Situations like the coronavirus pandemic can quickly become a catalyst for social conflict due to misinformation, rumors and fake news, as we've seen in the past. Every day we continue to see more false information shared throughout communities, confusing citizens and leaving them unsure as to who can answer their questions.

The Pakistan Coronavirus CivicActs Campaign (CCC) captures rumors and perceptions among communities to eliminate information gaps between the government, media, humanitarian agencies and citizens. By providing the public with facts, these coronavirus bulletins aim to create a better understanding of needs regarding coronavirus and to debunk rumors before they can do more harm.

DON'T PANIC!
Follow these steps to help prevent the spread of coronavirus.

- Wash your hands frequently with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. Use hand sanitizer (with at least 60% alcohol) if soap and water aren't available.
- Cover your nose and mouth (with your elbow or a tissue) when sneezing.
- Avoid crowded places and practice social distancing. If you think you have been exposed to someone with coronavirus, quarantine yourself for a minimum of 14 days and monitor any symptoms.
- Do not stockpile supplies.
**IS IT TRUE?**

I heard that a patient died of neglect at a hospital in Lahore. Is this true?

Yes. On Friday, an elderly patient, who according to videos on social media was tied to his bed in the hospital's isolation ward, died as a result of the staff's neglect. The patient in question, a man in his 70s, was found dead in the washroom of the isolation ward at Mayo Hospital, Lahore. According to other patients, the man experienced extreme pain throughout the night and continued calling doctors and nurses for help. On Friday morning, the man was untied so he could use the washroom, but after half an hour, he hadn't returned. At that point, they broke down the door to discover that he had died.

Doctors claim that he was carrying multiple diseases, including psychological disorder, and Mayo Hospital CEO claims that the man died of a heart attack. Chief Minister Punjab, Mr. Usman Buzdar, has ordered an investigation into the death of the patient, announcing that strict action will be taken against the hospital if they are found guilty of neglect.

**Daily wagers across the country are struggling. What arrangements are being made for them?**

All over the country, daily wage workers have been struggling to make ends meet because there is very little work since the lockdowns have been in force. In the federal capital, public gatherings are banned, and schools and non-essential shops are closed. Some daily wage workers only have enough food to last them a short while and no finances to buy more, others are going to sleep hungry.

In Sindh, the provincial government announced the Sindh Relief Initiative Application through which social welfare organizations that are interested in working with the government to distribute rations to the needy can register. The initiative aims to provide rations to daily wage workers and needy people in Sindh by delivering them straight to their doorsteps. In order to receive the rations, daily wage workers will need to register through an application and then the government can assign welfare organizations for the distribution of rations.

The federal government also announced an economic relief package last week, highlighting that one quarter of the country's population live below the poverty line. The Prime Minister stated that daily-wage earners would be paid Rs. 3,000 each to cope with the current difficult situation.
Last week, the Prime Minister announced the formation of a special youth force - Corona Tiger Force - to provide food to people in the areas where virus cases have been reported, and perform other voluntary tasks. Registration for the force will begin on March 31 and end on April 10 through the Citizens Portal.

Registered volunteers will work with district administrations and the National Disaster Management Authority and will be assigned responsibilities on a daily basis. Tasks will include providing ration bags, helping at quarantine centers and hospitals, and arranging funerals. Volunteers will also collect data about patients to help law enforcement with lockdowns.

Pakistan officially closed its border with Iran at Taftan on March 16 and it has remained closed since then. All of Pakistan’s borders to the east and west are closed and will remain closed for another two weeks. Despite the border being closed, hundreds of pilgrims have been returning to Pakistan from Iran via the land border as recently as last week.

In an interview with Arab News, Balochistan Home Minister Mr. Mir Zia Ullah Langove said that the provincial government had contacted federal authorities when the outbreak began, urging them to tell Iranian authorities not to send pilgrims back to Pakistan without proper screening.

Unfortunately, health and government officials have said that thousands of pilgrims have been released from quarantine in Taftan without being properly tested, leading to further spread of the virus.
What do I do if I think I have coronavirus?

Do you have any symptoms?

- Fever
- Shortness of breath
- Dry cough
- Tiredness

If so, contact your doctor or the coronavirus helpline at 1166.

Where can I get tested?

**Karachi**
Aga Khan University Hospital  
Stadium Road, Karachi  
Civil Hospital  
DOW University Campus  
Mission Road, Karachi  
Dow Medical Hospital  
Ojha Campus  
Suparco Road, Karachi  
Indus Hospital  
Opposite Darussalam Society, Korangi Crossing, Karachi

**Islamabad**
National Institute of Health  
Park Road  
Chak Shahzad, Islamabad

**Rawalpindi**
Armed Forces Institute of Pathology  
Range Road  
CMH Complex, Rawalpindi

**Multan**
Nishtar Hospital  
Nishtar Road, Justice Hamid Colony, Multan

For more cities visit the [COVID-19 Health Advisory Platform](#)

Coronavirus CivActs Campaign is brought to you by Accountability Lab Pakistan.