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COVID, Strep Throat, Health Professionals Running for Office- Some Anti Science

More patients with Covid and... let's not forget strep throat. I had a pregnant patient last week who no Covid symptoms other than a sore throat. Strep test was positive.

I agree with one newspaper assertion that "[predictions about the pandemic rarely age well](#)." According to the [Covid-19 Scenario Modeling Hub](#), this fall should be not as bad as last year. One of the assumptions, and I am not optimistic about this, is that the acceptance rate for the booster will be similar the flu vaccine. I am confident that my patients will get the jab but..

I believe that health professional organizations such as the AMA could make a significant difference. While I am not sure that organized medicine will step up to their responsibilities, for sure health professionals opposed to Covid treatment are [making themselves heard](#). A lengthy but worthwhile description about Scott Jensen [MD](#), Republican nominee for governor in Minn.:

Scott Jensen, who received more than 90% of the Republican vote in the primary said that Democratic Gov. Tim Walz's COVID policies were comparable to Kristallnacht, the "night of broken glass" that heralded the beginning of the Nazis' antisemitic mass violence. "If you look at the 1930s and you look at it carefully, we could see some things happening, little things, that people chose to push aside... And then the little things grew into something bigger," Jensen said at the rally, in a speech captured on video. "Then there was a night called Kristallnacht — the night of the breaking glass. "Then there was the book burning, and it kept growing and growing, and a guy named Hitler kept growing in power... Well, in a way, I think that's why you're here today. You sense that something's happening, and it's growing little by little." The rally was sponsored by Mask Off Minnesota, a group that spreads COVID-19 misinformation. Jensen, a licensed physician, [is himself unvaccinated](#) and has made public comments in which he has questioned the efficacy of COVID vaccines and other pandemic policies.

I wonder what Jensen would say about polio vaccine – the [U.S. just had its first case in a decade](#).

Pregnant women continue to have lower rates of vaccination, despite its [demonstrated safety, once again](#). In addition, let's not forget that there are approximately 30,000 people in the hospital today with Covid in the U.S. and almost 500 people die every day. Another milestone: [1 million have died worldwide in 2022](#). Also depressing is the [largest decline in life expectancy](#) in the U.S. over the past

two years in 100 years. Interestingly, the decline in white American life expectancy was more than black Americans. Importantly, racism is a very important factor; [some health systems are attempting to face the issue](#). This database could not distinguish between Republicans and Democrats.

Native Americans [had the worst outcomes](#): Carol Schumacher, 56, who was raised in the remote community of Chilchinbeto in the Navajo Nation, has lost 42 family members to Covid-19 over the last two years. The dead included two brothers aged 55 and 54, and cousins as young as 18 and 19... The nearest hospital was a long drive away on dirt roads, she said, “and there’s no guarantee about the quality of care there even if you make it in time. Some families don’t even have transportation or running water. Imagine dealing with that.”

The CDC has come out with [new guidelines](#). I continue to be more careful than recommended. The CDC has also announced that it will do an in-depth [examination of its failures](#).

I’ve used Paxlovid any number of times on my patients. While none of my patients have had [Covid rebound](#), it is clearly happening and is of concern; maybe the course of treatment (5 days) is too short a course. That said, I continue to use it.

The United States has the highest rate of maternal mortality in the industrialized world; blacks have three times the rate of whites. This headline says it all: [In Mississippi a Post-Roe Question: What will Republicans do to Help New Mothers?](#)The answer: nothing.

With abortion limits continuing to increase, *please contact me if any of you who are health professionals are interested in doing either a pro-choice. Also looking for pro [drug pricing negotiation](#) video emanating from the just passed federal legislation. No more than 15 minutes of your time!* I am pleased that [other organizations](#) have sprung up organizing health professionals. Now is the time to be engaged especially as [Republicans are avoiding](#) any mention of health care!

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