

Part 3 In the case of Wuhan or Any Disasters - Be Prepared 4-1-2021

Introduction

Over the past few years there have been some real and imagined disasters that give us a chance to understand and deal with new ones that we may be forced to deal with in the future.

Most of the recent real disasters were natural in origin often with exacerbated by human error that have amplified the bad outcomes. Climate change has origins in mostly natural solar and sea surface temperature cycles. Extreme weather disasters have been an ongoing threat to all of us for a very long time.

Some specific examples

Air, land and water pollution have created health and economic issues for the past several hundreds of years. Much of this problem has occurred as an outcome of the early stages of the industrial revolution. Some remnants of these types of serious disaster continue to create problems. We should learn to not throw the baby out with the bath water and understand that there were some very important positive outcomes of the industrial revolution.

All forms of weather related disasters continue to plague us even though numbers of deaths from these disasters have plummeted over recent decades. Understanding and predicting these disasters have allowed us to prepare for them and allowed us to save lives even as property damage from them has increased.

As noted in Part 1, global health disasters have continued to take a toll even though they have become more and more manageable. There is an ongoing annual excess flu death spike that should be monitored. However the huge increase in excess deaths from the recent corona virus pandemic highlights the pressing need for planning and preparing for the next health crisis. We need to learn from the poorly executed response to the recent crisis. The huge economic and social disruptions begs a less chaotic solution to all these pandemic driven problems.

Japan's Tsunami and Nuclear Disaster

I am attaching a couple of files that detail the 2011 disaster in Japan. Japan is always having natural disasters that sometime end up being man-made disasters. They have a lot of experience with both and are pretty good at “fixing” things so that both are less of a disaster the next time around. The Fukushima nuclear power plant problem only occurred at the Daiichi facility and could have been greatly reduced in scope and danger if a small 60kw diesel electric generator would have been installed on the hill near the facility that would have been protected from the huge sea water wave. Within minutes of the wave destroying the much larger generators right at sea level, this single generator could have produced enough power to power the controlling electronics, instrumentation and the air pumps that drove the valves in the containment vessel so that the explosive hydrogen build up would have been eliminated.

Planning for the next health crisis

During this last crisis, our knowledge of the viral mechanisms and treatments has improved by a lot so that treatment and detection methods, if used properly, can change everything. But there are pockets of knowledge from the past that have apparently been forgotten that need to be revisited and put into our future plans so that death, economic and social disruption can all be minimized.

Determining the “at risk” population early in the process and the actual characteristics of the virus such as lethality, level of infectiousness, and so on is critical. Having a plan to completely and effectively isolate that population is of great importance.

The use of Hope-Simpson’s prediction of seasonal respiratory effects and Wittkowski’s contagion control methods need to be studied and used in all future plans. Testing under this new regimen would be much more limited and focused. All the mask and distancing requirements would have to be revisited since stopping the spread of the contagion in the low risk population would defeat the purpose of quickly infecting that population. More effort and study is required of the early use of already approved medicines and techniques to treat respiratory diseases in order to properly plan for their use. I would expect that if properly used these medicines would eliminate the vast majority of patients that were hospitalized during

the recent Wuhan pandemic. The Asian model of this approach needs to be seriously studied and implemented.

The use of lockdowns other than for “flattening the curve” in other words reducing the impact of large scale hospitalizations for a few weeks at a time need to be completely abandoned in the future. Ideally the new plan will eliminate the need even for the short term use of lockdowns. They are very destructive and data indicates that they are counter productive.

A one size fits all plan will not work in the future. Tailored local (especially regional) plans will probably be much more effective. Beware of the CDC and the WHO. We really need to remove political and fashionable (but wrong) media ideas from the planning. Governors “following the science” during Wuhan proved to be quite disastrous. The states that looked at death numbers rather than case numbers, used the science based on those numbers with much more favorable outcomes. Some states and many front line doctors actually supported the use of FDA approved medicines to intervene early when patients were infected with the virus.

Finally the Chinese Communist Party and the UN WHO both failed the global community during this Wuhan pandemic and any public health plans developed by these organizations in the future should be ignored. A respiratory disease early warning surveillance system should be funded by the global community, developed and guided by the Taiwanese public health system. Related efforts by the WHO should all be defunded.

Without a thorough examination and discussion of all these elements, I would expect that we will repeat the complete disaster that we have observed during this last year. On the other hand by having a plan and carrying it out, we should expect to see a more annual flu like outcome with very little disruption of our daily lives.