

OP ED: Senate Hearings Offer Holiday Hope for Early COVID Treatment

By Elizabeth Lee Vliet, M.D.

One would not know from the media silence, but there was significant positive news about the successes of early COVID treatment at the Senate hearings, chaired by Senator Ron Johnson (R-WI), “*Early Outpatient Treatment: An Essential Part of a COVID-19 Solution*,” Part I on [November 19](#) and Part II on [December 8](#).

The extraordinary clinical trial data presented in both hearings showed marked reductions in hospitalizations and deaths with combined outpatient treatment with [anti-infective/anti-virals, immune-modulating drugs, and anticoagulants](#) plus vitamin D, zinc, vitamin C and other nutraceuticals. This could have been a huge lift to the spirits of the American people, who have been living locked down in fear for most of 2020. But no media outlet except C-Span bothered to cover it.

The expert witnesses were nine stellar frontline physician-scientists representing medical centers across the U.S., who have collectively treated several thousand COVID patients and who have published more than 2,000 peer-reviewed medical studies over their careers: [Dr. Peter McCullough](#), cardiologist and epidemiologist, vice chair of internal medicine at the Baylor University and professor of medicine at Texas A&M University; Dr. Harvey Risch, professor of epidemiology at Yale University; [Dr. George Fareed](#), medical director of the Pioneers Health Center in Brawley, Calif.; Dr. Ramin Oskoui, cardiologist and 2015 physician of the year at Sibley Memorial Hospital; Dr. Jean-Jacques Rajter, pulmonary medicine specialist at Broward Health Medical Center; [Dr. Pierre Kory](#), pulmonary medicine/critical care specialist at Aurora St. Luke’s Medical Center and member of the Frontline Covid Critical Care Coalition; Dr. Armand Balboni, CEO of Appili Therapeutics; Dr. Jane Orient, executive director, Association of American Physicians & Surgeons; Dr. Jayanta Bhattacharya, professor at Stanford University School of Medicine.

I was shocked to see the professional and personal attacks on dedicated physicians of such depth of knowledge and breadth of experience. Their diversity of medical specialties and the enormous numbers of patients they had successfully treated contrasted sharply with the inexperience of the one self-described “COVID expert,” Dr. Jha, academic dean of the Brown University School of Public health, who was called by Democrats. Dr Jha had to admit that he had never treated a single COVID patient or produced a single published, peer-reviewed medical article on the COVID illness. As documented in his appointment announcement at Brown University, Dr. Jha receives funding from the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, which is aggressively pushing mass vaccination as the primary solution for COVID.

The Democrat Minority Leader on the committee spoke only to the minority witness and did not ask a single question of the nine experts who had actually treated

COVID patients and were involved in clinical studies, including randomized controlled clinical trials, on COVID. His remarks attempted to deflect the focus of the hearing from early treatment—which could save thousands of lives and reduce the burden on hospitals—to rehash the failed lockdowns and mask mandates for contagion control methods in effect since February.

Never before have the combined force of the FDA, NIH, and CDC totally aligned *against* implementation of the earliest treatment possible for an illness, particularly a viral illness. *All* of our efforts in medicine, especially viral illness, have *always* been focused on the earliest diagnosis and treatment. For the NIH, in its October 9 guidelines, to recommend NO treatment at all unless the patient was critically ill and needed to be hospitalized and on oxygen, is particularly egregious and unconscionable.

These “delay until critically ill” policies have made no sense, have been dangerously wrong, and have cost more than 275,000 American lives—one of the highest death rates per million population of any country in the world, despite our expensive medications and sophisticated medical facilities.

Dozens of more impoverished countries, with far less sophisticated medical infrastructure, have death rates per million that are ten times lower than the U.S. These countries implemented the same early treatment approaches presented in the two Senate hearings and outlined in the free eBooklet for patients, available at www.CovidPatientGuide.com, published by the Association of American Physicians and Surgeons.

Many Americans have legitimate questions about the novel vaccines being so heavily promoted. Even if the vaccines live up to their promise and do not prove to have unacceptable long-term side effects, thousands are dying NOW.

Bureaucrats ignore the fact that *vaccines do not help people already sick with COVID*. Sick patients need *immediate* combination prescription medications –which frontline physicians have been courageously doing since February, in spite of political, bureaucratic, and media opposition and intimidation.

It is past time for the media and elected officials pushing the vaccine agenda to admit their failures to educate the public about other treatment options that have been successful worldwide since March.

The true gift to the American people for this Christmas-Hanukkah season, would be to widely publicize the successful early treatments, allow patients the freedom to choose one’s treatment, all Americans the freedom to choose to assemble, worship, work again and enjoy life. The early treatment options Senator Johnson so courageously showcased in his two Senate hearings would indeed offer Americans a gift of hope, and a return to our core freedoms.

Additional Resources:

A shorter video version of the November 19 hearing with highlights is available here: https://youtu.be/T_uaf7qavmw.

A more in-depth article about the two hearings is available here: https://www.thedesertreview.com/opinion/letters_to_editor/the-assault-against-early-treatment-for-covid-19-how-one-congressional-hearing-speaks-volumes-about/article_33425ff2-3593-11eb-b0d2-cf1365831d45.html

Additional resources can be found at www.C19Protocols.com and www.AAPSONline.org



Elizabeth Lee Vliet, M.D. Tucson AZ and Dallas TX Author Short Biography

- Dr. Vliet has been a leader in patient centered, individualized medical care. Since 1986, she has practiced medicine independent of insurance contracts that interfere with patient-physician relationships and decision-making. Dr. Vliet focus is medical freedom and free market approaches to healthcare. Dr. Vliet is the founder of Vive Life Center and Hormone Health Strategies with medical practices in Tucson AZ and Dallas TX, specializing in preventive and climacteric medicine with an integrated approach to evaluation and treatment of women and men with complex medical and hormonal problems from puberty to late life.
- Dr. Vliet is a 2014 Ellis Island Medal of Honor recipient for her national and international educational efforts in health, wellness, and endocrine aging in men and women, and is recognized in the US as a motivational speaker in health and wellness and a powerful patient advocate, proponent of free market approaches to lower healthcare costs. Dr. Vliet is the recipient of Voice of Women Award from Arizona Foundation for Women in recognition of her pioneering advocacy for the overlooked hormone connections in women's health.

- Dr. Vliet's consumer health books include: *It's My Ovaries, Stupid; Screaming To Be Heard: Hormonal Connections Women Suspect-- And Doctors STILL Ignore; Women, Weight and Hormones; The Savvy Woman's Guide to PCOS, The Savvy Woman's Guide to Great Sex, Strength, and Stamina.*
- Dr. Vliet is a past Director of the Association of American Physicians and Surgeons (AAPS), a member of the AAPS Editorial Writing Team on healthcare reform, and a member of International Menopause Society and the International Society for The Study of the Aging Male (ISSAM). She received her M.D. degree and internship in Internal Medicine at Eastern Virginia Medical School, and completed specialty training at Johns Hopkins Hospital. She earned her B.S. and Master's degrees from the College of William and Mary in Virginia.
- Dr. Vliet has appeared on FOX NEWS, Cavuto, Stuart Varney Show, Fox and Friends, Sean Hannity and many nationally syndicated radio shows across the country as well as presented hundreds of Healthcare Town Halls addressing the economic and medical impact of the 2010 healthcare law and free market reforms, as well as seminars and radio shows on healthcare reform, Men's Health and Women's Health.
- Dr. Vliet speaks as an independent physician, not as an official spokesperson for any organization or political party. Dr. Vliet has no financial ties to any health care system or health insurance plan. Her allegiance and advocacy is to and for patients.