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Public health legal preparedness plays a key role in mitigating the pandemic

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ABSTRACT

Alessandro et al. wrote an article on digital governance using COVID-19 apps (1). However, they did not mention legal preparedness against the COVID-19 which signifies the death toll. Evidence of data on the number of deaths can justify the author's claim.

RATIONALES

Alessandro et al. wrote an article on digital governance using COVID-19 apps (1). They did not mention the preparedness of regulation or enforced-law of captured data using apps and the swiftness of data management. The success of individual policies against the pandemic can be measured by the number of deaths due to the COVID-19 from the human perspective viewpoint. The significant difference lies in the preparedness of law-enforcement and the swiftness of data management. Evidence-based approach using data shows us the effectiveness of the consequences on the number of deaths.

Alessandro et al. missed the important policy point on digital governance (1). As of Nov. 14, Taiwan has only seven deaths due to the COVID-19 with a population of 23.8 million while other governments have more than 1000 deaths or 10000 deaths.

Lee TL clearly stated that legal preparedness against the COVID-19 in the first 100 days played a key role in mitigating the pandemic (2). Public health legal preparedness is essential for a coordinated whole-of-government response during an infectious disease outbreak. Recognition of vulnerable individuals affected by the outbreak is crucial to mitigate the disproportionate burdens placed on them. Taiwan model of precision prevention exemplifies that a clear legal framework which actively engage the civil society can engender social trust and solidarity.

Based on the past lessons learned from SARS, Taiwan has a single-payer national health insurance (NHI) scheme that covers more than 99% of the population, and emergency funding has been approved to support COVID-19 prevention efforts and affected industries (3,4).

Yasheng Huang et al. endorsed the proposed claim in this paper (5).

References:

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