

Coin Flip, Anyone?

by Earl P. Holt III

Anthony Fauci is the highest paid and longest-serving bureaucrat in the entire federal government and receives a salary over \$434,000 per year. He went to work at the ***National Institute for Allergies and Infectious Diseases*** (NIAID) in 1968, immediately after completing his Residency. He was never in the private practice of medicine for even one day.

As head of the NIAID, it was Fauci who was called upon to advise President Trump from the very beginnings of the COVID-19 pandemic. As a businessman and not a physician, Trump assumed he could rely on the expertise of Dr. Fauci for advice concerning every public health decision that had to be rendered regarding the *ChinaVirus*.

Incredibly, Fauci has been categorically wrong on nearly every decision he made while advising President Trump. If Trump had merely flipped a coin to reach those decisions -- instead of seeking Fauci's advice -- at the very least he would have been correct about half the time. That would have been a dramatic improvement over Fauci's counsel.

The first questions Fauci had to consider when the *ChinaVirus* began to appear in the U.S. were whether it was readily **transmissible** between humans, and if it was sufficiently **virulent** to be a serious threat to human life? It appears that Fauci foolishly accepted the verdicts of China and Tedros Adhanom of the ***World Health Organization*** (WHO,) both of whom declared that COVID-19 was not readily transmissible between humans and not particularly virulent. These were both lies parroted by Tedros to salvage China's reputation, because its leaders

got Tedros his position at the WHO. This disinformation cost America valuable time in responding effectively to the pandemic in its early stages.

A second question Fauci had to consider was whether or not the virus **originated in China's Wuhan Institute of Virology**, and if it was a form of the virus **found in nature**? Again, he foolishly listened to the WHO and concluded that it neither originated in China, nor was it a genetically-engineered virus. In fact, it was CLEARLY a genetically-engineered virus whose "*gain of function*" research was undertaken for China's military at the **Wuhan Institute of Virology**, thanks to million-dollar grants from Fauci's NIAID that Fauci repeatedly denied awarding in testimony before Congress.

The next question confronting Fauci was whether the U.S. should **ban flights from China** to help slow the spread of the disease? Fauci initially disagreed with the proposal, and claimed that travel restrictions were "*irrelevant*" because "*you can't keep out the entire world.*" By now, however, Trump had probably begun to lose confidence in Fauci and wisely over-ruled him on the issue of banning flights from China.

Fauci then had to consider whether the U.S. should **rely on "herd immunity"** to ride out the pandemic, or encourage states to order *lock-downs* of small businesses and churches to fight its spread? As a bureaucrat who has **NEVER** worked in the private sector, Fauci ignored their economic damage and acquiesced in shut-downs and quarantining of families and individuals rather than pursue the goal of *herd immunity* to flatten the "*spike*" in new cases.

Fauci's next dilemma was whether the *ChinaVirus* should be treated with existing **therapeutics** like *HCQ* and *Ivermectin*, or with new, expensive and highly invasive therapies like *Remdesivir*? Fauci rejected both *HCQ* and *Ivermectin*, which have been around for decades, were readily available "*on the shelf*" and in generic form, and cost \$10 and

\$20 for a full course of treatment. Even two years later, both have proved to be the most effective treatments for the *ChinaVirus* yet found. Instead, Fauci recommended *Remdesivir*, which costs almost \$4,000 per course of treatment, isn't very effective, has some very serious side-effects, and is quite invasive since it involves intravenous infusions.

Fauci's next decision was whether we should treat the virus with **therapeutics or vaccinate** against it? Fauci rejected the inexpensive, readily available and extremely safe therapeutics like *HClQ* and *Ivermectin*, and advised President Trump to throw billions of dollars at Fauci's pals in the pharmaceutical industry to rush through vaccines that have largely proved to be ineffective, but quite dangerous in terms of their side-effects.

Next, Fauci was forced to decide whether the federal government should **mandate masks** or not? Here he vacillated from no to yes and then back to no. Two years later, it's pretty obvious that most public health experts dismiss masks as having very little effect on the spread of the *ChinaVirus*, and most people resent having to wear them. It is primarily "*Democrat*" politicians who seem to prescribe them.

Finally, Fauci was confronted with the question whether the federal government should force American citizens to be **vaccinated** in order to keep their jobs or be able to travel? Here again, Fauci -- the life-long bureaucrat -- endorsed mandatory vaccinations after equivocating for a while.

It's always tenuous to infer motives in people, no matter how tempting. However, we can simply look at Fauci's decisions: we know from his endless TV appearances where Fauci stood on each of the often critical public health questions surrounding the *ChinaVirus*, and his decisions are now a matter of public record.

Yet, despite his 52 years of experience and the supposed expertise of the NIH and NIAID, Fauci was wrong every *friggin'* time. What's the point of paying an "*expert*" \$434,000 per year to advise the president on public health matters when he somehow manages to be wrong on nearly every decision he was called upon to make?

Fauci needs a well-deserved retirement. He is a shining example of why bureaucrats should be cycled through the federal government, and not be permitted to remain in the same position for decades. They tend to create *fiefdoms*, and lose track of who their true bosses are, the American people rather than the industries they regulate.