Infant Deaths Decrease 30% During Lockdown, Coinciding with Sharp Drop in Vaccinations

written by GEG | July 2, 2020

An analysis of US mortality data by Mark Blaxill and Amy Becker shows that the weekly number of deaths among infants during the pandemic lockdown dropped by about 30%. "Starting in early March, expected deaths began a sharp decline, from an expected level of around 700 deaths per week to well under 500 by mid-April and throughout May." The unexpected survival of 200 babies per week precisely corresponds with a drop in vaccination. A group of authors from the CDC and Kaiser Permanente reported in the May 15 issue of the *CDC Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report* that there was a "sharp decline in provider orders for vaccines as well as a decline in pediatric vaccine doses administered."

Lower infant deaths associated with stopping vaccinations in babies also was noted by a doctor in Italy in a letter to Robert F. Kennedy of Children's Health Defense. Dr. Antonietta M. Gatti wrote that during the lockdown there were no sudden-infant-death syndromes. After the lockdown, baby vaccination started again, and there was a dead baby in Turin, and another child and two twins died." -GEG

COVID-19 is a serious public health issue, but the breathless reporting among the media of positive tests and an ever-rising death toll does little to instruct us about the true nature of the virus and the unprecedented steps taken to prevent its impact. As in many complex and pervasive health phenomena, there are many ways to measure health

effects, but in our view, the proper measure of impact is not a narrow or intermediate metric, but rather total health outcomes. In the case of a pandemic virus affecting large populations and where the immediate concern is sharp increases in deaths, the best measure of outcomes is not a selective measure of deaths somehow attributed to the disease but instead is deaths from all causes. For perspective, these deaths must be compared to historical death rates from all causes in prior years (Percent of Expected Deaths). As we will show, a balanced view of the broader American COVID-19 experience demonstrates both the scale and variability of its negative outcomes in older Americans, especially the elderly, but also some unexpected positives. Surprisingly, U.S. mortality rates have declined among young people during the lockdown, especially among infants. These trends have gone largely unnoticed and remain unexplained.

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Additional sources:

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> *Infant mortality down; number of vaccinations down*