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PHARMACY

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

The corona virus emerged from Wuhan, China on December 31st, 2019. Corona virus is from the Corovidae family. At the end of 2019, To Wuhan, an emerging business hub of China experienced an outbreak the disease which killed over 800 people and infected over 7000 people within fifty days of the epidemic.

Anybody with this virus shows symptoms within two to fourteen days of infection. The symptoms are: diarrhea, cough, shortness of breath, sore throat, fever, loss of smell l, etc.

The virus can be easily spread primarily through droplets from an infected person’s cough or sneeze or through droplets of saliva or discharge from the nose.

Currently there is no cure for the virus but there are some preventive measures that can be taken such as:

* Clean your hands regularly. Use soap and clean water to wash or am alcohol-basee hand rub
* Maintain safe distance from anyone who is coughing or sneezing
* Cover your nose and mouth a tissue or handkerchief while coughing or sneezing
* Stay home and contact the necessary agencies if you are not feeling well
* Follow the directions of your local health authorities

Corona Virus in Nigeria

The first confirmed case of the Corona virus in Nigeria was announced on the 27th of February 2020, when an Italian citizen in Lagos tested positive for the virus. On the 9th of March 2020, a second case of the virus was reported in Ewekoro, Ogun state, a Nigerian citizen who had contact with the Italian

NCDC(Nigerian Center for Disease Control) is the government agency with the mandate to coordinate surveillance, detection and response to the disease.

Effects of lockdown and restriction of movement on Nigerians

Lockdown is the confinement of people in a particular place as a security measure for specific purposes. The federal government of Nigeria has ordered a complete lockdown in Nigeria particularly in states that have high number of cases such as Lagos, Abuja, Ogun, etc. This restriction of movement among the people has a lot of effects on the citizens both positive and negative

The positive effects include:

* It strengthens family Bond as they tend to see each other and show care
* It serves as a period of rest.
* It prevents further spread of the disease

The negative effects include

* It has led to the increase of good and services in market
* It has caused a delay in educational system
* It has increased poverty and hunger rates especially those who feed from their daily income
* The crime rate has skyrocketed