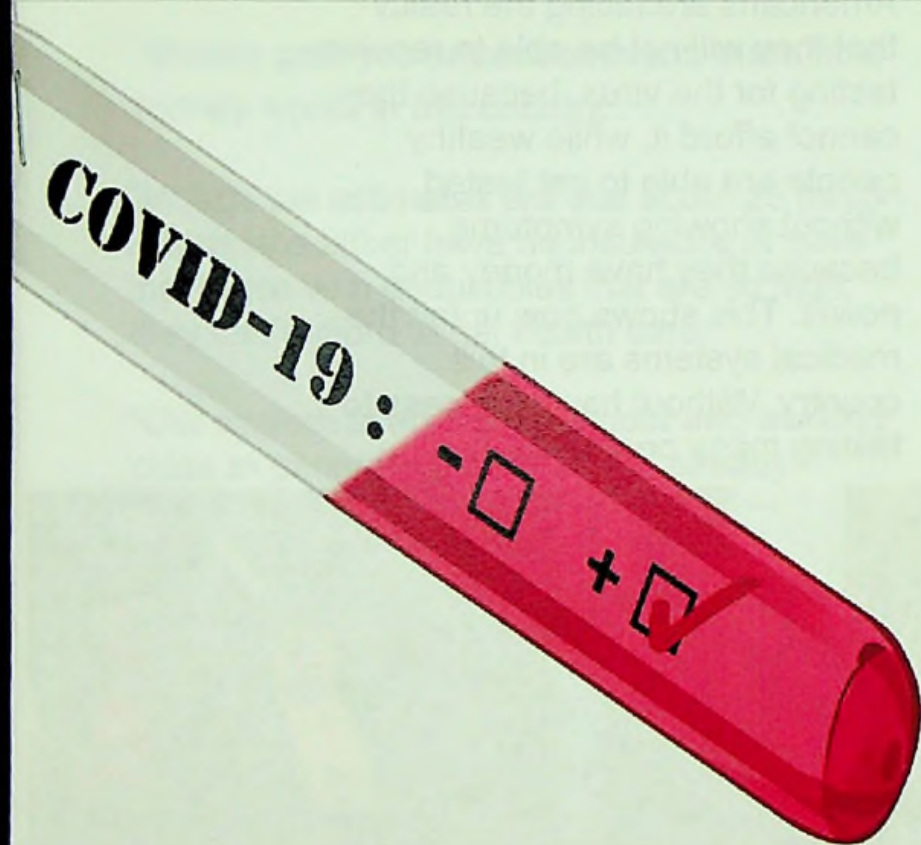


# Testing inequalities for Covid-19

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## INTRODUCTION:

This Zine represents the wealth inequalities revolving around the Covid-19 pandemic. Many Americans are facing the reality that they will not be able to receive testing for the virus, because they cannot afford it, while wealthy people are able to get tested without showing symptoms because they have money and power. This shows how unfair the medical systems are in this country. Without having access to testing many people will die.



# Quotes

"Money gets you better treatment, that's how money works in this country."

"In fact, the estimates are that about 25 million Americans either have no insurance or have insurance with deductibles that are so high, they can't afford to get health care."

"Our system takes from the poor and working class to generate wealth for the already wealthy."

"Wealthier people have better insurance and can afford more out of pocket medical expenses."

"They tend to be better educated and more aware of the health benefits."

"Most of the major hospitals in the country have some strategy now to not just recruit patients in general, but to particularly recruit patients who are relatively well insured,"

"High prices are not the best nor the only way to get drugs or vaccines that will win the war against the virus."

# The cost

The Covid19 outbreak in the US is showing major gaps in the health system's ability to respond to a pandemic of this scale. Hospitals and doctors are being forced to improvise emergency plans every day and are still unsure of how much is yet to come. But what about the question on the minds of health care workers and the rest of society? The cost of life in the time of crisis. Price control is a staple in American health care companies. Patients will pay whatever it takes to assure the safety of themselves and their loved ones. Deviation from this system threatens the booming business of basic health in the US. "The American health care industry is not good at promoting health, but it excels at taking money from all of us for its benefit. It is an engine of inequality." If the US continues its popular trend of putting thousands in unpayable debt for health care, there is no saying how detrimental this hit will be on the lower classes.



# The myth

It is easy to believe that a Doctor would never turn a patient away due to lack of health insurance or money. When we take a closer look we see that it is very common that a patient will be turned away because of this. Due to the Covid-19 pandemic this problem has been exacerbated. Gary Fowler, a young 56 year old man from Detroit recently died of Covid-19. He went to three different hospitals and was denied help. He showed strong symptoms of the virus, yet no one would help him. President Donald Trump showed seemingly no symptoms yet was able to receive testing because of his wealth and status. The inequality is clear and people are dying because of it. The argument is not that poor people do not deserve to live, but more so how the country revolves around money and cares more about the economy than helping people. This is an aspect that needs to change, and due to Covid-19, hopefully people are seeing this as a huge problem in our healthcare system and government.

# Facts



- Low income people will have a harder time avoiding Covid-19
- Wealthy people consume 20% of tests without meeting cdc symptom requirements
- Rich people eat healthier.
- **Rich and powerful people have connections.**
- **Testing for Covid19 is considered a "luxury" good.**
- If cost of tests were waived everyone would benefit
- Money and power have provided comfort during this pandemic
- Rich people have better access to medical care



# Conclusion

In conclusion, testing for Covid-19 are only being provided for those who are wealthy. Hospitals are denying people to get tested even if they have symptoms. Therefore, unfortunately people are dying when they could've been saved. Our group thinks it shouldn't matter if you are wealthy or not, everyone should be able to get tested and not get denied. Even if they cannot get tested, give them structure on what to do to stay safe and healthy as long as they can.

Through research, the disparities are clearly seen in the healthcare system in the United States. Each article, although different shared similar stories, and that was that the wealthy get it all. All the money, and all the healthcare while other people are greatly struggling to survive.



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