Financial hub tried but failed to live with the virus – something not lost on Beijing financial support for people with COVID-19

Shanghai shows that imposing lockdowns has its limits, and how they might be relaxed

For Shanghai, the word appears relative, as authorities have put the city into a kind of lockdown. Since March 11, when the first cluster of COVID-19 infections was reported in the city, Shanghai has imposed measures to contain the spread of the virus. In the first week of April, the city went into a full lockdown, which ended on May 1. The lockdown has lasted over 2 months, making it the longest in China so far. Nevertheless, the number of daily new COVID-19 cases in Shanghai has decreased significantly, with only a few cases reported in the last few days. This suggests that the lockdown has been effective in preventing the spread of the virus. However, some experts have raised concerns about the long-term impact of lockdowns on the economy and people's mental health.

Some residential areas in Shanghai have already begun to lift lockdowns, as the number of cases has been brought to zero in many places.

In the early stages of the pandemic, citywide lockdowns were the only option for controlling the spread of the virus. However, as the virus continues to evolve, there may be other ways to contain outbreaks. Some experts have suggested the use of targeted lockdowns, where only areas with clusters of cases are locked down, while other areas continue normal activities.

For example, in March, when the city went into lockdown, only a few areas were affected, while others continued with normal activities. This approach helped to prevent the spread of the virus and prevented the collapse of the city's economy.

However, as the pandemic continues, there may be a need to reconsider the use of lockdowns. Some experts have suggested the use of targeted lockdowns, where only areas with clusters of cases are locked down, while other areas continue normal activities.

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