, the risk of not paying attention to social distancing can be to suffer death after a long illness with the virus.

Here are some tips for social distancing

- Follow guidance from authorities where you live.
- If you need to shop for food or medicine at the grocery store or pharmacy, stay at least 6 feet away from others.
- Use mail-order for medications, if possible.
- Consider a grocery delivery service.
- Cover your mouth and nose with a cloth face cover when around others, including when you have to go out in public, for example to the grocery store.

- Stay at least 6 feet between yourself and others, even when you wear a face covering.
- Avoid large and small gatherings in private places and public spaces, such a friend's house, parks, restaurants, shops, or any other place. This advice applies to people of any age, including teens and younger adults. Children should not have in-person playdates while school is out. To help maintain social connections while social distancing, learn tips to keep children healthy while school's out.
- Work from home when possible.
- If possible, avoid using any kind of public transportation, ridesharing, or taxis.
- If you are a student or parent, talk to your school about options for digital/distance learning.

Stay connected while staying away.

It is very important to stay in touch with friends and family that don't live in your home. Call, video chat, or stay connected using social media. Everyone reacts differently to stressful situations and having to socially distance yourself from someone you love can be difficult. Read tips for stress and coping.

What is the difference between quarantine and isolation?

We have heard there is some concern out there about the differences between isolation and quarantine. The following should help in their differentiation:

Quarantine

Quarantine is used to **keep someone who** might **have been exposed to COVID-19 away from others**. Someone in self-quarantine decide on their own to stay separated from others, and they limit movement outside of their home or current place. A person may have been exposed to the virus without knowing it (for example, when traveling or out in the community), or they could have the virus without feeling symptoms. Quarantine helps limit further spread of COVID-19.

Isolation

Isolation is used to **separate sick people from healthy people**. People who are in isolation should stay home. In the home, anyone sick should separate themselves from others by staying in a specific "sick" bedroom or space and using a different bathroom (if possible).

What should I do if I might have been exposed? If I feel sick? Or have confirmed COVID-19?

All people should self-monitor all the time.

When monitoring yourself, be alert for symptoms; do the following

- Watch for fever,* cough, or shortness of breath.
- Take your temperature if symptoms develop.
- Practice social distancing. Maintain 6 feet of distance from others, and stay out of crowded places.
- Contact a physician if you believe you have symptoms

What should you do if you feel healthy but: you recently had close contact with a person with COVID-19, or you recently traveled from somewhere outside the U.S. or you just came from a cruise ship or river boat

- Self-Monitor
- Self-Quarantine
- Check your temperature twice a day and watch for symptoms.
- Stay home for 14 days and self-monitor.
- If possible, stay away from people who are high-risk for getting very sick from COVID-19.

If you feel healthy but have been diagnosed with COVID-19, or Are waiting for test results, or have symptoms such as cough, fever, or shortness of breath

- Self-Isolate
- Stay in a specific sick room or area and away from other people.

- If possible, use a separate bathroom.
- Read as much important information about caring for yourself or someone else who is sick.

Look up such important information on the Internet or ask your family doctor about:

- How to Protect Yourself
 - o Social Distancing
 - Face Mask
- Cleaning and Disinfecting Your Home
 - o Lysol
 - Wash hands with soap & water
- Gatherings and Community Events
 - Social Distancing
 - o Masks

Chapter 5 The World Declares a Lockdown!

The reference document for parts of this chapter was written by Derrick Bryson Taylor for the New York Times on April 7, 2020

As you can see from the map of restrictions, the whole world is not completely in total lockdown but from those of us living through this nightmare, no matter in which country we live, it sure seems total.

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As of today, there are 208 countries and territories that are affected by the coronavirus. It is worthy of note that Sub-Sahara Africa's numbers of cases and deaths are substantially less than most countries which have the virus. Why? Speculation is that the areas are mosquito malaria prone, the people have been treated with chloroquine and hydroxychloroquine for years to prevent and to cure malaria in this area of the world. These two drugs are reported to have a prophylactic (preventative) effect on the Corona virus also. Meanwhile the rest of the world is struggling more so with the pandemic. The story of this nasty bug as noted in prior chapters shows that it first surfaced in the Chinese seafood and poultry market late last year, and migrated through human transfer to the 208 assorted countries killing more than 90,000 and sickening more than one and a half million in just a matter of weeks. The World Health Organization wasted no time declaring the situation a pandemic.

We will discuss potential cures and the politics behind such cures in later chapters.

What happened when?

I can show a fairly accurate timeline of the outbreak so far that may help put the origination and some destinations of this coronavirus in perspective.

The virus itself was brewing in November and perhaps even before that.

17 November 17 2019

There is a report from by the South China Morning Post (SCMP) on 13 March 2020, that a 55-year-old man who was later confirmed with the novel coronavirus, may have contracted the disease on 17 November 2019. This apparently is the best information so far about the earliest date of virus contraction.

Dec 1, 2019

The earliest traceable and confirmed patient, the 55-year-old man started experiencing symptoms on 1 December 2019. According to the report, he had not been to the Huanan Seafood Wholesale Market of Wuhan. No epidemiological link could be found between this case and later cases. This is not confirmed

Dec 2, 2019]

A 51-year-old Dongguan doctor suddenly developed a cough and fever and was hospitalized. This is the first known hospitalization caused by the pneumonia with unknown causes. The patient had a lung infection, severe pneumonia, acute respiratory distress syndrome, and allergic purpura. No epidemiological link could be found between this case and later cases. As of mid-January 2020, his diagnosis included Streptococcus pneumoniae and fungi. The tests for COVID-19 had been developed only days before this report.

Dec 10, 2019

Before the determinations on earlier cases, there was a 57-year-old seafood merchant working at the Huanan Seafood Wholesale Market. He is considered by some to be the first patient< The source for this is a March 6, 2020 report by The Wall Street Journal. As you can see, this early information is sketchy at best.

Dec 12, 2019

On January 9, 2020, the Thai online news Thaiger reported the new viral outbreak was first detected in the city of Wuhan on 12 December 2019. The source of this information was not provided in the news report.

Dec 16, 2019

The patient known as first traceable patient, the 55-year-old man, was admitted to Wuhan Central Hospital with infection in both lungs. He was resistant to anti-flu drugs.

Dec 20-29, 2019

During this period, members of the Wuhan Institute of Virology and others reported and published a report on seven cases of people with severe pneumonia who were admitted to the intensive care unit of the Wuhan Jin Yin-Tan Hospital at the beginning of the outbreak. A patient labeled as ICU-01 was not proven to be linked to the Wuhan Seafood Market, but the other six were either sellers or deliverymen at the market. Speculation was that the live market would play a major role in the determination of the cause.

Dec 21, 2019

Chinese epidemiologists published in the CCDC Weekly (Chinese Center for Disease Control and Prevention) Jan 21, 2020 edition, an article stating that their first cluster of patients with "pneumonia of an unknown cause" occurred beginning on Dec 21, 2019.

Dec 24, 2019

Doctors from the Central Hospital of Wuhan took fluid samples from the lungs of a 65-year-old deliveryman who worked at the Wuhan seafood market and sent them to Vision Medicals, Guangzhou, for further testing.

Dec 25, 2019

China's Youth Daily, Wuhan Fifth Hospital gastroenterology director Lu Xiaohong said that she heard that some of the hospital staff might be infected by this unknown agent on Dec 25.

Dec 26-27

Zhang Jixian, the Director of the Department of Respiratory and Critical Care at Hubei Provincial Hospital of Integrated Chinese & Western Medicine, examined an elderly couple who presented themselves at the hospital with fever and cough on Dec 26, 2019. CT scans of their chests showed a different pattern from other viral pneumonias. She asked the couple's son to undergo a scan and found the same pattern. But, he had showed symptoms. Another patient, who was employed as a merchant from the Huanan Seafood Wholesale Market, arrived at the hospital with a fever and cough that same day. After conducting normal tests, Zhang ruled out known respiratory ailments. She reportedly believed this was an infectious disease. She reported the four cases to her superiors at the hospital on Dec 27, 2019..

Vision Medicals had sequenced most of the virus from fluid samples of the 65-year-old deliveryman sent by Central Hospital of Wuhan on Dec 27. The results showed an alarming similarity to the deadly SARS coronavirus that was prevalent between 2002 and 2003.

Dec 28-29, 2019

During the following two days, three similar cases were received by the Hubei Provincial. They were all associated with the seafood market. On Dec 29, the hospital administration convened a multidepartmental panel of doctors. The doctors concluded that the cases were unusual and required special attention. They thus reported their findings to the provincial CDC. Wuhan CDC staff initiated a field investigation and found additional patients with similar symptoms who were linked to the market. This is attributed to a CCDC publication—the initial admissions to Hubei Provincial Hospital occurred on Dec 29

Dec 30, 2019

There was a genetic sequencing report from CapitalBio Medlab of Beijing about the pathogen of a 41 year-old-patient, the sample of which was collected by Wuhan Central Hospital mistakenly diagnosed as Severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus (SARS coronavirus). This mistaken result alerted the authority and some of the Wuhan doctors of the issue.

Wuhan Municipal Health Committee issued an "urgent notice on the appropriate treatment to patients with pneumonia of unknown cause" to medical institutions under its jurisdiction.

Multiple doctors in Wuhan examined and shared the test report via the internet, including Li Wenliang, an ophthalmologist at Wuhan Central Hospital. Li posted a warning to alumni from his medical school class via a WeChat group in the late afternoon that a cluster of seven patients treating within the ophthalmology department had been unsuccessfully treated for symptoms of viral pneumonia and diagnosed with SARS. These patients did not respond to traditional treatments, and so they were quarantined in an ER department of the Wuhan Central Hospital.

In the WeChat post, Li posted the erroneous diagnostics that "there had been 7 confirmed cases of SARS". Li posted a snippet of an RNA analysis finding "SARS coronavirus" and extensive bacteria colonies in a patient's airways. Thereafter, news of an outbreak of "pneumonia of unknown origin" started circulating on social media on the evening of Dec 30 2019.

Dec 31, 2019

This is where the World Health Organization gets involved. The Wuhan Municipal Health Committee informed WHO that 27 "cases of pneumonia of unknown etiology (unknown cause) were detected in Wuhan." Most worked in the stalls at the Huanan Seafood Wholesale Market, seven of whom by this time, were in critical condition. 42 Cancel All Student Debt Now!

Chinese state television CCTV ch13 in their daily news broadcasts issued an epidemiological alert telling entire country of a strange and unknown virus found. It also reported that a team of experts from the National Health Commission had arrived in Wuhan on the day to lead the investigation. The People's Daily said the exact cause remained unclear and it would be premature to speculate."

A vendor at the Huanan Seafood Market, named Qu Shiqian said that government officials had disinfected the market premises on Dec 31, 2019 and told stallholders (those who worked in the market stalls) to wear face masks. Qu said he had only learned of the pneumonia outbreak from media reports. "Previously I thought they had flu," he said. "It should be not serious. We are fish traders. How can we get infected?"

Tao Lina, a public health expert and former official with Shanghai's Centre for disease control and prevention, said, "I think we are [now] quite capable of killing it in the beginning phase, given China's disease control system, emergency handling capacity and clinical medicine support." No human-to-human infection had been reported so far and more pathological tests and investigations were underway, official said.

As a result of the official announcement of the Wuhan Municipal Health Commission, Hong Kong, Macau and Taiwan immediately tightened their inbound screening processes Hong Kong Secretary for Food and Health Sophia Chan Siu-chee announced after an urgent night-time meeting with officials and experts, "[any suspected cases] including the presentation of fever and acute respiratory illness or pneumonia, and travel history to Wuhan within 14 days before onset of symptoms, we will put the patients in isolation.".

The social media reports stated that 27 patients in Wuhan—most of them stallholders at the Huanan Seafood Market—had been treated for the mystery illness.

On the Financial Times of March 20, 2020, they stated "Taiwan said its doctors had heard from mainland colleagues that medical staff were getting ill — a sign of human-to-human transmission. Taipei officials said they reported this to both International Health Regulations (IHR), a WHO framework for exchange of epidemic prevention and response data between 196 countries, and Chinese health authorities on December 31."

Dec 31 2019

Chinese authorities treated dozens of cases of pneumonia of unknown cause. The government in Wuhan, China, confirmed that health authorities were treating dozens of cases. Days later, researchers in China identified a new virus that had infected dozens of people in Asia.

Jan 11, 2020

China reported its first death. On Jan. 11, Chinese state media reported the first known death from an illness caused by the virus, which had infected dozens of people. The 61-year-old man who died was a regular customer at the market in Wuhan, and he had previously been found to have abdominal tumors and chronic liver disease. The report of his death came just before one of China's biggest holidays, when hundreds of millions of people travel across the country.

Jan 20, 2020

Other countries, including the United States, began to confirm cases. The first confirmed cases outside mainland China occurred in Japan, South Korea and Thailand, according to the World Health Organization's first situation report. The first confirmed case in the United States came the next day in Washington State, where a man in his 30s developed symptoms after returning from a trip to Wuhan.

Jan 23, 2020

Wuhan is a city of more than 11 million people. It was abruptly cut off by the Chinese authorities.



Chinese authorities suspended buses, subways and ferries within the city of Wuhan, pictured above on Feb. 3.Credit...Getty Images

The Chinese authorities closed off Wuhan by canceling planes and trains leaving the city, and suspending buses, subways and ferries within it. At this point, at least 17 people had died and more than 570 others had been infected, including in Taiwan, Japan, Thailand, South Korea and the United States.

Jan 30, 2020

W.H.O. then declared a global health emergency. Amid thousands of new cases in China, a "public health emergency of international concern" was officially declared by the W.H.O. China's Foreign Ministry spokeswoman said that it would continue to work with the W.H.O. and other countries to protect public health, and the U.S. State Department warned travelers to avoid China.

Jan 31, 2020

The Trump administration against the advice of mostly everybody decided that for the safety of Americans he would restrict travel from China. They suspended entry into the United States by any foreign national who had traveled to China in the past 14 days, excluding the immediate family members of American citizens or permanent residents. By this date, 213 people had died and nearly 9,800 had been infected worldwide.

Feb 2, 2020,

The first coronavirus death was reported outside China. A 44-year-old man in the Philippines died after being infected, officials said,. It was the first death reported outside China. By this point, more than 360 people had died.

Feb 5, 2020

A cruise ship in Japan, The Diamond Princess, a part of Princess Cruise Lines, quarantined thousands.



The Diamond Princess cruise ship on Feb. 9Credit...Eugene Hoshiko/Associated Press

After a two-week trip to Southeast Asia, more than 3,600 passengers began a quarantine aboard the Diamond Princess cruise ship in Yokohama, Japan. Officials started screening passengers, and the number of people who tested positive became the largest number of coronavirus cases outside China. By Feb. 13, the number stood at 218.

Feb 7, 2020

A Chinese doctor who tried to raise the alarm died.



The death of Dr. Li Wenliang provoked anger at how the Chinese government handled the epidemic. Credit...Tyrone Siu/Reuters

When Dr. Li Wenliang, a Chinese doctor, died on Feb. 7 after contracting the coronavirus, he was hailed as a hero by many for trying to ring early alarms that a cluster of infections could spin out of control.

In early January, the authorities had reprimanded him, and he was forced to sign a statement denouncing his warning as an unfounded and illegal rumor. Dr. Li's death provoked anger and frustration at how the Chinese government mishandled the situation by not sharing information earlier and silencing whistle-blowers.

Feb 11, 2020

The disease which the virus causes got a new name. The World Health Organization on Feb. 11 proposed an official name for the disease the virus coronavirus causes: *Covid-19*, an acronym that stands for coronavirus disease 2019. The name makes no reference to any of the people, places, or animals associated with the coronavirus, given the Chinese goal to avoid a stigma of association.

By the next day, the death toll in China had reached 1,113 and the total number of confirmed cases rose to 44,653. There were 393 cases outside of China, in 24 countries at the time.

Feb 13, 2020

In China, there were more than 14,000 new cases in Hubei Province. Officials added more than 14,840 new cases to the total number of infected in Hubei Province, and the ruling Communist Party ousted top officials there. The new cases set a daily record, coming after officials in Hubei seemed to be including infections that were diagnosed by using lung scans of symptomatic patients.

Feb 14, 2020

France announced the first coronavirus death in Europe.



France's first coronavirus death was the fourth death from the virus outside of mainland China. Credit...Ian Langsdon/EPA, via Shutterstock

An 80-year-old Chinese tourist died on Feb. 14 at a hospital in Paris, in what was the first coronavirus death outside Asia, the authorities said. It was the fourth death from the virus outside mainland China, where about 1,500 people had died, most of them in Hubei Province.

Feb 17, 2020

Chinese officials drafted legislation to curb the practice of eating wildlife such as that found in the aforementioned market. China said it was reviewing its trade and consumption of wildlife, which has been identified as a probable source of the outbreak. Officials drafted legislation that aims to end "the pernicious habit of eating wildlife," a statement from the Standing Committee of the Congress said.

Feb 19, 2020

Hundreds are released from the quarantined cruise ship. After a twoweek quarantine, 443 passengers began to leave the Diamond Princess cruise ship. It was the first day of an operation taking three days to offload people who tested negative for the virus and did not have symptoms. Passengers who shared cabins with infected patients remained on the ship. A total of 621 people, including passengers and crew aboard the ship had been infected.

Feb 21, 2020

An outbreak in South Korea is linked to a secretive church. The Shincheonji Church of Jesus, a secretive church in South Korea was linked to a surge of infections in the country. The number of confirmed cases in the country rose above 200, and more than 400 other church members reported potential symptoms, health officials said.

As a result, the government shut down thousands of kindergartens, nursing homes and community centers, and put a stop to political rallies in the capital, Seoul.

Feb 21, 2020

The virus from an undetermined source infected people in Iran. On Feb. 19, Iran announced two coronavirus cases in the country, then hours later said that both patients had died. Two days later, the country announced two additional deaths. The source of the virus in Iran is unknown. By Feb. 20, the number of global cases had risen to nearly 76,000, according to the W.H.O.

Feb 23, 2020

Italy, which has a major trading relationship with China and which had many recent visits from Wuhan was affected by a major surge in coronavirus cases. Italian Officials began to lock down towns.



Officials in Italy locked down 10 towns after a cluster of cases suddenly emerged near Milan. Credit...Nicola Fossella/EPA, via Shutterstock

Europe faced its first major outbreak as the number of reported cases in Italy grew from fewer than five to more than 150. In the Lombardy region, officials locked down 10 towns after a cluster of cases suddenly emerged in Codogno, southeast of Milan. As a result, schools closed and sporting and cultural events were canceled.

Feb 24, 2020

The Trump administration began to get a feel for the enormity of this epidemic and asked Congress for \$1.25 billion for a coronavirus response.

As the number of coronavirus cases around the globe continued to climb, the Trump administration began preparing for the virus to arrive in full scale in the United States. The White House asked Congress to allocate \$1.25 billion in new emergency funds to bolster its preparedness — a significant escalation in the administration's response. At this point the United States, where Centers for Disease Control and Prevention officials warned of an almost certain outbreak, at this point, had 35 confirmed cases and no deaths.

Feb 24, 2020

Iran emerges as a second focus point of the virus.



A number of other countries in the Middle East have reported coronavirus cases that have been linked back to Iran. Credit...Atta Kenare/Agence France-Presse — Getty Images

At this point in the epidemic's spread, Iran said it had 61 coronavirus cases and 12 deaths, more than any other country but China, and public health experts warned that Iran was a cause for worry — its borders are crossed each year by millions of religious pilgrims, migrant workers and others. Cases in Iraq, Afghanistan, Bahrain, Kuwait, Oman, Lebanon, the United Arab Emirates and one in Canada, have been traced back to Iran. The US offered help to Iran but the offer was rejected.

Feb 26, 2020

Latin America reported its first coronavirus case. Brazilian health officials said that a 61-year-old São Paulo man, who had returned recently from a business trip to Italy, tested positive for the coronavirus. It was the first known case in Latin America. Officials also began tracking down other passengers on the flight the man took to Brazil and others who had contact with him in recent days.

Feb 28, 2020

The number of infections in Europe spikes. Italy, where 800 people had been infected by Feb. 28, remained an area of major concern. Cases in 14 other countries, including Northern Ireland and Wales, could be traced back to Italy. Germany had nearly 60 cases by Feb. 27, and France reported 57, more than triple the number from two days earlier. Both England and Switzerland reported additional cases, while Belarus, Estonia and Lithuania all reported their first infections.

Feb 28, 2020

Sub-Saharan Africa recorded its first infection.



Nigeria's first confirmed case was an Italian citizen returning to the country. Credit...Pius Utomi Ekpei /Agence France-Presse — Getty Images Nigeria, Africa's most populous nation, confirmed its first case of coronavirus on Feb. 28. The patient was an Italian citizen who had returned to Lagos from Milan.

Feb 29, 2020

The United States recorded its first coronavirus death and announced additional travel restrictions. The West Coast got some of the first infections seemingly because of many flights from China before the travel ban took place. A patient near Seattle became the first coronavirus patient to die in the United States on Feb. 28. As the number of global cases rose to nearly 87,000, the Trump administration issued its highest-level warning, known as a "do not travel" warning, for areas in Italy and South Korea most affected by the virus. The government also banned all travel to Iran and barred entry to any foreign citizen who had visited Iran in the previous 14 days.

March 3, 2020

U.S. officials approve widespread coronavirus testing. The C.D.C. lifted all federal restrictions on testing for the coronavirus on March 3, according to Vice President Mike Pence. The news came after the C.D.C.'s first attempt to produce a diagnostic test kit fell flat. By this point, the coronavirus had infected more than 90,000 around the globe and killed about 3,000, according to the W.H.O.

March 11, 2020

President Trump restricted / blocked visitors from continental Europe. In a prime-time address from the Oval Office, Mr. Trump said he would halt travelers from European countries other than Britain for 30 days, as the World Health Organization declared the coronavirus a pandemic and stock markets plunged further.

March 13, 2020

President Trump declares a national emergency.

Mr. Trump officially declared a national emergency, and said he was making \$50 billion in federal funds available to states and territories to combat the coronavirus. He also said he would give hospitals and doctors more flexibility to respond to the virus, including making it easier to treat people remotely.



President Trump, who declared a national emergency, made millions of dollars in funds available to states. Credit...Erin Schaff/The New York Times

March 15, 2020

The C.D.C. recommends no gatherings of 50 + people in the U.S.



Central Park on March 18. President Trump advised citizens to avoid groups of more than 10.Credit...Juan Arredondo for The New York Times

On March 15, the C.D.C. advised no gatherings of 50 or more people in the United States over the next eight weeks. The recommendation included weddings, festivals, parades, concerts, sporting events and conferences. The following day, Mr. Trump advised citizens to avoid groups of more than 10. New York City's public schools' system, the nation's largest with 1.1 million students, also announced that it would close.

March 16, 2020

Latin America begins to feel the effects of the virus. Several countries across Latin America imposed restrictions on their citizens to slow the spread of the virus. Venezuela announced a nationwide quarantine that began on March 17. Ecuador and Peru implemented countrywide lockdowns, while Colombia and Costa Rica closed their borders. However, Jair Bolsonaro, the president of Brazil, encouraged mass demonstrations by his supporters against his opponents in congress.

MARCH 17

France imposed a nationwide lockdown. On March 17, France imposed a nationwide lockdown, prohibiting gatherings of any size and postponing the second round its municipal elections. The lockdown was one of Europe's most stringent. While residents were told to stay home, officials allowed people to go out for fresh air but warned that meeting a friend on the street or in a park would be punishable with a fine. By this time, France had more than 6,500 infections with more than 140 deaths, according to the W.H.O.

MARCH 17

The E.U. barred most travelers from outside the bloc for 30 days.

European leaders voted to close off at least 26 countries to nearly all visitors from the rest of the world for at least 30 days. The ban on nonessential travel from outside the bloc was the first coordinated response to the epidemic by the European Union.



The European Union adopted a 30-day ban on non-essential travel to at least 26 European countries from the rest of the world. Credit...Maria Contreras Coll for The New York Times

March 19, 2020

For the first time, China reported zero local infections. The report was specific: no new local infections for the previous day. This was a milestone in the ongoing fight against the pandemic. The news signaled that an end to China's epidemic could be in sight.

However, experts said the country would need to see at least 14 consecutive days without new infections for the outbreak to be considered over. And the announcement did not mean that China recorded no new coronavirus cases. Officials said that 34 new cases had been confirmed among people who had arrived in China from elsewhere.

March 21, 2020

Hospitals and other health care units were complaining that they did not have enough equipment to handle the volume of cases. Companies promised to beginning to produce medical supplies to address the need. On March 21, the White House said that American companies were increasing efforts to restock hospitals with important supplies. Hanes and General Motors agreed to make masks and ventilators. Christian Siriano, a fashion designer, Dov Charney, the founder of Los Angeles Apparel, and Karla Colletto, a swimwear company, all agreed to repurpose their operations to create masks and hospital garments.



Gov. David Ige of Hawaii issued a mandatory two-week quarantine for anyone arriving in the state. Credit...Caleb Jones/Associated Press

Hawaii's governor orders a mandatory 14-day quarantine to arriving visitors and residents. Gov. David Ige of Hawaii ordered a mandatory 14-day quarantine for everyone arriving in Hawaii, including tourists and returning residents. Mr. Ige called his order the first of its kind.

March 23, 2020

Prime Minister Boris Johnson locks Britain down.

The lockdown closed all nonessential shops, barred meetings of more than two people, and required all people to stay in their homes except for trips for food or medicine. Those who disobey risked being fined by the police.

March 24, 2020

Announcement: The Tokyo Olympics were delayed until 2021. Officials announced that the Summer Olympics in Tokyo would be postponed for one year. Only three previous Games had been canceled, all because of war: The 1916 Summer Olympics were canceled because of World War I, and the Summer and Winter Games were canceled in 1940 and 1944 because of World War II.



India ordered a three-week lockdown for its 1.3 billion citizens, and officials pledged to spend billions on medical supplies. Credit...Narinder Nanu / Agence France-Presse — Getty Images

March 24, 2020

India, a country of 1.3 billion, announces a 21-day lockdown. One day after the authorities halted all domestic flights, Narendra Modi, India's prime minister, declared a 21-day lockdown. While the number of reported cases in India was about 500, the prime minister pledged to spend about \$2 billion on medical supplies, isolation rooms, ventilators and training for medical professionals.

March 26, 2020

The US eclipsed all other countries in confirmed coronavirus cases. The United States officially became the country hardest hit by the pandemic, with at least 81,321 confirmed infections and more than 1,000 deaths. This was more reported cases than in China, Italy or any other country.

March 27, 2020

President Trump signed the coronavirus stimulus bill into law. Mr. Trump signed a \$2 trillion measure to respond to the coronavirus pandemic. Lawmakers said the bill, which passed with overwhelming support, was imperfect but essential to address the national public health and economic crisis.

March 28, 2020

The C.D.C. issued a travel advisory for the New York region. The C.D.C. urged residents of New York, New Jersey and Connecticut to "refrain from nonessential domestic travel for 14 days effective immediately." The advisory did not apply to workers in "critical infrastructure industries," including trucking, public health, financial services and food supply.

March 30, 2020

More states issue stay-at-home directives. Virginia, Maryland and Washington, D.C., issued orders requiring their residents to stay home. Similar orders went into effect for Kansas and North Carolina. Other states had previously put strict measures in place. The new orders meant that least 265 million Americans were being urged to stay home.

Apr 2, 2020

Global cases top 1 million, and millions loser their jobs. By April 2, the pandemic had sickened more than 1 million people in 171 countries across six continents, killing at least 51,000.

In just a few weeks, the pandemic put 22 million Americans out of work, including a staggering 6.6 million people who applied for unemployment benefits in the last week of March and another 5 million in the second week of April (22 million total). The speed and scale of the job losses was without precedent: Until March, the worst week for unemployment filings was 695,000 in 1982.

Apr 3, 2020

Health officials and government bureaucrats engage in debate over who should wear masks. The C.D.C unequivocally urged all Americans to wear a mask when they leave their homes. However, some officials called the recommendation voluntary and the President said that he had tested negative twice and did not see a need to wear one himself. "With the masks, it's going to be a voluntary thing," the president said. "You can do it. You don't have to do it. I am choosing not to do it. It may be good. It's only a recommendation, voluntary."

Apr 5, 2020

WH insiders continue to fight over therapeutic drug to fight coronavirus. There is no known cure for coronavirus. There is no vaccine and the scientists say the best hope is for a vaccine 18 months from now and that is unlikely. That would mean many, many more deaths.

Yet there is promise in a number of unofficial studies. Anthony Fauci calls these anecdotal meaning not proven by scientific trials, yet in the studies, patients are recovering. President Trump wants all Americans to have a right to try this drug and the evidence suggests he may be right, though he has no scientific proof, people are recovering.

Scoop: Inside the epic White House fight over hydroxychloroquine



There is no peace at the Task Force Table Photo: Drew Angerer /Getty Images

The White House coronavirus task force had its biggest fight yet on Saturday, pitting economic adviser Peter Navarro against infectious disease expert Anthony Fauci. At issue: How enthusiastically should the White House tout the prospects of an antimalarial drug to fight COVID-19?

Behind the scenes: This drama erupted into an epic Situation Room showdown. Trump's coronavirus task force gathered in the White House Situation Room on Saturday at about 1:30pm, according to four sources familiar with the conversation. Vice President Mike Pence sat at the head of the table.

Numerous government officials were at the table, including Fauci, coronavirus response coordinator Deborah Birx, Jared Kushner, acting Homeland Security Secretary Chad Wolf, and Commissioner of Food and Drugs Stephen Hahn.

Behind them sat staff, including Peter Navarro, tapped by Trump to compel private companies to meet the government's coronavirus needs under the Defense Production Act.

Toward the end of the meeting, Hahn began a discussion of the malaria drug hydroxychloroquine, which Trump believes could be a "game-changer" against the coronavirus.

Hahn gave an update about the drug and what he was seeing in different trials and real-world results.

Then Navarro got up. He brought over a stack of folders and dropped them on the table. People started passing them around.

"And the first words out of his mouth are that the studies that he's seen, I believe they're mostly overseas, show 'clear therapeutic efficacy," said a source familiar with the conversation. "Those are the exact words out of his mouth."

Navarro's comments set off a heated exchange about how the Trump administration and the president ought to talk about the malaria drug, which Fauci and other public health officials stress is unproven to combat COVID-19.

Fauci pushed back against Navarro, saying that there was only anecdotal evidence that hydroxychloroquine works against the coronavirus.

Researchers have said studies out of France and China are inadequate because they did not include control groups.

Fauci and others have said much more data is needed to prove that hydroxychloroquine is effective against the coronavirus.

As part of his role, Navarro has been trying to source hydroxychloroquine from around the world. He's also been trying to ensure that there are enough domestic production capabilities inside the U.S.

Fauci's mention of anecdotal evidence "just set Peter off," said one of the sources. Navarro pointed to the pile of folders on the desk, which included printouts of studies on hydroxychloroquine from around the world.

The reality is that people who were going to die are today still living and well. Anecdotal or not, people breathing to Navarro is more than enough proof.

April 6, 2020

Prime Minister Boris Johnson moved into intensive care after being admitted to the hospital with the virus. Ten days after going public with his coronavirus diagnosis, Prime Minister Boris Johnson of Britain was moved into intensive care. The decision was a precaution, according to the British government, who also said he had been in good spirits. Mr. Johnson had also asked the foreign secretary, Dominic Raab, to deputize for him "where necessary."

April 8, 2020

President Trump slammed the W.H.O. Over Coronavirus response and the truth. The president is not alone in his criticism

April 9, 2020

Prime Minister Boris Johnson has been moved out of intensive care but remains in hospital, Downing Street has said.

April 10, 2020

In today's briefing, the last which is included in this book, the confirmed cases of COVID-19 in the United States approach half a million, and the death toll has surpassed 16,500. But the speakers noted that there are pieces of promising news, including that the daily increase in new cases is leveling off and daily death tolls in hotspots like New York are also leveling off.

This is a signal that social distancing efforts undertaken weeks ago may actually be working. Surgeon General Jerome Adams, whose grave words comparing these weeks to 9/11 and Pearl Harbor, says that most of the U.S. won't be able to open by May 1 and when normal activities do resume it will be "place by place, bit by bit. We'll see.

There is that old Alka Seltzer ad that suggests "why trade a headache for an upset stomach." To some opening up the economy is necessary because the benefits of keeping it closed may disappear quickly if the when the economy is about to be resuscitated, it may be found that it has been dead too long! We'll see!

One thing is for sure if the hundreds of millions of hydroxychloroquine doses that have been acquired actually can prevent the disease as it seems it does and if it can cure the disease, then this makes opening the economy a lot less risky. 1. You can prevent getting it and 2. If you do get it, you can be cured for \$20.00. The stakes are high

Chapter 6 The "Cures" for the Coronavirus



Could tobacco cure coronavirus? Don't laugh.

Though there is a lot of hope for a cure for coronavirus, so far, no dice. The Pentagon's medical research arm, however, did credit the use of tobacco plants in 2012 for the quick development of 10 million doses of flu vaccine. Who knows whether tobacco will become a health improvement agent?

The official word is that there is no cure for the Coronavirus COVID-19. If there were a cure, the pandemic would be over already. But, the fact is there is no cure. We spent the first chapters discussing the cause of the pandemic and now it is time to discuss what we can do about it, even though there is no official cure.

The work has been going on and companies are getting closer and closer. A fairly comprehensive list of drugs for COVID-19 is presened at the following URL:

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https://www.clinicaltrialsarena.com/analysis/coronavirus-mers-covdrugs/

This chapter is based mostly on this work. As a non-scientist, the list of potential cures for this virus is amazingly large. Reading the blurbs gives one an idea of the complexity of the mission and the innovative approaches that are being developed to attack this killer virus. You will see that there are a lot of facts on the cures already in the pipeline and there are more introduced every day. There are so many potential cures that if they all worked well, it would still be difficult to pick one. The fact is that there is hope that before mankind is eradicated by any strange disease, the geniuses out there will have a cure for us.



Despite no official cures, there are a number of wannabe cures. Like all things, some are good, some are bad, but other than the developer of a particular cure, none are fully advocated by the independent experts in the scientific community such as Dr. Fauci.

Nonetheless, it helps one's spirit to know that scientists are already working on cures for Coronavirus and many believe there cures are ready for evaluation. That evaluation of course is what may take much more time than the brainwork to develop a cure. After the SARS and MERS outbreaks, the National Institute of Health (NIH) immediately got to work funding potential cures. None are deemed ready for prime time yet, but when there is a deep need like now, it adds impetus to efforts that may have been lagging for some time. The scientists get inspired to make something click after getting the proverbial shot in the arm such as a new pressing need.

The potential cures come from companies and organizations from all over the world, even from the country where the virus was first discovered. For example, the first COVID-19 vaccine in China is expected to be ready for clinical trials by the end of April, 2020, according to Xu Nanping, China's vice-minister of science and technology. Experts say a vaccine needs at least five years to mature enough to be released as safe and proven. Nonetheless, it all starts with a thesis that must be proven or disproven. Inovio Pharmaceuticals plans to begin clinical trials on their coronavirus vaccine this month yes of this year—April this year.

Regular people on the street would not be surprised if a vaccine were available tomorrow but those familiar with the process think that the most optimistic estimate of 18-months is even way too ambitious. So, though we have all these named cures, there is nobody who has come forth to announce that any are the beat-all and end all.

Health officials from W.H.O. have noted that Gilead's remdesivir has demonstrated efficacy in treating the coronavirus infection. That does not make it the game changer or the scientific community would be touting it as such.

Chloroquine approved for emergency use by US FDA

For four weeks now, since I heard the low-down on the French study and the success of the patients in the study, my favorite above all the unproven drugs has been Chloroquine and its derivative Hydroxychloroquine. President Trump tuned into the same study that I reference here and he asked the FDA to look into it as a therapeutic remedy to stop COVID-a9 in its tracks after it has infected somebody. Of course politically speaking the Never Trumpers are having a fieldday bad mouthing the potential for a game changer because they fear the President may gain some electability credits from it.

For President Trump, whether Covid-19 patients should take a onceobscure malaria drug is not even a close call: "What do you have to lose?" he said during a briefing a little more than a week ago. "And a lot of people are saying that, and are taking it."

For physicians on the frontlines, the question of whether to use that drug or other unproven medicines is among the most challenging they've faced: They're trained to make decisions based on rigorous data but have little to go on in treating patients with an entirely new disease. The claim that the results of studies in which none of the patients were denied the drug are not scientific and though in referenced published studies, the patients did well, because the clinical scientific method was not used, they declare the results anecdotal, meaning invalid for scientific purposes.

Based on Trump's urging, however, and despite Dr. Fauci's concern for the science of testing, The US Food and Drug Administration (FDA) looked at these two drugs and approved limited emergency use for chloroquine and hydroxychloroquine as a treatment for COVID-19.

The President of the United States, Donald Trump, had announced on 19 March that chloroquine and hydroxychloroquine, also known as Plaquenil, used to treat malaria, arthritis, and Lupus were approved by the FDA to be tested as a treatment for COVID-19.

Chloroquine is being tested in various clinical trials conducted by government agencies and academic institutions and New York hospitals. Hydroxychloroquine is a derivative. It is my favorite of all the hopefuls because it has those anecdotal studies as backup, and doctors swearing it has helped their patients. President Trump has acquired over 300 million does for the US stockpile as soon as he heard that it might be in short supply as it is becoming a preferred treatment outside the US.

Is this evidence from Dr. Smith non-anecdotal? You decide. He has already decided.

Laura Ingraham has a section on her show that she calls her Medicine Cabinet. It discusses the effectiveness of hydroxychloroquine, whether diabetes increases COVID-19 risk.

Drs. Ramin Oskoui, cardiologist and CEO of Foxhall cardiology, and Stephen Smith, founder of the Smith Center for Infectious Diseases and Urban Health, join Laura Ingraham on 'The Ingraham Angle.' Almost every night to offer their perspectives and review new facts.

Dr. Stephen Smith, founder of The Smith Center for Infectious Diseases and Urban Health, said on "The Ingraham Angle" in early April that he is optimistic about the use of antimalarial medications and antibiotics to treat COVID-19 patients, calling it "a gamechanger." Nobody put words in the Doctor's mouth. Nobody has disproven his theory



Dr. Smith Dr. Oskoui Ingraham's 'Medicine Cabinet' on effectiveness of hydroxychloroquine, whether diabetes increases COVID-19 risk

"I think this is the beginning of the end of the pandemic. I'm very serious," Smith, an infectious disease specialist, told host of the Fox show, Laura Ingraham.

Currently there is no known cure for the coronavirus pandemic ravaging the globe.

Smith, who is treating 72 COVID-19 patients, said that he has been treating "everybody with hydroxychloroquine and azithromycin [an antibiotic]. We've been doing so for a while."

Dr. Smith pointed out that not a single COVID-19 patient of his that has been on the hydroxychloroquine and azithromycin regimen for five days or more has had to be intubated (go on a ventilator).

"The chance of that occurring by chance, according to my sons Leon and Hunter who did some stats for me, are .000-something," he said, adding that "it's ridiculously low."

Smith explained that "intubation means actually putting a tube down into your trachea and then you're placed on the ventilator for respiratory support."

The Food and Drug Administration recently announced an emergency-use authorization for several drugs, including hydroxychloroquine and chloroquine, despite a lack of clear scientific clinical trial-type evidence of their effectiveness. The drug has been used for malaria for 65 years with minimal issues.

A study published earlier this month by French researchers suggested that COVID-19 patients could be treated with antimalarial medication and antibiotics in the battle against the novel coronavirus.

Smith noted on Wednesday that he thinks his data supports the French study.

"Now you actually have an intra-cohort comparison saying that this regimen works," he told the show's host.

Speaking on "Fox & Friends" the same week as Dr. Smith, Dr. Mehmet Oz brought up an "important randomized study still unpublished from Wuhan, China."

He said that his team spoke to the medical leadership in China and vetted the study.



Oz supports Hydroxychloroquine Regimen

"We think it's real," Dr. Oz said on Thursday.

He then went on to explain what the study, which looked at 62 patients, showed. He noted that half of the patients got the traditional therapy being offered in China and the other half got the traditional therapy plus hydroxychloroquine. Technically, though the sample of 62 is small, it is not insignificant and it can be thought of as a valid clinical trial.

"In terms of symptoms, their temperatures, their fevers broke instead of three days, which is the norm over there on this treatment, they got two days," Dr. Oz said.

He added that "in terms of coughing, the other big symptom you have, again it takes a little over three days oftentimes for that to go away and that was dropped at two days."

Dr. Oz then pointed out the part that "really caught my attention." "They did CT scans of the chest in all the patients. All the patients had pneumonia when they started. Over the course of the five-day treatment with the hydroxychloroquine and 55 percent of the control population where they just got the normal therapy there was resolve and resolution of the pneumonia in 81 percent of the patients on the hydroxychloroquine, there was improvement in the lung's images," he pointed out.

Dr. Oz noted that these results are "statistically significant."

He went on to say that even though the study only monitored a small group of people, "they still got the measures that we like to see."

Dr. Oz acknowledged that a bigger clinical trial is still needed, adding that the Chinese study "is an early effort to try to show a lot of people whether this is the right way or the wrong way to go."

"I should point out in the 31 patients that were the control group, four patients had bad outcomes, they got significantly worse. None of the patients in the hydroxychloroquine group got significantly worse," he said.

"So the Chinese are using this as part of their routine treatment. They have a national protocol for measuring COVID-19. I think we ought to consider something like that in this country, but at least physicians and patients should be able to discuss this a bit more comfortably until we have the bigger randomized data from studies done in this country."

Other potential COVID-19 "cures" are being introduced

Other antiviral drugs are also planned to be fast-tracked for testing for coronavirus. There is a major impetus for those with a means to direct their resources into finding a solution to this plague on America. Not all the work is being gone in the US. For example Favilavir is the first approved coronavirus drug in China.

Favilavir

The National Medical Products Administration of China has approved the use of Favilavir, an anti-viral drug, as a treatment for coronavirus. The drug has reportedly shown efficacy in treating the disease with minimal side effects in a clinical trial involving 70 patients. The clinical trial was conducted in Shenzhen, Guangdong province.

There are many pharmaceutical companies involved in developing coronavirus drugs / vaccines. This gives us all hope yet, none have been mainstreamed as being the "cure." So we must all wait for all of the approvals to come in.

Here is a list of about thirty novel coronavirus drugs that pharmaceutical companies across the world are working on. The first grouping I show are candidate vaccines and are not therapeutic drugs such as hydroxychloroquine. I have included a short abstract from the web site above that describes the drug and how it is to work. Since I am not a doctor, I can say that they all have the potential to become major coronavirus vaccines or antivirals, etc. for treating the contagious coronavirus infection.

Novel coronavirus vaccines

Listed below are some of the coronavirus vaccines in various stages of development, across the world.

Fusogenix DNA vaccine by Entos Pharmaceuticals

Entos Pharmaceuticals is in the process of developing what they call Fusogenix DNA vaccine developed using the Fusogenix drug delivery platform. It is designed to prevent COVID-19 infections. Fusogenix drug delivery platform is a proteo-lipid vehicle that introduces a genetic payload of "cure" directly into the cells.

Entos is working on developing an optimized payload containing multiple protein epitopes derived from SARS-COV-2 proteins. The objective is for these to stimulate an immune response in the body to prevent COVID-19 infection.

ChAdOx1 nCoV-19 by University of Oxford

The University of Oxford's ChAdOx1 nCoV-19 is an adenovirus vaccine vector developed by the university's Jenner Institute. The

university is testing the vaccine in a clinical trial planned to be conducted in the Thames Valley Region.

Approximately 510 volunteers aged between 18 years and 55 years will be enrolled for the study.

Gimsilumab by Roivant Sciences

Roivant Sciences is advancing the development of Gimsilumab a clinical-stage, human monoclonal antibody. The drug targets granulocyte-macrophage colony stimulating factor (GM-CSF), which is a pro-inflammatory cytokine found in high levels in the serum of COVID-19 patients.

Targeting GM-CSF is expected to reduce lung damage and reduce mortality rate in COVID-19 patients.

AdCOVID by Altimmune

Altimmune has collaborated with the University of Alabama at Birmingham (UAB) to develop a single dose intranasal vaccine for COVID-19 named AdCOVID. The company is currently carrying out immunogenicity studies after, which phase one clinical trial material will be developed.

Altimmune and UAB will work with researchers to conduct preclinical animal studies and phase one clinical trial in the third quarter of 2020.

TJM2 by I-Mab Biopharma

I-Mab Biopharma by TJM2 It is a neutralizing antibody, as a treatment for cytokine storm in patients suffering from a severe case of coronavirus infection. The drug targets the human granulocyte-macrophage colony-stimulating factor (GM-CSF), which is responsible for acute and chronic inflammation.

The company will commence development after receiving approval for the Investigational New Drug (IND) application from the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA).

Coronavirus vaccine by Medicago

Medicago is developing drug candidates against COVID-19 after having produced Virus-Like Particles (VLP) of the coronavirus. The company has formed a collaboration with Laval University's Infectious Disease Research Centre to develop antibodies against SARS-CoV-2.

The company's research activities are being partly funded by the Canadian Institutes for Health Research (CIHR).

AT-100 by Airway Therapeutics

Airway Therapeutics is exploring its novel human recombinant protein named AT-100 (rhSP-D) as a treatment for coronavirus. The company has announced a filing with the Respiratory Diseases Branch of the National Institutes of Health to evaluate the drug.

AT-100 has shown efficacy in preclinical studies in reducing inflammation and infection in the lungs, while also generating an immune response against various respiratory diseases.

TZLS-501 by Tiziana Life Sciences

Tiziana Life Sciences is developing its monoclonal antibody named TZLS-501 for the treatment of COVID-19. TZLS-501 is a human antiinterleukin-6 receptor (IL-6R), which helps in preventing lung damage and elevated levels of IL-6.

The drug works by binding to IL-6R and depleting the amount of IL-6 circulating in the body thereby reducing chronic lung inflammation.

OYA1 by OyaGen

OyaGen's OYA1 has shown strong antiviral efficacy against coronavirus in laboratory essays. It was found to be more effective than chlorpromazine HCl in inhibiting SARS-CoV-2 from replicating in cell culture.

OYA1 was earlier approved as an investigational new drug for treating cancer but abandoned due to lack of efficacy. OyaGen plans to

conduct further research on the drug to determine the efficacy in treating coronavirus.

BPI-002 by BeyondSpring

BeyondSpring's BPI-002 is a small molecule agent indicated for treating various infections including COVID-19. It has the ability to activate CD4+ helper T cells and CD8+ cytotoxic T cells and generating an immune response in the body.

If combined with another COVID-19 vaccine, the drug has the ability to generate long-term protection against viral infections. BeyondSpring has filed US patent protection for the drug for treating viral infections.

Altimmune's intranasal coronavirus vaccine

An intranasal Covid-19 vaccine is being developed by US-based clinical-stage biopharmaceutical company, Altimmune. Design and synthesis of the single-dose vaccine have been completed, while animal testing will follow.

The coronavirus vaccine is being developed based on a vaccine technology platform that is similar to NasoVAX, an influenza vaccine developed by Altimmune.

INO-4800 by Inovio Pharmaceuticals and Beijing Advaccine Biotechnology

Inovio Pharmaceuticals has collaborated with Beijing Advaccine Biotechnology Company to advance the development of the former's vaccine, INO-4800, as a novel coronavirus vaccine. The company has started pre-clinical testing for clinical product manufacturing. The vaccine development is supported by a \$9m grant from the Coalition for Epidemic Preparedness Innovations (CEPI).

Inovio announced an accelerated timeline for the development of the vaccine on 03 March. Preclinical trials are ongoing and the design for human clinical trials have been completed. The company has also prepared 3,000 doses for human clinical trials planned to be conducted across the US, China, and South Korea. Plans for large-scale manufacturing have also been developed.

Human clinical trials in 30 healthy volunteers are expected to commence in April 2020 in the US, followed by China, and South Korea. A phase one clinical trial is planned to be conducted in parallel in China, by Beijing Advaccine. Results from the clinical trials are expected to be available in September 2020.

Inovio aims to produce one million doses of the vaccine by the end of 2020 to perform additional clinical trials or emergency use.

NP-120 (Ifenprodil) by Algernon Pharmaceuticals

Algernon Pharmaceuticals has announced that it is exploring its NP-120 (Ifenprodil) as a potential treatment COVID-19. Ifenprodil is an N-methyl-d-aspartate (NDMA) receptor glutamate receptor antagonist sold under the brand name Cerocal. It has demonstrated efficacy in improving survivability in mice infected with H5N1.

APN01 by University of British Columbia and APEIRON Biologics

A drug candidate developed by APEIRON Biologics named APN01 is being tested in China in a phase one pilot trial as a treatment for COVID-19. APN01 is based on research conducted by a professor at the University of British Columbia for treating SARS. The research revealed that the ACE2 protein was the main receptor for the SARS virus.

The clinical trial will test the drug's efficacy in reducing the viral load in patients. Data from the trial will be used to determine if additional clinical trials are required to be conducted in larger number of patients.

mRNA-1273 vaccine by Moderna and Vaccine Research Center

Moderna and the Vaccine Research Center, a unit of the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID), have collaborated to develop a vaccine for coronavirus. The vaccine targets the Spike (S) protein of the coronavirus. The first vials of the vaccine have been manufactured at Moderna's Massachusetts manufacturing plant and shipped to NIAID for phase one human clinical trial. The trial began on 16 March at the Kaiser Permanente Washington Health Research Institute in Seattle, Washington. A total of 45 males and females aged between 18 and 45 have been enrolled for the trial.

The participants will be divided into three cohorts who will be administered 25 microgram (mcg), 100mcg or 250mcg dose 28 days apart.

Avian Coronavirus Infectious Bronchitis Virus (IBV) vaccine by MIGAL Research Institute

The MIGAL Research Institute in Israel announced that an Infectious Bronchitis Virus (IBV) vaccine developed to treat avian coronavirus has been modified to treat COVID-19. The vaccine has demonstrated efficacy in pre-clinical trials conducted by the Volcani Institute.

The IBV vaccine was developed after four years of research and has high genetic similarity to the human coronavirus. The institute has genetically modified the vaccine to treat COVID-19 and will be available in the oral form.

The institute is currently exploring potential partners for producing the vaccine in the next eight to ten weeks and obtaining the necessary safety approvals for in-vivo testing.

TNX-1800 by Tonix Pharmaceuticals

Tonix Pharmaceuticals has partnered with Southern Research, a nonprofit research organization, to develop a vaccine for coronavirus named TNX-1800. The vaccine is a modified horsepox virus developed using Tonix's proprietary horsepox vaccine platform.

TNX-1800 is designed to express a protein derived from the virus that causes the coronavirus infection. Southern Research will be responsible for evaluating the efficacy of the vaccine, under the partnership.

Brilacidin by Innovation Pharmaceuticals

Innovation Pharmaceuticals announced that it is evaluating Brilacidin, a defensin mimetic drug candidate, as a potential treatment for coronavirus. Brilacidin has shown antibacterial, anti-inflammatory and immunomodulatory properties in several clinical trials.

The company is planning to explore research collaborations and seek federal grants to develop the coronavirus drug. It is already investigating the drug for inflammatory bowel disease and oral mucositis in cancer patients.

Innovation has signed two material transfer agreements with a university in the US and 12 biocontainment labs in the US for evaluation of Brilacidin as a treatment for COVID-19. One of the biocontainment labs is scheduled to commence testing of the drug in the third week of March.

Recombinant subunit vaccine by Clover Biopharmaceuticals

Clover Biopharmaceuticals is developing a recombinant subunit vaccine using its patented Trimer-Tag© technology. The company is developing the vaccine based on the trimeric S protein (S-Trimer) of the COVID-19 coronavirus, which is responsible for binding with the host cell and causing a viral infection.

Using Trimer-Tag[©] technology, Clover successfully produced the subunit vaccine in a mammalian cell-culture based expression system on 10 February. The company also identified antigen-specific antibody in the serum of fully recovered patients who were previously infected by the virus.

A highly purified form of the S-Trimer vaccine is expected to be available in six to eight weeks for performing pre-clinical studies. The company is equipped with in-house cGMP biomanufacturing capabilities to scale-up production if the vaccine is proven to be successful. Clover is also collaborating with GSK to develop a vaccine using the latter's pandemic adjuvant system.

Vaxart's coronavirus vaccine

Vaxart is developing an oral recombinant vaccine in tablet formulation using its proprietary oral vaccine platform, VAAST.

The company plans to develop vaccines based on the published genome of 2019-nCOV to be tested in pre-clinical models for mucosal and systemic immune responses.

CytoDyn-leronlimab's (PRO-140)

CytoDyn is examining leronlimab (PRO 140), a CCR5 antagonist, as a potential coronavirus drug.

The drug is already being investigated in phase two clinical trials as a treatment for HIV and has been awarded fast-track approval status by the United States Food and Drug Administration.

Linear DNA Vaccine by Applied DNA Sciences and Takis Biotech.

Applied DNA Sciences' subsidiary LineaRx and Takis Biotech formed a joint venture on 07 February to develop a linear DNA vaccine as a treatment for coronavirus. The JV will use Polymerase Chain Reaction (PCR)-based DNA manufacturing technology to develop the vaccine.

The PCR technology offers several advantages including high purity, increased production speed, and absence of antibiotics and bacterial contaminants. Further, the vaccine gene developed through this technology can be effective without being inserted into the patient's genome.

The design for four DNA vaccine candidates is expected to be produced using the PCR technology for carrying out animal testing. The design of one of the vaccine candidates is based on the entire spike gene of the coronavirus, while the remaining are designed based on the antigenic portions of the protein.

BXT-25 by BIOXYTRAN to treat late-stage acute respiratory distress syndrome (ARDS)

BIOXYTRAN announced that it is exploring partners to develop its lead drug candidate, BX-25, as a treatment for Acute Respiratory Distress Syndrome (ARDS) in late-stage patients infected with the coronavirus. The diffusion of oxygen to the blood is comprised in patients suffering from ARDS leading to fluid build-up in the lungs.

BX-25 is designed to be 5,000 times smaller than blood cells and efficiently transport oxygen through the body for a period of nine hours before being processed by the liver. The drug can help in supplying oxygen to the vital organs and enable the patient to recover and survive.

MERS CoV vaccines for coronavirus

Novavax's MERS coronavirus vaccine candidate

Novavax developed a novel Middle East Respiratory Syndrome (MERS) coronavirus vaccine candidate in 2013, post the identification of the first MERS coronavirus ((MERS-CoV) in Saudi Arabia in 2012. It is a crucial target for vaccine development by the Coalition for Epidemic Preparedness Innovations (CEPI) and is a priority disease for the World Health Organization (WHO).

The candidate is designed to primarily bind to the major surface Sprotein and developed using the company's recombinant nanoparticle vaccine technology. Tested along with the Novavax's proprietary adjuvant Matrix-MTM, it inhibited infection by inducing immune responses in the laboratory studies.

Novavax has received \$4m in funding from CEPI to advance the development of the vaccine. The company has produced several nanoparticle vaccine candidates for testing in animal models and aims to carry out human trials in 2020.

The MERS coronavirus is related to the severe acute respiratory syndrome (SARS) coronavirus, for which the company had previously developed a recombinant nanoparticle vaccine candidate.

Inovio Pharma's INO-4700

The investigational DNA immunotherapy, INO-4700 (GLS-5300) is being developed by Inovio in partnership with GeneOne Life Science. It is delivered as vaccine intramuscularly, using the Cellectra® delivery device.

The company has received a \$5m grant from the Bill and Mellinda Gates foundation to accelerate the development of the Cellectra® delivery device.

The vaccine was well-tolerated and demonstrated high immune responses against the MERS-CoV in 94% of patients in the early-stage clinical trial in July 2019.

It also generated broad-based T cell responses in 88% of the subjects.

"Research organizations such as the National Institutes of Health (NIH), US are also developing a vaccine for the coronavirus."

Coronavirus drugs

The novel coronavirus drugs in various stages of development globally are listed below.

Remdesivir (GS-5734) by Gilead Sciences

An Ebola drug developed by Gilead Sciences that was found to be ineffective is now being tested in two phase III randomized clinical trials in Asian countries. The trials are being performed on 761 patients in a randomized, placebo-controlled, double-blind study at multiple hospitals in Wuhan, the epicenter of the novel coronavirus outbreak. The results from the trials are expected to be available over the next few weeks.

According to a report by The New England Journal of Medicine (NEJM), remdesivir, when administered to a coronavirus patient in the US, appeared to have improved the clinical condition.

The University of Nebraska Medical Center is also carrying out clinical trials to test the safety and efficacy of the drug. The first patient to be administered the drug is an evacuee from the Diamond Princess cruise ship.

Actemra by Roche to treat coronavirus-related complications

China approved the use of Roche's Actemra for the treatment of severe complications related to coronavirus. Drugs like Actemra have the ability to prevent cytokine storms or overreaction of the immune system, which is considered as the main reason behind organ failure leading to death in some coronavirus patients.

Actemra is also being evaluated in a clinical trial in China, which is expected to enroll 188 coronavirus patients. The clinical trial is expected to be conducted until May 10.

Biocryst Pharma's Galidesivir,

This is a potential antiviral for coronavirus treatment

The antiviral drug Galidesivir (BCX4430) has shown broad-spectrum activity against a wide range of pathogens including coronavirus. It is a nucleoside RNA polymerase inhibitor that disrupts the process of viral replication.

The drug has already shown survival benefits in patients against deadly viruses such as Ebola, Zika, Marburg, and Yellow fever.

Galidesivir is currently in advanced development stage under the Animal Rule to combat multiple potential viral threats including coronaviruses, flaviviruses filoviruses, paramyxoviruses, togaviruses, bunyaviruses, and arenaviruses.

Regeneron's REGN3048-3051 and Kevzara

Discovered by Regeneron, the combination of neutralizing monoclonal antibodies REGN3048 and REGN3051 is being studied against coronavirus infection in a first-in-human clinical trial sponsored by the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID). The safety and tolerability of the drug will be studied in 48 patients.

Both the antibodies bind to S-protein of MERS coronavirus. The intravenous administration of the drug in the mouse model of MERS resulted in the high-level neutralization of the MERS coronavirus in circulating blood with reduced viral loads in the lungs.

Regeneron has partnered with Sanofi to evaluated Kevzara, a fullyhuman monoclonal antibody, in a phase two/three clinical trial in patients with severe COVID-19 infection. Kevzara is approved for the treatment of rheumatoid arthritis and is known to block the interleukin-6 (IL-6) pathway, which causes an overactive inflammatory response in the lungs of COVID-19 patients.

SNG001 by Synairgen Research

Synairgen Research's SNG001, an inhaled drug, is planned to be tested by the University of Southampton to treat asthma, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease and lower respiratory tract illnesses caused by coronavirus.

SNG001 is a formulation of naturally occurring Interferon- β , which is administered through a nebulizer and is delivered directly to the lungs to reduce the severity of the infection caused by coronavirus.

AmnioBoost by Lattice Biologics

Lattice Biologics is exploring the efficacy of its amniotic fluid concentrate, AmnioBoost, in treating acute respiratory distress

syndrome (ARDS) in COVID-19 patients. AmnioBoost was developed for chronic adult inflammatory conditions such as osteoarthritis.

The drug has shown efficacy in reducing the inflammatory conditions caused by several diseases including coronavirus. It reduces the production of pro-inflammatory cytokines while boosting the production of anti-inflammatory cytokines.

Other companies developing coronavirus vaccines/drugs

Inovio Pharmaceuticals, Moderna, and Novavax

Companies such as Inovio Pharmaceuticals, Moderna, and Novavax have been reported to be developing vaccines. A total of 30 therapies are being tested, including few traditional medicines for coronavirus treatment by Chinese scientists. Chloroquine phosphate has shown efficacy in treating symptoms of the disease, among the 30 therapies. Patients administered with the drug achieved a better drop in fever and shorter recovery time in clinical trials being conducted in hospitals in the Guangdong province and Hunan province.

Enanta Pharmaceuticals

Enanta Pharmaceuticals has announced its plans to develop antiviral drug candidates to treat COVID-19 patients. The company is testing compounds from its existing antiviral compound library for potential efficacy in treating COVID-19. It has also launched a drug discovery program to develop direct-acting drug candidates to treat COVID-19.

Predictive Oncology

Predictive Oncology has launched an AI Platform for the discovery and development of vaccines against coronavirus. The company has signed an agreement with InventaBioTech to acquire Soluble Therapeutics, which provides it with access to the HSCTM Technology. Predictive will use the HSCTM Technology along with its predictive modeling platform to deploy an AI discovery platform that can screen the ideal combination of additives and excipients for protein formulations.

Emergent BioSolutions

Emergent BioSolutions is developing two plasma-derived product candidates or hyperimmunes using its hyperimmune platforms for the treatment of coronavirus. The hyperimmune platforms have been used previously for the development of several approved products including vaccines for smallpox, botulism, and anthrax.

The hyperimmunes are polyclonal antibodies derived from plasma, which are capable of generating an immune response and protecting against infection. Product candidate derived from human plasma is named COVID-HIG, while COVID-EIG is derived from equine plasma. Both will be explored for the treatment of patients with a severe case of infection.

Integral Molecular

Integral Molecular has launched a vaccine program using its two technology platforms including Shotgun Mutagenesis Epitope Mapping and the Membrane Proteome Array. The technologies will help in understanding the human immune response to the coronavirus and isolate the cellular receptors that enable the virus to spread quickly.

The Shotgun technology helps in identifying more than 1,000 binding sites for antibodies, while the Membrane Proteome Array technology is capable of identifying the receptors through which viruses infect cells.

CEL-SCI

CEL-SCI is developing immunotherapy against COVID-19 using its proprietary LEAPS peptide technology, which utilizes conserved areas of the coronavirus proteins to generate T-cell responses and reduce viral load. The technology can also be used to develop immunotherapeutic peptides with both antiviral and anti-inflammatory properties.

The peptides developed using this technology can help in reducing tissue damage from inflammation caused due to lung infection, which is a major cause of mortality in elderly patients.

AJ Vaccines

AJ Vaccines has launched the development of a vaccine against COVID-19. The company will use the latest technology to develop antigens that can mimic the native structures of the virus. The vaccine will be capable of inducing a strong immune response in the body thereby protecting against the infection.

Takeda Pharmaceutical Company

Takeda Pharmaceutical Company has announced plans to develop a plasma-derived therapy against coronavirus. The anti-SARS-CoV-2 polyclonal hyperimmune globulin (H-IG) therapy will be designed to treat high-risk patients. The H-IG therapy includes concentrated pathogen-specific antibodies derived from plasma of recovered patients. These antibodies have the potential to generate an immune response when injected into a new patient.

Heat Biologics

Heat Biologics has announced plans to develop a vaccine to treat or prevent coronavirus infection using its proprietary gp96 vaccine platform. The technology is capable of reprogramming live cells to produce antigens that can bind to the gp96 protein and generate an immune response against those antigens.

Pfizer

Pfizer announced that it has identified certain under development antiviral compounds that may be effective in treating coronavirus. The company is planning to partner with a third party to screen and identify potential compounds by the end of March and begin testing in April.

Mateon Therapeutics

Mateon Therapeutics has launched an antiviral response program to develop coronavirus treatments using its therapeutic and artificial intelligence (AI) platforms. It has also established a division, which will adopt a multi-modal approach to developing COVID-19 treatments as well as other future zootonic outbreaks.

Hong Kong University of Science and Technology

The Hong Kong University of Science and Technology has identified several vaccine targets, which can be developed as a treatment for coronavirus. Researchers at the university have identified B-cell and Tcell epitopes, which are capable of generating an immune response against the SARS virus and a similar response against the coronavirus. Some of the epitopes identified may be capable of generating an immune response specifically against COVID-19.

Generex

Generex has announced that it is developing a COVID-19 vaccine following a contract from a Chinese consortium comprising of China Technology Exchange, Beijing Zhonghua Investment Fund Management, Biology Institute of Shandong Academy of Sciences and Sinotek-Advocates International Industry Development.

The company will utilize its Ii-Key immune system activation technology to produce a COVID-19 peptide for human clinical trials. Generex will receive an upfront payment of \$1m to commence the groundwork for the vaccine development and \$5m licensing fee for its Ii-Key technology. It is also eligible to receive a 20% royalty on every dose of vaccine produced under the contract.

Columbia University

Researchers at Columbia University have been awarded a \$2.1m grant by the Jack Ma Foundation to develop a cure for coronavirus. Four different teams at the university will adopt various approaches towards the development of a vaccine against coronavirus. Vaccine by Tulane University Tulane University has launched a research program to identify a potential coronavirus medicine in the form of a vaccine. The university will utilize a grant from the Brown Foundation to carry out the research activities.

ImmunoPrecise Antibodies

ImmunoPrecise Antibodies has launched a vaccine and therapeutic antibody program to develop a vaccine as well as antibodies against COVID-19. The company will use its B Cell Select[™] and DeepDisplay[™] discovery platforms to therapeutic compounds against the coronavirus.

The company has updated its research efforts and noted that it will be using the PolyTope mAb TherapyTM and EVQLV's artificial intelligence platforms develop a COVID-19 therapy.

Serum Institute of India

Serum Institute of India (SII) is collaborating with Codagenix, a USbased biopharmaceutical company, to develop a cure for coronavirus using a vaccine strain similar to the original virus. The vaccine is currently in the pre-clinical testing phase, while human trials are expected to commence in the next six months. SII is expected to launch the vaccine in the market by early 2022.

Southwest Research Institute

Southwest Research Institute is using its virtual screening called Rhodium to identify potential drug candidates for treating coronavirus from more than two million drug compounds. The most promising compounds will be identified for further development.

Zydus Cadila

Zydus Cadila announced the launch of an accelerated research program to develop a vaccine for COVID-19 using two novel approaches. The first approach includes the development of a DNA vaccine against the viral membrane protein of the virus, while a live attenuated recombinant measles virus (rMV) vectored vaccine will be developed in the second approach. The rMV-based vaccine works by inducing specific neutralizing antibodies, which will provide protection from the coronavirus infection.

NanoViricides

NanoViricides, a clinical-stage company, is working on developing a treatment for nCoV-2019 using its nanoviricide® technology. The company's technology is used to develop ligands that can bind to the virus in the same way as a cognate receptor and attack various points of the virus.

Vir Biotechnology

Vir Biotechnology, a clinical-stage immunology company, announced on 12 February that it has identified two monoclonal antibodies that can bind to the virus that causes COVID-19. The antibodies target the spike (S) protein of the virus by entering through the cellular receptor ACE2.

The company has formed a partnership with WuXi Biologics on 25 February to commercialize the antibodies identified to treat coronavirus. If approved, Wuxi will have the rights to market the therapies in China, while Vir will retain the marketing rights in other countries.

Vir has also partnered with Alnylam Pharmaceuticals to identify siRNA candidates targeting SARS-CoV-2. It has formed another partnership with Biogen for cell line and process development and manufacturing of the antibodies.

HIV drugs for coronavirus treatment

Abbvie's HIV protease inhibitor, lopinavir

is being studied along with ritonavir for the treatment of MERS and SARS coronaviruses. The repurposed drug is already approved for the treatment of HIV infection under the trade name Kaletra®.

The combination is listed in the WHO list of essential medicines. Lopinavir is believed to act on the intracellular processes of coronavirus replication and demonstrated reduced mortality in the non-human primates (NHP) model of the MERS.

Lopinavir/ritonavir in combination with ribavirin showed reduced fatality rate and milder disease course during an open clinical trial in patients in the 2003 SARS outbreak.

Cipla is also reportedly planning to repurpose its HIV drug LOPIMUNE, which is a combination of protease inhibitors Lopinavir and Ritonavir, for the treatment of coronavirus.

A licensed generic of Kaletra®, LOPIMUNE is currently available in packs of 60 tablets each, containing 200mg of Lopinavir and 50mg of Ritonavir.

Janssen Pharmaceutical Companies, a subsidiary of Johnson & Johnson, donated its PREZCOBIX® HIV medication (darunavir/cobicistat) for use in research activities aimed at finding a treatment for COVID-19.

Darunavir is a protease inhibitor marketed by Janssen. Anecdotal reports suggest darunavir as potentially having antiviral activity against COVID-19. It is, however, currently approved only for use with a boosting agent, and in combination with other antiretrovirals, for the treatment of HIV-1.

Janssen has no in vitro or clinical data to support the use of darunavir as a treatment for COVID-19. The drug is in the process of being evaluated in vitro for any potential activity against the coronavirus.

Further, Janssen has partnered with the Biomedical Advanced Research and Development Authority (BARDA) to expedite the development of a COVID-19 treatment.

What will it take to beat the coronavirus?

Andy J. Semotiuk; Contributor. I write about investor immigration and about Immigration issues.

The battle with Covid-19 will require help from all of us What is the best way to deal with it?. Let's talk about the best way to deal with it— with or without a vaccine or therapeutic?



Coronavirus is a tough enemy to beat

The experts tell us that while the infections should peak in just a few weeks, the coronavirus pandemic could last for another 12 to 18 months. That's the bad news. The bood news is that it may also go way in the summer.

Regardless, as we know well, with all the companies racing to beat the competition for completing a vaccine, without a vaccine, we are all less safe. Some say that when we are free from the state's lockdown, the only real solution appears to be to develop a herd immunity.

What is herd immunity?

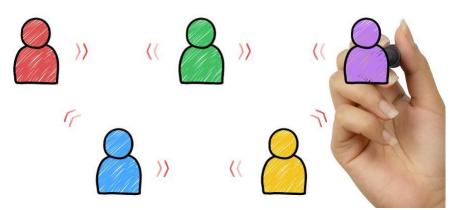
After at least half the population has had the infection, we ultimately become immune to it. In the Plague of 1918, the Spanish Flu, that took two or three years and nobody was sure if it would ever stop. There is no guarantee event that will work. Besides, without extensive testing, we have no idea what percentage of the population has been infected.

Alternatively, and hopefully most likely, a vaccine or a therapeutic will be developed and then widespread "inoculation" will take place. The experts tell us probably that could take a year or more if you are an optimist. Who knows?

Meanwhile, we have watched news about the challenges that the covid-19 virus has brought to America's health care system. Some of the revelations such as: American athletes getting tested while others wait in line, a 17-year old young man dying because a hospital would not treat him because of a lack of medical insurance, and America running out of ventilators and basic protective gear to treat patients for front line health care workers have been very discouraging. They have highlighted some of our worst moments. It seems like those type of incidents are already behind us.

Economically, the news that over twenty-two million applicants filed unemployment claims over the past four weeks and that the total unemployed in March of this year alone has risen to almost 20 million million has been staggering. And that does not include the two or three million foreign workers who have likely become jobless suddenly as well-whether they are legal or illegal.

SOCIAL DISTANCING



Social distancing is the recommendation that has saved us so far. When the herd immunity hits or Hydroxychloroquine is approved and works, we can let our guard down but not until. . There is nothing else in the armament of medical science to beat this virus. All these shocking developments have most Americans very concerned about whether. this will ever be over. Most are down so low, about 75% think it is going to go on for a long time to come even if it crashes the economy for good.

And Dr. Anthony Fauci, the government's top expert on infectious diseases, has cautioned that the virus dictates the timeline and warned that to gradually reopen the country we need to be able to execute widespread testing. The means to get this job done must be in place, so doctors can better identify, isolate and trace cases. He may be right but somebody has to hold the essential jobs and it is getting more difficult with the population being so skittish and with the hoarding mentality overriding the notion of herd immunization.

Despite all that, as America and the world address these seemingly insurmountable issues, there are a number of good things happening as well.

How We Are Adapting

For one thing, relationships between people are warmer, total strangers seem to be more polite, helpful and accommodating for the most part. Even when an outrageous act occurs, just a month or two ago, nobody would be alarmed. "It's how we are." However, just today, twenty cars had their tires slashed in a hospital ER parking lot.. The deed was discovered when shift nurses tried to pull away after putting in a long shift. People on the scene in the hospitals and in the press rooms of the nation's media, treated this as one of the most egregious disgusting acts of the pandemic. They are right. People are beginning to care about people and such nasty treatment of care-givers is viewed as intolerable.

There is a better sense of community that has arisen as we care for one another. Perhaps it is just because we sense that there is the potential of mortal danger involved. There is the sense that we are equally vulnerable, although we are told that older people are more at risk.

Keeping a physical distance has required us to be more flexible in allowing others to go ahead of us, or pass us while we stand by. We are learning that we should wear non-medical face masks to protect one another from each other. Isolated as we maybe, our televisions, radios, smart phones, and personal computers are helping us all learn new ways to interact with each another. For example, in my case I have been invited to participate a few Zoom calls. I am going to make sure that I can so next time I can say yes.

Before the outbreak, I never felt it worth my time to learn the technology and that meant I never used it. I will now. There is a dawning realization that we are more connected to each other than we realized previously. Globalization, in the sense that what the Chinese are doing affects what we are doing, as an example, is increasingly apparent to us.

There is other good news, if not just good points. Most people with COVID-19 recover. They get better. Estimates now suggest that in the neighborhood of 99% of people infected with COVID-19 will recover to lead normal lives. Children are infected less often and have milder symptoms. The CDC tells us all that vast majority of infections so far have afflicted adults., especially senior citizen adults. The number of new cases has plateaued in many places across the world including the US states. China and the Republic of Korea have reported significantly declining epidemics.

Is it not a great thing that we have the Internet. We are not alone. Those who stubbornly exist without the Internet have a good reason to reconsider. The "Net" is helping us communicate a lot with each other and even to medical providers.

People in isolation or quarantine can ask for help, visit friends, see family and doctors virtually, and provide updates on their condition. Our response to future pandemics should also improve because this one has exposed shortcomings in healthcare systems throughout the world, including the US.

This provides an opportunity for all of us to improve them. Many people and organizations have stepped up to help. Some major health insurers have promised to cover care and testing related to COVID-19, and some celebrities and professional athletes and even business people have donated significant resources to help those taking a financial hit because of the pandemic.

It's time to thank God and all the Helpers

Let us not forget to be thankful to all those who work daily in the front lines to save us - the doctors, nurses, lab technicians, first responders, police officers, fire fighters and all the others. Let us also be thankful for the tremendous leadership we have seen across the country by those who care for us and seek to marshal the resources needed to win this battle. It is refreshing to see President Trump in a positive light, like a caring godfather for everybody in the country on both sides of the aisle. Thank you President Trump for your Fireside Chats. FDR would be proud of you.

Above all, let us not forget our families and neighbors who are helping us daily and who constantly remind us of our humanity.



Life will get better

SAN FRANCISCO, CA - APRIL 2: UCSF nurses hold a rally before dawn to protest a lack of personal protection. HEARST NEWSPAPERS VIA GETTY IMAGES

In short, we all have learned that this nasty pandemic has given us opportunities to re-imagine the world and our place in it. No doubt we will face even more challenges. But while we deal with the difficulties visited upon us and mourn our major losses, let us take note of the good that has entered our lives as well. You know that we will survive this challenge, no matter what it takes, and return to a different life hopefully better than the one we once had. Let's leave the bickering where it belongs—in the garbage.

Chapter 7 New York State Update



Four Days before Easter Sunday

Inching up on Easter

1771550 cases total deaths 108532 212 countries & territories

People keep getting sick and keep getting admitted to hospitals, being put on ventilators, and many unfortunately, die without family present.

As of Easter Sunday, April 12, 2020, as I am penning the last several chapters in this book, the outbreak of the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) has been confirmed in around 212 countries or territories worldwide. By Easter, the virus had infected 1,780,684 people worldwide, and the # of deaths totaled 108,837. The most severely affected countries include the U.S., Italy, and Spain.

In the US, more than 21,000 people with the coronavirus have now died, according to a New York Times database. The country's death toll increased by more than 2,000 in a single day for the first time on Friday Apr 10, and has now, NY alone has surpassed the number of reported deaths in Italy.

As of Sunday (Easter) afternoon, the US statistics show at least 546,341 people across every state, plus Washington, D.C., and four U.S. territories, have tested positive for the virus. This again, is as reported by the New York Times database.

State Name	Cases/100K	Deaths/100K
New York	88,694	9,385
New Jersey	61,850	2,350
Michigan	23,853	1,391
Pennsylvania	22,896	522
Massachusetts	22,860	686
California	22,439	633
Louisiana	20,595	840
Florida	19,339	451
Illinois	19,180	682
Texas	13,557	325

Cases & Deaths from Feb 26 to Easter—April 12, 2020

Of course there are 40 states not listed and as of Easter Sunday, April 12, 2020, all states have at least one case. New York, which is an international City in a state of international people has the most cases. Most of the cases were caused by people to people transmission. Before President Trump called off the travel from China, hundreds of thousands had come in and had already infected New Yorkers.

As the number of known cases reached into the hundreds, then the thousands, then the hundreds of thousands, life all over the country changed in profound ways. Malls, salons and dine-in restaurants have been forced to close or in many states risk police action. High school proms, college graduations and professional sports have been cancelled or postponed. Some states have told people arriving from elsewhere to quarantine themselves for fourteen days. Others have warned that the pause on communal life will likely last weeks more, and that the eventual return to work and school will come in stages.

The President's recommendation first was a shutdown of two weeks but when the disease seemed to be winning in the race for Easter, the President raised the ante to the end of April. We offer our thoughts on how to get the country back to work in a later chapter. President Trump had sounded the alarm on January 30, long before many in the country were taking the threat seriously and yet, the Democrats deride him still for being a laggard on addressing the pandemic.

Yet, Governor Cuomo and House Speaker Pelosi and Mayor De Blasio were three of the last officials to take the pandemic seriously. It was not until March 20, 2020 that Governor Cuomo, for example began to take things in NY seriously.

Prior to being hit in the face with reality, Cuomo and Pelosi and De Blasio were rather cavalier in their concern about the potential magnitude pandemic.

Earlier on March ;N.Y. Governor Andrew Cuomo joined FNC's "Sunday Morning Futures" host Maria Bartiromo suggesting that while the situation with the coronavirus is severe, people should avoid panicking and all efforts should be made to avoid "shutting everything down for two weeks" like China has done." Cuomo had no idea what he would face just a few weeks later. Yet, he had no problem hurling blame at Trump for a poor response.

"Remember what we're really trying to do here is avoid the massive disruption of closing everything down for two weeks, the way China did, the way Italy is doing. And we're trying to protect the vulnerable populations for whom this Coronavirus could really be dangerous, senior citizens, immune-compromised," he said.

Bartiromo asked whether mass transit systems should be shut down as a precaution, citing the outbreak in Westchester county linked to a passenger on the MetroNorth rail system.

"At this time, there's no reason to close down mass transit, Maria. We haven't had -- to the extent, we have big numbers in New York, it's actually in Westchester, which is a suburban community, as you know, where you have a cluster of cases," Cuomo replied. I bet the Governor would like to have those words back. But, as a realist, he did the right thing just a few weeks later.

The head of the Democrats in Congress, Speaker Nancy Pelosi was not concerned about COVID-19 until it seemed that she might be able to poke fun at Trump about how his response was perceived by Democrats.

She was concerned as it seems to have played out about her district San Francisco's economy but had no desire to engage with the notion of protecting anybody from anything infectious in February. She had previously damned Trump's travel band as racist in January and she seemed not yet convinced in February about the dangers of the coronovirus.

On February 24, for example, the San Francisco KRON reported that House Speaker Nancy Pelosi was in San Francisco spending several hours visiting Chinatown to encourage people to visit the shops and restaurants there amid fears of the coronavirus.

Business in Chinatown had really slowed down over the prior month, mainly due to concerns about the coronavirus. Pelosi did a walking tour of the area starting in the Golden Gate Fortune Cookie Shop.

She also visited several other businesses and talked to people. There were neighbors, including the owner of the cookie shop, who says the last month has been difficult.

"Business is slow. People don't want to come, they are scared," Kevin Chan said. Pelosi would not believe it. She took this opportunity to encourage people to come back to Chinatown to spend their money.

"You should come to Chinatown. Precautions have been taken by our city. We know there is concern about tourism throughout the world but we think it's very safe to be in Chinatown and hopefully, others will come," Pelosi said.

Really Nancy! And you blame Trump's January 30th response to limit air travel from Chinas as racist? Really!

Governor Cuomo also had to deal with his own little Napoleon in NY City, a man who is also known as comrade De Blasio by some Fox celebs. He had made some proclamations that gave the Mayor apparently more power over the virus precautions than even the Governor. Mayor Bill de Blasio said he has no regrets about his actions early on. Think about his recklessness. He told New Yorkers to visit their local watering holes (bars) less than a day before restaurants and bars in NY state shut down to help contain the spread of the coronavirus. De Blasio and Cuomo did not always communicate well.

"I look back to March 15, New York City had limited occupancy at restaurants but that was a time when we were seeing a big increase *in infections* in a state like Washington, and the Mayor put precautions to the wind when he suggested that it was OK to say to New Yorkers, 'If you love your neighborhood bar, go there now.' I mean, on reflection, were comments like that a mistake?" asked NPR's "Morning Edition" host David Greene in a live interview with the mayor Thursday.

Digging in, the Mayor suggested: "No, because I said that literally about a day before they were all about to be shut down," de Blasio answered.

At the time, the City had just 330 confirmed coronavirus cases and five deaths. Just four days later, there were 2,468 cases and 22 deaths. We all know NY leads the world today so should there have been more caution than inviting the world to shed its masks in NY.

Researchers now believe the deadly disease was likely spreading in the city as early as February, weeks before the Big Apple's first confirmed case.

de Blasio also waited until March 15 to close city schools after teachers threatened a boycott and Gov. Andrew Cuomo negotiated a shutdown with unions. Now what—the City and the state agree things are not good in NY.

The news consuming public is outraged that President Trump has been working hard of this crisis in more ways than one and no matter what he does, the fake news media and even city and state Democrat politicians are slamming him and threatening impeachment on the coronovirus. Meanwhile, they are so concerned about the sliver in Trump's eye that they can't see the logs in their own eyes.

Until recently when the President ordered FEMA, and others in the administration to satisfy NY's equipment needs, the governor and the

Mayor of NY were slamming Trump's efforts. This was very unfair. It is not as bad as it was. But, consider this big log in Governor Cuomo's own eye:

Sean Hannity, one of the most popular anchors on cable television recently blasted Governor Cuomo for not having the State of NY prepared for the crisis though he knew the state was not prepared as of 2015.

Here is what Hannity said. You will notice there is no love lost between him and Governor Cuomo.

Every New Yorker needs to know that Gov. "all talk no action" Andrew Cuomo has failed to deliver for the people of his state during the crisis created by the coronavirus pandemic.

While the Democratic governor continues to blame President Trump for a ventilator shortage in New York, a state Health Department report warned Cuomo all the way back in 2015 about this exact problem.

Everyone needs to read this report.



On Page 30, the Health Department report on ventilator allocation guidelines states: "during a severe influenza pandemic, there is likely to be a projected shortfall of ventilators (-15,783) during peak week demand."

But that's not all. At the beginning of that report the New York State Health Commissioner, Dr. Howard Zucker wrote: "Dear New Yorkers, Protecting the health and well-being of New Yorkers is a core objective of the Department of Health. During flu season, we are reminded that pandemic influenza is a foreseeable threat, one that we cannot ignore. In light of this possibility, the Department is taking steps to prepare for a pandemic and to limit the loss of life and other negative consequences.

"An influenza pandemic would affect all New Yorkers, and we have a responsibility to plan now. Part of the planning process is to develop guidance on how to ethically allocate limited resources (i.e., ventilators) during a severe influenza pandemic while saving the most lives.

"As part of our emergency preparedness efforts, the Department, together with the New York State Task Force on Life and the Law, is releasing the 2015 Ventilator Allocation Guidelines, which provide an ethical, clinical, and legal framework to assist health care providers and the general public in the event of a severe influenza pandemic..."

Hannity was outraged and asked: "Where was the response from the governor? Where was the sense of urgency after such an explicit warning?"

Gov. Cuomo refused to act. He did not listen. He bought zero ventilators. The cost to purchase the needed ventilators was only 0.4 percent of the 2015-2016 state budget.

Instead of buying life-saving ventilators, Cuomo wasted hundreds of millions of dollars on failed projects, like \$750 million on a failed solar panel factory, \$90 million on a partnership with a California light bulb company that went nowhere, and \$600 million on a computer chip factory that went bust.

End of Cuomo ventilator story

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When the governor finally was prompted to take action it was near the end of March. Shortly after Cuomo's March 20 announcement of a shutdown of NY state, Illinois made a similar declaration. This showed how states and cities were operating on their own when it came to making momentous decisions in the fight against the virus. President Trump said he depended on the cities and states to do the right thing.

"We're all in quarantine now," Cuomo (D) said at his first shutdown news conference. He said: "Think about it. We're all in various levels of quarantine."

His order was for nearly 100 percent of New York's workforce to stay home. He knew it would be painful and costly. The governor noted that it was deemed the only way to prevent the surge of coronavirus patients requiring intensive hospital care from outstripping New York's capacity to provide ventilators for the worst cases of the covid-19 disease. Cuomo had taken his time to get serious but when he did he meant it.

He noted that "These actions will cause disruption. They will cause businesses to close. They will cause employees to stay at home. I understand that. They will cause much unhappiness," Cuomo said. The governor said that he accepts full responsibility for the decision and that if people are unhappy about it, "Blame me." The governor showed that he cared about what happened in NY and the people accepted his words but not all abided by the shutdown order.

Governor Cuomo also agreed to trials of the drug hydroxychloroquine beginning in the last week. Cuomo is serious about shutting down this deadly virus in NY State.

Despite the trials that Cuomo has OK'd in NY hospitals, many liberal progressives in the main news media have been mocking the potential benefits of hydroxychloroquine as a pet therapy of "Dr." President Trump's. They do not want to credit the drug with any success because it might help the President get elected. That is sick but true.

White House economic adviser Peter Navarro said President Trump was correct to talk about "the possibility" that the long-used antimalaria drug hydroxychloroquine can treat some symptoms of the coronavirus. Notably, Navarro did not deny a report from Axios that he got into an argument with Dr. Fauci about recommending hydroxychloroquine during a White House coronavirus task force meeting on the first weekend in April.

The epicenter of the United States' COVID-19 pandemic has started clinical trials on pharmaceutical drugs that could potentially treat the virus. According to a news release by New York Governor Andrew Cuomo, the observational studies began on Tuesday.

Cuomo's office said that the state of New York acquired 70,000 doses of hydroxychloroquine, 10,000 doses of Zithromax and 750,000 doses of chloroquine in the past few days in hopes of testing the results among patients suffering with the deadly coronavirus.

During a press conference on the last Tuesday in March, the governor showed confidence in the face of unprecedented concern. "We hope for optimistic results," Cuomo said of the clinical trials. "The President and the FDA accelerated that drug coming to New York, so the hospitals will start using that drug today."

CNN's John Berman pressed Navarro about his (or the president's) qualifications to weigh in on the use of any medication.

"The issue wasn't about me offering my medical opinion," Navarro said. "The question was whether we should take the 29 million doses in the FEMA storehouses and surge them into the zones, and it was unanimous in that task force meeting to do so. So, that's the only question I posed."

"You may find this interesting," he told the CNN host. "In the city that you live in, in New York, in the New York health and hospitals system, virtually every patient now that comes in presenting COVID-19 symptoms is given a cycle of hydroxychloroquine, and when I discussed this last night with Mitch Katz, who is the head of that system, I asked him, are you doing that because the federal government is telling you or because you think it may work? And he said quite clearly that it may work."

Regarding Cuomo's shutdown order, from the beginning, the order said that businesses that failed to comply with it, would be fined,

although the state was not initially planning to sanction individuals found in violation, NY officials said.

Cuomo's move came as state and local authorities faced the prospect of running out of beds in hospital intensive-care units, and also grappled with an urgent demand for masks and protective gear for the health-care workers treating coronavirus patients. To try to keep more hospital beds free, the state urged and later demanded that all hospitals cancel elective surgeries.

The announcement shook up most people in the US as more and more states were in the same boat.

"I feel terrified," said Judy Sheridan-Gonzalez, a longtime emergency room nurse and the president of the 40,000-member New York State Nurses Association.

Sheridan-Gonzalez, who works at Montefiore Medical Center in the Bronx, said that when her association recently surveyed its members, only 4 percent felt confident in their hospitals' responses so far to the pandemic.

"We had warned them since 9/11 that we are not prepared for disaster," she said, calling the lack of equipment and staffing "a crisis." Although industrial-quality N95 masks are available at the hospital where she works, nurses are permitted to wear them only when inserting tubes or performing other procedures that risk suspending droplets of bodily fluid in the air, Sheridan-Gonzalez said.

All the nurses want to be able to do what we can do," she said, but "it inhibits that desire to help, to be placed in danger."

A Montefiore spokeswoman said the hospital is "following all CDC guidance and protocol."

Cities across the country struggle to protect vulnerable homeless populations as coronavirus spreads.

At Mount Sinai Hospital, the first in New York to treat a coronavirus patient, emergency department medical director Jolion McGreevy said things are functioning fairly smoothly. The hospital was seeing about 130 patients a day reporting flu-like symptoms, and those patients are steered to a separate screening area.

"We're not feeling a crunch of the supplies," McGreevy said in March. "That's not to say that it's not at the front of our minds."

As of Friday, March 20, 7,102 New Yorkers had tested positive for the novel coronavirus, and 5,151 of those were in New York City. Statewide, 35 people had died, officials said. The figures mean that roughly one-third of all known U.S. cases are in New York City. "I hate to say this, but it's true: We are now the epicenter of this crisis, right here in the nation's largest city," Mayor Bill DeBlasio said.

As of April 12 Easter Sunday, the NY statistics show how deadly the virus has become in the state though the need for beds and respirators did not reach the levels anticipated by the models. There are now over 188,694 cases in NY and 9385 deaths. In just three weeks, the cases and the # of deaths have shot up at an alarming rate.

The good news of course is that it has slowed. Every day for the past several weeks, Governor Cuomo has held a news briefing to update the public on how the state is doing. Just like the President's briefings which are almost every day, Cuomo's press briefings have been well received.

After a late start and a lack of preparedness at the top, New York has really championed efforts to solve the crisis in NY as well as can be.

You can see some of the efforts on the new. The USNS Comfort a 1000 bed floating hospital is set up and functioning inside of NY harbor and it is taking all patients now regardless of their diagnosis. Samaritan's Purse has set up a 600-bed mobile hospital across from MT. Sinai Hospital in NY Central Park fully staffed with equipment, ICU's, beds, doctors, nurses, and technicians. Additionally the Javits Center has been converted into a 3000 bed hospital by the Army. It took just about four days to set this up for the people of New York. New York should have nothing to complain about regarding the federal response.

Cuomo Extends NY State shutdown to May 15

New York State recorded its fewest deaths in 10 days on April 16, 2020, but the governor said more progress was needed before he would lift restrictions.

Mr. Cuomo said that New York continued to make progress in containing the coronavirus and he cited encouraging statistics, but he also said that the rate of infection would have to slow much more before he would lift restrictions that were in place through April 29.

"What happens after then? I don't know," Mr. Cuomo said of new end date for the restrictions. "We will see depending on what the data shows."

Trump Said Democrats and The liberal media want to keep businesses closed to hurt his reelection, not to protect from the coronavirus. Public health experts, who are mostly big liberals say it's vital that people stay home to help stop the spread of the coronavirus. They refuse to listen to arguments of what a depression will do to people's lives.

Andrew Cuomo's early announcement of an extension to the shut down is part of the "destroy trump Democrat platform. Impeachment did not work. The Mueller Report did not work. The Whistleblower did not work so the Dems have determined that making the pandemic affect Americans worse than it has to will help them beat Trump as they know no other way.

Chapter 8 State of Pennsylvania Update



Pennsylvania has no testing facilities? What's that all about?

I regret to say that I am a Democrat and that the people of Pennsylvania, not me mind you, elected a Democrat as our governor. The Democratic Party left me behind years ago. Tom Wolfe, PA governor does not represent the kind of decisions that are good for Pennsylvanians or others visiting this state.

Governor Wolfe is a billionaire and has little empathy for nonbillionaires such as truck drivers who drive the roads in PA to assure the shelves in food stores and others are filled in a timely fashion. Why would I say that? Because it is true.

WILK radio's talk-show lines were filled immediately after Wolfe's March 17 shutdown order. The governor wants to make life completely safe for state workers but others be damned. The closed all rest stops in the state on March 17, in response to Gov. Tom Wolf's guidance to mitigate the spread of coronavirus. Because it created a danger to truckers parked on the side of the road and to vehicles passing them, the calls were quick and the consensus was the governor had overreached in his authority. Selected rest stops began to reopen in 108 Cancel All Student Debt Now!

the following days after tons of complaints. But Wolfe had the last laugh as he did not open them all and still has not.

Do as I say but not as I do. Somehow Wolf himself was strangely granted a waiver for his own business. But the people of PA who want the Liquor Stores to reopen blasted Wolfe's favoritism for himself. So, on March 26, having heard enough complaints, Mr. Wolf's office said it had rescinded a waiver that had been issued to the governor's former business, a kitchen and bath cabinet supply company in Central Pennsylvania, after Spotlight PA and PA Post inquired about how it qualified as "life-sustaining."

Wolf's office chose not to use the real excuse of *Do as I say but not as I do*. It was not wise for the governor to mess with constituents who have not had had a drink since St. Patrick's day when the governor padlocked all the booze stores in the Commonwealth.

A.C. Nielsen released some data this week showing Pennsylvania's bordering states saw higher increases in distilled spirit sales than the nation average in the first full work after liquor stores closed. Ohio saw a 60% increase; West Virginia, a 32% increase; and Maryland, a 28% increase, all above the national average increase of 27%. The people are pressing for the privatization of the Liquor Stores. Why should the state be in a business?

Let me tell you all what it was like leading up to the March 17 shutdown in PA and then afterwards. I write books for a living. I was about to being working on a book titled Great Moments in Kansas City Chiefs Football in January. My plan was to begin after the Super Bowl on February 2, 2020.

When I was well on my way to getting the book underway after I came back from Florida, two weeks after the Super Bowl contest, I decided to add a little story about Pennsylvania and living through the Coronavirus crisis in a state that cares more about state union workers and government employees than it does for ordinary people. Here is a section I added to the Kansas City book that I am including in this book. It sets the stage for how the coronavirus crisis affected the people of the commonwealth, no matter who you are. I will indent this missive a few spaces so you can tell that it is an insert to this book. Here goes:

"Writing this book has given me even more respect for the Chiefs and what a bunch of scrappers they were—from day one with a great legendary coach Hank Stram. It was not until Stram's swan song season in 1974 after 15 years of winning everything that came his way that Stram had a losing season. How about that?

The price of a current Super Bowl ticket is a little out of my league but I did make it to Florida this year with my brother and sister as snowbirds and we watched the Super Bowl in sister Mary's Snowbird Livingroom with plenty of grub and libations. It was an away game for us and we loved every minute, even the pregame action by the pool.

We did not talk once about the coronavirus once, which at the time, had yet to be labeled a pandemic. It was not an issue in Pennsylvania in January or so it seemed, and after staying in Florida for a good part of February, even when we got home, it was not at the top of our interest level. That soon changed. Very soon.

Throughout February, we were getting snippets of the situation as it existed in Wuhan, across the world, the US prognosis, and Pennsylvania itself. Our Governor Wolf made some sort of a disaster declaration on March 6, but colleges and schools were not yet closed. He closed everything on March 17 or so it seemed but not all the counties.

By the time, April 1 came around after piecemeal PA county closedowns and shutdowns of non-life-essential activities in the states, including schools, the Governor expanded the lockdown to all counties in the entire state on April 1. Right now, for example, on April 5, PA is essentially closed for business. Many businesses and business groups have accused Governor Wolfe of over-reach.

We noticed no change in Florida activity while we were there. If there were restrictions we did not notice them. There was no lockdown and no talks about staying home. NY locked down the state and the city about 2/3 into March under duress. Both Cuomo and De Blasio—the State, and the City of NY had not paid much attention to the pandemic 'til that point. The Speaker of the US House was not very concerned either. The signals were very mixed as only the President seemed to think we needed to worry.

The Speaker had been in Chinatown on the West Coast inviting people to come on down and continue to have a good time. You've probably seen the video. The impeachment debacle was over and Congress had yet to get back to work, or so it seemed. A lot of people had this pandemic wrong.

On January 31, long before anybody who was anybody was aroused enough to act, President Donald Trump saw something and despite negatives from the opposing party, he, on his own authority as president banned travel from China to the US.

In retrospect, even the scientists say things would be much worse without that ban. Italy and Iran kept inviting Chinese from China and their countries have been paying for the lack of social distancing from infected foreigners and guests. The analysts often suggest that is why their issue is so bad today..

Florida governor Ron DeSantis had his own reason. Florida is so warm, nobody thinks flu. But even he eventually gave in under pressure. He finally issued a statewide lockdown after revealing coronavirus first started circulating in Miami in early February during the Super Bowl from International travelers and soon state cases surged to 6,955.

Yes, concern in Florida began after we left after the Super Bowl but cases of coronavirus in Florida have surged to nearly 7,000, with 857 people hospitalized and 87 dead at the time this was written. When I was in Florida on February 2 during the Super Bowl, I had no idea anything like this was happening. I am very glad the Chiefs got to play the game and win the game. God works in strange ways for sure.

Before April 1, 2020, Governor DeSantis had refused to initiate a statewide lockdown despite the fact that cases of coronavirus there were spiking. His order went into effect Thursday April 2 at

midnight and was scheduled to last 30 days. Hopefully, that will do it.

Testing in the state at the time of Superbowl was only for those who had been to certain parts of China. No wonder I did not know about it. The first confirmed case of coronavirus in Florida was a month later on March 1, the first death was March 5. I was home for weeks before that happened

As Chiefs fans know very well, the Chiefs Super Bowl victory took place at the Hard Rock Stadium in Miami Gardens with 62,000 people in attendance. Few people in the stadium had any issues with sickness, if any. There are still no reported cases of Chiefs or 49ers coming down with the virus.

Yet, despite a reasonably good record, the experts watching what is now happening, say that Florida is on track to become the next coronavirus epicenter in the US as the number of cases spike there. I hope not. I hope the heat in the Florida air kills it. I do.

The shutdown of our county in PA had not yet happened. We stay home most of the time anyway but in PA before this became a big deal, we had big family athletic plans that for parts of the family rivaled even the Super Bowl.

You see, we, the Kellys, were planning to go outside driving on March 12 to see my wonderfully talented niece compete in the AAA PA State diving championships held at Bucknell University in Lewisburg. By then we knew about social distancing and other than four of us being in the car both ways for the 100—mile trip, we kept our distances. We did not think it applied to us. Nobody had clued us in seriously at this point. We had been back from Florida about three weeks or so, by then so we figured whatever it was, it was gone.

Because we all support the finest who engage in athletic events, please permit a few paragraphs to help you know why this was important to us all. My niece, Sophia Ginochetti, had placed in the States Championship in each of the prior years from Freshman year through Sophomore, to Junior—in which she competed. We had been there cheering her on each year. She was a Northeastern PA prodigy. NEPA was not known for its prowess in swimming or diving. We were all very proud.

Side note: Sophia's dad, Brian, was a high school State Champ, and her mom Liz was a diving star at Meyers High in Wilkes-Barre, PA. So what's that they say about the apple?

This year, her Senior year, after an early season injury, she almost had to drop out of diving completely. There seemed like there might be just enough time for her to recover. And, so, with just the right amount of determination, and great physical training and coaching, Sophia came back. It took much work on her part and her coaches.

Before her injury, she hoped to get a State-Level trophy in this her senior year at Wyoming Valley West High School. She did exactly that. But because of COVID, and her injury, she almost did not get to compete. The meet itself almost did not happen. In fact, we thought it had been called off.

My brother Joe was driving the newest vehicle in the extended family with my wife Pat and his wife Diane maintaining navigational duties. As we got halfway to Lewisburg, we got a call that made us confused about whether the meet was a go or no-go. In fact, we thought it was canceled. So, we turned around half way to Lewisburg. We got the word at about 11;30 AM on March 12, that the meet was off because of the Governor. This was bad news but hopefully it would be rescheduled.

When we got all the way home we learned that the news we heard was about the AA-level diving not AAA. Sophia was competing in AAA. The meet had never been called off but PA has such poor communication about what was or what might be that many were confused and many decided not to attend. We decided to begin again.

After a short while at home, to pack some extra sammiches, we got back in the car and got to see the whole event. We arrived a little after 2:00 PM and we are thankful that we did.



Sophia Ginochetti in Action-A winner--made the state champs finalists

Sophia Ginochetti, my wonderful niece, performed better than ever. She was great and got on the medal stand in eighth place, which was her goal after recovering from injury. She was thrilled as all of us were. After the diving, the call on the meet occurring was so close that Bucknell was shut down tight as a drum and the rest of the swimming & diving was canceled by the State to be rescheduled one day in the futures. The Governor canceled it for good last week. He could have waited until things were safer. Think of Andy Reid's people showing up for the Super Bowl and finding out it was postponed indefinitely for the coronavirus.

So, the same day that Sophia earned her medal, the PIAA announced it was postponing the Class AA meet originally scheduled for Friday and Saturday as the sports world reacted to the coronavirus pandemic.

"On the way there we were just hoping and praying that we were able to compete," Sophia said. "We didn't know if it was going to happen. Our family bought Sophia a cake, which she loved and she had some great writeups in the local paper. We'll see the Sophia branch of the Kelly family with mom and Dad, Liz and Brian and siblings Fleure and Lukaduke soon. We can't wait.



Andy Reid in some unexpected Super Bowl Action - A Winning coach

Despite the Coronavirus being in the Air in Florida on February, 2, the Chiefs got to win the World Championship. Andy Reid's team were crowned champions. And lucky us a second time, as on March 12, my niece Sophia got to compete and win eighth place in the PA State Championship diving competition. Bravo to Andy and the Chiefs. Bravo to Sophia and Wyoming Valley West High School. God bless us all and keep us safe. Today is April 5 as I prepared to publish the KC Chiefs book.

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On March 16, Governor Wolfe extended a semi shutdown to the entire state of PA, reportedly in an effort to halt the spread of the coronavirus, although he also maintained that he will not send the National Guard or state police to force businesses to close or stop events, such as an influx of out-of-towners coming to PA to get out of highly infected New York

The pundits did not applaud Wolf's shutdown but excused it by suggesting that he had acted in similar fashion as neighboring states, including Ohio, New York and New Jersey. Wolfe had closed everything including schools statewide and a range of government offices in the days leading up to the big shutdown. Of course state workers would continue to be paid by the people even though they would be delivering no useful services.

It was called a shutdown of nonessential government offices and nonessential business activity. It began on March 17. And was to last for two weeks but it was extended later to the end of April. Now, Wolfe is suggesting that may not be enough time.

The Governor said: "This isn't a decision that I take lightly at all," Wolf said during a news conference at the headquarters of the Pennsylvania Emergency Management Agency. "It's one that I'm making because medical experts believe it's the only way we can prevent our hospitals from being overwhelmed by patients."

State-owned liquor stores were directed to shut down after being open Tuesday, St. Patrick's Day, and restaurants were to end dine-in service. By the way, the lines at the state-run Liquor Stores were blocks long throughout the state. The stores have not reopened and Wolfe has to plans to reopen them. He does not care about anybody with a need to make time go faster with a few nips and he does not care about alcoholics who may die without their daily intake. I believe Wolfe does not care about people. First he refused to open rest facilities on the highways for truckers and now, to make it safe for state workers, he has closed all liquor stores in the state.

In one of his fireside chats, the governor suggested that the people can use the online web site and order all they want. I know of many people who tried to that but they could not get in as the site was down all the time. I have one friends who got in and she said the price to deliver one bottle from the state was \$40.00. Like I said the governor cares little to nothing about the people.

Wolf's order is a blend of voluntary and mandatory actions. For instance, the Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board said it was suspending gambling operations for all casinos. Wolf on Sunday night ordered bars and restaurants in five counties to close dine-in service and said businesses that do not adhere to the order could face penalties. Still, he also said that he would not use force to close businesses, but he urged people to understand that all Pennsylvanians are in the fight together and said they owe it to one another not to spread the disease.

"People will be making their decisions what they do with their lives all across the commonwealth for the next days and weeks and months," Wolf said in response to a reporter's question about racetracks refusing to close unless forced. "What we ought to do is think not what should we do in terms what the law is, but what should we do in terms of what we owe to our fellow citizens."

Wolf's orders in recent days have often caused confusion and required clarification or adjustments.

Meanwhile, Pennsylvania's Supreme Court gave local judges the ability to shut down county courthouses as needed and the Pennsylvania Turnpike interchanges will no longer take cash or credit cards.

CASES

Cases confirmed by the Pennsylvania Department of Health have exceeded 24,200, as of Monday. The majority of confirmed cases have been in southeastern Pennsylvania and Hazleton. The number of deaths in PA is reported as of Monday at 525.

Health officials have said most of the people affected were in isolation at home, with a handful being treated at hospitals.

The number of medical professionals getting infected with the fastspreading COVID-19 in Pennsylvania is growing.

The Wolf administration's definition of nonessential businesses includes community and recreation centers; gyms, including yoga, barre and spin facilities; hair salons, barbers, nail salons and spas; casinos; concert venues; theaters; bars; sporting event venues and golf courses; retail facilities, including shopping malls, except for pharmacies or other health care facilities within retail operations.

Licensed child care centers, except those in Philadelphia, must shut down. Adult day care centers and senior community centers also must close. Restaurants can remain open for carry-out, drive-thru and delivery orders, and shut down dine-in service.

In Philadelphia, Mayor Jim Kenney on Monday ordered a two-week halt to all nonessential business activity and city government operations in the city of 1.6 million people.

Kenney asked that residents and businesses observe the restrictions, and said he understood that it could have devastating effects on them.

"We are aware that this will disrupt life in Philadelphia and we do not make these changes lightly," Kenney said in an address from City Hall.

Philadelphia's guidance to businesses was slightly different than Wolf's, and the Wolf administration said Philadelphians should follow the city's guidance.

On Friday, April 10, Wolf ordered the closure of all schools statewide and a no-visitor policy at all state prisons and licensed nursing homes statewide.

The Courts

The Pennsylvania Supreme Court is giving the chief judges in each county authority to close down court facilities and suspend time limits that normally apply to court proceedings.

Several counties immediately did so, and Commonwealth Court canceled oral argument scheduled for next week, including for a closely watched lawsuit over the "Marsy's Law" victim rights constitutional amendment.

The high court acted Monday and provided the emergency powers through April 14. The order, it said, does not affect criminal defendants' constitutional right to speedy trials.

Business groups are calling Wolf's actions overreach

It was an overreach, or at the least a reach not plainly supported by the evidence at hand, some said upon reading the restrictions, Others demanded more justification for why certain businesses and industries landed on either of the lists. Governor Wolfe appears to be behaving as a dictator, regardless of what others think is reasonable or unreasonable.

"We understand that there are necessary precautions that must be taken to protect life, but no other governor, even in states with many more cases and wider community spread, has taken this extreme action," Gordon Denlinger, state director of National Federation for Independent Business, said in a recent statement.

"We want to know the basis for Governor Wolf's decision and whether it is justified by specific federal Centers for Disease Control directives."

Leaders of the state Senate's Republican majority echoed the NFIB's concerns and called for the administration at the least to set up a process by which affected business owners could appeal to stay open. House Republican leaders went even further, promising to "explore all avenues available to us to determine whether the action he's taken is allowed within our state Constitution."

"The Wolf Administration set off a panic tonight throughout the Commonwealth with its edict to shut down employers," the House leaders said. "These actions will shut down many small, family-owned shops and businesses, not only for the duration of this event, but possibly, and probably, forever." Wolf remained unmoved by the pleas of state businessmen.

Why can't Pennsylvania's liquor stores be open?

Pennsylvania is the only state in the nation that has closed liquor stores. Does that help the people of Pennsylvania? John Baer wrote a piece asking this question.

He says that Wall Street Journal columnist Peggy Noonan recently opined that people are fascinated that just about everything in America is closed except its liquor stores. Peggy must not know about Pennsylvania. She added: "This is because there isn't a politician in the country stupid enough to prohibit alcohol in a national crisis," she wrote. Well, in Pennsylvania, politicians don't care what the people think. Hmm.

Noonan also wrote, "No nation in the history of the world has closed both its churches and its liquor stores simultaneously and survived." I have not done the research to prove or disprove that one but if true, it makes my case. It is foolhardy for Wolf to close the only source of liquor in the state of PA. His closure sure makes it harder for anyone to lift their spirits in Pennsylvania

So, Peggy, welcome to Pennsylvania. Gov. Tom Wolf, to fight the spread of Covid-19, shut down liquor stores last month then asked churches to end in-person services.

Fervor, religious and otherwise, spread rather rapidly.

And while one can pray without one's church, one can't drink without one's booze, so fervor over liquor spread a little further. Grocery stores are open. Beer distributors are open. Why can't staterun liquor stores be open?

Seems two reasons. First, it helps Wolf's stay-at-home mitigation orders by eliminating another 600 places people gather. And, arguably, it further protects store workers and would-be customers.

Second, it gives Wolf some cover in the controversy over his closing so many businesses, as in, "See, I'm closing state business, too." And it shows love for unionized store workers, who were paid since stores closed March 17 — and until April 10, according to Liquor Control Board communications director Elizabeth Brassell.

But booze-buyers weren't happy. They wanted their government to protect and serve.

Wolf got the message and announced April 1 that the drinks were online.

But it was April Fool's Day, and they really weren't. Wolf jumped the gun. Clearly, the LCB wasn't/isn't ready. Its website (lcb.pa.gov) was/is swamped.

For example, on April 6, it got more than 1.5 million hits. Only about 216,000 happy hour hunters got in, leaving 1.3 million folks reading a message about "overwhelming demand" while being thanked for being a "a valued customer."

Oh, by the way did I tell you that the delivery charge of one item is \$40.00.

Tell me again, why PA has an LCB?

Now, of course there are far more critical issues facing us all than availability of booze. Everybody gets that. But Pennsylvania, unique in so many ways, now gets national attention for not being able to handle its liquor.

Before the guv announced the closure, I bought two boxes of my favorite red. I had two gallons of Dago Red from friends. I mix them to create a unique glass of wine before dinner. After over a month I am now running low on both. Must I go out of state?

CNN reported you can buy online in the Keystone State "only if you're lucky." Forbes last week noted that during a "tremendous upsurge" in the liquor business. PA taxpayers will have to make up for the opportunity loss when Wolf decides he can raise taxes.

At \$40 per order, nobody cares is the LCB expands its online capacity and distribution efforts. We'd rather get into a vehicle with gasoline and head to a border state and load up for a couple months of supply. How does that help anybody. My 76 year old neighbor was about ready to make the run and next week I will accompany him. How does that help anybody in Pennsylvania?

Could the state have done better?

Sure. Buy a two-for dinner at Olive Garden or any of the other places with great take-out deals such as KFC and others and you know that the state store which prepares no meals could have done much better but they don't care about the people of Pennsylvania. They could have opened some stores with limited employees and limited access. They could have used their online order system or a call-in system with curbside pickup if they did not want to punish the boozers in Pennsylvania. Who are they to do this to us?

Though most people say to hell with the LCB. There are plenty of places to get alcohol online, and we do know buying out-of-state spirits risks the wrath of the LCB's Bureau of Liquor Control Enforcement. It's, of course, illegal in Pennsylvania. It's the same as in-person buying from border states.

Hope is a garnish in the cocktail of the day. So, here's hoping these days pass quickly. Cheers. What if they start stopping the sale of maraschino cherries and bitters? They sound like dictators in PA because that is how they are behaving.. The secret is that Pennsylvania Governor Wolf does not care what you think or what I think or what the businesses of PA think. He is the boss. His leadership has made it both difficult and dangerous to buy liquor in the state. He vetoed liquor privatization to get elected in 2015 and now he is making all of Pennsylvania wish that liquor was privatized.

If my buddy across the street and I perish from our out-of-state venture to stock up. Remember it was because the state of Pennsylvania, land of taxes, has shut down all state run liquor stores, leading customers to crowd into retailers across the border. And, oh, by the way they have stepped up enforcement of border state liquor purchases to show citizen perpetrators that it is not wise to mess with Mother LCB. The Wolf will get you.

PA is not the only state that sells liquor to US citizens. Recently, Canal's Discount Liquor Mart, a liquor store in New Jersey located near the Pennsylvania border, reopened after several days of selfenforced closure. People are frenzied approaching an open liquor store and the owner wanted to protect himself.

The store's owner had closed its doors because, like many New Jersey liquor stores along the state border, it had been flooded with customers in what Paul Santelle, executive director of the New Jersey Liquor Store Association, described to NJ.com as "a panic, a tsunami of business." Governor Wolf created the tsunami intentionally. I looked up to see if Governor Wolf was a booze temperate man, meaning he did not drink. Nothing is written about it. That's strange. A man in charge of 600 liquor stores and nobody knows if he has the taste for booze?

My dad worked for Stegmaier Brewery in Pennsylvania for years and because he got laid off in the winter sometimes and had a hard time putting bread on the table for a family of nine, he enjoyed placing signs such on the wall such as "Never Trust a Man Who doesn't Drink."

My not being able to research whether Tom Wolf is a teetotaler, I suspect the billionaire does not want anybody to know. Did Tom Wolf close down hard alcohol purchases in the state of PA because he is a teetotaler and he believes that alcohol is unnecessary for a good life? You tell me folks. It is strange that nothing is published on the subject.



(Pennsylvania Liquor Control Board Store)

Over the border, the onslaught of customers, which the store's owner said reached more than 120 percent of the store's usual weekend capacity, didn't come from inside the state of NJ. Instead, the barrage of consumers came from Pennsylvania, which closed all of its liquor stores on March 16.

Pennsylvania, a goofy "control state" in which every liquor store is operated by the state, has some of the most onerous rules governing alcohol sales in the nation. They are not strict enough for teetotaler Wolf who made them tougher by making 600 stores close overnights. The PA response during the COVID-19 pandemic provides both an unfortunate reminder of the folly of giving the state government a near-monopoly over liquor sales—and an object lesson in how the closure of businesses in the name of public health can backfire.

The shuttering of Pennsylvania's state-run stores meant that for weeks, it was nearly impossible to buy liquor legally within state borders. Only in-state distilleries licensed for direct consumer sales were able to sell spirits.

"By closing all the stores, what they are doing is forcing a lot of people to simply go out of state," says David Ozgo, the Senior Vice President of Economic & Strategic Analysis for DISCUS, the Distilled Spirits Council of the United States. Ozgo notes that while other states also own and operate liquor stores, Pennsylvania is "the only state in the country that has taken this extreme measure."

That didn't just make it harder for Pennsylvanians to buy liquor. It also made it unusually dangerous, as the experience of liquor retailers across the border in New Jersey shows. As Matt Dogali, the president and CEO of the American Distilled Spirits Alliance, told me, "It's counter to [COVID-19–related] containment measures to force people to travel long distances to crowded stores." Does Tom Wolf care about that fact. He seems to care little to nothing about regular people.

He would tell us all that social distancing guidelines made him do it and he did not want to infect his union buddies in the State Liquor Stores from PA consumers if he were willing to engage in the truth.

The guidelines are supposed to encourage people to travel as little as possible and to keep their distance when in the presence of others. That's much harder to do when the only option for purchasing liquor involves driving a great distance and crossing a state border. At least one county in West Virginia now prohibits the sale of liquor to Pennsylvania residents in order to stem the tide of border-crossing customers.

What hath Tom Wolfe wrought? Does he care at all? Most Pennsylvanians think he cares not an iota what they think. Thank God 124 Cancel All Student Debt Now!

Republicans control the chamber as he will not be able to force a tax increase on Pennsylvanians to pay for his folly>

How many people who live inside PA were infected pushing against the person in front of them in the last State Store line the day the Liquor Stores closed in PA. Just like the rush across the border, Pennsylvania's closure of spirits stores sparked a similar effect inside the state, with customers reportedly rushing to state-run stores the day before they closed, resulting in record sales and a lot of sick people.

Perhaps unsurprisingly, the state stores, not run as a profitable business, were not ready for the deluge. "We are depleted to a level we have never experienced before," a liquor board spokesperson told PennLive.com in March, "because we were unable to plan for this rush of business. It is the same as the great Toilet Paper Rush of 2020.

So the hurried and unplanned state shutdown of liquor stores didn't just inconvenience residents—it repeatedly created situations of presumably unsafe crowding. It is reasonable to assume that the move negatively impacted public health in Pennsylvania, the opposite of the intended effect.

I bought my stock a day before the notice of shutdown as the state stores made sure PA residents understood they were not closing. But, Governor Wolf had other ideas.

Unexpectedly, the state announced that it would allow some sales through its online portal. But the state-run website crashed almost immediately after opening, then stopped taking orders, citing "overwhelming demand. Poor planning again by the Wolf team. Can governors be impeached?

The Wolf measures were ostensibly designed to protect both customers and employees. But state control of liquor sales isn't necessary for such precautions to be implemented effectively.

Where a friend of mine lives in Washington, D.C., the many privately owned liquor stores have been able to continue operating after they were dubbed "essential businesses" by the city. They are indeed essential as spirits and for spirits. These stores have taken elevated health risks seriously while continuing to serve customers. In recent weeks, I've seen area liquor store employees wearing surgical gloves and medical masks to protect from infection. That is a natural response. Shutting down a country or a state is an unnatural response.

There is an alcohol delivery service called Drizly, that makes its money by partnering with local retailers, makes it possible to get bottles delivered directly to your home from many different local liquor stores in Washington DC, without the multiple interactions that in-store transactions sometimes require. Wolf did not try to make something like this work in PA because he would have to fire union workers who come before the needs of PA consumers.

Pennsylvania doe s not permit you to buy liquor from other states. Unlike many states, Washington, D.C., does allow its residents to pretend they live under the US Constitution to purchase and ship liquor from out of state through online outlets such as Caskers.

Late last month, people received an email from Sherry's Wine & Spirits, one of Washington's best liquor stores. The message asked that customers choose delivery or curbside pickup if at all possible, outlined a variety of enhanced sanitization procedures that were being implemented, and urged buyers to switch to contactless payment methods.

Governor Wolf's team never thought of this or simply figured not accommodating boozers was more in line with his teatotaler philosophy. The note raised the possibility of ending in-store sales but indicated that pickup and delivery options were expected to remain. Pennsylvania under control of Tom Wolf, who does not understand the term entrepreneur, would not help a business do anything even if he missed out on taxes that would surely accrue.

Stores like Sherry's, in Washington, in other words, have figured out ways to both stay open for business and stay safe. Pennsylvania, in contrast, by completely shutting down its state-owned liquor stores, has somehow managed to accomplish neither. Perhaps that is Tom Wolf's plan which might as well be as simple as "Let them eat cake!" does not take the people into consideration

Chapter 9 Michiganders Don't Want What the Governor Is Serving!

Boss Lady's social distancing not for the people.



Gov. Gretchen Whitmer extended the state's stay-at-home order until the end of April but is facing increased resistance to show more flexibility to businesses to open if they can do so safely. (Photo courtesy of the governor's office)

The Wall Street Journal recently penned a headline that sums up the feelings of many people in Michigan as the Governor proves how tough she can be. "It's Still America, Coronavirus or Not Draconian orders and enforcement will undermine public support for social distancing."

Across the entire country, Americans by and large have willingly obeyed the government's shelter-in-place and social-distancing orders. Unfortunately for some public officials, that doesn't seem to be enough. They're indulging their inner **bully** in ways that over time will erode public support for behavior that can reduce the spread of the coronavirus. 128 Cancel All Student Debt Now!

What Michigan's new coronavirus stay-at-home executive order means is just that: "Michigan residents must stay at home and away from non-essential workplaces through April 30. The very determined Michigan Gov. Gretchen Whitmer said this on a Thursday in the second week of April, extending an initial order that went into effect on March 24.

The new order is overreach and overkill according to many who don't see it like the Governor. It extends many of the requirements of the previous one, including a ban on gatherings or non-essential in-person work. But it is much stricter, including more stringent restrictions on stores that are allowed to remain open and specifically, it bars nonessential travel. Stay off the streets. Even in Pennsylvania the neighbors take walks. In Michigan, walks are now taboo.

The governor justified her plan as life-saving, not life-serving. The people, trapped in their homes, did not like what she was selling.

"Now is not the time to pull back at all. It is the time to intensify. That's exactly what we're doing," Whitmer said during a news conference.

Large stores will be required to limit the number of people allowed in at once to four customers per 1,000 square feet and small stores must limit customers to 25 percent of total occupancy. Stores must put up markings to show customers where to stand to remain six feet apart while waiting in line, and big stores have to close sections for gardening, painting, furniture, carpeting and flooring.

In Michigan if your retail business wants to stay open, even if you think these are just the Governor's whims if you say no, you will be out of business and you may be excluded from government business relief.

What jobs are exempt from Michigan coronavirus lockdown? You may be surprised.

Stores will also be required to reserve at least two hours weekly for vulnerable populations to shop, including people over the age of 60, pregnant women and people with comorbidities like heart disease and diabetes. Auto dealers, previously closed under the first order, will be allowed to open only for remote sales, though showrooms will be required to remain closed.

The Governor's first stay-at-home order was set to expire April 14, but cases have continued to climb since it went into effect. As of the time of this new order, Thursday, Michigan had 21,504 confirmed cases of the virus and 1,076 deaths. Officials say it's necessary to continue to slow the number of serious cases being sent to the state's swamped hospital systems.

"All model projections are clear that without sustained social distancing measures, more people will die and hospitals will become overwhelmed," chief medical executive Dr. Joneigh Khaldun said.

The stay at home order "is the most important thing we can do to slow the spread of this disease" because it allows time for officials to build up field hospitals and collect necessary supplies like PPE and ventilators. Some think the curve is flattening nationwide and such restrictions are a bit too much.

The Governor also has her supporters. People will still be allowed to go outside to exercise or walk their pet, to go to essential places like the grocery store or gas station, as long as they stay 6 feet away from one another, but will be specifically banned from traveling for vacation or other non-essential reasons.

The head of the Michigan State Medical Society, Dr. Mohammed Arsiwala, said Whitmer's extension was "the wise thing to do at this time."

But top leaders in Michigan's Republican-led Legislature blasted Whitmer's extension, arguing the state should begin relaxing restrictions on regions with fewer cases or businesses that could operate safely with proper social distancing policies.

"Family-owned businesses have been run to the ground and hundreds of thousands of people have lost their jobs because of it," House Speaker Lee Chatfield, a Republican from Levering, wrote on Twitter. 130 Cancel All Student Debt Now!

"Unemployment is skyrocketing and our government has not been there to answer the call." "We deserve better! This is unacceptable."

The governor's extended Stay-at-Home order is the wrong call and is bad for Michigan families. We had a chance today to protect public health and take a positive step towards recovery. Unfortunately, rather than focus on what's safe, the governor decided again who is "essential."

Chatfield is urging Whitmer to tailor restrictions based on "safe" jobs not just "essential" ones. Similarly, Senate Majority Leader Mike Shirkey, R-Clarklake, urged "common sense revisions" and said without them, Whitmer's new order will "unnecessarily hurt" regions and business sectors.

"Individuals living in regions of the state that are experiencing little to no growth in infection rates should be able to return to their jobs to support their families if proper safety protocols are put in place," he said in a statement.

"Similarly, businesses that can implement strict health and safety measures should be permitted to remain open and operational regardless of whether they are deemed 'essential.'"

On April 15, formerly called Tax day, Michiganders decided to take to the streets to protest their governor, whose chances for a VEEP nod from Biden go down each time the people complain loudly to the media.

Thousands of demonstrators descended on the state Capitol in Lansing, Michigan, on Wednesday, 4/15. to protest Gov. Gretchen Whitmer's restrictive stay-at-home order, clogging the streets with their cars while scores ignored organizers' pleas to stay inside their vehicles.

The protest — dubbed "Operation Gridlock" — was organized by the Michigan Conservative Coalition and the Michigan Freedom Fund, a DeVos family-linked conservative group. Protesters were encouraged to show up and cause traffic jams, honk and bring signs to display from their cars. Organizers wrote on Facebook: "Do not park and walk — stay in your vehicles!"

Many ignored the recommendation of the protesters, The people were upset big time. Demonstrators, on foot, were seen waving American, "Don't Tread on Me" and Trump campaign flags. At least two Confederate flags were spotted.

Protesters could be heard chanting "Open up Michigan!" At one point, there was a "lock her up" chant in reference to Whitmer. She was hoping Biden was not listening.

"We can get this rally done and stay within the social distancing guidelines," Marian Sheridan, a Michigan Conservative Coalition cofounder, said in a statement ahead of the rally. "Citizens are frankly tired of being treated like babies. As adults, we now know what needs to be done to stay safe."

Everybody does! It's time to open up America!

Chapter 10 How to Open Up America for Business



Times Square Establishment—A SIGN of the times

Should we stay closed and separated?

On April 10, four days before I wrote this chapter, the New York Times Magazine wrote a piece about restarting America. After a read of their article one would not necessarily conclude that we should ever restart when government is being so helpful to the people right now.

Here is how they began their article:

"The politics of the coronavirus have made it seem indecent to talk about the future. As President Trump has flirted with reopening America quickly — saying in late March that he'd like to see "packed churches" on Easter and returning to the theme days ago with "we cannot let this continue" — public-health experts have felt compelled to call out the dangers. Many Americans have responded by rejecting as monstrous the whole idea of any trade-off between saving lives and saving the economy. And in the near term, it's true that those two goals align: For the sake of both, it's imperative to keep businesses shuttered and people in their homes as much as possible.

In the longer run, though, it's important to acknowledge that a tradeoff will emerge — and become more urgent in the coming months, as the economy slides deeper into recession. The staggering toll of unemployment has reached more than 22 million in just the last four weeks. There will be difficult compromises between doing everything possible to save lives from COVID-19 and preventing other lifethreatening, or -altering, harms.

When can the US ethically bring people back to work and school and begin to resume the usual rhythms of American life? The times brought five people together in a video-conference and asked them point blank, what would it take to reopen America. Of course there is the current battle of who has the authority—the President or the fifty Governors. But, assuming that one will be solved, there is a lot of disagreement on when we should open. For eight governors, in fact, who have not issued stay-at home orders, the opening question is moot. They have not shut down.

If you want to see what the Times says about the subject, feel free to go to https://www.nytimes.com/2020/04/10/magazine/coronaviruseconomy-debate.html. The panelists in their piece do not reflect my views on the subject.. Bioethicist Ezekiel Emanuel adopted the "Whole Lives" program for Obamacare. The "Death Panels" were part of his work in which if you were under ten or above fifty years old, Emanuel would serve you your health-care last.

He would not be on my panel. He is not pro-American in my opinion. His take is to keep America shut down until there is a vaccine, which he believes will be here in perhaps eighteen months. By then folks, if we stayed shut down with enhanced social distancing as in Michigan, China would own America. Therefore, I am not interested at all in the Emanuel Plan.

What if you knew that the number of deaths for the flu this year were more than four times the number of deaths from the coronavirus. It is by the way. In the U.S. alone, the flu this year (also called influenza) has caused an estimated 38 million illnesses, 390,000 hospitalizations and up to 62,000 deaths this season. Think about that. It's like that every year and we do not close down the country. COVID-19 has caused about 29,000 deaths in the US this year because we have no vaccine and won't accept the best therapeutic as our gold standard hydroxychloroquine. The # of deaths would be significantly less if hydroxychloroquine were adopted as both a prophylaxis and as a possible cure.

Republican Governors Split on Trump Stay-at-Home Skepticism

By <u>Amanda Albright</u> and <u>Jonathan Levin</u> March 25, 2020, 2:54 PM EDT *Updated on March 25, 2020, 5:14 PM EDT*



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6:42

President Donald Trump is a realist about public-health policies that could harm the economy and the American public. At this point of the pandemic, he sees the risk of economic collapse as a major cause for loss of life in the future—an not because of the flu or a virus. Trump has attracted crucial allies among Republican leaders overseeing the movement of millions of Americans. People are sick of staying at home waiting for their businesses be destroyed. They want to fight.

Florida Governor Ron DeSantis has resisted enacting orders that would restrict people to their homes. His philosophy is unlike what other large states such as New York and California have done. Instead, his office has advised that people older than 65 should stay inside. Mississippi Governor Tate Reeves also balked, saying the state isn't China and the US has a Constitution. Alabama Governor Kay Ivey has said she has no plans for a state shelter-in-place order, so the City of Birmingham with a Dem Mayor approved its own Tuesday. Democrats hate citizens having freedom.

Other Republicans, like Ohio's Mike DeWine, have been leading the charge to slow the virus despite the consequences. Economists suggest that social distancing could limit infections and prevent as many as 600,000 additional U.S. deaths. Most think DeWine is all wet. That has set off fierce criticism of those following the lead of Trump, who has repeatedly questioned the need, given the economic costs.

Democrats are more interested in opposing Trump than helping America. If they can get away with doing nothing, that will be their approach. Democrats don't like business and they liken the shutdown to how things would be in a socialist country so why change things by going back to work when that is exactly what Democrats do not want..

The billionaires on Wall Street are playing the hedge funds and other financial instruments and they are making money while the rest of the country is hurting. Regular Democrats think Wasll Street is for Republicans but it is not so. The Billionaires on the Street do not want the people to come back to work. They are making their billions without the people working. And, so, the Wall Street types business leaders on the phone call with Trump on April 15, urged Trump to dramatically increase coronavirus testing no matter how long the country has to shut down. During first call to discuss reopening country, executives tell president more testing is needed to convince public to return to work

We will discuss that and other factors of reopening the country in this chapter.

What do you do when you don't know? Hopefully when asked, you will admit that you do not know. Unfortunately, the media in the US uses a different standard. They want to know what Trump thinks about the answer to the question. If Trump says X, the media, without any research of their own know the answer intrinsically with no further study. They know that it is not X, and so it is Y, if there are just two options.

Using media logic, several weeks after I heard Dr. Oz and some pretty credentialed epidemiologists and cardiologists touting hydroxychloroquine and even chloroquine as a game changer in the fight for a cure and a preventative (prophylaxis) for the coronavirus, I was very encouraged.

I began to study all I could (without being a doctor) to see if there was more than anecdotal evidence for the claim. Let me say that I learned that most doctors use the drug to treat themselves so they are not infected and though that is not science, it is great news. Moreover, in a recent global survey, Hydroxychloroquine was rated 'most effective therapy' by doctors for coronavirus. Yes, this drug known for treating malaria is being used extensively by U.S. doctors mostly for high-risk COVID-19 patients.

The FDA has authorized emergency use of the malaria medicines for severely ill coronavirus patients who are already in the hospital. Emergency use is a lower bar than full-on approval, which requires piles of clinical data about a drug's effectiveness and safety, pointed out Politico. Those answers are still in the works, and the FDA has acknowledged that even if the drugs are effective, doctors don't know the best dosing yet to treat the virus. However, the doctors have figured that out already. Moreover, they use it for more than just emergency us for COVID-19.

Chloroquine has been safely used since 1944 (about 65 years) as an antimalarial drug. Here is its full set of FDA approved uses

(1) For the treatment of uncomplicated malaria due to P. falciparum, P. malariae, P. ovale, and P. vivax.

(2) Chronic discoid lupus erythematosus and systemic lupus erythematosus in adults and

(3) Treatment of acute and chronic rheumatoid arthritis in adults.

The FDA recently posted information regarding worldwide shortages of hydroxychloroquine and chloroquine to its drug shortages webpage due to a significant surge in demand, notably as a result of US President Donald Trump's pronouncement that the drug could be a 'game changer' in the fight against COVID-19. This is not good news and must be addressed quickly with the same dispatch as the N95 masks.

Trump already ordered a stockpile of 30 million doses but he needs to ramp up production to fulfill the need for using the drug as a prophylaxis and as a cure for COVID-19 when America reopens. The American population is in excess of 330,000,000.

Physicians use Hydroxychloroquine worldwide

Valerie Richardson of The Washington Times reported a week ago on Thursday, April 2, 2020 that an international poll of more than 6,000 doctors released Thursday found that the antimalarial drug hydroxychloroquine was the most highly rated treatment for the novel coronavirus. For me that means I want it if I am sick with the virus or as a prophylaxis.

The survey was conducted by Sermo, a global health care polling company, of 6,227 physicians in 30 countries. They found that 37% of those treating COVID-19 patients rated hydroxychloroquine as the "most effective therapy" from a list of 15 options. These are doctors.

Of the physicians surveyed, 3,308 said they had either ordered a COVID-19 test or been involved in caring for a coronavirus patient, and 2,171 of those responded to the question asking which medications were most effective. Only when the scientific community accepts information such as this and offers real opinions about the positive aspects of its efficacy will this treatment get the full respect that it deserves from the world. Then, many real lives will be saved.

The activist press is against hydroxychloroquine after finding out that from the daily briefings that President Donald Trump authorized Peter Navarro to find thirty million or more doses from around the world from countries who had chosen not to export the medicine. Navarro found them and brought them to the stockpile. If Trump is for anything, the activist press is against it for no other reason.

President Donald Trump has expressed his interest in the merits of the anti-malarial drug hydroxychloroquine as a coronavirus game changing cure and as a prophylaxis. I learned about it from two doctors on the Laura Ingraham show and the evidence is compelling

Drs. Ramin Oskoui, cardiologist and CEO of Foxhall cardiology, and Stephen Smith, founder of the Smith Center for Infectious Diseases and Urban Health, told their story to Laura Ingraham on Fox News. The activist opposition press refute all of the evidence presented because they fear a cure for the coronavirus would assure a victory for Trump in the November elections. It is amazing that this activist opposition media does not care what happens to America as long as they can discredit the president.

Democrat Representative cured by hydroxychloroquine

Despite the opinion of the lying press, nonetheless, former coronavirus patients like actor Daniel Dae Kim and Michigan Democratic State Representative Karen Whitsett swear by it. However, even after receiving emergency FDA approval, the anti-malarial drug hydroxychloroquine still has an image problem on the political left after being touted by President Trump. When the left found Trump favored the drug, that was enough for them to be against it—unless of course they get the virus. 140 Cancel All Student Debt Now!

Democratic State Representative Karen Whitsett from Michigan has been telling anybody who will listen about her good news. She says that the controversial drug hydroxychloroquine stopped her coronavirus symptoms "within a couple hours."

The FDA issued the emergency-use authorization late Sunday for chloroquine and its next-generation version, hydroxychloroquine, as treatments for the novel coronavirus, fueling the political back-andforth that erupted March 19 when Mr. Trump called hydroxychloroquine a potential "game changer."

There is enough evidence for me that the drug is safe and effective as a cure and as a prophylaxis that I wrote two articles for my local paper. I was called the other day telling me that the first was about to be printed in the Citizens Voice.

With all of the fuss for the first month of the shutdown with hospitals and EMTs having mask shortages and doctors and nurses having to go to work without the proper PPE's (personal protective equipment, I penned this article

Here is the Short Letter in italics that I sent to the editor.

Date: Wed, 25 Mar 2020 19:11:59 -0400 From: "Brian W. Kelly" Subject: What if we no longer needed N95 masks?

I have no medical credentials to be considered but I offer this anyway.. My favorite poem by Emily Dickinson starts with I'm nobody, who are you? I know who I am.

In my whole career with IBM I was a problem solver. Problems that we did not know about yesterday, we had to solve today. When I get a problem in my head and possible solutions, I did not stop until my solution was proven wrong and I had to move on to possible solution #2, or 3, or whatever. I am intrigued by the studied capabilities of hydroxychloroquine, an effective malaria drug to fight COVID-19. It is in clinical tests in NY since Tuesday but I hear nothing about it. In the French study that has been popularized by Dr. Oz, we know that the French have cured all members of their small study. It took one person a few days longer to show relaxed symptoms. But that person too was cured. Hydroxychloroquine is also seen as a great prophylaxis (preventative). It is used so that those heading to malaria infested countries do not contract malaria.

It is said anecdotally that it does the same for the coronavirus. In other words, it can prevent one from contracting the virus.

What if it works? Does anybody know? It seems like nobody at this point cares about its preventative abilities.

Think of it?

Until the major innovations in making N95 masks for hospital workers were developed, there was and there still may be a mask shortage.

What if hydroxychloroquine were such an effective prophylaxis for the virus that anybody who took the proper preventative dosage became immune from getting the virus?

What if?

How are problems solved but first with a thesis?

What if?

The N95 mask shortage would no longer matter if a simple pill or injection could prevent the virus from affecting hospital and other *EMT* workers.

Should we know more about this?

We could concentrate on respirators and testing!

--- End of letter ---

After a week, I added to the facts in the letter and sent it again

2nd letter to the editor about hydroxychloroquine

Date: Wed, 8 Apr 2020 07:11:34 -0400 From: "Brian W. Kelly" Subject: Save lives with this new therapeutic remedy

Doctors themselves are taking chloroqine and hydroxychloroquine as a cure and as a prophylactic. The people should know about this.

Additionally, with the significant # of health care workers and EMS who have caught the virus in their work it would also help in keeping them safe.

Evidence that these drugs serve as an effective prophylactic is widespread. For 65 years, chloroquine has been used in Africa and various countries to fight malaria. Where the drug is used regularly, there are no cases of covid-19.

Additionally on a recent talk show two doctors discussed

Hydroxychloroquine, Azithromycin and zinc, in a dose they said costs about \$20.00 can be used as a therapeutic cure for those moderately and even severely infected. The sooner one takes the medicine however, the better. Additionally, these doctors treat Lupus patients and Rheumatoid Arthritis Patients with the hydroxychloroquine and have been doing so for years without any patient going to the hospital because of the medicine.

The drug is safe. Additionally, the one doctor treats 2000 patients for Lupus and none have contracted COVID-19. He cited another study of 14,500 Lupus patients and none have COVID. This attests to its prophylaxis capabilities.

Locally on the Frank Andrews show yesterday, Louis called in to tell his story of contracting covid-19. He said he thought he would have no issue because he was young and strong and in good health but after ten days, he had not improved and began having breathing difficulties. After a few days he called 911 and was admitted to treat the coronavirus covid-19.

He was given breathing assistance with a ventilator and he thought he might not make it. Then, he was given Hydroxychloroquine, zinc, and Azithromycin. After a day or so, he was taken off breathing assist and put on oxygen, then a reduced oxygen flow and after a few days he was discharged free of the virus. On death's door to on the way home. That is not anecdotal if you are Louis, that is very real.

A state Democrat representative from Michigan said she heard Donald Trump talking about the possibilities of the drug on TV in one of the updates. She had the virus and was getting worse. She asked her doctor if she could be put on the drug and he did so. In four hours, she told the audience she had no symptoms. Her Doctor was on the air with her.

I am thinking about when the US goes back to work. All of the serology testing for antibodies to see who is immune we know will take forever. America recently brought in 329,000,000 doses of hydroxychloroquine into its stockpile and we are making more. The threat of death is reduced substantially by 144 Cancel All Student Debt Now!

this drug. When we go back to work, if doctors and the government advocate a prophylaxis of hydroxychloroquine or a cure in case of infection, all of America can go back to work with minimal risk. Don't you think the people in your circulation area of northeastern PA should know about this. Please.

Hospital workers, EMS/EMT workers, Police, Fire. warehouse workers, cashiers, manufacturing workers, etc. -- everybody can be safe rather than sorry.

-- End of 2nd email --

My two favorite antiviral drugs

1. Hydroxychloroquine

2. Remdesivir

An existing, easy-to-produce medicine that proved effective at treating or preventing SARS-CoV-2 infection would provide the fastest relief for patients and doctors. As noted, the early hope is on hydroxychloroquine and chloroquine, and many hospitals, including the University of California, San Francisco, and the University of Washington, include them in their treatment guidelines. This anti-viral is approved for uses but not as a general treatment for COVID-19. My opinion is that it should have full FDA approval but I am not a doctor. According to the reports, it has saved lives.

1. Hydroxychloroquine, aka Plaquenil

Some doctors are combining hydroxychloroquine with azithromycin, an antibiotic. Much of the published evidence comes from a very small French study and reports from China. Larger, more rigorous clinical trials are starting, but they will take time. Favipiravir, a flu drug shown in Japan, appeared beneficial in another small study. These medicines, especially the malaria drugs, which are being mass-produced, will be used by doctors on the front lines, but we will have to wait for evidence of whether they are benefitting patients and how much.

2. Remdesivir

Timeline: First data could come in April.

Remdesivir, an antiviral medicine that failed as an Ebola treatment, was initially developed to work against a different coronavirus. There's some evidence that it benefits Covid-19 patients. Its maker, Gilead, has been working with researchers and governments around the world to get clinical trials up and running.

The company has said to expect results in April. Six large studies are in progress, with the first, in severely ill patients in China. It was due to finish as early as April 3, according to a government website.

A study in patients with milder disease will also finish in April, with two more due in May. In the meantime, Gilead has made the drug available to hundreds of patients on a compassionate use basis.

However, it recently said that, due to overwhelming demand, it would suspend access to the drug for all but pregnant women and children as it works to create a more systematic way of giving it out without interfering with clinical trials. This new system should be in place soon. Remdesivir must be given intravenously.

University of Minnesota tests all-in for hydroxychloroquine

Each day, other than supply, it looks better for hydroxychloroquine. It is getting lots of attention by lots of epidemiologists and the University of Minnesota.

At least three clinical trials for hydroxychloroquine are trying to establish whether the decades-old malaria medication can prevent COVID-19 infections in frontline health-care workers as hospitals across the country scramble to secure enough gowns and masks for their employees.

This includes two clinical trials at the University of Minnesota testing hydroxychloroquine in health care workers reporting pre- and postexposure to the novel coronavirus. A third trial, funded by a government agency, wants to know if the drug can prevent infections in 15,000 health care workers. See my letter to the editor earlier in this section.

There is growing concern that the current strain on the health care system and its workers isn't sustainable given the high rates of exposure faced by clinicians working in frontline emergency rooms, intensive care units, and newly established COVID-19 units. At the same time, clinicians are being asked to wear one mask per shift or reuse them at some hospitals.

The COVID-19 pandemic has sickened more than 1 million people worldwide, including over 600,000 in the U.S. Over 32,000 people have died in the US. In the U.S., more and more clinicians are contracting the virus, and some are dying.

"The lack of workplace and patient safety right now is catastrophic," Rebecca Givan, an associate professor of labor studies and employment relations at Rutgers University, said in an email.

"Hospitals need to be honest with their workers, and do everything in their power to keep workers safe so that they can continue to provide desperately needed patient care without jeopardizing their own health or that of their families." Hydroxychloroquine can save their employee's lives.

Serological testing for antibodies

A week ago when Trump announced that Peter Navarro had procured over 29 million doses of hydroxychloroquine for the storehouse, the drug began to surge out of the storehouses and into pharmacies across the country. Now, just like there is a shortage of COVID-10 testing and serological testing supplies and the ability to get readouts, there will soon be a shortage of this powerful anti-viral drug and so the stockpile needs to be replaced. It is my opinion that hydroxychloroquine is vital to the success of an American economic restart.

This note is from the Commissioner of Food and Drugs, Food and Drug Administration, Stephen M. Hahn M.D. It explains the tests for

antibodies which many beleive will play a role in reopening America. Here is the commissioner's note:

Serological tests measure the amount of antibodies or proteins present in the blood when the body is responding to a specific infection, like COVID-19. In other words, the test detects the body's immune response to the infection caused by the virus rather than detecting the virus itself. In the early days of an infection when the body's immune response is still building, antibodies may not be detected. This limits the test's effectiveness for diagnosing COVID-19 and why it should not be used as the sole basis to diagnose COVID-19.

Serological tests can play a critical role in the fight against COVID-19 by helping healthcare professionals to identify individuals who have overcome an infection in the past and have developed an immune response. In the future, this may potentially be used to help determine, together with other clinical data, that such individuals are no longer susceptible to infection and can return to work. In addition, these test results can aid in determining who may donate a part of their blood called convalescent plasma, which may serve as a possible treatment for those who are seriously ill from COVID-19. This is why Vice President Mike Pence called on the laboratory community to develop serological tests for COVID-19.

In March, the FDA issued a policy to allow developers of certain serological tests to begin to market or use their tests once they have performed the appropriate evaluation to determine that their tests are accurate and reliable. This includes allowing developers to market their tests without prior FDA review if certain conditions outlined in the guidance document are met. The FDA issued this policy to allow early patient access to certain serological tests with the understanding that the FDA has not reviewed and authorized them.

The FDA can also authorize tests for COVID-19 under an Emergency Use Authorization (EUA). To date, FDA has authorized one EUA for a serological test that is intended for use by clinical laboratories.

Since the FDA issued the policy, over 70 test developers have notified the agency that they have serological tests available for use. However, some firms are falsely claiming that their serological tests are FDA approved or authorized, or falsely claiming that they can diagnose COVID-19. The FDA will take appropriate action against firms making false claims or marketing tests that are not accurate and reliable.

The FDA, an agency within the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, protects the public health by assuring the safety, effectiveness, and security of human and veterinary drugs, vaccines and other biological products for human use, and medical devices. The agency also is responsible for the safety and security of our nation's food supply, cosmetics, dietary supplements, products that give off electronic radiation, and for regulating tobacco products.

How do we open up America?

One of the approaches to opening up America has to do with seeing who has had the virus in the past so that they can gain a certification to prove that person cannot be infected again. If there were an adequate supply of the antibody tests, this would be difficult to implement on a good day.

The notion of having to prove you're OK to get your freedom to work and walk around certificate may not fly well in a free country. That can be an obstacle as the day gets closer that we open up the country. I think we need a simpler approach. Serology testing may make us feel that we are OK but proving it to an employer or anybody else is going to be problematic. There are after all, 330 million citizens in just America to worry about. There are 7.8 billion worldwide.

There was a headline today that certainly got my attention. It said:

DON'T COUNT ON ANTIBODY TESTS TO REOPEN AMERICA

It offered that blood tests that measure a person's antibodies to the coronavirus could be a powerful tool to determine when it's safe to reopen the country. That is correct.

But after all the good news about the creation and development of such tests, concerns now exist about the accuracy and availability of the tests. Here is how the tests work:

Like the FDA Commissioner said: They detect whether a person has ever been exposed to the virus. But, there are many different tests than the single FDA approved test. These tests are different from those used to diagnose the disease. There are those who believe the existence of all these tests could hamper plans to allow Americans back to work and school.

Entrepreneurial America has created more than 90 different antibody tests. They are all now on the market, but only one has been authorized by the Food and Drug Administration. Why is this? The others "may not be as accurate as we'd like," agency FDA chief Stephen Hahn said recently as talk is ramping up about lifting the shutdown. Hahn's FDA has not verified the other 90 tests as being effective. Surely John Q. Public is not qualified to make this determination.

Public health experts are now warning that just because a person has antibodies to the coronavirus does not necessarily mean that they are immune to the virus, according to David Lim But the antibody testing push comes as President Donald Trump is laser-focused on reopening the economy and governors on both coasts work on plans for a regional restart.

Rhode Island Gov. Gina Raimondo said her administration is already conducting a "deep dive, industry by industry" for guidelines to a "new normal,"

My personal concern is that government can easily guess wrong on who can do what and when in any piecemeal approach to relieving the shutdown. Unlike Dr. Fauci, I advocate turning the switch so we do not have to designate a *grand determinator* at the federal or state level to determine what are the gauntlet points that must be accomplished for a person to be declared free of disease, and then what? ?

So, what do we do about new screening and training for businesses that reopen. What must employees do to qualify? Where do they go? Pennsylvania for example has no testing facilities as of today—no drive throughs. Governor Raimondo is one of six northeast governors working together in a new working group announced Monday. There is a lot of hope for this group but there are a lot of pitfalls. Who makes the decisions for the group if they are independent of the president.

"Everyone is very anxious to get out of the house, get back to work, get the economy moving. Everyone agrees with that," said New York Gov. Andrew Cuomo. "What the art form is going to be here is doing that smartly, and doing that productively, and doing that in a coordinated way."

My perspective is to not put a whole load of *gotchas* and *have-tos* and , on the public or businesses. I say" "Let it happen naturally. "The people such as myself and my wife are going to be cautious entering this new open world. Let it up to us make those decisions as to what, and how. The government should just say when!

We got into this mess because it was unexpected. Nobody knew the risks of droplets or dirty hands or close contact. We have seen the case counts, and the deaths. Only a fool would act haphazardly if the switch were turned back on for the economy to start a of a certain date.

The governors' announcement came yesterday as the President asserted that he, not they, would decide when stay-at-home orders could be lifted. It also coincided with news from California Gov. Gavin Newsom, Oregon Gov. Kate Brown and Washington Gov. Jay Inslee that they are working on their own "shared approach" to restarting the West Coast economy and it does not depend on what the East Coast does.

Trump, as expected was asked about the governors' efforts during the Monday Task Force press briefing. Trump was emphatic: "a president's authority is *total*." He added, "And that's the way it's got to be... And the governors know that." Legal scholars say the federal government lacks the power to directly order states to reopen their economies. The last thing America needs is a Constitutional fight before we can open America.

The simplest formula to open the country

Today is April 16, 2020. If I were in charge of the reopening of America, this would be the recommended approach:

It is based on every person's having a desire to survive.

1. All employees preparing to go back to work or already working or those people planning to not stay in 100% lockdown should see their doctor or clinician first; discuss their plans; schedule a test, and if you do not have antibodies, get a prescription for the hydroxychloroquine prophylaxis.

2. States need to designate areas for serology and disease testing and medicine dispensing. I know that I would not know where to go if the tests were ready tomorrow. Hydroxychloroquine prophylaxis needs to be made available as the prime solution. Patients should be able to get their dosage at:

A. Doctors' Offices

B. Clinics

C. Private Urgent Care facilities

D. Additional Facilities such as pharmacies and private areas staffed by PAs and / or nurses.

E. Doctor . Med professional recommended prophylaxis should be taken by all workers who feel the need to wear masks.

3. Shutdown is lifted across the country on May 4 to May 11, 2020

4. Behavioral recommendations (not mandatory) are continued Social distancing , hand washing etc. Avoid contact if not necessary. A new rule book of how to stay safe should be put together and made available

5. All businesses, entertainment, including restaurants, plays, movies, gymnasiums, swimming pools, parks, etc. may open. People need to

voluntarily exercise caution like during the shutdown to avoid crowds if possible. If a place is crowded, go someplace else. If you are sick, stay home

6. Mass transportation reopens. Transit workers take prophylaxis.

7. Face masks recommended until further notice but not mandatory

8. People should stay at home except when they decide to go out to movies or dinner, etc. No restrictions on visiting neighbors or family other than in hospitals and nursing homes.

9. Employees will be called back to work by employers. They have five days to report to work. Those fearful to return to work may request up to 30 days additional leave. Unemployment compensation available for the thirty days for those called back to work – perhaps at half rate.

Summary

Instead of the government determining what is best for the people, the people have already suffered for more than four weeks with the country in lockdown, and the people understand the risks by now. The people are naturally cautious and restrictions will not make us more cautious.

Over time, we may choose to brave the outside world when we feel the time is right. Plus, we may opt to dine inside a restaurant with or without a prophylaxis such as hydroxychloroquine. The medicine which would serve as a crutch so that we would not be infected. Use similar cautions to now to protect yourself from infection.

I would recommend taking the proper amount of a prophylaxis such as hydroxychloroquine to ward off the virus. This medicine may last about three weeks or perhaps longer. Renew the prophylaxis regimen as required. This would be more effective than the antibodies testing and the drug can be made more available than the test. The idea is that eventually the coronavirus will be gone. If you think you have contracted the virus or are concerned about it, you should get tested wherever you can. If positive, ask the physician or attendant for a prescription for hydroxychloroquine with a packet of Zinc and another prescription for Azythromycin. This "three pack" has been effective in curing the virus in some people. It can cure the virus but it is not 100% guaranteed.

Go home and quarantine for 14 days while taking the medicine until the doctor says you no longer have the virus. If you do not improve, call your doctor. Like all medicine, nothing is 100% but hydroxychloroquine is one that I would be looking for if I get sick.

It should be part of the nation's recommended solution for reopening.

By all means reopen the country so we have an economy ready to go when we as a country are finally ready to stop hibernating.

Other Books by Brian W. Kelly: (amazon.com, and Kindle)

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