NAME: EJUKONEMU BENITA AKPEVWOGHENE

MATRIC NO: 19/MHS10/001

DEPARTMENT: OPTOMETRY

COURSE : GST 122

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

**INTRODUCTION**

Corona virus also known as the COVID19 belongs to the Coronaviridae family in the Nidovirales order. It was first reported in Wuhan China on December 31ST 2019. Wuhan an emerging business hub of china experienced an outbreak of the disease, it killed more than eighteen hundred and infected over seventy thousand individuals within the first fifty days of the pandemic. When a person contracts COVID19, symptoms surface within two to fourteen days. The symptoms are, diarrhoea, cough, shortness of breath and fever. The virus can be easily spread when an infected person comes in close contact with a non-infected person. It can also be contracted through infected surfaces through droplets. It is pertinent to note that the virus has a timeframe of survival outside the human body. It has taken more than a hundred thousand lives in other countries. Currently there is no vaccine but as our elders say “prevention is better than cure”. Taking preventive measures like washing our hands and staying at least two meters away from everyone.

**CORONA VIRUS IN NIGERIA.**

 COVID 19 index case in Nigeria were from people who came from countries with high record of the virus. Corona virus cases have risen drastically since February 27th 2020, when it was first reported in Nigeria. Presently there are over 600 cases in Nigeria, about 300 in Lagos, 88 in Abuja and a few in other states. This disease has taken over twenty lives including the life of the former chief of staff to the president of Nigeria Abba Kyari on the 17th of April 2020. The disease been highly contagious and the lack of awareness and poor management. The Government has made an effort through the Nigerian center for disease control (NCDC) to curb the spread of the virus. They create awareness on precautionary measures for people to imbibe and they provide medical facilities to test people. The president declared that the infected states should be locked down.

**NCDC (NIGERIAN CENTER FOR DISEASE CONTROL)**

It is a government agency with the mandate to coordinate the surveillance, detection, and response to the control of any infectious disease. Over the last three years, NCDC has deployed a new tool for disease surveillance. The surveillance, outbreak response management and analysis system (SORMAS) is a system jointly developed between NCDC and HZI (Helmholtz centre for infections). So far so good, NCDC has supported states for improved coordination of outbreak preparedness and response. NCDC is located in Osun, Lagos, Oyo, Abuja, Sokoto, Kaduna, Kano, Ebonyi, Bornos, Plateau and Rivers state.

**EFFECTS OF LOCKDOWN AND RESTRICTION OF MOVEMENT IN NIGERIA**

The lockdown is an emergency protocol that usually prevents people from leaving an area. The federal government has ordered the lockdown of the infected states in Nigeria and this has caused the restriction of movement in such states. Citizens are not allowed to go to work, churches, mosques, schools and any other public place. Everyone is confined to their homes during the period of the lockdown therefore, people that depend on daily income for their survival have now lost their source of income. These are some of the effects of the lockdown in Nigeria.

**POSITIVE EFFECTS**

* It has helped the NCDC to control the spread of the virus.
* It will help families to bond with each other.
* Relaxation to those who haven’t had time for themselves before the lockdown.
* It gives time for people to find ways to make money from home.
* People will be one aware that emergencies can come up at any time and they should be prepared for anything.
* It has helped in the improvement of technology.
* People are now using this medium to improve their skills.

**NEGATIVE EFFECTS**

* The crime rate has risen by over fifty percent.
* Hunger
* Family disharmony
* People with health issues are not allowed to go to the hospital.
* It has caused great harm to the Nigerian economy.
* It has caused increase in the price of essential goods.
* The people at the bottom of the food chain are greatly affected because they have no means of sustenance due to the lockdown.
* It has caused idleness in students and adults who now have nothing to do during the lockdown.
* The school academic calendar has been affected, even though for most schools there are online classes, it is difficult for students to take their studies serious in such an environment.
* Private institutions are laying off workers due to their inability to pay them, causing people to become unemployed.

**CONCLUSION**

In conclusion, corona virus has caused a lot of changes in the lives Nigerians. The federal government of Nigeria through the federal ministry of health have been trying their best to ensure that the outbreak in Nigeria is been controlled and stopped immediately. As citizens of this country the best we can do is to stay home and adhere to the instructions we are given, this is the best way to help the medical personnel who are working tirelessly to reduce the spread.