

[-> Sign the letter here](#)

Dear Hillary, Susan, and Shannon,

We are over 450 journalists, researchers, clinicians, and others with expertise in Long Covid, infection associated illnesses, and disability. Many of us live with Long Covid or other infection associated illnesses.

We are writing to demand a retraction of Jeff Wise's article "Long Covid Comes Into The Light" published on 3/19/23. On March 20th, your publication issued a substantial correction stating "research has identified biological changes that can occur in association with symptoms present following a COVID infection." We believe this correction and the poor way it was implemented negates the article's conclusions about Long Covid and warrants a full retraction.

The correction undermines Wise's unfounded thesis that, "Long COVID is neither as common nor as severe as initially feared." He constructs this thesis from cherry picked data, biased sourcing, and a misinformed understanding of disability prevalence using successful [SSDI claims](#). He also excludes the perspectives of credible experts with experience in treating, studying, or experiencing Long Covid and other associated conditions. Wise made many of these same errors and exercised his extreme bias in a November, 2022 *New York Magazine* article. [Numerous correction letters were sent](#). The organization of one of his sources even accused Wise of [misrepresenting information](#).

Over [10,000 papers](#) have been published about the disease in high impact science journals including, *Nature*, *Science*, *The New England Journal of Medicine*, and *Cell* — journals that cannot be so easily dismissed in drawing conclusions about Long Covid. Failing to recognize that Long Covid is a valid biomedical illness in the framing of this article is unacceptable and explains the numerous errors made by Wise and *Slate*.

Moreover, the article originally excluded important papers like this [recent review published in Nature](#) (Davis et al.) that analyzed all the research between January 2020 and June 2022 on Long Covid. It stated that Long Covid is an incredibly severe condition that affects at least 65 million people worldwide. It concluded:

"Long COVID is a multisystemic illness encompassing ME/CFS, dysautonomia, impacts on multiple organ systems, and vascular and clotting abnormalities. It has already debilitated millions of individuals worldwide, and that number is continuing to grow. On the basis of more than 2 years of research on long COVID and decades of research on conditions such as ME/CFS, a significant proportion of individuals with long COVID may have lifelong disabilities if no action is taken."

Conditions like dysautonomia and ME/CFS have no cure and can last for life, not just years as Wise states. A recent CDC report also showed that as many as [3.5k people have died of Long](#)

[Covid](#). To claim Long Covid is not prevalent or severe is incomprehensible given this evidence, the biomedical consensus on the condition, as well as the lived experience of people experiencing and/or disabled by Long Covid or other associated illnesses.

By tacking on the Davis et al. and [Frontiers](#) reviews haphazardly during Monday's correction — without adding any context for readers about the significance of these groundbreaking reviews — shows *Slate*'s continued choice to platform bias rather than report accurately on the vast biomedical literature of Long Covid. Furthermore, this inclusion of Lowe's dated quote from a nearly year old op-ed that led to the corrections raises serious questions about *Slate*'s editorial standards for evidence.

The article also greatly misconstrues recovery, claiming that “most of which resolve in less than a year; and second, that a very small percentage experience symptoms that last longer.” For instance, when Wise references the Israeli Health Network study, he misleads readers by failing to state the many critiques and limitations of the study. One critique published in [The BMJ](#) stated serious concerns about the methodology and interpretation” and said it “likely presents an overly optimistic view of Long Covid recovery.”

Wise also cites an Australian study that measured recovery by phone calls between January and May 2020. But as Davis et al. states, many Long Covid symptoms can take months to appear after infection making this study useless. Neglecting this well-known fact is irresponsible and shows complete ignorance of Long Covid. Davis et al. also points to a credible study in [Nature Communications](#) that found 85% of Long Covid patients who had symptoms 2 months after the initial infection reported symptoms 1 year after symptom onset. Clearly, a majority of people do not recover as quickly as Wise falsely suggests.

There are numerous other errors to point out in this article that show a clear lack of research, reporting, and fact checking but since Monday's correction already negates the article's arguments, it is in your and the public's best interest to retract the piece and apologize to the millions of people living with Long Covid, as well as the families of those who have died from it.

Readers deserve transparent and clear reporting, not disorderly misinformation. At your earliest convenience, please let us know when the article will be retracted.

[-> Sign the letter here](#)

Sincerely,

Miles W. Griffis
Joshua B. Pribanic
Natalia Hodgins
Simon Spichak

Betsy Ladyzhets
Fiona Lowenstein
Laura Weiss
Lygia Navarro

Megan E. Doherty, *PhD*
Diane Shipley
Lucy Butcher
Julie Rehmeyer
Kaelyn Lynch
Emily Johnson
Letícia Soares
Hannah Davis
Lisa McCorkell
Dr. Elisabeth Harrison, *PhD, Critical Disability Studies*
Jaime Seltzer
Ben HsuBorger
Adriane Tillman
Elizabeth Weaver
Charles McCone
Jules Porte
Dara York
Justine Barron
Emmett Patterson
Karyn Bishof
JD Davids
Angela Laffin
Morgan Davies
D'Angelique Dopson
Christine Guptill, *PhD, OT Reg.*
Kelina N. T. Lobo, *MA*
Mady Hornig, *MA, MD*
Maya Lindemann, *RN*
Jessica L Warner, *RN, BSN*
Eileen M. Kelly, *Ph.D., RN*
Alexis Misko, *OTD, OTR/L*
Kimberly Vered Shashoua, *LCSW*
Debbie Werosh, *ACSW*
Bruce Watson, *BPharm*
Martha Eckey, *PharmD*
Michael DiMattia, *PhD*
Dr. Eva Roca, *MHS, PhD*
Charlotte Haley, *PhD*
Carrine E. Blank, *PhD*
Chris J. Maddison, *DPhil*
Tess Falor, *PhD*
Donna Sachs, *PhD*
Johanna Po, *DMD, PhD*
Tamar Salibian, *PhD, MFA*

David Putrino
Dr. Jennifer Curtin
Tom Molmans, *MD, psychiatrist*
Dr. Stephen Griffin
Dr. Asad Khan
Dr. Kate Cushing
Dr. Rae Duncan
Dr. Sandra McDermott
Dr. Eleanor Draeger
Dr. Bhavana Nissima
Dr. Keira Johnston
Dr Ian Barros D'Sa
Dr. Julien Arbor
Dr. Lesley Cooper
Dr. Rita L. Laxton
Dr. Irene Tosetti, *MD, MBA, MPH*
Phoebe Strom, *MS*
Todd Bischoff, *MS*
Prof Douglas B. Kell, *CBE*
Nina A. Tomei, *MD*
Judy Stone, *MD*
Anna Kern, *NP*
Todd E. Davenport, *PT, DPT, MPH*
Daria Oller, *PT, DPT, ATC*
Dr. Ben Marsh, *MBBS BSc(hons) MRCPCH*
Kelly Meiners, *MPT, PhD, ATC, CSCS*
Dysautonomia International
COVID-19 Longhailer Advocacy Project
Long Covid Support
Long Covid SOS
Marcus Weinman *MS*
Jenny H. Hsi, *DrPH*
Christopher Thomas, *PhD*
Louise Kenward
Devin Russell
Lonnie Wilson
Libby Beltz Wiskowski
Jennifer Fairbairn
Billy Hanlon
Jacqui Charles
Tracey Thompson
Mary Tapsall
Sarah Brodsky
Sonali M.
Noemi Enache

Dominic Moss
Heather Carr
Sita Zarcufsky
Sarah Wolfe
Lindsay Humphreys
Paul Walsh
Julie Sobsey
Andrew J. Coate
Abigail Schroeder
Felicia Alfieri
Jennifer Mayberry
Katie Klocksinn
Lauren Bruno
Deven Russell
Anna Anderson
Linay Mitchell
Danielle Jewell
Nicola Wright
Emily Winson
Yaron Fishman
Catherine Romatowski
Amanda Stauffer
Matt Passmore
Melissa Mansfield
Elizabeth Pugh
Jeffrey Dopson
Michael Alexander
Taylor Binder
Mary Margaret Alexander
Janet O’Kane
Madalyn Parker
Fiona Morton
Matt Cera
Tammy Brantley
Samuel Miller
Allison Alt
Cindy Lu
Amy Martin
Hanna Kaufman
Janice Brown
Wayne Westerman
Mary Margaret Alexander
Barry Dorsey
Jared Jewell
Sophia Bunk

Stuart Smith
Sarah Scherer
Jeffrey Dopson
Katie Klocksinn
Mel Symeonides
Elizabeth Pugh
Melissa Pinsly
Lisa Gray
Yaneer Bar-Yam
Colleen O’Brien
Jennifer Fairbairn
Lindsay Humphreys
Winston Blick
Olenka Sayko
Sali Owen
Andre Radar-Gallwitz
Shanti Zarcufsky
Colleen Bailey
Sasha Anderson
Di Quin-Conroy
Jenny Miller
Sarah Steinberg
Tania J. Spencer
Nila Jones
Kate Whitley
Sarah Donnelly
Nikki Burkart
Sara Avery
Amber Reiners
Angela Harris
Dan Tenenbaum
Chantal Renaud
Emily Fraser
Alison Machin
Alyssa Zadra
Rebecca Richardson
Simon Duckworth
Kristin Houlihan
Nia Roberts
Josh Hornbeck
Anna de Sterke
Daniel Higgins
Erica Harrell
Stuart McIver
Sarah Buckley

James Glen
Rachel Bishop
Sophie Gordon
Aaron Thomas
Ella Pawlik
Tracey Burgess
Jo Maybin
Julia Darcey
Celine Castera
Maria Sale
Carol Huzzey
Robert King
Catherine Carr
Jane Thompson
Claire Higham
Christina Cotter
Ondine Sherwood
Dr Moira Phillips
Michael A. Osborne
Sam Williams
Kathryn Miller
Sally Watton
Helen Lunt Davies
Owen White
Stan Barker
Christine Tully
Dr Kelly Fearnley
Danielle Green
Margaret Richardson
Sarah Pinks
Walter V.
Heidi Connahs
Angela Gilchrist
Daniel Campion
Brandy Bullock
Theodore Troe
Eveliina Leinonen
Doug Frizzell
Jamie McGregor
Angela Kenniston
Tom Lachaise
Robert Freeland
Amanda Mullen
Rebecca James
Baruch Coltof

Dr Naomi Harvey
John Gray
C Green
Katie Johnstone
Candice Makhan
Kate Violette
Dr Antoinette Burchill
Pam Bishop
Dr Avril Washington
George M. Carter
Kim H.
Shelley Shenton
Krista Lusey
Nicole Oliver
John Thompson
Carol Toro
Dana Haff
Penny Green
Betzi Bateman
George Cortez
Angela O'Connor
Anil van der Zee
Alice Browne
Margaret Lockwood
Matthew McGovern
Natalae Almeter
Matthew McGovern
Megan Pendleton
Sarah Manners
Kelly Keeney
Noah Berman
Genna Kidd
Emma Wooller
Michael Sieverts
Michael Yada
Amanda Lord
Justine Grace Swaab
Ruby A. Engel
Shaney Wright
Nicole Padilla
Wendy Kloiber
Amrita Thakkar
Brianna Andes
Mark Stewart
Tracea Berger-Brown

Dave Andrus
Anne V.
Marie Follayttar
Lizzie Farrell
Katey Moroneso
JP Thompson
Elizabeth Skeates
Ashley Thomas
Claire Hastie
Elinor M. Beckwith
Emily Rosenzweig
Kenneth Griggs
Cynthia Carlomagno
Toby Davis
Richard Vallée
James Schoch
Renee Pond
Robert Whitley
Allison Guy
Crystal R. Widger
Melvin Davis III
Alison Green
Jaclyn Ferreira
James Roussos
Susan Winkler
Silvia Boreli
Erin Gruodis-Gimbel
Ippokratis Angelidis
Tanja Walser
Claudia Sherman
Haley Simas
Annabella Farmer
Amy Kiehl
Jodi Tobias
Kelly Doran
Amy Moore
María Richardson
Eliana Uku
Caleigh Judd
Nalini Norris
Lisa Boscov-Ellen
Evvie Nanni
Sawyer Blatz
Denise Lopez-Majano
Maggie Dougherty

Adina Gerver
Rachel Langer
Jordan Lavant
Caitlin West
Tricia Steele
Lauren Shoemaker
Jo Dainow
Samuel Rhodehamel
Kate Hendry
Bettie Hough
Cheryl Ruzzo
Claudia Megaro
Tom Bailey
Maria Napolitano
Eliza Charley
Lynette Hee
M. Doherty
Keith Sadler
Christina E. Farmer
Maeve Carey-Kozlark
Jessica Sweet
Emma Williams
Aliza M. Pressman
Heather McDonald
Regina Morris
Deborah Lundin
Jennifer Locanas
James Falek
Teia Hassey
Ella Kahl
Paul Kaloper
Audrey R Sutton
Hannah Land
Amy Cook
Anne-Marie Zapf-Belanger
Rachel Franklin
Casey Long
Jonathan Richter
Wayne Werosh
Laura Worden
Melissa Bowers
Cheri Hickman
Lara Goxhaj
Ashley Hultman
Sue Taylorbrown

Julian Castro
Jess Smolinski
Lara Batchelder
Kathrine Brock
Joe Jaggi
Brandon Shelton
Caitlin Sanford
Fiona Gau
Vardaan Bhat
Donna Merritt
Jami Striegel
Erica Olson
Jenna Luche-Thayer
Carolyn Bick
Krizten Breidenich
Jayne Noble
Myra Batchelder
Frederic Tarabout
Wendi M Taylor
Kirsty Yeates
Leighann Charlton
Bryan Buckner
Lauren Phillips
Anja Dannemann
Jammer Michaels
Kristin Regans
Christian Zacharias
Alan S. Drake
Bonnie VanKeersbilck
Melissa Stailey
Cori Marvin
Benji Brubaker
Sarah Horsman
Christina Moore
Lasse Rintakumpu
Erin Clark
Rhiannen Putt
Vicky van der Togt
Barbara Benas
Crystal Burke
Carri Watson
John Patane
Roberta Patterson

Julie Fallon
Xiaoxiao Liu
Amy Siniscalchi
Judy Stone
Kelsey Smolen
Scott Puckett
Kerry Becklund
Joyce K. Witt
Craig Bullard
Andrea Hultman
Rose Friedman
Linda Shelley
Kelly Byke
Emme McManus
Jeremy S.
Jacob Trenholm
Sheryl Randhawa
Andy Sattazahn
Amir Mustefa
Jenny Wilson
Ruth Ainley
Mark Harper
Sandy Brundage
Brandi Herrera
John Buettner
Steven Ruo
Wendi Taylor
Amy G.
Christine Jamieson
Joseph Banta
Ofer Neiman
Mark Richardson
Teresa Gaines
Britt Elin Gihleengen
Lauryn Duke
Alyssa Piperis
Julia Peters
Holly Chessman
Lia Evans
Bettina Ramón
Loretta Vialpando
Sally L. Jones

