# Supplementary File 1: Illustrative quotations

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| **WHO component** | **Reference number** | **Quotation from media article** |
| Actionable | 1 | “Experts have indeed recommended avoiding too much physical contact like shaking hands or hugging to prevent spread.” |
| 2 | “This is why governments and experts around the world are telling people to avoid crowded places, to practise social distancing, to wash your hands thoroughly and frequently with soap and water, and to try, to the extent possible, to not touch your face.” |
| 3 | “To protect your baby and prevent the spread of coronavirus, clean your home continuously, especially the areas that are highly used. This includes toys, phones, tablets, staircase railings, and the refrigerator door. For maximising effectiveness, the surface should be left wet for 15-30 seconds.” |
| Credible | 4 | “Harpali is an 18-year-old girl living in a 10x6 square feet ‘jhuggi’ with her mother, father, three sisters and a brother in the middle of the shanties in Sector 25. Her family says they are aware of the coronavirus and the threat it poses, yet social distancing is a distant dream for them and over a lakh others living in these colonies.” |
| 5 | “Local resident Salman Afroz said there was no need to wear a mask, as washing hands and feet before offering prayers was sufficient…A devotee, Abdul Gaffar, said: “It was an usual Friday. The risk is not as significant in Mumbai and India as in other countries such as China.” |
| 6 | “According to the World Health Organisation, most people (about 80 per cent) recover from the disease without needing special treatment.” |
| 7 | “Speaking to IANS, doctor Arvind Kumar, Founder and Managing Trustee Lung Care Foundation, said if the lockdown had not happened and the pollution levels have not dipped, going by the north Italy experience, the coronavirus would have spread faster.” |
| Understandable | 8 | ““The assay has been validated at ICMR with a sensitivity and specificity of 100 percent. This makes IITD the first academic institute to have obtained ICMR approval for a real-time PCR-based diagnostic assay,” a senior official told PTI.” |
| Relevant | 9 | “For us it was headache, fever (for first 3 days consistently and then on and off after three days), severe body aches and joint pain, and severe fatigue. I had a fever that spiked the first night to 103 degrees and eventually came down to 100 and then low grade 99.5. Some folks had diarrhea. I felt nauseous one day. Once the fever is gone some were left with nasal congestion, sore throat. Only a very few of us had a mild itchy cough. Very few had chest tightness or other respiratory symptoms. Total duration of illness was 10-16 days.” |
| 10 | “Moreover, those showing no symptoms or those who are in the “pre-symptomatic” period – which is the period between them getting infected and showing symptoms – can pass on the infection to others.” |
| 11 | “They estimated that viral shedding, which is when a person infects another, starts happening two to three days before the onset of symptoms.” |
| 12 | “For some time now, scientists have known that the virus spreads through respiratory droplets discharged by an infected person when they cough or sneeze. Others can contract the infection either by inhaling these droplets or touching surfaces on which these droplets land and then touching their eyes, nose, and mouth.” |
| 13 | “The study, which is yet to be published also found that the virus doesn’t remain infectious on cloth or treated wood after a day.” |
| 14 | “A small study of nine pregnant women in Wuhan, China, with confirmed COVID-19 found no evidence of the virus in their breast milk, cord blood, amniotic fluid.” |
| 15 | “The World Health Organization is cautioning against the idea of “immunity passports.” It says there is currently no evidence that people who have recovered from COVID-19 and have antibodies are protected against a second infection.” |
| 16 | “"I am hoping that as we get into the warmer weather we will see a decline that will give us a chance to get our preparedness up to speed," Fauci said. But that, too, is far from certain.” |
| 17 | ““If a mask is damaged or soiled, or if breathing through the mask becomes diﬃcult, remove the face mask, discard it safely, and replace it with a new one. Place the discarded mask safely in a plastic bag and put it in the trash. Wash your hands after handling the used mask," Lakhe said.” |
| 18 | “Speaking about the harmful habit of spitting, Prime Minister Modi said that now the time has come to eradicate this bad habit from our lives.” |
| 19 | “Quarantined individuals must stay away from the elderly, pregnant women, children and persons with comorbidities within the household as their immunity may be low.” |
| 20 | “The drug, that has existed for several decades, was recommended for prophylaxis in case of asymptomatic healthcare workers involved in the care of suspected or confirmed cases of COVID-19 and asymptomatic household contacts of laboratory confirmed cases.” |
| 21 | “The doctors have, however, warned against people against indiscriminately consuming the medicine without a valid doctor’s prescription.” |
| 22 | ““Of course we all want to be very hopeful about a treatment like this,” Yorio said. “But at the same time, we don’t truly know how effective it’s going to be compared to other types of things we’re already doing.”” |
| 23 | “”At various centres, we have now started using convalescent plasma that is the blood of COVID-19 patients who have recovered. A large number of patients who have become alright, have come forward and have volunteered to donate their blood," said Guleria.” |
| 24 | “Several treatment alternatives are also under trial; however, a defnitive cure is not yet on the charts.” |
| 25 | “People across the world are paying special attention to the importance of Ayurveda and yoga amid the Covid-19 pandemic, he said, pointing out that the social media is full of write-ups related to its beneﬁts in boosting immunity.” |
| 26 | “Rai says there is no certainty that they were safe from contamination – the brothers use a common bathroom with many others slum dwellers, and often their shoulders brush with others while crossing the narrow lanes here.” |
| Timely | 27 | ““We really want to raise awareness that this is a sign of infection and that anyone who develops loss of sense of smell should self-isolate,” Professor Claire Hopkins, president of the British Rhinological Society, wrote in an email. “It could contribute to slowing transmission and save lives.”” |