

A complex network diagram with various sized nodes (black, blue, grey) connected by thin lines, set against a light grey background with faint circular patterns.

CONTACT TRACING DURING COVID-19 - A SYSTEMIC PUBLIC HEALTH FAILURE

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OVERVIEW

The Background

The Review

The Analysis

The Discussion

Questions

THE BACKGROUND

- 1918 Influenza Pandemic: Estimated 500 million infections & 50 million deaths ^[1]
- Estimated 762 million COVID-19 cases have been reported worldwide with over 6 million deaths ^[2]
- Estimated 104 million cases reported in the United States with over 1 million deaths ^[3]
- Present-day COVID-19 Interventions: Lockdowns, Quarantines, Isolation
- Socio-economic Implications of Interventions
- History of Contact Tracing
- How Efficient is Contact Tracing?
- The 6 Steps In Contact Tracing



THE REVIEW



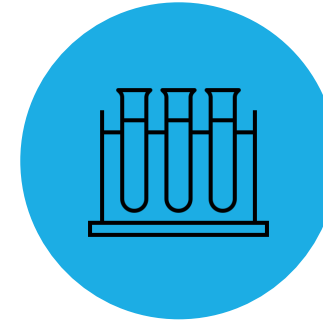
DISPARITIES

Socioeconomic Status
Gender, Race, Age
Health Literacy
Social Norms
Immigrants
Homeless



INSUFFICIENT INFRASTRUCTURE

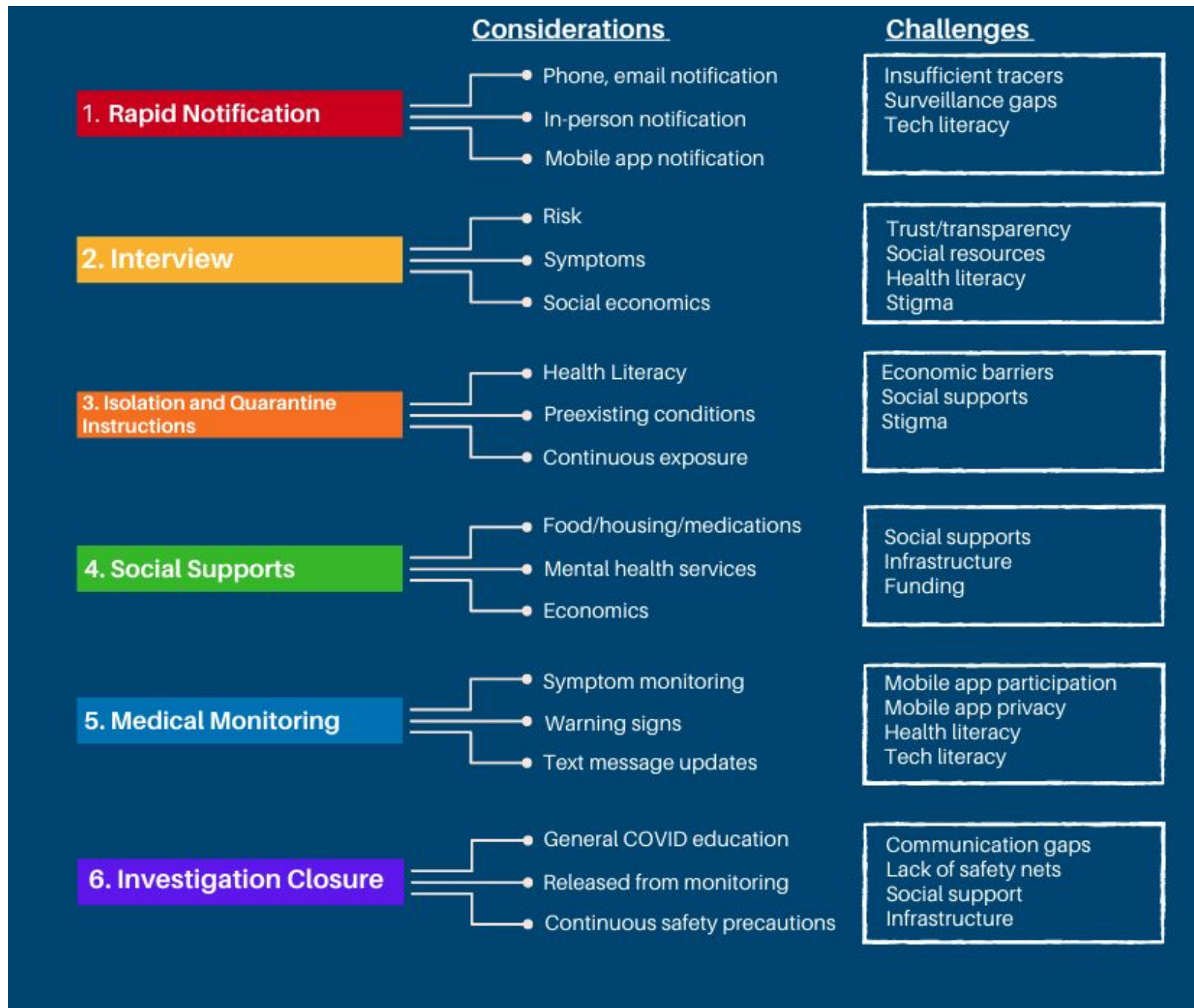
Information Technology
Data Management
Lack of Personnel
Lack of Funding



TESTING AND REPORTING

Meticulous Coordination Needed
Testing & Reporting Delays
Interdisciplinary Effort
Social Acceptability

THE ANALYSIS



THE DISCUSSION

Factors Impacting Success

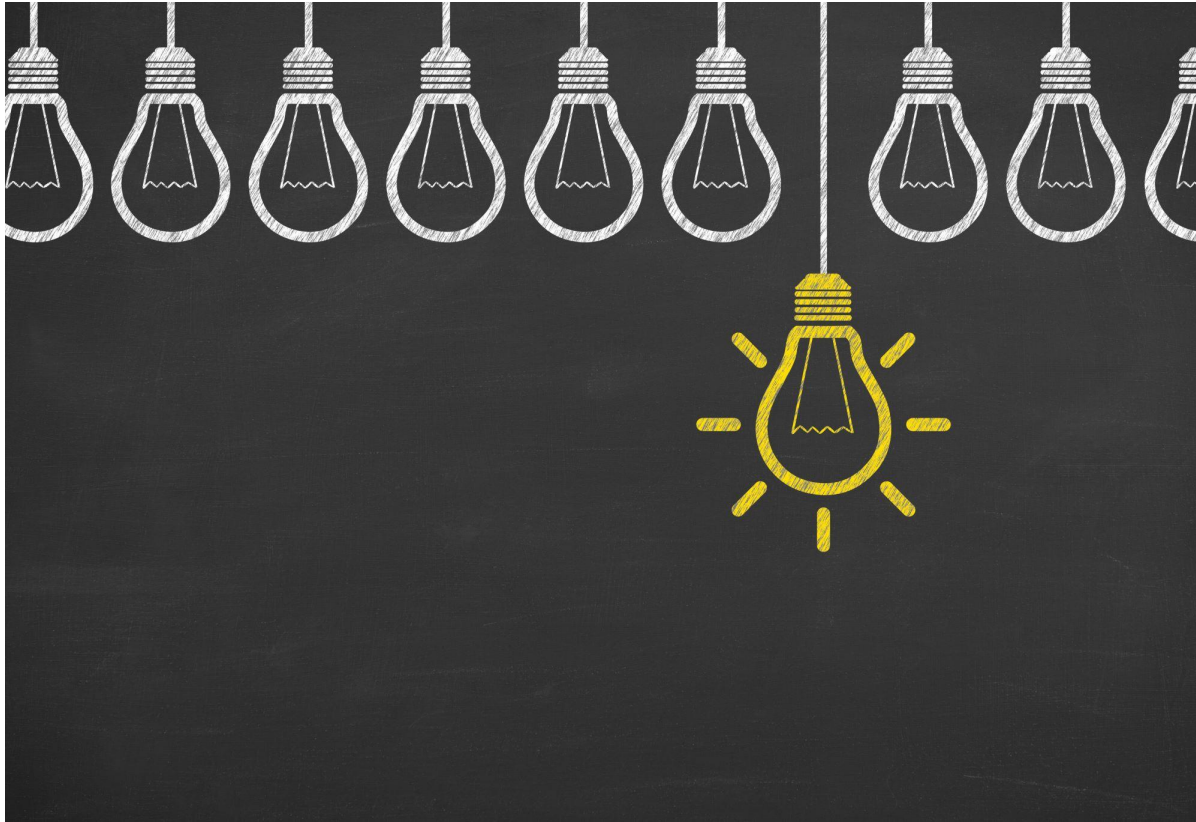
- a) Communication
- b) Stakeholder Involvement
- c) Program Evaluation
- d) Transparency
- e) Social supports

Potential Solutions

- a) Rapid Antigen Testing Vs. PCR
- b) Test Kits
- c) Tackling Socioeconomic Factors
- d) Policy Changes
- e) Resource Allocation
- f) Interdisciplinary Coordination
- g) Technology Advancements

Public Health Approach

- a) Culturally Appropriate Education
- b) Community Partnerships
- c) Population Outreach



QUESTIONS?

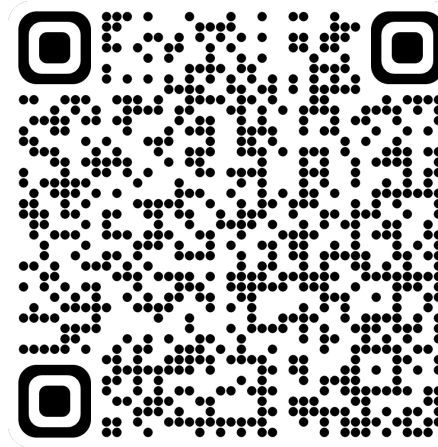
What else can we do as public health professionals to improve contact tracing for future pandemics?

How do we leverage existing infrastructure to fill the gaps we see within public health?

What policies are still needed to advocate for underserved communities to access care?

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Publication Link



THANK
YOU.

References:

- [1] 1918 Pandemic (H1N1 virus). 2019. <https://www.cdc.gov/flu/pandemic-resources/1918-pandemic-h1n1.html>
- [2] WHO Coronavirus (COVID-19) Dashboard. 2023. <https://covid19.who.int/>.
- [3] Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. COVID Data Tracker. Atlanta, GA: US Department of Health and Human Services, CDC; 2023, April 17. <https://covid.cdc.gov/covid-data-tracker>
- [4] Asif R, Hussain A. Contact tracing during COVID-19- a systemic public health failure. J Evolution Med Dent Sci 2022;11(05):577-584, DOI: 10.14260/jemds/2022/116