

**FRIGTHEAGE OF CORONA VIRUS THROUGH TRANSACTION OF CURRENCY;
AN INVISIBLE MODE OF INTERCHANGE.**

Avanisha Kapoor¹, Dr Amit Chauhan^{2*}.

Amity Institute of Forensic Sciences^{1,2}, Amity University, Sec-125 Noida, Uttar Pradesh,
INDIA-201313.

Corresponding Author: Amit* Chauhan

Email id: amit_chauhan777@yahoo.in

Contact Details: +91-9540067484/ 9910675078

ABSTRACT

Since last week of December 2019, corona virus has spread in almost all over the countries and have caused millions of deaths. COVID -19 is caused by the new virus SARS-CoV-2 in which mostly, people are infected with mild respiratory symptoms while in severe cases of illness like pneumonia. It transmits through the acquittance with an infected person/ respiratory droplet whenever an infected individual sneeze/coughs. In an area where virus is spreading very rapidly, the chances to get infection are higher. Infection of coronavirus can be averted and this out break can be stopped through the active participation in decision making and following the guidelines of coronavirus. This article is formulated to provide the relevant information about the indirect methods responsible for spreading coronavirus among the society and community. Exchange of currency is a major and invisible medium for spreading COVID-19 in which a healthy person gets infected. Until unless, it gets confirm that the person has infected, he/she unknowingly becomes a carrier to this virus.

KEYWORDS; Virus, Currency, transfer, invisible mode, infection etc.

ARTIFICIAL PRODUCTION OF COVID-19

Now a days, Corona virus has become an extensive issue of concern worldwide. It is commonly known as COVID-19. It is observed by ex-positioning symptoms such as fever, cold, cough and respiratory failure causing SARS (Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome). The corona virus is a

spike protein which tends to connect itself onto humans/ surfaces. It adheres over the surfaces of various substances and enter the human body by infecting to everyone whoever comes in the contact of infected person or direct to such surfaces by making them a carrier of this deadly disease. Though, it is not clear yet, but still so many opinions have submitted by various scientists. According to a Francis scientist-Luc Montagnier, this deadly coronavirus was produced in laboratory artificially (man-made) by the combination of different viruses two of which are Malaria and HIV virus¹.

The droplets of saliva, sweat or any adhering clothing of an infected person comes in the contact of any surfaces or a healthy person, the transmission of the virus starts from nose, mouth, eyes and face infecting the mucus membrane. Once, it will enter in the body of any person, it will parade the symptoms within a time span of 14 days, it starts to replicate². The spike protein attaches itself over the healthy cells (meant to fight infections). At first, the virus targets healthy lung cells by showing the symptoms of breathing difficulties by infecting the entire respiratory tract and causing inflammation of lungs³. This causes damage to the person's alveolar blood vessels and needing ventilator to breathe. Once the lungs are filled with fluid, it will provide less supply of oxygen to the body parts effecting lungs, kidney, liver to shut down. In sever cases of organ failure, recovery is not possible. Such severities have made this virus a global pandemic, putting almost all populations worldwide quarantined into their homes and lakhs of lives already lost. No specific medical treatment of this virus has been developed yet⁴.

MEASURES TO AVOID CONTAMINATION FROM CORONAVIRUS

This virus has become a threat to life through worldwide. Only specific measures of safety (issued by Ministry of Health and family Welfare) can help to avoid the contamination from this virus. Each and every individual should avoid the unnecessary travel or walk outside of their houses. Whenever it is recommended to step out of your places, everyone should adhere gloves, N-95 or N-99 face mask every time should sanitize to their self. According to the findings, an infected droplet can travel up to a distance of 6 feet (1.8meter), therefore, everyone should also follow the social distancing⁵. Any person, who has travelled inter-states or internationally should self- quarantine themselves for a minimum of 14 days (Home quarantine/ Government Quarantine centers)⁶. If an individual is moving outside, touching of other surfaces by hand and

following such as face, nose, eyes, mouth should be avoided. One should wash their hands with soap properly and should isolate the out worn clothes immediately.

GOVERNMENT INITIATIVES TO PREVENT PEOPLE

COVID-19 is a threat and fast spreading SARS among the living beings which was declared as a global pandemic by WHO. Since when, the first case of Corona infection was observed in the country, Ministry of health and welfare has been continuously monitoring about the spread of corona virus. Along with WHO, the government is prescribing and spreading awareness about the destruction causes by this virus⁷. By stepping in this direction, government declared complete lockdown in the whole country. The process of disinfecting places, buildings, markets, vehicles etc. has started to sanitize all substances coming in contact of people.

The country was completely locked down starting from 24th March 2020. An early initiative was taken by the government to spread awareness, with messages displayed on websites and 24/7 helpline numbers, verbal messaging before phone calls was done to ensure awareness was speed to all. An app named 'AROGYA SETU' was introduced by government to help people and self-testing, to get aware about the cases at nearby places along with several information's related to corona virus⁸.

During the lockdown, screening to people started to ensure whether the COVID positives were getting care at hospitals. All inter-states borders were sealed and traveling from state-state was not allowed. Factories, restaurants, markets, malls, entertainment sectors, businesses were completely shut down to ensure safety of people. It is mandatory to wear masks, gloves, sanitizers etc. and advisory for people aged above 60 and patients with High Blood Pressure, diabetes, any chronic illness to remain at home. The daily needed materials, banks, ATMs, essential services, medical services, fire department, police, media was all available rest was under strict curfew. To contain the spread of COVID-19 government continued to increase the lockdown till 17th May 2020 with some relaxation, this lockdown was again extended till 31st May 2020 but thereafter relaxations were increased⁹.

EXCHANGE OF CURRENCY AS A CARRIER OF CORONAVIRUS

Currency notes is a daily used artifact which could be an invisible carrier of COVID. Daily vaises belongings required with several people who could have infection/ or not? In such a way, the direct passage of notes with vendors, hawkers or other people can make one prone to get infected by corona easily.



Figure 1; Exchange of currency notes; indirect exchange of coronavirus.

Some other articles including paper bag, plastic bag or metal surfaces can also hold the residue of virus up to next four days. Therefore at this time, exchange of currency, plastic polyethene's or any paper bags is not safe to used up to a span of 4 to 7 days. If it is required, it should be sanitized properly for getting disinfected¹⁰.

Until unless the person is not confirmed to be positive for corona, he/she freely exchange the currency that is being transferred to another person along with the currency/ article. Now, the currency works as a carrier of corona virus. It is not only putting the person at risk but is also



responsible for spreading as well. This chain is inevitable to break until the currency is disinfected.

Figure 2; appropriate method of handling the currency.

OVERCOME TO EXCHNAGE OF CURRENCY

To avoid the indirect contact of coronavirus residues through currency notes, it is necessary to take some precautions. We should practice online, or any available digital medium pay the bills. While we are paying/ getting hard currency, we should wear the gloves to avoid any direct contact with it. Non- dominating medium is the best source to exchange the notes. Hands should be washed off/ sanitized immediately after every transaction. Wallet shouldn't be used to until unless it is not sanitized. Hard currency should be isolated in the house from the earlier deposition. If the atmospheric temperature is high, then currency can be directly exposed to the sunlight for time being (Atleast 4 hours.). By creating an artificial temperature (ironing), currency can be directly exposed to it. Implementation of UV rays-based method can also help to disinfect the currency¹¹.



Figure 3; Currency sanitization machine

According to government initiatives, vendors/shopkeeper should use gloves and sanitizer should be provided to everyone to ensure the safety of people. Screening process should be mandatory for every individual who works at a social hub (Chemists, vendors etc.). A sanitizing stations should be established before entering a market, park, mall etc. to control spread of corona virus. In banks, it could be mandatory to provide and accept notes only after disinfecting them. Polymer currency notes can be implemented in the country. As per the available sources of digital payments, these should be strictly followed during the purchase of everything available in market. The above given measures can be helpful in controlling the spread of coronavirus and avoiding it in total if carefully practiced at all times.

CONCLUSIO

Corona virus can spread by using any source of medium available (exchange of currency, vegetables, via vendors etc.) in market. In a country like India, it is unavoidable to use currency notes by people. For the prevention of coronavirus, it is necessary to avoid exchange of currency as much as possible because tracking all who came in contact with the currency are carriers of this virus is almost impossible. Digital transition of money is the best source to avoid any types of personal contact that could help in the transfer of corona virus from one individual to another. The people can avoid the spread of coronavirus by following the guidelines advised by the government and WHO but there are still some unseen modes through which this deadly virus can

be spread in the society. Taking the mentioned precautions can be useful to ensure the safety and reduce the COVID positive cases and lives taken by it.

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