

Peer Review Report

Review Report on Lessons from Early COVID-19: Associations with Undergraduate Students' Academic Performance, Social Life, and Mental Health in the United States

Original Article, Int J Public Health

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EVALUATION

Q 1 Please summarize the main findings of the study.

This is a study in undergraduate students that evaluated the level of stress, depression and anxiety during the COVID19 pandemic, highlighting its impact on school performance, and with respect to gender. Profiles and predictive factors are identified.

Q 2 Please highlight the limitations and strengths.

Strengths

The statement of the problem is appropriate and specifies the areas of opportunity to study.

The methods of data analysis are adequately and structuredly exposed

The results are presented in a sequential order, and the discussion appropriately compares with other studies, and allows elucidating new lines of research on the subject.

Limitations

Methodological limitations are adequately exposed. It is convenient to point out the specific biases as it is a self-administered survey.

Although the survey uses a validated instrument, it is inclined to the evaluation of mental symptoms of stress, depression and anxiety, as well as coping strategies, resilience scales were not used to make visible and propose the generation of intervention lines of promotion to health.

Q 3 Please provide your detailed review report to the authors. The editors prefer to receive your review structured in major and minor comments. Please consider in your review the methods (statistical methods valid and correctly applied (e.g. sample size, choice of test), is the study replicable based on the method description?), results, data interpretation and references. If there are any objective errors, or if the conclusions are not supported, you should detail your concerns.

Minor comments:

Although The procedure was approved by the university's institutional review board in April 2020, it is not known if this is a research ethics committee. The risks to the participants are not exposed, although they are minimal, they are a vulnerable population that could perhaps present emotional discomfort when answering the survey, and psychological support was offered through a telephone intervention line.

In the results, line 151, it is recommended to limit the presentation of results, while in discussion the comparison between before and during the pandemic could be commented, since it could give the impression that the evaluation before and during was part of the study, when the study was conducted exclusively during the pandemic.

There are several short paragraphs (En. line 159-161), with important information, but that seem to interrupt the narration, which contrast with other robust paragraphs.

PLEASE COMMENT

Q 4 Is the title appropriate, concise, attractive?

YES

Q 5 Are the keywords appropriate?

YES

Q 6 Is the English language of sufficient quality?

YES

Q 7 Is the quality of the figures and tables satisfactory?

Yes.

Q 8 Does the reference list cover the relevant literature adequately and in an unbiased manner?)

YES

QUALITY ASSESSMENT

Q 9 Originality



Q 10 Rigor



Q 11 Significance to the field



Q 12 Interest to a general audience



Q 13 Quality of the writing



Q 14 Overall scientific quality of the study



REVISION LEVEL

Q 15 Please make a recommendation based on your comments:

Accept.