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A cuckoo COVID coincidence?

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There are limitations to inferring causality from observational data, but lockdowns have almost certainly saved lives worldwide <https://bit.ly/2YWAahl>

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From the authors:

We are grateful to A.H. Morice for his reminder of the limits of observational data, and the need for caution in its interpretation. And we accept that it is unlikely to ever be proved conclusively that the dramatic restrictions imposed as countries locked down caused the dramatic changes in epidemic trajectories, even though the epidemiological changes seemed to follow the behavioural changes. However, there is also a large logical leap from observing the Swedish data to inferring that social distancing “measures can only have had a minor effect”.