



COVID-19 – Pandemic Potential Infecting Humans – Call for a One Health Approach

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Today, when the world faces complex problem - COVID-19 pandemic, no single discipline, institution, or country can respond to it alone. Covid-19 is closely related to viruses that infect bats, however, the animal species that acted as the intermediate host to enable the disease spread onto humans is still unknown.

60% of infectious diseases that infect humans come from animals. Many medical experts believe we should be taking preventative measures to help avoid another outbreak by adopting the "One Health" approach. As scientists continue to search for the mystery animal, how is it possible to prevent a future pandemic if the origins of the novel coronavirus remains unclear?

One Health, which is advocated by the World Health Organization, is designed to implement policies and programs where a range of professionals and experts like vets, doctors and environmental scientists can join forces and share data to help avert another pandemic. One Health strategy would be able to predict where outbreaks might occur by surveilling places where humans and animals come into frequent contact, such as live animal markets, meat processing centers and heavy poultry markets.

Therefore, I wish OH&RM to review COVID-19 outbreak in a one health context, highlighting the need for the implementation of one health measures and practices to improve human health and reduce the emergence of pandemic viruses.

