



COMMUNICABLE DISEASES -5

SARS

- SARS is a viral disease, caused by a **new** strain of **coronavirus**
- The most common symptoms in patients progressing to SARS include fever, malaise, chills, headache, myalgia, dizziness, cough, sore throat and runny nose.

- In some cases there is rapid deterioration with acute respiratory distress with 10% death rate
- Chest X-ray findings typically begin with small, unilateral patchy shadowing progressing to become bilateral and generalized, with interstitial/confluent infiltration

- ➤ Infants and children are rarely affected by this disease
- ➤ There is no evidence of SARS transmission in schools

PROBLEM STATEMENT

The earliest case was traced to a health care worker in China in late 2002, with rapid spread to Hong Kong, Singapore, Vietnam and Taiwan

PROBLEM STATEMENT

As of August 2003, about 8422 cases were reported to WHO from 30 countries with 916 deaths

• INCUBATION PERIOD: 2-7 days

- MODE OF TRANSMISSION
- It is through close contact with the patient and infected material via the eyes, nose and mouth, with respiratory droplets

- MODE OF TRANSMISSION
- There is no evidence that SARS is an airborne disease
- Sewage, faeces, cockroaches can spread SARS
- Virus can survive outside human body

- **PREVENTION:** The preventive measures are;
- Prompt identification of cases, contacts and their movement
- ➤ Effective Isolation of SARS patients in hospital

- **PREVENTION:** The preventive measures are;
- Appropriate protection of treating staff
- Exit screening of international travelers
- Timely and accurate reporting and sharing of information with other authorities/governments.

THANK YOU

THAT IS LIFE

