

# Review of: "Medical students' disease status of COVID-19: A multicenter study"

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Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.

Dear Authors,

I must commend the efforts displayed in writing this manuscript which is intended to offer insight into the medical students' disease status of Covid-19. Upon reading the manuscript, find below my comments:

Abstract:

- There is no relationship between the Background and the introduction in the main body text; the background in the abstract was focusing on the challenge with healthcare workers whereas in the introduction, it was on general population. The authors should reconsider the opening statement to include non-healthcare workers as also being affected with the pandemic.
- Conclusion: full meaning of KPK acronym had not been written prior to when it was mentioned

Introduction

- The flow of the information in the background is not sequential, some information was appearing later in the introduction instead of appearing earlier. E.g., information about the statistics of confirmed cases should come before the paragraph talking about young adult being the carriers of the disease.
- It will be interesting to know the number of confirmed cases and death in Punjab to easily relate it with Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province.
- The link between the background and intended study was not extensively established in the introduction.

Material & Methods

- The study was carried out over a period of six months; please provide rationale for the six months timeframe and also include when the study was conducted (although mentioned in the discussion section [nine months], it should appear earlier).
- Please provide the meaning of MBBS and BDS.
- After attaining ethical approval from the institutional ethical board '(comma)' data (No.657/DME/KMC) was collected via census sampling.
- What were the inclusion and exclusion criteria? Please clearly define them. Also the study setting should be described in details.

- Kindly consider including the number of questions in the questionnaire, it will help the readers to have an idea of how long it might take to answer each questionnaire.

#### Results, Discussion & Conclusion

- Although the study had comparison with two studies conducted among medical students, it would add more value if comparison were made with more studies from different regions.
- There is no link between the conclusion and the discussion, please reconsider revisiting the conclusion so as to relate it with the discussion.

Overall, the manuscript has the potential to have significant contribution to body of knowledge.