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## COVID-19 Outbreak, Market, Food Supply and Food Safety

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Dear Editor,

We would like to share ideas on the publication “COVID-19 Outbreak and Impact on Food Safety (1).” Stavropoulou and Bezirtzoglou concluded that “COVID-19 is a severe human crisis menacing food safety, food security and nutrition all across the globe. Precautions to the correct functioning of food systems are necessary to ensure their sustainability (1).” Food and nutritional management during COVID-19 is a very important issue during the COVID-19 outbreak. How to maintain the sufficient and non-contaminated food during the outbreak is a challenge. In many settings, such as in Indochina countries, the panic occurs when a disease outbreak occurs (2). For example, in the country that the disease occurred as the second country after China, the local people rushed to the market for buying and stocking food resulting in inadequate food supply within a short period. It takes a considerable period for controlling of the panic. In the same setting, when there is the second wave of COVID-19 that started at a seafood market, the situation is totally different. The local people feared for many foods and try not to intake seafood product. The two different panic scenarios may show that the public health education and communication during outbreak is very important.

Regarding the food safety, the important consideration is on the possible contamination. In fact, there are many reports on contamination in food. Imported food from many countries is reported for SARCoV2 contamination. Indeed, the frozen food is usually the form that is imported or locally distributed via logistics. The cold cannot destroy the pathogen and it is no doubt that contaminated food might be associated with outbreak. Although the disease is not a food-borne infection but contacting with contaminated food is a possible way that the disease can be spread (3). Indeed, the market-related outbreak is well described in the first episode of the COVID-19 outbreak in China (4). The wet market is usually difficult to control place. Food in a cold environment may act as a good amplifying site of the virus. The contamination may start from an infected person in the market before the disease is widely spread. It is no doubt that both infected person and contamination in food are important problems in any market-related COVID-19 outbreak. It is necessary to have a good system for sanitation control of food market during the COVID-19 outbreak. The public health control should start from the food growing, harvesting, delivery process, marketing and distribution. All processes in the food supply part should be protected from contamination and there must be a quality management process.

Finally, the health screening and control of any persons dealing with food along the food supply path is important. In the market-related outbreak, poor control of workers in the market is an important cause of the recent seafood market COVID-19 outbreak in Indochina. In that specific situation, the migrant worker is mentioned as an important key infections spreader group. The situation in the recent Indochina seafood market is very complicated. It represented the nature of market-related outbreak with referencing to the classical model in the first seafood market-related COVID-19 outbreak in China and the nature of the outbreak immigrant worker in Singapore.

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