

Did we learn from covid to tackle monkeypox?

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## Chapter 1: Introduction:

For years now we have been struggling in the covid pandemic since it hit us so hard without warning. Now there's a new disease that is being brought to our attention which is monkeypox. Monkeypox isn't a new disease but it's new to most of the world. There were many different reactions to these cases. When it comes to events that just happen for example a pandemic there is no correct way to know how to handle it. But it's important to learn from the past so we don't repeat history. "Theodore Roosevelt once said, " I believe that the more you know about the past, the better you are prepared for the future." This is the time to put his words into action.

### Background information:

Covid-19 started in the year 2019 but it became a pandemic in the year 2020. Covid-19 is an illness like the common cold but is 10 times worse. Monkeypox were first discovered in the year 1900's in Western Africa but have now resurfaced in the year 2022. "Monkeypox symptoms are similar to Variola virus or smallpox and further symptoms include maculopapular rash, particularly on the palms of the hand and soles of the feet, and adenopathy." Another way to describe monkeypox is that "it causes pustules all over the body". You can get covid just by being near someone who has it. "Whether or not monkeypox is a sexually transmitted disease has yet to be shown; it is definitely passed on through close contact." The death rate between these two cases in America is very far from each other. As of today in the USA there have been 1.09 million deaths of the coronavirus and 20 confirmed deaths of the monkeypox virus. So not as many as covid

but it's gaining and that's concerning. It's important to know what's going on in the world since it can have an effect on our lives like the pandemic with covid.

## Chapter 2: Literature review

Did we learn from covid-19 to tackle the monkeypox virus? These two illnesses are very serious and they should not be ignored. Over these past couple of years us humans have been struggling to survive in this pandemic world and we don't really need another one. From the research that was being gathered it seems like we're heading towards another pandemic with monkeypox viruses but there still hope. When bad events happen it is human nature to point a finger and blame someone for the bad event that just happened. "The covid virus came from china but the monkeypox are from spanish gays". There was a "study done in 2017 of the outbreak of monkeypox in Nigeria said that it could be sexually transmitted." It has been two years now that covid been around two years and even until this day we still haven't gotten back to our "normal daily life" and surprise now we're adding a new disease to make it harder to go back to normal. "In most countries, getting children back into school has been an ongoing issue and a major flashpoint for heated debate". We want to go back to normal but with another disease that could lead to a pandemic normal life like going to school before covid hits might not happen. It seems like we're repeating history but also learning from the past but is it enough. Because we all know we don't need another pandemic. Are there cures for either viruses? No there is no cure but both do have vaccines that help fight off these illnesses. "vaccine for smallpox so that might help at least control the virus. But it might not cure it." It's great news that there's vaccines to help but it's not a cure but it's better than nothing.

## Chapter 3: Methods

### Introduction: research design:

In choosing methods for this project, the goal was to see if society learned anything from the Covid pandemic or if history is going to repeat itself with the monkeypox virus. The first step was to gather information on the two viruses, how they spread and how world governments reacted. It was necessary to know the symptoms and reproduction rate/death rate of the viruses, which has been made available through major orgs such as WHO and CDC. It was also necessary to gather information about the timeline and progression of both pandemics to compare them. Finally, a variety of sources were consulted to examine how the public understood and reacted to both pandemics.

### Selection criteria:

Started with scholarly – virology, epidemiology (science), policy (public policy and evaluations of performance) then moved on to journalism (NYT) and finally to blogosphere/social media

### Search terms:

The terms that we use for the search engine were covid and monkeypox together and also separate to see what information was there in the school database. The reason why these words were picked is because they are the main two topics. It's best to get all the information you can on the two topics so there's a lot to write about.

### Data collection and analysis methods:

The data collected here was qualitative research. All the information in this paper was taken from articles in the school library and although charts were liked, they aren't included in this paper. The only quantitative research would be the death rates of the two cases.

### Study quality and risk of bias

A way that being biased was prevented was that I had to let everything I knew go out the window. Everything I feel does not matter and although I do believe in one answer more than the other it is my job as a researcher to be unbiased and gather all the facts.

### Conclusion: brief recap

With these methods I anticipate a successful study due to all the knowledge that is being gathered for any outcome to the research question and to know where everyone stands and not just where I stand.

## Chapter 4: Findings:

There is much information that was found to answer the research question Did we learn from covid-19 to tackle the monkeypox virus? A common finding between the two diseases is that we blame a group for these viruses. There were seven confirmed cases in england and “all four cases are in people who self-identify as gay, bisexual, or other men who have sex with men.” As humans we tend to never take the consequences of our actions instead we like to put it on other people and this is a prime example. For some people who had health issues when covid hit it was hard on them. For example having type 1 diabetes in this covid world is well not fun. “In this setting, insulin therapy is mandatory but not easy to carry-on and it requires an expert clinical team.” Luckily so far monkeypox isn't serious right and we need to keep it this way. There's a theory about where monkeypox came from. The theory is “that there are already claims that the monkeypox came from the same Wuhan lab as Covid”. There's too many similarities between the two cases which is scary but there are differences. With covid it took away things from people. For example food banks were such an important deed that people out of the kindness of their heart provided food for those in need, “Given how much is at stake, we hope that the prime minister will urgently respond to our calls for cash based solutions to food insecurity.” There is some good news according to the US health experts. “Multiple US health experts believe that Monkeypox has a 0% chance of getting converted into a pandemic of the magnitude of COVID-19 due to the lack of novelty of this virus, being comparatively less deadly and less contagious”. That doesn't mean that it's not a serious

virus but it's not as bad as covid is and that's the way it needs to stay. Dr.Fauci said "monkeypox should be taken seriously and that there are vaccines and antiviral medications available for those who meet eligibility criteria in some places to prevent and treat the disease." It's good that we are taking monkeypox seriously because it is a serious topic just like we should have with covid.



## Chapter 5: Conclusion

In conclusion, did we learn from covid-19 to tackle the monkeypox virus. As the year is coming to an end that would mean covid has been around for three years now and we are just starting to get back to normal. Now a new disease has sprung and it's time to get serious and learn all we can about it. We can not have another three year pandemic because then we'll never be able to get back to our normal lives. It seems that we are on the right track. But we can't relax because all it takes is one case and here comes the pandemic. It's important to know what's going on in the world since it can affect your future hence why the news is important. So did we learn from the past? Well that's not a question that can be easily answered. Some will say yes and some will say no but it doesn't matter who's right, what matters is making sure that we're prepared for whatever comes our way.

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