EFFECT OF RESIDENCE ON KNOWLEDGE TOWARD COVID-19 PANDEMIC IN THE GENERAL POPULATION: A META-ANALYSIS

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ABSTRACT

Background: Lockdown measures were perceived as necessary to curb the spread of the virus as rapid human-to-human transmission occurred and much about the virus remained unknown. Due to the obscurity of this novel virus, there has been a lot of confusion and misunderstanding about the virus itself, how it can spread and the necessary precautions that should be taken to prevent infection. This becomes increasingly challenging with the vast amount of misinformation and disinformation shared on social media that is clouding people's understanding of COVID-19. This study aimed to examine the effect of residence on knowledge toward covid-19 pandemic in the general population.

Subjects and Method: A systematic review was conducted using the PubMed, ScienceDirect, and Google Scholar databases and the following search criteria: "knowledge of COVID-19" AND "residence" AND "general population", "knowledge of COVID-19" AND "residence" OR "rural and urban" AND "general population" OR "global population". Selected full text published from 2019 to 2021 were analyzed using Revman 5.3.

Results: A meta-analysis involved 10 studies. This study showed that urban people had the possibility to have good knowledge 1.85 times than rural people (aOR= 1.85; 95% CI= 1.15 to 2.97; p= 0.001).

Conclusion: Urban people have higher knowledge 1.85 times than rural people.

Keywords: knowledge of COVID-19, residence, general population

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