



COVID 19 Pandemic: Lessons Learnt

Pandemic is an epidemic spread across the world within a short period of time. The substantial number of people would be affected in more than one continent. The word pandemic is derived from the Greek word in which pan means all and demos means local people or crowd. In the history of mankind many pandemics have happened because of which millions of people have lost their lives and our ancestors have lost their near and dear ones. The list of pandemics includes plague, smallpox, tuberculosis, cholera, Influenza, Spanish flu, HIV/AIDS, Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome and Covid-19. Among these various pandemics reported, plague and smallpox stand tall until recently till the Covid-19 surfaced out in December 2019 in terms of mortality and morbidity.

During all the previous pandemics, the world health organization had issued many guidelines to combat them and further to be prepared in future to tackle the unexpected pandemics which fall on the mankind. In any pandemic, containment which includes contact tracing as well as isolation of the infected people and mitigation which includes management of these cases are the two mainstay strategies of control of the world-spread epidemics.

Though there were strategies to face the pandemics, the Covid-19 has taught us the new lessons and showed that our strategies which were in place were not enough to fight against the current pandemic, Covid-19. It showed us the new dimensions of preparedness for a pandemic. It emphasized that not only containment and mitigation strategies are enough to fight the pandemic, but also effective ways of managing the affected people in short time is utmost important. In terms of number of hospitals, available intensive care units, specifically trained professions to handle pandemics, more and more research in the field on newer dimensions, development of vaccinations as well as imparting awareness to people about steps to be taken during pandemics are few points learnt during this pandemic, Covid-19.

During this pandemic, along with healthcare, education, economic and all other sectors of society are affected and people have suffered. Hence every person must be ready to face the pandemic in future by contributing his or her share. Adequate preparedness is the need of the hour to challenge such pandemics in future....!

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