



COVID-19 Pandemic: Challenges and Opportunities among the Providers to Work as a Team, in Saving Lives

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ABSTRACT

The first human corona virus was identified in 1965. SARS, MERS-CoV, these are some of the viruses that affected the people in the past. In late 2019, another virus was first detected in Wuhan, China and is affected all over the world and can also be transmitted from one person to another. The virus now becomes a global pandemic. The current pandemic creates a lot of changes in all the countries. Therefore, this pandemic can also create many opportunities for many leaders in helping the community and the nation.

Keywords: SARS, MERS-CoV, Challenges, Opportunities

INTRODUCTION

Corona viruses are a big family of different viruses. Scientists first identified a human coronavirus in 1965. Later, researchers found a group of similar human and animal viruses and named them based on their appearance. Seven coronaviruses can infect humans. In 2002, SARS (Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome) emerged in southern China and quickly spread to 28 other countries. In 2004, another small outbreak came up. In 2012, MERS-CoV (Middle East Respiratory Syndrome Coronavirus) started in Saudi Arabia. Experts also said that SARS-CoV-2, MERS originated in bats and can also jump to humans. Pangolins was also another suspected causes, because coronaviruses that infect pangolins are similar to SARS-CoV-2. In late 2019, this virus was first detected in Wuhan, China. The virus is transmitted from one human to another. This coronavirus causes fever, headache and respiratory problems such as cough and shortness of breath. The virus now becomes a global pandemic.

The corona virus COVID-19 pandemic is the current global health crisis experienced by the people all around the globe. The virus has spread to every continent except Antarctica. Different countries are trying their best, by finding their ways and means like by testing and treating patients, tracing, limiting travel, quarantining citizens, cancelling large gatherings such as sporting events, concerts, schools, colleges, festivals and different events and keeping much effort to slow down the spread of the virus. However, the viruses are moving like a wave.

The pandemic brings a lot of negative feelings in majority of the people. All around the globe, people are suffering caused by the virus, many people died, leaving their loved and dear one behind. The virus attacks all the people irrespective of who they are. The health care systems are over burden, some of the employees are losing their job,

many companies faced bankruptcy, collapse of the stock market. Different countries have to spend a huge amount for medical aid. COVID-19 is a major stressor which triggers our psyche, creating fears and uncertainties. But this pandemic will not only causes threats, also an opportunities [1-3].

LITERATURE REVIEW

COVID-19 Pandemic: The Challenges

The pandemic made a drastic change in the way we work, communication, socialize and also left us with significant changes in the current days when compared with the other days before the pandemic strike the globe. The government imposed guidelines like social distancing, schools, colleges and business to shut down. With these changes, many of us are confused but have to cope with the level of changes which is unknown before. This pandemic creates major challenges to individual workers organizations, communities, nations and the world as a whole.

Online learning: With the closure of the educational institution, online learning is one of the method opted by the government in-order to continue the learning habits of the students both in school, colleges and also professional institutions. Therefore in a country like India, this method can be a challenge to some, especially in the villages.

- Parent's couldn't afford to buy smart phone, laptop for their children's
- Poor internet connection.

Working From Home (WFH): We have seen majority of the workers can opted this method, but to some, they are unlucky especially the frontline health care workers. Also, some manufacturing industries and health care system, their work could not be conduct online or from home.

Changes in the pattern of work: WFH is not by choice, but this can bring a challenge especially to parent's who have children. Due to school closure, home schooling for their kids, lunch preparation, regulating screen time, diaper changes etc.

Isolated feelings: The government has given a policy on social distancing which is important to minimize and to stop the spread of the virus. It is important to know that social distancing is about physical distancing, which is not about stopping all social activities. It is necessary to stay socially connected for humanity's survival and mental health [4].

Goods and services: These are not readily available as it used to be. We also observed price inflation all across the globe. Therefore, in-order to meet the needs, people have to bear the changes.

Risk of being infecting: Frontline workers have high chances of being contracted by the virus due to insufficient personal protective equipment.

Transportation: Due to lockdown in many countries, the demand for passenger transport has been severely affected. From rickshaw pullers to airlines, all have been severely affected economically. This pandemic may have a long-term effect on people's travel behavior [5].

DISCUSSION

COVID-19 Pandemic: The Oppurtunities

The current health crisis will leave a trace on how we interact with our environment and with each other. The COVID-19 crisis has the potential to radically change development for the better. Sometimes it takes a crisis to force us to adapt and adopt changes. Before, individualized care is the main focused in almost all the countries. Although hospitals are vital to the response, home care and outreach are also really important. We cannot focussed only hospital care, but public health consideration is necessary. Many opportunities are available for many people, affected by the crisis.

Time: This is one of the opportunities for most of us to be together at home. Majority of us are lacking the valuable time to spend with the family, as we are running behind our daily busy scheduled.

Reshaping: Many people have had to change their mode of working and work from home instead of at the office, our routines are interrupted in many ways. These offers a great opportunity for us to rethink our habits, routines and make changes [6].

System advancement: The coronavirus has forced many of them to break through these rigid systems and act instantly. And suddenly employees are allowed to work from home without direct supervision. This brings the opportunity to create innovations now that can be maintained after the crisis and can be continue forward [7].

Bonding and help: Challenging times offer a great opportunity for social bonding and other ways of connecting to and helping people. But the feeling of “we’re in this together” has also triggered interesting ways of connecting and create more social coherence henceforth.

Cleaner environment: The virus caused a shutdown of industrial activities, factories are closed road traffic has reduced radically and air traffic collapsed and the lack of tourism has emptied the streets in overcrowded cities. In other ways this is good news as air, water and land pollution are reduced [8,9].

Masks for all: At the time of pandemic, wearing a mask is a common trend. Many people or the local group members has donated a thousands of masks specially to the frontline workers.

Donation: At the current crisis, donation came from all the ways including individuals, schools, colleges, religious institution, NGO(s) etc. This is an opportunity for them to help the community and the nation as a whole [10-12].

Feeding the hungry: During the lockdown period, many people experiencing homeless including students, migrant workers, senior people who live independently, many of them left without a stable source of food due to the COVID-19 pandemic. However, individuals, local members of the respective communities, NGO(s) and the local state government have come forward to help the poor and the needy [13].

Family and community support: The local politician members have shown their support towards the community by distributing goods, money. The state government has given monetary supporting to the low wages labourers.

Animal supporting: Some local animal shelters are in need of monetary donations for food and supplies. Many people have raises their voice especially in social media which is the common platform, asking for donation to help the animals specially the street dogs. Animal lovers have really shown their support [14].

Blood donation: Before the pandemic, blood donation is important. At the time of coronavirus outbreak, still blood donation is considered essential and many have shown their support by contributing.

Local businesses: With the strict guidelines imposed by the government, the number of market days are limited, our daily source of food are reduced. Therefore local person have started their small business to support themselves and at the same time helping the community.

CONCLUSION

With the current crisis, it also brings changes towards the development. We have also seen, people around the world are working together by following the guidelines which is imposed by the government to saved themselves, their family and the nation. This pandemic does not only creates challenges but also an opportunities to many leaders for helping the community and the nation.

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DECLARATIONS

Conflict of Interest

The author report no conflict of interest.

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