



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

December 21: AND Covid Notes: Ivermectin Ingestion; Changed Travel Plans; State Health Proposal.

My antivaxxer husband and wife who were hospitalized with pneumonia survived and were discharged. Still antivaxxer's. The daughter stated to me that she secretly gave Ivermectin to her mom in the hospital and that is why she survived. Two high risk anti-vaxxer patients became positive this past Friday and I've arranged for them to receive monoclonal antibodies; not clear that they will follow through.

An [excellent report](#) from the Government Accounting Office highlights the dramatic mental health consequences of the COVID pandemic and highlights 6 groups of people, including health care workers.

Can we at least have Build Back Barely instead of Build Back Better? The [implications](#) for failure are dramatic on so many aspects of health care. While hospitals and doctors are performing heroically, they sadly are also [fighting](#) health reform. More than 100,000 health professionals have [died of COVID](#).

Good suggestions on what to [have at home](#) in advance in case you get infected?

US [health care spending](#) increased 9.7 percent to reach \$4.1 trillion in 2020; 4.3 percent rise in 2019. At the same time, one-third of Americans [skipped](#) necessary medical care because they could not afford it.

In an [exit interview](#), Francis Collins, the retiring NIH director stated he resisted Trump's pressures to fire Fauci and to endorse unproven therapies. His one regret is a wish to better understand vaccine [hesitancy and resistance](#). For me it is a largely issue of leadership – from politicians to pastors. Last week, Senate Republicans [voted](#) to defund vaccine mandates; Senator Johnson from Minnesota [stated](#) gargling Listerine kills COVID. We are almost two years into this pandemic and a [recent assessment](#) indicated that we are not ready for the next one. Biden has done [reasonably well](#) but [we have a long way to go](#). [70% of COVID vaccines](#) have been distributed to the world's ten largest countries and the world's poorest countries have received just 0.8%. As I've written before, unless we have universal vaccines (and almost universal acceptance), variants will continue to appear. Thus far organizations such as [Justice is Global](#) that AND is involved in has not had the desired impact -yet. Please consider supporting their efforts.

Trust in authorities is key whether it be in the [U.S.](#) or [abroad throughout](#) the world. We need to undertake a [bipartisan](#) comprehensive public health response; this is not possible at a national level. State responses are possible, and I just submitted a proposal here in Massachusetts. Happy to share.

My wife and I try to go to LA at this time of year – to celebrate our anniversary (42 this year!). We missed last year. Yesterday, I cancelled this year's trip. As an [AP Headline stated](#), One Year of Vaccines: Many Lives saved, Many Needlessly Lost. Next year we at AND will continue to fight together with you all for health reform, comprehensive public health implementation and vaccine acceptance. Hope you all stay safe. Norbert Goldfield, M.D.