

Epidemics and Society of Public Health Crises: The Pandemic Century

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DESCRIPTION

The world has faced numerous public health crises throughout history, from the bubonic plague to the Spanish flu. However, the 21st century has seen its fair share of public health crises that have affected millions of people worldwide. These crises have brought to light the importance of public health and the need for effective measures to prevent and contain such outbreaks. This study highlights some of the significant public health crises of the 21st century and the lessons learned.

One of the most significant public health crises of the 21st century is the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic. The pandemic, caused by the novel coronavirus, has affected over 200 million people worldwide and caused over 4 million deaths as of September 2021. The pandemic has highlighted the importance of public health infrastructure and the need for a coordinated response to contain such outbreaks. It has also demonstrated the role of technology and innovation in public health, with the rapid development of vaccines and diagnostic tools. Another significant public health crisis is the opioid epidemic, which has ravaged communities across the United States. The opioid epidemic is a complex issue that involves prescription drug abuse, illicit drug use, and addiction.

The epidemic has resulted in an alarming increase in overdose deaths, with over 90,000 deaths in the United States in 2020 alone. The opioid epidemic has highlighted the need for effective pain management strategies, addiction treatment, and improved access to mental health services. The Ebola outbreak in West Africa in 2014-2016 is another significant public health crisis. The outbreak, which primarily affected Guinea, Liberia, and Sierra Leone, resulted in over 28,000 cases and 11,000 deaths. The

Ebola outbreak highlighted the importance of early detection and rapid response to contain such outbreaks. It also emphasized the need for international cooperation in responding to global health crises. The Zika virus outbreak in 2015-2016 is another public health crisis that highlighted the need for global coordination and response to infectious disease outbreaks. The outbreak, which primarily affected countries in South and Central America, resulted in over 200,000 cases and was linked to severe birth defects. The Zika virus outbreak demonstrated the need for effective mosquito control measures and the importance of research and development of new vaccines and treatments.

The SARS outbreak in 2002-2003 is another public health crisis that demonstrated the importance of international cooperation and rapid response to contain infectious disease outbreaks. The outbreak, which primarily affected countries in Asia, resulted in over 8,000 cases and 774 deaths. The SARS outbreak highlighted the need for effective surveillance systems and the importance of transparency and communication in managing such outbreaks.

In conclusion, public health crises of the 21st century have demonstrated the importance of effective public health infrastructure, early detection, and rapid response to contain infectious disease outbreaks. These crises have also emphasized the role of technology and innovation in public health, with the rapid development of vaccines and diagnostic tools. The opioid epidemic has highlighted the need for effective pain management strategies, addiction treatment, and improved access to mental health services. These crises have also highlighted the need for international cooperation in responding to global health crises. The lessons learned from these public health crises must be applied to future outbreaks to ensure that we are better prepared to prevent and contain such crises.

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