Dear All,

Thought to compile some information regarding recent coronavirus disease that could be useful for our community. Although, it is causing fear but in general it is not a dreaded virus. The chances of infection are there but death is a rare event. The only possible reason of death could be infection of virus along with stress and immunosuppression. So, the best way to prevent yourself is to maintain hygiene and take nutritious food. Once the temperature goes high (summer) the virus will slowly be out from the surrounding.

I have copied some information from center of disease control and prevention website for our understanding about the facts (https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/).

**What is coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19)?**

Coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) is a respiratory illness that can spread from person to person. The virus that causes COVID-19 is a novel coronavirus that was first identified during an investigation into an outbreak in Wuhan, China.

**Can people in the IITG campus are susceptible for COVID-19?**

Yes. COVID-19 is spreading from person to person. Risk of infection with COVID-19 is higher for people who are close contacts of someone known to have COVID-19, for example healthcare workers, or household members. Other people at higher risk for infection are those who live in or have recently been in an area with ongoing spread of COVID-19.

**How does COVID-19 spread?**

The virus that causes COVID-19 probably emerged from an animal source, but is now spreading from person to person. The virus is thought to spread mainly between people who are in close contact with one another (within about 6 feet) through respiratory droplets produced when an infected person coughs or sneezes. It also may be possible that a person can get COVID-19 by touching a surface or object that has the virus on it and then touching their own mouth, nose, or possibly their eyes, but this is not thought to be the main way the virus spreads.

**What are the symptoms of COVID-19?**

Patients with COVID-19 have had mild to severe respiratory illness with symptoms of

- fever
- cough
- shortness of breath

**What are severe complications from this virus?**

Some patients have pneumonia in both lungs, multi-organ failure and in some cases death.

**How can I help protect myself?**

People can help protect themselves from respiratory illness with everyday preventive actions. Avoid close contact with people who are sick. Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands.
Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. Use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol if soap and water are not available.

Is there a vaccine?
There is currently no vaccine to protect against COVID-19. The best way to prevent infection is to take everyday preventive actions, like avoiding close contact with people who are sick and washing your hands often.

Is there a treatment?
There is no specific antiviral treatment for COVID-19. People with COVID-19 can seek medical care to help relieve symptoms.

Thank you

Best
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