

Review of: "Government Communication and Behavioral Change amidst COVID-19: Role of Awareness and Fear & Panic"

Tiantian Zhang¹

¹ Fudan University

Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.

This article examined the effect of government communication on citizens' behavioral change (BC) and the mediating and moderating role of COVID-19 awareness, and COVID-19 fear & panic (F&P) respectively. The research methods were appropriate, the data were clearly presented, and the results were interpreted appropriately. There are a few questions for reference.

1. Whether the subject of behavior change should be added to the title to avoid ambiguity
2. In the *Descriptive Analysis of Measurement Items* section, what is the relationship between respondents' high score of understanding COVID-19 and "Citizens being knowledgeable about COVID-19 was very essential in combating the disease.". How to get this conclusive evaluation from the survey results in the same paragraph?
3. In the *Discussion* section, the first paragraph discussed that government communication could indeed affect the change of public behavior, but didn't discuss how the government could effectively communicate or the mechanism of action, etc.. If this part of the content be discussed, it may be more appropriate.
4. In the *Structural Equation Modelling* section, it is suggested to add the results of proportion of mediating effect. In the *Discussion* section, it is suggested to supplement the theoretical basis analysis of COVID-19 awareness as a mediating variable.