

COVID-19 MEDICAL STUDENT PERSPECTIVE-OUR EXPERIENCE

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ABSTRACT

COVID-19 which started in the days of end December last year 2019 in Wuhan city, Hubei province of China has affected everyone including medical students. Due to the nature of the Virus and technological advancement information dissemination about its causes and impacts was promptly disseminated on a timely manner to many people around the world including the medical students. COVID-19 has really showcased to us what it is to be a medical practitioner as we have witnessed many practitioners day and night fighting with passion against the COVID-19 from all around the world and as the future promising medical practitioners we have learnt from these dedications of fight against diseases which we hope will have a positive impact in our career.

KEYWORDS: COVID-19, Medical students, Pandemics, Epidemics.

INTRODUCTION

Since the declaration by World Health Organisation (WHO) of COVID-19 as a pandemic on 11 March 2020 the whole world till today 8th December 2020 is still under standstill due to the coming of COVID-19 with close to 67,210,778 number of confirmed cases, including 1,540,777 deaths from all over around the world (*see figure 1*), with the Virus being first identified

in the city of Wuhan, Hubei province of People Republic of China, with its causes being traced to sea food market.^[1-3] There is even much evidence that this Virus is said to be more prone to people with already underlying chronic respiratory diseases like cancer, diabetes, etc, furthermore, it is said that this disease can be transmitted through one person to another and that it can even contaminate the atmospheric air.^[2,4,5]

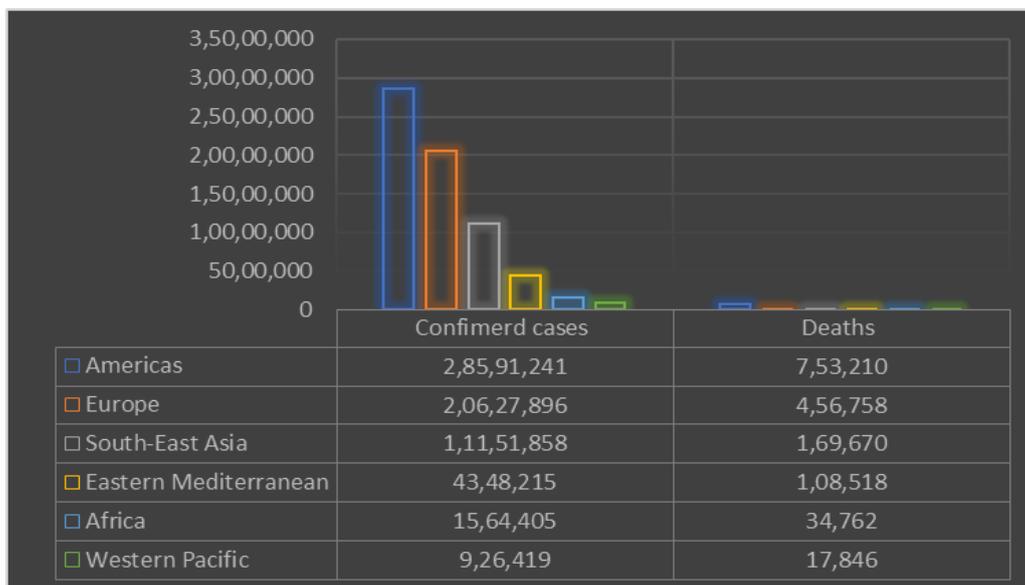


Figure 1: Showing global confirmed cases.

Source: Author computed data from WHO dashboard^[3]

Our Knowledge of COVID-19

Being medical students who happened to be in China at the time when the COVID-19 started especially with the fact we happened to be in the city where the Virus started, till today September 25 2020 when this Virus is still causing havoc there is a lot that we have come to learn about this Virus in regard to our career as medical practioners. Having the knowledge that we got in the classes when learning about pathogenic diseases, their causes and its impacts it helped as a lot to understand about the causes of this COVID-19 on the upper hand as medicals students as also evidenced by other study that they found good knowledge among medical students^[6-8], however, this good knowledge we have cannot only be attributed to the fact that we are medical students but also due to the fact of the nature of COVID-19 and the positive efforts done by authorities all over the world by enhancing the information dissemination of the virus using all mediums of communication. This knowledge had a positive impacts on our lives as we were even able to recall about other viral diseases that were even declared epidemics and pandemics that the world had experienced its impacts like Ebola in Africa^[9], N1H1 and influenzas in parts of Asia^[10], and some is still experiencing its impacts like HIV/AIDs.^[11]

The impacts on COVID-19 on our profession

COVID-19 has not left anyone in terms of its impacts, on medical students' perspectives, we have been also affected as any human being or industry in the whole world since the pandemic started.^[12] Despite the fact that COVID-19 starting from a time when most of the school were on vocation but as medical students who usually relay on daily practical experience and updates of information we don't usually make holidays on our studies with our own reason as students for continuously improving in order to achieve high academic excellence both theoretically and practically, as such with the implementation of the social distance measures which have proved to be effective in controlling the spread of the virus^[13-15], we experienced them and we being medical students we understand them more properly and encourage them as well, as such we adherend to them by knowing the importance of these measures in fighting the viral diseases, furthermore, we have learnt that science is not enough to control pandemics, trust and compliance is necessary its unless we understand this that is when we may even became better medical doctors.

Throughout the experience of the COVID-19 we have learnt of what we are into and could possibly meet in our professional as medical practioners and the sacrifices that we are even going to do for the care of the patients in fighting any kind of diseases from time to time. COVID-19 has in one way or another showed us the passion that medical practioners have for the care of the human race. We could say that we have come to understand that being a medical practioners is a calling to help and serve

the people it is not about making money or doing business. Despite the fact that medical practioners have always been on frontline in fighting any kind of disease, COVID-19 experience is also unique one, it has also taught us something that we don't need to fear, this is the spirit that the medical practioners have imparted us. Having some kind of fear at first, but through this courage which we have seen, we have been strengthened, motivated and make us proud that we have chosen this profession to serve the human. This is a mark of an honor without no amount of price to buy which nobody will get from us and that will always carry it forever as future promising medical practioners.

CONCLUSION

COVID-19 as a pandemic has impacted everyone, as medical students, we had at least knowledge of the viral diseases from our previous classes and through the dissemination of the information from those on authorities. We believe that medical practice is a calling and indeed is about the sacrifice to serve the world. We are proud.

Availability of data and materials

Not applicable.

Competing interest

The authors declare no competing interest.

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Authors Contribution

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