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QUESTION

Covid-19 is the ongoing viral pandemic in the world and the reason you’re at home. Discuss the anatomical implication of this virus on the respiratory system of human.

Covid-19 is also known as the corona virus. It is a disease which can be transmitted via tiny droplets that comes out when an infected person sneezes or coughs. The outbreak of this disease is the result of the novel “corona virus” now released “SARS-CoV-2”.

People get sick with the virus for 1 to 14 days before developing symptoms such as: high fever, tiredness and dry cough. This virus typically affects the respiratory system. It is also said that this virus stays in the throat for about four days before it goes to the lungs, it can be killed by drinking hot water when one notices itching in the throat and one maintains proper hand hygiene, i.e, washing of the hands regularly with soap and water or making us of a hand sanitizer

The virus hijacks the cells in the body, host cells and reproduce them. It infects the lining of the throat, airways and lungs. Then the immune system will identify the virus and respond to it by sending antibodies to fight, the virus weakens the immune system and gains access into the respiratory tract. It goes in to the trachea, then moves into the primary and secondary bronchioles, down till it reaches the alveoli (air sac), where difficulty in breathing begins.

According to research, the lungs of infected persons exhibited Edema, fibrous connective tissue lesions with patchy inflammation, liquid proteinaceous secretion. Corona virus can have severe complications such as pneumonia. It occurs if the virus causes infection of one or both lungs. Corona virus can also damage the heart, kidney or liver.Most people infected with the COVID-19 virus will experience mild to moderate respiratory illness and recover without requiring special treatment. Older people, and those with underlying medical problems like cardiovascular disease, diabetes, chronic respiratory disease, and cancer are more likely to develop serious illness.

The best way to prevent and slow down transmission is be well informed about the COVID-19 virus, the disease it causes and how it spreads. Protect yourself and others from infection by washing your hands or using an alcohol based rub frequently and not touching your face.

The COVID-19 virus spreads primarily through droplets of saliva or discharge from the nose when an infected person coughs or sneezes, so it’s important that you also practice respiratory etiquette (for example, by coughing into a flexed elbow).

At this time, there are no specific vaccines or treatments for COVID-19. However, there are many ongoing clinical trials evaluating potential treatments. WHO will continue to provide updated information as soon as clinical findings become available.