Covid-19: Reports from IRDR

A report by Professor David Alexander, staff and students at the Institute for Risk and Disaster Reduction (IRDR) at UCL sheds valuable light on building emergency planning scenarios for viral pandemics. The purpose of this report is to provide a systematic, if incomplete, record of the issues connected with the Covid-19 pandemic in order to improve the basis for future emergency planning. Like all large disasters, Covid-19 involves cascading consequences. These need to be factored into future emergency planning scenarios.

There is a supporting article by Professor Alexander titled ‘Failing to plan, planning to fail’.

Finally, a presentation on 'Key Aspects of Emergency Planning and Management for Pandemics' by the same author was given at the 10th IRDR Annual Conference on 15 July and can be found here. He concluded that: ‘there will be bigger, worse pandemics to come; the next pandemic is likely to influenza; and we must learn to live with disease risk.'