

## From the Desk/Study of Dr. Carol Meschter

## **HELLO EVERYONE!**

Here is the latest on the COVID situation and our Sheltering. Everything at CBI is going well. We have a steady amount of studies coming in, as well as studies in progress. I want to complement everyone at CBI, on their diligence and care, plus attention to social distancing. Our vendors seem to be active as well as we are receiving orders and shipments reasonably and we do not seem to running out of supplies.

- ALL GOOD SO FAR -

## New ARDS Studies.

We are consistantly promoting preclinical studies investigating ARDS, which is what kills people with **COVID.** I actually know quite a bit about this from my past at Hoffmann LaRoche. We have had quite a number of responses and we are signing some new ARDS studies, which we are very excited about. This will involve using LPS to induce lung inflammation in rodents (there is no virus used).

We do not know how long the shut down will be continuing, but I am guessing this will go on in some form for months. Social distancing is the most important thing that can be done until there is a vaccine, but luckily, vaccines are happening. There are 70 vaccines now in development and 3 in clinical trials, including 1 in Phase II in China and 2 in Phase I here in the US. There are several human trials running now in the US. There may be a product ready for human use in 3-12 months, but the scale up to be able vaccinate millions will take 6-12 months probably. Apparently, these companies are proceeding with little or no preclinical work, so we shall see how effective these products will be, but considering the expertise in vaccine development, I will predict that they will all work and all be pretty safe.

After a serious stock market crash, the stock market is rebounding, I am pretty sure that the financier's thoughts of drug companies being able to vaccinate every person on the planet repeatedly sent the stock market into a tizzy of anticipation of profits beyond the dreams of Croesus.

I want to encourage everyone to be careful, be diligent, be meticulous in COVID protection and above all be positive and optimistic. You will look back on this as one of the biggest turning points in history and science and we are a part of it.