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COVID-19 is the specific illness related to the current epidemic. The acronym provided by the World Health Organization, stands for 'Corona virus disease 2019', referring to the year the virus was first detected. The name of the virus is SARS-CoV-2.

The virus: A brief description from CNN reports that, the coronavirus is not one type of virus. It is a large family of viruses. That family includes SARS and other minor to major respiratory illness, ones that affect your breathing. Coronaviruses can be spread between animals and people. That's what happened with this current strain. The term "corona" comes from a Latin root meaning crown or ring of light. It refers to the shape of the virus under the microscope.

Transmission of COVID-19; ^{The disease can be spread} ~~persons contacted with~~ ^{From person to person} through small droplets from the nose or mouth, which are spread when an infected person coughs, sneezes or exhales. These droplets land on objects & surfaces around the person; others then catch the disease by touching these objects or surfaces, even touching their eyes, nose or mouth. Also can be caught by breathing in droplets exhaled from infected persons.

To prevent the spread of COVID-19:

- Sanitize your hands often; use soap & water to wash your hands regularly.
- maintain a safe distance [at least 3ft] from anyone who is coughing or sneezing.
- Don't touch your eyes, nose or mouth.
- Cover your nose with your bent elbow or a tissue when you sneeze or cough.
- Avoid unneeded visits; if you must, then practice "social distancing".

Signs and symptoms of COVID-19 based on lab confirmed cases include: fever, dry cough, fatigue, sputum production, soreness of throat, sore throat, headache, myalgia or arthralgia, chills, nausea or vomiting, nasal congestion, diarrhea, hemoptysis & conjunctival congestion.

people with COVID-19 generally develop signs & symptoms, including mild respiratory symptoms & fever, on an average of 5-6 days after infection [mean incubation period 5-6 days, range 1-14 days].

The outbreak: This virus which originated from Wuhan China is currently available in 210 countries & territories around the world. It has reported about 2.9 million confirmed cases hitting the USA hardest with about

54, thousand deaths. The first confirmed case of this virus in Nigeria was announced on 27 February 2020 in Lagos; ~~on~~⁹ March 2020, a second case was recorded in Ogun state and ~~the~~^{50 on 15 of this month} ~~the~~¹⁵ ~~of~~^{of} April, the virus is now present in Nigeria with over a thousand confirmed cases. Over 200 cases have recovered and over 30 cases of deaths have been recorded.

In response to COVID-19 arrival the federal government closed international borders & following its outbreak, interstate & eventually intrastate movements & gatherings have been banned by respective authorities. Affected states are strictly on lock down with no forms of gatherings allowed including market, social & religious gatherings.

This response has brought about another wave of problems in Nigeria &

- Hunger & Death from starvation; marketers, traders & small scale entrepreneurs who earned a living from small scale trade that are especially non-edible are now rendered idle & hungry as they cannot trade to raise funds for themselves and their families. Some of which have resulted to begging on the streets or even from house-to-house.

- Increased crime rate; The rate & manner of robbery that has been recorded since this lockdown have been alarming; I learned the robbers even announce their date of action in a proposed site before hand, 'yes! it is that bad and you can't even reach out to the police the department because they are "staying home & staying safe". This crime rate is as a result of ~~loss~~^{loss} & lack of jobs causing idleness & hunger.

- Pollution; with Nigeria's struggling national grid lacking in capacity to power the entire country, generators have become a ubiquitous alternative for power. Given unreliable electricity supply, having citizens staying home to curb the spread of COVID-19, likely means millions of generators will be working over time to power the homes therefore worsening both noise & air pollution in residential areas.

The bad news for Nigeria is that air & noise pollution from generators will last longer than the lockdown will.