

**CDC Guidance on Masks**  
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The Centers for Disease control (CDC) continues to insist that masks are effective for preventing the spread of COVID-19. This statement appears on the agency's website, which was updated in May 2023:

"Masking is a critical public health tool for preventing the spread of COVID-19, and it is important to remember that any mask is better than no mask."<sup>1</sup>

This false statement is also promoted in articles and reviews published in the CDC's journal, *Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report (MMWR)*. A recent analysis of studies concerning masks in this pseudo-journal shows that the publication routinely reports false conclusions about research concerning masks.<sup>2</sup>

According to the analysis:

- MMWR articles about masks reached positive conclusions about the efficacy of masks over 75% of the time, despite the fact that only 30% of the studies involved testing masks and fewer than 15% of the studies reported statistically significant results.
- No studies were randomized.
- Only 23 of 77 studies even assessed the effectiveness of masks, yet 58 of them reported that masks were effective.
- Of the 58 studies, 41 of them reported a cause-and-effect relationship when such a relationship was not determined because the studies were observational.
- One example of how egregious the misreporting was the referencing of a study related to particle filtration on mannequins with "unknown relevance for human health."
- Four of the studies reported that there were more cases in the mask group than in the control group, yet all four of these studies concluded that masks were effective.

Most consumers don't read this so-called journal, but it is called "the voice of the CDC," and referred to as the primary means for "scientific publication of timely, reliable, authoritative, accurate, objective, and useful public health information and recommendations."<sup>3</sup> *MMWR* is the voice of the CDC, and, in fact, the fake news reported in this journal was regurgitated almost every day by CDC Director Rochelle Walensky on news programs, interviews, and testimony in front of Congress. Either Walensky does not know how to read and interpret the medical literature accurately, or she deliberately misleads the public. In either case, she should not hold any position in public health, and it could be argued that she should not even hold a medical license.

As with all things COVID, false information has been a problem in the CDC's journal for a very long time, due in large part to the fact that the journal does not use peer review

to vet articles. This allows the journal a lot of latitude in what it publishes. In the case of the mask studies, 91% had at least one author affiliated with the CDC, with an average of 13 CDC-affiliated authors per paper. Some authors co-authored several papers. The total number of authors - 1544 – shows the enormous effort the CDC invested in developing and promoting a false narrative about the efficacy of masks.

The authors conclude: "Our findings raise concern about the reliability of the journal for informing health policy."

Walensky has resigned from the CDC, but her replacement, Mandy Cohen, has already demonstrated that she may be even worse. Cohen was Health director for the State of North Carolina and while in this position demonstrated a frightening level of stupidity and incompetence. She recently admitted that she made decisions by asking other state health directors what they were doing and then following along, citing no scientific data to support the decisions she made. She recalled her conversation with colleagues: "She was like, are you gonna let them have professional football? And I was like, no. And she's like, OK neither are we." How scientific.

Cohen posted this on twitter on August 13, 2020:

"Did you know it's #WorldMaskWeek?

Face coverings are one of our strongest tools to slow the spread of COVID-19 in our communities...and like my Dr. Fauci mask, they can be fun too. That's right – Cohen featured a picture of herself wearing a mask with the criminal Fauci's picture on it! She invited her followers to "Join me in masking up this week and beyond – every time you leave the house."<sup>4</sup>

Perhaps scariest of all was that Cohen was enthusiastically endorsed by Fauci, who said concerning her COVID response: "I was quite impressed with her grasp of the situation and public health principles."<sup>5</sup>

The entire COVID debacle raises serious concerns about the capability of all government and public health agencies to accurately assess health-related data and use it to implement effective strategies for prevention and mitigation of disease. Appropriate responses to this concerning state of affairs would include massive firings, reviewing and updating of goals and objectives, developing better accountability procedures, and in some cases, abolishing agencies that cannot be rehabilitated. None of this will happen, which leaves all Americans vulnerable to the next fake pandemic and draconian responses that protect almost no one and have the potential to harm millions of people.

If you share my concern about this, join Make Americans Free Again, donate, start a group, and help us. We've been successful in organizing at the local level to address almost all things that affect daily life – meeting new friends; finding new jobs, doctors, churches and other resources; home schooling; food security and more. AND we are winning in court!

Join one of my Forming Your Own Tribe sessions: the next one is scheduled for Aug 8 at 9PM eastern time. You can also email me at [pampopper@msn.com](mailto:pampopper@msn.com) for more details.

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<sup>1</sup> <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/types-of-masks.html>

<sup>2</sup> Hoeg TB, Haslam A, Prasad V. "An analysis of studies pertaining to masks in Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report: Characteristics and quality of all studies from 1978-2023." *medRxiv* preprint <https://www.medrxiv.org/content/10.1101/2023.07.07.23292338v1.full>

<sup>3</sup> <https://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/about.html>

<sup>4</sup> [https://www.2ndsmartestguyintheworld.com/p/new-cdc-director-is-even-more-psychotic?utm\\_campaign=post&utm\\_medium=web](https://www.2ndsmartestguyintheworld.com/p/new-cdc-director-is-even-more-psychotic?utm_campaign=post&utm_medium=web)

<sup>5</sup> <https://www.washingtonpost.com/politics/2023/06/02/why-white-house-picked-mandy-cohen-run-cdc/>