

September 30, 2021



SENT EMAIL

Honorable Nathan Cooper

MLA for Olds-Didsbury-Three Hills
Box 3909
4905 B - 50 Avenue
Olds, AB T4H 1P6
P: 403-556-3132 / 780-427-6464
E: OldsDidsbury.ThreeHills@assembly.ab.ca

Dear Mr. Cooper,

RE: Immediate correction to government data reporting practices and information transparency.

I am writing to you to express my increasing frustration with the COVID-19 reporting practices of your government and the Chief Medical Officer of Health (CMOH). The techniques witnessed over the last month are among the worst acts of manipulation and censorship that I can recall from any government. An immediate correction must be made as the public deserves to see clear, direct, and truthful facts.

We see unprecedented divisiveness within our society, and your government’s reporting of information, or lack thereof, is firmly accountable for much of the destruction we’re witnessing today. Exclusionary detailing is becoming increasingly evident, and these methods are being exploited to push narratives and fan fear.

I draw your attention to the following recent examples of where data or context has been withheld, manipulated, or misrepresented. Government officials or the CMOH are routinely carrying out these acts.

I. COVID-19 Hospitalization Definition

The definition of a COVID-19 hospitalization is not publicized, and access to it requires a request through Alberta Connects. This definition has been requested on two occasions with the second indicating a slight change to the timing of a COVID-19 diagnosis.

As per Alberta Health Services, a COVID-19 hospitalization count includes anyone:

December 2020	September 2021
1. who is hospitalized within 30 days following a COVID-19 diagnosis, regardless of the reason for hospitalization	1. requiring hospital care who has tested positive for COVID-19
2. who acquires disease while in hospital	2. where COVID-19 is a contributing cause 3. who acquires disease while in hospital

In both, **a person is removed from the current hospitalized count** if they are noted as recovered in the chronic disease and outbreak management system or **ten days after hospital discharge**.

This is problematic on multiple fronts. First, the public naturally assumes the definition is, as it implies, someone actively receiving treatment for COVID-19. Second, the fact that it is not posted, nor does it accompany any public hospital data, appears to be a deliberate attempt to mislead Albertans.

The catch-all definition, and lengthy discharge timetable, would inflate the hospitalization metrics, which only benefits the government narrative. I have never heard the CMOH, or any other government official provide context to the hospitalization term. It is knowingly left to what is assumed.

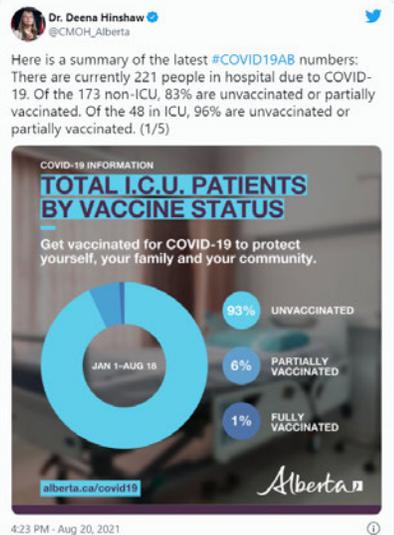
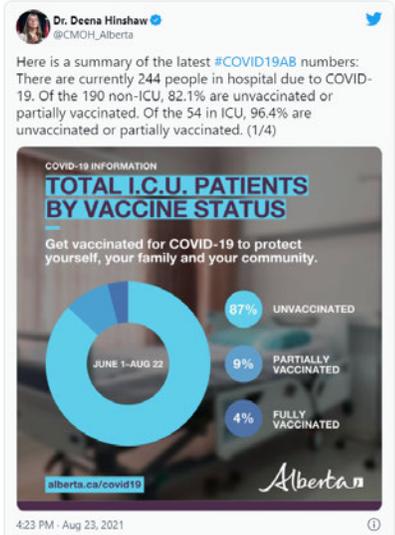
II. The Unvaccinated and the ICU

Since this metric surfaced in August 2021, several tactics have been used to grossly misrepresent the data. These tactics have only further supported the divisive messaging of blame placing while promoting societal segregation systems. The manipulation techniques witnessed is unconscionable.

In all instances, the data is skewed with a heavy bias to influence the ‘unvaccinated’ category. On September 28, 2021, the CMOH made a clear statement that solidified this position.

Consider these two communications and the following facts:

- Between January 02 - August 18, there were approximately 1,197 ICU admissions¹
- On June 01st, 9.3% of Albertans were considered fully vaccinated²
- On July 01st, 38.5% of Albertans were considered fully vaccinated²

August 20, 2021 - CMOH Twitter ³	August 23, 2021 - CMOH Twitter ⁴
A new donut graph titled ‘Total I.C.U Patients by Vaccine Status’ is introduced. The graph shows a period of January 01 - August 18, 2021 .	The same graph is used again, but the analysis period is shortened to June 01 - August 22, 2021 .
	

The clearest evidence of data manipulation in this category was made on September 28, 2021.

During an in-person update, the CMOH states the following as part of the hospitalization briefing:

“...almost four out of five of all those in hospital for COVID-19, and **91% of those in ICU in the last 120 days were also not fully vaccinated**. These numbers speak for themselves. Vaccines are critically important.”⁵

Following this update, the CMOH indicates via Twitter that 91% of **current** ICU admissions are unvaccinated⁶. By the CMOH’s admission of using four months worth of past data, this representation of our recent ICU admissions by vaccine status **is categorically false**.

¹ <https://www.alberta.ca/stats/covid-19-alberta-statistics.htm#severe-outcomes>

² <https://www.alberta.ca/stats/covid-19-alberta-statistics.htm#vaccinations>

³ https://twitter.com/CMOH_Alberta/status/1428845295446544384

⁴ https://twitter.com/CMOH_Alberta/status/1429932257377062937

⁵ <https://www.alberta.ca/release.cfm?xID=79894D1C348F4-CE45-2A9D-673A503D52433376>

⁶ https://twitter.com/CMOH_Alberta/status/1442998241738461189

The Unvaccinated and the ICU (continued)

To further obscure information validity, the Alberta Government hospitalization data presents several inconsistencies and only raises additional questions to the accuracy of this reporting.

Table 3. COVID-19 case outcomes in Alberta by vaccine status⁷ provides a vaccine status by current hospitalization, but **no such vaccine breakdown exists for current ICU admissions**. The only similar data source is Table 9. Hospitalized COVID-19 cases in ICU in the past 120 days⁷ and this is the only source that aligns with the daily ICU reporting by vaccination status.

Further, the accuracy of this reporting is questionable given the data discrepancies that exist between the *current* hospitalizations⁸ and the *physical* hospital case counts⁹. Consider the following summary:

	Sept. 19	Sept. 20	Sept. 21	Sept. 22	Sept. 23
Current Hospitalization	954	996	1,040	1,058	1,061
Current ICU	216	222	230	226	246

During this period, 424 hospital and 99 ICU admissions were added to the total hospital counts. There is no correlation between the current hospitalizations and the total hospital counts.

Moreover, I would direct your attention to the following summary of Table 16¹⁰ and Table 02¹¹ taken between August 31 and September 27, 2021. It too raises serious questions about the actual hospital and ICU occupancies and the relationship to vaccine status.

Age Group	COVID Cases	Hospital	ICU	Deaths	Aug. 31	Aug. 31	Sept. 27	Sept. 27
					% Single Vac	% Double Vac	% Single Vac	% Double Vac
<1 year	248	13	5	0	0%	0%	0%	0%
1-4 years	1,657	16	1	0	0%	0%	0%	0%
5-9 years	3,484	5	0	0	0%	0%	0%	0%
10-19 years	6,205	25	3	1	68.8%	59.3%	76.1%	64.3%
20-29 years	6,402	125	14	1	65.7%	54.8%	73.5%	60.5%
30-39 years	7,817	231	45	6	69.3%	60.6%	76.1%	65.5%
40-49 years	5,894	234	63	9	76.1%	69.2%	81.7%	73.4%
50-59 years	3,730	327	101	19	80.8%	74.7%	84.8%	78.0%
60-69 years	2,591	403	119	44	88.9%	84.8%	91.4%	87.1%
70-79 years	1,361	364	74	76	92.3%	90.8%	93.8%	92.2%
80+ years	1,113	333	13	124	91.0%	89.3%	92.0%	90.2%

Before this September 28th admission, Albertans were led to believe that the daily ICU vaccine summaries presented the current situation. This does not appear to be true. It seems that we are witnessing the open manipulation of data to deceive Albertans to support a government narrative that looks less and less factual.

*With the ICU situation today, why is there no relevant data to demonstrate the last 14-30 days?
Why do the metrics continually include these lengthy periods that are of little significance?
Why is there no demographic data available for the current ICU or hospital admissions?*

⁷ <https://www.alberta.ca/stats/covid-19-alberta-statistics.htm#vaccine-outcomes>

⁸ <https://www.alberta.ca/stats/covid-19-alberta-statistics.htm#highlights>

⁹ <https://www.alberta.ca/stats/covid-19-alberta-statistics.htm#data-export>

¹⁰ <https://www.alberta.ca/stats/covid-19-alberta-statistics.htm#severe-outcomes>

¹¹ <https://www.alberta.ca/stats/covid-19-alberta-statistics.htm#vaccinations>

III. Hospitalizations per 100,000

In yet another display of creative manipulation, consider the following images used by the CMOH. At face value, these graphs are intended to visually present the risk of hospitalization. What is alarming is the stark change to the graph in a matter of days. It can only be described as an intentional act to influence a specific narrative.

September 17, 2021 - CMOH Twitter ¹²	September 20, 2021 - CMOH Twitter ¹³																																																									
<p>This graph indicates a hospitalization per 100k by vaccine status over a 60-day period ending August 31. This despite the communication being for September 17th.</p>	<p>The same graph is used again, but the analysis period includes 120-days of data.</p> <p><i>120-days previous is May 23rd when 8.2% of Albertans were considered fully vaccinated.</i></p>																																																									
<table border="1"> <caption>COVID-19 hospitalizations per 100k people in AB by vaccine status, July 1 - August 31, 2021</caption> <thead> <tr> <th>Age Group</th> <th>Hospital Rate per 100K Unvaccinated</th> <th>Hospital Rate per 100K Fully Vaccinated</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr><td>80+ years</td><td>424.73</td><td>46.29</td></tr> <tr><td>70-79 years</td><td>507.68</td><td>13.91</td></tr> <tr><td>60-69 years</td><td>223.48</td><td>3.99</td></tr> <tr><td>50-59 years</td><td>114.70</td><td>1.70</td></tr> <tr><td>40-49 years</td><td>66.85</td><td>0.95</td></tr> <tr><td>30-39 years</td><td>50.32</td><td>1.15</td></tr> <tr><td>20-29 years</td><td>38.65</td><td>0.31</td></tr> <tr><td>12-19 years</td><td>5.34</td><td>0.80</td></tr> <tr><td>Under 12 years</td><td>2.47</td><td>0.00</td></tr> </tbody> </table>	Age Group	Hospital Rate per 100K Unvaccinated	Hospital Rate per 100K Fully Vaccinated	80+ years	424.73	46.29	70-79 years	507.68	13.91	60-69 years	223.48	3.99	50-59 years	114.70	1.70	40-49 years	66.85	0.95	30-39 years	50.32	1.15	20-29 years	38.65	0.31	12-19 years	5.34	0.80	Under 12 years	2.47	0.00	<table border="1"> <caption>COVID-19 hospitalizations per 100k people in AB by vaccine status in the past 120 days</caption> <thead> <tr> <th>Age Group</th> <th>Hospital Rate per 100K Unvaccinated</th> <th>Hospital Rate per 100K Fully Vaccinated</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr><td>80+ years</td><td>1818.69</td><td>144.72</td></tr> <tr><td>70-79 years</td><td>1839.69</td><td>50.04</td></tr> <tr><td>60-69 years</td><td>1060</td><td>16.93</td></tr> <tr><td>50-59 years</td><td>532.03</td><td>7.91</td></tr> <tr><td>40-49 years</td><td>281.08</td><td>5.41</td></tr> <tr><td>30-39 years</td><td>192.59</td><td>3.84</td></tr> <tr><td>12-19 years</td><td>89.03</td><td>1.99</td></tr> <tr><td>Under 12 years</td><td>10.59</td><td>0.00</td></tr> </tbody> </table>	Age Group	Hospital Rate per 100K Unvaccinated	Hospital Rate per 100K Fully Vaccinated	80+ years	1818.69	144.72	70-79 years	1839.69	50.04	60-69 years	1060	16.93	50-59 years	532.03	7.91	40-49 years	281.08	5.41	30-39 years	192.59	3.84	12-19 years	89.03	1.99	Under 12 years	10.59	0.00
Age Group	Hospital Rate per 100K Unvaccinated	Hospital Rate per 100K Fully Vaccinated																																																								
80+ years	424.73	46.29																																																								
70-79 years	507.68	13.91																																																								
60-69 years	223.48	3.99																																																								
50-59 years	114.70	1.70																																																								
40-49 years	66.85	0.95																																																								
30-39 years	50.32	1.15																																																								
20-29 years	38.65	0.31																																																								
12-19 years	5.34	0.80																																																								
Under 12 years	2.47	0.00																																																								
Age Group	Hospital Rate per 100K Unvaccinated	Hospital Rate per 100K Fully Vaccinated																																																								
80+ years	1818.69	144.72																																																								
70-79 years	1839.69	50.04																																																								
60-69 years	1060	16.93																																																								
50-59 years	532.03	7.91																																																								
40-49 years	281.08	5.41																																																								
30-39 years	192.59	3.84																																																								
12-19 years	89.03	1.99																																																								
Under 12 years	10.59	0.00																																																								

Like the ICU data, this graphical representation is callously misleading. The period of analysis includes a large period of un-vaccination which significantly alters the probability that the graph is suggesting.

The only plausible reason for this change is to induce support for an agenda or narrative. It is a careless act by the CMOH to alter such graphics as the public is not likely to detect the relevance of the change. It just simply looks scarier.

With the dire situation, what purpose was served by extending this analysis further into the past?

Why can't this analysis represent a relevant time, such as the last 14-30 days?

Given the hospitalization definition, what is the impact since an infection doesn't mean treatment?

¹² https://twitter.com/CMOH_Alberta/status/1438990905109671937

¹³ https://twitter.com/CMOH_Alberta/status/1440085716977917954

IV. COVID-19 Fatality Reporting

As another example of a misconception permitted to exist without correction is the reporting of COVID-19 fatalities. The CMOH routinely reports fatalities with the term “reported to Alberta Health Services.” The public, media, and politicians continuously refer to this report as meaning said lives were physically lost within the last 24-hours.

However, despite the government data not supporting this ill-conceived perception, the CMOH continues to incite this exact messaging to the public, with the most recent act occurring during the September 15, 2021, update. During this update, the CMOH states:

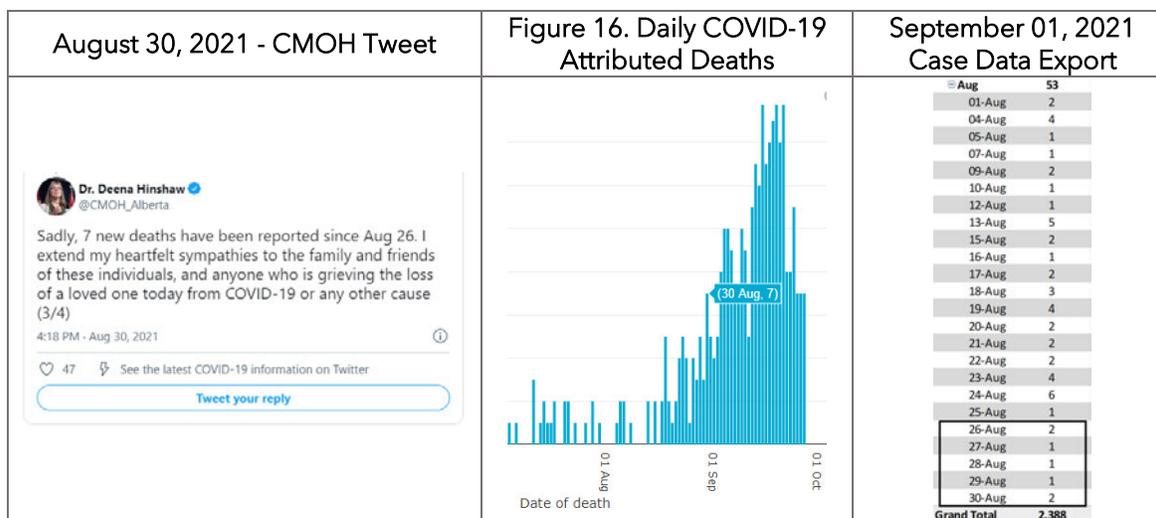
“... I do want to pass on my condolences to the loved ones of **the 24 people whose deaths were reported** to Alberta Health in the last 24 hours. **Let me pause there. That is one person’s life lost for every hour of the day.**”¹⁴

By the CMOH choosing to emphasize the loss of life for every hour of the day, she consciously implies that these fatalities all occurred in the last day. **This is again appears to be false.** The extraction of the Alberta case data¹⁵ on three separate occasions indicates differently. It is to be noted that the Alberta case data export aligns with the daily fatality reporting highlights¹⁶, so it is assumed to be factual.

	Displayed Fatality Count for September 14, 2021	Displayed Fatality Count for September 15, 2021
Data up-to-date to September 16, 2021 Extract	1	3
Data up-to-date to September 19, 2021 Extract	3	4
Data up-to-date to September 22, 2021 Extract	5	5

As a further example of data misrepresentation, consider the CMOH’s tweet¹⁷ from August 30, 2021, indicating that **seven people died between August 26 and August 30, 2021.** While this communication aligns to the case data export, *Figure 16. Daily COVID-19 attributed deaths*¹⁸ reports that seven people died on August 30th. The CMOH noted “died between” not “died on.”

Figure 16 is a problematic visual as it contains no relation to the case data. As an example, this graph indicates 22 fatalities for this same period (Aug. 26-30).



¹⁴ <https://www.alberta.ca/release.cfm?xID=798385BED6930-9D6E-81E2-8C46BEA8E16BA61F>

¹⁵ <https://www.alberta.ca/stats/covid-19-alberta-statistics.htm#data-export>

¹⁶ <https://www.alberta.ca/stats/covid-19-alberta-statistics.htm#highlights>

¹⁷ https://twitter.com/CMOH_Alberta/status/1432467801646661632

¹⁸ <https://www.alberta.ca/stats/covid-19-alberta-statistics.htm>

COVID-19 Fatality Reporting (continued)

The CMOH has never taken the necessary steps to correct this misconception since the pandemic began. Reporting fatalities is significant given the lives lost, but this metric should be handled with complete care and accuracy to minimize societal panic and hysteria.

It is inconceivable that a medical professional of her stature could casually announce 24 deaths in a single grouping without any disclaimer or context. Naturally, this would leave the public perceiving that 24 lives were lost in a single day. The lack of action to correct the misconception and the purposeful emphasis on September 15, 2021, suggests this is intentional.

As of this writing, the deadliest day, according to government case data, was December 22, 2020, when 42 Albertans aged 20-80+ passed away. I will add that there are 26 days were 20+ fatalities occurred; **all of which took place between November 27, 2020 - January 03, 2021.**

The following represents the **current reported deaths** from March 01, 2020 - September 27, 2021. It appears the **same demographics** are again **vastly impacted as with the previous waves.**

	2020										2021								
	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S
10-19 YRS																			1
20-29 YRS	1							1	1	2	2			2		1			1
30-39 YRS	1						1		3	2	3	1	1		2			4	3
40-49 YRS		1						2	3	10	8	4	2	7	8	1	1	6	3
50-59 YRS	1	2				2	2	2	7	33	14	4	7	17	23	4	1	9	14
60-69 YRS	4	6			7	2	5	13	38	88	31	13	20	27	34	6	4	21	28
70-79 YRS	5	18	8	3	14	8	9	26	84	134	63	18	19	38	31	9	2	38	52
80+ YRS	24	66	15	10	42	10	20	93	238	466	225	44	23	45	26	8	2	57	91
UNKWN										1									
TOTAL	36	93	23	13	63	22	37	137	374	736	346	84	72	136	124	29	10	135	193

In Closing

I would encourage you to closely review these examples and the other pieces of government data for transparency and consistency. It is inexcusable for the Premier or any other elected official to promote such polarizing views while openly stigmatizing groups of our population, especially when the basis for such accusation's rests upon shaky ground.

Regarding the CMOH, I unequivocally support the calls for her resignation due to the disservice she has provided to Albertans. While she overtly threatens Albertans with Criminal Code actions for falsifying a piece of paper so a family can still move freely within society, some would consider her actions criminal if under oath. The term most used is lying by omission, and this has categorically altered Alberta's path.

Thank you for taking the time to review this letter. If you have any questions or would like to discuss these topics, I would welcome the opportunity to personally discuss these issues further. I look forward to hearing back from you on the actions you plan to take to address the issues I have placed before you.

Best Regards;

[Redacted Signature]