

Covid in 2024: Treat it More Like the Flu, New CDC Guidance Suggests

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By

[Sumathi Reddy](#)

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Even if you aren't at risk for severe illness, coming down with Covid-19 can still create plenty of hassles in your life. Photo: Irfan Khan/ Los Angeles Times/ Getty Images

A case of Covid no longer means isolating for five days, according to the latest guidance from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention released Friday. It's the latest sign of the virus's normalization four years after it upended our lives.

You should now follow the same precautions with Covid as you take with the flu, according to new guidelines from the CDC. That means staying home until you've gone a day with no fever and symptoms start to improve. Take other precautions for the next five days, including wearing a mask and limiting close contact with others.

Those are the same steps the CDC recommends for other respiratory viruses.

“Covid-19 is still an important public health threat, but it is not the emergency that it once was,” said Dr. Brendan Jackson, who leads the respiratory virus response for the CDC’s National Center for Immunization and Respiratory Disease, on Friday.

“And its health impacts increasingly resemble those of other [respiratory viral] illnesses, including influenza and RSV.”

Plenty of Americans dropped Covid testing and isolation periods long ago as the virus became more routine. Many schools and workplaces hadn’t been enforcing the stricter CDC guidance, and some states have already relaxed their Covid guidance.

Many doctors say that at this point, common sense should guide you. If you feel sick, stay home. When you’re feeling well enough to go out but still have some symptoms, it’s a good idea to wear a mask indoors to protect others. Be more cautious if you’re going to be around more vulnerable people, such as those who are immunocompromised or elderly.

Even if you’re not worried about health risks, there’s still the disruption of getting sick. So if you have a big trip coming up, an important job deadline looming or you just don’t want to juggle work and a sniffily kid, adjust your precautions to fit your tolerance level.

Just like the flu?

Covid-19 hospitalization and death numbers are still higher than those of the flu, but the gap has narrowed since earlier in the pandemic.

However, public health officials cautioned that Covid still isn’t the same as the flu or other respiratory viruses. “Let’s be clear. Covid-19 is not the flu,” said Jackson at the CDC. “It still causes more serious illness and leads to more lasting effects,” he said.

Public-health experts and physicians note that Covid is still a disease that is cited as a cause of death in more than 1,000 people a week, according to CDC data. And long Covid, with symptoms that can linger months and even years, hasn’t gone away.

The CDC’s relaxed Covid guidelines don’t apply to healthcare settings, including nursing homes. People who are at higher risk for severe illness, such as the elderly, the immunocompromised, and pregnant women, should see a healthcare professional if they feel sick to get tested and potentially treated.



Many doctors say that at this point, common sense should guide you: If you feel sick, stay home. Photo: ISTOCK

What your symptoms mean

The CDC's latest guidance underscores that you're most contagious early in your illness.

"We want folks to recognize that the majority of virus spread is happening when you're sickest and as the days go on less virus spreads," said CDC Director Dr. Mandy Cohen.

However, assessing your symptoms isn't a foolproof way to tell how contagious you are.

In general, asymptomatic people are less likely to spread the virus, but it is possible to spread it without having symptoms, says Deepta Bhattacharya, a professor of immunobiology at the University of Arizona College of Medicine in Tucson.

When you are coughing and sneezing a lot, you tend to be more infectious, because you are emitting lots of viral particles into the air. But you can still spread it simply by breathing, without coughing or sneezing.

Covid in general doesn't usually cause a lot of fever, says Dr. Julie Parsonnet, a professor of medicine and infectious-disease doctor at Stanford. So the absence of fever isn't a dependable sign that you are Covid-free, or that you aren't contagious.

At-home rapid tests aren't always reliable, either. So if you test negative but you still have symptoms, you should test again in a few days.

The bottom line, says Parsonnet, is that you should try to protect your family, friends and colleagues when you are sick, no matter what you have. Stay home if you feel ill. If you have a runny nose and cough, test yourself and wear a mask, she says.

When to go out

Dr. Peter Chin-Hong, an infectious-disease specialist at the University of California, San Francisco, says it is reasonable to follow more relaxed isolation guidelines.

Now that so many of us have been infected and reinfected, and gotten vaccinated at least once, our immune defenses against the virus are stronger, he notes. And we have more tools to fight it if we do get sick, including anti-viral medications.

How often to vaccinate

Most people should get a Covid vaccine once a year, likely in the fall around the same time as you get your flu shot, to bolster your immune defenses for the winter when cases rise.

Older people should get vaccinated more often. The CDC this week urged people 65 years and older to get a spring booster at least four months after their last dose. About 60% of seniors aren't up-to-date on their Covid shots.

People with compromised immune systems should be allowed to get a Covid shot whenever their doctors advise, spaced two months apart, the CDC recommends.

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What do you think?

Sort by

- 14 minutes ago

Just an FYI. I have Long COVID. I have had it since 2/12/2020. It debilitated me so significantly that throughout 2020 and 2021, I could not work more than 1-2 hours daily. I suffered such extreme fatigue during that time, that I could neither walk nor leave my home, and slept on average 14-16 hours per day. As an attorney, up until that point, I worked 12 hour days on average, and approximately 60 hours weekly on average. I have had 3 hospitalizations due to COVID and associated complications, the latest being the entire month of November 2022.

I work remotely for my own law firm, which has been in business since 2006, but I lost nearly all my employees in 2020 and 2021 when they thought I was dying.

Long COVID is no joke. I still can only work part time, about 25-30 hours per week. I am still housebound, and my doctors come to the house for me because I cannot get to them.

I was honored as a SuperLawyer this year, and am on a number of major Bar Association boards, so it is not my intellectual capacity that keeps me from working. It is this damn Long COVID.

So yes, COVID has changed, and we all have more immunity than we did back in 2020. But people still get sick. People still get Long COVID. I will never fully recover. Feel free to take whatever risks you intend to take. And you had better hope you don't get Long COVID. Or, if you do, you had better hope you die. Because most of you could not survive what I have gone through in the past 4 years.

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- 4 hours ago

I think discussing natural immunity may not be allowed

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- 22 hours ago

The original COVID was not the flu. It was likely a deliberately engineered virus that "escaped" by accident or otherwise. That said, with rare exceptions - like Ebola - viruses naturally mutate to less deadly, more infectious versions. There is plenty of hard scientific evidence to support that. Personally, I haven't gotten a "booster" in 18 months and have no plans to.

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- 23 hours ago

I always think, with obvious exceptions, that WSJ readers are rational, intelligent people.

The comments to this article go a long way to disabuse me.

Message to you guys who say Covid was never a thing, because the CDC now says we can isolate after fewer than five days: Science is not religion. Science will change when facts and research require it to do so.

Readers here are of the sort we saw a lot of early in the Covid pandemic: criticizing the government (not to mention Dr. Fauci) for not being completely correct in its recommendations. For changing them as new information emerged to justify a course-correction. For responding to the science.

Readers here obviously tend towards belief in the supernatural: one law, handed down by God, never to be challenged.

Disappointing, really.

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- o 20 hours ago

If only Dr. Fauci knew what I knew in April of 2020; the median Covid death rate was about 84 (far beyond the average life expectancy) and the median age in US is 37. How could "Mr. Science" not know that, but a simpleton like me know it? If only Dr Fauci knew high levels of vitamin D was literally a lifesaver. The cheapest, most widely available vitamin on the planet. Alas, I knew that and acted accordingly.

Be careful at whose alter you worship, for you too may be sacrificed.

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- o 21 hours ago

I think you forget Dr (and I use that term loosely) Fauci saying " I am THE SCIENCE ".....dont question me. What an arrogant statement that contradicts the very essence of the Scientific Method.

He knew exactly the magnitude of harm he was inflicting on the USA, and he did it out of greed. He is despicable and should at a minimum be sued for malpractice but really should be in jail for life.

JoAnn's Husband

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- 23 hours ago

It's Official: We Can Pretty Much Treat Covid Like the Flu Now. Here's a Guide.

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It's Official: We Could Have Pretty Much Treated Covid Like the Flu. Here's a Guide to Repairing the CDC's Reputation.

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- 1 day ago

The "don't cough on other's food" downgrade.

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- 1 day ago

Newsflash. It's a flu, crazy hypochondriacs.

Blew up the economy, trillions in new debt, destroyed businesses and kids lives for 2 years over a flu.

If you're sick stay home, if you have preexisting conditions stay home. Was zero need for the vast majority of the public to be locked down.

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- 1 day ago

I ALWAYS treated the Covid as the COLD that it is. Good to see that medical science is catching up with me!

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- 1 day ago

It was always the flu from the start I never recieved one single covid test and never will.

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- 1 day ago

From the comments here it seems the Right generally don't believe in the health risks of covid-19. From another perspective, it's possible that most of them who might have commented are now dead. Ironic.

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- 1 day ago

It might not be a question of belief, but rather of perspective.

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o 1 day ago

It's not just a right winger thing. Some of us level headed Independents were saying this in 2020. Especially those of us that lived in places that went way overboard such as Manhattan and this is coming from someone with quite a few highly respected Manhattan physicians in my friend circle. It was the media, left wing politicians and neurotics who went absolutely nuts over Covid. Most people disagreed with such extremes and "denial" had nothing to do with it.

(Edited)

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1 day ago

Are you talking about the USA when you say: "the media, left wing politicians and neurotics who went absolutely nuts over Covid."? If correct please explain why ALL of the rest of the world went into a total covid shutdown in 2020 as well? Nobody knew anything about covid's lethality, nor did government have any means of combatting it. As it was many people (perhaps even friends of yours) suffered and died terribly.

You say that you have "quite a few highly respected Manhattan physicians in my friend circle." Wonderful, but totally impossible to believe that any of them (if credible) support your contentions.

Sorry, but as in vaccine avoidance (climate denial etc.), there seems to be a mindset in conservative America that believes two days of citizen 'research' means they understand statistics and science better than scientists.....

They don't.

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- 1 day ago

"Never let a good crisis go to waste ... in the arena of action, a threat or a crisis becomes almost a precondition to communication": Saul Alinsky's rules for radicals.

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- 6 hours ago

It was a political response to COVID, to take as much advantage of it as possible. It did not hurt that there was a presidential election starting, and most of the rest of the world did not like the current occupant in the White House, and calculated that if this disease was bad enough, it might get him knocked out of office, in spite of the fact that the economy and world situation was going forward quite well.

One wonders what new crisis will emerge this summer, and only Joe B will be able to save us from it.

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- 1 day ago

The far-left NYC schools chancellor at the time, Richard Carranza, actually used that very quote when my family still lived there.. It was a dark time in NYC history. Sadly, they are still in the mess created by DeBlasio's radical administration.

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- 1 day ago

So this civilization busting virus that brought forth varieties of extra-Constitutional mandates and justified lockdowns destroying world economies has now become just like the flu. Not too long ago, a person would have been banned from social media for saying such things. Why the change? Why now? Could it be because it's election season again?

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1 day ago

Or it could be the scientific community has had four years to work on it.

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1 day ago

Or even better, could it be Nature itself, simply running its course?

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6 hours ago

So we know that viruses mutate, and perhaps the new strains are less virulent, but where did the original strain go? Did it just disappear? That sounds strange - I don't think the worst forms of polio or smallpox or anthrax have disappeared. Why this one?

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- 1 day ago

My earlier comment was rejected - I'll try again - POWER - I always thought the politicians knew the truth and pretended to get the jab for the cameras.

(Edited)

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1 day ago

This!!

I would bet a lot of money every televised shot was just saline... no way they were taking the poison

JoAnn's Husband

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1 day ago

Stop trying to hide behind your husband, JoAnn 😞

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- 1 day ago

If we'd have done that in the first place we wouldn't have lost a trillion dollars as a Nation, our kids would have been on-track in school, and we'd all be happier and more productive now.

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- 1 day ago

PLEASE READ THIS AGAIN ; SLOWLY THIS TIME:

Covid-19 hospitalization and death numbers are still higher than those of the flu, but the gap has narrowed since earlier in the pandemic.

However, public health officials cautioned that Covid still isn't the same as the flu or other respiratory viruses. "Let's be clear. Covid-19 is not the flu," said Jackson at the CDC. "It still causes more serious illness and leads to more lasting effects," he said.

Public-health experts and physicians note that Covid is still a disease that is cited as a cause of death in more than 1,000 people a week, according to CDC data. And long Covid, with symptoms that can linger months and even years, hasn't gone away.

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1 day ago

Here's a thought, you stay home with your mask on while the rest of us live our lives.

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- 1 day ago

I think it's pretty safe to say that COVID-19 was the Y2K of pandemics....

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- 1 day ago

Now they tell us. Remember when comparing the impact of and responses to Covid with the flu--or, for that matter, with any other deadly coronavirus we had managed for decades to navigate without the suspension of activities of daily life--was a "conspiracy theory" to be derided and suppressed? Such was the suffocating, astonishingly destructive grip that scientific dogma and political manipulation had on the government's policy response to the pandemic. Most of what we were told to believe and forced to endure about the virus has since been exposed as crackpot science and debunked--vindicating (much too late) then-contemporaneous countervailing science, research, and dissent forced into hiding and bullied into silence. In retrospect, the full extent of damage from the petty tyrannies, purposeful government disinformation, and institutional corruption of much of the public health bureaucracy is even deeper and more disturbing than first feared. The policy malfeasance and autocratic impulses associated with "public health emergencies" lingers. Absent accountability and preventive guardrails, they can return.

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1 day ago

The WHO is already warning the world about "pandemic X". They want the U.S. to follow their guidelines. What is up their sleeve now?

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- 1 day ago

The anger in these comments is truly astounding.

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1 day ago

The deaths and loss from the mandates is what's astounding.

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1 day ago

Do you really think more people died from "the mandates" than from COVID?

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21 hours ago

Let's do a partial list of the catastrophe our greedy politicians and health officials inflicted on us (all for personal monetary gain and power)

Lost educational opportunities for a generation of kids

Increased mental health issues

Canceled chemo

Missed cancer screening

Unnecessary CV deaths (people were scared to go to ER as documented in WSJ)

Increased alcoholism

Increased dr@g use

Increased child abu\$e

Increased domestic abu\$e

Destruction of cities by BLM because according to 1000 "scientists" COVID doesn't spread among social justice warriors

Intentional destruction of small businesses for the benefit of crony capitalism

Adverse drug events and unnecessary deaths due to v@cci\$e mandates

I could go on

JoAnn's Husband

(Edited)

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- 1 day ago

The CDC is now like the Grammys to me. I don't really care what they think.

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1 day ago

THIS.

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- 1 day ago

COVID did the job the Chinese and Democrats needed it for.

It culled many older Americans who tend to vote Republican.

It was used to change the voting laws.

Used to shut down Trump's prosperous economy.

And ultimately to enable the ballot harvesting ground force paid for by Zuckerberg and Gates to remove Trump.

We are now seeing the horrifying results of Joe Biden and Kamala Harris who were installed by China.

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1 day ago

wake and bake today?

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1 day ago

I see you're familiar with the term

Democrats always accuse their opposition of their own perils.

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1 day ago

Every layer of your comment is foil hat material. Or maybe you're being ironic. If "installed by China" is synonymous with - will of the American people - then sure.

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- 1 day ago

And so it ends. Once again the citizens have drug the government to the place we've been for over two years. Thank you experts for leading.

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- 1 day ago

But Slow Joe told me that getting the "vaccine" would keep me from getting and spreading COVID. Biden even went as far as vilifying anyone who opted out. You mean he and Rochelle Walensky lied? The horror, the horror.

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1 day ago

Kinda hard to believe anything CDC says now...

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- 1 day ago

Never had it. With one exception, I'm the lone member of my extended family who never took the jab; the lone family member who never caught the vid.

Quercetin, Zinc, Vitamins C & D, lots of fresh air, daily outdoor exercise and other personal habits worked for me. Never isolated, serving in a ministry to the homeless (Gospel Mission--Dayton, Ohio) that never closed its doors. Kept on shaking hands and hugging folks that needed encouragement.

I don't trust/believe in big pharma or big medicine, both of which are obsessed with big \$\$\$. For all the trillions of dollars spent on healthcare, worldwide, human thinking has not moved us much beyond "three score and ten" (Psalm 90:10), which is not too far away.

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- 6 hours ago

You got it right!!! Thank you.

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- o 1 day ago

You're just lucky but the shot made no difference in contracting it.

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1 day ago

...he was "lucky" ? ...after hugging homeless people in the middle of a "pandemic"?

...science.

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- 1 day ago

So in summary, the Social Democrats Party is admitting that COVID-19 was not dangerous and that closing schools, the government, forcing military personal, nurses and others out of jobs was simply wrong to do.

There is no need to fear any longer as there is no longer easy ways to control the public, make money, and use fear to get votes. Therefore, onto the next disaster.

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- 1 day ago

This is true and I feel so manipulated. But now we know the pattern, i.e. (1) create the problem, (2) control the information, and (3) regulate the solution. The COVID epidemic swung the election for the Democrats by allowing local governments to ignore voting laws. A new epidemic that will come this year and will do the same, and more.

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- o 1 day ago

That next disaster will be a doozy, I'll bet.

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- 1 day ago

Remember when Schiff held hearings on aliens? That was a trial to test our reaction to that type of disaster.

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- 1 day ago

NIAID is still funding Wuhan Institute of Virology to do studies outlawed in the US.

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1 day ago

They are criminals.

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- 1 day ago

When will the covidiot be punished for the damage they have done by the intentional overreaction and overreach?

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1 day ago

And when are the covidiot going to stop wearing masks in public and in their cars while driving alone? Never is my guess, they've been fully indoctrinated.

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1 day ago

I think you are correct. Those still doing that now though are neurotics. They are just broadcasting their mental instability on their face now, whereas before it would not have been immediately apparent.

I understand if it is a very frail elderly person. But the younger ones are neurotics with their exaggerated "immunocompromised" hypochondria.

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- 1 day ago

Can we talk about the killings of Gazans rushing for humanitarian aid, ie the wsj cover story?

Nope cuz it doesn't serve wsj's agenda. But stoking the COVID fire during election season does.

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1 day ago

Now you have me dancing. 🐘 🧑

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- 1 day ago

Yes had it - Ivermectin - cold medicine - rest and cough meds

We both survived without being shot = amazing not

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- 1 day ago

The CDC doesn't give advice to benefit individuals. It's a misrepresentation to say someone "should be vaccinated once/year" without also stating that recommendation is solely to further the specific objectives of the CDC, which are not necessarily aligned with the interests of the individuals to whom the "guidance" is targeted.

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- 1 day ago

Covid- what a sham and a scam including Chief Quack Fauci.

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- 1 day ago

Hmm. My previous comment about the last segment of the article was rejected.

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1 day ago

Mine as well. I've Never had that happen before.

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- 1 day ago

View from the Bay Area....

CDC the science or the politics of Covid...

My Wife recently went to hospital and almost died of Covid.. We think that with time and politics that President Biden will campaign on the minor issue that Joe Biden saved America from Covid....

Covid is still not the flu. That CDC treating it as a flu might be more to the politics of Covid than to the science...

Biden cured Covid ? The truth dies in darkness while lies are told by victors of history until the lies become known truths of said history told.....

But, we know that is not the whole story... Those that tell the tale in the mass media will conveniently forget the Warp Speed of President Trump..

Enough of us survived to Covid to remind President Biden of that fact if it necessary....

(Edited)

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- 1 day ago

What mindless comments. They always appear on every COVID related story. At its worst COVID was killing at an instantaneous rate comparable to cancer and heart disease. Note I said "rate" so don't disagree with something stupid like the total number who died. It is the rate that is important. Vaccines reduced the R-value of the disease spread and treatments helped those who were infected thanks to modern science plus the virus mutated to less deadly forms. That BTW is evolution for those who don't believe in evolution. The virus was evolving so that it would not kill off all of its hosts. That is called "survival of the fittest", even for viruses. Had nothing been done to intervene it is true that the evolution would have happened anyway. But please, please retire your conspiracy theories whether it is government or pharma. As someone said -- it was a novel virus. There was a global pandemic.

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- o 1 day ago

The vaccine which was developed incredibly swiftly, was rolled right as the variants had weakened. They were easier to catch but rarely put reasonably healthy people into the hospital. That makes it almost impossible to tell if the vaccine truly protected the population from severe disease.

If nothing else it gave the disoriented population a green light to resume normal behaviors.

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1 day ago

Thanks for a thoughtful reply. I got my first shot in Jan 2021. I was quite early in the process due to a number of factors, one being dumb luck that my provider got a shipment of vaccine. I think early 2021 is when Alpha variant was peaking. I tracked infections in my county and tried to predict the next few months based on the past data and a simple mathematical model. I was basically fitting data and then extrapolating. I urged my church to open for Easter in Spring 2021 because my model predicted the trend would be downward at that time, contrary to the news media. Turns out I was right. The virus spread is a chain reaction type phenomena that follows exponential growth or decay based on a rate factor that can be either positive or negative depending on the virus R-factor. Anyone who has studied the fission chain reaction that powers nuclear reactors recognizes this. Some of the best work done on predicting the growth and decline of infections was at the Department of Energy nuclear labs.

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- o 1 day ago

Todd S: What is a COVID denier? You mean anyone who didn't fall for the fear-mongering lie that COVID was the plague and therefore didn't mindlessly submit to the government's diktats?

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1 day ago

Covid denier is someone who denies that Covid made people sick and killed a lot of people around the world.

The government thing is political hogwash.

Manipulated stuff through social media primarily. Fox as well.

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- o 1 day ago

Thank - you.

This thread taken over by Covid deniers, as usual.

Covid is a virus that unfortunately was and is politicized on social media, where truth does not count.

As you say, Covid, like all coronaviruses gets more contagious, though weaker over 4-5 years, eventually morphing into a "cold".

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1 day ago

It was much weaker within 1.5 to 2 years in this case.

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- o 1 day ago

Again - covid "deaths" were classified as such if you died **with** covid and from it. The vast majority of people died of other things but they were called covid deaths for political and financial reasons. Even Fauci finally grudgingly admitted that over a year ago.

We need to stop with the mindless "it was comparable to cancer!" nonsense. No it wasn't. Cancer, lung disease and other major killers shockingly had record lows in deaths during the covid years. Wonder why?

My favorite was the story in 2020 I think about the young couple who died in a car accident. She had recently tested positive for covid so was classified a covid "death". The husband was identified through the dubious contact tracing method and with zero symptoms was also classified as a covid death. Despite the fact the car crash killed them both.

There are countless other stories like this. Many millions of Americans didn't believe the hysteria then and still don't - and won't trust the "experts" ever again. Which is the real damage, along with all the collateral damage the faux hysteria caused.

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- 1 day ago

Cancer and heart disease did not have record lows during pandemic. Influenza and other respiratory viruses had record lows because some people were masked and socially distanced and this had an effect. If nothing else it will provide data for the data-crunchers to see how the COVID precautions affected other common viruses.

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- 1 day ago

To be a Covid death doc needed to put Covid as primary or underlying cause of death on their death certificate.

Deaths are reliably "from".

Hospitalizations in contrast are test related, and about 1/2 are with, 1/2 are from.

In 2020 and 2021, life expectancy dropped by 2 years, due to Covid, "from" deaths. Macrotrends has the graph - **U.S. Life Expectancy 1950-2024**

Not sure why such an avalanche of distortion here. Manipulated by some group(s), domestic, and/or foreign. For some reason.

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- 1 day ago

Todd, get another booster!

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1 day ago

Initially, Covid vaccines cut risk of hospitalization and death by 90%.

90% of Dems vaccinated. 70% of Republicans vaccinated.

200,000 more GOP deaths than if they had 90% vaccination.

As for Covid boosters, much like flu annual shots - prevent 50% effective in preventing hospitalizations and deaths.

Your call -

Covid deaths have dropped from 4500/day at peak in Jan 2021, to 60/day now. Essentially all of us have some immunity either through vaccine or infection, or both.

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- 1 day ago

I have lost trust in the CDC and NIH. They were protecting the profits and interests of big pharma. The interests of the people were secondary. It is amazing how money has corrupted our "scientists" The CDC truly dropped the ball!

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- 6 hours ago

They are the same average Federal employees scared to lose their job if they don't hold the line!!!

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- 1 day ago

Add the FDA to that list, they are largely funded by the pharmaceutical industry.

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- 1 day ago

Like all mini tyrants they enjoyed pushing people around.

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- 1 day ago

You Have Covid. It's Mild, Now What?

Realize Covid 19 is getting more contagious, yet weaker.

It is as bad as usual flu year now, and will continue to weaken as other coronaviruses have, into a "cold".

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- 1 day ago

HEADLINE HELP:

Headline now reads:

"It's Official: We Can Pretty Much Treat Covid Like the Flu Now. Here's a Guide.

New guidelines from the CDC Friday bring Covid precautions in line with those of other respiratory viruses."

Suggested headline edit:

It's Official: We Should Have Pretty Much Treated Covid Like the Flu.

CDC guidelines killed more people than Covid would have had we done nothing but treat Covid in line with other respiratory viruses.

(Edited)

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1 day ago

Covid 19 in 2020 and 2021 was definitely much worse than other respiratory viruses.

Hospitals and morgues were full.

Life expectancy dropped by 2 years, due to Covid deaths.

At peak in Jan 2021, 4500 Americans were dying with Covid on their death certificate.

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- 1 day ago

I'm still furious at my company for mandating that all employees get vaccinated for COVID. The "experts" they hired to convince us had no knowledge of immunology and were arrogant snobs. Top management, who claimed to be looking out for the "health of employees" were tyrannical, thoughtless lemmings.

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1 day ago

Or

Getting your Covid vaccine decreases your risk of dying or being hospitalized by 90%. And is/was incredibly safe. Zero deaths in US from mRNA vaccines.

Be furious if you like.

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- This comment violated our policy.

1 day ago

Yep - I've got friends that still follow those protocols. They're good people and they do so mainly to protect others.

I personally don't think the protocols have been needed for the last 2+ years, but as long as they don't try to force me to change my actions, it doesn't bother me what others choose to do.

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- 1 day ago

It was a flu virus all along. Didn't anyone notice flu numbers all but disappeared for two years?

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- 1 day ago

Yes. What you say. Cheers! 🍷

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- 1 day ago

1.1 million Americans died with Covid on their death certificate in 2020-2021.

Usual flu year, 30,000 - 60,000.

Same risk factors.

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- 1 day ago

"You should now follow the same precautions with Covid as you take with the flu, according to new guidelines from the CDC. That means staying home until you've gone a day with no fever and symptoms start to improve. Take other precautions for the next five days, including wearing a mask and limiting close contact with others."

Just wait for it, wait for it, wait for it - - - - come October-28-2024 all heck is gonna break loose on a new "flu-like" virus!

Wait for it, wait for it - "The United States Government will now allow every vote to vote by mail, due to the newest, deadliest virus"

Just wait and see.....

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1 day ago

Covis ia a virus. An infection.

Take your politics elsewhere.

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- 1 day ago

I've had it four times now and it is definitely not any worse than a mild flu. Hospitals made a ton of money by suggesting that elderly people who died of natural causes, died because they had a cold.

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1 day ago

Actually, they died of Covid.

Ask any nurse.

1.1M Americans died with Covid as primary or underlying cause of death on their death certificate.

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- 1 day ago

Will CDC tell Gavin Newsome people can go on dry as well as wet sand, he can go to French Laundry again, and SF Mayor can dance maskless and drink at the Reunion of TONY, TONY, TONY, "when the Spirit moves me".

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- 1 day ago

How fun. I've never treated it as anything other than that.

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- 1 day ago

The new CDC guidelines can only mean one thing. Less sense of urgency to win the election for Biden this time.

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1 day ago

Covid is a virus.

Take your politics elsewhere.

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- 1 day ago

Good to see the CDC finally catchup to where most of the country has been for 2+ years.

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- 1 day ago

Sadly the censoring on this topic continues and the WSJ is no exception.

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- 1 day ago

And this just proves 2020 was a hysterical over-reaction by out of control bureaucrats bent on violating our rights as citizens and human beings.

Anthony Fauci should be breaking rocks at Leavenworth, not walking around like a little weasel with a perpetual smirk on his dishonest face.

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1 day ago

But it is many county-level petty public health officials who exercised their power to impose different degrees of lockdown, which caused enormous and irreparable damages to local small businesses.

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- 1 day ago

They arrested people for walking on the beach. They closed parks because you might come closer than six feet to a stranger. They painted green dots on the floor so you would know where you could stand. They kept kids in isolation bubbles and demanded they be vaccinated - multiple times. They drove people out of their jobs and military service. We remember what they did.

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- 1 day ago

Indeed. Some of us who lived in Manhattan, ground zero for neurotics, run by the left-wing DeBlasio at the time, will never forget. We picked our family up and moved to saner pastures. We are still in NY state because my husband still has to commute but we are in a more politically-balanced moderate town. We will never forget. My husband is a small business owner in Manhattan. One of the few who managed to survive the lockdowns and nonsensical mandates. Others were not so fortunate.

(Edited)

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- 1 day ago

My favorites were closing "non essential" businesses and the constant surface sanitizing/deep cleaning. Silly me, I had no idea that liquor stores were "essential". Yes, there was a problem but the over reaction was on full display.

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- 1 day ago

they knew all along

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- 1 day ago

All the alcohol glop that we had to slather on our hands every time we entered a building, the ineffective masks, shortage of food and basic services, the Fauci made up social distancing, plexiglass shields all over the place, 'vaccines' that weren't anything of the kind, shuttered schools and offices, the shaming of those that questioned any of it....and it all comes down to a very big Emily Litella NEVER MIND.

(Edited)

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- 1 day ago

People were dying.

Morgues were full.

Hospitals were full.

No vaccine yet.

Incredible pressure to do something.

And same things done around the world.

This comment thread has been taken over by organized groups.

Some honest opinions.

Some manipulation by domestic campaigns and foreign governments.

(Edited)

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- 1 day ago

But you have to admit - for the foreseeable future, it will provide a mother lode of material for comedians .

(Edited)

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- 1 day ago

Can I finally go to 'Chinatown'?

I've been dying for a good parade and some Chinese food.

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- 1 day ago

Hug a Chinese person, Nancy Pelosi says it's okay.

(Edited)

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- 1 day ago

I think it is okay to go there now. Just don't go Bat crazy.

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- 1 day ago

COVID quickly became three things beyond the actual pandemic in the U.S.:

- 1) control
- 2) redistribution of wealth
- 3) racial propaganda

The only reason why the feds waited this long to admit what we've all known for a few years.

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- 1 day ago

I remember the lockdowns when I lived in Manhattan. My husband is a small business owner there. One of the few that survived.

Yet race riot protestors were permitted to wreak havoc in the city while everyone else was locked down.

(Edited)

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- 1 day ago

Also not true.

Covid was a contagious virus that was killing people.

This thread being manipulated by organized group, or groups.

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- 1 day ago

Pfizer. 2x. Six months of swollen lymph nodes and other ailments I never had before. Never again. Covid evangelists will tell me my experience doesn't matter.

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- 1 day ago

My best friend went into menopause at 40. Two said it was likely from the vaccine. Doctors from the most respected hospital in New York, though I won't name it.

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- 1 day ago

Now vaccine is about about like flu vaccine, 50% effective in preventing hospitalization and death.

Initially, 95% effective for same as was novel, we had no immunity.

(Edited)

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- 1 day ago

Viral infections evolve. Political virology?

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- 1 day ago

We always could, but covid became politicized for power and money.

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- 1 day ago

Having been vaccinated (with Moderna) a few times against the COVID, following the CDC guidelines of wearing N-95 mask, and practicing safe distance etc., I am fortunate to have not contracted the disease yet.

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- 1 day ago

You may have had asymptomatic infection.

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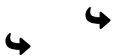
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- 1 day ago

I've had 2 jabs and the disease. Not to be flippant, but I am kind of glad I got the disease. (and I presume that the jabs may have made the disease milder for me). In any case - I'm done with this pandemic.

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- This comment violated our policy.

1 day ago

Agree, plus that consensus is based on well documented evidence.

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- 1 day ago

One thing emerges over all the others. At the very beginning the COVID epidemic, we didn't know very much about it.

The head epidemiologist in Sweden probably got it the most right. Even in Sweden, COVID did a lot of damage before it became obvious that nursing home residents were especially vulnerable.

The virus and its variants spread rapidly and apparently outran the ability of present surveillance techniques to keep up with it.

In my medical school public health class, the professor said with polio there were always two epidemics. One was the disease and the other was fear. COVID was no different.

Our initial response to COVID was predictable. The public health official's lack of specific knowledge led them to hedge their initial responses in the direction of preventing the worst case scenario. Then the politicians weighed in and confusion reigned. As in many stressful situations, some of the early decisions were not good.

Dr. Fauci was the most visible medical person involved. I'll bet he feels he should have stuck to virology. He didn't do as well with politics.

Sometime in the near future, we need to have a study of what we did wrong, what we did right, and what we need to change about the way we deal with epidemics. We haven't seen the last of them.

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- 1 day ago

Where is the editorial (or even a thread) on restitution from China for all harmed? Point of origin (lab or wet market, intentional or accident) is irrelevant because China sent its Wuhan residents around the world, but would not let them travel within China.

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1 day ago

Fauci funded the Wuhan Institute of Virology, so it's not only China's fault.

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- 1 day ago

"...at this point, common sense should guide you." Up until now we were supposed to ignore common sense.

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- 1 day ago

Common sense is a curse since you eventually end up dealing with people who have no common sense.

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- 1 day ago

Common sense ain't all that common.

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