

Short Article

Public Policies Corresponding to Emerging Infectious Disease Outbreak: Flight or Fright?

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A B S T R A C T

Emerging infectious disease is usually an important public problem to be managed. The good policies for management of the infection are necessary. When there is an outbreak of disease, attempt to confine the disease is necessary. Fighting for the infection by active manipulations is necessary. However, in case of failure, evacuation might be necessary.

Keywords: Public, Policies, Emerging, Infectious Disease

Introduction

Infection is an important problem for human beings. A proper management of the infection by health care personnel is required. There are many infections including some new infections at present. The new occurrence of the new infectious disease is an interesting consideration. The emerging infectious disease usually becomes a new focus internationally.

Emerging infectious disease is usually an important public problem to be managed. Within the past few decades, there are many new emerging infectious diseases such as bird flu, swine flu, SARS, MERS and Wuhan coronavirus infection. The good policies for management of the infection are necessary. As a new threaten, the reaction to the new emerging disease might be by several ways. When there is an outbreak of disease, attempt to confine the disease is necessary. Fighting for the infection by active manipulations is necessary. However, in case of failure, evacuation might be necessary.

Fight

Fight for emerging infection is important. This requires good collaboration. The international collaboration is usually necessary in case of big outbreak.¹⁻³ The data sharing is necessary and there must be integrated international disease control. Active case searching is required. There should also be a good way to manage panic.⁴ On the other hand, good plan to manage the case that is passively detected at medical center is necessary. Last, good regulation by legal way might also be necessary.⁵ As noted by Ulrich, "if we as a society hope to ensure efficient, constitutional control over the spread of disease, it is imperative that science take its rightful place at the forefront of governmental decision-making and judicial review".⁵

In order to fight, the basic requirement is the rapid gathering of the available data of the problem. As noted by Ladner and Ben Abdelaziz, "Big data permits a better prevention and management of disease in patients, the development of diagnostic support systems and the personalization of treatments. Big data raises important ethical questions.

Health literacy includes the abilities of people to assess and critique and appropriate health information".⁶ A good information management system for collection and generalization of the data regarding the new infectious diseases is necessary. Proper tools, equipment and training have to be sufficiently prepared for the practitioners.

Finally, to fight with the new problem, the promotion and mind support to the practitioner is needed. As a new disease, the panic is a common observation among general people. One who has to work with the new emerging disease has to have a brave heart and the support is usually required.

Fright

Sometimes, disease might be very serious and outbreak cannot be controlled. This scenario seems to be the worst event. In the past, there are many famous events that local people have to be frightened from the emerging infectious disease. The local people had to abandon the town and move to a new settlement. The good example is the case of Uthong city in ancient Thailand history. When a cholera outbreak occurred and disease could not be controlled, the local people had to move to construct a new town at remote places.

In the present day, the serious event might be possible. How to be frightened in a proper way has to be discussed. The evacuation plan has to be prepared and this should be effectively implemented when it is necessary. The good examples of evacuation are the situation of Wuhan coronavirus 2019 infection. Several countries set evacuation plans for transferring their people back from China. Regarding the evacuation, the important concept is safe evacuation. Good pre- and post- evacuation manipulations are needed. Specific travel plans and vehicles are required.⁷

Conclusion

When there is any emerging infectious disease, policies for active fighting against the problem are necessary. Sometimes, very strict quarantine might be required. For community manipulation, giving correct information, education and control of panic becomes the key targets. The provision of sufficient information, tools and training is necessary and the mind support to the practitioner should not be forgotten. Last, in case that any manipulation fails, evacuation might be considered.

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