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SUPPLEMENT

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ABSTRACT SUPPLEMENT

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CONTENTS

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Background:
Sufficient knowledge and preventive practices are crucial to control the spread of SARS-CoV-2. To date, some data regarding these issues have been reported among different professions, whereas such information is inaccessible in teachers.

Methods:
An institution-based cross-sectional study was conducted between May-June 2021 in 3 randomly selected Polish provinces, in 26 schools. An anonymous, self-administered questionnaire which included 10 questions related to COVID-19 knowledge and 13 questions about preventive practices was used. Each correct answer to the question about COVID-19 knowledge was given 1 point and question about preventive practices was given 1 to 3 point (max. 11 and 39 points respectively). Bi- and multivariable logistic regression models were fitted to identify the predictors of COVID-19 knowledge; simple/multiple linear regression analyses were done for factors associated with practices.

Results:
464 teachers were included (response rate was 55%), 92% females, mean age 45.6±10.2 years. The average COVID-19 knowledge score was 6.6±3.76 points; in 77% of teachers the knowledge level was >50%. The mean of preventive practices score was 15.8±1.78 points; 204 (55.1%, 95% CI 50.0% to 60.2%) respondents scored above the mean score of preventive practices. Wearing a mask (β: 0.09 95%CI 0.00-0.03), washing hands (β: 0.09 95%CI 0.00-0.02), avoiding crowds (β: 0.12 95%CI 0.01-0.07), and avoiding visiting relatives (β: 0.10 95%CI 0.00-0.07) were significantly associated (p < 0.05) with knowledge about COVID-19. Knowledge was the strongest predictor of avoiding crowds (β coefficient = 0.12).

Conclusions:
Significant number of school teachers had inadequate COVID-19 knowledge and were poorly engaged in COVID-19 preventive practices. As knowledge level strongly influences adequate preventive behavior, additional educational intervention is urgently needed for teachers to help them better manage the pandemic at the school setting.

Key messages:
- This study assessed COVID-19 knowledge and preventive practices, as well as related determinants among primary school teachers.
- This study assessed the attitudes of primary school teachers towards the Covid-19 pandemic.

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Does political stringency change students' adherence to governmental recommendations?

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Introduction:
Knowing predictors for adherence to governmental recommendations is fundamental to guiding health communication in pandemic situations. This study investigated whether political stringency was associated with students' adherence to the COVID-19 governmental measures in the Nordic countries (Denmark, Finland, Norway, Iceland, and Sweden) and the United Kingdom (UK).

Methods:
We used data from a cross-sectional online survey, from university students in all Nordic countries and the UK (N = 10.345), in May 2020. Data on socio-demography, study information, living arrangements, health behaviors, stress, knowledge, and concern about COVID-19 infection supplemented with measures on political stringency from the Oxford Covid-19 Government Response Tracker were utilised. Multiple linear regression analysis methods were applied.

Results:
Around 66% reported that they followed governmental measures. Our model explained only 10% of the variation of adherence. The main predictors for adherence were older age, female sex, and being worried about the COVID-19 infection. More days since lockdown and political stringency were also associated with adherence to governmental recommendations in all countries. Sweden had the lowest willingness to adhere to governmental recommendations even though the strength of the association between political stringency and adherence was similar to other countries.

Conclusions:
Political stringency and congruent communication are important in ensuring adherence to governmental recommendations during the first wave of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Key messages:
- Political stringency is important to ensure adherence to governmental recommendations.
- Congruent communication is important to ensure adherence to governmental recommendations.

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Vaccine Literacy, Covid-19 and influenza: a cross-sectional survey in Prato in the 2nd pandemic wave

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Covid-19 is a pandemic and an infodemic, with contrasting information regarding risk and preventive measures, including vaccination. This study aims to assess Vaccine Literacy (VL) of a sample of workers in the province of Prato (Tuscany, Italy) in the second wave of the Covid-19 pandemic (November-December 2020) and to analyze the relationship between VL and attitudes about Covid-19 and flu vaccination. A cross-sectional design was adopted. Sociodemographic characteristics, health information, vaccination behaviour for past and current flu season and intention to get vaccinated against Covid-19 were collected. A multivariate logistic regression was performed to identify predictors of getting a Covid-19/flu vaccination. The Italian Health Literacy tool on Vaccination (HLVa-IT) tool was used to measure VL. A total of 117

Results:

Women had higher FM contamination than men (= 4960 vs 3130 CFU/ml). Also, we found more colonies (= 18890 vs 3420 CFU/ml) in the FMs of women without skincare (p = 0.06), while among men, more colonies were reported for those with a thicker beard than for those with a shorter one (= 3300 vs 2960 CFU/ml).

Conclusions:

Extensive FM use increases bacterial contamination exponentially. This could lead to changes in the facial microbiome, inducing skin conditions (such as allergic dermatitis and acne). Facial skin conditions are important public health issues for people wearing FMs daily. In addition, responsible handling of this equipment is essential to avoid the spread of SARS-CoV-2 through contact with these items, which can persist for many days.

Key messages:
- Gender and physical characteristics may influence the level of contamination present on FFP2 face masks.
- There is a need to increase community awareness on the proper handling of facemasks, prevent health problems for users, and limit the spread of infection to those around them.

Abstract citation ID: ckac131.348
Digital Health Literacy during COVID-19: gender differences from a Florentine University experience
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Gender appears to be a strong predictor of online health information-seeking behaviour (OHISB). Gender differences in OHISB have been studied in different countries with different results, but no studies investigated gender-specific behaviour among University students during the COVID-19 pandemic, which has brought with it a consequential infodemic. We sought to investigate any gender differences in OHISB in the period between the first and the second wave of the COVID-19 pandemic. A questionnaire promoted by the COVID-HL network was administered to 2996 students of all the courses at the University of Florence. It included existing validated scales adapted to the COVID-19 pandemic and newly developed scales. Gender differences were tested using the $\chi 2$ test or the Mann-Whitney U test, where appropriate. Male students reported a higher score in DHL than females (p < 0.001). However, female students reported using more often different sources for online information seeking (p < 0.05, except for YouTube), searching more corona-related topics (p < 0.05, except for economic and social consequences) and considering "very important" each item in the "Importance of internet information search" section (p < 0.05). Furthermore, female students are more likely to be "often dissatisfied" or "partly satisfied" with information about COVID-19 (p < 0.001) and to search more often for information for themselves and other people. Our study confirmed that gender could affect the way students search for health information on the Internet. Since students, in particular females, have been affected by stress and anxiety during the pandemic, these findings could help institutions to promote gender-specific education programmes to improve students' DHL and their mental health outcomes, as well as to provide health information that fit specific gender needs.

Key messages:
- Gender influences how university students search on the Internet for health information.
- This should guide institutions to better address educational programmes to improve their Digital Health Literacy.

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Awareness of Female Genital Schistosomiasis: A cross-sectional survey in rural Madagascar
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Background:

Infections with S. haematobium are endemic in tropical regions and emerging in some European countries. Prolonged chronic infection with S. haematobium can cause Female Genital Schistosomiasis (FGS), which can lead to serious gynecological conditions, including infertility. However, awareness of FGS is limited, as are adequate guidelines and public health strategies to manage the disease. The aim of this study is to determine the levels and quality of FGS awareness among women and healthcare workers (HCW) in the Boeny region of Madagascar, where the disease is endemic.

Methods:

Data collection involved a cross-sectional survey of adult women (n = 694) and HCWs (n = 93) on topics, such as respondents' sociodemographic background characteristics, FGS awareness, and risk perceptions. Results were analyzed using descriptive statistics including proportions and 95% confidence intervals.

Results:

Of the 694 women included in the study, 11.2% (CI [9.0-13.8%]) had heard of FGS. Among these, 34.6% (CI [24.1-46.2%]) were unaware of the gynecological symptoms signature for FGS, and 41% (CI [30.0-52.7%]) were unaware of the urological symptoms of the disease. Out of the 93 HCW surveyed, 53.2% (CI [42.6-63.6%]) had heard of FGS. Among these, 42.0% (CI [28.1-56.8%]) were unaware of the gynecological symptoms, and 52.0% (CI [37.4-66.3%]) were unaware of the urological symptoms.

Conclusions:

Preliminary results show overall low levels of FGS awareness among the study population. While more women reported to have never heard of FGS than HCW, the proportion of HCWs who did not know the gynecological and urological symptoms of FGS was higher. Given the occurrence of FGS in Europe and the chronic character of the disease it would be crucial to conduct similar investigations in Europe. Such findings can contribute to the design of targeted local and global FGS awareness campaigns to improve the health of women affected by this disease worldwide.

Key messages:
- Awareness of FGS among the study population in Madagascar, an endemic country, is low.
- Lack of awareness can delay the identification of the disease and increase individual and community burden.