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A report on corona virus pandemic and effects of the lockdown and restrictions of movement in Nigeria

A pandemic describes an infectious disease where we see significant and ongoing person to person spread in multiple countries around the world at the same time. Pandemic are more likely if a virus is new,able to infect people easily and can spread from persons to persons in an efficient and sustainable way.

Corona virus disease (COVID-19) is an infectious disease caused by the newly discovered corona virus. Most people infected by the corona virus will experience mild to moderate respiratory illness and recover without requiring special treatment. Older people, and those with underlying medical problems like cardiovascular disease, diabetes, chronic respiratory disease and cancer are more likely to develop serious illness.

The best way to prevent and slow down transmission of the disease is to be well informed about the covid-19 virus, the disease it causes and how it spreads. Protect yourself from others and washing your hand or using an alcohol base rub frequently and not touching your face. The covid-19 virus spreads primarily through droplets of salvia or discharge from the nose when an infected person coughs or sneezes, so it is important that one has to also practice respiratory etiquette for example by coughing into a flexed elbow.

At this time, there are no specific vaccines or treatment for covid-19. However they are many ongoing clinical trials evaluating potential treatments. World health organization (WHO) will continue to provide updated information as soon as clinical findings becomes available.

The virus spreads between people during close contacts, often via droplets produced by coughing, sneezing or talking. The droplets usually falls to the ground or unto surface rather than remaining in the air over long distances. People might also be infected by touching a contaminated surface and then touching their face. On surface, the amount of virus declines over time until it is sufficient to remain infectious but it may also be detected for hours or days. It is the most contagious during the first three days after the onset of symptoms, although spread may be possible before symptoms appear and in the later stage of the disease. Common symptoms include fever, cough, fatigue, shortness of breath and loss of smells. Complication may include pneumonia and acute respiratory distress syndrome. The time for exposure to onset of symptoms is typically around five days but may range from two to fourteen days. There is no known vaccine or specific antivirus treatment. Primary treatment is symptomatic and supportive therapy.

Many places have also worked to increase testing capacity and trace contact of infected persons. The pandemic has caused several global socioeconomic disruptions,including the largest global recession since the greatest depression. The pandemic has led to the postponement and cancellations of sporting, religious,political and cultural events, wide spread supply shortages exacerbated by panic buying,and decrease emissions of pollutants and greenhouse gases. Schools,university and colleges have been closed either on national wide or local bases in countries affecting appropriately 98.5% of the world student population. Misinformation about the virus has spread online and there have been incidents of xenophobia and discrimination against Chinese people and and against those perceived as being Chinese or as being from areas with high infection rate.

Countries are racing to slow the spread of the virus by testing and treating patients, carrying out contact tracing, limited travel,quarantining citizens and also cancellations of large gatherings. The pandemic is more like a wave-one that may get crash on those least able to cope. The virus is much more than a healthy crisis. By stressing everyone of the countries it touches, its has the potential to create devastating socio, economic and political crisis that will leave deep scars. We are on uncharted territory. Many of our countries are now unrecognizable. Dozens of the world’s greatest cities are deserted as people stays in doors either by choice or by governments orders.

To crub the spread of the corona virus, authorities around the world implemented lock down measures that have brought much of global economic activity to a halt. Many businesses have been forced to reduce operations or shut down and an increasing number of people are expected to lose their jobs.

Companies in services industry a major source of growth in many economies were among the hardest hit in the coronavirus pandemic.

Manufacturers have also been hit and world trace volume could once again plummet this year.

Everyday people are missing jobs and incomes with no way of knowing when normality will return.