

# **Corona Virus Initiative Youth Observatory**

COVID19 Webinar

15<sup>th</sup> April 2020

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# Introduction

- COVID 19 (Corona Virus Disease)
- Cause: SARS CoV 2
- Declared Public Health Emergency of International Concern on 30<sup>th</sup> January 2020
- Declared as Pandemic on 11<sup>th</sup> March 2020

# Current Situation

As of 10:00 CET, 14<sup>th</sup> April 2020 WHO Report

- Total Confirmed Cases = 1,844,863
- Total Number of Deaths = 117,021

# Perspectives

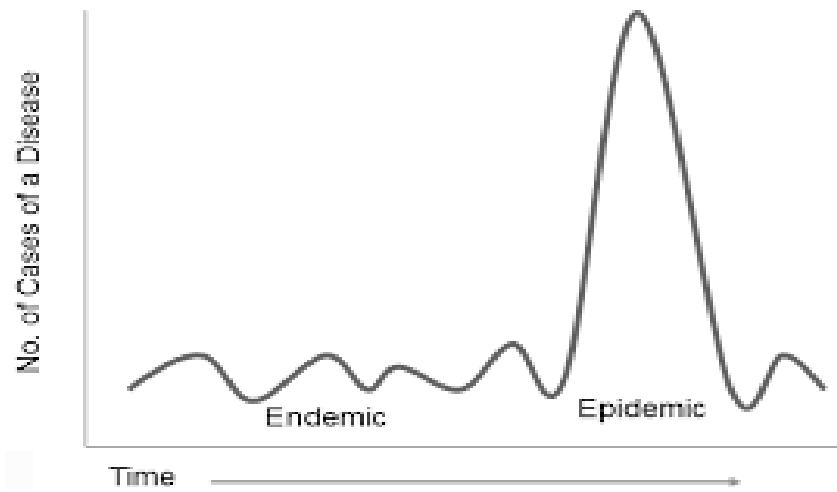
- Varies with the country, socio economic status, level of understanding and priorities
- ‘Delay as long as vaccines are not available’
- ‘Prevent as much as deaths possible’
- ‘Prevent overwhelming of the healthsystem’
- ‘Is it the start of apocalypse?’
- ‘ I am hopeless...’
- ‘Are we gonna survive?’
- ‘Irritated, don’t want stay back but dont want to die’

# Community Perspectives (Contd.)

- ‘COVID is a hoax’
- ‘Refill and maintain stocks for basic resources, its gonna last long’
- ‘What is CORONA?’
- ‘Our people will die of hunger before the virus if we locked them down’
- ‘I don’t want to stay at home... I need to feed my family, I dont care for the disease’
- ‘Have you seen the expected number of deaths’

# Occurrence of Diseases

- Endemic: Transmission occurs, but number of cases remains constant
- Epidemic: Number of cases more than the normal occurrence in a geographical area in a particular time
- Pandemic: epidemics beyond international borders, spread across countries



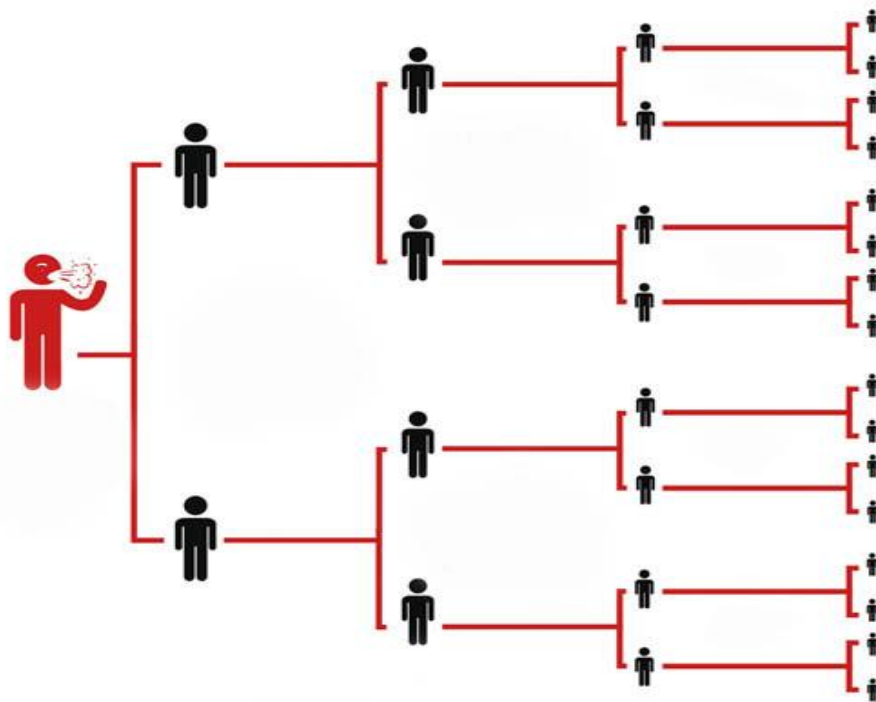
# Basic Reproductive Rate ( $R_0$ )

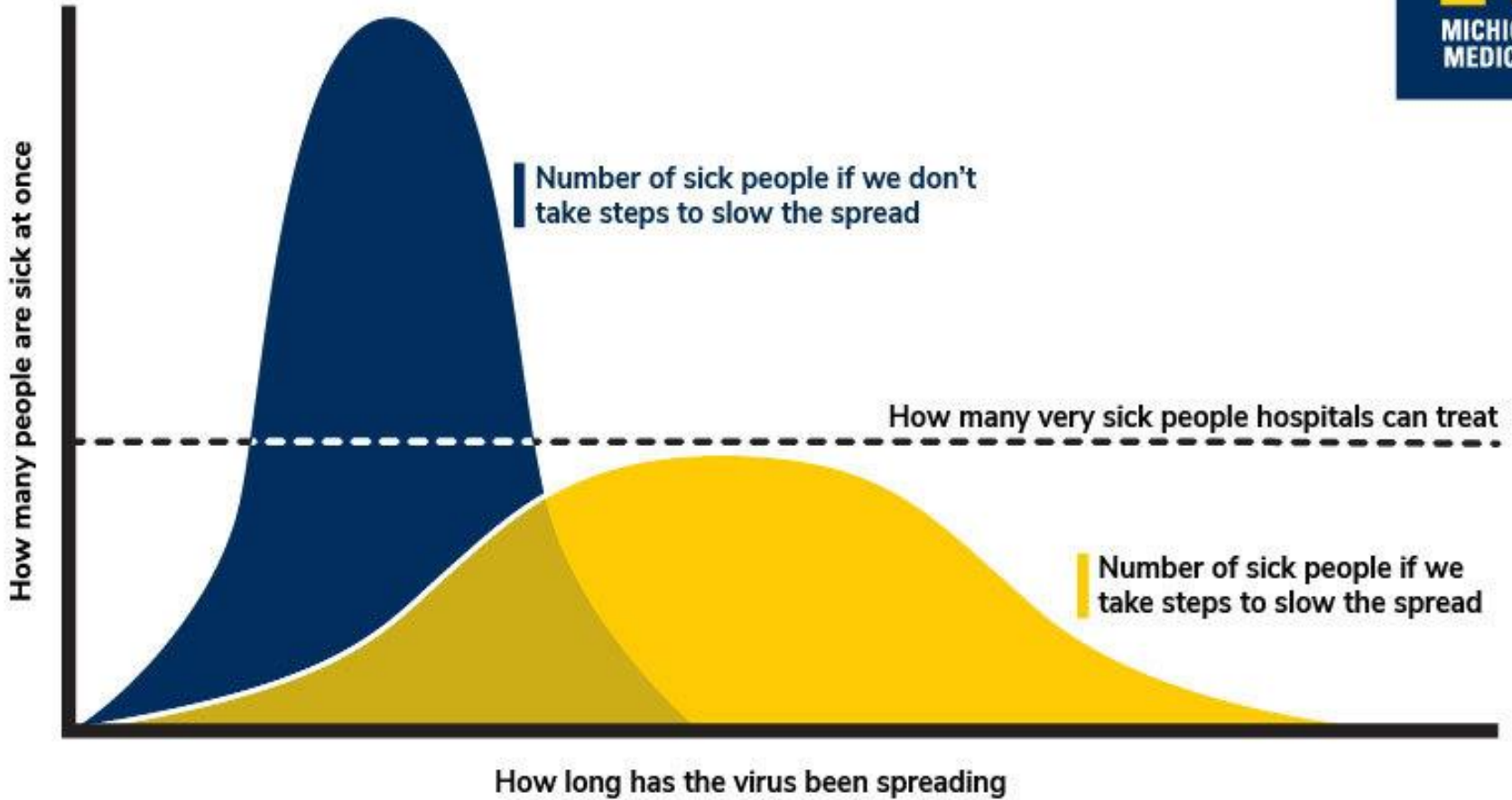
- Average number of individuals directly infected by an infectious case during his/her entire infectious period when (s)he is susceptible
- If  $R_0 < 1$  : disease will disappear
- If  $R_0 = 1$  : disease will become an epidemic
- If  $R_0 > 1$  : it will lead to epidemic



# Ro depends on following factors:

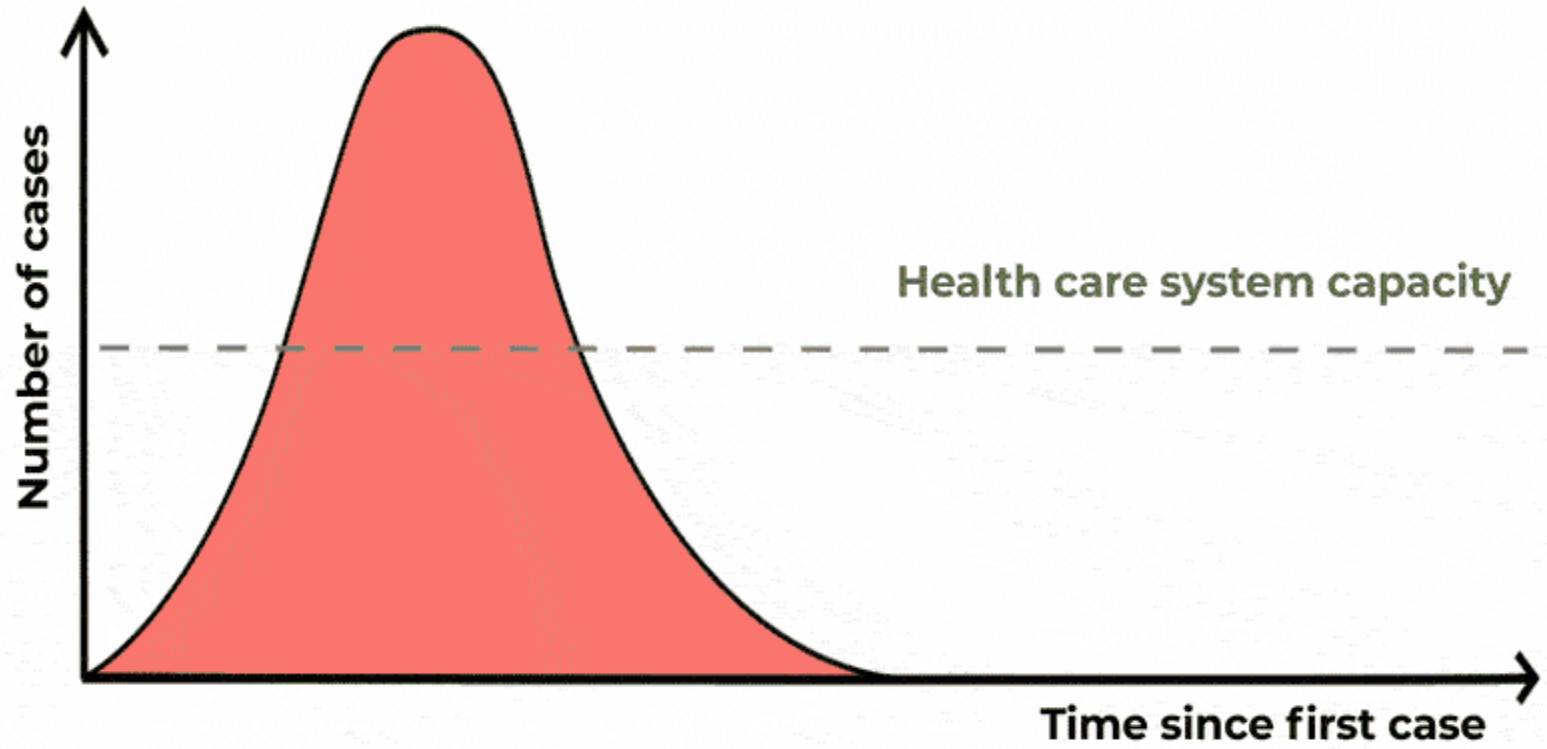
- Probability of transmission in a contact.
- Frequency of contacts in the population
- Duration of infectiousness
- Proportion of population that are already immune/ not susceptible



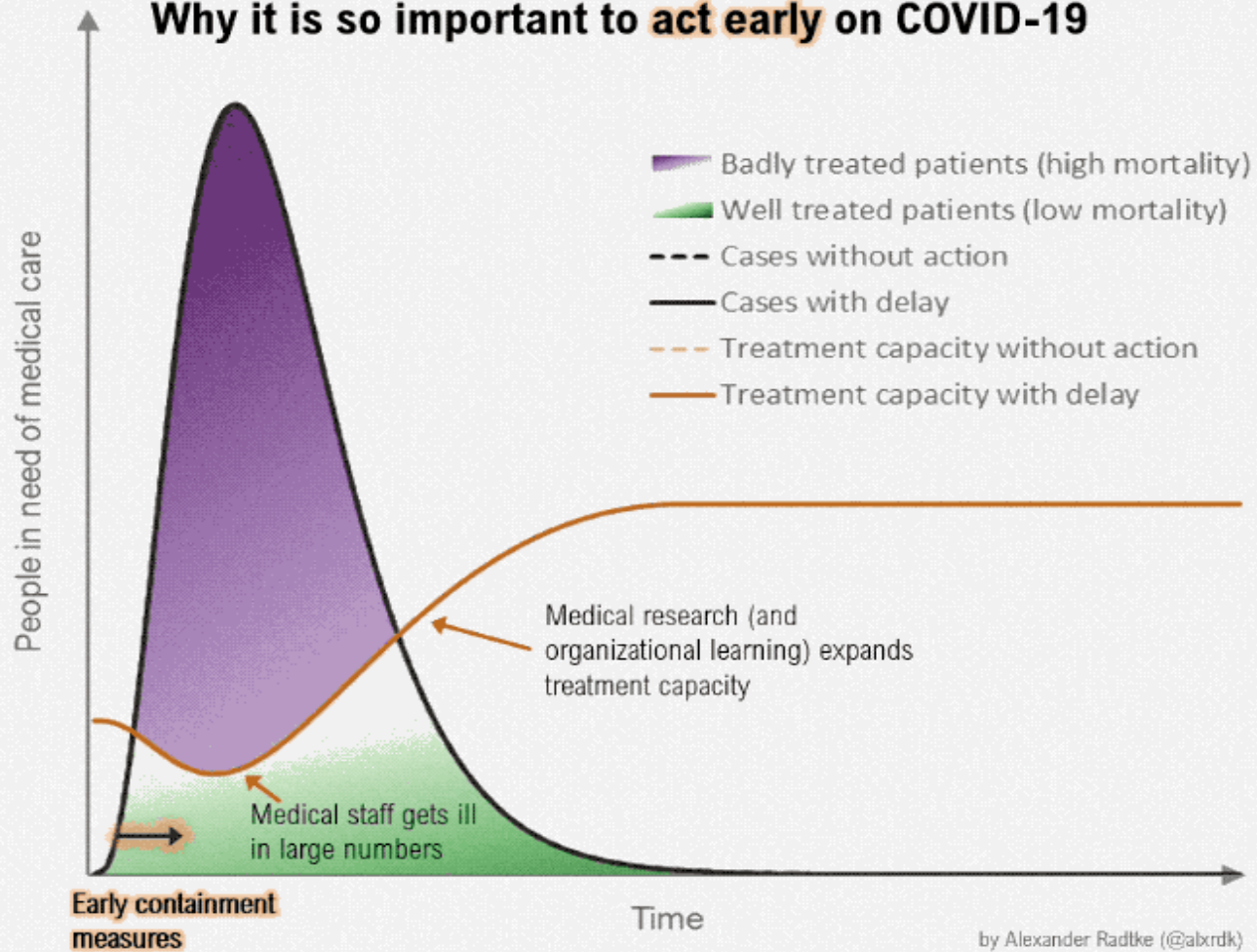


Adapted from the CDC

## Flatten the curve



## Why it is so important to **act early** on COVID-19



# Pandemic Control

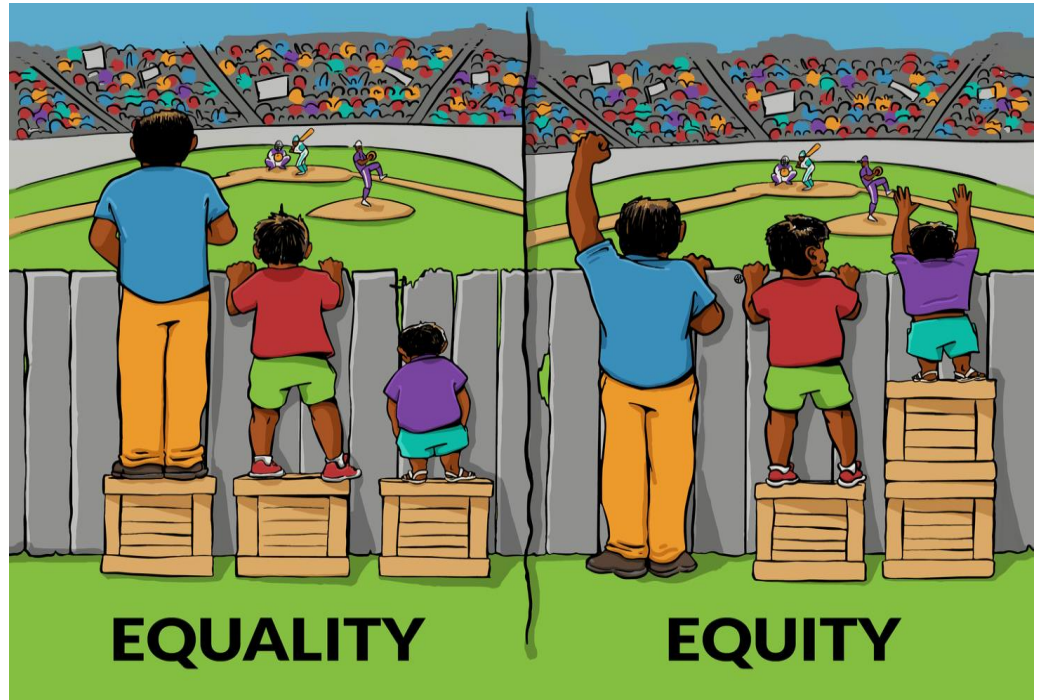
Suppression	Mitigation
Aim to reverse $R_0$ ( $<1$ )	Aim to reduce $R_0$ (but not $<1$ )
Reversing epidemic growth	Slowing but not necessarily stopping epidemic spread
Reducing case numbers to low levels	Reducing peak healthcare demand
Maintaining this status till control measures such as vaccine or medications are produced and effective	Protecting those most at risk of severe disease from infection

# Community Containment Measures

- Closing of school, colleges and workplaces
- Banning transportation
- Complete / partial lockdowns
- Cancelling public gatherings, cinemas, concerts and malls
- Work from Home

Vertical

Horizontal



# Infodemic



COUNTER  
THE COVID-19  
"INFODEMIC"

**Think before clicking,**

**think before sharing**



False information, mistrust, panic...  
so many things are being spread  
around COVID-19!



# Effects of Infodemic

- Compromise Outbreak response
- Increases public confusion
- Generates fear and panic due to unverified rumours and exaggerated claims
- Promotes Xenophobia
- Racist form of digital vigilantism
- Scapegoating
- Severe effects on Mental health on longer run

- What is the effect on mental health of masses?

# HOW TO END THE FAKE NEWS CYCLE



## Consider the source

Where did you receive the news from?  
Has it been confirmed by a reliable news platform?



## Read Beyond

Look for more information before believing everything you read.



## Cross check

Are other reliable sites, platforms, or channels reporting on the story?



## Don't forward every message

End the fake news cycle by not clicking forward on every message.



## Check the date

Videos, pictures and articles from months/years ago may surface. Be wary.



## Don't give in to the panic

Spreading panic in a time of fear is common. Follow every above step before giving in to the panic.

**Thank you....**

**Lets discuss...**