
From: Federighi, Carol (CIV) <Carol.Federighi@usdoj.gov>
Date: Wednesday, December 15, 2021 at 8:57 AM
To: Taylor Stoneman <taylor.stoneman@americanoversight.org>
Subject: AO v. CDC, Request No. 20-00949 -- re-review

Taylor –

I am responding to the email from Christine Monahan set forth below. CDC has reviewed some of the pages previously released in the first interim production for Request No. 20-00949 (released in September 2020) and determined that, on review, some additional segregable factual information can be released. Attached please find revised versions of the pages on which redactions have been lifted. Here is the crosswalk between the previous production and this production – the first page number is the original PDF page number from the produced files and the second is the page number for the attached.

Part 1

pg 1 – pg 1 of this file
pg 5-6 – pg 2-3 of this file
pg 110 – pg 4
pg 112-13 – pg 5-6
pg 123-27 – pg 7-11
pg 132-33 – pg 12-13

pg 134-35 – pg 14-15
Pg 137-39 – pg 16-18

Part 2

Pg 9 – pg 19
Pg 11 – pg 20

There is no segregable factual material on the additional pages listed below that is not covered by the deliberative process privilege or presidential communications privilege.

Please let me know if you have any additional questions related to this production.

Regards,
Carol

Carol Federighi
Senior Trial Counsel
United States Department of Justice
Civil Division, Federal Programs Branch
P.O. Box 883
Washington, DC 20044
Phone: (202) 514-1903
Email: carol.federighi@usdoj.gov

From: McGowan, Robert (Kyle) (CDC/OD/OCS)
Sent: 8 May 2020 22:16:00 +0000
To: Bonds, Michelle E. (CDC/OD/OADC)
Cc: Romanik, Nikki Jo (CDC/OD/OCS); Galatas, Kate (CDC/OD/OADC)
Subject: Re: (CUI/SBU) Two MMWR COVID-19 Response Early Release Scheduled for Monday, May 11, 2020

It was sent to her this afternoon. I'm not sure if she has had a chance to read it.

Get [Outlook for iOS](#)

From: Bonds, Michelle E. (CDC/OD/OADC) <meb0@cdc.gov>
Sent: Friday, May 8, 2020 5:38:15 PM
To: McGowan, Robert (Kyle) (CDC/OD/OCS) <omc2@cdc.gov>
Cc: Romanik, Nikki Jo (CDC/OD/OCS) <kon6@cdc.gov>; Galatas, Kate (CDC/OD/OADC) <kkg2@cdc.gov>
Subject: FW: (CUI/SBU) Two MMWR COVID-19 Response Early Release Scheduled for Monday, May 11, 2020

Kyle – Do you know if Dr. Birx has seen these articles (both scheduled to publish on Monday). I'm specifically interested in the international travel article given the POTUS announcement re: airport screening scheduled next Friday.

******* CONTROLLED UNCLASSIFIED INFORMATION (CUI) — SENSITIVE BUT UNCLASSIFIED (SBU) — FOR INTERNAL CDC USE ONLY *******

Two *MMWR* Early Releases related to the COVID-19 Response are scheduled for Monday, May 11, with the planned embargo lifting at 1 pm. (b)(5)

(b)(5) Please note that the titles, content, and timing might change.

Preliminary estimation of excess mortality during the SARS-CoV-2 outbreak — New York City, March 11–May 2, 2020

(b)(5)

White House COVID-19 Task Force - Highlights from April 27, 2020 Press Briefing

Participants: President Donald Trump, Vice President Mike Pence, Amb. Debbie Birx, Adm. Brett Giroir, Stephen Rusckowski (Chairman and CEO, Quest Diagnostics), Adam Schechter (CEO, LabCorp), John Nims (President and CEO, U.S. Cotton), Larry Merlo (CEO, CVS), Richard Ashworth (President, Walgreens), Rodney McMullen (CEO, Kroger), Doug McMillon (CEO, WalMart), Heyward Donigan (CEO, RiteAid)

Top Line Issues:

- Reopening America
- Releasing blueprint for state testing plans and rapid response teams
- To meet the country's testing needs, the blueprint describes the partnership between Federal, State, local, and tribal governments, and the private sector

Remarks by POTUS

- Today, we released Testing Guidance. A blueprint on how states should expand testing platforms, monitoring systems, and conduct contact tracing.
- The nation's aggressive strategy to slow the spread is working and saving countless lives
- The President asked private sector leaders from Quest Diagnostics, LabCorp, U.S. Cotton, CVS, Walgreens, Kroger, WalMart, and RiteAid to come forward and speak on their progress and commitments around testing efforts.
 - All private sectors mentioned their progress in the past 45 days and their ability to increase testing capacity in the coming weeks due to innovation (example pivot in swab material), increase in supplies and locations
- 5.4 million tests have been performed – nearly double the tests in any other country
- We will do more than double the number of tests needed in the next few weeks in support from the private-public partnership
- Showing the full power strength of the federal government to support state and local efforts. Continue to ask Governors to leverage unused testing capacity.
- Hunger to get people back to work and reopen. Due to rapidly expanding testing efforts – confident that we can reopen, but safely.

Vice President Pence

- It was two months ago we had done less than 10,000 tests for COVID19 in the US. Now we have 5.4 million tests performed.
- We have done more than 200,000 tests in a single day.

Dr. Birx

- The blueprint lays out roles and responsibilities to enhance a partnership between Federal, State, local, and tribal governments, and the private sector. The three core elements of the testing plan:
 - Robust diagnostic testing plans
 - Ensure capability to overcome barriers to efficient testing and inform clinical care and public health decision making
 - Timely monitoring systems
 - Identify any newly emergency cases or clusters of COVID-19 among symptomatic and asymptomatic individuals
 - Rapid response teams – core elements of testing plans

- Develop and implement effective isolation and contact tracing strategies for newly diagnosed COVID-19 cases

Adm. Giroir

- The “testing overview” lays out three stages that address testing. The first two states summarize steps that the administration have taken:
 - Stage 1: Launch
 - Stage 2: Scale
 - Stage 3: Support Opening up Again --- The third stage details a plan for the federal government to “coordinate with governors to support testing plans and rapid response programs”
- We are working to supply every state with the supplies and tests that they need to increase testing dramatically.
- Testing relies on the levels. High virus circulation will require more tests, those with not high virus circulating will need less tests.
- According to the Governors’ plan for next month, we will easily double that 4 million number. We will have over 20 million swabs sent out. We will have over 15 million tubes. We have everything matched machine to machine in a focused area. We are going state-by-state. The people with the least amount of testing will double the overall cumulative number South Korea has done in four months.

Select Q&A for POTUS:

- What is the best advise we can give states who want to reopen?
 - We want everyone to be safe. You see a lot of Governors and they want to open this up. The word is safely, rapid but safely. POTUS also mentioned young people seem to do well with COVID-19, some governors not ready to reopen states, but may consider opening school systems.
- As you talk about potentially reopening America, what data are you going to look at in the future to see if restrictions need to be reimposed?
 - We are relying on local areas, the Governors.
- Attorney General William Barr directed federal prosecutors to watch out for those who could be violating the Constitution with stay-at-home orders. What is the strategy? Will the Federal Government sue local authorities? Is the government suing the state?
 - You would have to ask Attorney General Barr. He wants to see people get back to work. He does not want people to be held up when there is no reason for doing it. In some cases, perhaps it is too strict. He wants to make sure people maintain their rights. A lot of people would agree. From a legal standpoint, you must ask Attorney General Barr. It would depend on the state and the circumstances. The Attorney General does not want to have rights taken away. Some people are not allowed to open a store and they are going to lose their livelihood. By the way, that causes death also.
- How long will you keep up travel restrictions for Europe?
 - We will look at that and how long it is taking Europe to heal. Italy is making a comeback; I am happy to see that. It is tragic what’s happening in Europe and we certainly want to lift restrictions and they want to do that too.

From: Schuchat, Anne MD (CDC/OD)
Sent: 1 Apr 2020 11:01:22 +0000
To: Meaney Delman, Dana M. (CDC/DDNID/NCBDDD/DBDID); McQuiston, Jennifer H. (CDC/DDID/NCEZID/DHCPP)
Subject: RE: community masking

Official notes from the call:

- President Trump states people could wear a scarf if they wanted to: "My feeling is, if people want to do it, there's certainly no harm to it. I would say do it. But use a scarf if you want, rather than going out and getting a mask, we're making millions and millions of masks, but we want them to go to the hospitals." He later noted that with regard to masks and scarves: ""We have no objection to it, and some people recommend it."
- Birx noted that CDC recommends that people who are infected or caring for someone who is infected should wear a mask, and the broader question of whether everyone should wear a mask is being considered by the Task Force and is "still under discussion."

From: Schuchat, Anne MD (CDC/OD)
Sent: Wednesday, April 1, 2020 7:00 AM
To: Meaney Delman, Dana M. (CDC/DDNID/NCBDDD/DBDID) <vmo0@cdc.gov>; McQuiston, Jennifer H. (CDC/DDID/NCEZID/DHCPP) <fzh7@cdc.gov>
Subject: community masking

(b)(5)	
(b)(5)	As the notes from the press conference state, POTUS acknowledge the issue and offered language that was fairly permissive.
(b)(5)	(b)(5)

Anne Schuchat, MD
Principal Deputy Director
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
Rear Admiral (Ret.), US Public Health Service

Phone 404 639-7000
Fax 404 639-7111
Email Aschuchat@cdc.gov

From: McGowan, Robert (Kyle) (CDC/OD/OCS)
Sent: 31 Mar 2020 21:17:53 +0000
To: Wortman, Eric (CDC/OD/CDCWO); Campbell, Amanda (CDC/OD/OCS); Scales, Scott L. (CDC/OD/OCS); Williams, Teresa (CDC/OD/OCS)
Cc: Brand, Anstice M. (CDC/OD/CDCWO)
Subject: Re: Sen. Toomey Call with R3

Please schedule the call for tomorrow with a few minutes beforehand to go over the call from Sunday with R3. That work for everyone?

Get [Outlook for iOS](#)

From: Wortman, Eric (CDC/OD/CDCWO) <ltr3@cdc.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, March 31, 2020 5:06:43 PM
To: McGowan, Robert (Kyle) (CDC/OD/OCS) <omc2@cdc.gov>; Campbell, Amanda (CDC/OD/OCS) <ons3@cdc.gov>; Scales, Scott L. (CDC/OD/OCS) <ixj3@cdc.gov>; Williams, Teresa (CDC/OD/OCS) <coo4@cdc.gov>
Cc: Brand, Anstice M. (CDC/OD/CDCWO) <atb6@cdc.gov>
Subject: RE: Sen. Toomey Call with R3

Agreed. If helpful, below is the readout from the Sunday call. I was on and can go over verbally if easier:

Call with Sen. Pat Toomey (R-PA)

Participants:

- Sen. Pat Toomey
- Corey Ensslin
- Dr. Jay Butler, Deputy IM
- Eric Wortman, CDC Washington
- Barbara Rogers, CDC Washington

Follow-up:

Keep Sen. Toomey's office informed on any CDC guidance or other statement encouraging asymptomatic people to wear home made or other non-medical masks to protect others from asymptomatic transmission.

(Sen. Toomey Requested that CDC issue a statement clarifying that in not recommending that people who are asymptomatic wear facemasks to protect themselves, CDC does not intend to recommend against the general (asymptomatic) public wearing non-medical masks in order to protect others from spread of the virus through asymptomatic people and slow the spread).

Themes:

- Sen. Toomey PSA
- Possible confusion/misinterpretation/unintended consequences re: CDC guidance on use of masks
- Use of (homemade) masks for prevention of asymptomatic spread by wearer of mask (not in competition for N95, not for use by health providers)

- Emerging data on timing of peak viral load lends support to use of homemade masks to slow spread by asymptomatic wearer of mask
- Distinction between use of (N95) face masks for protection of health care provider vs protection against spread by asymptomatic wearer of mask
- #masks4all

Notes:

PT: Given asymptomatic transmission, widespread use of non-medical (not N95) mask by asymptomatic people in public settings could help protect others from the wearer and, in addition to shelter in place and social distancing help slow the spread.

Frequent response (e.g., to PSA) that this is inconsistent with CDC guidance against asymptomatic people wearing masks: fails to distinguish between use of N95 for healthcare, and homemade. Would be helpful for CDC to clarify.

JB: Agrees re use of non-medical masks can be an additional tool in toolbox/environmental control to limit infection; consistent with what we're learning about COVID-19. Emerging data shows peak viral load at time of onset of symptoms, so asymptomatic may have significant virus. Different from SARS, where viral load went up as symptoms got worse.

PT: Invite public statement by CDC that in not recommending that people who are well use facemasks to protect themselves, CDC is not recommending against use of masks other than those used by healthcare to protect others from potential spread by asymptomatic wearer of mask.

JB: Occupational health studies since 2009 flu pandemic suggests this could contribute to other measures to collectively reduce transmission. Would not take PPE from health care provider. Additional issue: when to wear homemade masks.

PT: Next steps = CDC internal discussion re whether to issue statement that agency is not opposed to this use of nonmedical masks?

JB: Yes, and discuss w/ WH task force.

From: McGowan, Robert (Kyle) (CDC/OD/OCS) <omc2@cdc.gov>

Sent: Tuesday, March 31, 2020 5:04 PM

To: Wortman, Eric (CDC/OD/CDCWO) <ltr3@cdc.gov>; Campbell, Amanda (CDC/OD/OCS) <ons3@cdc.gov>; Scales, Scott L. (CDC/OD/OCS) <ixj3@cdc.gov>; Williams, Teresa (CDC/OD/OCS) <coo4@cdc.gov>

Cc: Brand, Anstice M. (CDC/OD/CDCWO) <atb6@cdc.gov>

Subject: Re: Sen. Toomey Call with R3

Okay. We will need to make sure that we brief Redfield on what Jay told the senator so we are all on the same page.

Get [Outlook for iOS](#)

From: Schuchat, Anne MD (CDC/OD)
Sent: 28 Mar 2020 11:16:44 +0000
To: Brush, Charles (Adam) (CDC/DDPHSIS/CGH/OD)
Subject: Re: WHTF Press Briefing (Summary) 03-27

Thanks so much

Get [Outlook for iOS](#)

From: Brush, Charles (Adam) (CDC/DDPHSIS/CGH/OD) <bio2@cdc.gov>
Sent: Saturday, March 28, 2020 7:08:25 AM
To: Jernigan, Daniel B. (CDC/DDID/NCIRD/ID) <dbj0@cdc.gov>; Messonnier, Nancy (CDC/DDID/NCIRD/OD) <nar5@cdc.gov>; Butler, Jay C. (CDC/DDID/OD) <jcb3@cdc.gov>; Cetron, Marty (CDC/DDID/NCEZID/DGMQ) <mzc4@cdc.gov>; Dreyzehner, John (CDC/DDPHSIS/CPR/OD) <PWN3@cdc.gov>; Khabbaz, Rima (CDC/DDID/NCEZID/OD) <rfl1@cdc.gov>; McGowan, Robert (Kyle) (CDC/OD/OCS) <omc2@cdc.gov>; Berger, Sherri (CDC/OCOO/OD) <sob8@cdc.gov>; Meaney Delman, Dana M. (CDC/DDNID/NCBDDD/DBDID) <vmo0@cdc.gov>; Schuchat, Anne MD (CDC/OD) <acs1@cdc.gov>; Armstrong, Gregory (CDC/DDID/NCEZID/OD) <gca3@cdc.gov>; Williams, Ian (CDC/DDID/NCEZID/DFWED) <iaw3@cdc.gov>
Cc: Jester, Barbara (CDC/DDID/NCIRD/ID) (CTR) <ipn5@cdc.gov>; Hoo, Elizabeth (CDC/OD/OCS) <irp5@cdc.gov>; Eiring, Hilary (CDC/DDID/OD) <vte0@cdc.gov>; Charles, Julia (CDC/OD/OCS) <yyb1@cdc.gov>; Knotts, Ashley (CDC/OD/OCS) <vqf0@cdc.gov>; Landon, Kelcie (CDC/DDPHSIS/CPR/DSLR) <xwz2@cdc.gov>; Romanik, Nikki Jo (CDC/OD/OCS) <kon6@cdc.gov>; Kilbourn Shear, Emily (CDC/DDID/NCHHSTP/DASH) <nfo2@cdc.gov>; Warner, Agnes (CDC/OD/OCS) <bli8@cdc.gov>; Holloway, Rachel (CDC/OCOO/OD) <khx1@cdc.gov>; Lepore, Loretta (CDC/OD/OCS) <phf7@cdc.gov>; Wiens, Jessica (CDC/DDNID/NCCDPPH/DPH) <prz6@cdc.gov>; Brand, Anstice M. (CDC/OD/CDCWO) <atb6@cdc.gov>; Cohn, Amanda (CDC/DDID/NCIRD/OD) <anc0@cdc.gov>; CDC IMS 2019 NCOV Response Policy Partnerships <eocevent337@cdc.gov>; Green, Hugh (CDC/OD/OCS) <yke8@cdc.gov>; Spencer-Loveall, Nora (CDC/DDID/NCHHSTP/OD) <yvj2@cdc.gov>; Hummel, Kim (CDC/DDID/NCEZID/DHCPP) <kbh2@cdc.gov>; Rosenfeld, Emily (CDC/DDPHSIS/CGH/OD) <yhc5@cdc.gov>; Brush, Charles (Adam) (CDC/DDPHSIS/CGH/OD) <bio2@cdc.gov>; McCulloch, Audrey (CDC/DDPHSIS/CGH/OD) <xzk0@cdc.gov>
Subject: WHTF Press Briefing (Summary) 03-27

White House COVID-19 Task Force - Highlights from March 26, 2020 Press Briefing

Internal, for your awareness, not for external distribution

Who attended: President Trump, Ambassador Deborah Birx, Dr. Anthony Fauci, Peter Nevarro (Assistant to the President), Secretary Sonny Purdue (USDA), Secretary Betty DeVos (Education), Niren Chaudhary (CEO of Panera Bread), Denton McClane (Chairman of McClane Global Logistics)

Top line issues:

- Signed \$2.2 trillion economic stimulus, "Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act"

- Presidential Memorandum directing the Secretary of HHS to use any and all authority available under the Defense Production Act (DPA) to require General Motors to accept, perform and prioritize Federal contracts for ventilators
- Executive order signed authorizing the DOD and DHS authority to activate reserve component service.
- Peter Nevarro will serve as National Defense Production Act Coordinator, to coordinate the use of the DPA across the entire federal government
- Health and safety first before the economy and will review data over the weekend with public health experts to assess extending the 15 day pause

Remarks from POTUS:

- Invocation of the DPA to use the full authority of the federal government to combat this crisis.
- Readiness for the Naval ship USNS Comfort was accelerated and will now arrive at New York Harbor on Monday to help with hospital surge capacity
- USG working on treatment and vaccine
- Spoke to President Xi
- Boris Johnson tested positive for COVID
- US will ramp up production to nearly 100, 000 ventilator units in the next 100 days
- Administration working to sign contracts immediately with every major ventilator company in the country including (GE, Phillips, Medtronic, Zoll, Hamilton, and more)
- Boeing will dedicate up to three planes to the mission of flying supplies (63,000 pounds of cargo per flight)
- Boeing will be producing and donating face shields and to medical professionals on the front lines
- Apple launched a new self-checker app in partnership with the WH Taskforce, FEMA, and the CDC
- Testing nearly “100,000 patients per day”
- Coordinating with states to contain new hotspots

Remarks by Peter Nevarro:

- Tremendous cooperation between HHS and FEMA to make sure we get the supplies to where they are needed as fast as possible

Remarks by VP Pence:

- All 50 states are reporting cases with 50% of cases coming from NY state and NYC.
- Stressed the need to adhere to state and local guidance
- Stressed the need to put into practice President Trumps coronavirus plan
- President has issued 12 disaster declaration, including most recently Maryland and Missouri
- Supplemental will require by law that labs and hospitals will report COVID-19 test results to CDC
- Apple, Merck, and USPS have donated millions of facemasks
- President will attend the embarkation of USNS from Norfolk VA
- Encouraged all health care workers to report shortages to their hospital administrator and state and local officials so supplies can get where they are needed

- FEMA is working rapidly to distribute N95 masks, gloves, ventilators, and other PPE to areas in need

Remarks from Ambassador Birx:

- Modelling issues (and clarification of a few points)
 - We understand this week and next week will not reflect the work of mitigation efforts
 - There are other countries that have taken different approaches.
 - Each community is different, and we don't think Americans would adapt and adopt to removing positive persons from the home. This is why the guidance is for all family members with a positive to remain in quarantine in the household.
- The reason for required quarantine for individuals who have travelled from NY to other places is about the health and safety of everyone.
- We continue to look at the data everyday. It will help when we can scale up surveillance.

Remarks from Dr. Fauci, Director of NIAID:

- Had the opportunity to speak with staff of the ICUs and wants them to understand that the Task Force will do everything possible to get frontline workers the supplies they need.

Select Q&A for the President:

- Q: Over the last 24 hours more Governors have issued quarantine orders and are intercepting people?
 - I will let Tony speak to that, but we are being very strong on people from certain states.
-
- Q: Last night you told Shaun Hannity we didn't need ventilators, but you have not authorized production?
 - We hope we don't need it, but other countries might. If we don't need them, we can help other countries. All over the world they need them.
-
- Q: Monday will be the end of the 15 days? Do you expect to renew?
 - I will be sitting down with these Debbie and Anthony and all their people to assess.
- Q: So for how long will people have to stay at home?

- We do want to flatten the curve. We do have to think about counties that haven't been severely affected, but we do also want to be safe.
- Q: There is a lot of talk of ventilators and PPE but what about hospital capacity?
 - We are working very hard through the Army Core of Engineers to increase capacity.
-
- Q: We've heard talk of another supplemental?
 - It's \$2.2 trillion plus up to \$4 trillion additional.
- Q: What are the priorities?
 - Life and safety and then the economy.
- Q: What about Easter?
 - It is life and safety first, we want to get people out, but need to make sure it's safe.

- Select Q&A for Vice President Pence, Dr. Birx, and Dr. Fauci:

- Q: - Will we see a website for all this data? (Birx)
 - We worked hard to get it into the last supplemental, but it was changed to state and local reporting. In this new bill it was mandated that all labs have to report, so you'll be getting the data as we get the data.
- Q: What is our standard for making recommendations about testing? (Birx)
 - Testing only tells us if we are positive or negative on any given day. Therefore, we need a testing strategy and a surveillance strategy.
 - We applaud other countries who have been sharing information and their experiences with us.
- Q: Sunday will mark the 4 weeks from the first death. How has this nation changed? (Fauci)
 - It is unprecedented. These are uncharted waters. As someone who has been through all these outbreaks, this is truly unprecedented. We are going through something no one in our generation has ever been through.

- Additional remarks:

- Sec. DeVos- spoke about distance learning
- Sec. Purdue- spoke about student nutrition and food supply
- Niren Chaudhary (CEO of Panera Bread) spoke about working with USDA to deliver nutritious food to children in need
- Denton McClane (Chairman of McClane Global Logistics) spoke about delivery of shelf stable food to rural children

Adam Brush

Policy Unit

Coronavirus Disease-2019 (COVID-19) Response

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)

eocevent209@cdc.gov

White House COVID-19 Task Force - Highlights from March 24, 2020 Press Briefing

Who attended: President Trump, Vice President Pence, Ambassador Deborah Birx, Dr. Tony Fauci, Larry Kudlow

Top line issues:

- Reopening the country for business by Easter
 - POTUS said he would rely on public health experts, but hoped to end restrictions around the country by April 12
- Concern for escalating crisis in New York City

Remarks from POTUS

- POTUS said he hoped to reopen the country by Easter (April 13), but prioritizes the health and safety of all citizens
- Federal government is distributing PPE in areas that need it most
- Private industry, including Ford, 3M, and General Electric Healthcare are producing PPE
- Army Corps of Engineers and the National Guard are building healthcare facilities; U.S. Navy hospital ship deploying to NYC
- Congress is working to pass the \$2T spending bill to provide payments to Americans who are experiencing hardship because of the pandemic
- Working on plan to reopen country based on the best science and modeling, following the lead of public health experts
- POTUS clarified this pandemic is a medical crisis and not a financial crisis

Remarks from Ambassador Birx

- Accelerating testing at a rapid rate; what South Korea did in eight weeks, the U.S. has done in eight days
- Clarified that self-testing does not mean test at home, but self specimen collection, and emphasized self-testing allows for less need for PPE
- Deeply concerned about New York City and NYC metro area; 56% of new cases in the nation coming from there
- Seeing new cases across the country that originated in NYC. People who have visited NYC should self-quarantine in their homes for 14 days after they leave the city

Remarks from Dr. Fauci, Director of NIAID

- New York City is a hot spot -- it's understandable that people would want to leave. People who recently visited NYC should self-quarantine for 14 days.
- Even while some people explore the off-label use of drugs, FDA is actively working on treatment

Remarks from Larry Kudlow, White House Chief Economic Advisor

- Congress is making progress on the third package – overall aid package ~\$6T

Remarks from VP Pence

- More tests done in the last eight days than in the past eight weeks
- Reiterated if someone doesn't have symptoms shouldn't get a test
- Continuing to encourage all hospitals and lab to report results to CDC

- NYC disproportionately affected – 60% of new infections, delivering new ventilators, FEMA sending PPE
- FEMA 14M surgical masks
- Apple donating 9M N95 masks to the response

Q&A:

Q: You said you wanted to open the country by Easter and see packed churches. Do Dr. Birx and Dr. Fauci agree? Who suggested Easter as a timeline?

- POTUS: We're looking at it and will see. I just thought Easter was a beautiful timeline.

Q: [Described situation in NYC, Louisiana] What are you seeing in all of this that suggests we will open by Easter?

- POTUS: Our response is strong. We have to follow the curve to see when it starts to come down.

Q: What metrics will you use to open a part of the country – disease numbers, containment/isolation, etc.?

- POTUS: I will be guided by the doctors.
- Dr. Fauci: we just discussed with the president that we need to be flexible, depending on the data. No one would want to reopen during a situation like what's happening in NYC, but it's a big country. We may not make a single decision for the whole country. We need to watch areas of the country where there isn't an obvious outbreak right now to see if there's something under the surface, or if it's truly healthy.

White House COVID-19 Task Force - Highlights from March 24, 2020 Fox News Town Hall

Who attended: President Trump, Vice President Pence, Ambassador Deborah Birx, Vice Admiral Jerome Adams

Top line issues:

- Reopening the country for business – how that decision will be made
- Testing – what went wrong, what self-testing actually means
- Availability of PPE for frontline health care workers

Remarks from POTUS

- Discussed difficult decisions to implement the 15 day pause and when to reopen the country for business

Q&A with POTUS

- Q: How do you shore up small businesses while supporting big businesses as well?
 - The new bill provides support for small businesses.
- Q: A month ago, you said CDC's initial test for COVID-19 was perfect, but it wasn't. Were you wrong, or was CDC?
 - Neither. CDC had a test that worked for a small group of people, but we never knew this many people would need to get tested.
- Q: What can you do to bring Congress together over the spending bills?
 - I think they are coming together.
- Q: I have been able to telework during this time and would rather the government send my check to someone else.
 - That's a nice gesture. A family of four will get about \$3k.
- Q: Do you watch the stock market each day? How can you tell if it's doing better or not?
 - I think the Dow was struggling because people thought the U.S. would be shut down for four or five months, but I would love to have it open by Easter.

Q&A with Dr. Birx

- Q: Can the virus mutate? Can you be reinfected?
 - It's an RNA virus, so it constantly mutates, but its structure remains very similar. We believe anybody who becomes positive makes effective antibody, which means they shouldn't be reinfected.
- Q: There was a headline that Singapore may face a second wave of infection. Thoughts?
 - Singapore quickly and effectively implemented the president's guidelines and few people were infected. This means they are not immune. If the virus is affected by seasons, they may be more susceptible next year.

Q&A with SG

- Q: How important is the death rate in decision making?
 - We're focused on helping people stop the spread of the virus.
 - The president listens to his public health advisors.

Open Q&A

- Q for POTUS: Are you and Dr. Fauci on good terms?

- POTUS: yes
- Q for Ambassador Birx: My mom is a nurse. What are you doing to help the people putting themselves in harm's way to help?
 - Ambassador Birx: We have worked hard to get PPE out.
 - SG: We are fighting to make sure you have what you need. Self-swabs will help reduce the need for PPE.
- Q for SG: Where can someone get a self test? How does someone report a positive?
 - SG: FDA is making available
 - Ambassador Birx: It's a self-swab, not a self test.
 - VPOTUS: Best thing people can do is stay home
- Q for Ambassador Birx: What is our rate of negative test?
 - Way under 19%, except in New York City, metro New York, and New Jersey close to NYC. In NYC the attach rate is four to five times higher than any other place in the country.
 - Q: Why? It could be because of density, of the virus living on subway surfaces, of a large group of people returning from holidays in Asia or Europe.
- Q for POTUS: is it really possible to reopen the country in 19 days?
 - It's possible. People will still need to practice social distancing.
 - You can't compare this pandemic to that of 1918
- Q for POTUS: How will you know it's safe to reopen the country by Easter?
- Q: Is there a plan to fast track tests and/or PPE production?
 - Ambassador Birx: Yes.
- Q: What is the best way to achieve our objective of reopening the country?
 - VPOTUS: wash your hands, stay home if you're sick, avoid groups >10 people, avoid unnecessary travel, don't dine in restaurants, and follow local guidance.

White House COVID-19 Task Force - Highlights from March 23, 2020 Briefing

Who attended: President Trump, Vice President Pence, Ambassador Deborah Birx, William Barr, Rear Admiral John Polowczyk

Top line issues:

- Balancing the harm caused by the pandemic versus harm to the economy resulting from social distancing measures
 - POTUS repeatedly said, “I believe we can do two things at once,” i.e. stop the pandemic and restart the economy. He also repeatedly said he believed the economic impact will cause more deaths than the pandemic.
- Executive order signed 3/23 invoking section 102 of the Defense Production Act to prohibit hoarding of medical supplies or price gauging
- Self-testing availability

Remarks from POTUS

- President Trump reiterated he did not want the “cure to be worse than the problem,” meaning the consequence to the economy could be worse than the health consequence of the pandemic.
- Noted that we must protect Asians and Asian Americans in the U.S. and abroad, and reminded that the spread of COVID-19 was not their fault.
- USG has provided PPE to NYC and Washington state; FEMA has accepted donations of PPE for distribution. FEMA distributing 8M N95 masks, 13.3 surgical masks across country.
- Florida man took hydroxychloroquine to treat his infection and recovered; distribution of hydroxychloroquine will begin in NYC tomorrow
- Postponed the deadline for Real I.D. requirements
- Invoked article of the Defense Production Act to prohibit the hoarding of medical supplies and price gauging
- POTUS thanked “everyday heroes”
- Best thing we did to stop transmission is to restrict travel from highly affected countries

Remarks from AG

- DoJ is working with HHS to identify medical supply hoarding or price gauging

Remarks from Ambassador

- Thanks MOH around the world for sharing data – especially mortality data, which shows no deaths in children under 15 in Europe.
- Thanked laboratories for accelerating testing
- Self testing options coming
- NYC attack rate five times higher than the rest of the country – 25% positives versus 8% nationally.

Remarks from VPOTUS

- Held Video Teleconference with Governors on the Partnership to Prepare, Mitigate and Respond to COVID-19
- POTUS supports strategies that are locally executed; state managed, and federally supported
- Bill being negotiated on the Hill will provide payment to Americans; payroll tax relief; etc.
- USPHS deploying personnel and equipment

- Exploring self-testing via nasal swabs
- If you don't have symptoms, you don't need to be tested
- All labs are now required by law to report results to CDC
- Surveying ventilators in surgical centers to see if they can be modified for use with COVID-19 infections

Remarks from RA, the supply chain TF lead at FEMA

- Supply Chain Stabilization TF, responsible for medical equipment, consumable supplies, other supplies, to preserve, accelerate, reallocate, and expand

Q&A:

- Reporters wanted to know how much worse the pandemic will get and, in an effort to minimize the pandemic's affect on the economy, whether POTUS will stop community mitigation practices even if public health officials advise they continue.
 - POTUS said it will get worse before it gets better, and that he listens to advisors and then makes his own decision.
 - Ambassador: now we can do case finding and investigation in areas with low numbers, and mitigation in areas hardest hit. The only countries we have data from are China and South Korea – both were about 10 week curves. Washington state is about two weeks ahead of other areas in the country. We need to watch all data.
 - POTUS: We can do two things at once. At some point we will have to get business moving again.
 - Ambassador: Mortality rate is driven by people with pre-existing conditions and older people. Key to preventing deaths is to prevent infections in the first place.
- Q: Based on your guidelines, Rand Paul would not have known he was positive, because he got tested despite not having symptoms.
 - Ambassador: This is why the 15 day pause is important – to stop asymptomatic transmission. I was not in the press briefings this weekend b/c I had a low grade fever, got tested and was negative. But I stayed home an extra day out of personal responsibility because we have to take care of each other.
 - POTUS: it will not be months before we are back in business.
- Q: Do you think that the cure has been worse than the problem?
 - POTUS: It has been very tough. We have learned a lot.
- Q: Do you still believe the virus will be with us in the summer?
 - POTUS: We have learned so much, and new practices (e.g. not shaking hands) will help protect us.
- Q: Considered Latin American travel ban?
 - POTUS: No.
- Q: How are parents supposed to go to work while their children's schools are closed?
 - POTUS: Governors have leeway; some schools are already open.
- Q: Why is a \$2T stimulus is needed?
 - POTUS: Provide a kick to workers to help them. Small businesses. Big companies like Boeing already had problems.
- Q: When will the government roll out new tests?
 - Ambassador: several have come to FDA for approval, but will probably be a few weeks. Also [an aside], several models predict 70% or 60% of the population will be infected.

That's only if we do nothing and the virus has three cycles. That won't happen because we will have a vaccine.

- Q: What do you think of Germany's approach to restrict gatherings more than two people except for families?
 - Ambassador: we have learned a lot...i haven't looked at the data that informed decision.
- Q: What do you mean by the economy will cause more death than the pandemic?
 - POTUS: people experience depression and suicide because of a poor economy. I expect a very big bounce back after all of this. We can do two things at one time: be vigilant against the virus and support business.
- Q: Should we re-open ACA exchange enrollment? POTUS: maybe.
- Q: Does Fauci agree with you about reopening?
- Q: Where is the Sec. of Education?
- Q: When will you give guidance for returning to work earlier? VPOTUS: Have been working with CDC. Will get it out tomorrow.
- Q: Some states do not have the testing equipment they need. What are you doing to help? POTUS: we're working on it.

From: Jernigan, Daniel B. (CDC/DDID/NCIRD/ID) <dbj0@cdc.gov>
Sent: Friday, March 6, 2020 11:14:09 PM
To: Cetron, Marty (CDC/DDID/NCEZID/DGMQ) <mzc4@cdc.gov>; Schuchat, Anne MD (CDC/OD) <acs1@cdc.gov>; Berger, Sherri (CDC/OCOO/OD) <sob8@cdc.gov>; Meaney Delman, Dana M. (CDC/DDNID/NCBDDD/DBDID) <vmo0@cdc.gov>; Armstrong, Gregory (CDC/DDID/NCEZID/OD) <gca3@cdc.gov>; Williams, Ian (CDC/DDID/NCEZID/DFWED) <iaw3@cdc.gov>; Cohn, Amanda (CDC/DDID/NCIRD/OD) <anc0@cdc.gov>; Butler, Jay C. (CDC/DDID/OD) <jcb3@cdc.gov>
Subject: 7 pm Giroir Update

The 6:15 was postponed to 7, and only Marty and I were on. Things from the call were:

1. (b)(5)
2. (b)(5)
(b)(5) Giroir wants the key messages sent to him and wants to know when this plan goes up. He is doing an AARP call with 100k people on Tuesday, and wants a CDC person to do this. TASK: Nancy and Amanda to follow up with Giroir on who to join him on Tues AARP call. TASK: (b)(5)
(b)(5)
3. Cruise company Carnival unhappy with CDC's stance at not encouraging cruising on traveler's health website. Marty is unmoved... ...nothing to do.
4. (b)(5)
5. (b)(5)
(b)(5) He wanted to be informed of its progress and wanted to discuss before going live.
6. (b)(5)

Daniel B. Jernigan, MD MPH
Novel Coronavirus Response,
Director, Influenza Division, NCIRD, CDC

From: Jernigan, Daniel B. (CDC/DDID/NCIRD/ID) <dbj0@cdc.gov>

Sent: Friday, March 6, 2020 11:14:09 PM

To: Cetron, Marty (CDC/DDID/NCEZID/DGMQ) <mzc4@cdc.gov>; Schuchat, Anne MD (CDC/OD) <acs1@cdc.gov>; Berger, Sherri (CDC/OCOO/OD) <sob8@cdc.gov>; Meaney Delman, Dana M. (CDC/DDNID/NCBDDD/DBDID) <vmo0@cdc.gov>; Armstrong, Gregory (CDC/DDID/NCEZID/OD) <gca3@cdc.gov>; Williams, Ian (CDC/DDID/NCEZID/DFWED) <iaw3@cdc.gov>; Cohn, Amanda (CDC/DDID/NCIRD/OD) <anc0@cdc.gov>; Butler, Jay C. (CDC/DDID/OD) <jcb3@cdc.gov>

Subject: 7 pm Giroir Update

The 6:15 was postponed to 7, and only Marty and I were on. Things from the call were:

1.

(b)(5)

2.

(b)(5)

Giroir wants the key messages sent to him and wants to know when this plan goes up. He is doing an AARP call with 100k people on Tuesday, and wants a CDC person to do this. TASK: Nancy and Amanda to follow up with Giroir on who to join him on Tues AARP call. TASK

(b)(5)

(b)(5)

3. Cruise company Carnival unhappy with CDC's stance at not encouraging cruising on traveler's health website. Marty is unmoved... ..nothing to do.

4.

(b)(5)

5.

(b)(5)

(b)(5)

He wanted to be informed of its progress and wanted to discuss before going live.

6.

(b)(5)

Daniel B. Jernigan, MD MPH
Novel Coronavirus Response,
Director, Influenza Division, NCIRD, CDC