

Effect of Psychological and Sociodemographic factors on Risk Perception of Coronavirus Infection (COVID-19)

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Introduction: Coronavirus disease (COVID -19) is a respiratory disease, which is caused by novel coronavirus. It is a source of mortality world- widely.

Method: Present study investigated the risk perception of coronavirus and effect of psychological and sociodemographic variables on perceived risk. Total 534 adult participants were included in the study. Three validated questionnaire (Risk Perception of Infectious Disease Questionnaire, General Self-Efficacy Scale and Personality Inventory questionnaire) were used to conduct the study.

Results: The results of the study showed that age, self-efficacy ($F= 2.17, p= 0.03$), education, and personality ($F= 1.97, p=0.03$) significantly influenced the risk perception. “Imagination” was the predictor of perceived “seriousness” ($p=0.02$), while “self-efficacy” was the predictor of “susceptibility” ($p=0.001$). The gender, status of employment, children aged <12 years and size of the household did not affect the risk perception for coronavirus.

Conclusion: To promote protective behavior among people , health care system need to know how people perceive risks of coronavirus infection and whether population will able to correctly use the information on COVID-19.