

# A Study to Assess Knowledge and Attitude Regarding Covid-19 Vaccination Among General Population in Selected Grama Panchayath, Thrissur

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**ABSTRACT:** In December 2019, an outbreak of the novel corona virus disease 2019 (COVID-19), caused by severe acute respiratory syndrome corona virus 2 (SARS-CoV-2), was initially detected in Wuhan city, Hubei province, China. The development of a safe and effective COVID-19 vaccine is a critical step to halt the pandemic. The present study aimed to assess the knowledge and attitude regarding COVID-19 vaccination among general population in selected Grama Panchayath, Thrissur. The research approach adopted for the study was quantitative approach and design was non experimental descriptive design. The sample selected for the study were above 18 years including male and female in general population of Trikkur, Grama Panchayath, Thrissur. The main objective of the study were to assess the knowledge and attitude regarding COVID-19 and to find the association between knowledge and attitude to their selected demographic variables. The sample were selected by convenient sampling technique and data was collected. The data was collected by selected demographic variables, structured knowledge questionnaires and 5 point Attitude scale to assess the attitude. The result showed that out of 60 samples, 19 people had adequate knowledge (32%) 36 samples had good knowledge (60%) and 5 samples had excellent knowledge (8%) and no samples had poor knowledge regarding COVID-19 vaccination. Regarding attitude 52 (87%) of sample had adequate attitude and only 8 (13%) had inadequate attitude towards COVID-19 vaccination. The study further revealed that there is no significant association between knowledge and attitude regarding COVID-19 vaccination among selected demographic variables in general population.

**Keywords:** COVID-19; Knowledge; Attitude; Vaccination; General Population.

## INTRODUCTION

The Corona Virus disease -2019 (COVID-19) is a pandemic the world is currently facing head on. It is a viral infection caused by Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome Corona Virus 2 (SARS-COV-2)<sup>1</sup>. India, being a developing country ministry of health and family welfare paid special attention to this pandemic and several measures have been initiated to control the incidence and prevalence of COVID-19<sup>3</sup>. first and second doses. Equitable access to safe and effective vaccine is critical to ending the COVID19 pandemic, so it is highly encouraging to see so many vaccines proving and going into development. WHO is working tirelessly with patients to develop, manufacture and deeply safe and effective vaccine. Being vaccinated does not mean that we can throw caution to the mind and put ourselves and others at risk, particularly because research is still ongoing into how much vaccines protect not only against disease but also against infection and transmission<sup>10</sup>.

## PROBLEM STATEMENT

“A study to assess the knowledge and attitude regarding COVID-19 vaccination among general population in selected Grama Panchayath, Thrissur.”

## OBJECTIVES

1. To assess the knowledge regarding COVID-19 vaccination.
2. To assess the attitude regarding COVID-19 vaccination.
3. To find the association between knowledge regarding COVID-19 vaccination among general population with their selected demographic variables.
4. To find the association between attitude regarding COVID-19 vaccination among general population with their selected demographic variables.

## OPERATIONAL DEFINITION

**ASSESS :-**A way of finding out the level of knowledge and attitude towards COVID-19 vaccination among general population in a selected grama panchayath.

**KNOWLEDGE :-**It is the facts and information regarding COVID-19 vaccination which is measured using a structured knowledge questionnaire.

**ATTITUDE:-** It is the feeling and opinion about the COVID-19 vaccination measured using a 5 point Attitude scale.

**COVID-19 VACCINE:-**A COVID-19 vaccine refers to a vaccination provided to attain acquired immunity against corona virus 2 (SARS-COV-2)

**GENERAL POPULATION:-**The general population refers to a group of individuals between the age group of 18 to 60 and who shares a common characteristics such as location.

## Exclusion criteria :

- People those who live in urban area.
- People not belongs to the age group of 18 to 60.

- People those who understand Malayalam
- People are not willing to participate in this study.

#### Method of data collection

Data collection was done within 2 days in selected grama panchayath, Thrissur. 60 samples was collected who fulfilled the inclusion criteria of the study before data collection written consent was taken from participants. Data was analyzed according to the objective of the study by descriptive and inferential statistics.

#### Development of tool

**Construction-** The tool was constructed after reviewing literature and in consultation with concept. Vaccine can prevent from getting the COVID-19 virus or prevent from becoming seriously ill, if get the COVID-19 virus<sup>4</sup>. In order to prevent the spread of COVID-19, it is necessary to increase the knowledge and attitude towards COVID-19 Vaccination.

#### NEED AND SIGNIFICANCE OF THE STUDY

India began administration of COVID-19 vaccines on 16 January 2021, as of 21 August 2021, According to WHO, India has administered over 581 million doses of current

#### ASSUMPTIONS

- The general population may have less knowledge towards COVID-19 vaccination.
- The general population may have negative attitude toward COVID-19 vaccination.
- Knowledge of general population among COVID-19 vaccination may be influenced by selected demographic variables.
- Study may have positive correlation between knowledge and attitude towards COVID-19 vaccination among general population.

#### HYPOTHESES

H<sub>1</sub>-There is significant association between knowledge and demographic variables of general population regarding COVID-19 vaccination.

H<sub>2</sub>- There is significant association between attitude and demographic variables of general population regarding COVID-19 vaccination.

#### METHODOLOGY

**Research approach-** In this study simple cross sectional survey approach was used.

**Research design-** In this study simple descriptive design was adopted.

**Population-** In this study population comprises the general population.

**Targeted population-** It comprised of 60 samples of general population.

**Accessible population-** It comprised of 60 samples of general population who are living in trikkur gramapanchayath in Thrissur.

**Sample technique-** Non probability purposive sampling.

**Sample size-** It comprises of 60 samples of general population.

Sample criteria-

#### Inclusion criteria :

- People belongs to the age group of 18 to 60 .
- People lives in a rural area.
- People can understand Malayalam.
- People are willing to participate in this study.

#### Description and scoring

**Section A- :** Demographic profile of general population consists of demographic variables such as age, gender, religion, education, occupation, martial status, monthly income, exposure to COVID-19, bad habits, co morbid illness.

**Section B-:** It consist of 30 knowledge questionnaire on COVID-19 vaccination. Each questions had three alternatives and one correct answer .Each correct response was given one mark. The maximum score was 30.

**Section C-:** This part consist of five point attitude scale on COVID-19 vaccination, which consists of 8 statements in which 4 statements were positive and remaining 4 were negative. The scoring varies from strongly agree to strongly disagree

#### RESULT FINDINGS

##### SECTION A

Table 1.Frequency and percentage wise description of demographic variable of general population n=60

Demographic variables	Frequency	Percentage
<b>Age</b>		
18-28yrs	14	23
29-38yrs	19	32
39-48yrs	20	33
>48yrs	07	12
<b>Gender</b>		
Male	28	47
Female	32	53
<b>Religion</b>		
Hindu	25	42
Christian	25	42
Muslim	10	17

<b>Education</b>		
Primary	4	7
Secondary	11	18
Higher secondary	21	35
Graduate	21	35
<b>Occupation</b>		
Daily wage	7	12
Government employee	19	31
Private employee	15	25
Self employee	12	20
Unemployee	7	12
<b>Marital status</b>		
Married	38	63
Single	16	27
Widow/widower	6	10
<b>Monthly income</b>		
<5000	11	18
5000-15000	23	38
15000-25000	18	30
>25000	8	14
<b>Exposure to COVID-19</b>		
Yes	23	38
No	37	62
<b>Bad habits</b>		
Smoking	14	23
Alcohol	13	22
None	33	55
<b>Co morbid illness</b>		
Hypertension	16	27
Diabetes mellitus	10	17
Dyslipidemia	16	27
Others	3	5
None	15	24

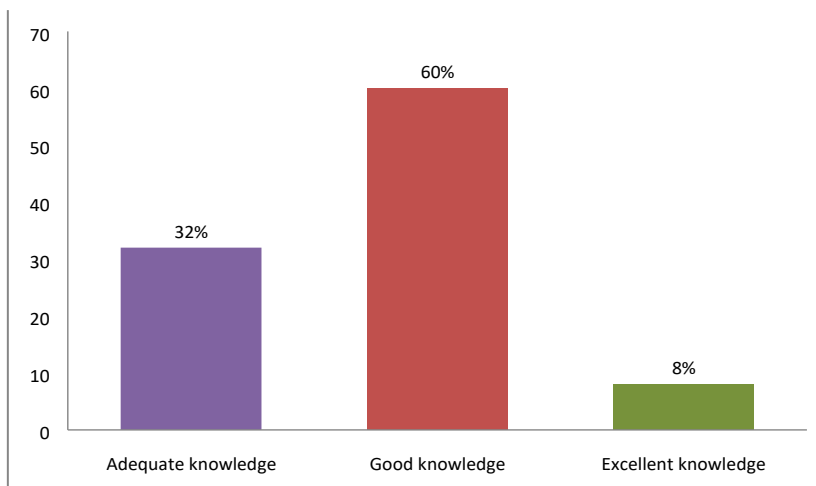
The above table (1) reveals the percentage distribution of general population according to the demographic variables. with regard to the age group, 14 (23%) were belongs to the age group of 18-28years, 19 (32%) were belongs to the age group of 29-38 years, 20 (33%) were belongs to the age group of 39-48years and 7 (12%) were the age group above 48years. With regard to gender, 28 (47%) were males and 32 (53%) were females. with regard to occupation 7 (12%) were daily wages, 19 (31%) were Government employees, 15 (25%) were private employees, 12 (20%) were self employees and 7 (12%) were unemployees. Considering marital status, most of the samples 38 (63%) were married, 16 (27%) were singles and only 6 (10%) were widow/widower. with regard to monthly income 11 (18%) of them have income <5000/-, 23 (38%) of them belongs to category 5000-15000/-, 18 (30%) have 15000-25000/- and 8 (40%) of them have >25000/- as their monthly income. Regarding religion, 25 (42%) were Hindus, 25 (42%) were Christians and only 10 (16%) were Muslims. Considering the educational status only 3 (5%) were post graduates, 21 (35%) were graduates, 21 (35%) were higher secondary, 11 (18%) were secondary and 4 (7%) were primary. With regard to exposure to COVID-19, major proportion 37 (62%) had no exposure to COVID-19 while 23 (38%) had exposure to COVID-19. with regard to bad habits, 14 (23%) have been smoking, 13 (22%) have been taking alcohol and 33 (55%) had no bad habits. With regard to co morbid illness, 16 (27%) have hypertension, 10 (17%) have diabetes mellitus, 16 (27%) have dyslipidemia, 15 (24%) have no co morbid illness and only 3 (5%) have other co morbid illness.

### Section B

**Table 2: Frequency and percentage distribution of level of knowledge of general population regarding COVID-19 vaccination. n=60**

Grading	Frequency	Percentage
Excellent knowledge	5	8
Good knowledge	36	60
Adequate knowledge	19	32
Poor knowledge	0	0

**Fig 1: percentage distribution of level of knowledge of general population regarding COVID-19 vaccination.**



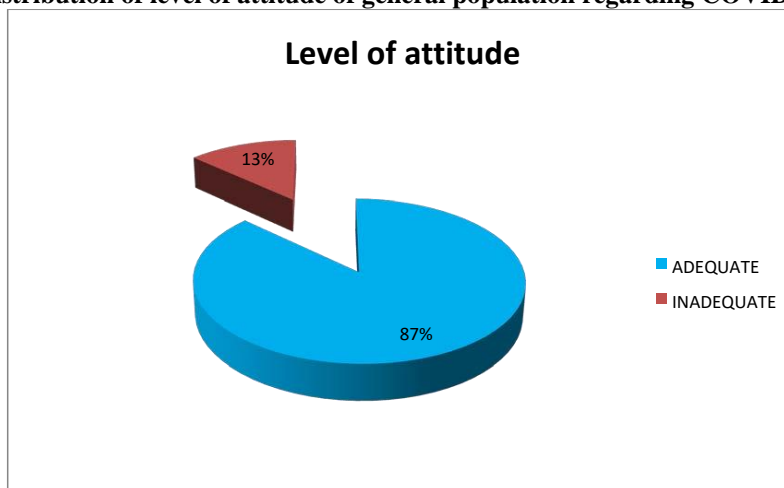
As it observed from above table 2, Out of 60 samples, majority of samples 36 (60%) have good knowledge regarding COVID-19 vaccination and 5 (8%) have excellent knowledge. Among the samples 19 (32%) have adequate knowledge whereas no samples have poor knowledge regarding COVID-19 vaccination.

**Section C**

**Table 3: Frequency and percentage distribution of level of attitude of general population regarding COVID-19 vaccination.**

Grading	Frequency	Percentage
Adequate	52	87
inadequate	8	13

**Fig 2: Percentage distribution of level of attitude of general population regarding COVID-19 vaccination**



The above figure pinpoints the frequency and percentage distribution of 60 samples, majority of the samples 52 (87%) have adequate attitude regarding COVID19 vaccination while only small proportion 8 (13%) of the samples had inadequate attitude regarding COVID-19 vaccination.

The association between the level of knowledge of COVID-19 vaccination among the general population with their selected demographic variables. In the present study, the calculated value is less than the table value for all demographic variables. Hence, the null hypothesis is accepted with regards to variables such as age, gender, religion, education, occupation, marital status, monthly income, exposure to COVID-19, bad habits and co morbid illness.

The association between the level of attitude of general population regarding COVID-19 vaccination with their selected demographic variables. In the present study, the calculated value is less than table value for all demographic variables. Hence, the null hypothesis is accepted with regard to variables such as age, gender, religion, education, occupation, marital status, monthly income, exposure to COVID-19, bad habits and co morbid illness.

**DISCUSSION**

The study aimed to assess the knowledge and attitude regarding COVID-19 vaccination among general population. The findings were discussed in relation to the objectives of the study.

**RECOMMENDATION**

On the basis of study finding recommendation have been made for future studies.

- A similar study can be undertaken in a large population there by findings can be generalized.
- A study can carry out to evaluate the efficiency of COVID-19 vaccination in general population.
- A cross sectional study can be conducted to identify that attitude and practice regarding COVID-19 vaccination among medical students and health care workers.

**CONCLUSION**

Several vaccines have been approved for use against corona virus disease and distributed globally on different regions. In general population knowledge attitude, perception towards COVID-19 vaccination are very effective from the study. It is proved there is significant the knowledge towards the benefits of vaccine.

Presently study concluded that's a favorable attitudes regarding COVID-19 vaccination. The study suggests that there is need to create awareness among the general population. The knowledge about vaccine COVID-19 vaccination is adequate, the majority of the respondents where willing to get vaccinated.

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- The purpose of the study objective to assess the level of knowledge regarding COVID 19 vaccination among general population The analysis of the study revealed that among 60 samples 32% were having adequate knowledge ,60% have good knowledge ,8% having excellent knowledge and no one had poor knowledge regarding COVID 19 Vaccination. As per the second objective to assess the level of attitude regarding COVID 19 vaccination among general population. The analysis of the present study showed that the most of the samples 57(87%) had adequate attitude regarding COVID-19 vaccination and remaining samples 8 (13%)had inadequate attitude regarding COVID-19 Vaccination. As per the third objective to assess the level of knowledge regarding COVID-19 vaccination among general population with their selected demographic variables. There is no significant association between knowledge regarding COVID-19 vaccination among general population with their selected demographic variables here the calculated value is less than the table value for all demographic variables.
- To associate the level of attitude regarding COVID-19 vaccination among general population with their selected demographic variables. There is no significant association between level of attitude regarding COVID-19 vaccination among general population with their selected demographic variables.
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