



COLLATERAL GLOBAL IMPACT REPORT

DECEMBER 2021





We set up Collateral Global just one year ago out of deep concern about the harm we were seeing across the world from the responses to the SARS-CoV-2 pandemic. To many of us, it was evident from day one that the damage and costs would be considerable. Initially, we thought - and hoped - that the measures would be temporary. However, as the months went by, those measures became increasingly entrenched.

The balance of risk has been troubling throughout the pandemic. It was clear early in 2020 who was most at risk from the virus, and that MNPIs were not evidence-based interventions. However, while the effectiveness of and damage caused by restrictions were unknown, many of us felt an immediate cold chill for the fates of children, the poor, and those living alone. Since the first restrictions were enacted, data has been accumulating, and now we have a clearly emerging picture of their effects.

At CG, we have made it our mission to document these impacts so that future generations and policymakers can understand the effectiveness and ripple effects of MNPIs should they face similar crises.

This year, we have made good progress thanks to a dedicated team of researchers, contributors, and our small management team; we have now published six reviews, the most recent of which focuses on the care home sector. Our website is now in its second iteration, and we are up to 150,000 users from 116 countries around the world. This report highlights many of our efforts and the impact we are beginning to have. Looking forward, our plans for 2022 include additional reviews and analyses and the development of metrics that will help us better understand and contextualise lockdown impacts.

In November, we started crowdfunding our research via JustGiving, and it is encouraging to see how many contributors there are. At the time of writing, we have raised £73k from over 1200 people, with many warm words of encouragement. For this, we give huge thanks to them and to the various donors who have enabled our work throughout 2021.

Yours,

Alex Caccia
Founder, CEO

OUR GOALS

VISION A world where pandemic policy responses maximise health and well-being for all

MISSION Cultivating a better understanding of the impact of responses to the COVID-19 pandemic

STRATEGY To collate, review, and analyse the evidence; to assess the impact of measures taken across the globe; to communicate with clarity, compassion and objectivity

6 CG Reports featuring our original research covering impacts of MNPIs on cancer care, childhood vaccination, childhood mental health, and care homes, with additional reports in production

25-page research paper on designing a conceptual framework for lockdown policies and impacts

15 pieces of filmed content, from scientific explainers to in-depth interviews

20 essays from notable professors, researchers, economists, healthcare professionals, and more

29 editorials covering topics such as physical health, global policy, ethics, and economic impacts

OUR WORK

12 scientific explainers in our 'Science Unlocked' series, including filmed and written content

Brand new episodes of our [CG Podcast](#)

Site database with hundreds of studies and news articles relating to pandemic restrictions

A 6-part series from Professor Paul Dolan entitled 'Making Policy Better'

6 first person articles from individuals affected by different COVID-19 restrictions

OUR IMPACT

Featured in news outlets such as the BBC, the Wall Street Journal, Express, Spiked, UnHerd, and more

Requests from Parliament to present information

Care Homes Report [featured in The BMJ](#)

Conversations with prominent policymakers

18.5K followers on Twitter

1M average Twitter impressions per month

140K+ site visitors from 116 different countries

Creation of a CG Youth Board with members from four continents

Covid legacy: 80 percent of young people suffered mental health issues due to lockdown

FOUR in five children and adolescents have suffered potentially "severe and long term" mental health problems as a result of COVID-19, lockdowns and school closures, a study has concluded.

By **LUCY JOHNSTON SUNDAY EXPRESS HEALTH EDITOR**
00:01, Sun, Oct 3, 2021 | UPDATED: 08:53, Mon, Oct 4, 2021



Waning immunity should not alarm us

Covid 19 is here to stay. But now the vulnerable have been protected against severe disease, restrictions cannot be justified

SUNETRA GUPTA
31 October 2021 - 8:00pm



THE CG NETWORK

Our **Scientific Advisory** and **Editorial Boards** represent a range of academics and health professionals dedicated to documenting, studying, and communicating the collateral effects of the measures taken by governments to mitigate the damage of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Our Scientific Advisory Board:

Professor Jay Bhattacharya, *Stanford University*
Professor Paul Dolan, *London School of Economics*
Professor Toby Green, *King's College London*
Professor Sunetra Gupta, *University of Oxford*
Professor Carl Heneghan, *University of Oxford*
Professor Ellen Townsend, *University of Nottingham*

Our Editorial Board:

Dr Jennie Bristow, *Canterbury Christ Church University*
Dr Alberto Giubilini, *University of Oxford*
Professor Jonathan Ketcham, *Arizona State University*
Professor David Livermore, *University of East Anglia*
Professor Andreas Sönichsen, *Medical University of Vienna*



CG Editor-in-Chief
Professor
Jay Bhattacharya

Our **contributing writers** come from a number of different countries and backgrounds, providing scientific, economic, and cultural insight to different facets of lockdown restrictions from all over the world.



CG has brought together our **CG Youth Board**, with young people from the US, Europe and Africa, to highlight the voices and views of young people on pandemic restrictions.

None of the work undertaken by Collateral Global would be possible without the **CG community**: supporters from around the world who visit our site; follow and share our work; donate to our research fund; and submit news, journals articles, and studies to our database.



Collateral Global and its board have been featured in a number of press articles and interviews, on platforms such as UnHerd, Spiked, the Telegraph, the Wall Street Journal, and more. The following represents just a sample; find more CG press coverage at collateralglobal.org/type/cg-in-the-press.

CG PRESS COVERAGE

BBC

Ellen Townsend - 'Covid: What is the mental health cost to the young?'

BMJ

CG Report 6 - 'Covid-19: Neglect was one of biggest killers in care homes during pandemic, report finds'

EXPRESS

Carl Heneghan - 'Professor slams UK for spending more on test and trace than primary care'

THE GUARDIAN

Jennie Bristow - 'Covid-19 exposes stark generational housing divide, UK report says'

SPIKED

Jennie Bristow - 'It's time to get students back into lecture halls'
David Livermore - 'Why it's time to move on from Covid'

THE TELEGRAPH

Paul Dolan - 'Half of vulnerable people still shielding despite guidance lifting a month ago'
Sunetra Gupta & Paul Dolan - 'Lockdown was based on faith, not evidence'
Ellen Townsend - 'We should hang our heads in shame over the way we have treated children in lockdown', with Planet Normal

UNHERD

Toby Green - 'There is no Covid third wave in Africa'
Jennie Bristow - 'Lockdowns don't protect the elderly'

WALL STREET JOURNAL

Jay Bhattacharya & Sunetra Gupta - 'How to End Lockdowns Next Month'

Professor slams UK for spending more on test and trace than primary care

A PROFESSOR has hit out at the amount being spent on mass testing which he believes should be invested into primary care instead.

By **XINDI WEI**
14:43, Thu, Sep 2, 2021 | UPDATED: 14:44, Thu, Sep 2, 2021



Government should divert funds from Test and Trace says expert

Children not showing symptoms of Covid should stay at school, says Oxford professor

On the latest Planet Normal podcast, Professor Carl Heneghan tells listeners why it may be time to stop mass testing schoolchildren

By Allison Pearson: Liam Halligan and Isabelle Bougeard, PODCAST PRODUCER
2 September 2021 - 6:00am

Why it's time to move on from Covid

The Delta variant may have dashed hopes of Covid-19 containment

CG REPORTS

Our original research is the cornerstone of our organization, around which all of our content is organized. In June 2020, we published our first rapid review of the existing literature on lockdown impacts, focusing on the effects of pandemic restrictions on cancer treatment and diagnosis. Since then, we have published five additional reports and have contracted with Carl Heneghan's research team at Oxford's Centre for Evidence-Based Medicine for several more. Topics planned for future reports include impacts on cardiovascular disease, inequality, and education, among others.

CG REPORT 1 **The Impact of COVID-19 First Wave Restrictions on Cancer Care** *01 June 2021*

Reductions were reported in screening attendance, diagnostics, treatments, and deaths across various cancers during the pandemic's first wave in 2020 and in some cases after the lifting of restrictions.

We found 69 published studies that compared changes in the patterns of screenings, diagnoses, waiting lists and treatments for cancer during the pandemic period in 2020 with pre-pandemic levels. Pandemic-related restrictions appear to have had a large impact on cancer diagnostics and access to care.

CG REPORT 2 **The Impact of Interruptions in Childhood Vaccination** *28 June 2021*

Obstacles to the delivery of vaccination services during the COVID-19 pandemic drove down immunisation rates, especially in disadvantaged people and poorer countries.

There have been concerns about the decrease in childhood vaccinations in 2020, with the WHO and UNICEF warning of an 'alarming decline' due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Smaller declines were seen in younger children than older children. In addition, children born to women who could not read and write were more likely to be incompletely immunised. Barriers to access and maintaining public transport infrastructure impacted uptake of childhood vaccinations as well.

CG REPORT 3 **The Impact of Pandemic Restrictions on Childhood Mental Health** *02 October 2021*

Eight out of ten children and adolescents report worsening of behaviour or any psychological symptoms or an increase in negative feelings during the COVID-19 pandemic.

School closures contributed to increased anxiety, loneliness and stress; negative feelings due to COVID-19 increased with the duration of school closures. Deteriorating mental health was found to be worse in females and older adolescents. Mental well-being protective factors include increasing socialisation and prosocial behaviours, along with social connectedness. The evidence shows the overall impact of COVID-19 restrictions on the mental health and well-being of children and adolescents is likely to be severe.

CG REPORTS

CG REPORT 4 **Effects of COVID-19 Restrictions on Air Pollution** *02 November 2021*

The impact of COVID-19 restrictions on the global levels of environmental pollutants is likely to be beneficial. Lower levels of pollution observed during restrictions provide estimates for attainable pollutants that can benefit health and wellbeing.

Reductions in the movement of people and industrial production during COVID restrictions resulted in lower levels of particulate matter of all sizes, including Nitrogen Dioxide (NO₂), Sulphur Dioxide (SO₂) and Carbon Monoxide (CO). However, it is unclear whether lowering pollutant levels were sufficiently long to affect morbidity and mortality. In addition, studies indicated a return to pre-restriction levels shortly after restrictions were lifted.

CG REPORT 5 **The Impact of COVID-19 Restrictions on University Students' Mental Health** *27 November 2021*

The overall impact of COVID-19 on the mental health and wellbeing of university students is substantial. Reviews consistently reported high prevalence rates of anxiety and depression amongst university and college students.

Rates of depression and anxiety were higher in those with financial difficulties, in non-Chinese students, in older students, and with females. In the most extensive review to date the pooled prevalence of depression was 34% (95%CI: 30-38%, 52 studies, n=1,277,755, I² 100%). The prevalence of anxiety was 32% (95% CI: 26-38%, 69 studies I² 100%). Anxiety was also found to be higher in older students, in those living alone.

CG REPORT 6 **Effects of COVID-19 in Care Homes – A Mixed Methods Review** *18 December 2021*

The COVID-19 pandemic disproportionately impacted those living in care homes at the highest risk for severe outcomes.

Analysis of national datasets for 25 countries shows that care home deaths were, on average, 30% of the total COVID-19 deaths. The 17 cohort studies also point to excess mortality worsening during the pandemic, with excess mortality being reported for both COVID-19 positive and negative patients.

Interventions that could reduce mortality include improving the care home quality, increasing staffing levels, reducing the number of beds in the facility, employing staff confinement strategies with residents, and improving clinical care such as implementing daily examinations.

All reports, including access to full text, datasets, infographics, and policy recommendations are available on Collateral Global's website at collateralglobal.org/type/cg-reports/.

CG Timeline

JUNE

CG REPORTS

This month, CG released our first two reports on interruptions to care during COVID-19 restrictions. CG Report 1 highlighted the devastating impact restrictions have had on cancer care, while CG Report 2 took an in-depth look at global interruptions to childhood vaccination schemes.



SCIENCE UNLOCKED

Science Unlocked offers a collection of summaries, videos, and explainers dedicated to making the research surrounding lockdowns accessible to everyone.



A GLOBAL PERSPECTIVE

It's all in the name – Collateral Global emphasizes a global approach to covering the effects of COVID-19 restrictions. Our June issues featured reports from around the world, including in-depth analyses on the state of cancer care in Italy and Japan, and a public health perspective on immunisation policy in Angola.

CG MEDIA

The CG Media team published four videos in June, covering everything from economic policy and scientific evidence breakdowns to personal stories of the toll restrictions have taken.



Seroprevalence in Mumbai: An Interview with Anup Malani



LUKE JOHNSON
ENTREPRENEUR AND PHILANTHROPIST



DR IRFAN MALIK
Senior General Practitioner

A NEW LOOK

The CG website launched a brand new look to accommodate even more content from our ever-expanding network of contributors. We've also improved our functionality and accessibility by adding searchable content types and tags and offering related content on the home page.

...interaction between human beings is not an optional extra. It is the basic foundation of human society. It is the basis of our emotional lives, of our cultural existence, of every social aspect of our lives and of the whole model under which we cooperate to produce collectively benefits for ourselves.

-Lord Sumption

CG IN THE PRESS

Collateral Global's work gained traction in the media, as CG board members were featured in a number of news articles and interviews.

JULY/ AUGUST

INTERVIEW WITH LORD SUMPTION

In this CG exclusive, Professor Jay Bhattacharya sat down with British author, historian, and retired Supreme Court Judge Lord Sumption to explore pressing ethical and legal questions raised by the COVID-19 policy response, and examine both the historical context and potential ramifications for the future.



Lockdown was based on faith, not evidence

The narrow perspectives and experiences of decision-makers had an unprecedented on the worst-off

PAUL DOLAN | SUNETRA GUPTA

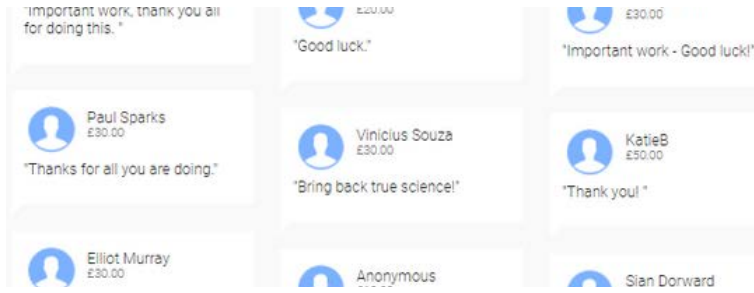
13 August 2021 • 6:00am

It appears that the scientific community is finally acknowledging that any infection-blocking properties of naturally-acquired or vaccine-induced immunity are incomplete and transient, while mercifully offering long-term protection against severe disease and death. This makes a myth of reaching herd immunity through vaccination alone. It also undermines the justification for vaccinating those at lower risk of dying from Covid-19.

BEHIND THE SCENES

September was a busy month for CG operations – in addition to completely redesigning our website to accommodate even more content, CG also launched a first-of-its-kind crowdfunder aimed at publicly funding research into the effects of lockdown harms across the globe.

SEPTEMBER



WORLDWIDE REPORTING

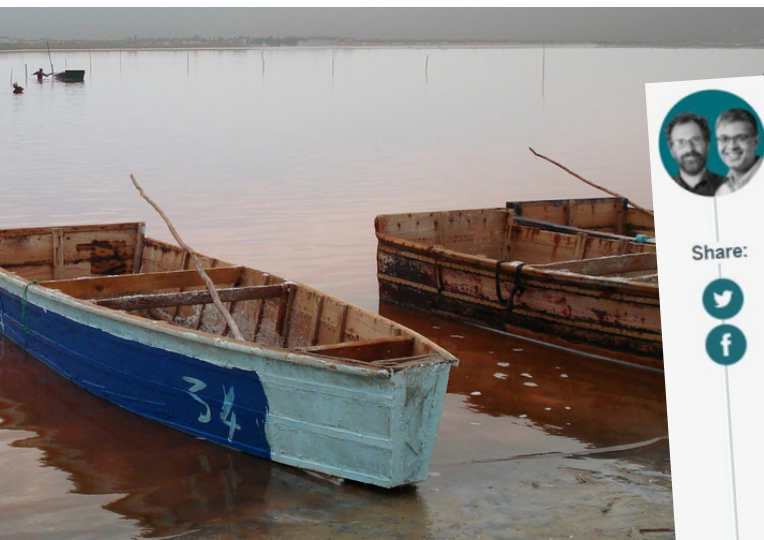
CG expanded its reach to focus on the impacts of COVID-19 restrictions in other parts of the world, with stories and reports from Senegal, Mozambique, Spain, and Chile.

LOCKDOWNS IN THE GLOBAL SOUTH

CG Scientific Board member Toby Green sat down with Mamadou Ndiaye, a peanut farmer in rural Senegal, to discuss the impact that COVID-19 lockdowns have had on the Senegalese economy and lifestyle.

"In the villages, no one talks of COVID-19. There's no illness there. All people can see is that the villages are empty because all the young people have gone, because of the economic crisis."

-Mamadou Ndiaye



OCTOBER/ NOVEMBER



MENTAL HEALTH IN CRISIS

October kicked off with the publishing of CG Report 3: The Impact of Pandemic Restrictions on Childhood Mental Health. This report by Carl Heneghan, Jon Brassey, and Tom Jefferson highlights the staggering impact lockdown measures have had on the mental health of young people around the world.

CG CONVERSATIONS

CG launched its new podcast series, where CG Board members speak with researchers and contributors from all over the world to discuss the latest CG reports and the broader impacts of COVID-19 lockdown measures. Following the release of the Childhood Mental Health report, Professors Carl Heneghan and Ellen Townsend sat down to discuss the report's findings and what can be done to protect childhood mental health.



Movement is fundamental... preventing movement is simply taking away the lifeblood of virtually the entire country's economy.

-Professor Toby Green on the importance of Ghana's informal economy

GLOBAL IMPACTS

As part of the CG podcast series, Professor Toby Green interviewed Samuel Adu-Gyamfi, the head of history and political studies at the Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology in Ghana, about the catastrophic impact of COVID-19 lockdown policy in Ghana.



CARE HOMES REPORT

DECEMBER

CG's most comprehensive report to date revealed staggering insights about the impact of the pandemic and restrictions on care homes, including that many of these deaths could have been prevented if appropriate measures had been implemented.

COVID-19 disproportionately impacted those living in care homes at the highest risk for severe outcomes. However, the pandemic only highlighted and exacerbated a long-running problem: underfunding, poor structural layout, undertraining, under-skilling, under-equipping, and finally, lack of humanity in dealing with the most vulnerable members of society. Neglect, thirst, and hunger were – and possibly still are – the biggest killers.

The report answered three vital questions:

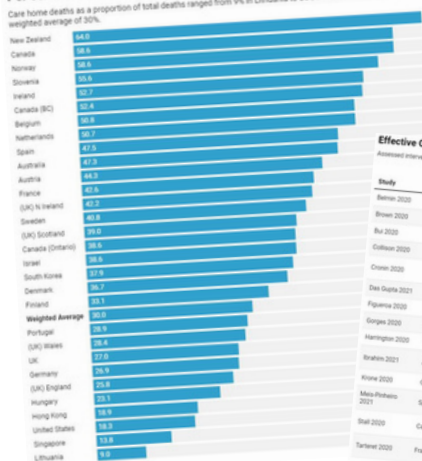
1) What were the mortality rates in care homes by country?

2) How does the mortality in care homes compare with previous periods?

3) What explains any excess mortality in care homes?

Per cent care home deaths compared to country's population

Care home deaths as a proportion of total deaths ranged from 9% in Lithuania to 64% in New Zealand, with a weighted average of 30%.



Effective Care Home Interventions/Exposures

Assessed interventions demonstrating large effect sizes

Study	Country	Intervention/Exposure	Decrease in Cases	Decrease in Deaths
Reinze 2020	France	Staff confinement with residents	Yes	Yes
Brown 2020	Canada	Crowding	Yes	Yes
Rui 2020	USA	Quality rating	Yes	Yes
Collins 2020	USA	Clustering of positive contacts	Yes	Yes
Chen 2020	USA	Inspections, staffing, and quality ratings	Yes	Yes
Das 2020	USA	Staffing	Yes	Yes
Pignone 2020	USA	Staffing	Yes	Yes
Gorges 2020	USA	Nursing hours and aides	Yes	Yes
Harrington 2020	USA	Staffing levels	Yes	Yes
Stavakis 2021	Australia	Ownership, non-compliance, shared rooms, and size	Yes	Yes
Kline 2020	Germany	Separation and screening	Yes	Yes
Muller-Holtz 2021	Spain	Density	Yes	Yes
Stall 2020	Canada	Number of residents, rooming, bedding	Yes	Yes
Tarlier 2020	France	Resources, hospital admission, daily examination	Yes	Yes
Hong 2021	USA	Facility characteristics, quality indicators	Yes	Yes
Zimmerman 2021	USA	'Green House' (small nursing homes (10-12 beds))	Yes	Yes

KEY FINDINGS

Care home deaths as a proportion of total deaths ranged from 9% in Lithuania to 64% in New Zealand, with an average of 30%. Seven countries reported more than 10,000 COVID care homes deaths: Canada, Belgium, France, Germany, Spain, the UK and the US.

Several reported interventions or factors suggest the potential to mitigate the risk in care homes substantially, including

- Improving the care home quality
- Increasing staffing levels
- Reducing the number of beds in the facility
- Employing staff confinement strategies with residents
- Improving clinical care, such as implementing daily examinations

thebmj

covid-19

Research

Education

News & Views

Campaigns

Jobs

News

Covid-19: Neglect was one of biggest killers in care homes during pandemic, report finds

BMJ 2021 ; 375 doi:https://doi.org/10.1136/bmj.n3132 (Published 22 December 2021)
Cite this as: BMJ 2021;375:n3132

Article

Related content

Metrics

Responses

Elisabeth Mahase

Author affiliations

LOOKING AHEAD

2022 Objectives

- Publish additional CG Reports covering the impact of MNPIs on mental health, education, and other physical health impacts
- Further our international network of academics, researchers, and contributors
- Release new editorials and essays from multi-disciplinary experts all over the world
- Produce three short films from The Gambia and one from India covering MNPI impacts upon education, children's health, migration, and the economy
- Film conversations with CG Board members and prominent academics and policymakers

Proposals for future projects

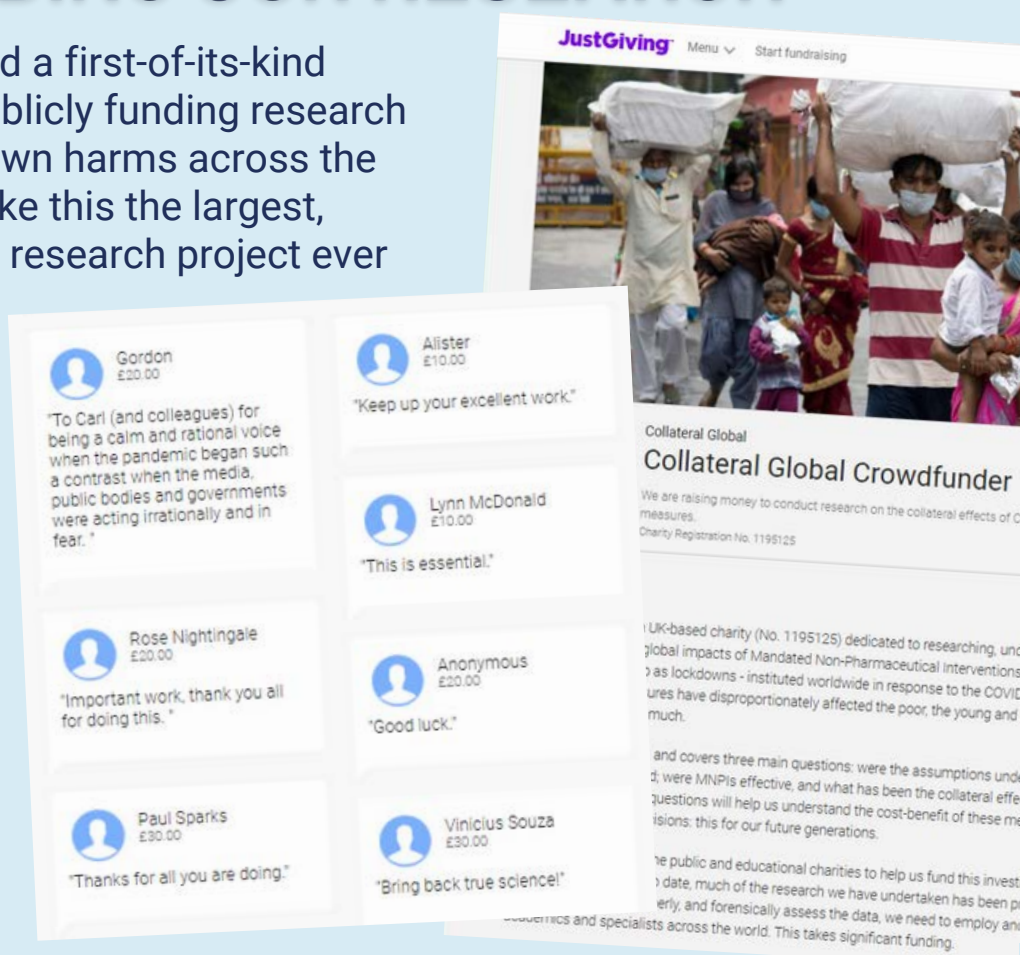
- A full systematic review of rationale, external drivers and impact of all restrictive measures, by Professor Carl Heneghan and Tom Jefferson
- A review of criteria for variant threat classification by Professor Carl Heneghan and Tom Jefferson
- Design and implementation of an empirical framework/methodology for quantifying lockdown impacts, led by Professor Paul Dolan
- Development of research and evidence collation strategies in the Global South, headed by Professor Toby Green

CROWDFUNDING OUR RESEARCH

Collateral Global launched a first-of-its-kind crowdfunder aimed at publicly funding research into the effects of lockdown harms across the globe. It is our aim to make this the largest, publicly-funded scientific research project ever completed.

Collateral Global's work would not be possible without the continued support of our donors.

If you would like to donate to CG's efforts, visit us at www.justgiving.com/campaign/collateralglobal.





collateralglobal.org | Twitter: [@collateralglbl](https://twitter.com/collateralglbl)

