

# Corruption in the Medical Establishment

Analysis by Tessa Lena

## STORY AT-A-GLANCE

- › This collection of facts, evidence and videos demonstrates beyond any reasonable doubt that we need to watch out for ourselves rather than blindly trusting the U.S. medical establishment
- › The true number of premature deaths associated with preventable harm to patients in U.S. hospitals was estimated at more than 400,000 per year, prior to 2020
- › A list of revealing links to articles in “respectable media” about various unseemly practices, including by the very pharma companies that we are supposed to idolize, is included

This article is meant as something simple and logical that you can send to friends who still blindly trust in the American medical establishment. It’s a collection of stories and links that are not conspiratorial at all. All logical, all “respectable,” bland almost – yet demonstrating beyond any reasonable doubt that we need to watch out for ourselves.

Now, are there amazing and brilliant professionals involved in medicine and medical research? You bet, and I tip my hat off to them. But the system is corrupt as hell, and we are all better off dealing with reality versus fantasy. My heart bleeds when I think of those who trusted the American medical establishment and who were effectively murdered in the hospital last year. What an awful way to go.

I think we owe it to ourselves to seek the truth. And it’s important that when we present our facts-based skepticism to others, we do it in an even-headed way.

My own skepticism started when I was a kid because I grew up around medical research. From conversations, I learned that some research was factual and some, well, not so much. I also heard heart-wrenching stories about medical mismanagement and cruelty. Some made my stomach turn. Growing up, I thought that it had to do with how things were done “in Russia.” Corruption and so on.

I realized that things were not much better in America when I had to look after a relative at a good American hospital (before COVID). The chaos blew my mind! One department didn't know what the other one was doing, nurses broke basic sanitary rules, etc.

I was coming into this with idealistic ideas about American medicine working like a well-tuned machine (maybe mechanical but at least fine-tuned!), and my delusions were crashed. I realized that, existentially, it's the same everywhere.

Then 2020 showed up, and science in the traditional sense of it went out of the window. The official narrative was getting weirder and weirder, the bullying and the censorship were competing with each other in absurdity – and so to save my sanity, I started really looking into the state of medicine and medical research.

## **Half of Scientific Literature ‘May Simply Be Untrue’**

“Much of the scientific literature, perhaps half, may simply be untrue. Afflicted by studies with small sample sizes, tiny effects, invalid exploratory analyses and flagrant conflicts of interest, together with an obsession for pursuing fashionable trends of dubious importance, science has taken a turn towards darkness,” wrote Richard Horton, the editor-in-chief of *The Lancet* in 2015.<sup>1</sup>

“It is simply no longer possible to believe much of the clinical research that is published, or to rely on the judgment of trusted physicians or authoritative medical guidelines. I take no pleasure in this conclusion, which I reached slowly and reluctantly over my two decades as an editor of *The New England Journal of Medicine*,” wrote Marcia Angell in 2009.<sup>2</sup>

Below is her presentation at Harvard Medical School from a few years ago (when it was still OK to be critical of the pharma industry).

Here is a must-watch interview with Leemon McHenry, posted March 9, 2021.

Here are some facts about the state of hospitals in America (pre-2020):<sup>3</sup>

*"Using a weighted average of the 4 studies, a lower limit of 210,000 deaths per year was associated with preventable harm in hospitals.*

*Given limitations in the search capability of the Global Trigger Tool and the incompleteness of medical records on which the Tool depends, the true number of premature deaths associated with preventable harm to patients was estimated at more than 400,000 per year. Serious harm seems to be 10- to 20-fold more common than lethal harm."*

And here is a list of links to articles in "respectable media" about various unseemly practices, including by the very pharma companies that we are supposed to idolize today. I borrowed much of the list from my earlier article, "Pandemic, Meet Panopticon. Panopticon, Meet Pandemic."<sup>4</sup>

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The Guardian – [Pfizer pays out to Nigerian families of meningitis drug trial victims](#)<sup>5</sup>

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The Atlantic – [Did Pfizer Bribe Its Way Out of Criminal Charges in Nigeria?](#)<sup>6</sup>

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The U.S. Department of Justice – [Justice Department Announces Largest Health Care Fraud Settlement in Its History](#)<sup>7</sup>

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STAT – [Lavishly funded Moderna hits safety problems in bold bid to revolutionize medicine](#)<sup>8</sup>

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The Intercept – [Drug Companies Continue to Shed Liability for Rushed Coronavirus Treatments](#)<sup>9</sup>

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Nature Biotechnology – [Research not fit to print: Some biotech companies now](#)

[eschew traditional publication in peer-reviewed journals<sup>10</sup>](#)

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[Daily Mail – Merck Knew its Anti-Baldness Drug Propecia Was Linked to Depression and Reports of Suicide<sup>11</sup>](#)

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[NPR – Rush to Produce, Sell Vaccine Put Kids in Philippines at Risk<sup>12</sup>](#)

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[Medical Xpress – Narcolepsy fiasco spurs COVID vaccine fears in Sweden<sup>13</sup>](#)

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[BMJ – Pandemrix vaccine: why was the public not told of early warning signs?<sup>14</sup>](#)

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[The Guardian – Revealed: how drug firms 'hoodwink' medical journals<sup>15</sup>](#)

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[Reuters – AstraZeneca to be exempt from coronavirus vaccine liability claims in most countries<sup>16</sup>](#)

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[Forbes – Johnson & Johnson to Pay \\$100 Million in Baby Powder Settlement<sup>17</sup>](#)

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[Wikipedia – List of largest pharmaceutical settlements<sup>18</sup>](#)

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[NPR – The Campaign To Wipe Out Polio Was Going Really Well ... Until It Wasn't<sup>19</sup>](#)

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[Drugwatch – Pfizer<sup>20</sup>](#)

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[The BMJ Opinion – Peter Doshi: Pfizer and Moderna's "95% effective" vaccines – we need more details and the raw data<sup>21</sup>](#)

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[The Guardian – UK firm tried HIV drug on orphans<sup>22</sup>](#)

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[Consumer Reports – How Your Hospital Can Make You Sick<sup>23</sup>](#)

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[MSN – Killer fungus spread rampantly at US hospital Covid ward: study<sup>24</sup>](#)

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[Journal of Patient Safety – A New, Evidence-based Estimate of Patient Harms Associated With Hospital Care<sup>25</sup>](#)

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I will end this with a story. When I was a kid, my mom's hospital was giving out a limited number of condominiums to select employees. There was throat-cutting competition. We didn't get it. Later on, it turned out that the building had asbestos, and people started getting sick. Many of them were doctors. It wasn't corruption even; they just didn't know.

## Sources and References

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- <sup>1, 28</sup> [The Lancet April 11, 2015](#)
- <sup>2, 26</sup> [PLoS Med. 2010 Oct; 7\(10\): e1000355](#)
- <sup>3, 25</sup> [Journal of Patient Safety September 2013, Volume 9, Issue 3, p 122-128](#)
- <sup>4</sup> [Tessa Fights Robots February 13, 2021](#)
- <sup>5</sup> [The Guardian August 11, 2011](#)
- <sup>6</sup> [The Atlantic December 27, 2010](#)
- <sup>7</sup> [U.S. Department of Justice September 2, 2009](#)
- <sup>8</sup> [STAT January 10, 2017](#)
- <sup>9</sup> [The Intercept August 28, 2020](#)
- <sup>10</sup> [Nature Biotechnology February 5, 2016](#)
- <sup>11</sup> [Daily Mail February 3, 2021](#)
- <sup>12</sup> [NPR May 3, 2019](#)
- <sup>13</sup> [Medical Xpress November 26, 2020](#)
- <sup>14</sup> [BMJ 2018;362:k3948](#)
- <sup>15</sup> [The Guardian December 7, 2003](#)
- <sup>16</sup> [Reuters July 30, 2020](#)
- <sup>17</sup> [Forbes October 5, 2020](#)
- <sup>18</sup> [Wikipedia, List of largest pharmaceutical settlements](#)
- <sup>19</sup> [NPR October 30, 2020](#)
- <sup>20</sup> [Drugwatch, Pfizer](#)
- <sup>21</sup> [The BMJ Opinion January 4, 2021](#)
- <sup>22</sup> [The Guardian April 4, 2004](#)
- <sup>23</sup> [Consumer Reports July 29, 2015](#)
- <sup>24</sup> [MSN January 8, 2021](#)
- <sup>27</sup> [The New York Review January 15, 2009](#)