

Why is the pharmaceutical industry suddenly so worried ...

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I watched Marr this morning. I thought I was doing so to watch the Grant Shapps car crash, but that was so predictably bad that there is little to say.

Much more interesting was the interview with AstraZeneca's CEO, Pascal Soriot. This concerned the Covid-19 vaccine his company is rushing into production with little apparent evidence currently available that it will be efficacious.

<https://youtu.be/Ht96qOLbqtg>

Marr asked what the hurry was and the CEO was candid. Unless, he said, this got to market quickly there was a very real chance that the vaccine will arrive too late to be required. There would not, he said, be enough of the virus left in the community to prove whether the vaccine had ever been required.

This set off multitudinous alarm bells in my head.

First, it suggests that AstraZeneca thinks that Covid-19 is really fading away pretty fast anyway. I know that some epidemiologists are suggesting that - and that in fact almost all the deaths it will cause have now, in effect happened, but there are many others who very obviously do not agree. The obvious question we have to ask then is whether he has the evidence that we do, in fact, no longer have reason to be concerned?

Second, is it the case, then, that lockdown really is working? That would be good to know, and help reinforce the message, surely?

And, thirdly and most importantly, is that why the government is clearly doing all it can to bring it to an end as soon as possible, so that another wave of Covid-19 happens precisely so that some businesses profit heavily, which is very clearly what AstraZeneca fears it will miss out on?

Does that then explain the Cummings fiasco, which can then be seen as being aimed at ending compliance?

And is that why schools are being reopened to increase the reinfection rate again - as all reasoned science seems to suggest inevitable?

Is it that not only is herd immunity now the policy but that policy is now that Covid 19 must be perpetuated for long enough so that profit can be made from achieving this goal?

I hate to be cynical on an issue so serious, but what else is going on?

Marr did not pick up on these points, but I think he should have done.

And if you doubt my thinking note this report [from Sky](#):

There is only a 50% chance of the Oxford coronavirus vaccine working because cases in the UK are declining so fast, one of the scientists behind it has warned.

The University of Oxford's Jenner Institute and the Oxford Vaccine Group began developing a COVID-19 vaccine in January using a virus taken from chimpanzees.

But with the number of UK coronavirus cases dropping every day, there may not be enough people to test it on, according to the institute's director Professor Adrian Hill.

He told The Sunday Telegraph: "It's a race against the virus disappearing, and against time. We said earlier in the year that there was an 80% chance of developing an effective vaccine by September.

"But at the moment, there's a 50% chance that we get no result at all. We're in the bizarre position of wanting COVID to stay, at least for a little while."

The evidence that there might be a plan to perpetuate Covid-19 looks horribly possible to me.

I sincerely hope it is not true.