

Hello Ms. Ranson,

Please note the following comments:

A recent court case in Los Angeles County CA granted a stay allowing restaurants to re-open outdoor dining. A large portion of expert testimony that helped decide this outcome was from experts discussing that the PCR test, as it is currently being used in the U.S. is capturing as much as 50% of people who are not infectious. A positive test does not mean a person is contagious and the PCR test should not play a central role in shutting down activities. Dr. Bhattacharya of Stanford University, is a professor of medicine and infectious disease specialist at Stanford University, with a primary research area in health economics, including a focus on infectious disease epidemiology. As an expert witness in the Los Angeles County court case, he states:

“First... without population representative sampling for testing, the number does not reflect the risk of transmission and thus is scientifically unjustified as a criterion for imposing restrictions on normal activities. Second, the criteria do not account for the fact that the RT-PCR tests, as used in most labs around the U.S., likely register positive test results even for non-infectious viral fragments. “

Sincerely,

James Wilhelmi