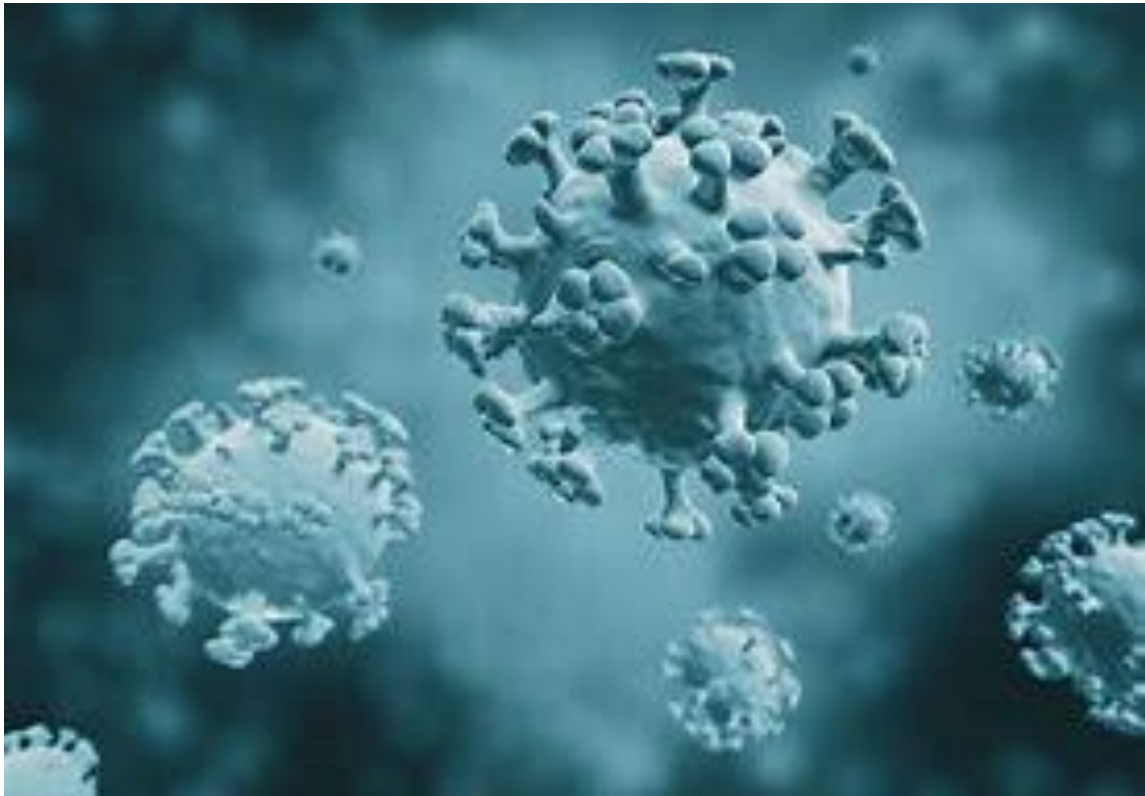


Research Project
Covid-19
Pandemic 2019



Origin of the Covid-19

There is much gossip of the true origin of Covid-19, I will discuss two examples below.

On December 31, 2019, the World Health Organisation (WHO) heard of an unknown virus in Wuhan. This virus was causing a number of pneumonia cases and appeared to be increasing with fatal results. The Chinese government responded to the outbreak by placing Wuhan and nearby cities under lockdown (quarantine) What started as an epidemic mainly limited to China is now become a global pandemic.

Where it came from

The disease appears to have originated from a Wuhan seafood market. This is where wild animals, including rodents, birds, rabbits, bats and snakes, were traded illegally.

Coronaviruses have been known to jump from animals to humans in the past, so therefore they thought that the first people infected with the disease was a group of stallholders from the seafood market.

The hunt for the animal with Covid-19 is still unknown. Although there are some scientific papers from a team of virologists at the Wuhan institute. They released a detailed scientific paper showing that the new coronavirus has the genetic makeup (96 per cent) identical to that of a coronavirus found in bats. But there was another scientific paper, released later that argues that genetic sequences of coronavirus in Pangolins are between 88.5 and 92.4 per cent similar to the human virus. So, what is it, Bats or Pangolins?

Some early cases of Covid-19, appears to have inflicted people with no link to the Wuhan market at all. Therefore, suggesting that the initial route of infection via Wuhan wet Market cannot be correct.

The Wuhan market was shut down for inspection and cleaning on January 1 with not confirmed evidence.

On January 21 confirmed the disease was also being transmitted between humans. This became apparent, after evidences of medical staff becoming infected with the virus. Funny thing is, many human coronaviruses were discovered before COVID-19, like SARS CoV in 2003. One of the earliest ones were found in the late 1960s, which was an infectious bronchitis virus, which happened to be found within chickens and two within two human patients with the common cold. This was later named human coronavirus 229E.

Symptoms

Coughing, what happens to 59% – 82% of people with the virus. Fever, which occurs in every 83% - 99% people with the virus. Fatigue, which happens in every 44% - 70% of people which have the virus. Then there's shortness of breath, which happens to every 31% - 40% of people. There's also a lack of appetite, which happens to every 40% - 84% of people. Two other symptoms of COVID-19 are Mucus, which happens to every 28% - 33%, then Body aches, which occurs in every 11% - 35%. Other symptoms a sore throat, a headache, chills, a stuffy nose, Nausea or vomiting, and diarrhoea. Symptoms usually begin 2 or 14 days after you contact the virus.

What people are doing to help stop COVID-19

People are being told to keep themselves hygienic, particularly their hands, as it is mainly caught via coming into contact with the virus, then touching a part which allows COVID-19 to access your body. People are self-insulating and countries are going into lock down. This is being done to prevent the spreading of this new virus, and to guarantee other people's safety. People are also using masks, which are mainly surgical masks and N95 masks so people can't catch it if they cough.

The type of virus COVID-19 is

Corona Virus is an infectious disease caused by severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2) This virus was first found in December, 2019. As COVID-19 is a human coronavirus, it mostly affects human's respiratory systems.

How are doctors making a vaccine for COVID-19?

There has already been a potential way of helping to cure whoever has the corona virus or at least help them survive it. A Californian doctor, Dr Timothy Byun, has thought of using people who survived the virus to donate their plasma to the ones who are seriously ill in hospital. When someone had donated some plasma, the ill patient actually got better. They were a little bit healthier in terms of his oxygen setting, and was able to breathe without a machine to help him to increase blood pressure. However, this is not reliable yet, as it's too early to be able to tell whether this new way of treatment has been working as hoped. In the meantime, there are still many medical workers looking for a vaccine to counter this new strain of virus. Adding onto the plasma idea, the patient has tried drugs like hydroxychloroquine, azithromycin and tocilizumab, but these drugs had made no noticeable benefits to the patient at the time they'd given it to the patient.

Other examples of pandemics similar to the information above:

There are many examples which can be given, like SARS, the Bubonic Plague, because of basing off of how people believe COVID-19 was first came into humans (from bats.) Adding onto SARS, it could be why one of the names for COVID-19 are SARS-CoV-2, because SARS was a corona virus itself with similar symptoms. This is a great example for comparison, and COVID-19 and SARS are corona viruses because corona means crown, representing how they have a crown like spike on their surface, according to the centres for disease control and prevention.

Fun facts – Maybe not that fun

People with COVID-19 can spread the virus more while in their incubation period, which can range from 2 to 14 days. It has also been found by a study that it can be spread once they have recovered as well. The reason why it's more infectious during the incubation period is because people shed higher/larger amounts of the virus before the symptoms kick in, which has also apparently been proven by a study.

On the 16th March, 2020, there are 98,476 CONFIRMED cases, 12,848 CONFIRMED deaths, and 1,918 CONFIRMED recoveries. I put confirmed in underlined and capitals because people which have not been tested or confirmed could have had the virus, recovered, or even died to it without people knowing how they'd died.