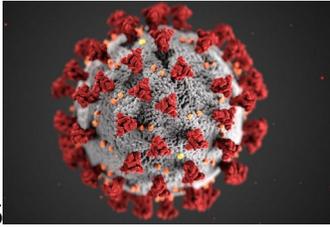


Rakema Shamily



Week 5

- What is Coronavirus?
- What are some of the Coronavirus Variants? How dangerous are they?
- How can we protect ourselves from the Coronavirus and its variants?
- What (if any) are the ethical implications associated with Coronavirus and its variants?
- What are your thoughts regarding the government's handling of coronavirus and its variants?

COVID-19 is a respiratory disease caused by SARS-CoV-2, a coronavirus discovered in 2019. The virus spreads mainly from person to person through respiratory droplets and small particles produced when an infected person coughs, sneezes, or talks. The virus spreads readily in crowded or poorly ventilated indoor settings. Illness can range from mild to severe, though not everyone infected with the virus develops symptoms. Adults 65 years and older and people of any age with underlying medical conditions are at higher risk for severe illness.

One thing we know for sure about SARS-CoV-2, the virus that causes COVID-19, is that it is changing constantly. Since the beginning of the pandemic, we've seen a number of prominent variants, including Alpha, Beta, Delta, and Omicron.

In order to protect yourself from Covid-19 it is recommended we wear our mask, open windows to improve ventilation and filtration. Turning on exhaust fans. And the top request by the CDC is to get Vaccinated.

The ethical implications of Covid-19 and its variants was its negative impact on black and brown communities. And in the beginning it was not reported in the community even though they were harmed at record rates. Hospitals in low income areas were also hit so hard. Nurses and doctors did not get relief in these communities. It was unethical. Private hospitals with their special patients were

advertised on the news. The community hospitals not so much. There was a huge gap in care. There was also a huge gap in people being able to maintain their job. The economy shifted and our children's education also suffered. I read an article that said children in NYC community colleges are taking more remedial classes because their NYC public high school did not properly prepare them.

At the time of the virus Donald Trump was in office. So, not much faith in that office. Our local governments once realizing the harm black and brown communities were facing tried to help. The vaccine, the stimulus, the boost in snap benefits. Were all bandages. I do not feel a solution was ever really met. If the situation was handled with care so many would not be displaced today.

References: CDC website

Times magazine issue March 2020; Behind the cover

Us News April 2021