



House Committee on Energy and Commerce

Oversight on the Trump Administrations Response to the COVID-19 Pandemic

June 23, 2020

11:00 AM, 2123 Rayburn House Office Buildig

Purpose

The purpose of this hearing is to examine actions taken by the executive branch in response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Members Present

Chairman Pallone, Ranking member Walden, Representatives Rush, Upton, Eshoo, Latta, DeGette, McMorris-Rodgers, Doyle, Guthrie, Schakowsky, Olson, Butterfield, Burgess, Matsui, McKinley, Castor, Kinzinger, Sarbanes, Griffith, McNERney, Bilirakis, Welch, Johnson, Lujan, Long, Tonko, Flores, Loeb sack, Brooks, Schrader, Hudson, Cardenas, Walberg, Kennedy, Carter, Peters, Gianforte, Dingell, Veasey, Kuster, Kelly, Barragan, Blunt-Rochester, Soto O'Halleran

Witnesses

Anthony S. Fauci, M.D., Director, National Institute for Allergy and Infectious Diseases, National Institutes of Health

ADM Brett P. Giroir, M.D., Assistant Secretary for Health, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services

Stephen M. Hahn, M.D., Commissioner, U.S. Food and Drug Administration

Robert R. Redfield, M.D., Director, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

Opening Statements

Chairman Pallone said that today, the Energy and Commerce Committee continues its important work overseeing the Administration's response to the COVID-19 pandemic. It is difficult to overstate this disease's devastating impact. To date, more than 2.2 million Americans have contracted COVID-19, and tragically 120,000 have died. At the same time, more than 45 million Americans have filed for unemployment over the last three months. COVID-19 has wreaked havoc on the country's physical, mental, and economic wellbeing. And the pandemic has been especially brutal to people of color and low-income communities. Testing has been a problem since the beginning, and while it's improved, we are still falling far short of the 900,000 daily tests public health experts believe we need. We are also hampered by the Administration's refusal to develop and implement a national testing and contact tracing strategy. This cannot continue — we need federal public health experts to take more of a leadership role, and this Administration is failing to allow that. Public health must also be our first consideration as we accelerate research into a vaccine and treatments for COVID-19. We all want a vaccine to be developed as soon as possible, but before any vaccine or treatment is distributed, our public health experts must ensure that it is

safe, effective, and accessible. We must also take action to prepare our supply chain with sufficient quantities of vials, needles, syringes, and other products necessary to administer a vaccine. President Trump refuses to even acknowledge the challenge we face and the difficult work that must be done to prevent further destruction.

Ranking member Walden said that COVID-19 hit the world like a tsunami. COVID-19 laid bare how vulnerable our society is. Although legislation has been passed by this committee, there is still much more work to be done. The public health officials sitting in front of the committee today are heroes. They are working around the clock to keep the public safe. Luckily, the Trump administration is also working tirelessly to control the pandemic. Thanks to early efforts taken by the administration the country is safer. However, there have been a handful of democratic governors who have acted poorly and as a result, citizens in their state have had to bear a greater burden. Without the help of the federal government, the economic impact of COVID-19 would have been much worse. The COVID-19 story is a story about American innovation. These innovations will serve the American public long after the pandemic is over. This has been made possible by collaborations between the public and private sector.

Testimony

Dr. Redfield said that the COVID-19 pandemic is the greatest public health crisis the world has confronted in over a century. While case numbers are dropping in some areas, they are rapidly increasing in others. Social distancing and handwashing continues to be the best practices to control the spread of COVID-19. The American public must take this pandemic seriously. If the population does not take the virus seriously, it will continue to spread and exist within society. It is true that most individuals who die as a result of COVID-19 had preexisting comorbidities. The CDC is working diligently to provide local health departments and public health officials with technical and clinical support. The US public health system has been underfunded for decades. This has resulted in a reduced capacity to respond to the pandemic. Data is the backbone to any disease response and the US needs better data. Investments in the public health system are investments in the nation's future.

Dr. Fauci said that National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID) responds rapidly to threats of emerging infectious diseases, by accelerating fundamental basic research efforts, engaging a domestic and international basic and clinical research infrastructure that can be quickly mobilized, and leveraging collaborative and highly productive partnerships with industry. NIAID also provides preclinical research resources to scientists in academia and private industry throughout the world to advance translational research on emerging and re-emerging infectious diseases. These research resources help bridge gaps in the product development pipeline, thereby lowering the scientific, technical, and financial risks incurred by product developers and incentivizing companies to partner with us in developing safe and effective countermeasures including vaccines, therapeutics, and diagnostics. NIAID has a longstanding commitment to coronavirus research, including extensive efforts to combat two other serious diseases caused by coronaviruses: SARS and MERS. This research has enhanced our fundamental understanding of coronaviruses in general and provides a strong foundation for our accelerated efforts to address

the specific challenge of COVID-19 by developing vaccines, therapeutics, and diagnostics. A safe and effective vaccine for SARS-CoV-2 will be essential to stopping the spread of infection, reducing rates of morbidity and mortality, and preventing future outbreaks. NIAID is supporting development of several SARS-CoV-2 vaccine candidates, including vaccines based on platform technologies that have shown promise against the coronaviruses that cause SARS and MERS. As part of a longstanding collaboration, the NIAID Vaccine Research Center worked with the biotechnology company Moderna, Inc., to develop a vaccine candidate using a messenger RNA (mRNA) vaccine platform expressing the SARS-CoV-2 spike protein.

Dr. Hahn said that from the beginning of this public health emergency, FDA has taken an active leadership role in the all-of-government response to the COVID-19 pandemic, inspired by the resiliency of the American people and our great innovators. FDA stood up an internal cross-agency group that continues to ensure we are doing everything possible to protect the American public, helps ensure the safety and quality of FDA-regulated products, and provides the industries we regulate the tools and flexibility to do the same. Work has focused on facilitating the development and availability of medical countermeasures to diagnose, treat, and prevent COVID-19, surveilling the medical product and food supply chains for potential shortages or disruptions and helping to mitigate such impacts, as necessary to protect the health. This work is a key component of the federal government's efforts to address this pandemic and reopen the economy so Americans can get back to work and school.

Adm. Giroir said that the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) is working closely with all of our government partners in this response. HHS thanks Congress for supporting efforts through the passage of the Coronavirus Preparedness and Response Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2020; the Families First Coronavirus Response Act; the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act; and the Paycheck Protection Program and Health Care Enhancement Act. These laws have provided additional resources, authorities, and flexibility. Within HHS, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID), the Assistant Secretary for Health, and the Food and Drug Administration (FDA), along with additional components not represented today, play critical roles in the response to this public health emergency. To expand capacity and scale without impinging on the traditional health care system like emergency rooms and urgent care clinics, HHS worked closely with FEMA, interagency, and state and local partners to establish Community Based Testing Sites (CBTS). These sites remain operational in Colorado, Texas, Illinois, New Jersey, and Pennsylvania. The CBTS model has been a success, having tested over 254,000 individuals, and with an overall COVID-19 test positive rate of approximately 13.5 percent, meaning that the CBTS are testing the right individuals at the right time.

Questions and Answers

Chairman Pallone asked where the United States stands in the fight against COVID-19. **Dr. Fauci** said that it is a mixed bag because it is a very large, heterogeneous country. The death toll has been astronomical. There is a surge in infections across the country. **Chairman Pallone** asked if the US should be limiting the number of tests. **Dr. Fauci** said that to his knowledge, no one on the

task force has been told to slow down testing. **Dr. Redfield** said that he is committed to increasing testing.

Ranking member Walden asked if President Trump has directed anyone to slow down testing. **Dr. Fauci** said no. **Dr. Redfield** said no. **Ranking member Walden** asked what the status of convalescent plasma is in fighting COVID-19. **Dr. Hahn** said that there are current studies happening surrounding this topic. The data coming back is very positive. **Ranking member Walden** asked how the CDC envisions a combine test will be used. **Dr. Redfield** said that it will be essential to test for both influenza and COVID during the fall. There is a risk that these viruses will put a large strain on the health system. **Ranking member Walden** asked what Congress should do to prepare for the fall. **Dr. Redfield** said that the supplemental funding for CDC has already been helpful. **Dr. Fauci** said that there needs to be sustained public health funding. **Adm. Giroir** said there needs to be more investments in vaccine development.

Rep. Rush asked if racial disparities have contributed to an increased burden in minority communities. **Dr. Fauci** said yes. Economic factors and other considerations place these communities at a higher risk for infection. In addition, after being infected these communities have less resources to deal with the impacts of the virus. **Rep. Rush** asked if more money is needed for testing and contact tracing. **Adm. Giroir** said yes.

Rep. Upton asked how early an Emergency Use Authorization (EUA) may be approved for a vaccine. **Dr. Fauci** said that the United States needs to be careful that safety and efficacy are not bypassed for expediency. There is no current timeline of when a vaccine will be ready. **Rep. Upton** asked under the best scenario, how fast could an EUA be issued. **Dr. Fauci** said that is still a significant time away. An accurate predication cannot be made because it is dependent on the results of current trials.

Rep. Eshoo asked if Dr. Hahn planned on communicating with the American public that hydroxychloroquine is dangerous and not a treatment option. **Dr. Hahn** said yes. He has already begun to do this.

Rep. Latta asked how an infected person develops antibodies and how long antibodies are effective in fighting off a virus. **Dr. Fauci** said that it is important for an antibody test to be validated by the FDA. When a body has a virus and recovers, it is stimulated to make antibodies. Often times, these antibodies provide a protective effect. However, it is unknown the relationship between COVID-19 antibodies and future infections. **Rep. Latta** asked how a vaccine will be distributed to Americans. **Dr. Redfield** said that this is currently being looked at. It may be dependent on what the final product is. **Rep. Latta** asked if the FDA can be expected to issue a new EUAs for therapies. **Dr. Hahn** said that the FDA is working closely with partners to evaluate the progress of therapies.

Rep. DeGette asked if the President has asked anyone to conduct fewer tests. **Adm. Giroir** said no. **Rep. DeGette** asked if it is a good or bad idea to decrease the number of tests. **Adm. Giroir**

said there need to be more tests. **Rep. DeGette** asked if it is a positive sign that the infection rate is increasing but the death rate is decreasing. **Dr. Fauci** said that is too early to say that is happening. Deaths tend to lag behind overall cases. **Rep. DeGette** asked if a vaccine for the coronavirus could be created at some point. **Dr. Fauci** said that he is cautiously optimistic that a vaccine will be created.

Rep. McMorris-Rodgers asked what an adjuvant is. **Dr. Fauci** said that an adjuvant is a product that increases the effectiveness of vaccines. **Rep. McMorris-Rodgers** how the decentralization of diagnostic test oversight has been beneficial to the general public. **Dr. Hahn** said that the flexibilities has allowed FDA to work with many test developers.

Rep. Doyle asked if the US has enough PPE for every frontline worker who needs it. **Adm. Giroir** said that at the beginning there was a shortage of every type of PPE device. It is estimated that country will need significantly more PPE by the fall. **Rep. Doyle** asked what steps the FDA is taking to ensure companies are not circumventing federal oversight and injecting counterfeit PPE into the market. **Dr. Hahn** said that the FDA is conducting oversight which includes testing products that are purchased on the market.

Rep. Guthrie asked what the state of the virus will look like in August. **Dr. Redfield** said that it is very important to take this time to accelerate the capacity to diagnose and treat COVID-19. There will be many more contact tracers by this time. States will probably begin opening up schools by this time. The CDC will be issuing additional guidance on this topic. **Dr. Fauci** said that the state of the virus will be different region by region.

Rep. Schakowsky asked if data surrounding race and ethnicity will be required to be reported by nursing homes moving forward. **Dr. Redfield** said that as of May 8th, this is a requirement.

Rep. Olson asked how to increase education surrounding COVID-19. **Dr. Fauci** said the COVID-19 situation can be very confusing for people because there is a wide range of symptoms and outcomes. It is important to keep talking about the true risks that exist when contracting COVID-19. This is especially important to discuss among young people who do not think they are risk.

Rep. Butterfield asked if the Morehouse funding gives medical schools discretion to engage in aggressive contact tracing systems. **Adm. Giroir** said that the intent of the award is to empower Morehouse to build partnerships throughout the nation to improve contact tracing capacity. **Rep. Butterfield** asked what the administration is doing to slow the spread of infections. **Dr. Fauci** said the administration is providing support to these areas.

Rep. Burgess asked what is being to ensure that an appropriate amount of PPE is available to congregate care facilities. **Adm. Giroir** said that in the future PPE will directly be delivered to these facilities. **Rep. Burgess** asked if congregate care facilities will be a hot spot in the future. **Adm. Giroir** said that they may be. **Rep. Burgess** asked if there are Chinese nationals working in

the CDC. **Dr. Redfield** said that the CDC has an office in Beijing and works very closely with the Chinese officials.

Rep. Matsui asked what the projected COVID-19 mortality rate is for the second half of 2020. **Dr. Fauci** said that is nearly impossible to estimate this. **Rep. Matsui** asked what the public should know to prepare for a second wave. **Dr. Fauci** said it is known what the early failings were early on. The US will need to act on these failings such as limited testing and the lack of PPE. The public should be aware that a second wave will almost certainly come.

Rep. McKinley asked if President Trump is judged fairly. **Dr. Fauci** said he cannot answer that question. **Rep. McKinley** asked if Dr. Fauci regrets not advising people more forcefully to wear masks in the beginning. **Dr. Fauci** said no. The reason it was not advised was because there was a limited number of masks for healthcare workers. **Rep. McKinley** asked if the decisions by Governors in NY, NJ, CA and MI led to unnecessary deaths in nursing homes. **Dr. Redfield** said that he does not have data on that. **Rep. McKinley** asked what rate of infection is needed before students can go back to school **Dr. Redfield** said that he is not prepared to answer that question.

Rep. Castor asked how often Dr. Redfield interacts with the President. **Dr. Redfield** said that he has regular interactions with the president. **Rep. Castor** asked what advice Dr. Fauci has to citizens in Florida. **Dr. Fauci** said that everyone should follow guidelines put out by the Administration. **Rep. Castor** asked if people should wear masks at mass gatherings. **Dr. Fauci** said that people should avoid gathering in mass. If people do gather, they should wear a mask.

Rep. Kinzinger asked how antibody tests can improve the understanding of the transmission of COVID-19. **Dr. Fauci** said that antibody tests can play a role in how asymptomatic transmission occurs. There are still many questions we don't know the answer too. In the future, as more data is collected it may provide more significant answers. **Rep. Kinzinger** asked how antibody tests are helpful if the level of protection is unknown. **Dr. Redfield** said that at the individual patient level there is not much clinical significance. At a population level it provides a surveillance advantage

Rep. Sarbanes asked if transparency is important between private and public partnerships. **Dr. Fauci** said yes. Operation warp speed is collaborating with many partners. **Rep. Sarbanes** asked if the FDA should be free from political pressure. **Dr. Hahn** said yes.

Rep. Griffith asked if opening up schools needs to be a targeted jurisdictional decision. **Dr. Fauci** said yes. **Dr. Redfield** said yes. **Rep. Griffith** asked if access to virus samples is important to fighting the disease. **Dr. Hahn** said yes. **Rep. Griffith** asked if the administration has been delivering supplies to states. **Adm. Giroir** said yes. States are following preliminary testing targets set by the Federal government. **Rep. Griffith** asked if the curve has begun to flatten. **Dr. Fauci** said yes.

Rep. McNerney asked if Dr. Fauci was consulted about the US withdrawing from the WHO. **Dr. Fauci** said he was not consulted. **Rep. McNerney** asked if Dr. Redfield was consulted about the US

withdrawing from the WHO. **Dr. Redfield** said that he was not consulted. **Rep. McNerney** asked if Dr. Fauci is concerned about withdrawal from the WHO. **Dr. Fauci** said yes. **Rep. McNerney** asked how withdrawing from the WHO will impact the CDC's work. **Dr. Redfield** said that the WHO is still collaborating with the CDC.

Rep. Bilirakis asked if scientific collaboration will lead to long lasting changes in how drugs and vaccines are developed. **Dr. Hahn** said that these collaborations are incredibly important. These collaborations need to be done in a robust and clinical way. Randomized control trials are still the gold standard. **Dr. Fauci** said that he agrees with Dr. Hahn. **Rep. Bilirakis** asked if CDC has coordinated with associations to protect the elderly. **Dr. Redfield** said yes.

Rep. Welch asked if it was a good idea to dismantle the pandemic response team. **All witnesses** said no. **Rep. Welch** asked if the US had the coronavirus under control on February 23rd. **All witnesses** said no. **Rep. Welch** asked if COVID-19 will disappear like a miracle. **All witnesses** said no. **Rep. Welch** asked if COVID-19 is similar to the common flu. **Dr. Fauci** said no.

Rep. Johnson asked if telehealth practices could be an effective tool in promoting and protecting the health of vulnerable individuals in a future pandemic. **Dr. Fauci** said yes. It should have been even more implemented. **Adm. Giroir** said yes. **Rep. Johnson** asked about the danger to public health presented by the fact that people may not have access to their regular providers. **Dr. Redfield** said that there are significant health consequences to this. Telemedicine can help to combat this.

Rep. Lujan asked if Dr. Redfield is committed to working with all 12 tribal epidemiology centers to access data they are entitled to by law. **Dr. Redfield** said yes. **Rep. Lujan** asked if the US is conducting 5 million tests per day. **Adm. Giroir** said no.

Rep. Long asked about the FDA's role in the development of therapeutics under operation warp speed. **Dr. Hahn** said that the FDA is prioritizing therapeutic applications based on science. The FDA wants to make sure that questions raised by developers were addressed in real time. The FDA is walking many industry stakeholders through the application process. **Rep. Long** asked what Congress can do to facilitate the development of therapeutics. **Dr. Hahn** said that the FDA needs more technical assistance.

Rep. Tonko asked what the evidence says about the benefits of wearing a mask. **Dr. Fauci** said that it is clear that wearing a mask is helpful in preventing transmission. **Rep. Tonko** asked why the president does not wear a mask. **Dr. Fauci** said that he cannot get into the decision making that has led the president not to wear a mask. **Rep. Tonko** asked what promoted the need for face mask recommendation. **Dr. Redfield** said that the guidance was issued because the evidence is clear that face masks reduce transmission.

Rep. Flores asked if putting COVID-19 positive patients into nursing homes is a good policy. **Dr. Fauci** said that it is not a good idea to put an infected person into a nursing home. However, there may not have been other viable options.

Rep. Loeb sack asked if healthcare providers have enough PPE. **Adm. Giroir** said yes, he believes they have the supplies they need. **Rep. Loeb sack** asked if it is likely that there will be a second wave in the fall. **All witnesses** said yes. **Rep. Loeb sack** asked what the status of the next allocation of provider relief funds that have yet to be distributed. **Adm. Giroir** said that he will take that question for the record since he does not have a direct answer.

Rep. Brooks asked what Congress needs to do to improve the nation's public health infrastructure. **Dr. Redfield** said that for decades public health has been underinvested in. There needs to be investments made in data collection and transmission. The CDC also needs core based funding. **Rep. Brooks** asked about the safety and efficacy of any future vaccine. **Dr. Hahn** said that from the regulatory perspective, the FDA is a world leader in ensuring products are safe. **Dr. Fauci** said that all of the risks are financial risks, not safety risks.

Rep. Schrader asked what the average time to develop a vaccine is. **Dr. Fauci** said that it depends on the vaccine. The average is about 7. **Rep. Schrader** asked how long it took the fastest vaccine to be created. **Dr. Fauci** said the Zika vaccine took about 1 ½ year to develop but never hit the market. **Rep. Schrader** asked what the success rate is of developing a vaccine. **Dr. Fauci** said about 6%.

Rep. Hudson asked how the FDA is ensuring the high quality serology tests are available on the market. **Dr. Hahn** said that the FDA has provided oversight and has removed low quality products from the market.

Rep. Cardenas asked why the CDC has not held regular media briefings during the pandemic. **Dr. Redfield** said that the CDC has communicated to the public in different ways. The CDC has released over 1,500 guidance's. **Rep. Cardenas** asked if the public would be better prepared if the president did not contradict the CDC. **Dr. Redfield** said that he is committed to continuing to get his message out. The CDC presents fact based information.

Rep. Walberg asked what guidance HHS released as it relates to admitting COVID19 patients into nursing homes. **Dr. Redfield** said that the guidance being referred to was grounded in the fact that nursing homes were refusing to accept any COVID1-19 patient. **Rep. Walberg** asked what obstacles exist to collecting data from nursing homes. **Dr. Redfield** said that nursing homes have been given technical assistance to help with data collection. **Rep. Walberg** asked if schools should be opened in a homogenous way. **Dr. Fauci** said no. It needs to be tailored to the specific school.

Rep. Kennedy asked if it is acceptable that there is a long lag time before demographic data must be collected from commercial testing companies. **Dr. Redfield** said that the CDC is committed to acquiring comprehensive demographic data. **Rep. Kennedy** asked if stopping the support for

federal testing sites will help improve testing capacity. **Adm. Giroir** said the only sites that have been sun set were coordinated with state governors. **Rep. Kennedy** asked if work requirements will help combat the Coronavirus. **Dr. Fauci** said that he is not qualified to answer this question.

Rep. Carter asked is pharmacists are a good way to deliver health care to communities. **Adm. Giroir** said yes. **Rep. Carter** asked what useful materials have been released by the CDC. **Dr. Redfield** said that the CDC has released over 1,500 guidance on a variety of topics.

Rep. Peters asked how many tests have been requested to receive follow up accuracy reports on. **Dr. Hahn** said he is not sure the exact number of tests but it is a significant amount. **Rep. Peters** asked how many adverse reports have been received. **Dr. Hahn** said that he will follow up with the committee afterwards. **Rep. Peters** asked if digital contact tracing can be useful. **Dr. Redfield** said yes but they need to be evaluated fully first.

Rep. Gianforte asked about the administrations collaboration with the private sector to scale up serological tests. **Adm. Giroir** said that the private public partnership has been critical. The administration is working with manufacturers to increase testing capacity. **Rep. Gianforte** asked what is being done to increase public private partnerships. **Adm. Giroir** said there are serious collaboration efforts happening to engage the private sector more.

Rep. Dingell asked about the importance of testing large population in a phase 3 trial. **Dr. Fauci** said it is very important to that the trial can be considered statistically significant. Furthermore, as more people enter the trial it becomes easier to judge safety. **Rep. Dingell** asked what steps the FDA will take in evaluating effectiveness data from phase 3. **Dr. Hahn** said that the FDA will base decisions off of data and best practices.

Rep. Veasey asked how the CDC is calculating the death count. **Dr. Redfield** said that the CDC gets daily updates from local and state health departments. Coding glitches have led to errors in the past. **Rep. Veasey** asked why a specific COVID grant was not renewed. **Dr. Fauci** said the NIH was told to cancel it.

Rep. Kuster asked about the letter sent to the administration urging for the creation of a national vaccine plan. **Dr. Redfield** said the distribution strategy is currently being created. It will take into account an equitable distribution. **Rep. Kuster** asked about the manufacturing of supplies to deliver the vaccine. **Dr. Fauci** said that plan is under the purview of operation warp speed. **Rep. Kuster** asked if there is a plan to combat vaccine hesitancy. **Dr. Fauci** said yes.

Rep. Kelly asked what the CDC is doing to address data gaps. **Dr. Redfield** said that the CDC is continuing to make progressive progress in collecting race and ethnicity data on COVID-19 tests. **Rep. Kelly** asked what the administration is doing to address data gaps. **Adm. Giroir** said that HHS needs more enforcement measures.

Rep. Barragan asked if the fight against COVID has been won. **Dr. Fauci** said no. **Rep. Barragan** asked when the last time Dr. Redfield spoke to the president was. **Dr. Redfield** said that he would like to keep that private. **Rep. Barragan** asked when the last time Adm. Giroir spoke to the President was. **Adm. Giroir** said about 2 weeks ago. **Rep. Barragan** asked when the last time Dr. Hahn spoke to the president was. **Dr. Hahn** said within the last month.

Rep. Blunt-Rochester asked if it is in everyone's interest for people to be quickly tested, treated and ultimately vaccinated. **Dr. Fauci** said yes. **Rep. Blunt-Rochester** asked if lack of health care undermines the ability to respond to a pandemic. **Dr. Fauci** said yes. **Rep. Blunt-Rochester** when a plan will be released that details how those who are uninsured can get covered for treatment. **Adm. Giroir** said that plan is in development.

Rep. Soto asked how important additional funding for testing located in the HEROS Act is. **Dr. Fauci** said that it is very important. Testing can also help to understand the pathology of disease. **Rep. Soto** asked if the FDA will help address shortages of remdisivr. **Dr. Hahn** said yes.

Rep. O'Halleran asked how to be sure there is enough testing and tracing equipment going forward. **Dr. Fauci** said it is important to identify the areas that these resources are needed. The materials are also being secured currently.

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