

AWARENESS OF COLLEGE STUDENTS TOWARDS COVID-19

Dr. C. Meenakshi

Assistant Professor in Education, St.Justin's College of Education, Madurai

Abstract

The study is to find out college students' awareness towards covid-19 on the selected population variables. The investigator has adopted the Survey method of research to find out college students' perception towards covid-19. The sample consisted of 100 college students belong to Government, Government Aided and Private Colleges in Madurai District. The level of awareness of College students towards covid 19 is high and there is significant difference between awareness of College students towards covid-19 on the following population variables like Gender, type of Institution and Location of College.

Keywords- covid-19, awareness

Introduction

The COVID-19 pandemic is also called as corona virus pandemic. The causative agent is severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus2 (SARS-CoV-2). The outbreak was first identified in Wuhan, Kubei Province, China in December 2019. The WHO declared the health emergency on 30th January 2020. This virus particularly spread through the droplets exit from the positive persons. India is the second highest population Nation with poverty, pollution and employment problems. Also Indian States are having more migrant workers with less economic support and unhygienic living conditions. To avoid the spreading of covid-19 pandemic the Indian Government declared lock down from 25th March 2020 onwards. So, all the educational institutions around our nation came to stand still. The outbreak of corona virus disease 2019 (COVID-19) may be stressful for people. Fear and anxiety about a disease can be overwhelming and cause strong emotions in adults and children. Especially people who are helping with the response to COVID-19, like doctors and other health care providers, or first responders are in highly stressful condition. Older people and people with chronic diseases who are at higher risk for COVID-19 also People who have mental health conditions including problems with substance use are in risky level of stress.

Significance of the Study

The outbreak of corona virus disease 2019 (COVID-19) may be stressful for people. Fear and anxiety about a disease can be overwhelming and cause strong emotions in adults and children. Due to the lockdown all educational institutions were closed and students went to their homes, suddenly away from their education, research, projects and exams. This made students community into a stressful condition. Pandemic blocked their smooth travel in their education. The final year students suffered a lot due to their extending of course, undated higher education programmes and lack of placement. The students are the citizens of future India and their understanding and tackling this critical time is very important. The purpose of this study was to investigate college students' awareness towards covid-19.

Statement of the Problem

The study is to find out college students awareness towards covid-19.

Method used for the Study

The investigator has adopted the Survey method of research to find out college students' awareness towards covid-19.

Population

The population selected for this study is college students belong to Madurai.

Sample

The sample consisted of 100 college students belong to Government, Government Aided and Private colleges in Madurai.

Tool Used for the Study

The self-made Rating Scale prepared and used for collecting the data from the sample chosen. The tool is a five pointer scale and consists of 15 items.

Statistical Techniques used

Statistical techniques are very essential for any research. It will help the investigator to analyze and interpret the data. In the present investigation, the following statistical measures used were Mean, Standard Deviation and 't' test .

Variables of the Study

Independent Variables: Awareness of College students towards covid-19

Demographic Variables: Gender, type of Institution and Location of College

Objectives of the study

1. To know the level of awareness of College students towards covid-19.
2. To find out the significant difference between College students awareness towards covid-19 on the following population variables like Gender, type of Institution and Location of College.

Hypotheses of the study

1. The level of awareness of College students towards covid-19 is not high.
2. There is no significant difference between College students awareness towards covid-19 on the following population variables like Gender, type of Institution and Location of College.

Analysis and Interpretation

H₀ 1 The level of awareness of College students towards covid-19 is not high

Table 1 Awareness level of College students towards covid-19

Variable	No. of College Students	Theoretical Mean	Calculated Mean
College students	100	45	60

Result

Having analyzed the data the calculated mean score of awareness of College students towards covid-19 is higher than the theoretical mean. So the null hypothesis, “The level of awareness of College students towards covid-19 is not high” is rejected. The awareness of College students towards covid-19 is high may be due to the knowledge they received through awareness programmes conducted by institutions, police department and browsing through internet and special apps in android phones.

H₀ 2: There is no significant difference between College students awareness towards covid-19 on the following population variables like Gender, type of Institution and Location of College.

Table 2 Difference between College Students Level of Awareness towards Covid-19 with Regard to Background Variables

Background variables	Sub variables	N	Mean	S.D	Calculated 't' Value	Remark
Gender	Male	50	58	2.319	6.34	S
	Female	50	62	3.990		
Type of Institution	Gov	60	68	6.145	18.21	S
	Private	40	52	2.212		
Location	Urban	60	62	2.226	12.46	S
	Rural	40	58.2	2.156		

(At 5% level of Significance, the table value of 't' is 1.96)

It is inferred from the above table that there is significant difference between awareness of College students towards covid-19 on the following population variables like Gender, type of Institution and Location of College. This result may be due to the knowledge they received through various resources like media and government awareness programmes.

Findings of the Study

The level of awareness of College students towards covid-19 is high. There is significant difference between awareness of College students towards covid-19 on the following population variables like Gender, type of Institution and Location of College.

Educational Implication

India is having high young citizens who are going to be the sculptor of world in all areas in the following decades. The human resources in India are priceless and valuable. The

results of this study showed that the awareness level is high among the college students towards the covid-19. The educational system, institutions, Government programmes, print media, social media and police department have taken more responsibilities to achieve this awareness level among college students. Their better understanding towards covid-19 pandemic will lead India in peaceful and healthier way.

Suggestions for Further Studies

1. Similar studies can be extended to the school students of other districts in Tamilnadu.
2. Similar studies can be extended to the college students of other districts in Tamilnadu.

Delimitations of the study

- The data were collected from the Madurai only.
- The data were collected only from college students.

References

1. *John W Best and James V.Khan (1992), Research in Education, Prentice Hall of India Pvt.Ltd. New Delhi.*
2. *www.en.m.wikipedia.org/*
3. *www.who.int/*
4. *http://www.quantitativeskills.com/sisa/statistics/t-test/*
5. *www.worldmeters.info/*