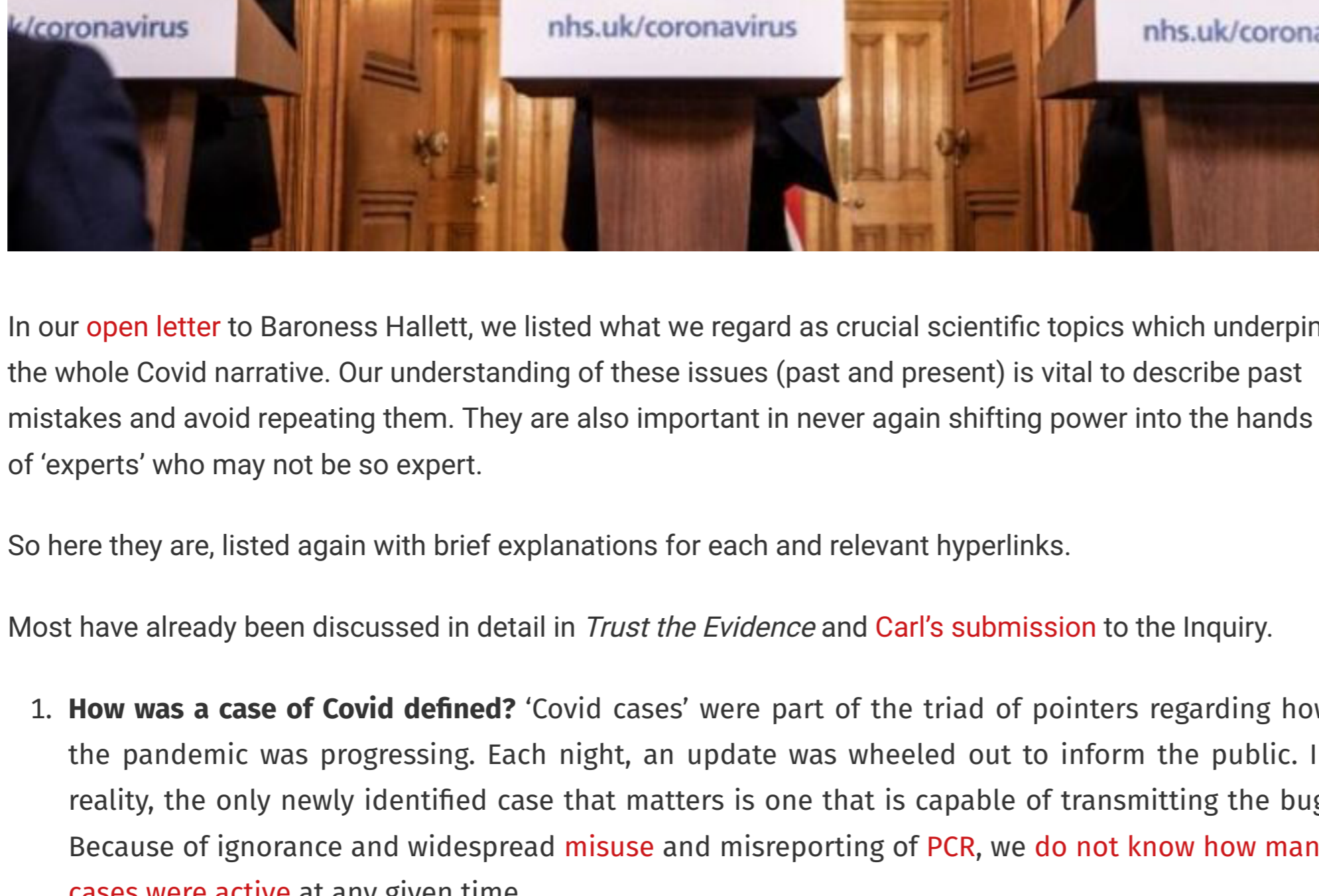


What the Covid Inquiry Should Be Examining (And Probably Never Will)

BY DR CARL HENEGHAN AND DR TOM JEFFERSON 31 OCTOBER 2023 11:21 AM



In our open letter to Baroness Hallett, we listed what we regard as crucial scientific topics which underpin the whole Covid narrative.

So here they are, listed again with brief explanations for each and relevant hyperlinks.

Most have already been discussed in detail in Trust the Evidence and Carl's submission to the Inquiry.

- 1. How was a case of Covid defined? 'Covid cases' were part of the triad of pointers regarding how the pandemic was progressing. Each night, an update was wheeled out to inform the public. In reality, the only newly identified case that matters is one that is capable of transmitting the bug. Because of ignorance and widespread misuse and misreporting of PCR, we do not know how many cases were active at any given time.
2. How was a Covid hospital admission defined? Hospital cases were the second visible token of progression. Their attribution to SARS-CoV-2 suffers from the same problems as the case definition, and in addition up to 40% of hospital infections were probably acquired in hospitals.
3. How was a Covid death defined? Death is the third widely used outcome to assess the severity of pandemics. Accuracy in assigning the cause of death is vital in determining the impact of the agent, monitoring its evolution and comparing its threat with those of other agents. Throughout the COVID-19 pandemic there was widespread reporting of aggregate death data with little attention paid to the accuracy over the assignment of causation. Here, too, we found problems: 14 different ways of attributing a death during the pandemic and other widespread inconsistencies in the attribution of deaths.
4. Did the definitions impact the perception and management of pandemic services? Given the widespread inconsistencies and lack of oversight by public health bodies and Governments, did the lack of consistent definitions play any part in decisions made during the pandemic?
5. What was the point of mass testing as carried out during the pandemic? The objectives of screening are enshrined in time-honoured principles. Were these principles followed when £37 billion of taxpayers' money were committed?
6. Were the tests used adequate and well interpreted by those responsible? Supposedly, mass testing was introduced to identify those who were infectious but had no symptoms. However, no history was taken, and systematic misuse of PCR likely created a mass of 'positives' that were threats to no one.
7. What was done to minimise the risk to those in care homes, either residents or new intakes from 'cleared' hospitals? Hospitals were cleared hastily to make way for serious Covid patients. So, the risk was transferred from the community and wards to those living in care homes at the highest risk for severe outcomes. What measures were taken to minimise the impact on care home residents?
8. Why are models so central to the debate when they are mostly based on assumptions? The inquiry's reverence and obsequiousness to modellers has been well documented. Since models are based on assumptions, what is their role in future decision-making?
9. Did the predictions from models reflect the following realities? Has anyone bothered to verify the predictions made by the various models?
10. What was the basis of the scientific evidence used in decision making? Several months on, we are not sure who made what decisions on which basis. Decision-makers seem to contradict themselves and flip over when under attack. What should decisions in a pandemic be based on?
11. What was the basis of the scientific evidence used in the models? Our basic review of the 100 models "mapped" by the UKHSA shows that none of them should have been used to inform policy. Models are not evidence, but they are now enshrined in decision-making. None of the 100 models defined an active SARS-CoV-2 case, making whatever is written in them of no scientific value.
12. Why were measures such as school closures and vaccinations aimed at those least at risk of disease and its consequences? Few children died or were admitted to hospital. However, school closures and mask mandates made their lives very difficult. How were decisions made, and what are the consequences of such actions?
13. Why has there been a dearth of research on the mode of transmission of SARS-CoV-2 and of organised attempts to plug that gap? Despite sweeping statements by various lobbies as to how SARS-CoV-2 is transmitted, high-quality evidence is lacking. Without a clear transmission pathway backed by facts and not opinions, transmission will proceed unhindered.
14. Why were the lessons of the Italian Lombardy outbreak (which peaked by March 9th 2020 without any society-wide interventions) not used to inform policy? The explosive phase of the Lombardy outbreak was over by March 9th 2020, subsiding without national restrictions imposed. The test and trace and isolate capacities were overwhelmed by the end of the first week in March. Why were DHSC observers not sent to report back?
15. Why does the inquiry continuously refer to Chinese evidence which is of dubious generalisability to Europe? China has a state-imposed threshold of positivity, which prolongs the 'duration of cases' far beyond their infectivity phase, distorting any data. Why were these simple problems not recognised?
16. Why is the inquiry not exploring the collateral damage caused by the numerous restrictions? The well-documented fallout from the restrictions, for example, in care homes, should be listed and described.

Time to take things seriously?

Dr. Carl Heneghan is the Oxford Professor of Evidence Based Medicine and Dr. Tom Jefferson is an epidemiologist based in Rome who works with Professor Heneghan on the Cochrane Collaboration. This article was first published on their Substack, Trust The Evidence, which you can subscribe to here.

Stop Press: Boris Johnson asked "why are we destroying [the] economy for people who will die anyway soon" shortly before announcing the first COVID-19 lockdown, according to contemporaneous notes revealed at the Covid Inquiry.

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Marcus Aurelius knew 4 days ago My first question would be simply, Why was a pandemic declared? And go from there. 157 | 2

Jon Smith 4 days ago Reply to Marcus Aurelius knew Is that the before or after "pandemic" definition change... 33 | 0

Myra 3 days ago Reply to Marcus Aurelius knew And my second question would be 'why lockdowns?' Never done before and dismissed by the WHO as too harmful. A giant experiment which failed. 23 | 0

AethredTheReader 4 days ago The modelling issue is an interesting one. Huge assumptions are made and probably skewed towards worst case scenarios rather than best case. Then decisions are made about how to avoid the thing that hasn't - and usually unlikely to have - happened. It's playing with imaginary numbers and projections and so, in effect, there's nothing real about it at all. In the modeller's mind there is but in everyone else's there isn't. So making massive decisions on behalf of a whole country involving its economic, cultural and social life based on nothing more than fear-based delusions is how we approach things is it? We lock down an entire country for what?? I won't begin to cover all the lost interactions and exchanges that brought our country to its knees and precipitated the economic stagnation. And all because of effing modelling! And the pompous fools and globalist shills who seem to thrive on delusions. 89 | 0

Lurker 4 days ago Reply to AethredTheReader Ferguson openly said you'll never be criticized for being too high with your numbers, only too low as people will say why didn't you warn us. That makes clear the bias loaded into it. There was also the issue with his model (think it was highlighted by Sweden) that even putting the same information in gave different results each time... 82 | 0

huxleypiggles 4 days ago https://www.conservativewoman.co.uk/how-uk-government-advisers-helped-pfizer-win-5-95billion-us-covid-contract-part-4/ Paula Jardine's brilliant series unravelling the enormity of the skulduggery in bringing the vaccine's poisonous injections to market. These vials of injury and death were being prepared in February 2020 (if not before) so before Bozo had decided there was an emergency: In total the Vaccine Taskforce committed £405million to projects relating to vaccine manufacturing. 'Work on developing the manufacturing method itself began in advance of the Oxford-AstraZeneca April 2020 phase 1 trials. The Oxford University project leader Dr Alexander Douglas said, 'We have been preparing for large-scale manufacturing of our vaccine candidate [ChAdOx1nCoV-19] since February. This funding enables manufacturing to start immediately, and so will make vaccine available as soon as possible, while adhering to the most stringent safety standards.'

And: 'Well, Sir Jeremy (Farrar), judging by your preferred metric, overall excess mortality did not increase until after the Covid vaccines you championed were deployed on the all-too-trusting public. They have been and are a disaster. There needs to be a full investigation of the role that you and your fellow Vaccine Taskforce advisers played in making the Covid vaccine Faustian pact.'

Lovely chap Farrar. 73 | 0

huxleypiggles 4 days ago https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-northern-ireland-67204849 Dr Anne McCloskey suspended for voicing concerns about the erm...injections. (From Dr Mike Yeadon's Telegram channel). 26 | 0

maitre corbeau 4 days ago Did we ever expect this -or any- enquiry to be anything more than an exercise in rounding up the narrative and giving everyone their perceived view in court? The conclusions will be; that mistakes were made, they did their best under the circumstances, and next time we'll do it differently! -Enter WHO pandemic treaty. A few characters will have their stories ironed out while 'getting a grilling', all in a mock-legal setting with colourful language à la 'The Thick of it'. Quite impressive with the amount of swearing I heard at 11am on the BBC though. 23 | 0

huxleypiggles 3 days ago Reply to maitre corbeau Welcome. I do hope you will post some more. 8 | 0

Jabby Mcstiff 4 days ago People miss the whole point of the atmosphere of February 2020. There was a sense of an immense financial crash coming, Trump had just blown up an Iranian general in broad daylight and there was deep fatigue among the general population. This was the real progenitor of this situation. I can see it now in how people are feeling and behaving. If you don't have the facility to understand or at least appreciate the bigger perspective then you will sound more and more like trapped insects in a jar. This stuff isn't hard to understand but it isn't amenable to the usual investigative methods. 8 | 0

Jabby Mcstiff 4 days ago The forces that allowed those interventions were present as spirits in that time. How well did you know yourself in early 2020? When you try to recollect everything including energy levels, breathing, feelings towards others, zeitgeist etc. Did you really know yourself well enough to fully evaluate the situation? Maybe you think you are perfectly healthy and you suddenly get admitted with a heart attack. The point is that we are talking about the elephant in the room, the delusion in all its monstrosity. 8 | 0

Jabby Mcstiff 4 days ago We have gotten accustomed to such a silly culture that it is hard to talk about serious matters. I hope we move beyond that soon. 9 | 0

RTSC 3 days ago The purpose of the inquiry isn't to ask difficult questions - it's to exonerate all those involved in the destruction. 18 | 0

Robert Liddell 3 days ago Carl and Tom I don't know if you will read these comments, but if you do, I'd like to respectfully say that it can be quite difficult to follow your prose, and to try to work out what you are trying to say. I say this as a real admirer, so please take this comment in the way it was intended to be taken. And Carl-your treatment by the awful enquiry was a disgrace. Bob 5 | 0

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