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**CTD:10PNC - PANDEMICS, NEW-NORMAL AND CULTURAL SHIFTING
SUB-DOMAIN: 2. PANDEMICS AND HUMAN VULNERABILITY**

**PANEL TITLE:
DICHOTOMY OF CORONAVIRUS NOMENCLATURE: TRADE-OFF
BETWEEN SPECIES AND DISEASE**

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ABSTRACT

The present outbreak is the third of a kind of spill over of an animal coronavirus to humans. It came after SARS-CoV (2002-2003) and MERS-CoV (2012) linked to respiratory distress syndrome that culminated into a major epidemic. Both World Health Organization (WHO) and the International Committee on Taxonomy of Viruses (ICTV) had extensive debates to provide a suitable naming that will suffice the identity of the current pandemic in terms of disease and pathogen. The argument for the respective format of naming is twofold; it avoids addressing this disease outbreak colloquially referred, under the elusive nomenclature of coronavirus; and to use these formats as reference to identify new coronavirus afflicted diseases in near future. Addressing SARS-CoV-2 virus, COVID-19 disease as coronavirus, causes a great deal of confusion. It hinders diagnosis and treatment to fight against the present pandemic that is a pneumonia-causing novel pathogen. Common understanding about coronavirus fails to detect the whereabouts of the emergence, transmissibility, and fatality rate. This envisions the urgency of naming this virus for tackling the pandemic in scientific way. WHO officially recognizes the coronavirus disease and names COVID-19. More importantly, Coronaviridae Study Group (CSG) assigned by ICTV has authenticated the phylogenetical and taxonomical status of particularising the identity of SARS-CoV-2 of the species as severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus-2. These naming formats help to (maintain a balance of understanding between species and disease) avoid coronavirus cliché, enabling the scientific community for working out mitigating strategies to thwart vulnerability of humankind. Panel invites presentations from experts and researchers engaged in this field.

Keywords: Coronavirus, spill over, virus nomenclature, zoonoses, SARS-CoV-2.

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