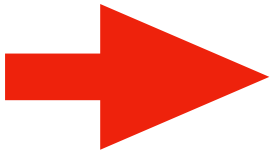


## Corona virus and Covid-19 Pandemic: Some of the scientific blunders.

The latest studies published by Dr Ioannidis, (*Professor in Disease Prevention, Professor of Medicine, of Epidemiology and Population Health, and of Biomedical Data Science, and of Statistics; co-Director, Meta-Research Innovation Centre at Stanford University*), carried out in Santa Clara County concluded that **the Infection Fatality Rate of COVID19 is similar to seasonal influenza statistics during a bad flu season.** The data was produced by dividing the number of deaths by those in the study with the estimated number of people with anti-bodies to the virus.

 “While COVID-19 is a formidable threat, the fact that its IFR (infection fatality rate) is much lower than originally feared, is a welcome piece of evidence,” he wrote. “At a very broad, bird’s eye view level, worldwide the IFR of COVID-19 this season may be in the same ballpark as the IFR of influenza.” – Dr Ioannidis.

Despite the media reporting hospitals up and down the UK being ‘overwhelmed’, **most hospitals have continued to run well below usual capacity, with many health workers reporting being sent home early or made to take early leave.** Well rehearsed NHS dance routines have flooded social media- ironically hospitals are extremely busy places, and these dance routine videos would not have been possible had hospitals been running at their normal capacity. The emergency Nightingale Hospitals set up to assist the reported ‘overwhelming’ hospitals- which cost the British taxpayer millions of pounds have mostly remained empty- treating very few Covid patients, some like the Nightingale Hospital in Birmingham reportedly treated zero patients in the whole time it was ‘operational’. The Nightingale Hospitals have since been closed by the government. <https://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/0/do-many-nhs-nightingale-hospitals-remain-empty/>

Despite these revelations hundreds of thousands of Britain’s have had operations and treatments cancelled or put on hold, many of whom are awaiting life saving treatments and operations. 60,000 Cancer patients have had their treatments put on hold, **with many more expected to have their treatments pushed back and with longer waiting times.** It’s been reported that the NHS waiting list could swell up to 10,000,000 by the end of 2020. It would hardly be a surprise if the government was forced to privatise our health care service to keep it fully operational. Government bodies and

human rights organisations are now reporting that more people are expected to die from lockdown measures than from the virus itself.

Not least through poverty, suicide- driven from mental health problems, domestic violence and child abuse not being reported, isolation of the elderly and vulnerable, people less inclined to utilize public health services, and the overwhelming majority of high priority patients who have had their treatments put on hold or cancelled. UNICEF recently reported that lockdown measures could contribute to a 45% rise in child mortality, potentially killing up to 1.2 million children.

**The media needs to be held responsible for inaccurate reporting of the virus**, which has led to a mass propaganda campaign designed to scare the public in to accepting authoritarian measures. The media has massively overplayed the severity of this virus compared to other respiratory viruses. Up to 17.4 Million people die every year due to tuberculosis which is the world's most highly infectious disease. Seasonal flu killed 80,000 in the U.S during the 2018 winter season. The media thrive off of sensationalist headlines, and it appears that since media outlets have had nothing else to report on, every news headline has to be made more dramatic and fear-driven than the last. Headlines like 'young man dies with coronavirus', which when you read properly merely outlines that a young man died of a separate health condition but tested positive for the virus at the time of death- yet media outlets consistently aim to link the two and to promote these stories to continue spreading fear.

Media and people will often argue that Herd Immunity means, irradiating a disease all together, where immunity of 95% population is needed. During Covid-19 outbreak, the intention would have been to minimise spread and that works for any single or groups of individuals.

**These media reports, along with bad public health advice led to Britain abandoning its herd immunity strategy. Not only would this have prevented us destroying our countries economy and plunging millions in to poverty, but it would have protected the vulnerable members of society who could have been advised to isolate whilst healthy people carried on their day to day lives.**

Herd Immunity would have worked on the premise that individuals at risk are protected from infection because they are surrounded by immune individuals. Thus the spread of the virus is minimised. It appears that we were already half way towards that strategy as Oxford University studies published in March estimated that around 60% of the UK population had already been exposed to the virus between December and January.

