Covid-19 Global Pandemic in Sub-Sahara Africa

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Introduction

- What makes Sub-Saharan countries vulnerable to the COVID-19 global pandemic?
- Sub-Saharan Africa is geographically and ethno culturally, the area of the continent of Africa that lies south of the Sahara.
- Sub-Saharan Africa is home to nearly 60% of the world’s population living in extreme poverty (The World Bank 2018).
- The continent with the poorest resourced health, the highest mortality rates, and also the highest number of deaths due to infectious diseases.
- Northern and Southern Africa have currently the highest number of official cases and deaths of COVID-19. Western Africa is the most impacted by the death toll in the Sub-Saharan zone, followed by Eastern and Central Africa.

Methodology

- Via zoom interviews with families in two sub-Saharan countries, Uganda, Congo DRC. This research study interviewed; individuals who have been impacted by COVID-19.
- Participants included: Refugees, asylum seekers, youth, parents, and single moms.

Problem

- Access to vaccines, therapeutics, and diagnostics for COVID-19 will be a challenge for Sub-Saharan Africans.
- Resource limitations in Sub-Saharan Africa contribute to relatively lower access to COVID-19 diagnostic testing, which result in under diagnosis, especially of asymptomatic or paucity-symptomatic persons, and limited basic and advanced care to prevent morbidity and mortality.
- Sub-Saharan African states are weak and underdeveloped, people are reliant on the humanitarian aid during the global pandemic.
- Marginalized communities don’t have access to the vaccines.
- Pricing for COVID-19 testing.

Findings

- World Health Organization and Africa Centers for Diseases Control states that, Sub-Saharan Africa was not prepared for COVID-19.
- Sub-Saharan Africa has opportunities to address its low vaccine manufacturing capacity.
- The African Union, have discussions with the coalition to negotiate access.

Conclusion

- Sub-Saharan African countries have faced challenges with the global pandemic and pre-existing conditions. The international organizations such as WHO, ACDC need to do more in supporting these regions with resources such as aid to get vaccines for everyone.
- Most Sub-Saharan Africa countries are also skeptical about COVID vaccines due to misinformation that have been spread all of over the world. The humanitarian aid partners need to do more in addressing all these issues in order for these countries to convince their citizens to participate in Vaccines.

References

- https://www.cctvnews.com/category/covid-19/?pid=v0u-u6Qpke-4sCBn-At37A3K9Q426tOa4ty6WHPmWr7nYtj7pFQe6q99s96QETpO303X0333477