

From: Fauci, Anthony (NIH/NIAID) [E]
Sent: Tue, 3 Mar 2020 22:51:35 +0000
To: Bob Isman
Subject: RE: How to put COVID-19 statistics in perspective

Thank you for your note.
AS Fauci

Anthony S. Fauci, MD
Director
National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases
Building 31, Room 7A-03
31 Center Drive, MSC 2520
National Institutes of Health
Bethesda, MD 20892-2520
Phone: (b) (6)
FAX: (301) 496-4409
E-mail: (b) (6)

The information in this e-mail and any of its attachments is confidential and may contain sensitive information. It should not be used by anyone who is not the original intended recipient. If you have received this e-mail in error please inform the sender and delete it from your mailbox or any other storage devices. The National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID) shall not accept liability for any statements made that are the sender's own and not expressly made on behalf of the NIAID by one of its representatives.

From: Bob Isman (b) (6) >
Sent: Tuesday, March 3, 2020 5:12 PM
To: Fauci, Anthony (NIH/NIAID) [E] (b) (6) Redfield, Robert R. (CDC/OD)
(b) (6); briefing@nytimes.com
Subject: How to put COVID-19 statistics in perspective

Today (March 3), CNN featured a discussion with NY Gov. Cuomo regarding a new COVID-19 case in NY City. He happened to note that there are currently about 15,000 patients in NY hospitals with the flu. Although multiple government agencies, scientists and health experts keep reminding us that there are far more cases, hospitalizations and deaths each year from influenza than this coronavirus, it strikes me that a more effective, more visual and less fear-producing way of presenting this information would be to present the current number of cases, hospitalizations and deaths from EACH of these diseases side by side. If the number of flu cases, hospitalizations and/or deaths isn't available on a daily basis, we could use extrapolations based on known rates. I think this would certainly go a long way to putting the relative risks of these diseases in clearer focus.

Bob Isman, DDS, MPH