

Funding the Future

The world pre 2020 no longer exists - we may want it to...

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This, [from Professor Christina Pagel](#), is too good not to share:

Prof. Christina Pagel @chrischirp

THREAD: I keep being asked when we can go "back to normal" or "like it was before". My personal thoughts:

We've added a new disease to our population, more infectious and more severe than flu.

The world pre 2020 no longer exists - we may want it to, but it just doesn't. 1/13

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Prof. Christina Pagel @chrischirp · 12h
Replying to @chrischirp
Vaccines are amazing but do wane - esp vs symptomatic infection. Immunity from infection wanes too.

Surely Omicron has proven that high levels of antibodies in your population are no guarantee against v high levels of illness & disruption. 2/13

42 581 5,686

Prof. Christina Pagel @chrischirp · 12h
We "could" act as we used to & accept millions of people getting sick once or twice a year. Yearly education, business disruption. And gradually, a slightly sicker pop'n. That seems to be the current plan in UK and e.g. US.

But that's NOT the "old normal" - it's worse 3/13

18 1,005 6,679

Prof. Christina Pagel @chrischirp · 12h
We "can't" go back - but we "can" go forward "if" we accept we need some adaptations - driven by what we have "learned".

Learning:

1. Outdoors is pretty safe - so let's invest research and funding into making indoor air as much like the outdoors as possible 4/13

40 1,449 9,776

Prof. Christina Pagel @chrischirp · 12h
It's "not" easy, but it "is" possible - we did it with clean water, electricity infrastructure, CFCs, telephone and broadband...

The best thing about cleaner indoor air is it works against "any" airborne disease and also reduces e.g. allergies. 5/13

31 929 8,920

Prof. Christina Pagel @chrischirp · 12h

2. Vaccinate the world as soon as possible - and keep working towards vaccines that are longer lasting and more variant proof.

3. Invest in global infrastructure to support surveillance of new variants of Covid "and" other new infectious diseases. There will be more. 6/13

29 694 7,209