

Review of: "Evaluation of the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on nurses"

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Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.

Thank you for the opportunity to review this article. The methodology and execution of this article appear sound. The main concern at this time in evaluating the article is the limited introduction section and absence of research questions. This is demonstrated in the discussion of findings, which explores several ideas that have not been previously established earlier in the paper. For the manuscript to flow in a logical fashion, the key concepts that will be considered and previous literature on the topic should be delineated in the background section. It appears key topics are questions of PPE and infection control measures in relationship to COVID-19 transmission. Additionally the specific questions regarding stress and emotional support should be further elucidated. Then, when the results are obtained, it will be clear whether the findings did or did not meet the hypothesis and did or did not correspond with previous research. One important caution to the authors is that, it appears that there may be some correlation being interpreted as causation in the findings. The recommendations being made seem to be worded in a very strong fashion based on the results of a cross-sectional study, which by its nature does not demonstrate causation. The suggestion to the authors would be to rephrase statements, for example, those regarding making shift assignments based on the findings of this study. Furthermore, it does not seem ethical (justice, beneficence) to make assignments based on questions of age, rather than to recommend providing adequate PPE to prevent all nurses from COVID-19 transmission. Areas in the discussion section later on seem to approach different areas more appropriately and refer to past research, the main suggestion as mentioned earlier is to establish these questions in the introduction / background section. Hope these suggestions are helpful and best wishes with this extremely important work.