

# Sen. Johnson Points Out Conflicting CDC Statements on Surveillance of COVID-19 Vaccine Adverse Events

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by [Children's Health Defense](#)

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**WASHINGTON** – On Monday, U.S. Sen. Ron Johnson sent a follow-up letter to Rochelle Walensky, Director of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), demanding clarity on whether the agency performed sufficient surveillance of COVID-19 vaccine adverse events. Recent conflicting statements by CDC officials about monitoring adverse events called into question CDC's integrity and transparency.

In a [June 2022 letter](#) to the CDC, Sen. Johnson outlined the CDC's Standard Operating Procedures (SOP) [document](#) dated January 29, 2021, in which the agency claimed it would "perform routine [Vaccine Adverse Event Reporting System (VAERS)] surveillance to identify potential new safety concerns for COVID-19 vaccines." The SOP also stated that the "CDC will perform Proportional Reporting Ratio (PRR) analysis . . . to identify [adverse events]" and "perform PRR data mining on a weekly basis or as needed."

However, in response to a May 9, 2022 Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request, the CDC wrote, "no PRRs were conducted."

Dr. John Su, a CDC official on the agency's Vaccine Safety

Team, recently said the opposite to a [media outlet](#) claiming that the “CDC has been performing PRRs since Feb 2021, and continues to do so to date.”

**The senator wrote,** “CDC’s assertion and Dr. Su’s statement cannot both be true.”

“The American people deserve the truth and you have not been providing it. That is why I, together with millions of Americans, have completely lost faith in the CDC and other federal health agencies. It is time to start regaining their confidence and your agency’s integrity by coming clean, being transparent, and telling the truth,” **the senator added.**

Read more about the letter in the [Washington Examiner](#).

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