



# “A online survey to assess the prevalence of COVID appropriate behavior among the general public of Karnataka. With a view to develop information booklet”.

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**Abstract :** This study has been undertaken to assess the prevalence of COVID appropriate behavior among the general public of Karnataka. The objectives of the study were to assess the prevalence of COVID appropriate behavior among the general public of Karnataka, to find out the association between prevalence of COVID appropriate behavior with selected demographic variables, to develop information guide sheet on COVID appropriate behavior in order to motivate the public. Descriptive survey research design was used for the study. The researcher named 57 samples through snow ball sampling technique and the tool used was 5-point Likert scale to assess the prevalence of COVID appropriate behavior. Content validity and reliability of the tool was established ( $r=1$ ). The survey was conducted and final data was collected, analyzed and interpreted by using descriptive and inferential statistics. The survey affect revealed that the COVID appropriate behavior among the majority of samples was found to be good with mean score of 70.8, median 74, standard deviation 6.5 and mean percentage of 94.4%.

**Key Words - Assess, COVID appropriate behavior, General public, 5 Point Likert scale, Snow ball sampling technique. Descriptive survey research design.**

## INTRODUCTION

“AN OUNCE OF PREVENTION IS WORTH A POUND OF CURE”

The novel corona-virus disease 2019 (COVID-19) has left the world reeling, the effects on the public health system across the world has been devastating.

The world is being challenged by the COVID-19 outbreak that resulted in a universal concern and economic hardship. It is a leading public health emergency across the globe in general and developing countries in particular. Strengthening good preventive behavior is the best way to tackle such pandemics.

CORONAVIRUSES are a large family of viruses that causes illness ranging from the common cold to more severe disease.

A novel coronavirus (nCoV) is a new strain that has not been previously identified in humans. Coronavirus are zoonotic, meaning they are transmitted between animals and people.

The COVID-19 pandemic is changing rapidly and requires different strategies to maintain clinical preventive services, including immunization. Personal protective practice such as rigorous hand hygiene, cough etiquette, use of face mask and maintaining social distancing can contribute to reducing the spread of COVID-19.

Adherence to novel corona virus disease 2019 (COVID-19) appropriate behavior plays a crucial element in the management of the infections of COVID-19.

Because of the mild or even undetectable nature of symptoms of COVID-19 in some infected patients, this new respiratory disease has been able to spread rapidly on a global scale.

Providing health education, screening services and support for the general public and for individuals in high risk categories are some of measures to prevent spread. Health education should cover strategies for infection prevention (e.g., washing hands regularly, avoiding touching the eyes, nose, and mouth etc)<sup>1,2,3,4</sup>

## NEED OF THE STUDY.

The rapid spread of COVID-19 poses a serious threat to human health and is impacting severely on public health, global communications, and economic systems worldwide. Nurses are key members of healthcare teams charged to control and prevent the spread of infectious diseases.

Immunization/Vaccination plays a major role in reducing the Mortality & Morbidity due to COVID. But still there is a need to follow the COVID appropriate behavior to halt the spread of infection. With this view the researcher of the present study is assessing the Prevalence of COVID appropriate behavior & its importance among the general public of Karnataka and motivating the public to continue the COVID appropriate behaviour by providing information booklet.<sup>5,6</sup>

## RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

The methodology of research consists of approach of the study, sample of the study, data and sources of data, study's variables and analytical framework. The following details are discussed below:

### 3.1 Population and Sample

In the present study the population refers to the general public of Karnataka above the age of 18 years and the total sample size consisted of 57 samples who were selected according to the snowball sampling technique.

Criteria for selection of samples

Inclusion criteria :

- People above the age of 18 years.
- People who are able to read and understand English.

Exclusion criteria :

- Who are not willing to participate in study.
- People of health care profession.

### 3.2 Data and Sources of Data

For In the present study data was collected by using the five point likert scale through online google forms. Research proposal was approved by ethical committee of Fortis hospital Bangalore. Informed consent was taken from each selected sample. The study was conducted for the period of four days from 7 November 2021 to 9 November 2021. The samples were selected on the basis of inclusion and exclusion criteria.

### 3.3 Conceptual framework

Variables of the study contains dependent, independent and demographic variable. The study used the dependent variable as COVID appropriate behavior among the general public of Karnataka, the independent variable as online survey and the demographic variable as age, gender, education, occupation, area of residence and source of information.

The conceptual framework offers a comprehensive outlook for the fields of nursing administration, research, and education. The conceptual framework utilized for the study was General Open System model (1968) by Karl Ludwig von Bertalanffy. The main concept of the General Open System model is input, throughput and output. Input refers to matter, energy and information that enters into the system through boundaries. Throughput refers to processing, where the system performs the energy and information. Output refers to matter, energy and information that are processed. Feedback refers to the environment responds to the system; output used by the system in the adjustment, correction and accommodation to the interaction with the environment.

### 3.4 Analysis and Interpretation

The data obtained from the participants were coded numerically, tabulated, and entered into a spreadsheet in order to achieve the stated objectives of the study. Both descriptive and inferential statistical analysis were used to analyze the data. The interpretation of analyzed data given as follows:

#### 3.4.1 Distribution of samples

Descriptive statistics has been utilized to determine the maximum, minimum, standard deviation, mean and normal distribution of the data of all the variables of the study. Majority of 37(65%) were in between age group of 18-30 years, 41(72%) were female, 43(75%) were graduated, 32 (56%) were students, 33(58%) were urban residents, 25(44%) of them had information through social media.

### 3.4.2 Descriptive and Inferential statistics

**Table 3.4.2 Frequency and percentage distribution of participants according to their socio-demographic variables (N = 57)**

SI No	Demographic Variables	Frequency (f)	Percentage (%)
1	<b>Age in Years</b>		
	18 - 30	37	65
	31 - 40	14	25
	41 - 50	3	5
	51 - 60	2	4
	>60	1	2
2	<b>Gender</b>		
	Male	16	28
	Female	41	72
3	<b>Educational Status</b>		
	No formal education	0	0
	Primary school	1	2
	Middle school	0	0
	High school	4	7
	PUC/Intermediate	9	16
	Graduation and above	43	75
4	<b>Occupational Status</b>		
	Government Employee	1	2
	Private Employee	15	26
	Business	4	7
	House wife	5	9
	Student	32	56
5	<b>Region/Area of residence</b>		
	Rural	24	42
	Urban	33	58
6	<b>Source of Information</b>		
	Television	9	16
	News paper	3	5
	Health professional	13	23
	Social media	25	44
	Others	7	12

Table 3.4.2 shows that majority of 37(65%) were in between age group of 18-30 years, 41(72%) were female, 43(75%) were graduated, 32 (56%) were students, 33(58%) were urban residents, 25(44%) of them had information through social media.

**Table 3.4.3 Percentage distribution of respondents according to prevalence of COVID appropriate behavior.**

SI No	Prevalence of COVID appropriate behavior	Frequency (f)	Percentage (%)
1	Poor	0	0
2	Moderate	8	14
3	Good	49	86

Table 3.4.3 shows that majority of 49 (86%) overall COVID appropriate behavior was found to be good among the general public and 8 (14%) was found to be moderate.

**Table 3.4.4 Description of findings related to association between prevalence of COVID appropriate behavior with selected demographic variables.**

SI No	Demographic Variables	Chi Square Value	df	Table Value	Inference
1	Age	0.023	1	3.841	Non-Significant
2	Gender	0.043	1	3.841	Non-Significant
3	Education	7.22	2	5.991	Significant
4	Occupation	0.013	1	3.841	Non-Significant
5	Area of Residence	4.13	1	3.841	Significant
6	Source of Information	3.68	2	5.991	Non-Significant

Table 3.4.4 shows that there is significant association between prevalence of COVID appropriate behavior with Education and area of residence and there is no association between prevalence of COVID appropriate behavior with age, gender, occupation and source of information.

#### IV. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The findings of the study reveals that the overall COVID appropriate behavior was found to be good among the general public and further recommends conducting the study in large scale and keeping the public motivated to follow the same till the world is free from COVID pandemic.

There was significant association found between COVID appropriate behavior with selected demographic variables like Educational status and place of Residence.

There was no significant association between age, Gender, Occupation, and source of information.

The overall mean, Median & Standard deviation scores for COVID appropriate behavior was found to be as follows,

Mean	=	70.8
Median	=	74
SD	=	6.5
Mean %	=	94.4%

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