



Norbert Goldfield, MD
Founder, CEO

Ask Nurses & Doctors LLC

72 Laurel Park
Northampton MA 01060
413-800-2680
norbert@asknursesdoctors.com
www.asknursesdoctors.com
@asknursesdoctors.com

Next AND Steps – July 14th World Wide Vaccine Access and New Legislative Push;

Most importantly, without global vaccination we cannot begin to end this pandemic. Do you want to end vaccine apartheid globally? Do you know people in NYC or who would come to NYC for a daytime, weekday action? People's Action, Health GAP, ACT UP, CPD Action, Rise and Resist, and others are organizing a big direct action on 7/14 10a-12p and they need help with turnout. The turnout effort is focused on personal outreach, not mass communications. I plan on going – hope to see some of you there. **If you have some time to do some personal outreach to people you know and/or if you can go please be in touch with me directly.**

An important question confronting immune-compromised individuals – should they get a third dose. French individuals get a third vaccine. The [bottom line is we don't know](#). Fauci quote: more than [99% of people who die of COVID weren't vaccinated, 100% in Maryland in June](#). Mitch McConnell [endorses!](#) I've had few patients who developed COVID despite being vaccinated; all minor little illness. Yet [delta is rapidly increasing](#). This article is an [excellent summary of vaccine lessons learned](#) (thus far) from COVID. In the U.S. the issue is vaccine hesitancy; I [gave a talk](#) on vaccine questions – in Spanish.

For the next few months AND activities for the 2022 cycle will focus on emerging pharma legislation. In [an analysis](#) of the recent Democratic win in New Mexico, one point stands out: Democrats must forcefully describe what they are for with conviction. Conviction on health care means a focus on the following legislation which may occur. AND can help

- a. Allowing the federal government (CMS) to negotiate prices with the pharmaceutical industry for the Medicare program;
- b. Inclusion of optimal, dental and vision benefits for Medicare beneficiaries;
- c. An out of pocket cap for Medicare beneficiaries; and
- d. Lowering the eligibility age to 60.

Giving the federal government the power to negotiate, just like any other country in the world except for the US, will save approximately half a trillion dollars, money which could go to support b-d above in whichever combination is politically feasible.

For the next few months, I invite all of you to participate in and / or reach out to other health professionals to work with AND and other organizations in this effort. Our next immediate task is to identify the most important members of Congress that we wish to reach out to. You may have your own ideas. At the same time, almost all outreach is useful. As you might imagine, the situation is in flux. I will be sending out regular updates. All ideas are welcome.