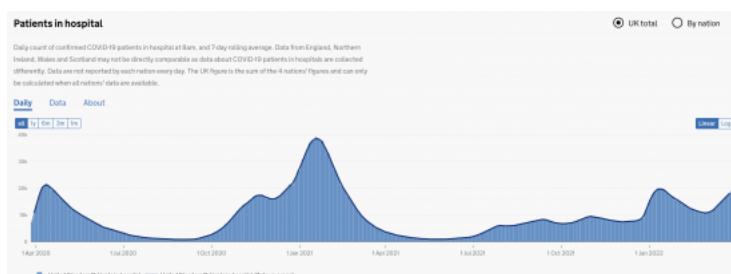


# Funding the Future

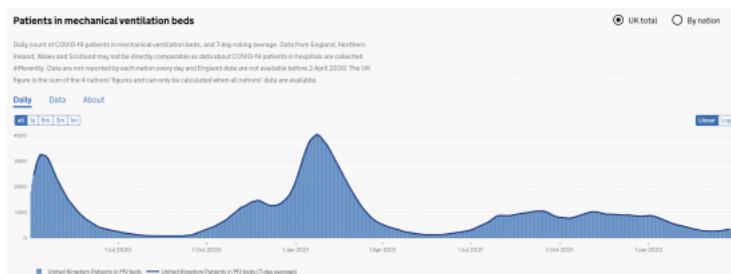
## Covid is all about the politics of denial now, for whic...

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This is the [latest data](#) on the number of patients in the UK in hospital with Covid:



Thankfully fewer are needing ICU treatment:



But it is still the case that [one in seven patients](#) in a UK hospital today is being treated for Covid. And, as is obvious, that trend is upward, which makes this an exceptional period within the last two years of Covid history, because that trend has only happened twice before.

The number of deaths is also rising:



This data is always lagged, of course. And what we now know is that Covid kills in many ways. All those mysterious heart attacks amongst people previously thought to be fit are not without a reason.

I will ignore data for now in long Covid. That really worries me.

At the same time as all this is happening the Westminster government is declaring Covid no longer a risk. Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland are not so unwise, but are being dragged towards a reduction in safeguards. The claim being made is that Covid is 'over', having been 'beaten' and that we can now 'live with it' as it is now only endemic, and not a pandemic.

The evidence for all to see is that this is not true. I have known more people with Covid in the last few weeks than at any other time to date. Although I have not had it, my work has been disrupted by the illness of those who have had it. I hear the same story from many others,

And, tomorrow Covid testing ends. You will not be able to get free lateral flow tests. PCR testing facilities are being closed. Even medics are going to have difficulties ordering them, which is probably the first time that access to a necessary medical test that is potentially available and affordable will have been denied for political reasons.

And politics is at the heart of all of this. First there is the politics of the false narrative, that Covid has been beaten when that is not true. The political claim being made is glaringly obviously false, and yet is being actively pursued. The deliberate supply of misinformation is now government policy. It's as if we lived in a totalitarian state.

Second, there is the politics of indifference. This was best seen when hundreds of Tory MPs walked by those marking the anniversary of the wall that marked the loss of their loved ones in London this week whilst on their way to a party, and to a person (apparently) ignored those holding that vigil. There is an attitude that they just no longer care, and it stinks.

Then there is the politics of denial. Even if Covid is endemic (and one day it will be) that requires active management, as do other serious endemic diseases like TB and malaria. You do not just ignore them, as the government suggests we should Covid. There is instead an active management programme that is required. But that is not happening.

And in the face of all this the NHS is now facing real term cuts.

It's as if we have a government that thinks it can govern by false edict and that the world will deliver to its command. It won't. It will, in fact, do nothing like that. The denial will just make things worse.

Thirty five per cent of the population do, however, still think they will vote Conservative. Why?, has to be the response.

The sad fact is that some people are still willingly fooled by these idiots. The rest of us will pay a very high price for that.