How to deal with a virus outbreak.

Background:

I work at a pharmaceutical company in which a few years ago gloves were introduced in responds to system contaminations (2—5%). Although after discovery the product from these system contaminations was destroyed it was a FDA requirement to reduce these system contaminations to 0.

These gloves worked extremely well. Gloves prevented bacteria from our hands to the surface areas of our production systems. We are now at almost 0 because there are always a bunch of extremely die hard (swarming, spore forming) bacteria.

Current situation. Novel Corona outbreak.

Now let us look at the current virus outbreak in Asia and look at what they are doing. Almost 10% of the world`s population is being put under quarantine and we are facing mayor supply chain disruptions in spring.

Keeping people away from their work is far more devastating than the virus itself.

Proposed situation:

Gloves prevent viral unload against surfaces (infection of others) and prevent self-infection (touching the face).

During an outbreak: Let the general public wear gloves (spreading disease by hand) commuting and doing groceries. Once people get home or get to work disinfect gloves, take them off and store.

Touch the outside of the door with gloves. Touch the inside of the door without gloves, Disinfect (sodium hypochlorite solution) and store gloves prior to closing door. Do not touch surfaces that came in contact with gloves prior to disinfection. Even if it means disinfecting the disinfection bottle!.

During the wearing of gloves do not touch your face and do not shake hands with someone who does not wear gloves. You can shake hands at work or at home.
Mask or not?:

A lot of people do not know how to wear a mask properly. A mask causes self-infection (basically what you breath out you are also breathing back in causing a huge viral load inside your body.)

A mask can be useful if you have the disease but you don’t want your family members or other people contracting it. If you live or work close to elderly people (that are susceptible for a disease) it can be wise wearing a mask.

Regards,

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