

Review of: "COVID-19 Crisis: Exploring Challenges, Opportunities, and Cautions"

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Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.

Generally, the study is well-structured, with three major blocks: exploration of the current challenges posed by COVID-19, identification of emerging opportunities, and a discussion on the necessary precautions for future pandemics. The article is presenting a trial towards the integration of empirical evidence and recent literature findings to explore its effects on public health, the economy, education, and social dynamics. The cyclical nature of pandemics was analyzed through a Neutrosophic logic-based survey, presenting intriguing insights into potential recurrence patterns of pandemics, roughly every century.

Major shortfalls of the article include that the study appears to be heavily centered on specific regions or data sets, potentially limiting its generalizability.

The study could benefit from incorporating longitudinal studies to track changes over time, particularly to evaluate the long-term effects of the pandemic on various sectors and the efficacy of different mitigation strategies. While the paper discusses survey results and empirical data, providing more detailed methodological information about the data collection, analysis techniques, and statistical robustness could enhance credibility and replicability. The study results from the survey were presented in brief without alluding to different aspects of the survey itself.

There is no specific case study presented for specific countries, communities, or sectors that were particularly innovative or successful in their pandemic response. This could offer practical insights and lessons learned. Technology and digital innovations that played a role during the pandemic could be insightful, especially examining telehealth, remote learning, and work from home setups, and their implications for the future.

Specific comment:

In the introduction, the sentence "there is still a lack of understanding of the specific challenges, opportunities, and strategies for resilience during this crisis" needs to be reformulated or supported by references.

The same goes for the paragraph concerning the cyclical nature of pandemics, which is one of the major hypotheses of the paper. "Further, the idea that pandemics occur on a cyclical basis, approximately every 100 years, is a hypothesis that has been proposed by some researchers and historians. While historical records do show significant pandemics occurring roughly a century apart, such as the Spanish flu pandemic of 1918 and the COVID-19 pandemic in 2020, it may be an important aspect that needs to be tackled with great caution. We conducted a survey on this hypothetical concept with a

diversified questionnaire that revealed several interesting aspects, and these results could be used to understand the triggering of ensuing and old pandemics with new mutations.”

In section 2, referring hindering prevention activities to conspiracy theories is very misleading, since it might have been only associated with vaccines and not normal interventions such as face masks.

“Conspiracy theories have hindered public health efforts, making it challenging to implement effective prevention and control measures.”