



Data on Covid-19 After-effects

Why in News

Recently, the **Directorate General of Health Services (DGHS)** has started collecting data on **post Covid-19 medical complications** from leading central government and other hospitals across India.

- DGHS is a repository of technical knowledge concerning public health, medical education and health care. It is an **attached organisation of the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare**.

Key Points

- Leading physicians from across the country have indicated that they are seeing some **worrying medical complications among the recovered patients**.
- Stress on the body associated with **Coronavirus** could lead to long and short term complications.
- Data is being collected on the medical complications including **Covid-19-induced diabetes, impaired lung, heart, liver and brain functions** along with **acute fatigue and dyspnea** (shortness of breath).
- It would help the Health Ministry to come out with **guidelines on further care and treatment** of those who had recovered.
- **Data Highlight:**
 - **86%** of the Covid-19 cases in the country were reported from **10 states**, with **Maharashtra and Tamil Nadu** accounting for **50%**.
 - The overall **recovery rate** had climbed from **47.6% (31st May)** to **63.02% currently**.
- **Trends in Recovered Patients:**
 - Patients took a long time to fully recover with complaints of feeling **lethargic**, completely **drained out, mentally depressed** with the **inability to concentrate**.
 - Those who developed **pneumonia**, lung function improves within some months of recovery but some may not normalise due to the **fibrosis** (development of fibrous connective tissue as a reparative response to injury or damage).
 - Possibilities of **long-term lung function deterioration** and **vascular diseases**.
 - Indications of **Covid-induced diabetes**.
- **After-effects of Covid-19:**
 - The damage is caused by **thrombosis in the small vessels** that ultimately **damages lung tissues and other organs**, including the heart and can lead to fatal **pulmonary embolism**.
 - **Thrombosis** is the formation of a blood clot, known as a thrombus, within a blood vessel. It prevents blood from flowing normally through the circulatory system.
 - **Pulmonary Embolism (PE)** is a condition in which one or more arteries in the lungs become blocked by a blood clot.

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