

# THE EXTRA POINT

BY JERRY ROBERTS



## # 961 Is Omicron What We've Been Hoping For?

What if, right around Christmas, the Governor of Guam could give everybody a present, announcing that the pandemic was over? What if? Let's talk about this, next on The Extra Point.

Monday, I offered comments from a trio of doctors and researchers, who had started to discuss the omicron variant. Not much was known, but there was speculation that the virus was more transmissible than delta, would possibly evade some of the protection offered by vaccines and monoclonal treatments, and may or may not make people as sick or sicker than other variants.

There was also a positive note, that if omicron was actually milder than other variants, seeing it spread could actually be a good thing. Now, three days later, we know more.

I was watching the latest report from Dr. John Campbell of England, who has been covering the pandemic since it started. Omicron has indeed shown itself to spread more easily. There is virtually 100% agreement on this among scientists.

Campbell said that there is almost a certainty that omicron will evade some of the protection offered by vaccines, and also natural immunity. Those who rely upon vaccines and natural immunity will be more vulnerable to this new variant.

So far, there is zero evidence that omicron is making people sicker. In fact, all reports to this point are that symptoms are extremely mild, such as headaches and some muscle discomfort among the vaccinated. There is no information on omicron and its impact on the unvaccinated, but there is speculation that it will also be mild.

Campbell and others suggest that the transmissibility of this variant means that it's likely most people are going to be exposed to

it — the vaxxed and unvaxxed. As of yesterday, there were no reported cases of the omicron variant in the U.S. It won't stay that way for long, and Campbell believes we'll see a lot of them popping up within days.

If omicron can evade protection from the vaccines, what about a specific booster for it? Moderna says it will not have one until sometime in 2022. If it is able to get around the vaccine and turns out to be bad news, then that's a big problem. However, Campbell sees it another way...a positive way.

Using information from a German clinical epidemiologist, Campbell made the case that a virus can't be good at everything. It might be good at transmissibility, or evading immune protections, or making you sick. In the case of omicron, it appears it has used up all of its mutations on transmissibility, and maybe some on evading protection, but has nothing left to induce severe sickness. While nobody is exactly sure on this at present, Campbell believes this is the case, and he is joined by others in the scientific community.

His speculation is that omicron is certain to replace delta as the dominant variant in the world, giving everyone really mild disease, making the whole world's population immune and getting rid of the pandemic. COVID-19 would end, much like the Spanish Flu, common cold, and other coronaviruses that we live with today.

Campbell believes we'll have that answer in three weeks, once omicron spreads like a wildfire across the globe. Three weeks.

After what we've all been through with COVID, it seems too simple. He's very conservative in his presentations, and thorough in gathering information.

(Con't.)

I don't think he would have gone down this road unless he is sold on omicron's potential for delivering the outcome we all want.

He hedges his bets a bit, saying we don't know enough yet, but then comes back to the positive. It could be .

So, what if this happens? Well, if it did, could it then make perfect sense for elected leaders everywhere to pull an "about face," immediately encouraging everyone to meet in the largest groups possible, and to spread omicron freely? Hey, hug, kiss, and breathe on each other! All restrictions could be lifted right away.

What if, Campbell and others like him are right? What if, three weeks from now, the governor could make this kind of announcement?

Maybe her speechwriters could start working something up, you know, just in case.

That's the Extra Point. Be responsible and make something good happen today. For 93.3 and the Ray Gibson Show, I'm Jerry Roberts.

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