

A STUDY OF COVID 19 PANDEMIC AND ITS EFFECTS ON SOCIETY

Prof. Pratik Darji

Research Scholar

B.K. School of Professional and Management Studies,
Gujarat University

&

Dr. Mamta Brahmhatt

Associate Professor

B.K. School of Professional and Management Studies,
Gujarat University

Abstract

The COVID-19 pandemic is considered as the most critical global health calamity of the century and the greatest challenge that the humankind faced. From December 2019, a new infectious respiratory disease emerged in Wuhan, Hubei province, China and was declared by the World Health Organization as COVID-19. According to the report of the World Health Organization, the current pandemic of COVID-19, has affected over 23811693 people and died more than 818230 people in more than 200 countries throughout the world. Till now there are no reports available of any clinically approved antiviral drugs or vaccines those are effective against COVID-19. It has rapidly spread around the world, enormous health, economic, environmental and social challenges to the whole human population. The coronavirus pandemic is severely destroying the global economy. Almost all the nations are fighting to slow down the transmission of the disease by testing & treating patients, quarantining suspected persons through restricting large gatherings, maintaining complete or partial lock down etc. This paper elucidates the impact of COVID-19 on society and global environment, and the possible ways in which the disease can be controlled has also been deliberate therein.

INTRODUCTION :

▪ **COVID-19 pandemic**

The outbreak of the new coronavirus infection, COVID-19 was initiated from the Hunan seafood market in Wuhan city of China in December 2019, and within a couple of months it has turned out to be a global health emergency. Live animals like bat, frog, snake, bird, marmot and rabbit are frequently sold at the Hunan seafood market ([Wang et al., 2020b](#)). Genomic analysis revealed that SARS-CoV-2 is phylogenetic ally related to severe acute respiratory syndrome-like (SARS-like) bat viruses, bats could therefore be the possible primary source. Although the intermediate source of origin and transfer to humans is not clearly known, the rapid human to human spreading capability of this virus has been established. As per the latest update of WHO on 18 April 2020, the outbreak of COVID-19 had spread in more than 200 countries. Approximately 146,198 people had died after contracting the respiratory virus out of nearly 2,164,111 confirmed cases, whereas more than 402,989 people have recovered from the disease. These numbers are changing rapidly. More than 200 countries/regions have reported confirmed COVID-19 cases.

▪ **COVID-19 and global health**

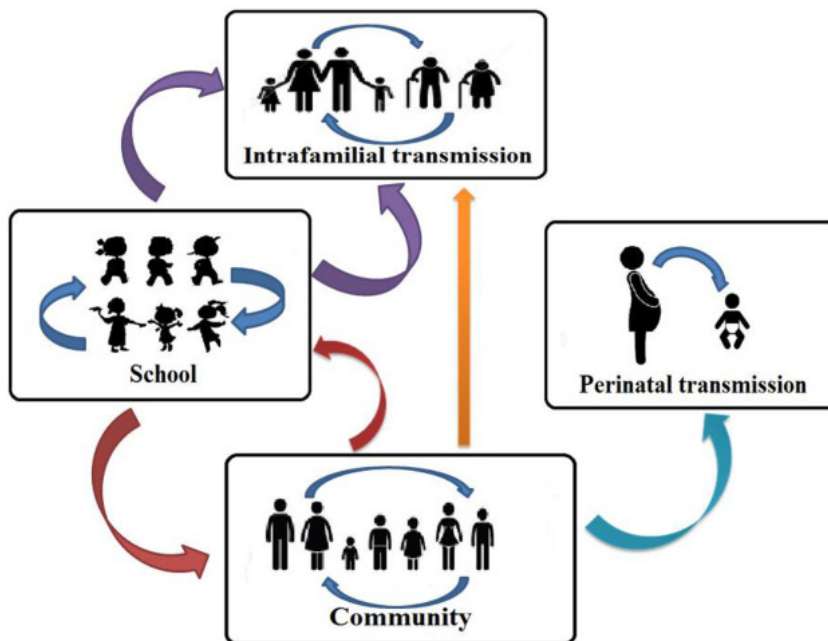
The relationship between human health and disease is neither a new concept, nor a new subject. The emergence COVID-19 in China at the end of 2019 has caused a large global outbreak and is a major public health issue. This virus is highly infectious and can be transmitted through droplets and close contact. The human to the human spreading of the virus occurs due to close contact with an infected person exposed to coughing, sneezing, respiratory droplets or aerosols. These aerosols can penetrate the human body (respiratory system) via inhalation through nose or mouth ([Phan et al., 2020](#); [Riou and Althaus, 2020](#)). The clinical spectrum for individuals with COVID-19 infection ranges from mild or non-specific signs and symptoms of acute respiratory illness such as fever, cough, fatigue, shortness of breath, to severe pneumonia with respiratory failure and septic shock, which are very similar to other coronavirus diseases ([Backer et al., 2020](#)). The presenting features of COVID-19 disease in adults are pronounced. It is a matter of great importance to clarify the correlation between COVID-19 and immune-rheumatologic patients. Taking into consideration the quick and frantic spread of the epidemic, health of rheumatic patients is a matter of prime concern. COVID-19 being a respiratory disease, damage of the tissues of Lungs is quite obvious, but there is

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report that other organs and tissues may also be affected. COVID-19 is a major public health concern for the world's population and is a leading cause of hospitalization and death, particularly for middle and old age people in the affected countries.



COVID-19 and economy

Loss of lives due to any pandemic causes definite irretrievable damage to the society. But apart from this, COVID-19 has severely demobilized the global economy. In order to restrict further transmission of the disease in the community, many of the affected countries have decided to undergo complete lock down. Major international flights and also all types of business transports have been deferred amid different countries. Due to lockdown all domestic flights, railway service (except goods trains), bus, truck, and vehicles transports are suspended with special exemption to those associated with essential commodities. In almost all the COVID-19 stricken countries, entire educational, commercial, sports and spiritual institutions are closed. Industries are suffering a lot as many of these excepting those related to essential amenities, are closed for a long time in many countries. People belonging to the tourism and transportation industry are also facing utmost difficulties. Production level has gone very low. Economy of many so called powerful countries are now facing the threat of high inflation and increasing unemployment as a result of lack of productivity and excessive expenditure for the treatment and rehabilitation of the COVID-19 victims and their families ([OECD Interim Economic Assessment, 2 March 2020](#)). Lockdown will directly affect the GDP of each country in the major economics. For each month there will be an approximate loss of 2% points in annual GDP growth. The tourism sector alone faces an output decrease as high as 50% to 70%. According to World Trade Organization (WTO) and Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) have indicated COVID-19 pandemic as the largest threat to global economy since the financial emergency of 2008–2009. Some of the experts are even saying that human civilization has not faced such an unprecedented emergency after the World War-II. So, COVID-19 has undoubtedly put forth a remarkably bad effect on the day to day life of the entire human society and also on the world economy.

COVID-19 and global environment

From the very beginning of civilization, human beings gradually started manipulating the nature for its own benefit. In order to satisfy the demand of increasing population industrialization and urbanization became inevitable, and the obvious significance was proved to be detrimental on the global environment. Further, environmental concerns include air pollution, water pollution, climate change, ozone layer depletion, global warming, depletion of ground water level, change of biodiversity & ecosystem, arsenic contamination and many more ([Bremer et al., 2019](#); [Coutts et al., 2010](#)). Global warming is a result of the increasing concentration of greenhouse gases (CO₂, CH₄, N₂O etc). Out of the desire to drive the nature as per their own whims and desire, human beings started destroying the nature in numerous ways. As an inevitable consequence environment pollution has become a big issue of the present day.

▪ **The global strategy for COVID-19 prevention and control**

COVID-19 is a global threat that requires a global response involving all countries. Governments should be responsible for providing exact information to help the public face this novel infection. To decrease the damage connected with COVID-19, public health and infection control actions are immediately necessary to limit the global spread of the virus. Some Global strategies are discussed below to prevention and control COVID-19 disease.

▪ **Restricting mass gathering**

Preventing SARS-CoV-2 transmission by restricting mass gathering is an important objective of public health care system. COVID-19 is spread from person to person through direct contact. Thus, the spread of respiratory illnesses during the mass gathering is a major public health concerns with the potential of distribution of these infectious diseases. Based on earlier knowledge of MERS and SARS infections, the WHO in order to reduce the general risk of transmission of COVID-19 has recommended some precautionary measures such as avoiding close contact with people suffering from acute respiratory illness, regular hand washing with soap & water or hand sanitizer particularly after direct contact with sick people or their environment, maintaining cough etiquette, and avoiding unprotected contact with farm or wild animals etc. Govt. of different countries postponed all types of religious, cultural, social, scientific, sport, and political mass gathering events in different parts of the world. Some international events such as Umrah, Hajj and the Olympic Games have already been suspended in order to avoid mass gathering. Media and information technology are providing significant support to the society for prevention and control of COVID-19 outbreak. So, restricting mass gathering could be the primary preventive strategy for COVID-19.

▪ **Medicine**

The outbreak of COVID-19 has become a clinical threat to the common population and healthcare workers worldwide. Since this is a very new virus, much knowledge about this novel virus is therefore not available. So far, there are no exact antiviral treatments or vaccines for COVID-19 disease. Therefore, it is an urgent necessity of time to develop a safe and stable COVID-19 vaccine. Anti-viral drugs like Chloroquine and hydroxychloroquine have been found to be effective against COVID-19 in laboratory studies and in-vivo studies ([Rolain et al., 2007](#); [WHO, 2020](#)). A recent study by Wang et al. revealed that remdesivir and chloroquine were highly effective in the control of 2019-nCoV in vitro ([Wang et al., 2020a](#), [Wang et al., 2020b](#)). Since SARS-CoV-2 is an RNA virus, any vaccines, effective against other RNA viruses such as measles, polio, encephalitis B and influenza, could be the most promising alternatives ([Lu, 2020](#); [Liu et al., 2020](#)). So, research will continue to play an important role to discover new drugs or vaccines to prevent and control the COVID-19 infections.

LITERATURE REVIEW

([World Health Organization, 2020](#)). The Corona Virus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) outbreak started in China in December 2019 and by March 2020 had spread across the globe. While the development of a vaccine continues, public health strategies to contain the spread of the disease have been put in place in nearly every country. These include quarantine (self-isolation) of people potentially exposed to the virus, and social distancing (more accurately termed 'physical distancing') of the general population.

While physical distancing may be the most effective way of preventing the spread of the virus ([Center for Disease Control et al., 2003](#)), this measure may be associated with a range of adverse psychological effects, including fear, anxiety, and worry ([Brooks et al., 2020](#); [Gardner and Moallem, 2015](#)), in addition to the physical effects of decreased motor activity, changes to diet, and exposure to sunlight ([Lippi et al., 2020](#)).

([Brooks et al., 2020](#), [Zhou et al., 2020](#)) The incidence of depression and anxiety in populations where physical distancing is enforced may be impacted and there has been media speculation around this issue, with some Governments actively recognising and funding mental health services to respond to this potential surge in mental ill-health. Such impacts are likely to differ across pandemics and populations, for example, [Wang et al. \(2011\)](#) reported no immediate negative psychological effect of quarantine in their sample of University students in China during the H1N1 flu outbreak.

([Anglin et al., 2020](#)). The medium- and long-term social effects of COVID-19 may disproportionately impact people with psychosis or at risk of psychotic disorder. For example, social isolation, unemployment, homelessness, relationship breakdown (divorce/separation), domestic violence, and worsening physical health, may all particularly effect people with psychosis given their vulnerability to social determinants of health.

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(Kępińska et al., 2020) We included studies that reported primary research; included participants that had a psychotic disorder (e.g., first-episode psychosis, schizophrenia, bipolar disorder) or were considered to be at high risk of psychosis; and had been exposed to an epidemic or pandemic (e.g., SARS, MERS). We excluded studies that tested the association between maternal influenza and adult schizophrenia, in part because this has been extensively reviewed previously.

PROBLEM STATEMENT

The statement of the problem under study is to analyze and identify psychological, social and Economic effects on society.

OBJECTIVE OF THE STUDY

The main Objectives of the paper are to provide awareness and identify research areas related to Coronavirus (Covid 19), to understand and identify psychological, social and Economic effects on society.

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

Primary data and secondary data were used for data collection. The secondary data were collected from different websites, journals and magazines. The primary data was collected by structured questionnaire. Simple random sampling technique has been used in the study, and the sample size is 104. In order to analyze the objectives of the study, several statistical methods and tests namely percentage analysis were used in the study

DATA ANALYSIS

- **Health**

	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Deteriorated	7	6.7	6.7	6.7
Improved	31	29.8	29.8	36.5
Same as before lock down	66	63.5	63.5	100.0
Total	104	100.0	100.0	

Interpretation:

As per our study the health of the people is same as before the lock down that is 63.5% and 6.7% people's health was deteriorated.

- **Salary**

	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
26% to 50%	29	27.9	27.9	27.9
51% to 75%	15	14.4	14.4	42.3
76% to 100%	24	23.1	23.1	65.4
None	23	22.1	22.1	87.5
Up to 25%	13	12.5	12.5	100.0
Total	104	100.0	100.0	

Interpretation:

As per the study of salary of the people after the lock down, the 13 respondents are getting lower salary up to 25% and 29 respondents getting salary high up to 50% or above.

- **Financial Crisis**

	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
1	15	14.4	14.4	14.4
2	16	15.4	15.4	29.8
3	29	27.9	27.9	57.7
4	24	23.1	23.1	80.8
5	20	19.2	19.2	100.0
Total	104	100.0	100.0	

Interpretation:

From the above table 15 respondents are faces more financial crisis during the period and 29 respondents are neutral.

- **Job Security**

	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
1	31	29.8	29.8	29.8
2	19	18.3	18.3	48.1
3	25	24.0	24.0	72.1
4	10	9.6	9.6	81.7
5	19	18.3	18.3	100.0
Total	104	100.0	100.0	

Interpretation:

We can see that, out of 140 respondents 31 respondents have feel safe regarding their job security and 19 respondents still facing insecurity for their job.

- **Work From Home**

	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
1	18	17.3	17.3	17.3
2	16	15.4	15.4	32.7
3	31	29.8	29.8	62.5
4	12	11.5	11.5	74.0
5	27	26.0	26.0	100.0
Total	104	100.0	100.0	

Interpretation:

As per the study most of people are not agree for work from home that is 12 respondents and 27 respondents are strongly disagree for work from home. only 18 respondents are agree for work from home.

• **Children Education**

	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
1	21	20.2	20.2	20.2
2	12	11.5	11.5	31.7
3	16	15.4	15.4	47.1
4	25	24.0	24.0	71.2
5	30	28.8	28.8	100.0
Total	104	100.0	100.0	

Interpretation:

Out of 104 respondents ,30 respondents are strongly disagree for the distrubancy children education and only 12 respondents are agree for the disturbance of their children education.

FINDING & SUGGESTION

- It is evident from the study that majority of the people have similar health available same as before lock down and some people have also improvement in their health.
- Through the study so many people have affected with their salary.
- Through the study has identified that majority of the people are getting half of the salary during lock down period.
- Through research it is found that majority people have affected with financial crisis.
- From the study it is evident that the most of respondents are not able to fulfil their family's requirements.
- It is evident from the result that most of respondents are facing job insecurity during lock down period and this pandemic time.
- Through this study it is proved that majority respondents are not happy with work from concept.
- Due to this pandemic situation of Covid 19, so many people are thinking that their children education are affected negatively.

CONCLUSION

Covid 19 (coronavirus) is not only global pandemic and public health crisis, it is also severely affected the global economy and financial markets. Significant reduction in income a rise in unemployment disruptions in the transportation, services and manufacturing industry . As disease outbreaks are not likely to disappear in the near future, protective international actions are required to not only save lives but also protect economy prosperity.

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