

NAME: NWAIWU SYLVESTER CHUCKWUK. U

DEPARTMENT: MECHATRONICS

COURSE CODE: GST 122

COURSE TITLE: COMMUNICATION IN ENGLISH

MATRIC NO: 19/ENG05/042

Title

Report on Corona virus pandemic and the effects of the lockdown and restriction of movement on Nigerians

Abstract

The coronavirus disease (COVID-19), is a highly transmittable and pathogenic viral infection caused by severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2), which emerged in Wuhan, China and spread around the world.

The intermediate source of origin and transfer to humans is not known, however, the rapid human to human transfer has been confirmed widely. There is no clinically approved antiviral drug or vaccine available to be used against COVID-19. However, few broad-spectrum antiviral drugs have been evaluated against COVID-19 in clinical trials, resulted in clinical recovery.

Introduction

Coronaviruses belong to the Coronaviridae family in the Nidovirales order.

Corona represents crown-like spikes on the outer surface of the virus; thus, it was named as a coronavirus.

Coronaviruses are minute in size (65–125 nm in diameter) and contain a single-stranded RNA as a nucleic material, size ranging from 26 to 32kbs in length.

The subgroups of coronaviruses family are alpha (α), beta (β), gamma (γ) and delta (δ) coronavirus.

The severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus (SARS-CoV), H5N1 influenza A, H1N1 2009 and Middle East respiratory syndrome coronavirus (MERS-CoV) cause acute lung injury (ALI) and acute respiratory distress syndrome (ARDS) which leads to pulmonary failure and result in fatality.

These viruses were thought to infect only animals until the world witnessed a severe acute respiratory syndrome (SARS) outbreak caused by SARS-CoV, 2002 in Guangdong, China. Only a decade later, another pathogenic coronavirus, known as Middle East respiratory syndrome coronavirus (MERS-CoV) caused an endemic in Middle Eastern countries.

Recently at the end of 2019, Wuhan an emerging business hub of China experienced an outbreak of a novel coronavirus that killed more than eighteen hundred and infected over seventy thousand individuals within the first fifty days of the epidemic. This virus was reported to be a member of the β group of coronaviruses. The novel virus was named as Wuhan coronavirus or 2019 novel coronavirus (2019-nCov) by the Chinese researchers. The International Committee on Taxonomy of Viruses (ICTV) named the virus as SARS-CoV-2 and the disease as COVID-19. In the history, SRAS-CoV (2003) infected 8098 individuals with mortality rate of 9%, across 26 countries in the world, on the other hand, novel corona virus (2019) infected 120,000 individuals with mortality rate of 2.9%, across 109 countries, till date of this writing. It shows that the transmission rate of SARS-CoV-2 is higher than SRAS-CoV and the reason could be genetic recombination event at S protein in the RBD region of SARS-CoV-2 may have enhanced its transmission ability.

This report discusses the origination of human coronaviruses briefly. It further discusses the associated infectiousness and biological features of SARS and MERS with a special focus on COVID-19. And also, Corona virus pandemic and the effects of the lockdown and restriction of movement on Nigerians

What is a coronavirus?

The coronavirus family causes illnesses ranging from the common cold to more severe diseases such as severe acute respiratory syndrome (SARS) and Middle East respiratory syndrome (MERS), according to the WHO.

They circulate in animals and some can be transmitted between animals and humans. Several coronaviruses are circulating in animals that have not yet infected humans.

The new coronavirus, the seventh known to affect humans, has been named COVID-19.

What are the symptoms?

Common signs of infection include fever, coughing and breathing difficulties. In severe cases, it can cause pneumonia, multiple organ failure and death.

The incubation period of COVID-19 is thought to be between one and 14 days. It is contagious before symptoms appear, which is why so many people get infected.

Infected patients can be also asymptomatic, meaning they do not display any symptoms despite having the virus in their systems.

Where did it come from?

China alerted the WHO to cases of unusual pneumonia in Wuhan on December 31.

COVID-19 is thought to have originated in a seafood market where wildlife was sold illegally.

On February 7, Chinese researchers said the virus could have spread from an infected animal to humans through illegally trafficked pangolins, prized in Asia for food and medicine.

Scientists have pointed to either bats or snakes as possible sources.

Effects of the lockdown and restriction of movement on Nigerians

- When almost everyone works in an informal economy and needs to work every day to put food on the table — the situation in some of the states in Nigeria — calling a halt to economic activity can get rapidly disastrous. When states have limited budgets and capacity to support their locked-down population, lockdowns can result in widespread starvation and rampant disobedience and unrest.

- Most people in Nigeria are part of an informal economy and so they're hard to target with financial aid. They often also have no savings and need the money they earn each day or each week to feed their family. That makes it impossible for them to comply with social distancing rules.
- This lockdown in Nigeria has caused rapid stealing in Lagos
- The effect of lockdown has caused the police people to brutalise people who couldn't obey the rule of lockdown due to some consequences

Conclusion

In conclusion the intermediate source of origin and transfer to humans is not known, and the spread of corona virus [covid 19] is increasing rapidly around the world and is causing serious pandemic worldwide.

Recommendations

I recommend that government and health officials should act fast in developing a vaccine or cure or therapy for the treatment of the Covid-19 disease as the lockdown is not really a viable option to tackle the virus in the long run. Also, China should be sanctioned for failing to timeously inform the world of the outbreak of the Covid-19 disease in Wuhan and attempting to cover up the fact that the disease was capable of human to human transmission.