Effect of Communication in the Era of COVID-19

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Communication is an essential element amid the current situation of COVID-19. It is an important component needed in all facets of life. The importance of effective communication, its effects on human life and perceptions about the current pandemic cannot be over emphasized. Communication an essential key factor in transmitting important health information to the patient, family, the public and the world.

Communication issues have been at the forefront of my career in nursing and education. Since the beginning of my nursing journey, I have been concerned about the effect of effective communication on patients and families, healthcare providers, and the public.

Over the course of the current situation with COVID-19, effective communication has been lacking and its effects on human life have changed our day to day life style.

Communication as the art of expression and how human beings perceive the world around them, it is the central tool in the exchange of information and ideas between two or more groups of people, organizations, and the world. In the era of globalization, communication is essential in the everyday function of the society and when COVID-19 emerged, the world found itself in communication or information chaos. The outbreak of COVID-19 since March 2020, health institutions, organizations, and governments of various countries have been confronted with how health information communication can be effectively be disseminate to the citizens, public, and the world over.

As the outbreak spreads, effective communication was difficult to come by and various countries, governments, health organizations, researchers, and the public were seeking helpful information to guide and fight this virus.

I was amazed at how important and key health information were been delivered to the public and the world. The essential aspect of this lack of effective communication and its effects on everyday citizen was enormous and frustrating. I could not understand the problem in providing the public with simple health information about the virus and ways to mitigate its spread. As the virus spread from country to country, neighborhood to neighborhood, the government response was never marched with the amount of information regarding COVID-19 and the day to day coverage of the spread, its effect on human life, the economic, and the social fabric of society. The daily onslaught of health information from daily news, debates, researchers and scientists, healthcare providers, and public opinions was too overwhelming, not helping the situation but found a way to sew doubt, fear, anxiety, uncertainty, and confusion.

The lack of communication and cooperation between governments, leaders, and other stakeholders have contributed to negative impact on healthcare services and health outcomes including increased anxiety, fear, guilt, stress, pain, decreased public satisfaction, physiological, psychological, and functional status, non-compliance with ordered guidelines, and lack of understanding of definitive treatment for COVID-19. Since the emergency of COVID-19, the public and citizens of the world are crying out for effective communication about COVID-19. This communication about COVID-19 must be clear, truthful, and valid health information that is essential and needed to be provided to the public and citizens of the world. Effective communication and information about COVID-19 must be well developed, essential, and accurate to assist governments, leaders, scientists, researchers, healthcare providers, and practitioners in the frontlines to understand the virus, how to mitigate and contain the spread, find solution or cure, and ways to care for patients with the virus.