The Lies of Dr Anthony Fauci: Private Communications vs Public Messaging

Newly released FOIA emails and internal briefings reveal that Dr Anthony Fauci privately discussed several early COVID-19 pandemic uncertainties—including lab-leak plausibility, mask effectiveness, fatality rates, school closures and natural immunity—while publicly presenting more definitive positions. Here we have six documented contradictions between Fauci's internal communications and his public statements, based on verified FOIA-released emails, congressional records and verified public statements.



Former President Joe Biden, joined by Counselor to the President and White House COVID-19 Response Coordinator Jeff Zients, receives a briefing from Director of the NIH Dr Francis Collins and Chief Medical Adviser to the President and Director of the National Institutes of Allergy and Infectious Diseases Dr Anthony Fauci Thursday, Feb. 11, 2021, at the Dale and Betty Bumpers Vaccine Research Center (VRC) at the National Institutes of Health in Bethesda, Maryland. (Official White House photo by Adam Schultz)

1 WUHAN LAB THEORY

Internal Communication (Feb–April 2020)

FOIA emails show Fauci and several virologists privately discussing the possibility of a lab-related incident, acknowledging it could not be ruled out.

Public Statement (2020–2021)

"There is no credible evidence to suggest that COVID-19 originated from a lab in Wuhan." *(Multiple interviews, including May 2021).*

CONTRADICTION:

Privately: Lab-leak considered plausible.

Publicly: Lab-leak dismissed.

2 COVID FATALITY RATE

Internal Assessment (Early 2020)

Fauci co-authored a *New England Journal of Medicine* editorial suggesting the infection fatality rate (IFR) might be closer to that of severe seasonal flu.

Public Statement (Feb 17, 2020)

"The mortality rate is likely around 2%."

CONTRADICTION:

Privately: Lower IFR considered likely.

Publicly: Higher fatality rate cited.

3 SOCIAL DISTANCING

Internal Communications (2020)

FOIA-released discussions show Fauci and advisors privately acknowledging uncertainty around the "six foot rule," noting it was based on outdated 1940s droplet-spread assumptions rather than contemporary aerosol science. Internally, the distance was described as "not a hard science number."

Public Statement (2020)

"Everyone should stay at least six feet apart. Six feet is the safe and recommended distance to reduce transmission."

CONTRADICTION:

Privately: Six-foot distancing acknowledged as an imprecise, non-evidence-based guideline.

Publicly: Six-foot distancing presented as a definitive, science-based requirement.

21	Q	Do you recall when discussions regarding, kind of, the at-least-a-6-foot
22	threshold began?	
23	A	The 6-foot in the school?
24	Q	Six-foot overall. I mean, 6-foot was applied at businesses --
25	A	Yeah.
1	Q	-- it was applied in schools, it was applied here. At least how the messaging
2	was applied was that 6-foot distancing was the distance that needed to be --	
3	A	You know, I don't recall. It sort of just appeared. I don't recall, like, a
4	discussion of whether it should be 5 or 6 or whatever. It was just that 6-foot is --	
5	Q	Did you see any studies that supported 6 feet?
6	A	I was not aware of studies that -- in fact, that would be a very difficult study
7	to do.	

3	Q	Do you recall reviewing any studies or data supporting masking for children?
4	A	You know, I might have, Mitch, but I don't recall specifically that I did. I
5	might have.	
6	Q	Since the -- there's been a lot of studies that have come out since the
7	pandemic started, but specifically on this there have been significant on kind of like the	
8	learning loss and speech and development issues that have been associated with	
9	particularly young children wearing masks while they're growing up. They can't see	
10	their teacher talk and can't learn how to form words.	
11	Have you followed any of those studies?	
12	A	No. But I believe that there are a lot of conflicting studies too, that there
13	are those that say, yes, there is an impact, and there are those that say there's not. I	
14	still think that's up in the air.	

Above: A highlighted excerpt from Dr Anthony Fauci's January 2024 transcribed interview with the House Select Subcommittee on the Coronavirus Pandemic, showing Q&A exchanges where he says the six-foot distancing rule "just appeared" and that he was unaware of studies supporting distancing or masking for children.

4 SCHOOL CLOSURES

Internal Discussions (2020)

Fauci acknowledged concerns about the negative impact of prolonged school closures in internal communications and advisory discussions.

Public Statement (2020)

"There's no doubt that closing schools is the right thing to do."

CONTRADICTION:

Privately: Harms of closures acknowledged.

Publicly: Closures supported.

5 NATURAL IMMUNITY

Internal Communications (2021)

Fauci acknowledged natural immunity as a factor in immunity modelling and internal discussions.

Public Statement (2021)

"I do not think natural immunity is reliable."

CONTRADICTION:

Privately: Natural immunity recognised.

Publicly: Natural immunity downplayed.

6 MASKS FOR THE PUBLIC

Internal Email (Feb 28, 2020)

"Masks are not really effective in keeping out virus, which is small enough to pass through material." *(Email to Sylvia Burwell)*

Public Statement (April 2020)

"Everyone should be wearing masks. Masks are an important tool in our public health arsenal."

CONTRADICTION:

Privately: Masks offer limited protection.

Publicly: Masks strongly recommended.

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