There is some talk about the end of the pandemic and the future of living with corona-virus rather permanently. This is a flawed discussion reflecting on how we got here and the response to COVID overall. Any success in defeating the virus has been built on actual science and distribution of vaccines and not the politics and planning of any agency or country. Most responses have been flawed and many who need treatment are not getting it or refusing on false grounds of religion or politics. Too many people have died world wide due to leadership dragging their feet or the stubbornness of the uneducated and/or lower classes.

The corona-virus outbreak began in China and spread to other regions as families traveled during the Chinese New Year. We will never know if this virus came from a market or a lab due to China's efforts to silence doctors and falsify reports. But we do know that China was aware of the virus and its progression months before the world became aware. In fact China had genetic testing performed and refused to give that information to WHO and other organizations in time to develop adequate tests for the virus. You might not be able to place the whole on China's government for the pandemic but these failures made the situation far worse than it should have been. They lied to their own people and the world by trying to masquerade that COVID-19 was a SARS variant and that there were no concerns for anything worse. This has been thoroughly documented by PBS and Frontline, they aired several documentaries about the origins of COVID and China's actions.

In the European outbreaks, the disease was widely spread by illegal migrants. This was a fear the Europe had when migrant from the Middle East began traveling through Europe by way of Syria after the Iraq/Afghanistan wars and the actions of Al-Qaeda and other groups. People said the EU countries were racist for this fear but it is the same method that the Black Death (Bubonic plague) spread through Europe centuries before. What you are not taught in school is that the Black Death was spread by Middle Eastern migrants after fleeing the Syrian region. They were trying to escape a Khan (a relative of Genghis Khan) that was throwing diseased bodies by catapult into a Middle Eastern city. The Black Death was not caused by lice or rats, it was an act of terrorism by an Asian warlord using an Asian disease for an act of bio-terrorism. Our response to outbreaks has been non-existent for a long time before any action was taken. No accurate tests for COVID because of China's feet dragging, and the test that are available still suffer from high false result rates. We use inaccurate thermal tests from people's skin instead of relying on core body temps to determine actual fevers. Despite that any change in body temp could be due to environment, existing health or many other diseases than corona-virus. Those handheld thermometers are not accurate for medical purposes (I know, I used to work in facility that calibrates devices).

We have a knee jerk reaction to the slightest sign of any illness. No one can wear masks properly, with many not covering their noses. Paper masks like those square cut ones are inadequate because they allow air to enter by the sides unfiltered. Masks with ear loops are not fitting properly and not recommended by actual medical professionals. The fasteners must go around the whole head for a proper fit. During the major portions of the outbreak, no one used gloves in public (I did). Service personal still handled products by the same surface you were expected to touch. Rather than let the customer use bag handles, sales staff would touch the handles before handing over purchases. Hand sanitizer was in short supply due to its overuse. And yet we don't understand why the virus continues to spread. We refuse to maintain closures of hightouch areas like bars, gyms, churches or schools. Priests were upset that they couldn't give communion. Why must they use a shared cup and be the one to put the wafer on the tongue; there are some churches that allow the parishioner to get their own cup and wafer. Why can't we make allowances for a highly infectious disease in religion.

Professionals consistently cried out that they had no guidance. Doctors had no guidance from the CDC, the CDC had no guidance from the White House. What guidance, didn't you get guidance in high school health class or medical school ? When the outbreak first happened, I was watching old reruns of Starsky and Hutch; the episode were they contracted bubonic plague. Even in an old 70's cop show, they depicted patient isolation, contract tracing and what treatments they could. But in our era of government monitoring and surveillance, we can't figure out who you've been in contact with ? Since at least the early 2000's your every movement, conversation, location and action; has been monitored by your service provider, the CIA/NSA and other agencies (again PBS/Frontline has aired documentaries on this subject). There was a website of this guy from Germany who posted one month of his service data showing his movements to and from work, conferences and his mistress' apartment; yet they make out we need Google to develop new tools to track you.

We are told we need to make plans, or there are no plans to fight an outbreak like this or to distribute materials. Since the 2000's we have about ten outbreaks of a disease (SARS, H1N1, ebola [three times at least] COVID-19 to name a few) and yet we have no plans for any outbreaks. How many times are there going to be viral outbreaks with no planned response. Around 2015-ish there was a simulated test for emergency services; because it was near Halloween the test was for a zombie outbreak. The rationale was for a fast moving virus that spread through physical contact. Does this sound familiar, five years before the pandemic we have simulated drills for a highly infectious disease ?

The state of Maryland has a POD site program (Point of Distribution). These POD sites exist to distribute materials in times of need in disasters or some form of crisis. I know these sites exist because I have been to one several times to test their radio kit. These kits were built by the local Amateur Radio club and exist across Carroll County and the Baltimore School system. Video of modifying these kits to the current specs should still be on youtube. I would like Gov. Hogan explain why these sites were never activated to distribute the vaccine when it was available. Instead you have to register on website accounts, find sites through phone apps and maybe the local pharmacy will have available slots to make appointments. There is more effort to collect your data through phone apps than there is to actually administer a dose of vaccine.

The reason no one seems to know what to do in such emergencies despite existing drills and plans, is that it seems no one has ever bothered to read them. Most plans sit on a shelf and are never reviewed again, other plans are incomplete with the details held close to the chest by a single agency. In Carroll County our emergency plan is incomplete with the details held by the Office of Emergency Management (who don't actually manage emergencies). This plan is available for download for the public to review but all the pertinent 'who does what' is missing.

One of the major problems getting people vaccinated is the junk science and lies spread by conservatives and Facebook's social engineering. There is no religion that bans western medicine; in fact it is weird that only 'western' medicine gets this treatment, you never see such religious language about 'eastern' medicine.

Even in the oldest known cultures, both doctors and priests treated the sick. There may be a man wearing a fish costume in the corner of the room shouting 'oogabooga-booga' while a doctor says 'Don't worry, we got a poultice for your wound right here'. The origins of this falsehood is from Christian Science, a cult formed in the 1880's. It has no basis in any religion and promotes lies that disease isn't real. However, its believers will seek doctors for injuries. They are hypocrites and responsible for deaths attributable to disease. Because germs are not visible, they have been resigned to the provenance of spirits or daemons that Christian Science cannot abandon. Even in ancient Sumer 5,000 years ago a doctor treats disease, priests treat souls.

More and more Americans are stating that they ascribe to no religion but remain faithful. If a majority are not holding religious beliefs than how can religion be cited as the reason for their opposition to vaccination. This is just a mask to hide political and social agendas of the vocal few, those that espouse the lies and falsehoods of extreme views and opinions. Once again this is Social Engineering made modern by the platforms of Facebook and Twitter that otherwise have no stable business model.

We need to review plans that exist and not keep creating new bureaucracies to create new plans and never activate any of them. We need to actually create reports after these drills or read existing reports if available to create any missing plans or adapt existing ones as needed. There really is only a need for one plan, when the response to an incident is to send everybody; why are there several plans ?

Our doctors and medical staff have been trained to handle patients and medical emergencies, why are we preventing them from treating people and waiting for permission to act. Administrations need to step back, let plans activate and professinals do their jobs. Every politician wants to be the guy who 'fixed the problem' but doesn't want the accountability when he falls flat on his ass. Just shut up and let people lives be saved by the doctors and vaccinations. The pandemic is not over and we still need to vaccinate populations.