

# Following the Science in the Age of Institutional Corruption



Adobe Photoshop stock image

**Problem:** The COVID-19 countermeasures laid bare the extent to which special interests undermine the scientific process. It also pitted those who blindly trust governmental institutions against those who habitually question prevailing narratives. The first group facilitates corruption by making federal agencies less accountable to the public. On the other side of the coin, those who distrust the government create opportunities for charlatans who take advantage of their sense of institutional distrust. The goal of this lesson plan is to provide students with a rough guide for discerning whether or not the “science” is based on systematic or narrative-driven data-gathering. Most importantly, it gives students a checklist for objectively evaluating what they consume from both mainstream and alternative sources of news.

# 1. Scientific Fraud



Image generated by [Image Creator from Microsoft Bing](#)



## Editor of Lancet: *Medical Research is Unreliable at Best or Completely Fraudulent*

Dr Richard Horton declared, “Much of the scientific literature, perhaps half, may simply be untrue. Afflicted by studies with **small sample sizes, tiny effects, invalid exploratory analyses, and flagrant conflicts of interest**, together with an obsession for pursuing **fashionable trends** of dubious importance, science has taken a turn towards darkness.”

<https://www.drugawareness.org/editor-of-lancet-medical-research-is-unreliable-at-best-or-completely-fraudulent/>

# Red Flags for Discerning Fraud

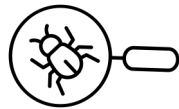
- **Is it corroborated?** *Does it concur with raw data? Does it concur with independent sources?*



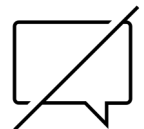
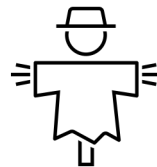
- **Who benefits?** *Do any of the authors have a conflict of interest?*

- **How do the authors and their supporters react when confronted with contrary evidence?**

- **Non-evasive:** *Criticism that focuses on specific details of the study (itemized)*



- **Evasive:** *ad hominem attacks, straw man, gaslighting, censorship*





## Which two of the aforementioned red flags are evident in this real-life example of scientific fraud?

In May 2020, *The Lancet* published the results of a global dataset analysis demonstrating that COVID-19 patients treated with hydroxychloroquine died at a higher rate than patients not receiving this drug. This study was retracted when readers started reporting glaring inconsistencies with national registries of hospitalized COVID-19 patients and the third party providing the data suddenly became unavailable. At the time of publication, one of two lead co-authors was conducting trials with the far more profitable COVID treatment, Remdesivir.



Sapan Desai, head of Surgisphere

**Lack of corroboration & conflict of interest.**



THE LANCET

# Hypothetical Example of Junk Science:

## Do you see how it was rigged?

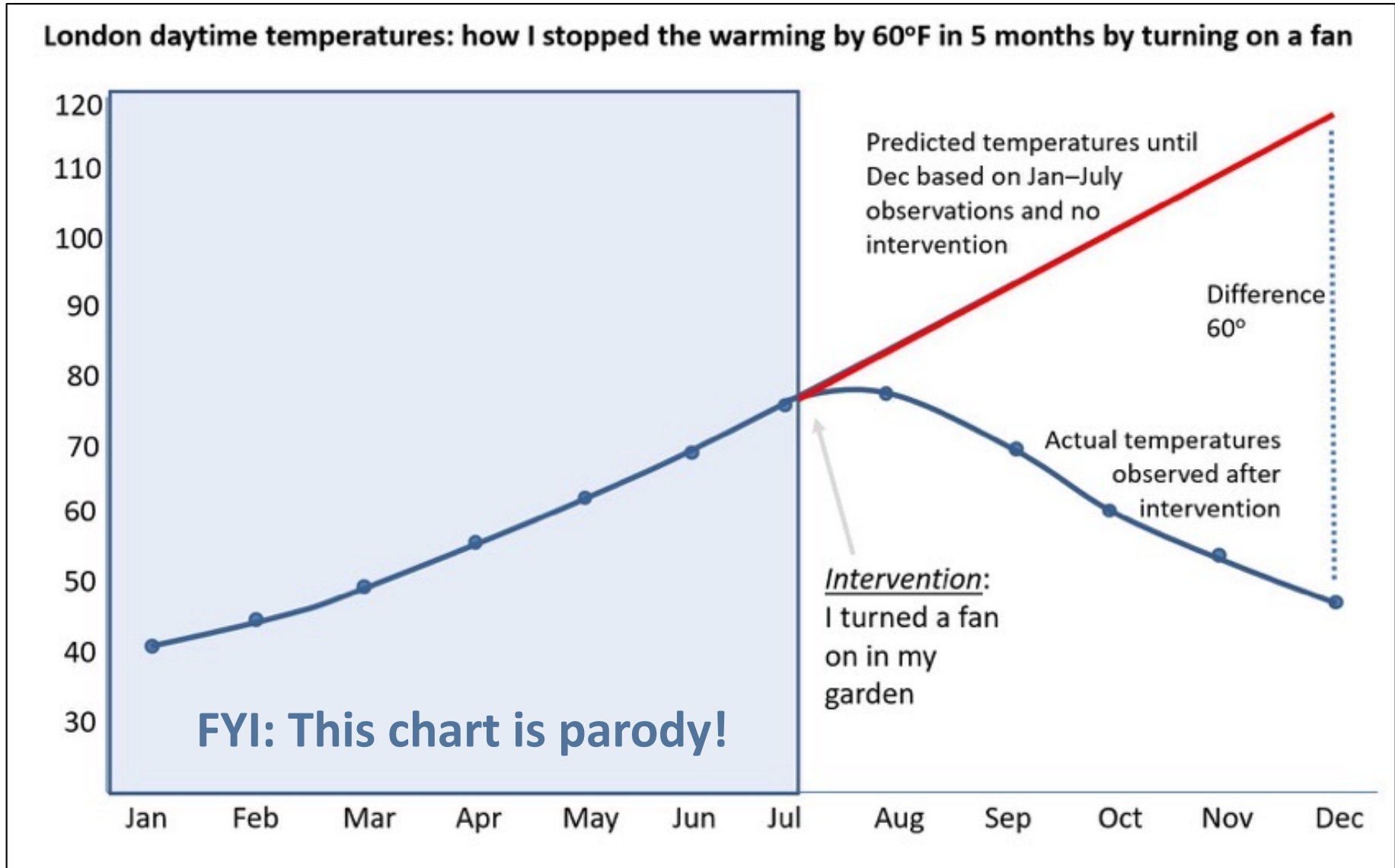
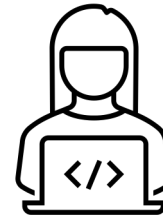
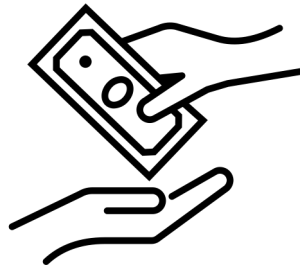
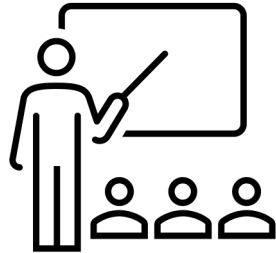
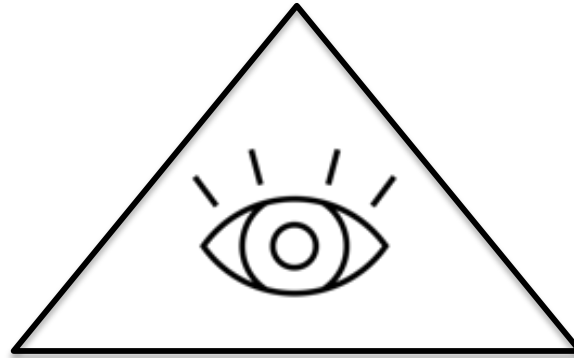


Chart by Norman Fenton [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8Avq\\_tMz2LU&t=74s](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8Avq_tMz2LU&t=74s)

## 2. Narrative Control





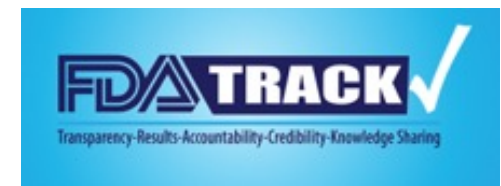
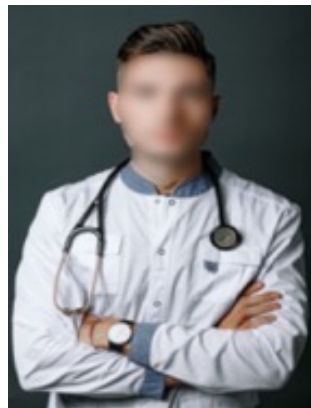
# Astroturfing = fake grassroots movement



*The whole point of astroturf is to try to convince you there's widespread support for or against an agenda when there's not.* Sharyl Attkisson, investigative reporter

<https://sharylattkisson.com/2016/07/top-10-astroturfers/>

**Example:** You choose to “do your own research” on the safety of a given drug, not knowing that your internet search was rigged (via bots & algorithms), your primary care doctor was influenced (via free samples & workshops) and your other “trusted sources” like mainstream media and government agencies were captured (via sponsors, grants, user fees, job offers, & partnerships).



# Real Life Example: A Tale of Two Search Engines

## The same search terms get totally different results.

Google danielle alvarez remdesivir

LinkedIn  
https://www.linkedin.com › danielle-alvarez-a2306bb

**Danielle Alvarez**  
View **Danielle Alvarez's** profile on LinkedIn, the world's largest professional community. Danielle has 3 jobs listed on their profile.  
Missing: remdesivir | Show results with: remdesivir

ACS Publications  
https://pubs.acs.org › doi

**Practical and Highly Efficient Synthesis of Remdesivir from GS ...**  
by T Hu · 2022 · Cited by 1 — A three-step sequence for preparing remdesivir, an important anti-SARS-CoV-2 drug, is described. Employing N,N-dimethylformamide dimethyl ...

LinkedIn  
https://www.linkedin.com › danielle-alvarez-19635491

**Danielle Alvarez - Health System Pharmacy Administration ...**  
**Danielle Alvarez.** Health System Pharmacy Administration and Leadership Resident at The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center.  
Missing: remdesivir | Show results with: remdesivir

bioRxiv  
https://www.biorxiv.org › content

**Probing remdesivir nucleotide analogue insertion to SARS ...**  
by ME Romero · 2021 · Cited by 9 — Feng, **Danielle P. Porter**, and Matthias Götte. **Remdesivir** is a direct-acting antiviral that inhibits RNA-dependent RNA ...

Emory School of Medicine  
https://med.emory.edu › directory › profile

**Abeer Moanna MD - Profile | Emory School of Medicine**  
Abeer Moanna joined the division of Infectious Diseases at Emory as a junior faculty in 2005 at the Atlanta VA Medical Center. Abeer received her medical degree ...  
Missing: danielle alvarez

Яндекс danielle alvarez remdesivir

Поиск Картинки Видео Карты Товары Переводчик Все

Rebecca's Story - COVID-19 Humanity Betrayal Memory Project  
chbmp.org › cases/murdered-by-fda-death...danielle...  
Danielle's symptoms worsened and Rebecca took her to the ER. ... As a result of treating Danielle with 10 days of Remdesivir, Danielle was placed on a ventilator "temporarily".  
Читать ещё  
Не найдено: alvarez

Pharmaceutical Murder With Remdesivir  
drcircus.com › general/pharmaceutical...remdesivir/  
U.S. public health anointed remdesivir the standard-of-practice for patients severely ill with stage-two inflammatory COVID in the ICUs all over America. Читать ещё  
Не найдено: alvarez, danielle

Wrongful Death Lawsuit Filed Against Three California...  
thegatewaypundit.com › 2022/09/wrongful...remdesivir...  
Lawsuits were filed against three California health care providers on grounds they used failed Ebola drug Remdesivir on patients without obtaining informed consent... Читать ещё  
Не найдено: alvarez, danielle

Remdesivir—Run! Death is Near... – Explore EVERY angle  
pennybutler.com › remdesivir/  
Dr Bryan Ardis on Remdesivir. Pennsylvania Senate (2 min Clip). "Remdesivir actually causes death of heart cells and is cardiotoxic and can lead to cardiac arrest. Читать ещё  
Не найдено: alvarez, danielle

'Violated the Nuremberg Code': California Hospitals Face...  
en-volve.com › 2022/09...violated-the...code...remdesivir...  
#Breaking #BreakingNews LANDMARK CLASS ACTION LAWSUIT in #California for MURDER with #Remdesivir against the hospitals, medical centers, and #Doctors.  
Читать ещё  
Не найдено: alvarez, danielle

# The Power of Fear Porn

**The 2011 thriller “Contagion” paved the way for the official COVID-19 narrative:**

1. A chimeric virus from China generates a fast-growing pandemic.
2. Strict lockdown policies are enforced in order to stop the spread.
3. The WHO and CDC work heroically to track the origin and find solutions.
4. Fast-tracked vaccines generated via public-private partnership are the only way out.
5. Therapies not endorsed by government agencies are either unreliable or fraudulent.
6. This chimeric virus was not made in a lab: It was generated after a virus from an infected bat picked up genes from an animal destined for human consumption.





### 3. Problematic Legislation



Image generated by [Image Creator from Microsoft Bing](#)

The **Bayh-Dole Act** of 1980 allowed federal agencies to collect royalties.

<https://www.hhs.gov/about/news/2023/03/21/hhs-doc-announce-plan-review-march-in-authority.html>.



NIH now benefits from all purchases of mRNA vaccines because Moderna and NIH “co-own” the patent for this commercial product.

This is a conflict of interest because NIH is also the primary US government agency responsible for research that determines public health.



President Reagan during a visit to NIH.



## About the National Vaccine Injury Compensation Program

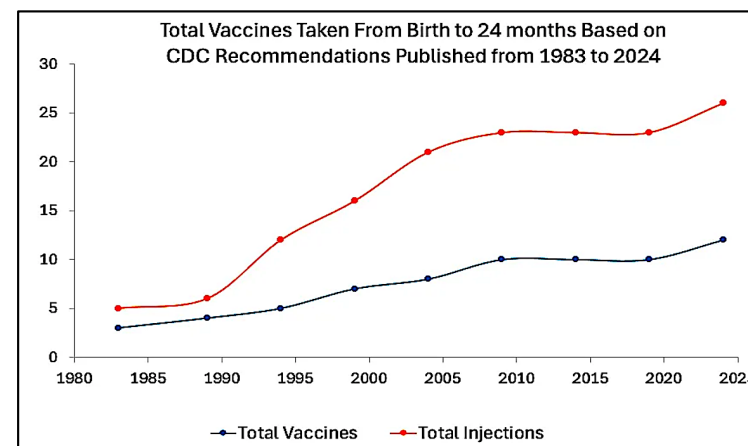
The National Childhood Vaccine Injury Act of 1986 (PDF - 312 KB), as amended, created the National Vaccine Injury Compensation Program (VICP), a no-fault alternative to the traditional tort system. It provides compensation to people found to be injured by certain vaccines. Even in cases in which such a finding is not made, petitioners may receive compensation through a settlement.

The **National Childhood Vaccine Injury Act** of 1986 provided liability protection to manufacturers of all products listed on the childhood immunization schedule.

<https://digitalcommons.law.uw.edu/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=3792&context=wlr>

This made childhood vaccines far more profitable because it shifted financial responsibility for vaccine injury to taxpayers by means of a “vaccine court” administered by Health and Human Services.

<https://www.hrsa.gov/vaccine-compensation/about>



[https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/hcp/imz-schedules/resources.html?CDC\\_AAref\\_Val=https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/schedules/hcp/schedule-related-resources.html](https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/hcp/imz-schedules/resources.html?CDC_AAref_Val=https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/schedules/hcp/schedule-related-resources.html)

<https://vaccine-schedule.ecdc.europa.eu/>



**HR-5736 Smith Mundt Modernization Act** of 2012 lifted the domestic ban on government propaganda. Prior to this law, most government propaganda could only be disseminated in other nations. <https://www.usagm.gov/who-we-are/oversight/legislation/smith-mundt-faqs/>

A critic raised concerns that this law lacked oversight, and that there was no way of assuring the accuracy of this information. <https://www.buzzfeednews.com/article/mhastings/congressmen-seek-to-lift-propaganda-ban>



The daughter of a Kuwaiti ambassador presenting fictitious testimony to garner support for the Gulf War.



Head of CDC Rochelle Wallensky presenting unsupported claims to garner wider acceptance of COVID vaccines.

The **Prep Act** of 2020 provided liability protection to health workers and manufacturers from all procedures and products designated as “pandemic countermeasures.”

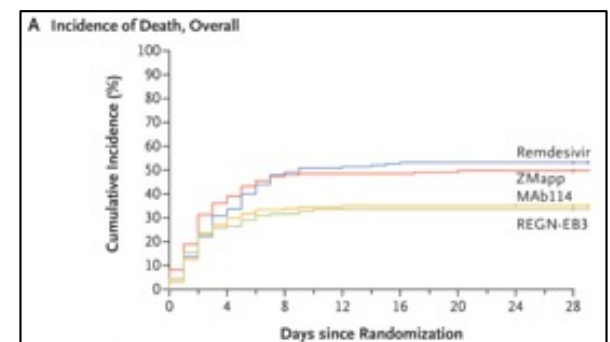
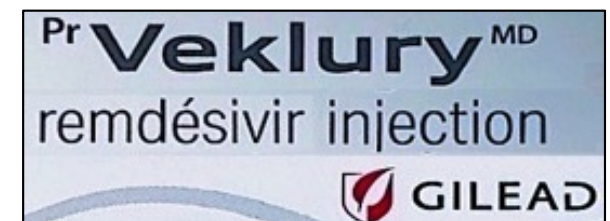
<https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2020/03/17/2020-05484/declaration-under-the-public-readiness-and-emergency-preparedness-act-for-medical-countermeasures>



A repurposed Ebola drug became the “standard of care” for hospitalized COVID-19 patients despite its deeply problematic safety profile.

[https://www.nejm.org/doi/10.1056/NEJMoa1910993?url\\_ver=Z39.88-2003&rfr\\_id=ori:rid:crossref.org&rfr\\_dat=cr\\_pub%20%20pubmed](https://www.nejm.org/doi/10.1056/NEJMoa1910993?url_ver=Z39.88-2003&rfr_id=ori:rid:crossref.org&rfr_dat=cr_pub%20%20pubmed)

<https://principia-scientific.com/doctor-reveals-remdesivir-is-real-cause-of-covid-19-maladies/>

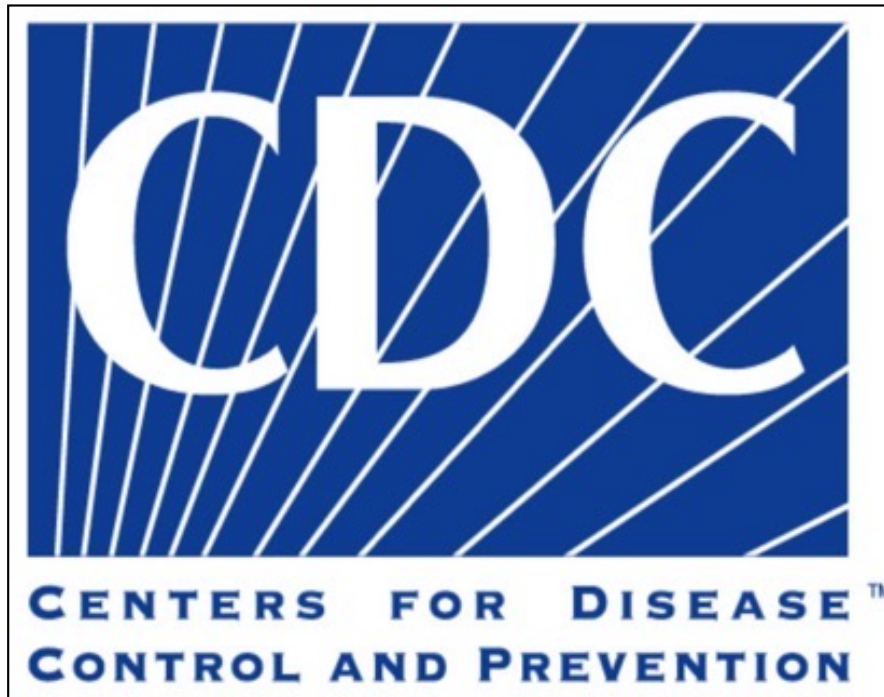


# 4. Captured Institutions



The blogger in the science fiction thriller “Contagion” accused the CDC of being “in bed” with Big Pharma.

Why did the movie go to great lengths to discredit this point of view?





The CDC is a government agency that has existed since 1946, but a significant portion of its operating budget comes from donors to the “CDC Foundation,” which was founded in 1992.



## Some CDC jobs are funded through the CDC Foundation.

‘(b) PURPOSE OF FOUNDATION- The purpose of the Foundation shall be to support and carry out activities for the prevention and control of diseases, disorders, injuries, and disabilities, and for promotion of public health.

‘(c) Endowment Fund-

‘(1) IN GENERAL- In carrying out subsection (b), the Foundation shall establish a fund for providing endowments for positions that are associated with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and dedicated to the purpose described in such subsection. Subject to subsection (f)(1)(B), the fund shall consist of such donations as may be provided by non-Federal entities and such non-Federal assets of the Foundation (including earnings of the Foundation and the fund) as the Foundation may elect to transfer to the fund. **Who is financing these jobs?**

‘(2) AUTHORIZED EXPENDITURES OF FUND- The provision of endowments under paragraph (1) shall be the exclusive function of the fund established under such paragraph. Such endowments may be expended only for the compensation of individuals holding the positions, for staff, equipment, quarters, travel, and other expenditures that are appropriate in supporting the positions, and for recruiting individuals to hold the positions endowed by the fund.

<https://www.govtrack.us/congress/bills/102/hr3635/text>



Here are some of the main funders of the CDC Foundation:



## \$50,000 AND ABOVE

ActBlue Charities

America's Charities

American Type Culture Collection  ← biotech

Anonymous (4) ← ???

Anthem Foundation ← health

Avram Corporation ← health

Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation  ← biotech/vaccines

Alabama Department of Public Health

American Online Giving Foundation

Amgen Inc.  ← biotech

Anthem Blue Cross ← health

Arizona Department of Health Services

Benevity

Bloomberg Philanthropies 

<https://www.cdcfoundation.org/FY2021/donors?group=corp>

**Hat Tip “The COVID Blog:** <https://thecovidblog.com/2021/03/23/cdc-foundation-is-not-a-government-entity-has-many-conflicts-of-interest/>

# The Revolving Door Between Government & Big Pharma

Former CDC  
head lands  
vaccine job at  
Merck

Dr. Julie Gerberding,  
former director of the  
Centers for Disease  
Control and Prevention, was named president of Merck  
& Co Inc's vaccine division, the company said on  
Monday.



Mark B.  
McClellan, M.D.,  
Ph.D.

Independent Director  
since 2013

**Johnson & Johnson**



Institution. Dr. McClellan served as Administrator of the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services for the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services from 2004 to 2006 and as Commissioner of the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) from 2002 to 2004.



Science Products Stories

Board Member



Scott Gottlieb, M.D.

Special Partner, New Enterprise Associates, Inc.'s healthcare investment team and Resident Fellow of the American Enterprise Institute. Dr. Gottlieb served as the 23rd Commissioner of the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) from 2017 to 2019.

Stephen Hahn  
joining venture  
capital firm  
behind Moderna



Stephen Hahn, a  
former commissioner of the Food and Drug  
Administration (FDA), is set to serve as a chief medical  
officer at the venture capital firm that launched Moderna,  
according to a statement...

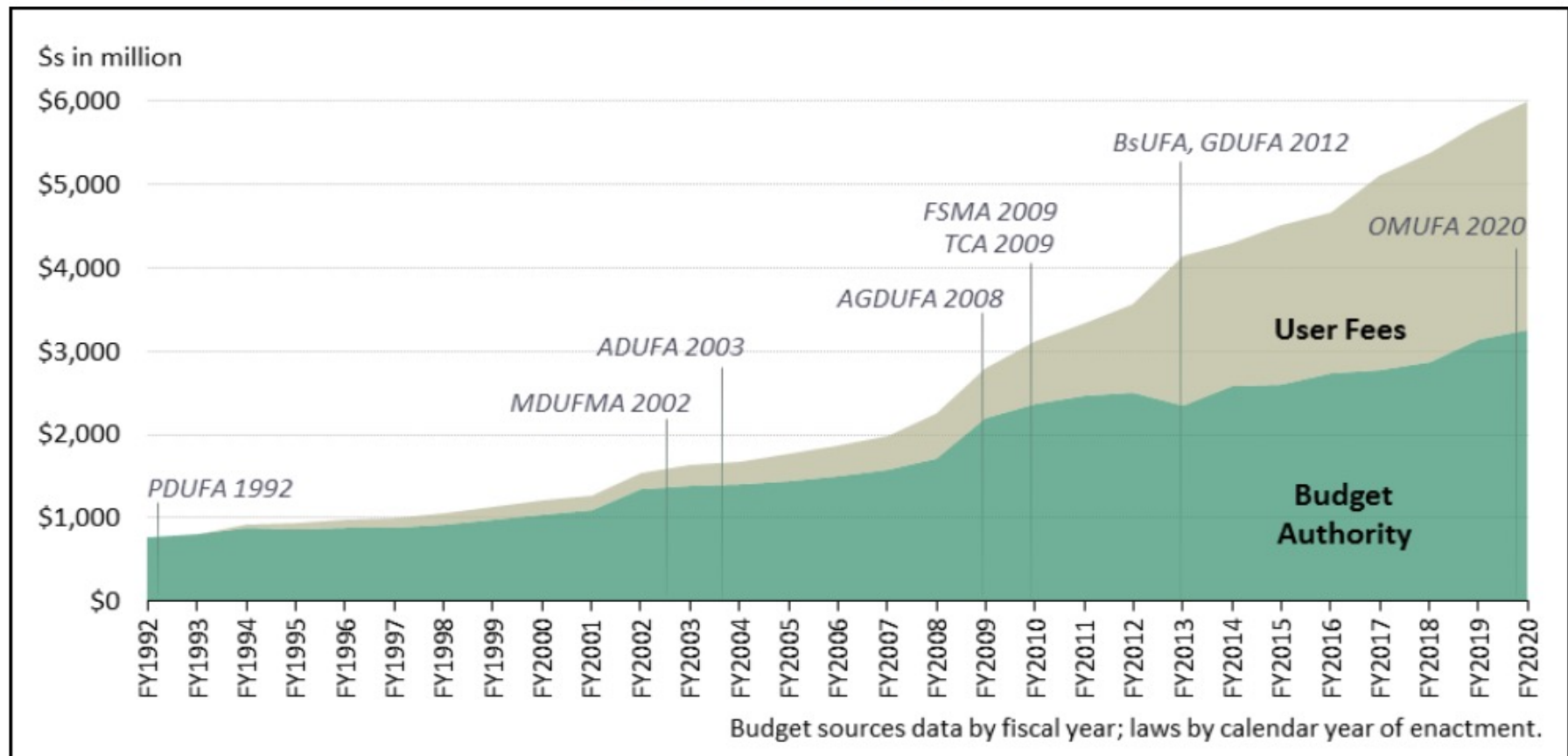
The Hill

# What about the Food and Drug Administration?



# User fees now cover nearly half of the FDA operating budget.

**Figure 1. FDA Spending, by Source, FY1992-FY2020**  
(in millions of dollars)



**Source:** Figure created by CRS using the FY1992 through FY2022 FDA CJs.

<https://crsreports.congress.gov/product/pdf/R/R44576/13>



According to this FDA executive, reviewers are under pressure to expedite approval of products from the companies that provide the most funding.



<https://www.projectveritas.com/news/fda-executive-officer-on-hidden-camera-reveals-future-covid-policy-biden/>

**Cole:** *The drug companies, the food companies, the vaccine companies, they pay us hundreds of millions of dollars per year to hire and keep reviewers to approve their products.*

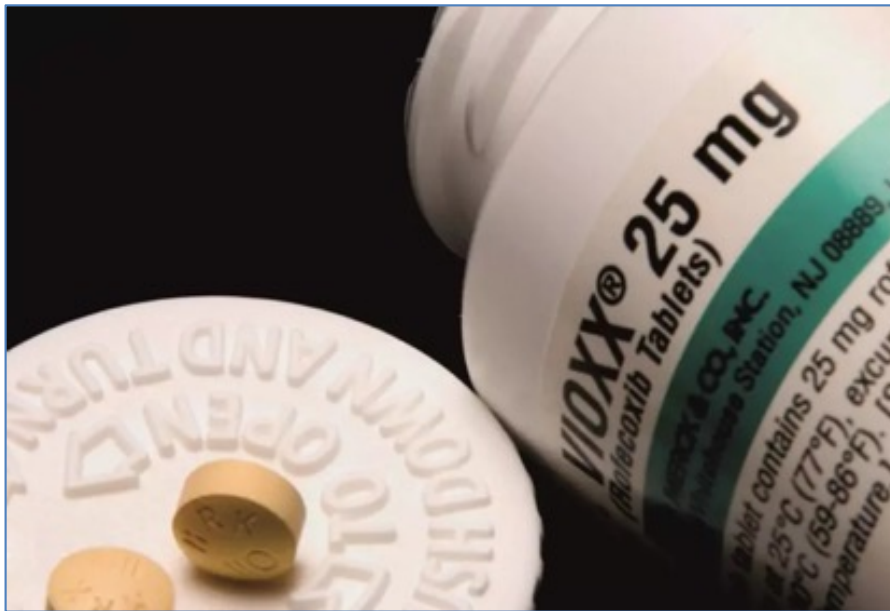
**Project Veritas:** What happens if you speak out?

**Cole:** *You're not going to get to certain levels of government.*

*It's better to stay quiet and accept it.*

In 2004, FDA research epidemiologist David Graham testified before congress on how the FDA suppressed safety concerns over the anti-inflammatory Vioxx. Graham estimates that the FDA's negligence led to at least 100,000 heart attacks with as many as 40,000 deaths. Eventually, the makers of Vioxx pulled this drug from the market on their own initiative.

Graham claimed this was not isolated incident, and that the FDA consistently downplayed new safety concerns on drugs that were previously FDA-approved.



<https://x.com/MidwesternDoc/status/1817610306782425133>

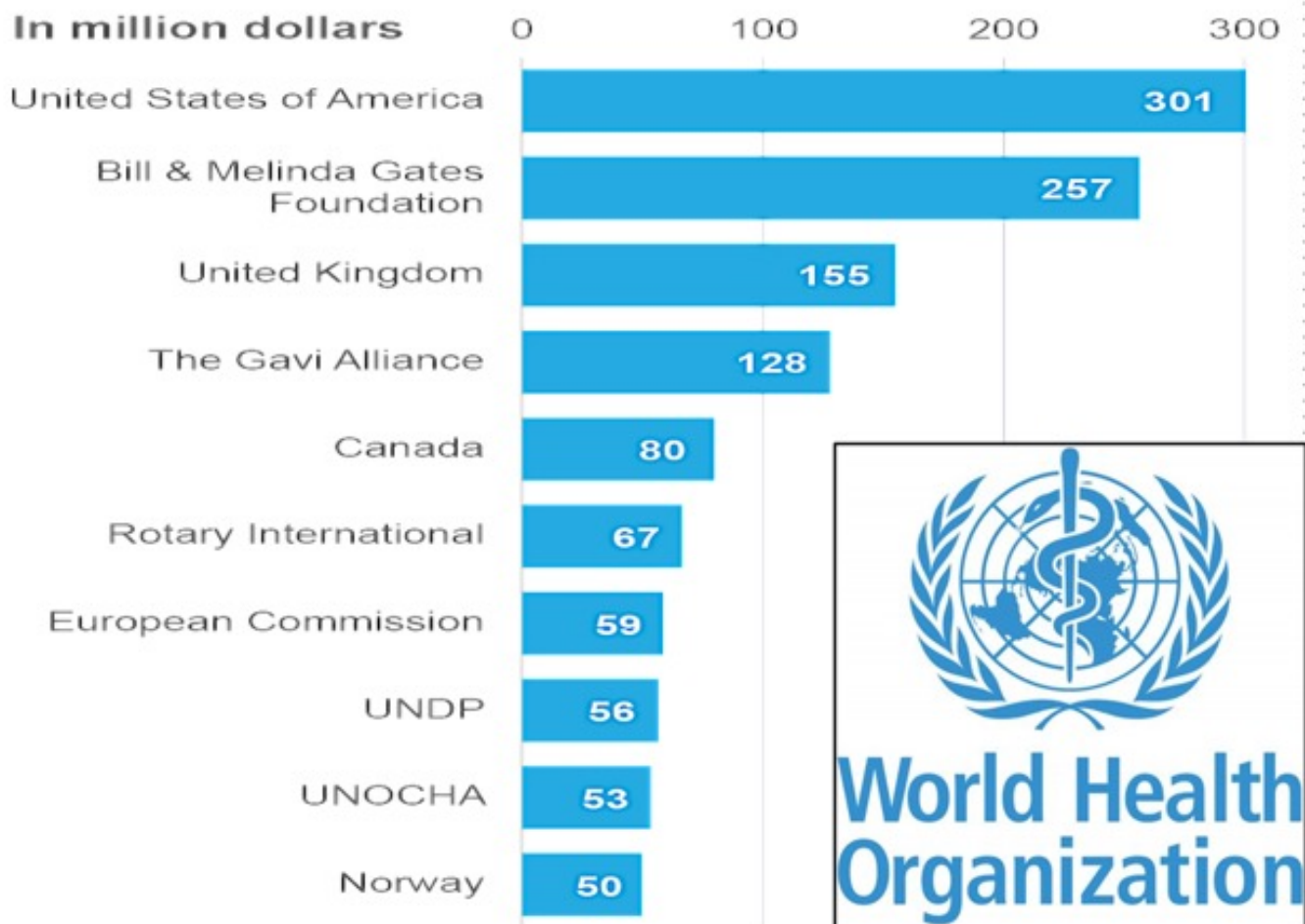


## Who funds the WHO?



**World Health  
Organization**

# Top 10 WHO voluntary contributors in 2014



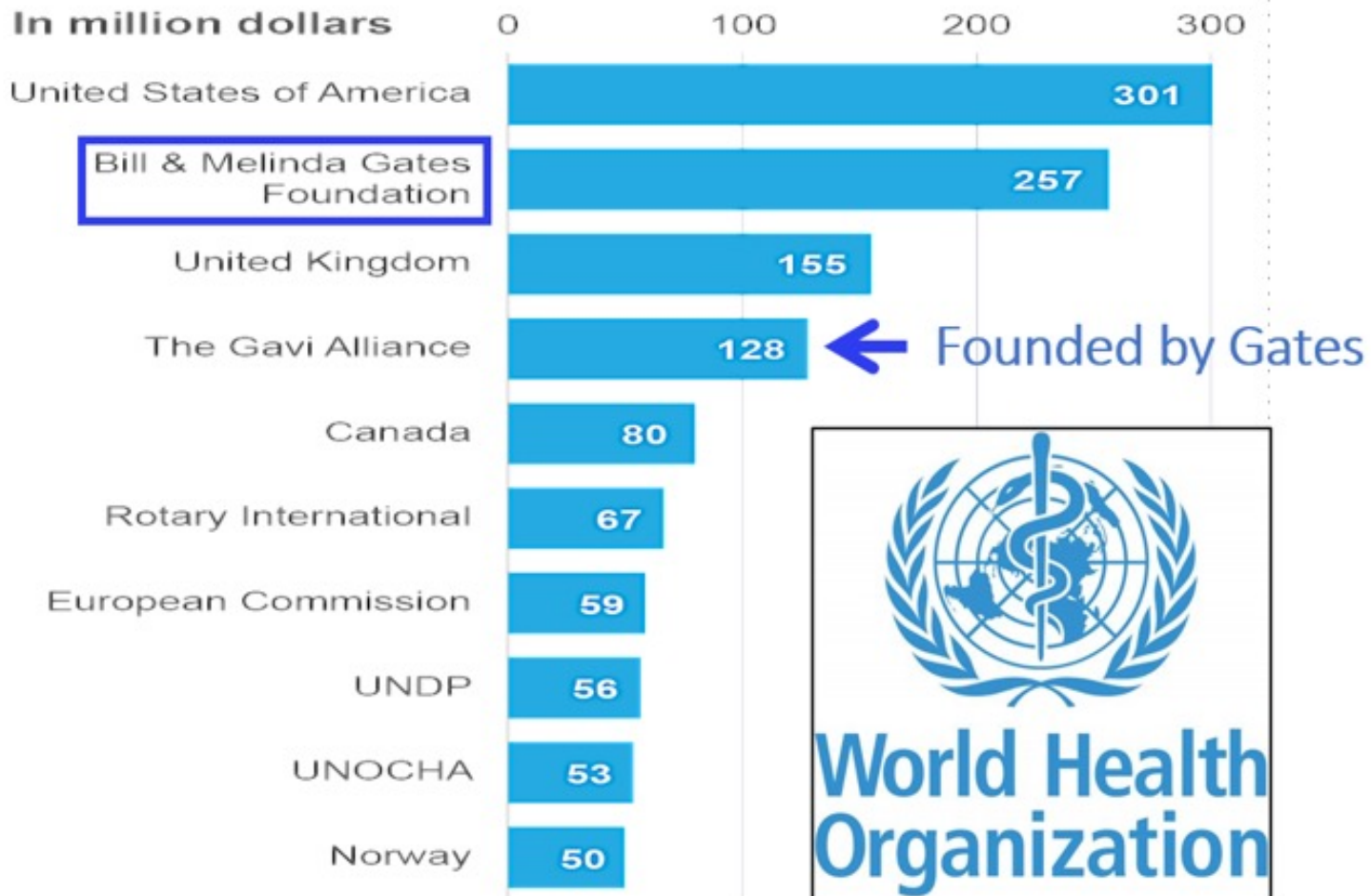
UNDP: United Nations Development Programme.

UNOCHA: United Nations Office for the Coordination Of Humanitarian Affairs.

Source: WHO. Note: Figures are rounded.

## Top 10 WHO voluntary contributors in 2014

In million dollars



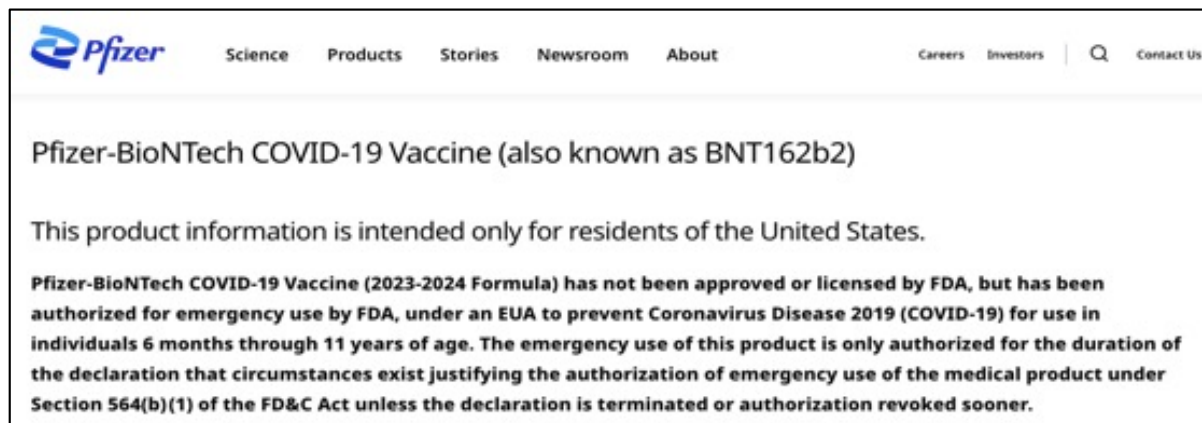
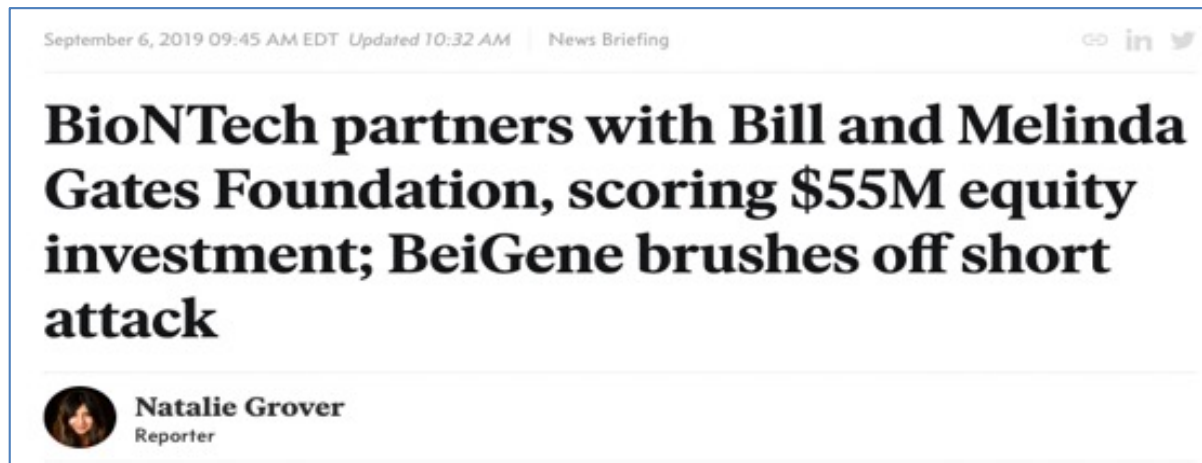
UNDP: United Nations Development Programme.

UNOCHA: United Nations Office for the Coordination Of Humanitarian Affairs.

Source: WHO. Note: Figures are rounded.

The Gates Foundation is the (unofficial) top funder of the WHO.

In 2019 Gates partnered with one of the main producers of mRNA vaccines, so it was in their interest to finance influential institutions like the WHO and CDC.



<https://www.pfizer.com/products/product-detail/pfizer-biontech-covid-19-vaccine>

<https://endpts.com/biontech-partners-with-bill-and-melinda-gates-foundation-scoring-55m-equity-investment-novartis-sells-china-unit/>

As you may recall, *Contagion* exalted the roles of the CDC and WHO.

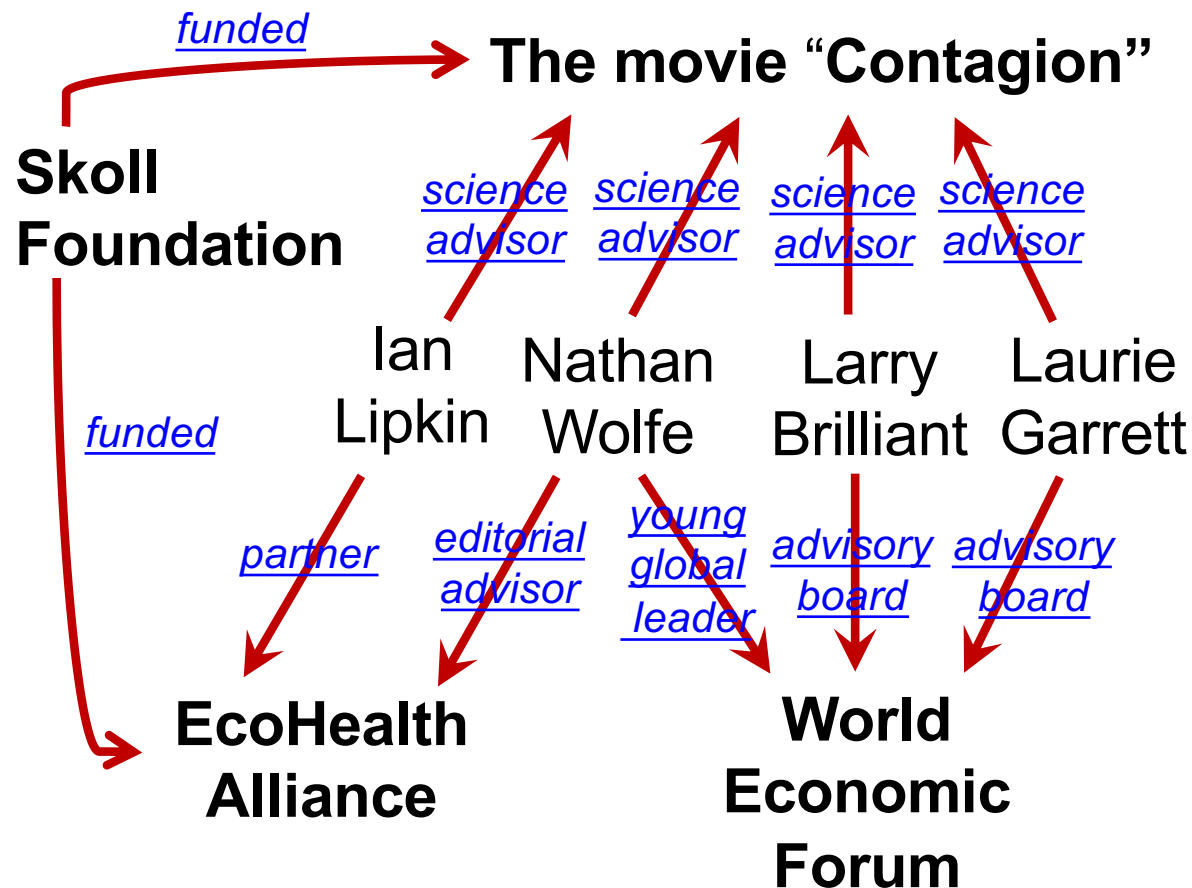
Who is behind the making of this movie?



As you may recall, *Contagion* exalted the roles of the CDC and WHO.



Who is behind the making of this movie?







*We need to increase public understanding of the need for medical counter-measures such as a **pan-coronavirus vaccine**.*

*A key driver is the media, and the economics will follow the hype.*

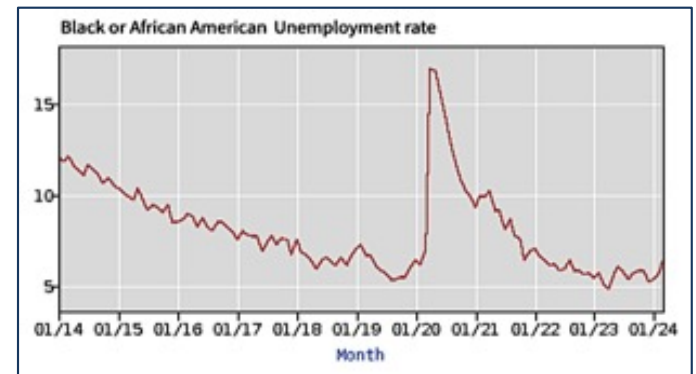
Peter Daszak, president of EcoHealth Alliance at a health policy conference in February, 2016

<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/books/NBK349040/>

This statement from the EcoHealth Alliance president may indicate why *Contagion* promoted mass vaccination at the expense of antiviral therapeutics.

The role of a “novel” virus in “COVID deaths” is debatable, but...

..it is more critical to learn why public institutions implemented novel policies and protocols that were so damaging and inhumane.



Video of deep nasal swab on baby: <https://twitter.com/KathMLee1/status/1640433811656679425>

Child with nasal swab injury: <https://twitter.com/LegsEnergy/status/1699920730408784377/photo/1>

Unemployment chart from U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics: <https://data.bls.gov/timeseries/LNS14000006>

## 5. Assessment



## Review Question 1:

A study evaluating the safety of a new hypertension treatment shows a higher death rate in people receiving the new drug. Which critique of the study is an example of an **ad hominem** attack?

- a. The study tries to discredit the use of innovative therapies for treating people with hypertension.
- b. The study was poorly designed because the sicker patients got the new drug.
- c. The research was funded by competitors profiting from an alternative therapy for hypertension.
- ➡ d. The researchers are just amateurs that teach at a community college.

## Review Question 2:

A study evaluating the safety of a new hypertension treatment shows a higher death rate in people receiving the new drug. Which critique of the study is an example of a **straw man** argument?

- ➡ a. The study tries to discredit the use of innovative therapies for treating people with hypertension.
- b. The study was poorly designed because the sicker patients got the new drug.
- c. The research was funded by competitors profiting from an alternative therapy for hypertension.
- d. The researchers are just amateurs that teach at a community college.



## Review Question 3:

A study evaluating the safety of a new hypertension treatment shows a higher death rate in people receiving the new drug. Which critique of the study points out a possible **conflict of interest**?

- a. The study tries to discredit the use of innovative therapies for treating people with hypertension.
- b. The study was poorly designed because the sicker patients got the new drug.
- ➡ c. The research was funded by competitors profiting from an alternative therapy for hypertension.
- d. The researchers are just amateurs that teach at a community college.

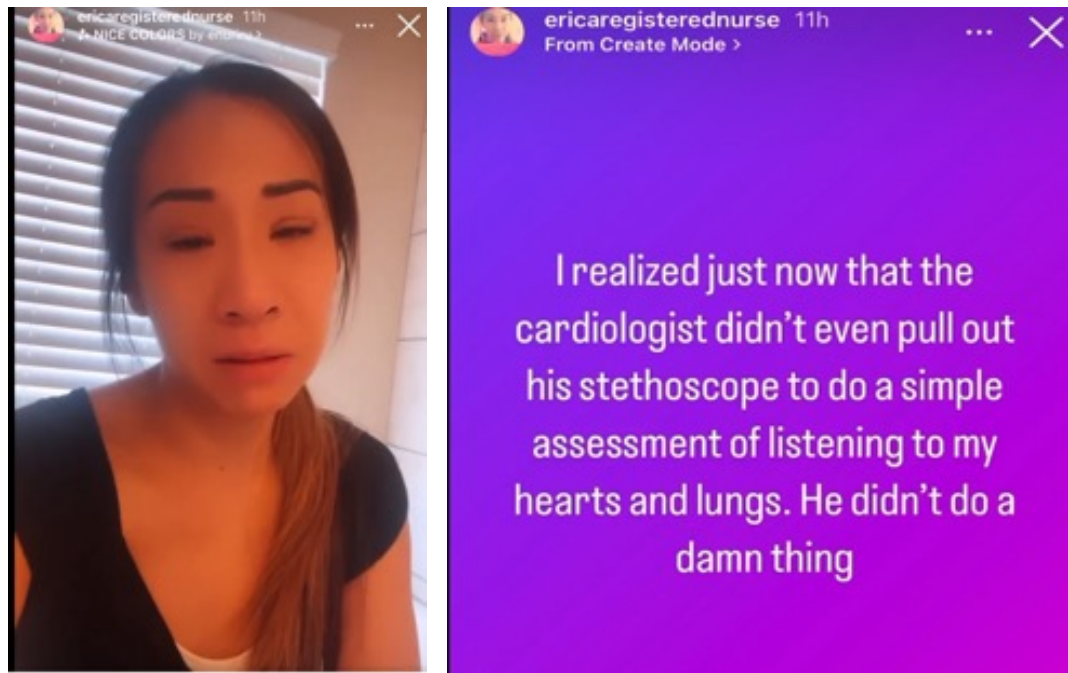
## Review Question 4:

A study evaluating the safety of a new hypertension treatment shows a higher death rate in people receiving the new drug. Which critique of the study is an example of **itemized** criticism?

- a. The study tries to discredit the use of innovative therapies for treating people with hypertension.
- ➡ b. The study was poorly designed because the sicker patients got the new drug.
- c. The research was funded by competitors profiting from an alternative therapy for hypertension.
- d. The researchers are just amateurs that teach at a community college.

## Real life: Which form of evasive rhetoric is demonstrated in this personal account?

A patient with chronic shortness of breath and chest discomfort sees a cardiologist. Without examining her, the cardiologist attributes her symptoms to “anxiety” and “panic disorder.”



- a. Ad hominem
- b. Straw man
- ➡ c. Gaslighting

<https://twitter.com/React19org/status/1553092518790647808>

## Real life: Which form of evasive rhetoric is demonstrated in this tweet?



**Ian Copeland, PhD** @IanCopeland5 · Feb 26



Side note: Why do people listen to [@MattWalshBlog](#) about...well anything?

He's a highschool graduate talking about biology, sex, policy and vaccines. He literally yields no value on any of these topics.

<https://twitter.com/IanCopeland5/status/1630008321708118019>

- ➡ a. Ad hominem
- b. Straw man
- c. Gaslighting

## Real life: Which form of evasive rhetoric is demonstrated in this FDA tweet?



Background: Ivermectin is a broad-range antiparasitic drug on the WHO's list of "essential medicines." In affluent nations where parasitic infections are relatively rare, this drug is more likely to be used on animals. Some doctors prescribe ivermectin "off label" in order to treat COVID-19 even though its antiviral properties are disputed.

a. ad hominem

➡ b. straw man

c. gaslighting

<https://twitter.com/i/web/status/1429050070243192839>



