

A perspective Study on oral-fecal transmission of COVID-19, its Prevention and Management

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Abstract

The novel coronavirus outbreak arose in Wuhan, China in Dec, 2019. It is declared the 6th public health emergency by the WHO and named as COVID-19. SARS-CoV-2 is non-segmented positive sense ssRNA virus, belongs to the Coronaviridae under the Nidovirales and spread largely in human being and other mammals. Person to person, airborne and surface transmission is common, the virus get entered to host through nose, mouth, eyes, food, water and feces. An infected patients can transmit the virus to 2.2 healthy individuals. A patient in the US showed gastrointestinal symptoms vomiting, nausea and pass loose stools. Later the patient declared positive for SARS-CoV-2 on the basis of viral detection in stools and respiratory samples. The gastrointestinal symptoms like diarrhea, nausea, vomiting, abdominal discomfort and detection of SARS-CoV-2 in stools of infected and recovered patients indicates potential oral-fecal transmission route, it could be potential risk for the spread of COVID-19. The flatus is gas produced by aerophagia or bacterial fermentation in intestine and expelled out through esophagus or anus. It consists of Hydrogen, Oxygen, Nitrogen, Carbon dioxide and Methane, their percentage composition is 99%. Previous study showed that bacteria can transmit through bare-bottom farting. The gastrointestinal manifestation and possible oral-fecal transmission, the flatulence could be the risk of transmission for COVID-19. Personal hygiene must be adapted to prevent the spread of disease.

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