

Anthrax Vaccine -- posts by Meryl Nass, M.D.

This blog began in 2007, focusing on anthrax vaccine, and later expanded to other public health and political issues. The blog links to media reports, medical literature, official documents and other materials.

Translate

Select Language ▼

Powered by [Google Translate](#)



Meryl and other panelists at Anthrax Letters seminar, Washington, D.C., November 29, 2010

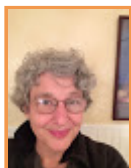
Subscribe To

 Posts ▼

 Comments ▼

Search This Blog

Who Am I?



Meryl Nass, M.D.

Most-cited papers of mine include one investigating [Zimbabwe's major anthrax](#)

Thursday, April 2, 2020

[Why are some of the US' top scientists making a specious argument about the natural origin of SARS-CoV-2?](#)

1. I know about biological warfare/biodefense. I am the first person in the world (according to publicly available literature) to have analyzed an epidemic and demonstrated that the epidemic was due to biological warfare. (1992 study of the 1978-1980 Rhodesian anthrax outbreak, published in *Medicine and Global Survival, aka Physicians for Social Responsibility Quarterly (name changed), hosted by International Physicians for the Prevention of Nuclear War*). <https://www.ipnw.org/pdf/mgs/psr-2-4-nass.pdf>

2. Prior to genetic engineering techniques being developed (1973) and widely used (since late 1970s), more 'primitive' means of causing mutations, with the intention of developing biological weapons, were employed. Such methods were used by the Japanese beginning in the 1930s, by the US beginning in the 1940s, and by a number of other countries. They resulted in biological weapons that were tested, well-described, and in some cases, used. Such methods were also used subsequent to the 1970s.

3. These methods can result in biowarfare agents that lack the identifiable signature of a microbial agent constructed in a lab from known RNA or DNA sequences. In fact, it would be desirable to produce such agents, since it would be difficult to prove they were deliberately constructed in a lab. Here are just a few possibilities for how one might create new, virulent mutants:

- a) exposing microorganisms to chemical or radiological agents that cause high mutation rates and selecting for desired characteristics

epidemic and a review of anthrax vaccine's usefulness in biological warfare. A November, 2001 Congressional testimony in response to the anthrax letters may also be of interest. Below, I've posted photos taken when I'm not at work or in front of the computer. Contact me at merylnass@gmail.com or 207 412-0004 when I'm home.

[View my complete profile](#)

Meryl Nass's CV

Click [here](#) for Curriculum Vitae



Kafka Museum garden, Prague



Visiting Venice



Venice greengrocer

- b) passaging virus through a number of lab animals or tissue cultures
- c) mixing viruses together and seeking recombinants with a new mix of virulence factors

4. Top scientists circled their wagons to protest against “conspiracy theories suggesting that COVID-19 does not have a natural origin,” in a statement published in the *Lancet* March 7. (It was published earlier online.) Their reported aim was to “stand with” public health professionals and scientists in China. Many who signed the statement have worked in biodefense. Signers include Rita Colwell, former director of the National Science Foundation, and James Hughes, former director of CDC’s National Center for Infectious Diseases and former assistant Surgeon General.

[https://www.thelancet.com/journals/lancet/article/PIIS0140-6736\(20\)30418-9/fulltext](https://www.thelancet.com/journals/lancet/article/PIIS0140-6736(20)30418-9/fulltext)

Science magazine wrote an [article](#) in support of these scientists, which included the following:

*The authors of The Lancet statement note that **scientists from several countries** who have studied SARS-CoV-2 “overwhelmingly conclude that this coronavirus originated in wildlife,” just like many other viruses that have recently emerged in humans. “Conspiracy theories do nothing but create fear, rumours, and prejudice that jeopardise our global collaboration in the fight against this virus,” the statement says.*

Five additional scientists soon provided the “scientific evidence” to back up the natural origin claim. These 5 scientists have been affiliated with signers of the statement above, they too have worked in biodefense, and their article was published in *Nature Medicine* (in the print version) on March 17, 2020.

<https://www.nature.com/articles/s41591-020-0820-9>

These scientists set up a straw man to knock down: they claimed that had the novel coronavirus (SARS-CoV-2 is the official name of the virus) been created in a lab: “if genetic manipulation had been performed,” then a known coronavirus backbone would have been used. But because no known backbone forms part of SARS-CoV-2, “the evidence shows that SARS-CoV-2 is not a purposefully manipulated virus.”



Meryl, enjoying spotting animals in the Thai jungle



Visiting tigers (inside the cages) in Chiang Mai



I think I'm in the wrong cage...



Night shot of a wild elephant



Canoodling at Elephant Nature Camp, Thailand

As [USA Today](#) summarized this:

"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," the report said. "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."

Their work was then discussed by Francis Collins, the current director of the NIH.

<https://directorsblog.nih.gov/2020/03/26/genomic-research-points-to-natural-origin-of-covid-19/>

Dr. Collins says,

"Some folks are even making outrageous claims that the new coronavirus causing the pandemic was engineered in a lab and deliberately released to make people sick. A new study debunks such claims by providing scientific evidence that this novel coronavirus arose naturally..."

this study leaves little room to refute a natural origin for COVID-19...

Finally, next time you come across something about COVID-19 online that disturbs or puzzles you, I suggest going to FEMA's new [Coronavirus Rumor Control web site](#)..."

I know that the groups of scientists who wrote these pieces in the *Lancet* and *Nature Medicine*, as well as NIH Director Dr. Francis Collins, know that you don't need genetic engineering methods to create a bioweapon. Like me, they are old, they recall a world before genetic engineering, they know the history of biowarfare, and they know the score. Why then are they participating in this charade?

Update April 29: *Newsweek* has been delving into "gain of function" (which means increasing the virulence of a pathogen) coronavirus research in Wuhan, China which might have contributed to the formation of SARS-CoV-2... and the interesting fact (which I posted about [here](#)) that the US government provided financial support for this research. *Newsweek's* pieces were posted April [27](#), and [29](#). My other pieces questioning the origin of SARS-CoV-2 are [here](#) and [here](#).



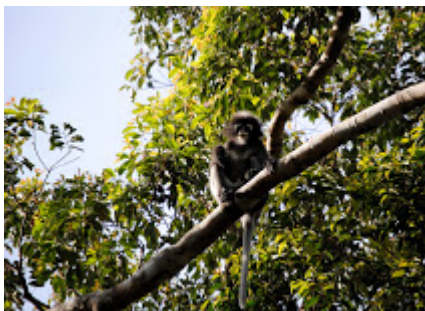
5 and 7 month olds playing



Mum and her 5 month old infant



Dusky Langur, curious about us humans in his territory



Self-satisfied Dusky Langur, after he relieved himself on me



Rhesus macaque: "I need three hands for this meal"

Posted by Meryl Nass, M.D. at 11:32 AM

8 comments:**David Slesinger said...**

Very helpful. Weaponizing a virus hardly guarantees other than an inadvertent release. Nevertheless, I agree with Caitlin Johnstone that the expensive lies from major institutions is a good reason for many people to doubt government announcements.

April 3, 2020 at 8:06 PM**Juan Txonta said...**

It's appreciated. Your opinion, your testimony, the courage. Thank you.

April 5, 2020 at 7:58 AM**Anonymous said...**

Covid19 reportedly patient in news is manikin
<https://m.youtube.com/watch?v=9jej9sOZJRc>

Covid 41 seconds
<https://m.youtube.com/watch?v=mUsxIwMmtVM>

Covid 19 diagnosis over phone 14 day quarantine prescribed
<https://m.youtube.com/watch?v=UGWBBvBkq84>

What Boris Really Said telegraphed
<https://m.youtube.com/watch?v=GjdODiw-IWA>

April 5, 2020 at 11:53 AM**Anonymous said...**

Yes, I wrote a rebuttal to the article that appeared in Nature and suggested that they were acting as coconspirators for even publishing such an article, for not only was no new evidence added, the use of exaggeration, and the total give away that it was propaganda was the insistence that their word was the last unrefutable word on the issue. A technique rarely if ever used by scientists.

April 6, 2020 at 8:55 AM**Anonymous said...**



After swimming with dolphins at Key Largo, they checked me out at the edge of the pool



Visiting a Bhutanese Dzong, the regional seat of both government and religion (and a fort for good measure)

Why am I blogging?

Because life is meant to be lived! The left side of this blog has photos of some peak experiences. And the right side contains information about which I am passionate.

Too many peoples' lives are characterized by lack of authenticity, and fear of acknowledging and expressing their true nature. Employees cannot say what they think at work, and in the corporate system we must squish ourselves into square holes when we are round pegs. We thus lose touch with our souls, becoming cogs in a soulless, profit-driven machine.

The culture of political correctness has meant, in medicine, that we ignore how the foundations of our science are being undermined by commercialism. Clinical data generated or presented by the manufacturers of drugs, vaccines and devices cannot be

The attempted cover up says all about who and why they did this. Unfortunately, even this comment is so censored I can't even say what I attempted to say.

[April 6, 2020 at 9:02 AM](#)

Barry Kissin said...

<https://www.livescience.com/coronavirus-not-human-made-in-lab.html>

"Kristian Andersen, an associate professor of immunology and microbiology at Scripps Research, and his colleagues looked at the genetic template for the spike proteins that protrude from the surface of the virus. The coronavirus uses these spikes to grab the outer walls of its host's cells and then enter those cells. They specifically looked at the gene sequences responsible for two key features of these spike proteins: the grabber, called the receptor-binding domain, that hooks onto host cells; and the so-called cleavage site that allows the virus to open and enter those cells.

"That analysis showed that the 'hook' part of the spike had evolved to target a receptor on the outside of human cells called ACE2, which is involved in blood pressure regulation. It is so effective at attaching to human cells that the researchers said the spike proteins were the result of natural selection and not genetic engineering.

"SARS-CoV-2 is very closely related to the virus that causes severe acute respiratory syndrome (SARS), which fanned across the globe nearly 20 years ago. Scientists have studied how SARS-CoV differs from SARS-CoV-2 — with several key letter changes in the genetic code. Yet in computer simulations, the mutations in SARS-CoV-2 don't seem to work very well at helping the virus bind to human cells. If scientists had deliberately engineered this virus, they wouldn't have chosen mutations that computer models suggest won't work. But it turns out, nature is smarter than scientists, and the novel coronavirus found a way to mutate that was better — and completely different— from anything scientists could have created, the study found.

"Another nail in the 'escaped from evil lab' theory? The overall molecular structure of this virus is distinct from the known coronaviruses and instead most

trusted: there are hundreds of studies proving this. But this fraudulent information continues to be the only data informing the approval of vaccines, drugs and devices.

Unless scrupulous ethical conduct is demanded of physicians and biological scientists, our lack of meaningful standards will carry the medical-pharmaceutical system down the path of increasing irrelevance.

Medicine and its tools need to be affordable. The current medical-industrial milieu, characterized by contempt for science, countless ways for insiders to achieve wealth due to failure of good governance, and regulatory agency-to-industry revolving doors, has ushered in stratospheric pricing... further kicking us down that path to irrelevance.

Why is our new health care plan a giveaway to health industries instead of to health consumers? Why won't it cover all Americans? Why was the "public option" never an option for the Obama administration? Why did the promised Trump health plan evaporate the moment he was elected?

So many of our leaders carry a heavy burden of mendacity and avarice. If they instead got in touch with their own souls (perhaps by exposure to the natural world), or made their decisions by maximizing the amount of good that results, our leaders might find real meaning and value in their lives.

Until that happens, the only way to straighten out the current mess is to demand accountability and impose penalties on unethical/dishonest leaders. Both political parties enjoy bounteous hors d'oeuvres from Pharma's table, making it unlikely the existing political "process" will provide relief--as we've seen in the demoralizing healthcare reform drama.

Until then, I'll continue to "call it

closely resembles viruses found in bats and pangolins that had been little studied and never known to cause humans any harm.

"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,' according to a statement from Scripps."

Meryl certainly has expertise that I don't. But the argument here seems stronger than Meryl suggests.

Suspect scientists are not the only ones to make such arguments. For example, Richard Ebright who I know Meryl respects has said: "There's absolutely nothing in the genome sequence of this virus that indicates the virus was engineered. The possibility this was a deliberately released bioweapon can be firmly excluded."

The argument that Meryl is targeting is that there is no "genetic manipulation" in COVID-19 which I interpret to refer to modern genetic engineering. The methods she says are being (deliberately) overlooked are all methods that she says are "more primitive means of causing mutations."

I would also submit that just because COVID-19 might have leaked from a bio-lab does not mean that the virus was "constructed in a lab." Bio-labs deal with naturally occurring viruses. They also may be the site where against expectations a virus jumps from an animal to a human, naturally mutating in the process.

I would be appreciative of Meryl's response.

[April 10, 2020 at 4:01 PM](#)

Meryl Nass, M.D. said...

Barry Kissin, Perhaps I have not been sufficiently clear. I do not exclude the possibility SARS-2 was created in a lab. I think it is more likely than not it was created in a lab. But I am not a geneticist and so my opinion may be of little value.

What I said was that historically the creation of biological agents for weapons purposes has involved the use of strains that could not be traced back to the perpetrator. Therefore, were I creating a deliberate

as I see it" in this blog -- working and living the way life should be, in rural Maine, far from the centers of power.



E
l
l
e
n
B
y
r
n
e
h
a
s
c
r
e
a
t
e

d several **designs** encapsulating aspects of the FBI's ridiculous case against Bruce Ivins. They can be **purchased** on T-shirts and coffee mugs. All proceeds will be donated to the the Frederick County chapter of the American Red Cross, a favored charity of Dr. Bruce Ivins.

Blog Archive

▼ 2020 (81)

► May (13)

▼ April (24)

Another expert challenges assertions that SARS-CoV...

NIH funded coronavirus research in Wuhan to make m...

Theory of how SARS-CoV-2 was created in a lab/ Pro...

Viral Shedding Continues Up to 6 Weeks After Coron...

How Dr. Didier Raoult uses Hydroxychloroquine safe...

Gilead's COVID-19 hopeful remdesivir may get swift...

Who is immune to the coronavirus?/ NY Times

Did this Virus Come from a Lab? Maybe Not — But it...

Coronavirus: mortality rates, questionable data, ...

Coronavirus: Mortality rates, hidden information....

Fauci the Hypocrite. Do NIAID royalties cloud his ...

Covid-19 clinical trials and Hydroxychloroquine cl...

My KPFA interview on the origin of SARS-CoV-2 and ...

bioweapon, I would not construct it from published sequences that would suggest a lab origin. I would construct it or choose it to not leave that evidence of its origin.

[April 14, 2020 at 10:18 PM](#)

Anonymous said...

Hi Dr Nass,

Please look into research involving climate evolutionary microbiology. We all agree virologist and bacteriologist are employed in gene manipulation but I would like to submit an argument for considering animal testing and climate manipulation studies.

The CDC or similar may have BSL-3/4 capability but your average climate scientists with little over sight could be playing with super bug fire under guise (funding) of citizen science.

Arizona U has recently found viral connection in G.I tract of veterans with gulf war syndrome.

Thanks for looking out!

[April 23, 2020 at 1:05 PM](#)

[Post a Comment](#)

[Newer Post](#)

[Home](#)

[Older Post](#)

Subscribe to: [Post Comments \(Atom\)](#).

Shining some light on the
natural origin theory of...

The Avuncular Dr. Fauci, Fluent
yet Facile. Is he...

200 Escapes of pathogens from
high-containment lab...

The US National Biodefense
Strategy

Coronavirus: mortality rates,
hidden information,...

Preparing a Medical Response
to Bioterrorism/ Nass...

Efficacy of hydroxychloroquine
in patients with CO...

Hundreds of bioterror lab
mishaps cloaked in secre...

Doctors used to be famously
independent, but now t...

Why are some of the US' top
scientists making a sp...

My old piece titled "In search of
the anthrax atta...

- ▶ [March](#) (38)
- ▶ [February](#) (4)
- ▶ [January](#) (2)
- ▶ [2019](#) (37)
- ▶ [2018](#) (5)
- ▶ [2017](#) (41)
- ▶ [2016](#) (32)
- ▶ [2015](#) (43)
- ▶ [2014](#) (122)
- ▶ [2013](#) (125)
- ▶ [2012](#) (98)
- ▶ [2011](#) (158)
- ▶ [2010](#) (215)
- ▶ [2009](#) (217)
- ▶ [2008](#) (120)
- ▶ [2007](#) (43)

Media articles of interest

Raw Story's Julie Weisberg:

[*Pentagon Conducting
Research into Adverse Effects
of Anthrax Vaccine while
Maintaining it is Safe](#)

[*Well Connected Drug
Company Obtained Anthrax
Vaccine Contracts Despite Side
Effects](#)

[*Mandatory anthrax
vaccinations raise concerns--
McClatchy's Greg Gordon](#)

[*The Shots of War--Saint
Petersburg Times' Susan
Aschoff](#)

[*A Shot in the Dark--Newsday's Tom Maier](#)

CBS News' Sharyl Atkisson:
[*Military Vaccine Flattens GI](#)
[*Questions Mount Over Anthrax Shot](#)

[*Vaccine Epidemic--From the Wilderness' Michael Kane](#)

Important Links

[Direct Order--a documentary about anthrax vaccine](#)
[Richard Stevens' anthrax blog with soldiers' stories](#)
[Military and Biodefense Vaccine Project](#)
[AVIP 2001](#)
[Anthrax Vaccine Links and Information](#)
[Protecting Our Guardians](#)
[AnthraxVaccine.Org Information on anthrax, anthrax vaccine, biological warfare and related topics](#)

Scientific Research Expands our Understanding of Anthrax

[New insights into the pathogenesis and treatment of anthrax toxin-induced shock.](#)