



Covid-19 Pandemic Risk Awareness among Secondary School Students

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ABSTRACT

The Coronavirus outbreak proved to be one of the most transformative events in the modern period. This study objectives are to investigate whether difference exist between knowledge of covid-19 risk and; (i) not use of nose mask, (ii) not observe social distance and, (iii) whether difference exist between Muslim and Christianity on awareness of Covid-19 risk in the study area. The population of the study comprised all secondary school students in the study area. The study adopted a descriptive research design of survey type and multi-stage sampling technique was used to select 266 respondents participated in the study. The findings of the study revealed that, the students have knowledge that no use of nose mask is a risk for contacting Covid-19 disease, students do not have knowledge that failure to observe social distance is a risk for contacting Covid-19 infection and there is no difference between Muslim and Christian students of their awareness on Covid-19 pandemic risk among secondary school students in the study area. The researcher recommends among others that the Patigi local government educational authority should organize enlightenment programme for secondary school students that will educate them on the activities that can put them at the risk of contacting Covid-19 infection which is harmful to their health.

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INTRODUCTION

Infectious diseases are considered to be the second leading cause of death worldwide. Among infectious diseases causing death worldwide, acute lower respiratory tract infections, HIV/AIDS, and diarrheal diseases predominated (Banan et al., 2022; Mandi et al., 2021). In late December 2019, multiple influenza and severe pneumonia cases spread quickly in Wuhan, China, and a new species of the coronavirus family was responsible for the new zoonotic disease (Banan et al., 2022; Li et al., 2019). Initially, the World Health Organization (WHO) named the causative virus as 2019 novel coronavirus (2019-nCoV), and then the name was updated later to SARS-CoV-2 and the disease was named coronavirus disease 2019 (Covid-19) (Banan et al., 2022; Alzoubi et al., 2020).

The modern name for the coronavirus is severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2). The coronavirus disease (Covid-19) has been recognized as the root cause of this epidemic of respiratory problems in Wuhan, Hubei Province, China and beginning in December 2019. The current Covid-19 epidemic has disseminated very rapidly by January 31, 2020, and propagated to 19 countries with 11,791 diagnosed cases, including 213 deaths due to the virus, and by February 15, 2020, the virus had outstretched in almost 26 countries leading to 51,857 diagnosed cases and 1,669 deaths, with nearly all deaths occurring in China. This disease spread worldwide in just a few months and became a global pandemic (Rehana et al., 2021; Chen et al., 2020). In reaction to these severe concomitances, the World Health Organization (WHO) declared it a pandemic on January 30, 2020 and ordered combined efforts of all countries to prevent the rapid spread of Covid-19. WHO confirmed that several cases

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