

NIH accidentally unmask official who hid Chinese-submitted coronavirus data in March 2020

Agency asks court to seal records related to FOIA lawsuit that name NIH "curator" who approved removal request and Chinese researcher who submitted it. Whistleblower support activist says names were publicly available to researchers, not "classified information."

NIH released the names of the Chinese researcher and his NIH handler in an FOIA and is now trying to convince a federal court to seal portions of those records and a litigant's filing that name the earlier Chinese researcher and his NIH handler, claiming it "inadvertently failed" to redact them in responding to a Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) lawsuit.

The NIH filed a motion to seal July 15, arguing there is "no public interest in learning these names" and that they could face "harassment or media scrutiny."



Emily Kopp ✓
@emilyakopp



I'm concerned that Fauci indicated yesterday to [@HillTVLive](#) that he had advanced knowledge that papers indicating a natural origin of COVID would publish today.

























6:27 PM · Jul 26, 2022 · Twitter Web App

The Huanan Seafood Wholesale Market in Wuhan was the early epicenter of the COVID-19 pandemic

MICHAEL WOROBEY , JOSHUA I. LEVY , LORENA MALPICA SERRANO , ALEXANDER CRITS-CHRISTOPH, JONATHAN E. PEKAR , STEPHEN A. GOLDSTEIN , ANGELA L. RASMUSSEN , MORITZ U. G. KRAEMER , CHRIS NEWMAN , MARION P. G. KOOPMANS , MARC A. SUCHARD , JOEL O. WERTHEIM , PHILIPPE LEMEY , DAVID L. ROBERTSON , ROBERT F. GARRY , EDWARD C. HOLMES , ANDREW RAMBAUT , AND KRISTIAN G. ANDERSEN  [fewer](#)

The molecular epidemiology of multiple zoonotic origins of SARS-CoV-2

JONATHAN E. PEKAR , ANDREW MAGEE , EDYTH PARKER , NIEMA MOSHIRI , KATHERINE IZHIKEVICH, JENNIFER L. HAVENS , KARTHIK GANGAVARAPU , LORENA MARIANA MALPICA SERRANO , ALEXANDER CRITS-CHRISTOPH, NATHANIEL L. MATTESON, MARK ZELLER, JOSHUA I. LEVY , JADE C. WANG , SCOTT HUGHES, JUNGMIN LEE , HEEDO PARK , MAN-SEONG PARK , KATHERINE CHING ZI YAN , RAYMOND TZER PIN LIN , MOHD NOOR MAT ISA , YUSUF MUHAMMAD NOOR , TETYANA I. VASYLYEVA , ROBERT F. GARRY , EDWARD C. HOLMES , ANDREW RAMBAUT , MARC A. SUCHARD , KRISTIAN G. ANDERSEN , MICHAEL WOROBEY , AND JOEL O. WERTHEIM  [fewer](#) [Authors Info & Affiliations](#)

Covid origin studies say evidence points to Wuhan market

By Victoria Gill

Science correspondent, BBC News

🕒 26 July

<https://www.bbc.com/news/science-environment-62307383?xtor=AL-72-%5Bpartner%5D-%5Bbbc.news.twitter%5D-%5Bheadline%5D-%5Bnews%5D-%5Bbizdev%5D-%5Bisapi%5D>

COVID-19 PANDEMIC



July 27, 2022 5:08 PM

Associated Press

New Studies Bolster Theory Coronavirus Emerged From the Wild

<https://www.voanews.com/a/new-studies-bolster-theory-coronavirus-emerged-from-the-wild/6675994.html>

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🕒 JULY 27, 2022

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WHO says all theories still on table after studies point to natural COVID origin

<https://medicalxpress.com/news/2022-07-theories-table-natural-covid.html>



Alina Chan

Jul 27 · 19 min read · Listen



Evidence for a natural origin of Covid-19 no longer dispositive after scientific peer review

By Alina Chan, on social media hiatus, tweets on #OriginOfCovid can be found [@ayjchan](#)



Yanzhong Huang
@YanzhongHuang




George Gao stepped down as the director of China CDC, which is now under the supervision of Disease Control Bureau of NHC, suggesting further marginalization of the policymaking role of China CDC.
news.sina.com.cn/c/2022-07-26/d...

4:00 PM · Jul 26, 2022 · Twitter Web App

[nature](#) > [nature microbiology](#) > [resources](#) > article

Resource | [Published: 28 July 2022](#)

RNA viromes from terrestrial sites across China expand environmental viral diversity

[Yan-Mei Chen](#), [Sabrina Sadiq](#), [Jun-Hua Tian](#), [Xiao Chen](#), [Xian-Dan Lin](#), [Jin-Jin Shen](#), [Hao Chen](#), [Zong-Yu Hao](#), [Michelle Wille](#), [Zhuo-Cheng Zhou](#), [Jun Wu](#), [Feng Li](#), [Hong-Wei Wang](#), [Wei-Di Yang](#), [Qi-Yi Xu](#), [Wen Wang](#), [Wen-Hua Gao](#), [Edward C. Holmes](#) & [Yong-Zhen Zhang](#) 

[Nature Microbiology](#) **7**, 1312–1323 (2022) | [Cite this article](#)

“We identified 6,624 putatively novel virus operational taxonomic units from soil, sediment and faecal samples”



Research Article

Forensic analysis of novel SARS2r-CoV identified in game animal datasets in China shows evolutionary relationship to Pangolin GX CoV clade and apparent genetic experimentation

Adrian Jones, Steven E Massey, Daoyu Zhang, Yuri Deigin, Steven C. Quay

Identification of GX_ZC45r-CoV, a novel bat-SL-CoVZC45-related coronavirus in metagenomic data from He et al 2022 metatranscriptomic analysis of 1725 game animals from 16 species across China.



Subcommittee on Emerging Threats and Spending Oversight (ETSO) > Hearings

Revisiting Gain of Function Research: What the Pandemic Taught Us and Where Do We Go From Here

Subcommittee on Emerging Threats and Spending Oversight

August 03, 2022 02:30PM

Richard H. Ebright,
Steven Quay,
Kevin M. Esvelt.


<https://www.hsgac.senate.gov/subcommittees/etso/hearings/revisiting-gain-of-function-research-what-the-pandemic-taught-us-and-where-do-we-go-from-here>

<https://m.washingtontimes.com/news/2022/aug/9/chinas-wuhan-institute-studied-deadly-bioterrorism/>

[nature](#) > [nature communications](#) > [articles](#) > article

Article | [Open Access](#) | [Published: 09 August 2022](#)

A strategy to assess spillover risk of bat SARS-related coronaviruses in Southeast Asia

[Cecilia A. Sánchez](#), [Hongying Li](#), [Kendra L. Phelps](#), [Carlos Zambrana-Torrel](#), [Lin-Fa Wang](#), [Peng Zhou](#), [Zheng-Li Shi](#), [Kevin J. Olival](#) & [Peter Daszak](#) 

[Nature Communications](#) **13**, Article number: 4380 (2022) | [Cite this article](#)

“We then use probabilistic risk assessment and data on human-bat contact, human viral seroprevalence, and antibody duration to estimate that a median of 66,280 people (95% CI: 65,351–67,131) are infected with SARSr-CoVs annually in Southeast Asia.”

Science

ANYWHERE BUT HERE

China now insists the pandemic didn't start within its borders. Its scientists are publishing a flurry of papers pointing the finger elsewhere

18 AUG 2022 • BY JON COHEN

August 18, 2022

Journal article

Open Access

Unwarranted exclusion of intermediate lineage A/B SARS-CoV-2 genomes is inconsistent with the two spillover hypothesis of the origin of COVID-19

Steven E Massey; Adrian Jones; Daouyu Zhang;  Yuri Deigin;  Steven C Quay

22.08.22, 17:25

Fauci Says He Will Step Down in December to Pursue His 'Next Chapter' - The New York Times

The New York Times

<https://www.nytimes.com/2022/08/22/us/politics/fauci-retire.html>

Fauci Says He Will Step Down in December to Pursue His 'Next Chapter'

Dr. Anthony S. Fauci, who has advised seven presidents and spent more than half a century at the National Institutes of Health, will leave government service by the end of the year.



By Sheryl Gay Stolberg

Aug. 22, 2022 Updated 11:17 a.m. ET

<https://www.nytimes.com/2022/08/22/us/politics/fauci-retire.html>

NYT Opinion | Anthony Fauci's Retirement Marks the End of an Era

Aug. 23, 2022

Dr. Gonsalves - associate professor of epidemiology at the Yale School of Public Health, a longtime AIDS activist and a 2018 MacArthur fellow.

<https://www.nytimes.com/2022/08/23/opinion/fauci-retires.html?searchResultPosition=2>



NIH to terminate part of EcoHealth Alliance grant after its Wuhan partners refuse to deliver information on coronavirus studies

By Matt Field | August 24, 2022

Notes from Milton Leitenberg:

NIH IS ONLY TERMINATING FUNDING ALLOCATION FOR WIV, NOT ENTIRE GRANT AWARD.

THE TABLE THAT FOLLOWS THIS TEXT ON PAGES 3-4 CONTAINS A LIST OF EIGHT OTHER AREAS OF NON-COMPLIANCE WITH NIH STATUTORY GRANT AWARD REQUIREMENTS




Environmental Research

Volume 215, Part 1, December 2022, 113979



Molecular evidence for SARS-CoV-2 in samples collected from patients with morbilliform eruptions since late 2019 in Lombardy, northern Italy

Antonella Amendola ^{a, b, 2} ✉, Marta Canuti ^{a, 2} ✉, Silvia Bianchi ^{a, b, 2} ✉, Sudhir Kumar ^{c, d, e} ✉, Clara Fappani ^{a, b} ✉, Maria Gori ^{a, b} ✉, Daniela Colzani ^{a, b} ✉, Sergei L. Kosakovsky Pond ^{c, d} ✉, Sayaka Miura ^{c, d} ✉, Melissa Baggieri ^f ✉, Antonella Marchi ^f ✉, Elisa Borghi ^{a, b} ✉, Gianvincenzo Zuccotti ^{g, h, 1} ✉, Mario C. Raviglione ^{i, 1} ✉, Fabio Magurano ^{f, 1} ✉, Elisabetta Tanzi ^{a, b}  ¹ ✉



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Assessing Probabilities for the Two Leading SARS-CoV-2 Origin Narratives

August 2022



Mai He · Professor



Lucia Dunn



Richard H. Ebright ✓

@R_H_Ebright



COVID: summary of lab-origin hypothesis:

1) Pandemic caused by bat SARS-like coronavirus emerged in Wuhan--city 1,000 km from nearest wild bats with SARS-CoV-2-like coronaviruses, but that contains labs conducting world's largest research program on bat SARS-like coronaviruses.

7:45 PM · Sep 7, 2022 · Twitter Web App

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NR

Covid Origin Destined to Be a Forever Secret

Wuhan, Hubei

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By **JIM GERAGHTY**

September 7, 2022 9:48 AM

[Health Topics](#) ▾[Countries](#) ▾[Newsroom](#) ▾[Emergencies](#) ▾[Home](#) / [News](#) / WHO launches guide to safely unlock benefits of the life sciences

WHO launches guide to safely unlock benefits of the life sciences

13 September 2022 | Departmental news | Reading time: 3 min (749 words)

WHO issued the Global guidance framework for the responsible use of the life sciences. The Framework calls on leaders and other stakeholders to mitigate biorisks and safely govern dual-use research, which has a clear benefit but can be misused to harm humans, other animals, agriculture and the environment.



14 Sept 2022

Timeline: The proximal origin of SARS-CoV-2

The *Lancet* COVID-19 Commission

Published: September 14, 2022

Executive Summary

The *Lancet* Commission on lessons for the future from the COVID-19 pandemic provides a comprehensive investigation, analysis, and response to COVID-19. The Commission delivers a number of recommendations that are divided into three main areas. First, practical steps to finally control and understand the COVID-19 pandemic. Second, realistic, feasible, and necessary investments to strengthen the first line of defence against emerging infectious agents in countries by strengthening health systems and widening universal health coverage. Third, ambitious proposals to ignite a renaissance in multilateralism, integrating the global response to the risk of future pandemics with actions to address the climate crisis and reversals in sustainable development.

Commission

The *Lancet* Commission on lessons for the future from the COVID-19 pandemic



Jeffrey D Sachs, Salim S Abdool Karim, Lara Akinin, Joseph Allen, Kirsten Brosbøl, Francesca Colombo, and others

The Lancet

Published: September 14, 2022

[Full-Text HTML](#) | [PDF](#)

The *Lancet* Commission on lessons for the future from the COVID-19 pandemic

[Prof Jeffrey D Sachs, PhD](#)   • [Prof Salim S Abdool Karim, MBChB PhD](#) • [Prof Lara Akinin, PhD](#) • [Joseph Allen, DSc](#) • [Kirsten Brosbøl, MA](#) • [Francesca Colombo, MSc](#) • et al. [Show all authors](#)

“The proximal origin of SARS-CoV-2 remains unknown. There are two leading hypotheses: that the virus emerged as a zoonotic spillover from wildlife or a farm animal, possibly through a wet market, in a location that is still undetermined; or that the virus emerged from a research-related incident, during the field collection of viruses or through a laboratory-associated escape. Commissioners held diverse views about the relative probabilities of the two explanations, and both possibilities require further scientific investigation. Identification of the origin of the virus will help to prevent future pandemics and strengthen public trust in science and public authorities.”

“WHO, governments, and the scientific community should intensify the search for the origins of SARS-CoV-2, investigating both a possible zoonotic origin and a possible research-associated origin. The search for origins requires unbiased, independent, transparent, and rigorous work by international teams in virology, epidemiology, bioinformatics, and other related fields.”

However, the report offered no new scientific information about the origin of the virus, and it did not mention two papers [recently published in the journal Science](#) that make the case the pandemic began in a market in China, not a laboratory.

“None of the relevant evidence was cited, and it’s clear why: There’s equivocation that implies an equal likelihood of natural and lab origin that is utterly inconsistent with our current scientific understanding,” Rasmussen said. “It’s hard not to think this omission is intentional to suggest that the ‘lab leak’ is more plausible than it is — as well as to advance the completely unfounded and baseless view that the pandemic resulted from so-called ‘gain of function’ research and there is a conspiracy involving both Chinese authorities and the NIH to cover it up.”