

What The Admin Is Saying | National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases Director Dr. Anthony Fauci on WMAL

NIAID Director Dr. Anthony Fauci joined WMAL this morning to discuss the Administration's coronavirus response.

AGGRESSIVE ACTIONS TO CONFRONT THE VIRUS

NIAID DIRECTOR FAUCI: "One of the important things that we did with the President's decision to very early on stop the influx, first from China, and now from Europe, particularly the country's Italy, France, and others, but the entire European Union."

NIAID DIRECTOR FAUCI: "The optimism is the strength of the American people. This is an extraordinary challenge. The guidelines came out from the President, the fifteen day guidelines about how we can mitigate by physical separation, we need to pull together as a country."

NIAID DIRECTOR FAUCI: "Frankly, as a public health person, I'm certain that we're having an impact right now, but we won't be able to accurately quantitate it for a little bit."

THE MEDIA'S MISREPRESENTATIONS

NIAID DIRECTOR FAUCI: "Fundamentally, at the core, when you look at things, there are not differences. The President has listened to what I have said and what the other people on the task force has said. When I've made recommendations he's taken them. He's never countered or overridden me. The idea of just pitting one against the other is just not helpful. I wish that would stop."

NIAID DIRECTOR FAUCI: "That is really unfortunate. I would wish that that would stop, because we have a much bigger problem here then trying to point out differences."

BALANCED APPROACH

NIAID DIRECTOR FAUCI: "What the President is trying to do is to balance the public health issues with the fact that this is having an enormous impact on the economy of the country."

NIAID DIRECTOR FAUCI: "It's a delicate balancing act which the President is trying to get it -- to get it right. And we're under very intense discussions right now about what the most appropriate timeline is, and if we do modify it, how to modify it."

PROTECTING OUR FRONTLINE HEALTHCARE WORKERS

NIAID DIRECTOR FAUCI: "The best way to protect them is to get -- make sure they always have the proper personal protective equipment."

NIAID DIRECTOR FAUCI: "The thing we have to make sure that they never fall short of the personal protective equipment that would protect them against getting infected."

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