

## Young, Bernie C

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**From:** Pinellas County Clerk of the Circuit Court and Comptroller  
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**Sent:** Thursday, April 30, 2020 6:48 PM  
**To:** Comments, BCC Agenda

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### Live Form

Topic      Opening of Swimming Pools

BCC

Agenda    5-1-2020

Date

Your  
Stand on   Oppose  
the Issue

SOME REASONS I DO NOT THINK IT IS WISE TO OPEN SWIMMING POOLS NOW I am a Masters doing a swimming-pool workout two or three times per week. Viral transmission thru public swimming pool to be mainly via a fecal-oral route. <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC6352248/?fbclid=IwARpb8Q3dCJeQs20HGkkpKg> (full text) Abstract follows:

Int J Environ Res Public Health. 2019 Jan; 16(2): 166. Published online 2019 Jan 9. doi: 10.3390/ijerph160166 Diseases Associated with Swimming Pools Lucia Bonadonna\* and Giuseppina La Rosa\* Abstract Infectious molds, may threaten the health of swimming pool bathers. Viruses are a major cause of recreationally-associated diseases in thermal pools/spas, rivers, and hot springs. They can make their way into waters through the accidental release of virus-laden flakes by symptomatic or asymptomatic carriers. We present an updated overview of epidemiological data on these things, by the availability of improved viral detection methodologies. Special attention is paid to outbreak investigation, transmission, chlorination/disinfection). Epidemiological studies on incidents of viral contamination of swimming pools are reviewed. <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC6352248/> Abstract follows:

Comments RNA and proteins from SARS-CoV-2, the viral cause of COVID-19, have been detected in feces, even after conventional testing (not testing feces) gives a negative result. It is now considered possible that the coronaviruses found no reports or data on either the testing for SARS-CoV-2 in swimming pool type water or in actual swimming pools. The virus is thought to be deactivated quickly in properly treated pool water, pool water is not necessarily properly encased in body fluids so that it will not be deactivated. Pools require swimmers to shower before entering and this is enforced. Showering would prevent some organics from being shed by swimmers in pools. While swimming, the water surface in pools—some pools much worse than others. Mucus can protect a virus from direct contact with people's mouths and exhale under the water thru their noses, which will expel mucus. Non-swimmers often get water in their lungs. Swimmers also spit mucus into the pool gutters where there might be little or no contact with pool-water chlorinated water can serve as additional sites for transmission of the virus. People tend to crowd in locker rooms with wet suits, use toilets and shower (after, but seldom before, swimming). Relatively few people have been tested for the virus. People who harbor the virus and shed it through their oral excretions and possibly also thru their feces. Allowing 50% capacity in pools seem to me to be totally arbitrary non-science based requirements. I think it would be unfair and very discriminatory to those who may be called upon to come into close contact with swimmers and their secretions, to work in pool and spa areas.

time, I think pools that have roped off swimming lanes could allow for use by one swimmer per lane, in which people who have tested negative for COVID-19 should be allowed to swim (keeping in mind that tests are not 100% accurate and some people can carry the virus). Thank you for your consideration of these matters, Patricia Patterson

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