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DEPT; PHARMACY

MATRIC NO; 19/MHS11/060

COURSE; GST 122

THE CORONA VIRUS PANDEMIC AND THE EFFECT OF THE LOCKDOWN AND RESTRICTION OF MOVEMENT ON NIGERIANS

The corona virus is an infectious disease that affects the respiratory organs of the person infected. It is easily contaminated through sneezing and coughing. Corona virus also known as COVID 19 emerged in Wuhan,China on December 31,2019. Anybody with this pandemic shows symptoms five days but will range from two to fourteeen days. Symptoms are diarrhoea, cough, shortness of breath, fever and loss of smell. The virus is air borne which makes it highly contagious.

CORONA VIRUS IN NIGERIA

With 1.39 million coronavirus cases and 79,382 deaths globally, the world continues to battle covid 19 pandemic. While many developing countries have recorded relatively fewer cases, Nigeria currently has 652 confirmed cases and 22 deaths as of this writing-the weak capacity of health care systems in these countries is likely to exacerbate the pandemic and its impact on their economies. Therefore public awareness have been created on precautionary measures for people to abide by.

EFFECTS OF LOCKDOWN AND RESTRICTION OF MOVEMENT IN NIGERIA

The lockdown is an emergency protocol which prevents people or information from leaving an area. This has been enforced on Nigerians an ultimate lockdown to prevent the further spread of the corona virus and ensure restriction of movement in Nigeria. This has positive effects as well as negative effects too.

Positive effects of the lockdown in nigeria are;

It allows family to bond together and do things together

Relaxation to those who do not always have time for themselves before the lockdown

Reduces the virus from spreading further

People are now wiser to make their plans flexible knowing that there is nothing that cannot be cancelled

Negative effects of the lockdown include;

Movement restrictions have not only reduced the consumption of non essential commodities in general,but have affected the income generating capacity of these groups, thus reducing consumption expenditure

Low expectations of future income,particularly by workers in the gig economy that are engaged on a short term/contract basis as well as the working poor in the informal economy.

Investments by firms will be impeded largely due to the uncertainties that come with the pandemic limited knowledge about the duration of the outbreak.

The restrictions on movement of people amd border closures foreshadow a decline in exports. Already countries around the world have closed their borders to non essential trafffic and global supply chains for exports have been disrupted.