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# CRONA FUN

## \$7.4m funding for controversial wuhan lab blamed for causing Covid-19 by conspiracy theorists

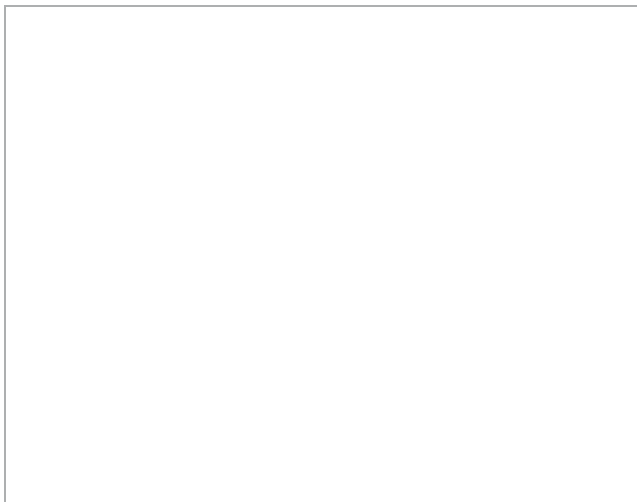
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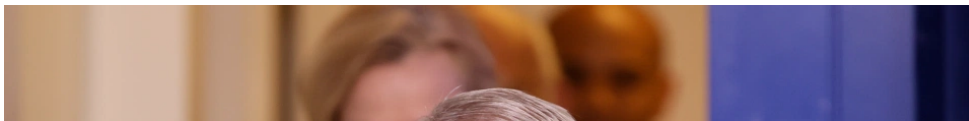
29 Apr 2020, 11:22 Updated: 29 Apr 2020, 13:42

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**WHITE House virus expert Dr Anthony Fauci reportedly backed funding for a controversial lab in China that is blamed for causing the Covid-19 pandemic.**

[Dr Fauci's](#) National Institute for Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID) allegedly shelled out \$7.4 million to the Wuhan laboratory, which was studying bats with [coronavirus](#).





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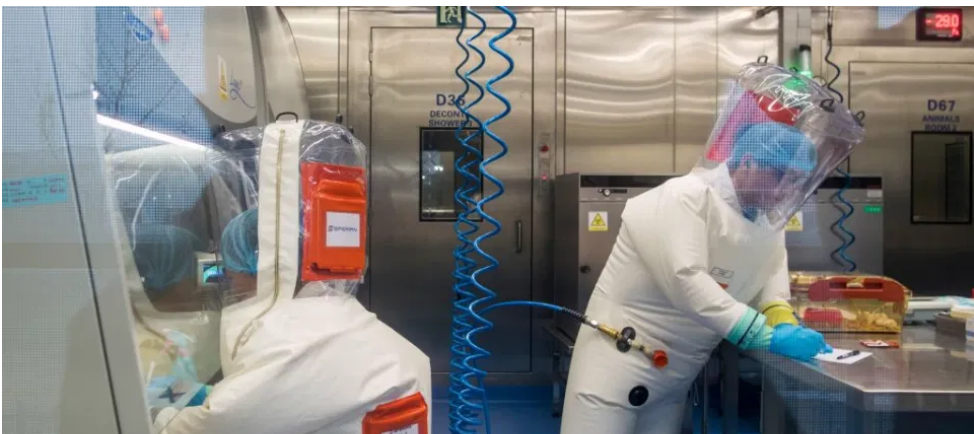


**Dr Anthony Fauci is linked to an health agency that funded a lab in Wuhan which was studying coronavirus** Credit: Reuters



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**The Wuhan Institute of Virology conducted research into viruses from bats** Credit: AFP - Getty



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In 2019, with the Institutes of Health (NIH) committed \$3.7 million over six years for research in Wuhan, reports [Newsweek](#).

The program followed another \$3.7 million, five-year project for collecting and studying bat coronaviruses, which ended in 2019, bringing the total to \$7.4 million.

The Wuhan Institute of Virology laboratory has become the center of theories about the origin of Covid-19 because it was manipulating viruses seen in bats to explore their potential for infecting humans.

The lab is not far from the animal market where officially the pandemic began.

## FUNDING NOW STOPPED

US intelligence, after originally insisting the coronavirus had occurred naturally, have conceded that the coronavirus may have originated in a leak from the Wuhan lab.

All US government funding to the lab was reportedly stopped last week.

NIH defended their funding in a statement to Newsweek.

"Most emerging human viruses come from wildlife, and these represent a significant threat to public health and biosecurity in the US and globally," the statement read.



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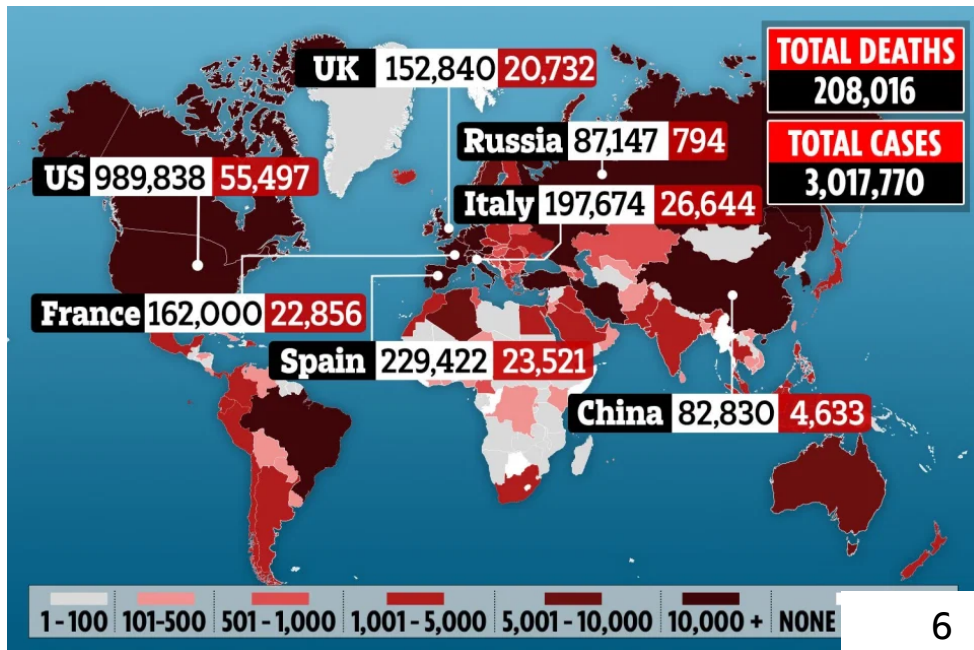
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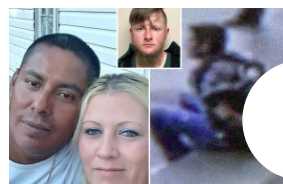
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A film emerged earlier this month showing a Wuhan-based virus expert catching bats has fuelled a conspiracy theory that the disease was man-made and leaked from a lab



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Mr Tian works at the centre, which is not far from the animal market where officially the virus began.

Labs here were known to have studied bats and Mr Tian himself was said to have gathered samples from numerous flying mammals.

## WUHAN INSTITUTE OF VIROLOGY

**Bungling scientists at the Wuhan Institute of Virology accidentally spread the killer during risky coronavirus tests on bats, US and British intelligence officials fear.**





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The coronavirus is  
lab in Wuhan Credit: EPA

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Documentary showing a Chinese virus researcher  
catching wild bats sparks Wuhan CDC coronavirus  
origin conspiracy theory

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