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## **Covid-19 & Transformative Perspectives**

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### **Abstract**

In December 2019, news broke of a highly-contagious and potentially deadly virus that was found to be spreading across Wuhan, a Chinese city with a population of 11 million. Just a month later, the whole of Hubei province was put under strict lockdown. By March 2020, many countries across the globe had also begun to report on alarming infection rates of a type of coronavirus, specifically *covid-19*. Soon after, the world as we all knew it had been completely transformed through social distancing rules, lockdowns and bans on international travel, and compulsory face masks with regular hand sanitising. The sudden emergence of this lifechanging virus pushed worldwide industries into unprecedented territories – even forcing many into bankruptcy. The education sector was not left unscathed.

This presentation examines the impact of covid-19 on the education sector and outlines the challenges that continue to be faced by its key stakeholders, namely the academic institutions, teaching practitioners, and above all, learners. It also seeks to propose some solutions through the implementation of Jack Mezirow's Transformative Learning

Theory (1991) which involves experiential changes to psychological, convictional and behavioural thinking, scaffolded within revised meaning-making structures and critical self-reflection leading to lifestyle modifications that enable our lives to continue.

**Keywords:** covid-19, challenges, education, stakeholders, transformative learning

