Coronavirus scam email example

Message from Dr. Edward Gomperts, MD

I am Dr. Edward Gomperts a pediatric hematologist-oncologist in Los Angeles, California and I am affiliated with Children's Hospital Los Angeles. I received his medical degree from the University of Cape Town Faculty of Medicine and I have been in practice for more than 20 years.

Due to the high rate of <u>Coronaviruses spreading</u> around the world... The United States health department and the <u>Centers for Disease Control and</u> Prevention (CDC) selected some of us to protect our country from the borders and also take affected victims' info quarantine. I am currently extremely busy and won't be able to attend some of my chores and will need a Personal assistant to work for me while I am busy and away. I will pay you \$500/week. You were randomly selected by the chamber of commerce along with other students to work with several doctors around the united states. You will only run errands like bill payments and sending emails with purchases which will mostly be electronic...In America, We will not allow this Virus at all because symptoms are typically mild to moderate.

To work with me, You must have access to the internet, and mobile to reply to a text. I will pay you \$500/week .. On instruction, my accountant will make payments out to you whenever I want it done along with instructions on what to do for me. to apply, Please send your Full name | Address | Age | Mobile# and email to EdGomperts@protonmail.com and I shall text you for updates...

Prevention, Treatment of Novel Coronavirus

There is currently no vaccine to prevent 2019-nCoV infection. The best way to prevent infection is to avoid being exposed to this virus. However, as a reminder, the CDC always recommends everyday preventive actions to help prevent the spread of respiratory viruses, including:

Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. Use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol if soap and water are not available. Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands. Avoid close contact with people who are sick. Stay home when you are sick. Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then throw the tissue in the trash. Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces.

Hope to hear from you soon.

Message from Dr. Edward Gomperts, MD

Establishing Authority – Uses the emotional appeal of helping children

Obtain Emotional Appeal – Uses the coronavirus pandemic, also uses the CDC as a source of authority

Monetary Gain – Payment of \$500 dollars for on demand work. Additional appeal to human ego by being selected.

The next exchange would likely be a bad check or other fraudulent payment that would result in a hold by your bank upon deposit. In return, you will be asked to use personal funds to expedite the work until the "check clears".

Change of Communication Method -

While you cannot tell from the body of this email, this was sent from a fake WSU email address. Why not just reply to the original message?

Note that this email was also sent with the entire body of the email as an image and not text. This is another red flag.



C&IT Help Desk 313-577-4357 Student Center Building Suite 005 helpdesk@wayne.edu