

A40 An online survey on the knowledge, attitude and practice of COVID-19 among Malaysian youth

Pang LS and Tan CX

Department of Allied Health Sciences, Faculty of Science, Universiti Tunku Abdul Rahman

In Malaysia, the government have enforced some preventive measures to control the spread of viruses during the COVID-19 pandemic. The Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) has been set using knowledge, attitudes, and practices (KAP) studies regarding COVID-19. Citizens aged 15 to 30 years old were considered youths in Malaysia. Thereby, Malaysian youth were selected to be the target population in the study due to the lack of research conducted previously. The research objective is to determine the KAP level of COVID-19 among Malaysian youth. It included understanding the association between sociodemographic and the KAP level among the Malaysian youth during the pandemic. A cross-sectional study was conducted by using convenience sampling. A total of 314 respondents were recruited for the study. The questionnaires were used to collect the KAP level regarding COVID-19. The majority of respondents involved in the study were female (66.6%), Chinese (86%), aged 19-22 years (79.6%), unmarried citizens (98.7%), students (93.9%) and living in the northern zone of Malaysia (42.4%). The results show that Malaysian youth have adequate knowledge (80.6%) and practice (66.6%) but have a positive attitude (60.2%) towards COVID-19. Next, there is no association between sociodemographic with knowledge scores except for occupation, with a p -value of 0.048. Furthermore, there is no association between sociodemographic with attitude scores. Besides that, there is an association between sociodemographic with practice scores: ethnicity (p -value=0.004) and education (p -value=0.015). In chi-square analyses, a higher level of knowledge score regarding COVID-19 was not associated with attitude and practice scores. The importance of KAP studies in this critical period is to develop more effective health education programs to aid Malaysia's health authorities.