

children, where children seemed on the whole to have this as a milder disease than adults and probably quite a lot milder in most cases. The second thing is it is also true that particular groups of older people or vulnerable people, medically vulnerable, do get this more severely, and if you look in the data from China, if you look in the data from Italy, and if you look in the data initially from the UK, most of the deaths are occurring in those groups. But, and this is the point that the US is making, and I think it is an important point to emphasise, that is not to say that there will not be severe cases amongst people who are younger adults. And that is important because it is important that people don't trivialise this. This is a significant issue for everybody, although the great burden of disease will tend to fall, in terms of severe disease, in the more vulnerable groups, and that's why we've given very specific advice to people who are over 70 or have pre-existing health conditions. That, there will be people who don't fall into those groups who will fall seriously ill, unfortunately. The great majority will not, but some will and so we do ask people, you know, take this seriously for yourself, as well as taking it seriously for all of society, and as a way of taking pressure off the NHS.

**BJ:** Thanks very much. Gordon Rayner, where's Gordon, Gordon Rayner, Telegraph. Last question, I'm afraid, everybody.

**Gordon Rayner, The Daily Telegraph:** Thank you, Prime Minister. Just to, just to pick up on what Beth asked earlier, you've quoted this figure of 12 weeks to turn the tide, which is the first time you've said that. You haven't really defined for us what turning the tide means, but I don't know whether the purpose of Chris or Sir Patrick might be able to explain what that would look like, does that mean that we will be well over this and we will be returning to our normal lives, or does that mean that we will have just hit the peak and will be starting to go back down the other side? What does that actually mean?

**BJ:** Well, what I want us to do is to get on top of it, and at the moment, the disease is proceeding in a, in a way that does not seem yet to be responding to our, our interventions and I believe that a combination of the measures that we're asking the public to take and better testing, scientific progress, will enable us to get on top of it within the next 12 weeks and, and turn the tide. Now I cannot stand here and tell you that by the end of June that we will be on the downward slope. It's possible, but I simply can't say that that's, that that's for certain, of course not, we don't where we are, we don't know how, how long this thing will go on for. But what I can say is that this is going to be finite. We will turn the tide and I can see how to do it within the next 12 weeks. Anybody want to comment on...

**CW:** Patrick's area...

**BJ:** Patrick?

**PV:** Well I mean, I think, I think we're absolutely at the beginning of this, where, where, the measures that are in place should start having an impact on the rate of growth of the epidemic, and those are significant measures, as we all know, and they are expected to then