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INFLUENCE OF COVID-19 AT GLOBAL LEVEL

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ABSTRACT

With the wake of the Coronavirus pandemic, the scenery of the world has grown to be changed as duly noted by WHO or that of the World Health Council. They have also stated that there are reported to be a loss of over 500,000 people of the world population by death due to disease Coronavirus Disease COVID-19 events as they happen, 2020. The impact is however much more than this, as will be explored further in the essay. As of the first of July 2020, it has been reported that the treatment and prevention of non-communicable diseases or NCDs have been badly interrupted ever since the pandemic began.

I. Introduction

The aforementioned survey that had taken into account a total of 155 countries within 3 weeks of May has confirmed that the result is prevalent globally and countries with lower GDP or Gross Domestic Product have been the most affected by COVID-19 significantly impacts health services for non-communicable diseases, 2020). This situation has worried the medical world since the general population who are living with non-communicable diseases are at risks that are higher with relation to death and illness. The survey results have brought to light what the official bodies such as WHO have heard for quite a few weeks as per Dr Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus who is the present Director-General of the body of WHO. There are people who are in the need of treatment for a

disease such as diabetes, cardiovascular problems along with cancer [1]. They are yet to be getting the medicines and the services that they need since the onset of the pandemic. Countries are still fighting to find a way so that the services that are essential can be gotten through to those people in need.

One of the major findings is that the health services are completely or partially in a state of disruption in most of countries. There is 53 per cent of the countries that are facing complete disruption of services for the treatment of hypertension. 49 per cent of the countries have undergone partial or complete disruption in the arena of diabetes-related or diabetes cases, 42 per cent for the treatment of cancer along with 31 per cent for the emergencies of cardiovascular services. The services of rehabilitation are disrupted in about 63 per cent or two-thirds of the countries under the purview of WHO. Rehabilitation is, however, one of the key paths to recovery after one has been struck down by Covid-19 [2,3].

The major parts of the countries have responded to the ministry of the health staffing who have worked within the areas affected by NCDs and have been fully or partially reassigned for supporting the outbreak of the disease. The postponing of that of the screening programs for the public, as in for cervical or breast cancer is also widespread and have been reported to be there in more than 50 per cent of the countries [4,5]. These occurrences have been consistent with the initial recommendations of WHO for the minimization of non-urgent care that was facility-based during the COVID-19 crisis. However the most common of the reasons for the reduction or discontinuing of services was that of the abatement of the planned treatments. There is also a lack of proper functioning of transport and an overall lacking of staffing since the health workers are being reassigned for the full-time support of Coronavirus services. In about 20 per cent of the countries that have reported disruptions the main reason for the aborting of services was the scantiness of medicines, other technologies and diagnostics.

There is unsurprisingly a correlation among that of the levels of disruption in regards to the services for the treatment of NCDs along with the evolution in the outbreak of the COVID-19 crisis. Their services are increasingly being disrupted as a

country is moving from cases that are sporadic to transmission as a community of the deadly virus. There are globally about two-thirds of the countries that have reported that they have included services for NCD amongst their nation-wide response and preparedness plans. 72 per cent of the countries with a higher income have been reporting on inclusion as in comparison to the 42 per cent of the countries with a lower income. There are services that have addressed cardiovascular diseases, diabetes, cancer along with that of the diseases of chronic respiration being added the most frequently with the commonly seen exclusion of tobacco cessation, rehabilitation and dentist services. 17 per cent of the countries have reported having started allocation of additional funding from that of the budget of the Governments so as to be included within the provisions of services related to NCD within the national plan in response to COVID-19.

There encouragingly certain findings through the surveys that have reported that alternative strategies having been established within most of the countries so as to be supporting people being at the highest risk so that they are able to be receiving some kind of treatment for incommunicable diseases. There are also countries which have reported disruptions of services at the rate of 58 per cent in countries where telemedicine is now being used. The advice online or by telephonic means have had to replace consultations in-person in countries with a lower income group at the rate of 42 per cent. There has been triaging done so that policies are able to be determined along with priorities that have been used widely that is in two-thirds of the countries that have reported. It is also encouraging to see that greater than 70 per cent of the countries have reported the collection of data based on the total number of patients of Coronavirus who were also having NCD [1-6].

It has however been assured that it will take some time to know about the entire extent of the effect of the disruption to that of health care amidst the COVID-19 crisis of that of people having an NCD. This has been said by Dr Bente Mikkelsen who is the Director of the Department of non-communicable Diseases at the WHO [4-7]. What is now known is that not only the people having NDCs are more vulnerable to be falling seriously ill due to the virus but there are many who are unable to be accessing the kind

of treatment that they may need for the managing of their illnesses. It is of utmost importance that not just people having NDCs are included within the national preparedness and response plans for that of COVID-19 but the finding of innovative ways for the implementation of the plans matter too.

During the lockdown, all of the domestic flights along with railway services except the goods trains, trucks, buses along with other vehicles and transportations have been suspended with the special exemption to the ones who are associated with commodities that are essential. In all the countries struck down by the disease the facilities of education, commerce, spiritual institutes along with that of sports are closed. There are industries that have suffered tremendously and have gone under a total closure with the exception of the products that are essentials. The people who are belonging to that of the transportation and tourism industries have faced major losses among other difficulties. The levels of production have dipped to being below normal. The powerful economies of many countries are under threat of ensuing inflation which will be high along with mass unemployment which will be the result of a lacking in productivity along with an excess of expenditure for that of the rehabilitation and treatment of the Coronavirus victims with their families.

The lockdown has directly affected the GDP of every country in that of the major part of economics. For every month there is an approximate losing of 2 per cent of points in the annual growth of GDP [6-8]. The sector of tourism alone is facing a decrease in output which is as high-up as that of 70 or 50 per cent. According to that of the WTO or the World Trade Organisation and the OECD or the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development the pandemic is the largest global threat to the economies since there had been a financial emergency in the year 2008-2009. There are experts who have said that the civilisation of humans has not faced such unprecedented emergencies since that of the Second World War. The COVID-19 pandemic has without a doubt put forward a very regressive effect on that of daily living of that of the whole human society along with the economy of the world.

The COVID-19 crisis has also had an effect on the world environment. It has been seen from the very beginning that humans have selfishly manipulated nature for their own benefits [7-9]. In order for the satisfaction of the demands of the increased population, urbanisation and industrialisation have become the norm with it being detrimental to the environment. There were already many concerns about the environment such as the pollution in the air, changes in climate, depletion of layer of ozone, global warming, lowering of water level underground, changes being recorded in regards to ecosystem and biodiversity along with that of arsenic contamination among others [10]. Global warming is the proven result of that of the increased concentration in GHGs or greenhouse gases. In the desire to be driving nature according to one's own desire and whims the humans have destroyed nature in a million ways. This was an inevitable consequence of the pollution accumulating in the environment which is one of the biggest issues of today.

The outbreak of Coronavirus is albeit unusual and almost all small and big cities along with villages within the countries that have been affected like that of Italy, Taiwan, China, Spain, France, USA, Germany, Iran, Turkey, India, the U.K, South Korea, Australia etc is undergoing partial or total lockdown for that of a long period of time going from that of a few weeks to that of a few months as well. All centralised and local administrative systems worldwide have been putting a ban on the free movement of citizens when outside of their homes so that community transmission is avoided. There are many cultural, religious, social, cultural, sporting, science and political programs and masses which have led to be cancelled like the Olympics and Hajj etc [6-9].

There are many kinds of industries which are also not functional like that of the travel industry. In the meantime, there are efforts made for the restriction of transmission of the COVID-19 virus by the restriction of movement having a longstanding effect on the environment. Due to the ill-functioning of various industries, the tremendous emission of wastage has been taken control of to that of a great extent. Vehicles can hardly be seen plying on the streets anymore that is resulting in about emission that is as low as zero. 2020 has seen a reduction in GHG emissions and tiny toxic particles that are suspended in the environment. The demand for power is not overbearing and the lower demands have

reduced usage of conventional energy and fossil fuels. There are ecosystems which have partially recovered due to lesser commercial activities. There are many major cities of the world that have reported seeing the skies clearly for the very first time in the history of their life. The level of pollution in a tourist spot like a sea beach, a forest or a hill trail has reduced considerably [10-12].

Conclusion

There are lives lost due to Coronavirus that have created an irretrievable void in society. It has also seriously demobilised the economy reaching worldwide. This has resulted in countries restricting further transmission within communities by undergoing a complete lock-down. Other problems have also been reported as the major flights which are international along with other types of business transportation have been placed on hold in different countries. All in all, the countries have to be ready so as to be building back better and the strengthening of the services in order to have better equipped for the care provision, diagnosis and prevention for that of NDCs in the near future, given any circumstance.

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