

A Study to Assess the Prevalance of CAB among Small Scale Workers

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Introduction

COVID-19 caused by the novel coronavirus (SARS-CoV-2) is an acute respiratory illness which is declared as a pandemic by WHO in March 2020. WHO and Government of India (GOI) have suggested few measures to contain the disease. MOHFW suggested adopting CAB to prevent the spread of infection. GOI has advised 15 measures. They are: greet without physical contact, maintain physical distance, wear face cover, avoid touching eyes, nose and mouth, maintain respiratory hygiene, wash hands, avoid tobacco, regularly cleaning the surfaces, avoid travelling, non-discrimination, discourage crowd, avoid sharing unverified news and facts, seek professional advice in need, limit stress and anxiety.

Need for the Study

The Covid-19 pandemic continues to impact countries around the world. Many are experiencing further waves of infection, and the number of new corona virus cases worldwide has risen again since March 2021. As of October 11, 2021, almost 239 million cases had been recorded worldwide. All the preventive regulations to prevent COVID laid by the government has to be followed voluntarily. Various studies in other countries had shown poor adherence to precautionary measures. Individual differences have to be understood to tackle with the

poor adherence to CAB among various countries. Most of the general public are not in strict regulations and safety protocols of occupational health. Very limited studies were conducted in India to check the adherence of general public to CAB. A study was done by Paula Lopez et al. (10th May 2020) on prevalence of covid 19 symptoms and health behaviours among general public in refugee communities in Bangladesh. A phone-based survey was administered to 909 samples. The result showed only 34.4% of the refugees were having good CAB's. In reference to the above study the researcher felt the need to assess the prevalence of CABs among the small scale workers as these are the "super spreaders of the society".

Significance in Nursing

For frontline workers (FLW) (Anganwadi workers, ASHAs and ANMs) apart from increased responsibilities and performing different task they also struggled with challenges in their communities. According to a study conducted by accountability initiative staff (April 2021) in Himachal Pradesh and Rajasthan depicted almost 70% of the community members lack CABs which manifested through verbal abuse, refusal to allow FLW into their homes. Being aware of the prevalence and importance of CABs among the health care workers can help us to launch new campaigns like NAMASTE campaign

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by AIMS and to prevent the further spread of Covid.

Review of Literature

Ashok Kumar et.al., (Oct 2021) conducted a community based cross sectional study was done in central Rajasthan from Jan. 2021 to assess adherence to COVID19 appropriate behaviour among small scale worker in Rajasthan by applying health belief model. A structured interviewer administered tool was used to collect data from 384 participants. Above 58% were males adherence to all CAB measures was 15% and was not associated with age gender, education, residence and occupation. The most common practiced CAB measure was face mask (57.8%) followed by hand washing (43.7%).

Ismail Hosen et.al., (2021) conducted cross sectional study on knowledge and preventive behaviours regarding COVID19 in Bangladesh. A total of 10067 samples were randomly selected from the general public to assess preventive behaviours. Participants being male, being divorced, consuming alcohol, smoking, living in villages and having no formal education reported lower performing preventive CAB'S Results indicated that the overall mean knowledge was 14.3 whereas 16.9 was for preventive behaviours.

Statement of the Problem

A study to assess the prevalence of selected Covid-19 appropriate behaviours (CAB) among Small scale workers in a selected community, Hyderabad.

Objectives

- To assess the prevalence of Covid-19 appropriate behaviors among small scale workers in a selected community, Hyderabad.
- To find out association between selected demographic variables and Covid adaptive behavior scores among small scale workers.

Hypothesis

H₁: There will be a significant association between the covid appropriate behaviors with selected demographic variables.

Research Methodology

A community based cross sectional study was done from 16th to 18th October 2021 in Hyderabad. The sample size was 108. Small scale workers from three

employment categories that is vegetable vendors, shopkeepers and auto-drivers were included in the study. Other inclusion criteria were being aged 18years to above 60 years, engaged in present occupation for at least 20 days in a month for the last three months. Current or recovered persons from COVID-19 infection were excluded from the study.

After obtaining verbal consent, 108 eligible participants were surveyed for the study. Sampling was done using convenient sampling technique. A maximum of 50-60 participants were surveyed in a day. A structured, interviewer-administered questionnaire was used to collect the demographic data and a 4-point Likert scale was administered to assess the CAB behaviours. To assess CAB, the responses were recorded on a Likert scale from 1=Poor behaviors, 2= moderate Behaviours, 3=Good behaviours, 4=excellent behaviours. The internal reliability of the tool was calculated using Karl Pearson's and split half formula. The value obtained was 0.76 which showed that the tool was reliable. Verbal informed consent was taken from all the participants. Study protocol was approved by institutional review board.

Data was analysed using descriptive and inferential statistics. The frequency and percentage distribution of all the demographic variables followed by individual and overall mean and standard deviation were computed. All the seven CABs were ranked according to their modified means. The association between demographic variables and CAB scores was computed using chi-square.

Results

Complete data collected from 108 participants who were vegetable vendors, shop keepers and auto drivers by occupation. About 42% of participants were in the age group of 33-60 years and 81% of them were males. 31 participants finished their SSC, majority of them (64%) were married and resides in nuclear family (69%). All the participants had previous knowledge of CAB'S and the source of the knowledge was television.

The prevalence of covid appropriate behaviour in small scale workers is 74.5%. There is no association between the demographic variables and CAB's. According to the modified mean the most adopted CAB is hand hygiene (3.124) and the least adopted behaviour was no spitting in the public places (2.25). The overall mean of CAB's adopted is 65.9 and the SD is 10.5.

Table 1: frequency and percentage distribution of General public according to their demographic variables.

Demographic Variable	Frequency	Percentage
Age		
a) 18 - 22 yrs	11	10
b) 23 - 27 yrs	19	17.5
c) 28 - 32 yrs	33	30.5
d) 33-60yrs	45	42
Gender		
Males	87	81
Females	21	19
Religion		
Hindu	64	59
Muslim	29	26
Christian	13	12
others	3	3
Educational Status		
a) Illiterate	20	18.5
b) Primary	20	18.5
c) SSC	31	29
d) Intermediate	23	21
e) UG	10	9
f) PG & above	4	4
Occupation		
a) Vendors	36	33.3
b) Auto Drivers	36	33.3
c) Shop keepers	36	33.3
d) Others	0	0
Marital Status		
a) Married	69	64
b) Unmarried	32	30
c) Divorced	7	6
d) Widow	0	0
Type of Family		
a) Nuclear	75	69
b) Joint	29	27
c) Extended	1	1
d) Single-parent	3	3
Family Income / month		
a) <10,000	35	32.4
b) 10,000 - 20,000	49	45.4
c) 25,000 - 30,000	12	11.1
d) >30,000	12	11.1
Previous knowledge of CAB		
A) Yes	108	100
B) No		
Source of Knowledge		
a) Television	56	52
b) Radio	0	0
c) Newspaper	0	0
d) Social media	44	41
e) Relatives	8	7

Table 2: Frequency and percentage distribution of General public according to level of covid appropriate behaviors (CAB).

Level of CAB	f	%
Poor Behaviours	0	0
Average Behaviours	0	0
Good Behaviours	48	44
Excellent	60	56
Total	108	100

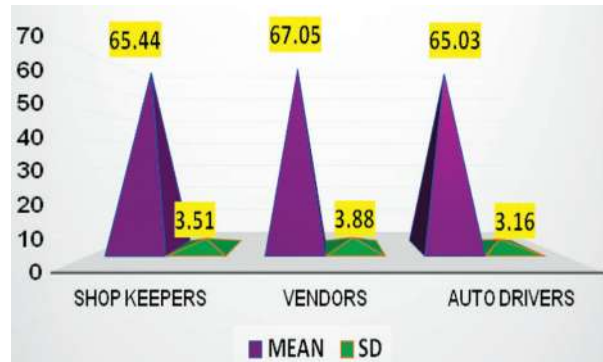


Fig. 1: Individual mean and standard deviation of General public regarding the covid appropriate behaviors.

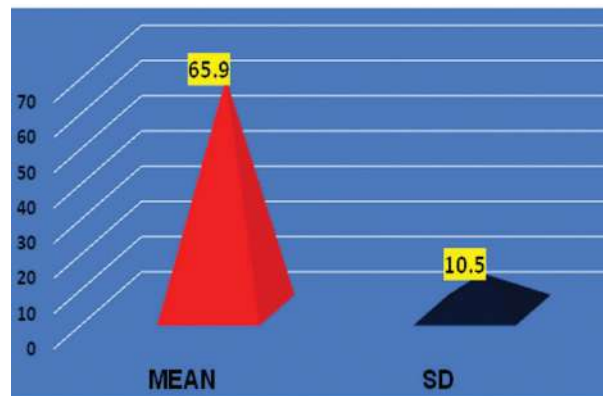


Fig 2: Overall mean and standard deviation of General public regarding the covid appropriate behaviors.

Table 3: Modified mean and Rank order of COVID appropriate behaviors among General Public.

Covid Appropriate Behaviors	Mean	Modified Mean	Rank Order
Hand Hygiene	15.6	3.124	1
Physical Distance	8.75	2.91	6
Face Masks	9.26	3.08	4
Cough Etiquettes	12.25	3.06	5
No Spitting at public places	4.51	2.25	7
Avoid crowded places	6.19	3.095	3
Disinfecting Surfaces	9.37	3.123	2

Table 4: Table to show the association between CAB's and demographic variables.

Demographic Variables	X ²	Df	Table value	Level of significance
Age	0.27	9	16.919	NS
Sex	1.47	3	7.815	NS
Religion	2.46	9	16.919	NS
Education	3.47	15	24.996	NS
Occupation	0.523	9	16.919	NS
Family income	0.76	9	16.919	NS
Previous knowledge	0	3	7.815	NS

Discussion

The current study examined the adoption of seven CAB's, some of these measures were enforced by law with penalty provisions for non-compliance. The Prevalence of these measures 74.5%. A similar study was conducted by Ashok kumar et.al in India. But it showed very low prevalence rates of 15%. The adherence to handwashing in that study was 40% but in the present study handwashing was the most adopted CAB.

Limitations

Our study had some limitations. First, it was limited to only to few domains of the general public workers of the unorganized sector. It is a cross sectional study, association doesn't imply. The time duration given was very limited. Presence of COVID was a hurdle to collect the data.

Nursing Education

- Can encourage Nursing students to conduct awareness programs regarding CABs among general public.
- Can encourage them to demonstrate various appropriate measures like handwashing and face masking etc in the general public.
- Nursing students can prepare various A.V AIDS to distribute in the local community.

Nursing Practice

- Staff nurses need to enhance their knowledge and skills on CAB's.
- Posters on CAB's can be displayed in the communities.
- Information booklets can be distributed to the general public.

Nursing Research

- Can conduct the similar study on larger samples both in the health care setting and general public.
- The study will be valuable reference for further researches.
- Nurse researchers can develop appropriate health education tools for educating general public.

Nursing Administration

- Nurse administrators should plan and organize in service education programmes regarding CAB's.
- Nurse administrators should guide and motivate the nursing staff to participate in certain surveillance programmes to improve the Nursing quality.

Conclusion

The prevalence of covid appropriate behaviour in small scale workers was good 74.5%. There is no association between the demographic variables and CAB's. according to the modified mean the most adopted CAB is hand hygiene (3.124) and the least adopted behaviour was no spitting in the public places (2.25). The overall mean of CAB's adopted is 65.9 and the SD is 10.5.

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