**Study: Inequalities Make Poor More Likely to Die From COVID-19**

**研究：资源不均导致穷人更易死于新冠肺炎**

Researchers from Imperial College London say the chance of dying from COVID-19 rises with increasing poverty.

伦敦帝国理工学院的研究人员称，随着贫困的加剧死于新冠肺炎的几率也在增加。

They blame inequalities in society in poor countries for the increased risk.

他们把这一风险的增加归咎于贫穷国家的社会不平等。

The coronavirus crisis continues to expand in many countries that are considered lower-income or lower-middle-income, such as India and Nigeria. Johns Hopkins University Coronavirus Resource Center reports India, for example, has recorded over 440,000 COVID-19 cases and more than 14,000 deaths from the disease.

冠状病毒危机在许多被认为是低收入或中等偏下收入的国家继续扩张，比如印度和尼日利亚。约翰霍普金斯大学冠状病毒资源中心报告称，以印度为例来看该国已记录了超过44万新冠肺炎感染病例，14000多死亡病例。

The Imperial College researchers say “health inequities” mean that some groups are at greater risk. Health inequities are unfair or avoidable differences in health among different groups in society.

帝国理工学院的研究人员称，“卫生不公平”意味着一些群体面临更大的风险。卫生不公平是指社会上不同群体之间不公平的或可避免的卫生条件差异。

The report looks at such inequities based on three measures: the availability of hand-washing places, the ability to work from home and the ability to go to a hospital.

这份报告通过三个层面来审视这种不公平现象：洗手处的可用性、是否具备在家办公的能力以及去医院就医的能力。

Peter Winskill was the lead writer of the report and spoke to VOA over Skype earlier this month. “We estimated on average a 32 percent increase in the probability of death from COVID-19 when comparing individuals from the poorest households to those in the wealthiest households,” he said.

彼得·温斯基尔是该报告的主要作者，本月早些时候通过网络电话Skype接受了美国之音的采访。他说：“据我们估计最贫困家庭和最富裕家庭的人相比，前者死于新冠肺炎的概率平均要高32%。”

The main reason for this, Winskill added, is a lack of the ability to go to a hospital and intensive care centers at hospitals.

温斯基尔补充道，造成这种差异的主要原因是（穷人）缺乏去医院和医院重症监护中心就医的能力。

Poorer families also often live in larger households that include several generations. This makes it harder to protect older family members through social distancing. Other indirect effects of the health crisis also are harder on poorer people, Winskill said. He noted lockdown periods during important agricultural periods of planting and harvesting.

较贫穷的家庭通常都是同时生活着几代人的大家庭，这使得通过保持社会安全距离来保护老年家庭成员变得更加困难。温斯基尔说，健康危机的其他间接影响对穷人的影响也更大，并指出在重要的农业种植和收获时期进行的封锁。

The researcher said, “We also know from the data that individuals in poorer households in these areas also depend more on food grown themselves, so there are serious food security issues.”

研究人员表示，“我们还从数据中了解到，这些地区的贫困的家庭成员更加依赖自己种植的粮食，因此这里还存在严重的粮食安全问题。”

In addition, COVID-19 has led to reduced health services for other diseases. Winskill said the research shows that deaths from AIDS, tuberculosis and malaria may increase over the next five years. He said there may be an increase of up to 10 percent for AIDS, 20 percent for TB and 36 percent for malaria deaths in areas with high level disease burden.

此外，新冠肺炎还导致医院为其他疾病提供的医疗服务减少。温斯基尔说，研究表明未来五年艾滋病、肺结核和疟疾造成的死亡人数可能会增加。他还表示在疾病负担严重的地区，艾滋病、结核病和疟疾死亡人数可能会分别增加10%，20%和36%。

The report says existing patterns of inequality mean the poorest are less able to protect themselves from infection. The report's writers urge governments to improve the availability of hand-washing and strengthen community health services.

报告称，现有的不平等模式意味着越贫穷的人越无法保护自己免受感染。该报告的作者敦促各国政府增加可用的洗手处，并加强社区卫生服务。

I’m Caty Weaver.

凯蒂·韦弗报道。

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