

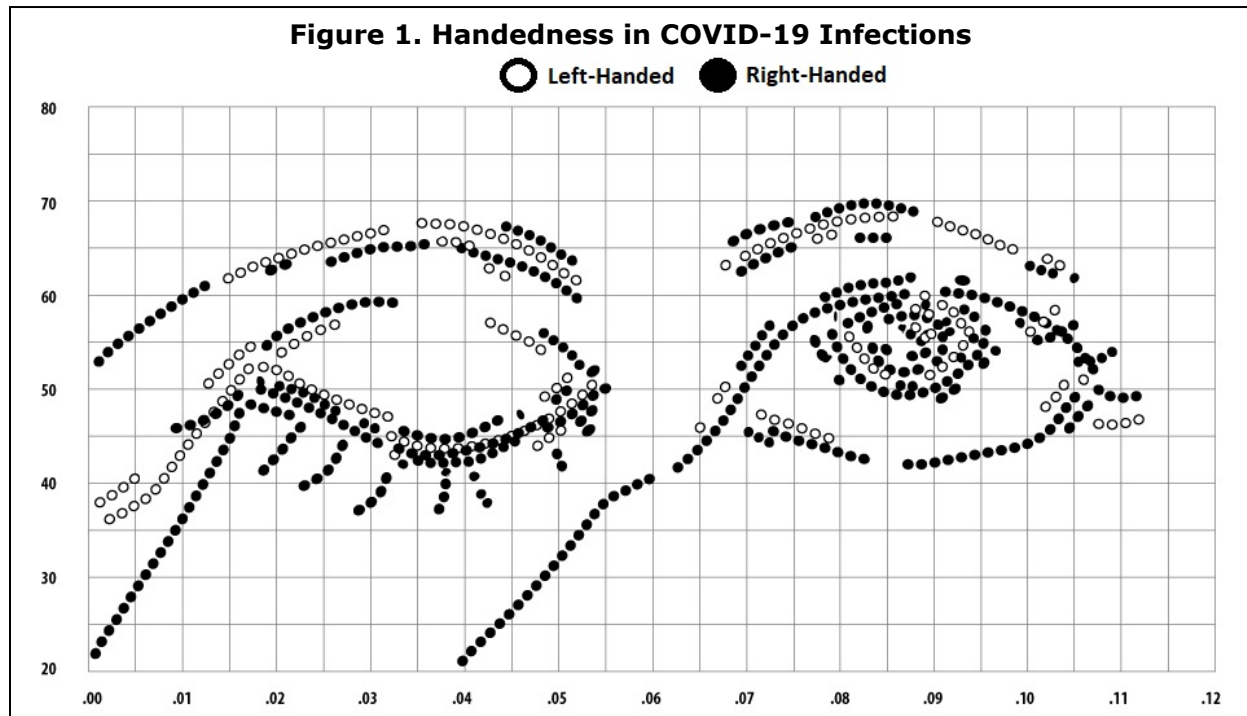
COVID-19 News You Won't Believe

By Norman M. Goldfarb

Left Handers Shown to Be at Less Risk of COVID-19 Infection

An article posted today, April 1st, on the website of the Academy of Chinese Culture & Health Sciences found that adult, left-handed people are 27.4% less likely to contract COVID-19 than right-handed people. The sample size of ambidextrous people was too small for a statistically significant finding.

"Our study was not designed to assess handedness, but it just jumped out through us," said Dr. Wánxiào Yīshēng, principal investigator of the study, Demographic Factors in SARS-nCov-2 Transmission in Urban Populations.



When asked for an explanation, Dr. Yīshēng said, "We are planning a study to investigate that question. We are, however, confident that it's not due the the western custom of shaking hands, which, frankly, we have never understood. Other medical conditions, such as inflammatory bowel disease, show an association with laterality, but never this strong."

"Under no circumstances does this finding mean that shaking with left hands in safe, whatever your handedness," said Alexi Azar, Secretary of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. "We strongly caution everyone against shaking hands in any combination — right to right, left to left, right to left, or left to right. Fist bumping is not advised and, according to experts at the National Institute of Customs & Health, is not politically correct either. We also caution against elbow bumping, since many people sneeze into the medial region of their arm. As our friends at the CDC like to say, 'Contact is

contract.' Toe tapping appears to be safe from a respiratory infectious disease perspective, although a recent upsurge in sprained wrists needs investigation."

"We are working closely with our counterparts in the People's Republic of China to learn as much as we can about this disease," said Robert R. Redford, director of the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. "At this point, nothing would surprise us."

COVID-19 (CORinaVirus Disease) is the disease caused by SARS-nCov-2 that first appeared in 2019. "SARS-nCov-2" is the abbreviation for the name of the virus: Serious Adult Respiratory Syndrome - novel Coronavirus - 2 because it was the second outbreak of a virus that causes SARS.

New Orleans Supports Street Performers

LaToya Cantrel, Mayor of New Orleans, today announced the creation of a GoFundMe campaign to support street performers during the COVID-19 pandemic. "Street musicians, balloon artists, hip hop dancers, celebrity impersonators, sidewalk magicians, and other buskers are a vital ingredient of our \$9 billion tourist industry. Somebody has to be looking out for them too." New Orleans city workers donated \$480.37 to kick off the campaign.



"Nineteen million tourists visited New Orleans last year," said Stephen Parry, President & CEO of New Orleans & Company, the city's Convention and Visitors Bureau. "We love our visitors and hope they are safe. If they can just give our street performers one penny of the money they are saving by not visiting, we can see this pandemic through."

Grimes Posnikov, The Human Jukebox, a fixture of San Francisco's Fisherman's Wharf in the 1970s and 1980s, said, "Please support this campaign for buskers

everywhere. They need your help."

Jeremiah "Dusty" Gillette, President of San Francisco's Pan Handlers United, said, "We fully support our fellow street citizens. We have formed a committee to study the feasibility of creating our own GoFundMe campaign."

COVID-19 May Have Originated with a Computer Virus

Internet security experts believe they have traced the origin of the COVID-19 virus back to an infected DNA synthesizer machine.

According to Jiā Kēxuē, head of China's PLA Unit 61398, it appears that an especially virulent computer virus, Carumba-19, infected a Synthesi10 DNA synthesizer machine in the Department of Biochemistry at Wuhan Polytechnic University. It appears that the machine converted the computer virus into the SARS-nCov-2 human virus, which then infected a technician during a routine cleaning and maintenance procedure. The technician



subsequently purchased two live chickens at Wuhan's Huanan Seafood Wholesale Market, which had been identified previously as the source of the COVID-19 outbreak. The status of the chickens is unknown.

"We have to stop blaming bats for every new viral disease. Bats make essential contributions to the global ecosystem, said Nic Tophovia, head of Save the Bats, based in Vespertilio, Texas. "We should also stop eating them even though they are very delicious."

In a press conference this morning, Héchéng de Hēnghuó, Chairman of the Institute of Synthetic Life in Beijing, said, "This is the first reported instance of a computer virus transforming into a human virus. We are currently testing variations of Carumba-19 as potential vaccines and hope to see early results Thursday."

World to Demonstrate Support for Clinical Research

David Bosay, President of Citizens United, announced a mass demonstration on Saturday, April 4 at the Mall in Washington, DC in support of global clinical researchers. "We have never been more committed to supporting our friends in the pharmaceutical industry," he said.

Event organizers said, because of social distancing, the demonstration will take place in one-hour shifts, with only 368 members of the public allowed to participate at any one time. "We'll keep it going as long as people keep coming. Dozens have already expressed interest," said Bosay.

"I speak for clinical researchers everywhere when I say that we are so grateful for this outpouring of support," said Barbara Kunze, Global Chief Executive of the Drug Information Association.



In response to a question at a White House press conference, President Donald Trump said, "Clinical research is on the front line of our war against this nasty virus. We need to get nasty back."

Paris, Moscow, Delhi and hundreds of other cities around the world will simultaneously hold their own demonstrations.

Author

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