**AJIBOLA ARAFAT OLAYEMI**

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**PHARMACY**

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**A REPORT ON CORONA VIRUS PANDEMICAND THE EFFECTS OF THE LOCKDOWN AND RESTRICTION OF THE MOVEMENT OF NIGERIANS**

Virus reported to have originated in China’s Wuhan has killed more than 166,000 people and infected some 2.4 million. Corona virus [COVID-19] is an infectious disease caused by a newly discovered Virus. 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 to be well informed about the covid-19 virus, the disease, it causes and how it spreads. Protect yourself and others from infection by practicing social distancing, washing your hands or using an alcohol based rub frequently and avoid 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, coughing into a flexed elbow].At this time, there is no specific cure or treatment for covid-19. However, there are many ongoing clinical trials evaluating potential treatments.

**The outbreak of the covid-19 pandemic in Nigeria**

Nigeria through the Nigerian centre for disease control [NCDC] announced the first case of the virus which was an Italian man reported on the 27th 0f February in Lagos and the second reported in Ewekoro, Ogun state a Nigerian citizen who had come in contact with the Italian. The centre has been the body actively responsible for reporting new cases, carrying out tests on suspected citizens and educating citizens on prevention of the virus. They implored all news stations to keep on giving adequate information on the virus and how people could stay safe.

The federal government ordered the first lock down in Nigeria focusing on Lagos, Abuja and Ogun state, these areas were tagged high risk states and they ensured enforcement of the lock down. Different states of the federation began to lock down their borders and prevented mass gatherings. Churches, Mosques, Businesses except those specially exempted, schools from primary to secondary to tertiary institutions were all locked down, any gathering of more than 20 people were also not allowed. The states through the infectious disease laws also created punishments for persons who are found guilty of flaunting the lockdown rules.

**Effects of the lockdown and restrictions of movement of Nigerian**

The lockdown and restriction of movement of Nigerians has positive and negative effects on Nigerians.

Positive effects of the lock down includes

* The lockdown even though dreaded, reduces the spread of the virus. It helps to flatten the curve of the infection keeping more people safe
* It allows for family bonding, a lot of families have bonded due to the lockdown.
* It encourages innovation and creativity due to the excess time available.
* The lockdown has been an enabler to a lot of people to relax.

Negative effects of the lock down includes

* The lock down has a poor effect on the economy because a lot of people can’t go out to work and make money due to the close of business. It also causes inflation which means products become more expensive than they are meant to be.
* The lockdown has caused hunger due to lack of flow of money in the economy, this in turn has caused a rise in the rate of personal crimes like stealing and Armed robberies.
* The lockdown can have negative effects on the lives of people psychologically plunging them into a state of depression.
* A lot Nigerians can’t provide for their families due to this lockdown, this has caused a lot of frustrations, Nigerians are angry at the government and has led to the disobedience of lockdown rules by the citizens.

**Conclusion**

With the increasing number of people that have the Virus countries around the world have had to continue the lockdown and this has been protested by citizens who are already tired of not being allowed to go about their normal like example is the protest by the citizens of the USA. In a situation like this, lockdown is necessary but it is sustainable only if the government provides the citizens with adequate relief packages and money to purchase basic needs they need to enhance their stay at home, this serves as an incentive to encourage people to stay at home.