

Reflections on the emergency management system implemented by the local government in response to the Covid-19: Evidence from Shijiazhuang City

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Abstract: Since the outbreak of the Covid-19 in late 2019, it has spread to the whole of China. Such public health events have the characteristics of sudden occurrence, rapid spread, and high lethality, which test the emergency management capabilities of various provinces and cities in China. Although China's social life has gradually returned to normal under the collective leadership of the Party Central Committee and the continuous efforts of the people, it is undeniable that there are still many deficiencies and problems in China's emergency management system. Based on this background, this paper takes the prevention and control process of local authority as the starting point, summarizes the policies from the three perspectives: party group form, policy implementation and people's participation, and conducts policy implementation feedback, prevention and control information release and policy implementation from three aspects. We should summarize the experience, and put forward countermeasures and suggestions at the end to provide supplements and references for Shijiazhuang City to establish a more complete epidemic prevention and control and emergency management system for health emergencies.

Keywords: Public health events; Emergency management system; Shijiazhuang

1. Introduction

This new crown pneumonia epidemic is a major public health emergency that my country has experienced with the fastest spread, the widest range of infections, and the most difficult prevention and control. Due to the sudden, complex, mandatory, public and harmful characteristics of such health events, the government is required to have a complete emergency management system for responding to public health events. However, due to the late establishment of this system in China, the emergency management system is still in the stage of continuous exploration and improvement. Although China has effectively curbed the spread of the new crown pneumonia epidemic and made efforts to restore normal social order, it is undeniable that China's emergency management system still has obvious problems and deficiencies.

Based on this reality, this paper starts with the actual practice of local authority in responding to the new crown pneumonia epidemic, first summarizes the response strategies of local authority Municipal Emergency Management System in response to the epidemic, and analyzes the emergency response adopted by local authority in the face of the epidemic. Problems existing in the management system, and put forward corresponding countermeasures and suggestions, draw lessons from the current epidemic prevention process, and provide experience and reference for future treatment of related health problems.

2. Local authority's Policies and Measures to Respond to the New Coronary Pneumonia Epidemic

2.1. Set up a command system led by party committees at all levels

In the face of the epidemic, party organizations at all levels and the majority of party members in local authority have the courage to take responsibility and act, and immediately enter a wartime state. Party members and cadres of all units in the city cancel their vacations and return to work. Party

organizations and party members and cadres at all levels pay close attention to the key to epidemic prevention and control post. Among them, local authority has voluntarily established more than 20 industry party members vanguard teams, established 4 temporary party branches, 5 medical treatment commandos, and established 258 village and community party members volunteer prevention and control service teams to build a strong fortress for the "epidemic prevention war". Form the most solid political guarantee for epidemic prevention and control.

2.2. The municipal government implements strict epidemic prevention measures

The local authority Epidemic Management Department strictly monitors and manages the local high-risk areas, and the relevant staff conduct detailed investigations on people who return to Shijiazhuang. First, nucleic acid testing has been carried out in the whole city, and closed collective testing has been carried out with residential communities as a unit, and the historical paths of confirmed cases and persons suspected of having been exposed to the virus have been tracked and restored by inquiring electronic health codes and inquiring about historical path information. Second, in the early stage of the control, it was during the Spring Festival holiday, and there was a large flow of personnel in the city. In order to implement the control policy, the local authority set up checkpoints and isolation areas at transportation hubs such as stations, airports, and expressway intersections to screen people who came to Shijiazhuang one by one.

2.3. Make every effort to ensure the supply of basic living materials

In response to the new crown pneumonia epidemic, the local authority, on the one hand, under the premise that the epidemic is under control, encourages enterprises to resume work and production in an orderly manner. Stockpiles of necessities (such as oil, sugar, salt, etc.) and basic medical supplies (such as masks, medical alcohol and protective clothing, etc.), increase the transportation and supply of daily necessities, support key commercial and trade circulation enterprises to clear the supply of goods, and smooth the flow of large supermarkets Supply channels to ensure that necessary living materials are delivered in a timely manner, and necessary medical materials are replenished and delivered in a timely manner. Open the channel of emergency supplies for incoming stones. The local authority strictly implements the various measures of the state on transportation management during the epidemic prevention and control period, and on the premise of ensuring that the new crown virus does not spread to the outside world, to ensure the "green channel" for the transportation of epidemic prevention emergency materials and personnel.

3. Problems exposed in the process of epidemic prevention and control in local authority

3.1. Excessive epidemic prevention, rigid and single policy

First of all, the local authority over-prevented the epidemic, hindering the normal flow of people in society. On the afternoon of June 24, 2022, when the Joint Prevention and Control Mechanism of the State Council held a press conference, it was notified that local authority had violated the "nine prohibitions" epidemic prevention policy, that is, for stone workers and stone workers, especially those from Shanghai, Beijing, Tianjin and other areas To persuade people to return, blindly took management measures to expand the scope of crowd management, causing great negative social impact.

Secondly, a one-size-fits-all epidemic prevention policy is implemented in the whole city. Even in areas where the epidemic situation is relatively stable, strict access control is still implemented, the city's colleges and universities implement completely closed management measures; although such policies take into account the overall situation and help the overall epidemic prevention and control, but in the management process, they only roughly restrict students' travel, and fail to take into account students' basic material and spiritual needs. [1]As a result, some students are unable to seek medical treatment in time due to physical illness or excessive mental stress affects their normal study and life; and some campus staff and teachers can lead their family members or unrelated personnel to enter and leave the university, the school cannot effectively control such behavior, resulting in some prevention and control management The failure of the measures will aggravate the conflicts between cadres and the masses and between teachers and students to a certain extent.[2]

3.2. The epidemic information is not clear, and the network supervision is lacking

First of all, the relevant departments of the local authority lack the ability to respond to emergencies in a timely manner, which is manifested in the lack of ability to quickly collect epidemic information. It can be seen from the delay of the local authority's press conference on epidemic prevention and control for nearly an hour and a half in February 2021, that the relevant departments have been slow to prepare for related issues such as inquiries from the media and the public, and the meeting was held for a short time and conveyed the content. Ambiguous, some spokespersons did not give positive answers to the specific questions asked by the media; this shows that the relevant personnel did not have a comprehensive and detailed understanding of the overall situation and specific situation of the epidemic, and to a certain extent lacked in responding to the media and emergencies. It is impossible to convey accurate information; this kind of behavior will cause psychological panic among citizens and distrust of the government's management ability, which greatly damages the credibility of the government.[3]

Second, the local authority departments did not effectively supervise and manage online platforms. During the period of silent management of the epidemic, citizens mainly obtained real-time information on the current situation of epidemic prevention and control and anti-epidemic information through mobile phones, TVs or other electronic products. Publishing false information with obvious conspiracy theories to maliciously create an atmosphere of terror; some people will accept such information out of curiosity, so that false information spreads rapidly on the Internet, bringing more attention to the people who are already under great mental pressure at home. More panic, and at the same time bring great difficulties to the epidemic prevention work.

3.3. Lack of public risk education, and weak awareness of responsibility for epidemic prevention and control personnel

First of all, the local authority has not done enough to publicize the citizens' knowledge of epidemic prevention and control and virus popularization. [4]It also lacks the necessary education and training on emergency measures for the residents of the grassroots districts and counties, especially those in remote rural areas, who are unable to receive information smoothly. In addition, some of the educational content is only oral and theoretical, and has not been combined with reality or practice according to local conditions. As a result, some epidemic prevention requirements are mere formalities and cannot play their due role. Secondly, in the early stage of the outbreak of the new crown pneumonia, some people in charge lacked the necessary sense of responsibility, resulting in insufficient attention to the epidemic prevention and control work. In addition, the public lacked awareness of epidemic prevention and control, and some people who came to local authority did not conduct timely investigations or isolation management. As a result of the further spread of the epidemic, the prevention and control of the epidemic is facing a more passive situation.

4. Suggestions on improving the epidemic prevention and control system in local authority

4.1. Reasonably plan the reserve and distribution of emergency supplies, and implement flexible prevention and control policies

On the one hand, it is necessary to reasonably increase the reserve of emergency resources in the city and increase the production line of emergency materials, to ensure the necessary supply of materials in all parts of the city when a public health event occurs, and to reduce the occurrence of material rush purchases and price hikes; on the other hand, Based on the data of this epidemic prevention and control, information technology or big data calculation can be used to calculate and control the potential demand for living materials and medical resources. The allocation of medical and health resources to improve the decision-making efficiency of resource allocation.

Build a flexible and effective prevention and control policy to avoid one-size-fits-all policies. For example, in the early stage of the epidemic, when the control is relatively strict, public opinion can be collected by community as a unit and streets as a whole, and unified purchase of living resources reported by residents as a shortage, issued in a timely manner. In the later stage of epidemic control, areas where the epidemic situation is relatively stable can implement entry and exit reporting and travel flexibly, especially for special staff such as doctors, nurses or infrastructure maintenance personnel, etc., to carry out differentiated management. Finally, properly arrange the closure policy of colleges and

universities, try to meet the basic living needs of college students and provide them with spiritual comfort, so as to avoid the recurrence of incidents such as students jumping over walls, shouting buildings and other violations of epidemic prevention regulations.

4.2. Build an efficient and concise information communication and public opinion management system

First, government news departments and spokespersons must make adequate public opinion preparations and information collection for handling public health emergencies. [5] On the one hand, it is necessary to actively collect epidemic information and keep abreast of the latest developments after public health emergencies occur; play its role in delivering accurate information to the public, soothe the public's emotions, and increase the people's sense of security and trust in the government. Furthermore, with the rise of self-media and other online platforms, the government must improve the efficiency and efficiency of the use of online platforms when building a public opinion management system. On the one hand, relevant government departments should use new media platforms to release real information about relevant events in a timely manner, especially in the early stages of emergencies, to actively answer the public's concerns and curb the spread of false information from the source; The government website conducts public opinion collection, conducts effective exchanges and communication, responds to hot issues, clarifies facts, and answers public doubts in a timely manner. On the other hand, it has stepped up network supervision, strictly reviewed the information released by the epidemic, and held accountable we-media bloggers who published false information, and criminally held accountable if necessary.

4.3. Strengthen the public's risk awareness and enhance the public's self-rescue ability

First of all, it can be carried out in the whole city, epidemic prevention and control themed activities, and publicity for all staff through wall pictorial or radio publicity. Secondly, in the urban area, you can use the community as a unit to post relevant materials on the bulletin board, or visit the households to communicate with the citizens face-to-face. In an easy-to-understand form, residents can better understand and accept relevant knowledge and internalize it into their daily behavior. Strengthen the publicity of epidemic prevention knowledge, regularly post relevant information about the epidemic on the bulletin board, and timely communicate the situation of the epidemic in the WeChat communication group.[6] Secondly, education activities on the theme of epidemic prevention and control can be carried out in schools in the city, so that students can understand the importance of epidemic prevention and control, express their opinions, and answer the doubts of the masses.

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