

Alaska Indigenous Research Program 2020: A Year Like No Other

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2020: A Year Like No Other

- **Worldwide pandemic**
- **Shifting society**
- **New direction**



Daily Change in COVID-19 Deaths, United States (01/22/20 – 04/10/21)

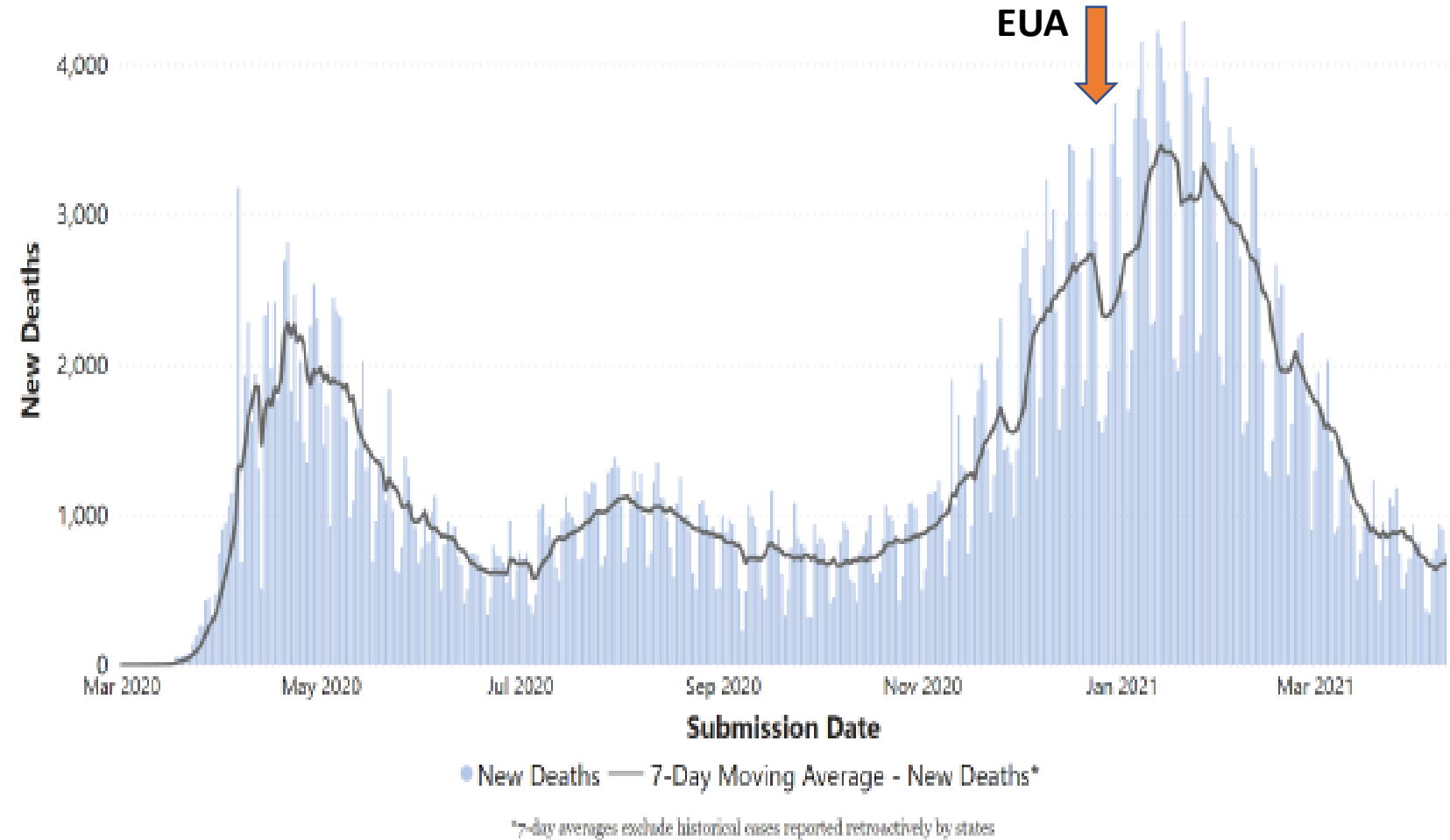
**TOTAL Deaths Reported Since
1/22/20: 558,843**

**NEW Deaths Reported to CDC
on 4/10/21: 750**

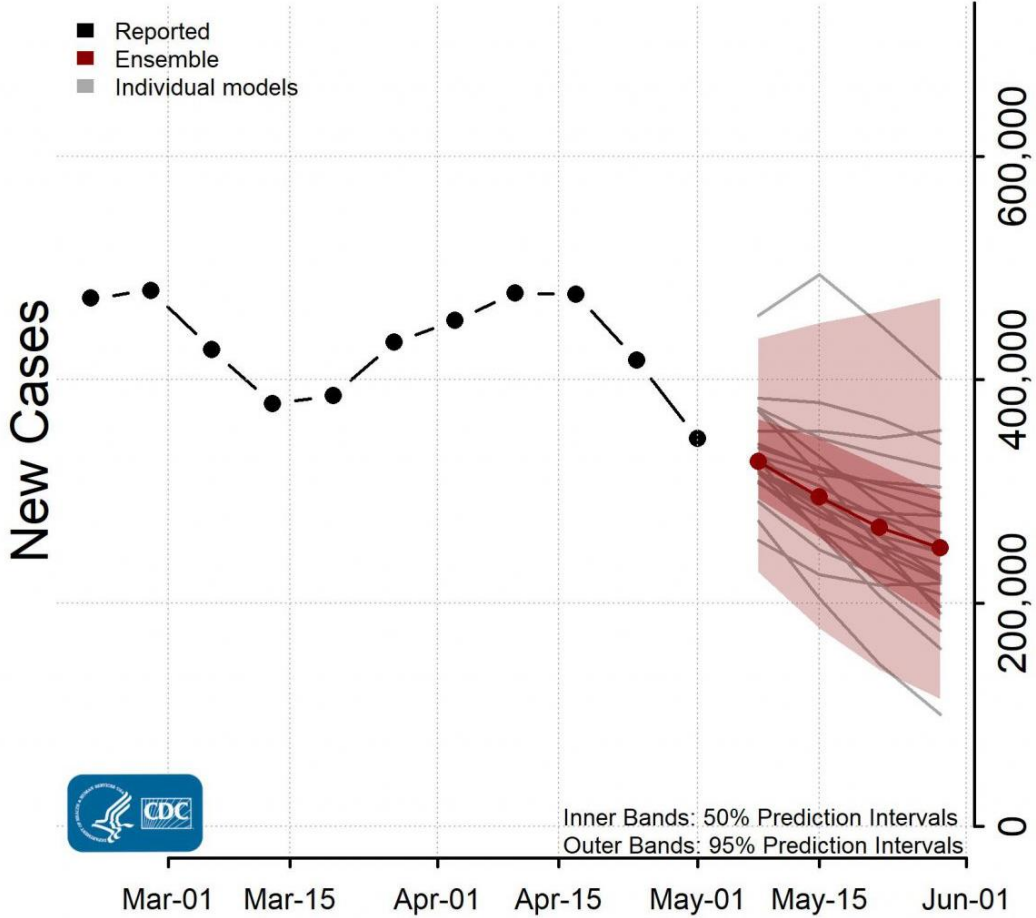
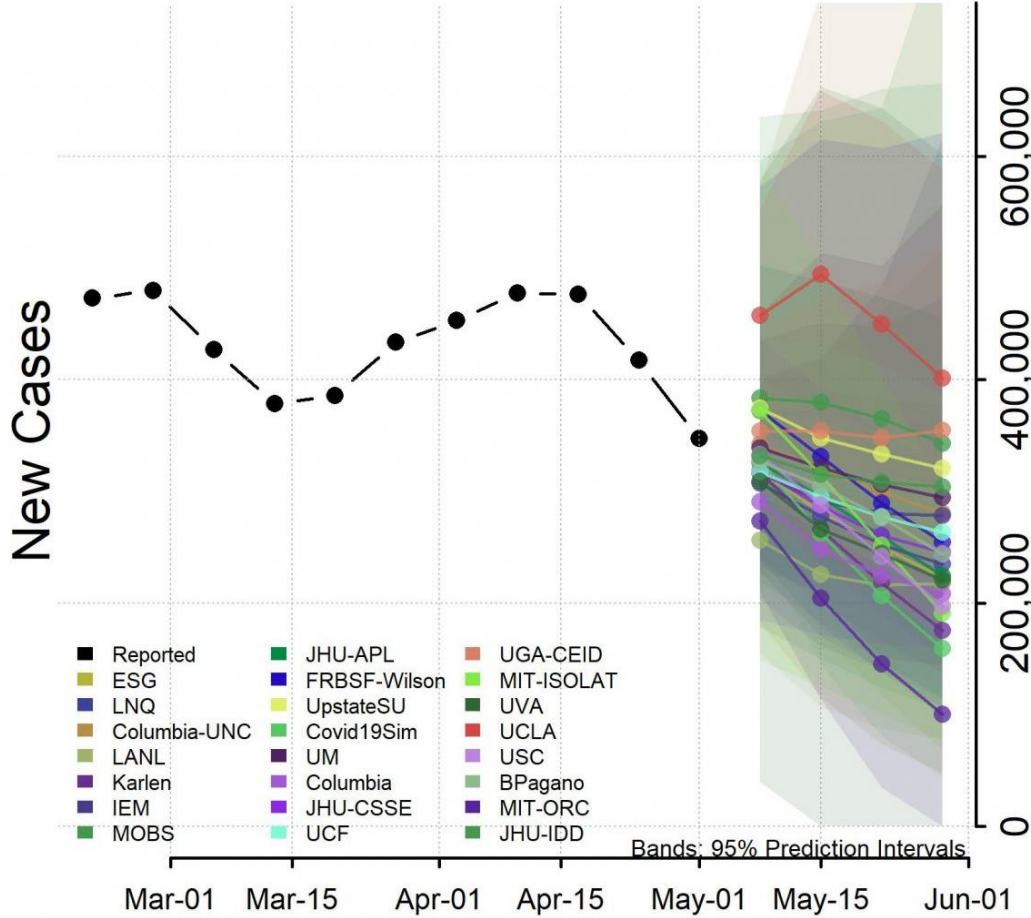
**Change in 7-Day Death Average:
-5.2%**

**Current 7-Day Death Average
(4/4/21 - 4/10/21): 684**

**Prior 7-Day Death Average
(3/28/21 - 4/3/21): 721**



National Forecast



How Effective Are the mRNA COVID-19 Vaccines?

Pfizer/BioNTech Vaccine



Safety and Efficacy of the BNT162b2 mRNA COVID-19 Vaccine

FP Polack et al. for the
C4591001 Clinical Trial Group

■ **Efficacy: 95%**

Moderna Vaccine



Efficacy and Safety of the mRNA-1273 SARS-CoV-2 Vaccine

LR Baden et al. for the
COVE Study Group

■ **Efficacy: 94.1%**

Effectiveness of Selected Vaccines

	Effectiveness	Recommended Doses
Influenza	40-60%	1
Chickenpox	92%	2
Measles	97%	2
Polio	99%	3-4
Mumps	88%	2
Shingles	90%	2

Sources: CDC; *Plotkin's Vaccines*, 7th edition, 2017.

COVID-19 Vaccination, United States (12/14/20 – 04/18/21)

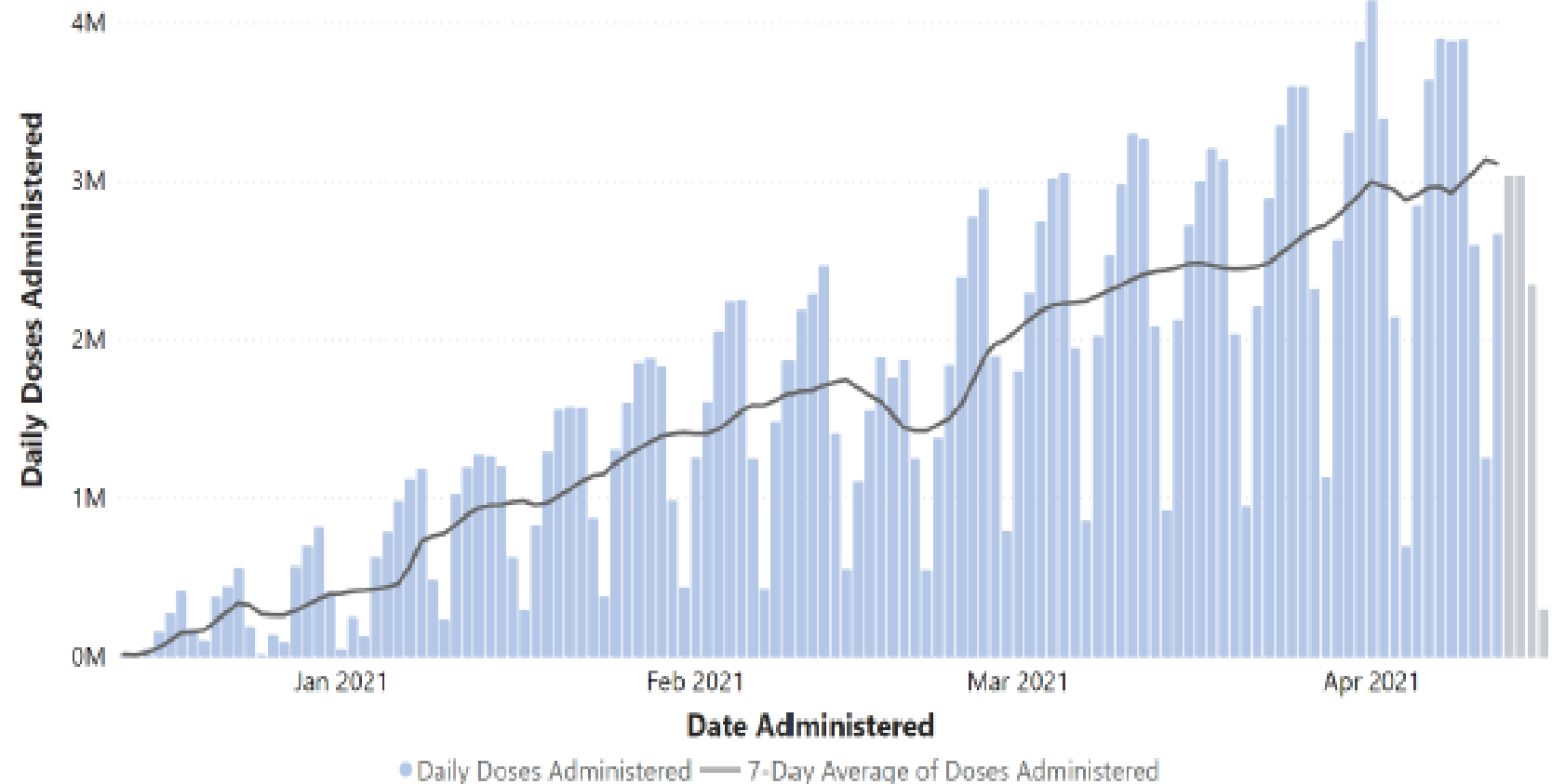
**Total Doses Delivered
(12/14/20 - 4/18/21):
264,505,725**

**Total Doses Administered
(12/14/20 - 4/18/21):
209,406,814**

**People Receiving ≥ 1 Dose
(% Population):
131,247,546 (39.5%)**

**People Fully Vaccinated
(% Population):
84,263,408 (25.4%)**

**Percent of People ≥ 65 Years Fully
Vaccinated: 65.9%**



Vaccinations: Meeting People Where They Are

“And in communities across the country, Americans are going above and beyond to encourage vaccinations and get people vaccinated — like in Alaska, where workers are delivering vaccine to deep-sea fishermen using a contraption called a “man basket” — a bucket suspended in the air that swings from one ship to a neighboring vessel, vaccinating more than 100 people on each ship. Now, that’s what I call meeting people where they are.”

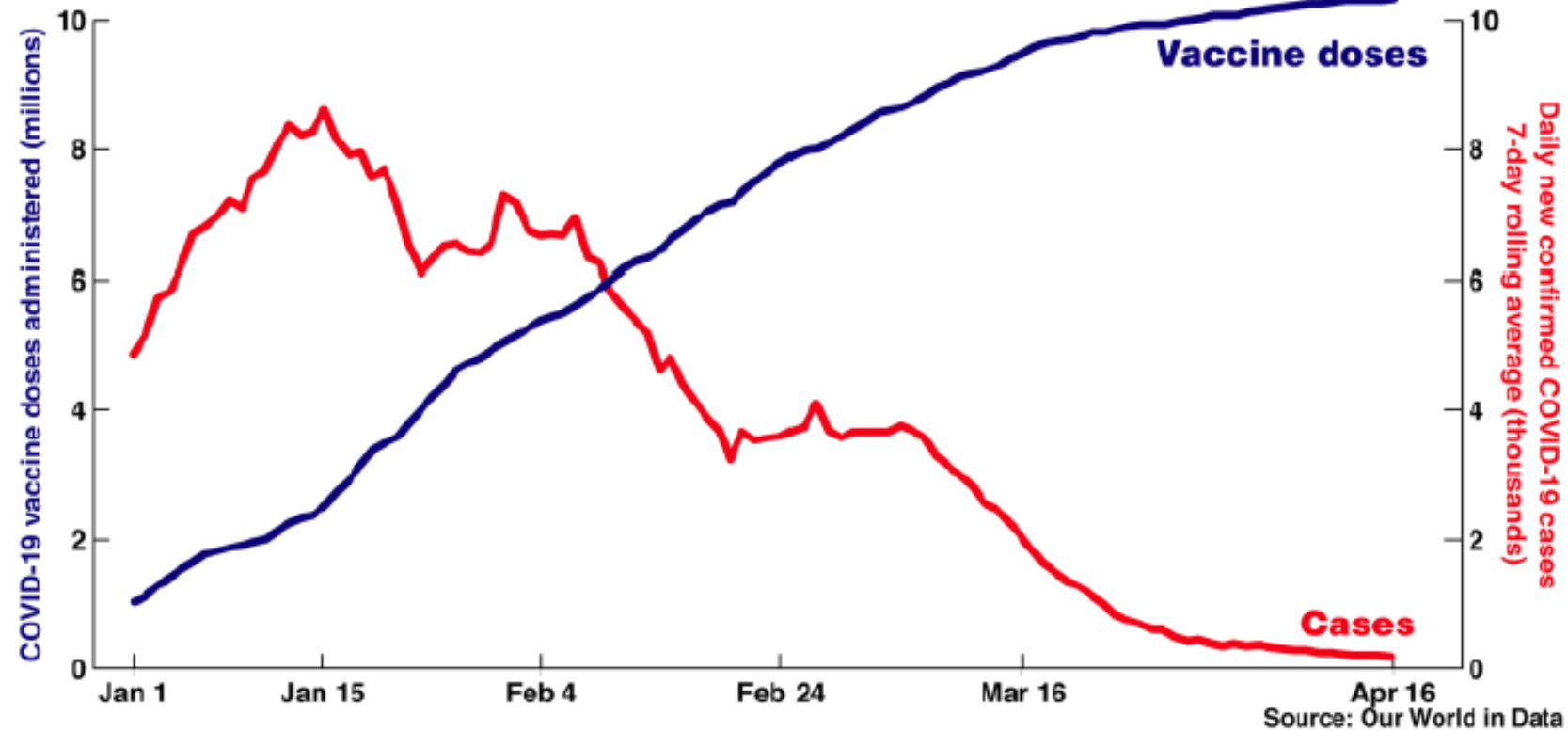
May 7, 2021 White House Press Briefing



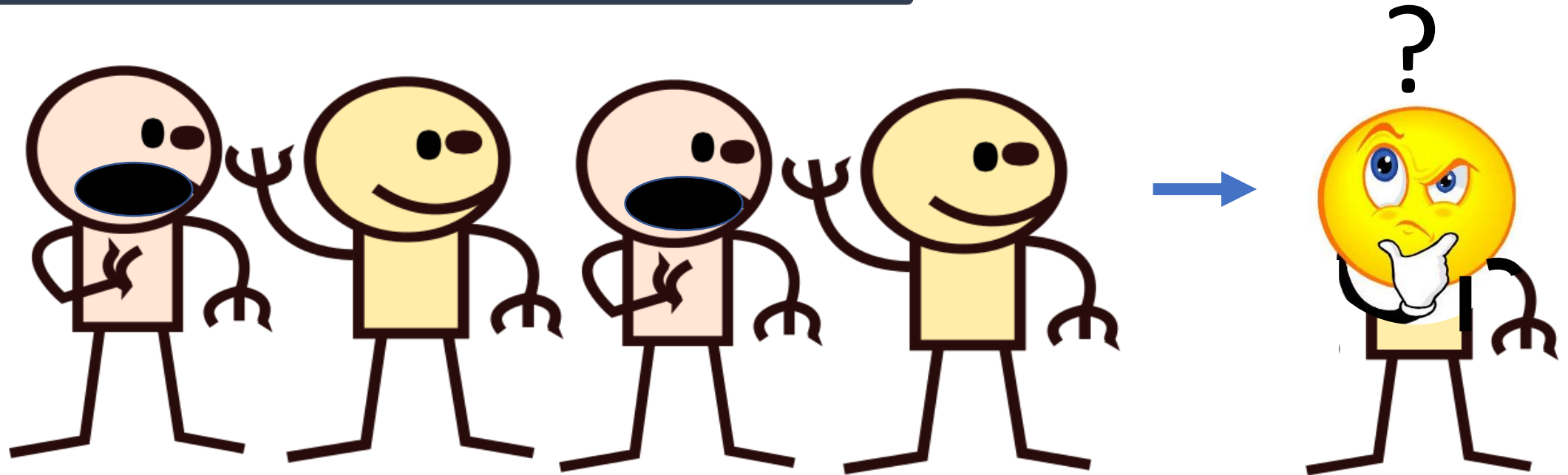
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COVID-19 Vaccination in Israel and B.1.1.7

Effect of Robust COVID-19 Vaccination Effort in Israel, Where B.1.1.7 Predominates



Words Matter!



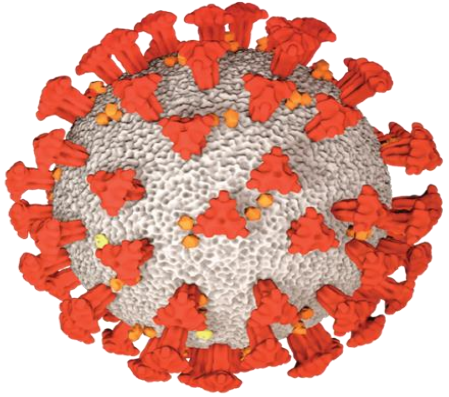
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Benefits of the Flu Vaccine and the Importance of Partial Protection

- **If you are vaccinated, you are less likely to get the flu.**
- **Even if you do get sick, vaccination can reduce the severity and duration of illness and can help keep you out of the hospital.**



The COVID-19 Prevention Network



COVID-19 Prevention Network



HIV VACCINE
TRIALS NETWORK



Infectious Diseases Clinical Research Consortium

The **COVID-19 Prevention Network (CoVPN)** was formed by the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID) at the U.S. National Institutes of Health to respond to the global pandemic. Using the infectious disease expertise of their existing research networks and global partners, NIAID has directed the networks to address the pressing need for vaccines and monoclonal antibodies (mAbs) against SARS-CoV-2. The CoVPN is comprised of the partners listed here.

CoVPN Faith Initiative / CoVPN Expert Panels

Wild Card: SARS-CoV-2 Variants

B.1.1.7

originally United Kingdom

- **Covered well** by currently authorized mRNA vaccines; **likely covered** by J&J vaccine but more data needed

B.1.351

originally South Africa

- **Moderately to severely reduced** vaccine efficacy for some vaccines -- J&J 64% efficacy; Novavax 60% efficacy; AstraZeneca 10% efficacy vs. mild/moderate disease; Pfizer 100% efficacy (small numbers)

P.1

originally Brazil

- **Vaccine efficacy unknown (no clinical trials)**
- ***In vitro*** -- minimal/moderate loss of neutralizing activity by vaccine-induced antibodies

B.1.429/B.1.427

originally California

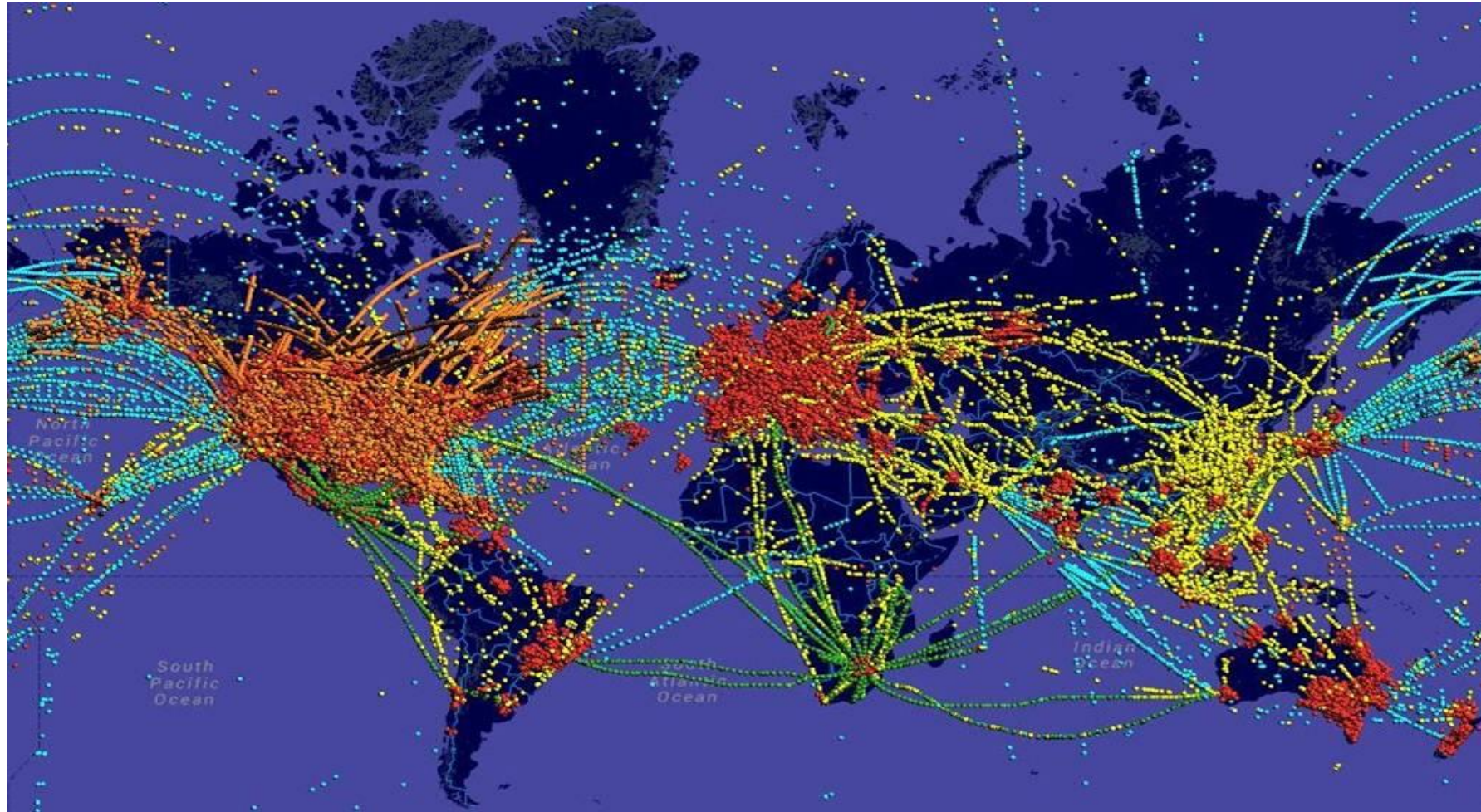
- **Vaccines are likely still effective**
- ***In vitro*** -- moderate loss of neutralizing activity by vaccine-induced antibodies

B.1.526

originally New York

- **Vaccine efficacy unknown**
- ***In vitro*** -- variable loss of neutralizing activity by vaccine-induced antibodies

Global Connection



www.radar-tracker.com

2020-2021: The Changing Landscape

“It is a priority of my Administration to make respect for Tribal sovereignty and self-governance, commitment to fulfilling Federal trust and treaty responsibilities to Tribal Nations, and regular, meaningful, and robust consultation with Tribal Nations cornerstones of Federal Indian policy.”

- President Biden, Presidential Memo, January 26, 2021

Health Equity



Lakota Elder Helen 'Granny' Redfeather - By Ernesto Yereno Montejano

Diversity

Inclusion

115TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 40

To address the fundamental injustice, cruelty, brutality, and inhumanity of slavery in the United States and the 13 American colonies between 1619 and 1865 and to establish a commission to study and consider a national apology and proposal for reparations for the institution of slavery, its subsequent de jure and de facto racial and economic discrimination against African-Americans, and the impact of these forces on living African-Americans, to make recommendations to the Congress on appropriate remedies, and for other purposes.



Social Justice



Health Disparities

NIH UNITE Initiative



**Ending
Structural
Racism**



nih.gov/ending-structural-racism

Understanding and Addressing the Impact of Structural Racism and Discrimination on Minority Health and Health Disparities (R01 Clinical Trial Optional) RFA-MD-21-004

Open July 20, 2021, close August 25, 2021

Committee U

Understanding stakeholder experiences through listening and learning

Committee N

New research on health disparities, minority health, and health equity

Committee I

Improving the NIH culture and structure for equity, inclusion and excellence

Committee T

Transparency, communication, and accountability with our internal and external stakeholders

Committee E

Extramural research ecosystem: changing policy, culture and structure to promote workforce diversity

Shifting Legal Landscape – Landmark U.S. Supreme Court Decision

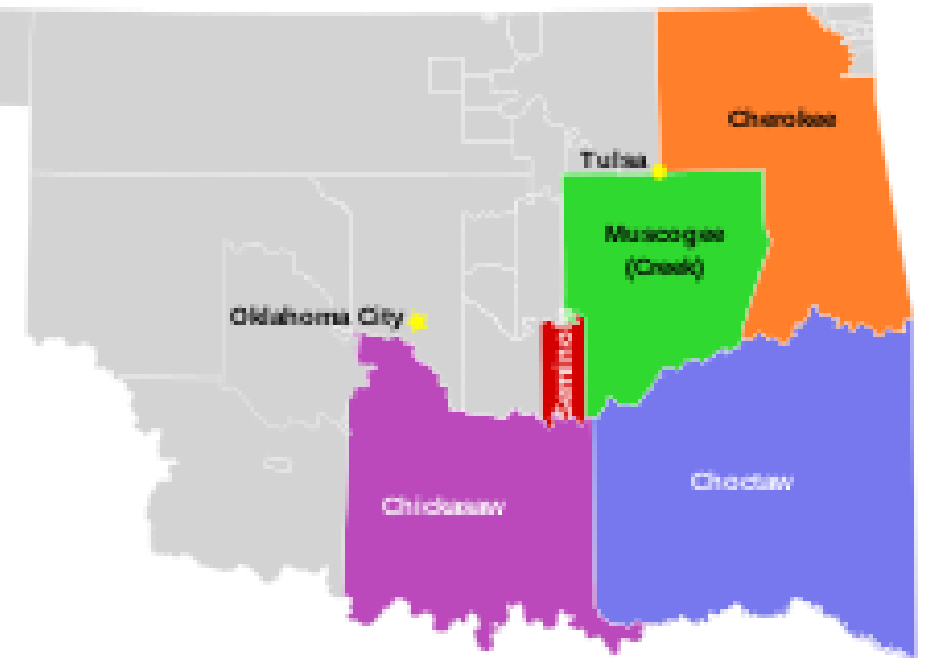
McGirt v. Oklahoma – Decided July 9, 2020

- Case concerned whether Oklahoma could try a citizen of a Tribal Nation for criminal matters.
- McGirt contended that because his offenses occurred on lands guaranteed to the Muscogee Creek Nation in an 1866 treaty—one never legally extinguished by Congress—only Federal authorities could prosecute his case.

In a 5-4 decision, the Court ruled that Oklahoma remains Native Land.



Tribal rights, sovereignty, and jurisdiction are coming to the forefront in a historic way.



Former reservations of Cherokee, Chickasaw, Choctaw, Creek (Muscogee), and Seminole.

A Closer Look – NIH PIs By Grant Mechanism and Race (FY2016-2020)

Fiscal Year	Demographic Category: Race	Principal Investigators by Grant Mechanism and Race										All Mechanisms Total	
		Research Grants		Fellowships		Training Grants		Construction Grants		Other Grants		Number	Percent
		Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent		
Total Years	American Indian or Alaskan Native	155	0.2%	46	0.5%	D	D	D	2.6%	D	0.6%	203	0.3%
Total Years	Asian	12,530	20.0%	1,249	13.0%	393	10.6%	D	2.6%	100	13.8%	13,794	19.0%
Total Years	Black or African American	1,522	2.4%	401	4.2%	82	2.2%	0	0.0%	89	12.3%	1,978	2.7%
Total Years	More than One Race	838	1.3%	405	4.2%	49	1.3%	D	2.6%	13	1.8%	1,228	1.7%
Total Years	Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	42	0.1%	17	0.2%	D	D	0	0.0%	D	0.1%	60	0.1%
Total Years	Unknown	2,468	3.9%	59	0.6%	65	1.8%	D	5.3%	65	9.0%	2,622	3.6%
Total Years	White	41,419	66.2%	6,557	68.5%	2,990	80.5%	31	81.6%	417	57.4%	48,124	66.4%
Total Years	Withheld	3,627	5.8%	840	8.8%	125	3.4%	D	5.3%	37	5.1%	4,463	6.2%
Total Years	Total All Years Race	62,601	100.0%	9,574	100.0%	3,713	100.0%	38	100.0%	726	100.0%	72,472	100.0%

“D” is entered for suppressed cells due to small count.

<https://report.nih.gov/reports/special-reports-and-current-issues>

Trends:

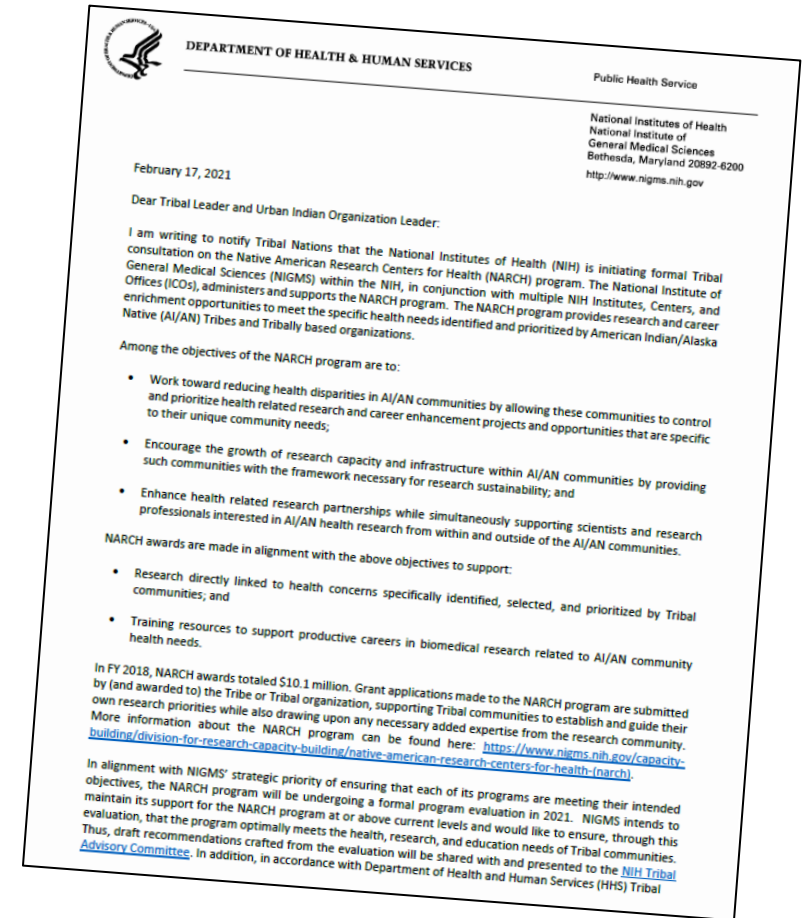
- In each of the 5 years, **AI/AN investigators** were only **0.2%** of research grant awardees
- In each of the 5 years, **10 or fewer** AI/AN individuals **received training grants**
- And for all 5 years, in aggregate, **10 or fewer** AI/AN individuals **received training grants**
- Over 5 years, **% of Fellowships** to AI/AN investigators ranged from 0.4% - 0.6%, **averaging 0.5%**

Native American Research Centers for Health (NARCH)

The National Institute of General Medical Sciences (NIGMS) with multiple NIH Institutes, Centers, and Offices (ICOs) partnered with the Indian Health Service (IHS) to support the Native American Research Centers for Health (NARCH).

The NARCH program **supports opportunities for conducting research and career enrichment to meet health needs prioritized by American Indian/Alaska Native (AI/AN) tribes or tribally based organizations.** It aims to:

- Work toward **reducing health disparities** in AI/AN populations by allowing AI/AN communities to control and prioritize the health research and career enhancement opportunities.
- Support health research projects **selected and prioritized by the AI/AN communities.**
- Encourage **research capacity and infrastructure building** within AI/AN communities to provide the framework for sustainability of research within tribal communities.
- **Enhance health research partnerships** while promoting a cadre of scientists and health research professionals interested in AI/AN health research from within and outside AI/AN communities.



NIH Tribal Consultations: Honoring Commitments, Building Relationships

Past

- 2020 Rapid-Response NIH Tribal Consultation on COVID-19 Research
- 2019-2020 The NIH Draft Policy for Data Management and Sharing
- 2019-2020 The *All of Us* Research Program
- 2019 Intellectual Property in Biomedical Research
- 2018 The Opioid Crisis in Indian Country
- 2017 The NIH Strategic Plan for Tribal Health Research

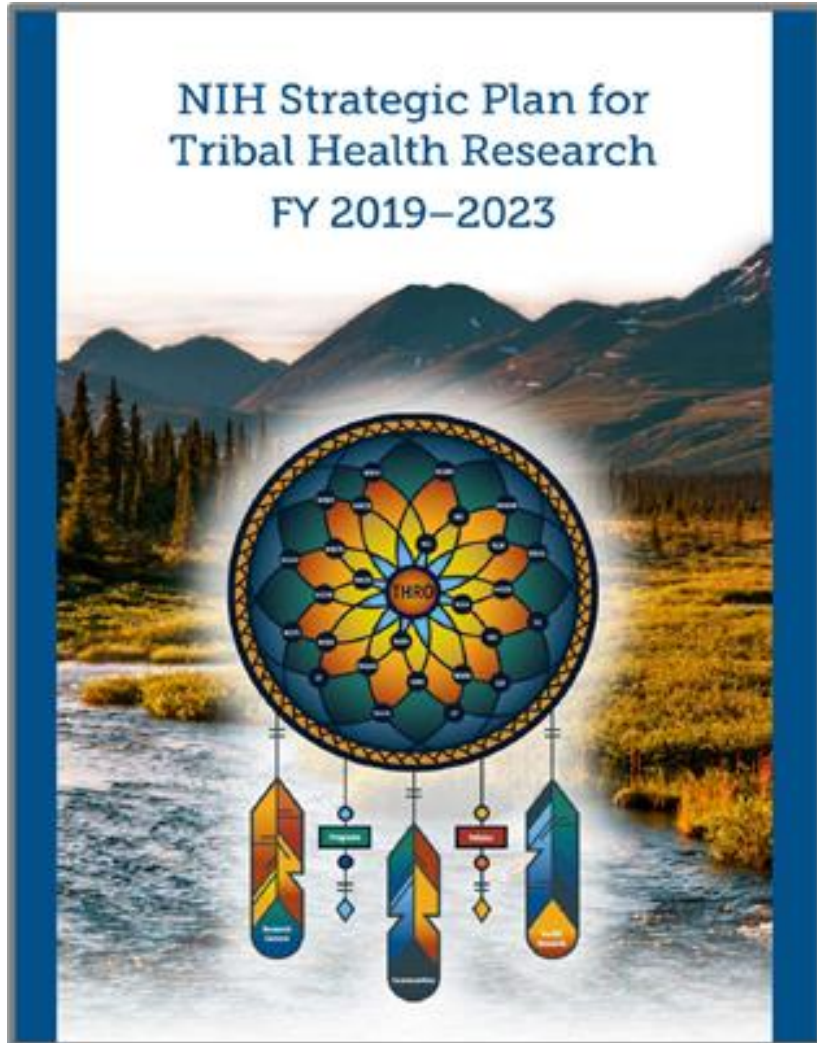
Current

- 2021 Native American Research Centers for Health (NARCH) Program

Upcoming

- 2021-2022 The NIH Draft Tribal Consultation Policy

NIH Tribal Health Research Office (Established 2015)



- **Central hub** for coordinating Tribal health research and AI/AN capacity building across NIH
- **Supports ICO efforts** to meet Strategic Plan Goals
 - THRO Coordinating Committee (THRCC)
 - Detail opportunities in THRO
- Ensures that NIH adheres to the **“NIH Guidance on the Implementation of the HHS Tribal Consultation Policy”**
- **Gathers meaningful input** from Tribal communities on NIH research policies, programs, and priorities
- Convenes **NIH Tribal Advisory Committee** with Tribal leaders from across the country

Highlighted THRO Accomplishments and Activities

- **Strong relationships** with Tribal Leaders across the U.S.
- **Groundbreaking agreement** between Tribes and pharmaceutical companies for COVID-19 clinical trials
- First-of-its-kind **Traditional Medicine Summit** with NCCIH
- Pivotal **data-sharing and use agreement** between Navajo Nation and NIH grantees of the ECHO Program
- Extensive behind-the-scenes **technical assistance to solve issues** across NIH, HHS, and with Tribal Nations



An Eye-Opening Year



Improving AN/AI Health Through Biomedical Research



“ In our every deliberation, we must consider the impact of our decisions on the next seven generations. ”
Great Law of the Iroquois



The Treaty of Canandaigua, 1794. Parchment, ink, resin and wafer seals, ribbon. National Archives, Washington, D.C.

Connect with us and learn more

THRO Home TAC THRC Tribal Consultations Research and Funding Resources About Us

COVID-19 is an emerging, rapidly evolving situation.

- Get the latest public health information from CDC »
- Get the latest research information from NIH »
- NIH staff guidance on coronavirus (NIH Only) »

Tribal Health Research Office (THRO)

NIH Tribal Consultation on COVID-19 Research

Learn more »

This screenshot shows the top navigation bar of the THRO website with links to Home, TAC, THRC, Tribal Consultations, Research and Funding, Resources, and About Us. A prominent red banner at the top contains a COVID-19 alert. Below the banner are three links for public health information, research information, and staff guidance. The main content area features a blue header for the Tribal Health Research Office (THRO) and a large image of blue, textured, spherical objects with red dots, likely representing a virus or bacteria. A button labeled 'Learn more' is positioned below the image.

NIH Strategic Plan for Tribal Health Research
FY 2019–2023

This image is the cover of the NIH Strategic Plan for Tribal Health Research for the fiscal years 2019-2023. It features a scenic background of a river flowing through a valley with mountains in the distance. In the center, there is a circular dreamcatcher-style graphic with a colorful web and several feathers hanging from it. The THRO logo is integrated into the center of the dreamcatcher's web.

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Website
<https://www.nih.gov/tribalhealth>

Facebook
[@NIHTribalHealth](#)

NIH THRO
Building research partnerships for healthy Tribal Nations

NIH Tribal Health Research Office
@NIHTribalHealth

Home

Posts

Tribal Health Research Office (THRO)

The American Indian/Alaska Native (AI/AN) Research Grant Finder

Send Email

This screenshot shows the Facebook profile page for the NIH Tribal Health Research Office. The profile picture is the THRO logo, which includes the text 'NIH THRO Building research partnerships for healthy Tribal Nations'. The cover photo features the THRO logo and the text 'The American Indian/Alaska Native (AI/AN) Research Grant Finder'. The page shows a 'Home' button, a 'Posts' section, and a 'Send Email' button. The bottom of the page displays engagement options: 'Liked', 'Following', 'Share', and a three-dot menu.