

OUTBREAK OF THE CORONA VIRUS AFFECTING MILLIONS OF PEOPLE WORLDWIDE

The Coronavirus (COVID-19) is an infectious disease caused by a newly discovered virus. Most people infected with the 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, cancer, etc are more likely to develop serious illness. This disease is affecting people worldwide at any time of the day.

BACKGROUND

Coronaviruses are a large family of viruses; different members of this family cause illness in humans and animals. In humans, these illnesses range from the common cold to infection with Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS).

~~OBJECTIVES~~ METHODS

While animals are believed to be the original source, the virus spread is now from person to person. The virus seems to be mainly transmitted via small respiratory droplets through sneezing, coughing, or when people interact with each other for some time in close proximity. These droplets can then be inhaled or they can land on surfaces that others may come into contact with, who can then get infected when they touch their eyes, mouth or nose. The infectious period may begin one to two days before symptoms appear, but people are likely most infectious during the symptomatic period, even if symptoms are mild and very non-specific. As a result of this, social distancing has been encouraged, and due to the fact that the virus spreads easily, social gatherings of all sorts have been banned, resulting in lockdown worldwide.

EFFECTS OF THE LOCKDOWN AND RESTRICTION OF MOVEMENT ON NIGERIANS

Millions of Nigerians observing the COVID-19 lockdown lack the food and income that their families need to survive.

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The lockdown includes schools and offices shutting down. When lengthening returns to normal or when the pandemic is eradicated, it will definitely take a toll on students as school activities will be rushed. Some people receive income on a daily basis due to the kind of work they do, offices are shut down too so people are not earning money and not many people have enough food items to sustain them for long. The lockdown prevents many Nigerian ~~from~~ working in informal sectors from travelling to work or conducting their business. Local food vendors and traders have expressed fears over their ability to feed their families during the lockdown. If this lockdown goes on for much longer, ~~people it~~ ~~might go starving~~ will become disastrous for millions of people in Nigeria.