

## The Future of Global Pandemics

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### Editorial

The pandemic has changed the way we live all around the world. A new coronavirus (SARS-CoV-2) was discovered in Wuhan, China, in December 2019. The World Health Organization (WHO) proclaimed the COVID-19 outbreak a pandemic on March 11, 2020. More than 2.5 million fatalities have been connected to infection with the new virus strain a year later, with over 113 million cases verified.

Healthcare systems have been put to the test and human behaviour has been adjusted to stop the virus from spreading, economies have halted, and modern workplace conventions have been forced to shift. Numerous negative consequences for human health, the strain of isolation and insecurity, as well as chronic stress, along with delayed vital surgeries and therapies, have led scientists, policymakers and global governments to consider pandemics to prepare themselves for future infectious diseases outbreaks.

### History

Disease outbreaks have devastated humankind through the course of history and have periodically changed the course of history and simulated the end of entire civilizations. The Prehistoric epidemic in circa 3000 B.C. wiped out an entire prehistoric village in China. Another epidemic ravaged the people of Athens and lasted for five years around 430 B.C. put the death toll as high as 100,000 people. The Flu pandemic spanned the world in only five weeks as new transport networks have helped influenza viruses to create havoc in the modern industrial era killing one million individuals at its peak fatality. Spanish Flu in 1918-1920 caused some indigenous

communities pushed to the brink of extinction. The tight circumstances of troops and poor wartime diet that many individuals experienced during World War I aided the spread and severity of the disease.

### Climate Change

Given that the amount of coronaviruses in a given habitat is related to the number of bat species that live there, climate change-related increases in bat populations in China have been identified as a possible cause of the COVID-19 pandemics. Furthermore, the study emphasizes that climate change has directly affected environmental changes that have allowed bat species to survive where they would not have otherwise, resulting in the infiltration of dozens more species into China and its environs. Scientists are calling for climate change to be tackled, not only to save the future of the planet but to simultaneously address the threat of future pandemics. Therefore countless future pandemics could be on the way if climate change is not controlled.

### Human Behavior

With certain limitations anticipated for the near future, a restoration to "normal living" is doubtful. It is projected that the 'norm' will adapt in order to stay ahead of any future pandemics and avoid the huge damage on life that the COVID-19 pandemic produced. Workplaces will almost certainly continue to adopt some degree of remote working, and the modern workplace structure will adapt. Finally, intermittent lockdowns may become the new normal.