

OFFICIAL STATEMENT CORONAVIRUS/COVID19

The Health Australia Party (HAP) has thought long and hard about how to respond, and what to say to members and others about COVID19. We did not rush to comment because so much conflicting information is being circulated through both “official” and other channels that there is still a high degree of uncertainty regarding what has been and is happening. This statement is in three parts:

PART 1: General Comments

The national and international response to COVID19 has created a never-before experienced disruption to our lives.

There are a wide range of opinions and perspectives on the situation. The severity of the disease is uncertain, with opinions ranging from typical flu like symptoms to fatal outcomes. The suggested origins range from the virus being transferred from a bat to a human to a deliberate man made virus. There is international finger-pointing and uncertainty about whether this was an accident or a deliberate event. Others question whether a virus is the cause of all the reported infections and deaths. The reality is that we don't know what the full story is.

The reporting style from most media is more sensationalist and fear-focused than in other emergencies. State and Federal governments have contributed to the national uncertainty by drip feeding information and press releases that can be so vague they cause more issues than benefits. For example, we are given money and told to spend to keep supporting business that remain open, yet we are threatened with significant fines if we venture outside for non-essential purposes.

The isolation “rules” may be well intentioned, but in reality are a form of medical martial law which infringe our personal freedoms and civil liberties. We need to remember that the purpose of Government is to serve and support the people, not rule over them. Often when restrictions are put in place for a specific event, parts of the restrictions are still retained afterwards. We are genuinely concerned that any measures implemented must only be for a very short period of time and also be fully removed.

A potentially tragic consequence is the effect of social isolation and financial hardship on the mental health and wellbeing of so many people. There is a certain point where the “cure is worse than the disease”. The constant state of fear perpetuated by the media and governments can weaken the immune system. Particularly, chronic fear (fear for an extended period of time) effects the immune system, endocrine system, nervous system, sleep and other aspects too. By being subjected to the fear mongering, ironically we are more susceptible to catching any illness, including COVID-19.

On the other hand, social distancing seems to have resulted in Australia experiencing relatively few cases and deaths, a good thing, yet some medical experts warn that this could lead to a potentially higher second wave once restrictions are lifted due to fewer people developing natural immunity.

Mathematical models are being used to predict the progression of COVID-19 and the potential deaths. Models are not always correct and are only as good as the theoretical reasoning behind the model. Worst case scenarios are driving possibly excessive and unnecessary restrictions.

The death statistics that are being reported in the media globally are often incorrect. Deaths are being attributed to Covid-19 when a person dies WITH Covid-19 rather than when a person dies FROM Covid-19. In some countries, deaths are recorded when someone has been suspected of having Covid-19 even though the true cause is unproven. Such distortions of the true mortality rate of Covid-19 compromise government decision making.

With such a complex situation, what can we do about it?

We need to focus on what we can change and is within our control. Some item items are:

- Standard hygiene as should be practiced with any illness, especially thorough handwashing.
- Distance ourselves from the fear mongering to support our mental health. This may mean turning off the TV or limiting what you read on Facebook.
- Do activities that assist our mental state and engage with our surroundings (where possible of course). For example, practicing mindfulness, listening to calming music, sharing and caring with neighbours where possible.
- Focus on the positive aspects of our lives and the important people around us.

PART 2: Can we benefit from what is happening?

It is always possible that good can come from bad situation. It may be hard to see right now as so much is unknown, but there are already some things that may change for the better if we choose to:

- Reassess what we hold as important in our lives.
- Grow our own food.
- Buy locally grown and farmed food, supporting our local farmers (organic where possible of course).
- Reduce our level of mindless consumerism and focus on what's needed.
- Support local manufacturing rather than buying the cheapest possible international options.
- Rethink the whole economic system. The focus historically has been on inflation and CPI.
- Start to consider other aspects to the health of society such as happiness, opportunities and freedoms rather than purely focussing on the financial aspect.
- Value and support our own built-in immune system that is capable of a broad range of protection rather than specific one purpose pharmaceutical drugs.

The planet has experienced a significant reduction in pollution. Some children in large cities around the world have seen blue skies and breathed fresh air for the first time in their lives. The complete shut down of industry, and air travel, and minimal vehicle traffic cannot be maintained for long, but we can collectively try to minimise the inevitable increase in pollution when the world "restarts".

PART 3: Who or what is the real cause behind so much disruption?

The COVID19 virus is the trigger, but the real cause of the immense disruption to most peoples lives right now goes deeper. What is happening is not a simple medical response – it is a consequence of the sort of society that is being built by massively powerful corporations and some individuals who aspire to control people, often by controlling governments. Corporations that track us, and who know and use details of our intimate behaviours for their benefit.

So far, the obvious beneficiaries of COVID19 are the pharmaceutical drug cartels who are receiving billions from governments, and who are seeking to make billions more from future drugs and vaccines that they hope will be made mandatory.

For example, we are constantly told that development of a COVID19 vaccine will be the only way that life as we know it can return to normal, yet the mainstream media does not advise us that a safe immunisation option is already being used by the government in Cuba, or that the Prime Minister of India is taking a similar option and the Ministry of AYUSH is distributing the preventative to millions of people. Nor do they report on safe natural therapies that can assist in the treatment of COVID19.

Conclusions

Fear leads to ill health, and it leads to poor decision making. We need to be informed, but we also need to avoid being overwhelmed by the mass of conflicting information that the current situation is generating.

The world is at a cross-road and the decisions that we make as well as the decisions that are forced upon us will determine whether the world is a better place, or a worse place to live in one or two years' time. It could go either way.