



Sunetra Gupta

Georg von Opel

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Dear Georg,

Hope all is well in spite of this continuing disruption to all our lives.

I thought I'd let you know that I appeared on C4 last night in a debate about science -

<https://www.channel4.com/programmes/can-science-beat-the-virus/on-demand/71406-001> - I tried to make the point even more strongly that we cannot just consider the question of lifting lockdown in the single dimension of what it will do to the pandemic but they have cut it down dramatically. I did manage (I hope) to get across the point about large scale sero-surveys - we are moving fast on these at the moment and have several studies on the go:

- (i) we are getting 500 Scottish blood donor samples every two weeks (we have observed a significant increase in positive samples since mid-March)
- (ii) we are looking 200 Danish health care worker samples per week
- (iii) we will be receiving 300-400 samples from pregnant women per week from the JR hospital
- (iv) we are due to receive 2000 samples from the study conducted by the Office of National Statistics

In addition we are using our assay to help with a study on using convalescent sera as treatment for acutely ill patients and will also be screening sera from the Oxford vaccine trial. We are also in discussion with colleagues in Malawi and South Africa about conducting studies there and are about to help an Australian group set up a study in Sydney.

Thank you again for your interest in our work and your invaluable support.

Very best,
Sunetra

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