



## Kickbacks, Corruption & Scandal: The History of the CDC

### Description

The Centers for Disease Control (CDC) was [founded](#) in 1946 as a backwater quasi-governmental agency with a negligible budget and a handful of employees tasked with a simple mission: *“prevent malaria from spreading across the nation.”*

Seventy-five years later it has metastasized into a multi-billion dollar bureaucratic behemoth that oversees and controls virtually all aspects of public health programs, policies and practices across the United States.

The CDC is the primary US national public health agency [tasked with](#) *“protecting America from health, safety and security threats”* and advertises that it will *“increase the health security of our nation.”*

Guidelines and recommendations by the CDC set the standards for mainstream medicine in America and are considered the de facto rules by which public health departments and most institutions throughout the country must operate.

The CDC’s [pledge to the American people](#) vows that it will:

“be a diligent steward of the funds entrusted to our agency, base all public health decisions on the highest quality scientific data that is derived openly and objectively and place the benefits to society above the benefits to our institution.”

This high-minded mission statement gives the impression that the CDC will, above all else, work diligently and honestly to protect the health of all Americans. A careful review of the CDC’s history and current mode of operation indicate a stark contrast between these noble words and how the CDC actually functions.

### OZ HAS SPOKEN

“The CDC has enormous credibility among physicians, in no small part because the agency

is generally thought to be free of industry bias. Financial dealings with bio-pharmaceutical companies threaten that reputation.”

*Marcia Angell, former editor in chief of the New England Journal of Medicine*

In the mainstream media vortex, questioning the state religion of CDC decrees and guidelines lands one firmly in the camp of the “conspiracy-minded,” accused of practicing sorcery or some manner of medieval medical quackery.

In the minds of many Americans the CDC represents the final word on “all matters health-related.” To question this omnipotent bureaucratic agency is to challenge sacred health commandments and cast doubt on the medical establishment itself.

The widely accepted belief about the CDC holds that it is a governmental agency which functions outside of health industry relationships and consequently operates free from the monied interests of the health management sector. Nothing could be further from the truth.

Despite this reputation, further scrutiny reveals that the CDC falls far short of its stated purpose. As the scope and budget of this agency has ballooned over the years, including a war chest of corporate contributions, we have to ask ourselves, *“Does the CDC fulfill its mission statement of protecting public health or is it now just another bloated quasi-governmental agency that works on behalf of its donors?”*

Contrary to its disclaimer that “the CDC does not accept commercial support”, the British Medical Journal (BMJ) [reported](#), in 2015, that *“the CDC does receive millions of dollars in industry gifts and funding, both directly and indirectly.”*

A petition [filed in 2019](#) by several watchdog groups contends that the CDC’s assertion that it is free from influence peddling and has *“no financial interests or other relationships with the manufacturers of commercial products”* are **“indisputably false.”**

The petition goes a step further asserting that the CDC, *“knows the claims are false, because it has procedures to address from whom and under what circumstances it accepts millions of dollars from contributors, including manufacturers of commercial products.”*

This allegation is supported by [multiple examples](#) from the CDC’s own Active Program’s Report.

For instance, Pfizer Inc. contributed \$3.435 million since 2016 to the CDC Foundation for a program on the prevention of Cryptococcal disease.

Programs like these became commonplace as early as 1983 largely due to [Congressional authorization](#) which allowed the CDC to accept “external” gifts:

made **unconditionally**...for the benefit of the [Public Health] Service or for the carrying out of any of its functions.”

Despite the caveat that these donations must be geared towards public health, the reality is these contributions come with strings attached. As noted earlier in the BMJ report, Pharma funds given to the CDC for specific projects return to Pharma pockets via marketing and sales.

The spigot of funding initiated through Congressional permission would open full blast a decade later, with the creation of the CDC Foundation.

## THE CDC FOUNDATION

The [CDC Foundation](#) was created by Congress in 1992 and incorporated two years later to *“mobilize philanthropic and private-sector resources.”*

Once established, the CDC Foundation became the primary pass-through mechanism utilized by a cornucopia of corporate interests to exert influence over various aspects of the CDC. Large pharmaceutical companies contributed millions of dollars each year to the “separate, philanthropic CDC Foundation.”

The CDC Foundation would then “donate philanthropically” Big Pharma contributions to the CDC itself. This sleight of hand ensured the CDC could maintain they never accepted money directly from Big Pharma.

A decade after its inception the Foundation had quickly [raised \\$100 million in private funds](#) *“to enhance the CDC’s work.”*

Some have argued that once this avalanche of monied interests was unleashed, the agency itself was transformed into the primary marketing arm of the Pharmaceutical Industry creating a [hornet’s nest of ethics violations](#), outright corruption and opened up a slew of questions as to who the CDC actually works for.

Was the CDC Foundation truly established as a philanthropic enterprise or as a way to conceal conflicts of interest?

Did this massive influx of corporate cash cede control of the CDC to the medical and pharmaceutical industry and their financiers, allowing them to control the direction of “public” health policy?

Would business oriented, for-profit medical programs, using the CDC’s imprimatur, come to dominate public health policy?

Those questions seemed to have their answer in the CDC Foundation’s [donor list](#) which reads like a ‘Who’s Who’ of pandemic profiteers and philanthropic mercenaries.

Major sources of cash for the Foundation include the GAVI Alliance, Bloomberg Philanthropies, Fidelity Investments, Morgan Stanley Global Impact Funding Trust, Microsoft Corporation, Imperial College London, Johns Hopkins University, Google, Facebook, Merck Sharp & Dohme Corp., Johnson & Johnson Foundation and the omnipresent ‘do-gooders’ at the [Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation](#).

## INTERNAL PROBLEMS

In 2016 a group of concerned senior scientists from within the CDC [wrote a letter](#) to then CDC Chief of Staff Carmen Villar alleging that the CDC *“is being influenced and shaped by outside parties...[and this] is becoming the norm and not the rare exception.”*

The transgressions cited in that letter include: “questionable and unethical practices,” “cover up of inaccurate screening data” and “definitions changed and data cooked to make the results look better than they were.”

The scientists went on to note that the CDC, “essentially suppressed [findings] so media and/or Congressional staff would not become aware of the problems” and “CDC staff [went] out of their way to delay FOIAs and obstruct any inquiry.”

The indictment also claimed that CDC representatives had “irregular relationships” with corporate entities that suggested direct conflicts of interest.

While criticisms of the CDC have increased in recent years, a look back at their history reveals a long list of misconduct and questionable practices.

## SCANDALS ‘R’ US

As far back as 1976 the CDC was creating mass medical terror campaigns in order to procure increased funding and justify mass vaccination programs. The infamous [1976 swine flu scandal](#) sought to inoculate 213 million Americans for a pandemic that didn’t exist. By the time the program collapsed in late 1976, 46 million Americans were needlessly injected– despite the knowledge that neurological disorders were associated with the vaccines. This resulted in thousands of adverse events including hundreds of incidents of Guillain-Barre Syndrome.

This deception was meticulously exposed [by Mike Wallace on 60 Minutes](#).

At the onset of the mass vaccination program, Dr. David Sencer – then head of the CDC – when pushed on national TV, admitted there had only been “several [swine flu] cases reported worldwide and none confirmed.” When asked if he had encountered “any other outbreaks of swine flu anywhere in the world”, he bluntly answered, “No.”

The program moved forward.

In contrast to the CDC’s publicly stated position as “protector of public health,” this type of misconduct would become standard operating procedure and serve as the template for future invented pandemics.

A growing rap sheet of scandals would come to define the CDC’s existence.

- In 1999 [the CDC was accused of mispending \\$22.7 million](#) appropriated for chronic fatigue syndrome. Government auditors said they could not determine what happened to \$4.1 million of that money and the CDC could not explain where the money went.

- In 2000, [the agency essentially lied to Congress](#) about how it spent \$7.5 million that had been appropriated for research on the hantavirus. Instead the CDC diverted much of that money into other programs. *“One official said the total diverted is almost impossible to trace because of CDC bookkeeping practices, but he estimated the diversions involved several million dollars.”*
- In 2009, in the midst of the [now infamous H1N1 swine flu hoax](#) the CDC was forced to [recall 800,000 doses of swine flu vaccine](#) for children for a pandemic that never materialized.
- In 2010 Congress discovered that the CDC *“knowingly endangered DC residents regarding lead in the drinking water.”* A Congressional report found that the CDC did not properly warn residents of high levels of lead in the DC drinking water and *“left the public health community with the dangerous and wrong impression that lead-contaminated water is safe for children to drink.”*
- In 2016 [The Hill reported on two scandals at the CDC](#). One involved the “cover up” of *“the poor performance of a women’s health program called WISEWOMAN.”* The allegations asserted that within the program, *“definitions were changed and data ‘cooked’ to make the results look better than they were”* and the CDC actively suppressed this information.
- The other scandal involved ties between Coca-Cola and two ‘high-ranking’ CDC officials. The two scientists were accused of manipulating studies about the safety of sugar laden soft drinks. Two days after these connections were revealed [one of the accused CDC scientists retired](#).

These scandals [were brought to light](#) by the CDC Scientists Preserving Integrity, Diligence and Ethics in Research, or CDC SPIDER.

As part of their statement these scientists remarked:

our mission is being influenced and shaped by outside parties and rogue interests.... What concerns us most, is that it is becoming the norm and not the rare exception.”

Their complaints were filed anonymously *“for fear of retribution.”*

Another dodgy, yet textbook, example of the incestuous nature of [Big Pharma’s Revolving Door](#) was the case of former CDC commander Julie Gerberding. As director of the CDC from 2002 to 2009 Gerberding, *“shepherded [Merck’s highly controversial](#) and highly profitable Gardasil vaccine through the regulatory maze.”*

From there she moved on to a cozy and highly profitable position [as Merck’s vaccine division president](#) and curiously lucky enough to [cash in her Merck stock holdings](#) at opportune times.

Another in a series of collusion scandals hit the CDC in 2018 when director Brenda Fitzgerald [was forced to resign](#) as she was caught buying stock in cigarette and junk food companies, the very companies the CDC regulates.

## THE CDC AND THE VACCINE INDUSTRY

Although the CDC does not regulate the pharmaceutical industry, the agency’s policies and recommendations have profound implications for drug makers. Nowhere is this more apparent than national vaccination policy- in particular the [CDC Child and Adolescent Immunization Schedule](#).

Despite pushing the world’s [most aggressive vaccination campaign](#) the facts on the ground show a

decidedly different reality than CDC advertisements would lead us to believe on the efficacy of this campaign.

With the expanded vaccine schedule no demonstrable positive returns in [children's health outcomes](#) have accompanied the windfalls to the pharmaceutical industry. Chronic disease in American children has skyrocketed from [6% to 54%](#) in the past 40 years and the United States holds the lamentable distinction of the [highest infant mortality](#) rates in the developed world.

Some point out that the CDC currently operates as chief [vaccine sales and marketing agent for Big Pharma](#) buying, selling and distributing vaccines even as the agency has direct conflicts of interest by holding multiple patents on vaccines and various aspects of vaccine technologies. Compounding this deceptive state of affairs, the CDC poses as a neutral scientific body that assesses vaccine safety while mandating increased vaccine doses to the American people.

While the CDC does not sell vaccines directly, [it does receive royalties](#) from companies who acquire licenses to their technologies.

The CDC's [Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices](#) (ACIP) plays a major role in this scheme. The 12 member ACIP Committee has extraordinary influence on the health of virtually all US citizens as it is the body tasked with *"adding to and/or altering the national vaccine schedule."*

The CDC and various members of this committee, in what can charitably be called 'conflicts of interest', [currently own](#) and have [profited from](#) an array of vaccine patents. These include vaccine patents for [Flu](#), [Rotavirus](#), [Hepatitis A](#), [Anthrax](#), [West Nile virus](#), [SARS](#), [Rift Valley Fever](#), and several other diseases of note.

Other patents held by the CDC encompass various applications of [vaccine technologies including Nucleic acid vaccines](#) for prevention of flavivirus infection, [aerosol delivery systems](#) for vaccines, [adjuvants](#), various vaccination [testing methods](#), vaccine [quality control](#) and numerous other vaccine accessories.

## THE CDC AND COVID: THE ROAD TO COVID HELL IS PAVED WITH CDC OBFUSCATIONS

Besides, as the vilest Writer has his Readers, so the greatest Liar has his Believers; and it often happens, that if a Lie be believ'd only for an Hour, it has done its Work, and there is no farther occasion for it. Falsehood flies, and the Truth comes limping after it; so that when Men come to be undeceiv'd, it is too late; the Jest is over, and the Tale has had its Effect.  
*Jonathan Swift*

As the central organization commissioned with *"protecting America from health, safety and security threats,"* the CDC was presented its most significant assignment in its controversial history when the Covid Crisis of 2020 spread to the shores of the United States.

The CDC would shift into hyperdrive offering up all [manner of advice](#), guidelines, regulations, decrees and laws impacting virtually every aspect of life across the country. Most of these decrees represented radical departures from past epidemiological principles.



During this existential ‘crisis’ the CDC would initiate an extraordinary campaign of [rolling and shifting regulations](#). This onslaught of new “guidelines” included [face coverings](#), social [distancing](#), contact [tracing](#), quarantines and [isolation](#), Covid [testing](#), travel [regulations](#), school [closures](#), business [procedures](#)— little of everyday life did not come under the influence and control of the CDC machinery.

No stone was left un-micromanaged— even the mundane task of [washing hands](#) was transformed into a 4 page baroque ritual, video included, via CDC guidelines. It seemed the only thing notably omitted from CDC “expert guidelines” during this teachable moment was nutrition and exercise.

## CHANGE WITH THE CHANGING SCIENCE™

This onslaught of edicts and definitions shifted on a weekly basis creating a climate of confusion and chaos. When questioned, the CDC would sternly proclaim “*the science is settled.*”

When politically expedient they [reconfigured their protocols](#) artfully asserting “*the science evolved.*”

Standard definitions [became fungible when convenient](#).

While the most visible and contentious dissembling concerned the efficacy of masks – [dozens of comparative studies clearly illustrated their ineffectiveness and harms](#) – there were far more profound and disturbing manipulations emanating from the ever-shifting sands at CDC headquarters.

One of the more egregious examples of CDC duplicity occurred on March 24, 2020 when the CDC [changed well established protocols](#) on ‘how cause of death’ would now be reported on death certificates, exclusively for COVID-19.

This seemingly benign modification became a watershed moment launching a process by which many deaths would be erroneously coded as U07.1 COVID-19. This led to massive COVID-19 death misattribution, was used to ramp up the fear and used as justification for the assemblage of draconian Covid policies.

Critics have called for [a full audit of the CDC](#) noting that, “These changes in data definition, collection, and analysis were made only for Covid” in violation of Federal guidelines. In a statement to Reuters, [the CDC said](#):

it made adjustments to its COVID Data Tracker’s mortality data on March 14 because its algorithm was accidentally counting deaths that were not COVID-19-related.”

Two years after the problematic change in certification, the CDC would commence the process of [removing tens of thousands](#) from its “Covid death” toll.

## THE COVID VACCINE

As the Covid crisis unfolded, all of the long and winding roads ended up in the same place: experimental mRNA gene therapies which were sold as ‘vaccines’ and advertised as a panacea to extricate the world from this ‘crisis.’ The CDC, as trusted go-to government body and chief marketing

representative, was tasked with leading the country to safer shores and peddling Pharma's latest cash cow to the American public.

To sell these experimental injections the CDC relied on the ever handy marketing mantra of "safe and effective". Consistent with past maneuverings, CDC communiques on the mRNA injections were chaotic when not outright duplicitous.

Certain problems cropped up almost immediately as it was discovered that this sales pitch was dependent on flawed study designs and data that was [clearly massaged and manipulated](#).

The very same CDC that originally touted Covid injections as being able to "stop transmission" took an abrupt [U-Turn](#) admitting they couldn't.

Once the "vaccine" rollout was in full swing the CDC, true to form, ignored all warning signs.

As early as January 2021 safety signals pointed towards potential dangers of these controversial injections. [Adverse reactions](#) were either downplayed or completely ignored. [Risk-benefit analysis](#) was also kept off the table even as the data painted a not-so-rosy portrayal of "safe and effective."

The CDC's reputation took another hit when it was reported that large swaths of [Covid data](#) had been hidden from public scrutiny and independent analysis. This added to the pile of pandemic policy scandals and further tarnished the CDC's veneer as a reliable public health agency.

## POSTSCRIPT

The story of CDC kleptocracy parallels the story of contemporary US [government institutions](#). From its humble beginnings as an agency with a mission to manage the swamp, it has degenerated into a bloated bureaucracy that has become a full fledged member of the swamp.

That the CDC isn't telling the truth to Americans on important matters of public health is in plain sight. It is no surprise that polls show public confidence in the CDC [plummeting](#) and, in the mind's of many, the agency's once honorable bubble has burst.

Accusations of CDC corruption no longer exist exclusively in the skeptical minds of government critics; they have become commonplace denunciations backed by mountains of easy-to-access evidence. No conspiracy is needed as a litany of scandals have come to characterize 'business as usual' at the CDC.

*"Can we trust the CDC?"*

To find the answer ask a different question.

*"Who owns the CDC?"*

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