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To people affected

Their carers and doctors

To Media

Zürich 20th March 2020

Ref. **Corona Viruses and the conditions of its spill-over from wildlife hosts to farming animals and to humans**

Dear Sirs

The transmission of zoonotic viruses from animal hosts to humans, which has led in the Chinese city Wuhan to flu infections with severe course is troubling the world. It reveals to what extent our health is depending on our environment and on with us living farm animals and wildlife. Bacteria, viruses and parasites in wildlife undergo at various places environmental conditions made by us, with effects on soils, plants and waters. Antibiotics used in animal farming belong to it as also heavy metals coming from mining or from various technical production proceedings. In the course of new settlements and new farming methods which may cause local climate changes, the effect of such materials on wildlife changes, who then escape to new territories, where they find new contact zones to farming animals, who continuously receive antibiotics against infections and for better meat growth. Under such conditions the spill-over of zoonotic bacteria, viruses and parasites from wildlife to farming animals may happen more easily, which may lead to genetic changes in their normally occurring bacterial flora and finally to the transmission of changed bacteria, viruses and parasites to humans. The transmission of multi-resistant bacterial strains via salads in Germany that were growing around cattle farms causing untreatable infections or the release of the so-called bird's flu to migratory birds near poultry farms shows some years ago the permeability of the border between animals and humans, known already from zoonotic infections occurring in animal keepers, which depend also on them being already themselves carriers of antibiotic resistant strains. The fast release of the new Corona virus from a wet market in Wuhan, where bats were sold for meals, shows us how fast a direct transmission of animal viruses to humans can happen. That China now has prohibited such markets shows us, that it has finally, after the Sars Epidemic, understood such interactions. The nowadays administrated Corona-Test is a pcr-test at which various viruses might induce a positive test-result. Opposite to the postulated Hi-retrovirus, declared to be the cause of the severe course of more than 60 different endemic infections and disease conditions, which after the theory of its discoverer is the product of a spill-over ages ago from monkeys to humans, the Corona flu-virus is clearly the product of a recent spill-over of a zoonotic virus, which was, like in the case of Sars hosted by bats (and probably by other wildlife). As long as antibiotics are administrated continuously in high doses in animal farming (cattle, swine, poultry and fish) for better meat growth, the spill-over from wildlife to farming animals and from them to humans, or from farming animals to wildlife may happen more

frequently. According to this, many authors of articles ask for a close collaboration between veterinarians and medical doctors and of big countries such as the USA and China to resolve this « global problem ».

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