

Name: ONISABO ANGLI MORENKEJI Dept: MBBS
Level: 100
Course: GST 112

CORONA VIRUS DISEASE

Corona virus disease also known as COVID-19 Pandemic has completely changed our way of life, shut down almost the entire countries and businesses across the globe. After the initial outbreak of the disease in Wuhan a Chinese city, having a population of more than eleven million people in December, 2019, the novel virus has spread over to more than 180 countries with Italy, France, U.S.A and European nation of Spain having the worst hit. Since its discovery, the numbers of cases and death have been steadily rising and the United States has been declared to have the largest case with over two million people been infected. By mid-April, Italy, Spain and the U.S.A have the highest recorded deaths.

Researchers linked the pathogen to a family of viruses known as coronaviridae. This family contain viruses responsible for previous outbreak of the respiratory disease like SARS, MERS as well as common cold. Corona virus discovered in January can cause severe respiratory illness resulting in pneumonia and even death. On March 11, Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus, the director-general of the WHO announced that the outbreak of the virus would be declared a pandemic.

As researchers and scientists race towards a vaccine, government are attempting to mitigate the economic damage with stimulus checks and tax cuts and contains further spread of the disease with social distancing measures and lockdowns. The WHO says the virus can move from one person to another via respiratory droplets, direct contact with infected individuals, contact with contaminated surfaces and objects. Social distancing measures been the ^{most} important ^{measure} because only those close to infected persons contact the virus among other safety measures like washing of hands using an alcohol based sanitizer, covering of nose and mouth when sneezing etc.

The first confirmed case of COVID-19 in Nigeria was announced on 27 February 2020, when an Italian citizen in Lagos was tested positive for the virus. On 9 March 2020, a second case of the virus was reported in Ekiti State, a Nigerian citizen who had contact with the Italian citizen. Nigeria presently has 627 confirmed cases, 170 recovered while 21 people died from it.

On March 30, 2020, the President of Nigeria, General Muhammadu Buhari announced a four-week stay-at-home order of the lockdown in three major cities which are Lagos, Ogun and the Federal Capital Territory Abuja. Nigeria with 200 million people is Africa's most populous nation. Some 20 million reside in the vicinity of Lagos. Health experts have raised alarms over the impact of a major coronavirus outbreak warning that the country's unprepared and unfinanced healthcare system could quickly be flooded as there are no equipments to treat COVID-19 patients effectively and there are no facilities to spread quickly in a country.

The lockdown and restriction has brought nothing but hardship to millions of citizens living hand-to-mouth often on less than one dollar per day. Although the government pledged a series of support measures to ease the financial pain for the most vulnerable, but there have been widespread complaints that not enough has been done for those facing hunger. The citizens also reported to the NHRC that law enforcers like police have killed about eighteen people in Nigeria since lockdown began on 30 March. It was also reported that they collect unnecessary fines and violate the human rights of the people.

In conclusion, the citizens are not confident about the lockdown and restriction of movement and demand that the government provide adequate food, constant electricity and other essentials for all the while they keep safe at home to keep the virus at bay.