Research on the Modernization of National Governance in Response to Public Health Emergencies

Kejun Liu*

School of Arts and Media, Wuhan University of Engineering Science, Wuhan 430200, Hubei Province, China

*Corresponding author: Kejun Liu, 328483122@qq.com

Abstract: The prevention and control of public health emergencies is an important challenge to national governance level and governance capacity. The increasing practical challenges of public health governance, the imperfect mechanism of public health emergency response and the insufficient investment in public health cause have affected the effectiveness of national governance of public health emergencies and hindered the in-depth promotion of the modernization of national governance. Therefore, the government, society and the people must move from crisis and prevention mechanism to forward-looking and dynamic adaptive risk governance mechanism, from multi-level structural governance to network collaborative governance, and from defense to attack, so as to improve the national system from the aspect of governance efficiency in response to public health emergencies, and then promote the modernization of national governance.

Keywords: Public health event; Modernization of national governance; Emergency prevention and control; Governance effectiveness

1. Introduction

The modernization of state governance refers to the transformation of the national governance system and governance level towards more advanced and efficient system to ensure the timeliness and effectiveness of national governance in all levels and fields. At present, China is in an important stage of social transformation and modernization. Various social problems occur frequently, posing great challenges to the current level and capacity of national governance, and objectively force Chinese society to accelerate the realization of the important goal of national governance modernization.

Public health governance is an important field of social governance. In recent years, public health emergencies have occurred frequently in China, posing a comprehensive challenge to the national governance level and capacity. There is still a long way to go before the modernization of national governance in China's current system and level of governance. Focusing on public health governance and promoting the modernization of national governance should be an urgent issue to be considered by all sectors of society.

2. Relationship between public health governance and national governance modernization

Public health governance is an important field of national governance, and the modernization of national governance forms the basic direction of public health governance. The process of realizing the

modernization of public health governance is full of challenges, mainly reflected in the social response to public health emergencies.

2.1. Public health governance is an important area in the modernization of national governance

First, the modernization of national governance includes public health governance. The modernization of national governance not only means that the governance concept is more civilized and modern, and the governance technology is more scientific and accurate, but also inevitably requires the comprehensiveness of the governance content. As an established and easily neglected governance demand in the old society, public health governance has gradually become a reality. Second, public health governance affects the realization of other governance. Good public health conditions are an important basic condition for maintaining political stability, economic security and social harmony. Third, the lag of public health governance will not be conducive to the realization of a modern socialist power and the solution of the main social contradictions.

2.2. Modernization of national governance leads the basic direction of public health governance

First, it defines the value orientation of people-oriented public health governance. It can be said that the value concept of people-oriented is the essential requirement of public health governance, and the modernization of national governance further expresses this essential requirement clearly. Second, it highlights the working mode of public health governance. The close relationship of modern society determines that the modernization of national governance must rely on the working mode of synergy, including regional synergy within the country, social synergy, technological synergy and international synergy. Third, the scientific awareness of public health governance has been enhanced. The modernization of national governance reflects the transformation from traditional management to governance, and from relying on experience to depending on science. Fourth, the system construction of public health governance has been accelerated.

2.3 The response to public health emergencies is a concentrated reflection of the level of public health governance

First, the ability to respond to public health emergencies reflects the level of public health governance. A country's crisis sensitivity, emergency plan, emergency mobilization, material deployment, manpower deployment, psychological endurance, scientific knowledge reserve, public spirit foundation and public opinion control when responding to an emergency public health event will fully demonstrate the level of the whole country's public health governance in a short time. Second, the ability to rescue public health emergencies reflects the level of public health governance. Public health emergencies directly test a country's ability to provide medical assistance. The level of medical assistance capacity determines the number of patients' assistance and the effect of governance, which directly reflects the level of public health governance. Third, the ability to deal with the aftermath of public health emergencies reflects the level of public health governance. The ability to manage the aftermath of public health emergencies will make the public health governance system and governance capacity more comprehensive.

3. Dilemma of national governance in response to public health emergencies

In recent years, China has accumulated a lot of valuable experience in promoting the modernization of national governance, but there is still a gap between the expectations of the Chinese people and the actual requirements of social development.

3.1. The realistic challenges of public health governance are increasing

First, the frequency of public health emergencies is increasing. In recent years, there are severe acute respiratory syndrome (SARS) epidemic, African swine fever, influenza A (H1N1), wild poliovirus, snail virus outbreak, Ebola outbreak in many countries, Middle East respiratory syndrome outbreak in Korea and coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19). Second, it is more difficult to manage public health events. The complexity of modern social relations, the convenience of traffic flow, and the difficulty of personnel control have all put forward new requirements for epidemic control. The constant adaptation and mutation of various viruses have resulted in new forms that are more harmful and difficult to treat, and the difficulty of governance is increasing. Third, ecological crisis is an urgent problem facing mankind. "Throughout today"s world, mankind has not come out of the plight of environmental pollution and ecological damage, and this pollution and damage is still getting worse." [1]

3.2. Imperfect emergency mechanism

First, the emergency organization structure is not perfect. At present, the treatment of public health emergencies in China is the temporary establishment of emergency command centers at all levels. Resource allocation and multi department coordination and linkage in emergencies are easy to lead to dislocation or inconsistency between prevention and treatment and emergency command. Second, the emergency monitoring and early warning system is not perfect. In the face of public health emergencies, due to the lack of rich emergency plan database and active monitoring behavior, large loopholes in the existing monitoring network, imperfect monitoring system and slow response in areas with backward economic development, resulting in inaccurate emergency monitoring and insufficient emergency preparation, which seriously affects the governance efficiency of public health emergencies. Third, the emergency management mechanism is not perfect. The current governance mechanism is a top-down decision-making and implementation mechanism, rather than a bottom-up information collection and transmission mechanism, which has low efficiency and many problems.

3.3. Insufficient investment in public health

In a sense, the governance cost and efficiency of public health emergencies depend on the national support and investment in public health. Based on the actual situation of China's public health undertakings, the state's investment in public health is characterized by small total amount, large difference between urban and rural areas, and large difference between regions, which reflect the irrational structure, imperfect mode and low efficiency of the state's investment in public health undertakings. Moreover, in addition to the inadequate hardware configuration, the configuration of medical staff is far from enough. The spirit and faith of the medical staff and the community are commendable and worthy of the Chinese people's pride. However, from the point of view of national governance, the state's early support and investment to public utilities is particularly inadequate.

4. Ways to improve the modernization of national governance in public health emergencies
4.1. Government from crisis response and prevention mechanism to risk governance mechanism with foresight and dynamic adaptability
4.1.1. Systematic emergency legal system

First, we should focus on improving the quality of legislation so as to form a complete emergency legal system. "The more we emphasize the rule of law, the more we need to improve the quality of legislation." On the one hand, we summarized the experience in the management of public health emergencies, and formulated comprehensive, systematic and practical emergency laws, policies and regulations in a timely manner. At the same time, unified prevention and control, precaution, diagnosis and treatment and research

guidelines have been formulated to provide a reliable theoretical basis for the local emergency response work. On the other hand, through the prevention and detection system, the emergency will be included into the corresponding category as soon as possible. Second, we should also focus on standardizing the operation of power, and forming a strict emergency legal supervision system. We will further standardize the bottom-up democratic supervision mechanism and give effective play to the role of various forms of supervision [2].

4.1.2. Innovative disease surveillance and early warning systems

First of all, combined with the actual development of the region, we should constantly narrow the gap in the construction of public health protection system among regions. We will increase investment in all aspects of disease surveillance and early warning systems in backward areas, timely fill the financial, personnel and technical gaps in backward areas, and actively build a national disease surveillance and early warning network. Secondly, we should continue to strengthen the construction of the national public health information system. We can establish relatively independent vertical management of public health information system. With the support of big data technology, we should conduct comprehensive analysis according to relevant environmental climate, regional characteristics, disease data, transmission scope and other information, and initiate the early warning scheme before public emergencies so as to win time for the treatment of public health emergencies.

4.1.3. Improvement of the emergency organization structure

In terms of vertical command and responsibility, the central government should play an integrated command and coordination role, be responsible for integrating resources and the top-level design of the entire incident prevention and control, and providing necessary policy guidance and resource guarantee. Each provincial government has regional centralized command power, and should set up an emergency command center at the first time to be responsible for the centralized command of its cities, counties and other administrative regions. The subordinate city and county institutions are the main implementers, and the prevention and treatment of public emergencies should be carried out quickly. The grass-roots organizations should do a good job in the prevention and treatment of public emergencies in the first time. In terms of horizontal coordination and cooperation, each superior command center shall promptly carry out two-way coordination with headquarters at all levels according to the needs of emergency disposal, and coordinate the implementation of policies after horizontal coordination and cooperation and clarification of their respective responsibilities and tasks.

4.2. Society from multi-level structure governance to network collaborative governance

4.2.1. Improving the power and responsibility system for the coordinated management of public health emergencies

First, the rights and obligations of the participants should be clarified. While affirming the status and role of the governance subject, the corresponding rights and responsibilities of the governance responsibility and governance obligation should be stipulated, and the responsibilities and powers, responsibility boundaries and role positioning of the participants should be clearly defined. Secondly, responsibility evaluation system and incentive mechanism should be established. The media should be used to coordinate and supervise the governance forces of various subjects, constantly publicize the effective governance subjects, and as public opinion guidance for effective social governance. The governance subjects who do not fulfill their responsibilities and maliciously utilize the governance of public events should be held accountable, so as to avoid the phenomenon that the participants act independently and pursue their own interests while ignoring the overall interests.

4.2.2. Building an operation system for collaborative governance of public health emergencies

First of all, by increasing financial investment in public health, a perfect social emergency organization system should be established. We will increase financial input and build a complete public health and epidemic prevention system by improving the emergency response mechanism, emergency equipment as well as management and use mechanism, and the emergency requisition mechanism in times of epidemic. Secondly, by improving the training of public health talents, we can solve the problem of shortage of medical and health talents. The scale and quality of talent cultivation must be expanded and improved. Colleges and universities should be encouraged to set up schools of public health. At the same time, attention should be paid to strengthening international cooperation to study and solve this problem from the perspective of all mankind. Finally, by building the multi-subject decision-making channel of public health emergencies, the decision-making force of multi-subject is standardized and coordinated. Various information interaction platforms with practical system guarantee and network should be established as the carrier to for immediate information release regarding multi-subject cooperative governance in response to public health emergencies.

4.2.3. Fostering social forces for collaborative governance of public health events

First, we should actively cultivate the sense of trust between civil society. The majority of social groups to contribute to public emergencies is based on the premise of great trust in the country, the government and the society. Secondly, we should actively cultivate the public spirit of civil society. In the face of public health emergencies, when life becomes fragile and the crisis becomes more urgent, the power of public spirit will be particularly important. Active cultivation of public spirit is a powerful guarantee for the acceleration and quality of public health emergencies. Finally, we should actively nurture the major organizational forces in public health undertakings. The management of public health emergencies not only needs timely and effective prevention, control and treatment, but also needs medical treatment, daily life and other materials.

4.3. People: From defense to attack
4.3.1. Strengthening public ethics education

First, public education in ecological ethics should be strengthened. People usually attribute the ecological crisis to the abuse of science and technology, the value of anthropocentrism or the loss of humanistic spirit and other factors. In fact, the ecological dilemma marks the imbalance between man and nature, man and society, and man and himself. Second, public education in social public morality should be strengthened. In the face of public health emergencies, citizens should strictly abide by the social public morality, refrain from spreading unfounded rumors, not endanger law enforcement or interfere with prevention and control, and actively cooperate with relevant departments and personnel in the prevention and control work. Third, education on public ethics should be strengthened. Efforts should be made to strengthen public ethics education and effectively improve the professional ability and professional quality of personnel in various industries [3].

4.3.2. Establishing the concept of public prevention and control

First, the public should be informed of the prevention and treatment of public health emergencies. Emergency publicity should be a routine with the help of network tools, so that the public is familiar with the basic concepts, common types and possible high-risk factors of public health emergencies, and the public's crisis awareness can be cultivated. Secondly, the public awareness of preventing public health events should be enhanced. Prevention is better than governance, and thus, prevention cannot be ignored. In daily life, the concept of prevention should be continuously instilled in the public, and prevention

education should be carried out in effective ways. Finally, the public should be guided to respond rationally in case of emergencies. By strengthening the construction of relevant legal system, the public should be guided to respond rationally to major public health emergencies.

4.3.3. Increasing public participation

First, the public's ability to respond to and deal with public emergencies should be improved. Crisis education should be included in the compulsory curriculum of primary and secondary education, and the public awareness of crisis should be cultivated from an early age. Publicity and education can be carried out by organizing disaster prevention drills, simulating experience, etc. Second, the public sense of responsibility and unity and cooperation should be strengthened. It is important to strengthen the spiritual publicity of the public's brave burden and positive contribution. Public's responsibility for emergencies should be cultivated, public's active cooperation ability to participate in public health emergencies should be improved, and the human resource foundation for emergency management is fully built. Finally, the safety of public participation in public health emergencies should be guaranteed. We will effectively strengthen the safety management of contributors to public health emergencies, especially strengthen the protection of frontline medical workers and the safety of joint prevention and control staff and volunteers, and effectively enhance public participation and effective governance.

5. Conclusion

To examine and analyze the phenomena and problems in the prevention and control of public health emergencies is an inherent requirement for the modernization of national governance in the new era. Due to the unique nature of public health emergencies and the predicament of current national governance, it is urgent to accelerate the modernization of national governance. From the three levels of government, society and the public, in the face of governance dilemma of public health emergencies, governance paths and ideas for the modernization of national governance are put forward in this paper with the hope that the national governance system can be reformed and the modernization of national governance system and governance capacity can be realized.

Funding

Disclosure statement

The author declares no conflict of interest.

References

[1] Chen X, 2012, Capital Logic and Ecological Crisis. China Social Sciences, (11): 4-23+203.

[2] Literature Research Office of the CPC Central Committee, 2015, Excerpts from Xi Jinping's Treatise on Comprehensively Governing the Country by Law. Central Literature Publishing House, Beijing, 43.

[3] Wang S, 2013, Research on Ecological Ethics and Ecological Ethics Education. Beijing Jiaotong University.