John T. Brooks, MD Chief Medical Officer, CDC COVID-19 Response

Introduction

The COVID-19 pandemic is a serious global health threat, and CDC is committed to stopping its spread. CDC has a long history of strengthening public health capacity throughout the world to contain outbreaks at their source and minimize their impact.

Methods

CDC is working closely with the World Health Organization (WHO) and other partners to assist countries to prepare for and respond to COVID-19. CDC routinely provides technical assistance to ministries of health and subnational and international partners to improve our collective response to infectious disease threats like COVID-19.

Results

The virus that causes COVID-19 is thought to spread mainly from person to person, mainly through respiratory droplets produced when an infected person coughs, sneezes, or talks. These droplets can land in the mouths or noses of people who are nearby or possibly be inhaled into the lungs. Spread is more likely when people are in close contact with one another (within about 6 feet). COVID-19 seems to be spreading easily and sustainably in the community in many affected geographic areas.

Conclusion

As the pandemic evolves, control efforts must be continuously refined. Therefore, sustained and concerted efforts will be needed to prevent future spread of SARS-CoV-2.