

Adherence to Covid-19 Appropriate Behavior among Adolescent Age Group

Dr.S. Avinash¹, Dr.J. Antony^{2*}, Dr. Sujatha Sridharan³, Dr. Monika⁴

¹Postgraduate, Department of Pediatrics, Chettinad Hospital and Research Institute.

²MD (Paediatrics), Professor, Department of Paediatrics, Chettinad Hospital and Research Institute, Chettinad Academy of Research and Education (CARE), Kelambakkam, Tamil Nadu, India. E-mail: antonjenifer@gmail.com

³Professor, Department of Pediatrics, Chettinad Hospital and Research Institute.

⁴Assistant Professor, Department of Pediatrics, Chettinad Hospital and Research Institute.

Abstract

Background: Adolescent youngsters' adherence to COVID-19 Appropriate Behaviour (CAB) is essential to forestall and oversee Covid illness 19. The review planned to decide the pervasiveness and related variables of adherence to CAB in juvenile youngsters by applying Health Benefit Model (HBM) and summing up friendly convictions. **Techniques:** This is a hospital-based, cross-sectional review done between January 202 to June 2022. A pre-tied, organized, questioner-regulated device was utilized to gather information from 384 members. Information was gathered from Outpatients after acquiring informed assent. **Results:** The mean (SD) period of members was 16.3 (2.84) years. Around 56% of members were male. Adherence to all CAB means was 23%, it was not viewed as associated with age and orientation. The most widely recognized rehearsed CAB measure was face cover (64.2%) trailed by handwashing (56.71%). **Conclusion:** The adherence to CAB was low among young adolescents. It is critical to consider the wellbeing training, parenteral help, social maxims, seriousness, benefit, boundary, prompt to activity, pessimism and compensation for application to work on the adherence towards CAB.

Keywords: Covid Appropriate Behavior, Health Benefit Model, COVID-19, Adherence, Social Maxims.

DOI: 10.47750/pnr.2022.13.04.068

INTRODUCTION

Coronavirus brought about by the novel Covid (SARS-CoV-2) is an intense respiratory sickness. WHO pronounced COVID-19 a pandemic in March 2020. WHO and the Government of India (GOI) proposed different measures to oversee and contain the disease.^{1,2} Since the greater part of the cases are asymptomatic, MOHFW recommended taking on CAB to forestall the spread of infection.³⁻⁷ GOI has prompted 15 measures. They are greet without actual contact, keep up a physical distance, wear face cover, try not to contact eyes, nose and mouth, keep up with respiratory cleanliness, wash hands, stay away from tobacco, consistently clean the surfaces, abstain from voyaging, non-segregation, put swarm down, try not to share unconfirmed news and realities, look for professional counsel at need, limit pressure and anxiety.⁶

There are different establishments and guidelines set up to carry out these actions, however, to a great extent, these are measures to be embraced willfully. Different examinations in different nations had shown unfortunate adherence to prudent measures.⁸⁻¹³ Individual contrasts have been accounted for with respect to conduct adherence to preventive measures

worldwide.⁹⁻¹³ Understanding such contrasts at the relational level is fundamental to further developing adherence to CAB. In India, there are differing reports of adherence to these actions in different segments of society.¹⁴ Adolescents are youngsters matured 10-19 years. Their adherence to CAB measures isn't concentrated at this point in India. The job of two relational level variables like explicit COVID-19 convictions and summed up friendly convictions, in person's social adherence to COVID-19 fitting way of behaving was concentrated on in China and was viewed as related with adherence to CAB.¹⁰

Social researchers have proposed various hypotheses to comprehend the variables affecting well-being conduct, one of which is the HBM. It is an overall reasonable system and hypothetical rule for well-being conduct in open health.¹⁵ It has five developments, perceived susceptibility, perceived severity, perceived benefit, perceived barrier and cue to action. Perceived susceptibility is the belief about the risk of acquiring a disease, perceived severity is the belief about the seriousness of the outcome of getting the disease, and perceived benefit is the belief in the effectiveness of the advised actions to reduce the effect of the disease threat, the

perceived barrier is belief about the monetary and social hurdles of the advised actions and cue-to-action is the amount of the cue that triggers the advised actions.^{10,15} Some examinations play tracked down the part of HBM in understanding the adherence to CAB in Iran, Ethiopia and China.⁸⁻¹²

While HBM is related to explicit convictions connected with the illness (COVID-19), the summed-up convictions may likewise impact one's adherence to preventive measures. These summed-up convictions are called social adages. Scientists have recognized five social sayings specifically friendly skepticism, the award for application, social intricacy, destiny control and legalism, which are widespread summed up as convictions around oneself and the social, physical and social environments.^{10,16,17} These five summed-up convictions can be utilized either in full or to some extent to comprehend wellbeing and security behaviours.¹⁶ In the ongoing review, we especially centered around the jobs of social negativity and compensation for application. Social pessimism reflects negative perspectives on human instinct, predispositions against a few gatherings and doubt in friendly foundations, compensation for application reflects positive convictions about the venture of exertion and assets.

We were unable to find any clinic-based concentration on which plays tried a part in every one of the five HBM factors along with social adages in adherence to CAB. Consequently, the review was meant to decide the pervasiveness of adherence to CAB and related factors by applying HBM and summing up convictions (social sayings) among young adult kids.

METHODS

This hospital-based, cross-sectional study was done from January 2022 to June 2022 in the city of Tamilnadu. Assuming the prevalence of adherence to CAB as 50%, with an absolute error 5%, power 80%, and 95% confidence interval sample size came out to be 384.

The inclusion criteria were adolescents aged 10 to 19 years, Current or recovered persons from COVID-19 infection were excluded from the study.

After obtaining written informed consent, 384 eligible participants were surveyed for the study. It was a hospital-based study and OP patients were included in the study.

A pre-trying, organized, questioner-controlled survey was utilized to gather the information. It comprises socio-segment data, data on CAB, questions with respect to builds of HBM, and questions in regards to summed up convictions (social maxims).

For CAB, adherence to every six measures was asked of participants for the last one week. These measures were hand washing, use of face cover, physical distancing, avoiding touching face, and cleaning or disinfection of frequently used surfaces. These responses were recorded on a Likert scale from 1=never to 5=always. Four and five were considered as adherence in the dichotomous category of adherence.

Information was analyzed utilizing SPSS 20.0. Clear-cut factors, for example, orientation, and age were introduced as extent. Ceaseless factors like age and scores are introduced as mean and standard deviation. Bi-variate relationships among CAB measures, HBM develops and social sayings were checked by the Pearson connection coefficient. Impacts of HBM and social builds were inspected for each CAB measure utilizing the different straight relapses. The examinations were performed at an importance level of 0.05. Data were analyzed using SPSS 20.0. Categorical variables such as gender, residence, and occupation were presented as proportions. Continuous variables such as age and scores are presented as mean and standard deviation. Bi-variate correlation among CAB measures, HBM constructs and social axioms were checked by the Pearson correlation coefficient. Effects of HBM and social constructs were examined for each CAB measure using multiple linear regression. The analyses were performed at a significance level of 0.05.

Written informed consent was taken from all the participants and parents. The study protocol was approved by institutional review board of the author's institution.

RESULTS

Informed consent was obtained from all the participants. Complete data were collected from 384 participants. About 56% of participants were male. The mean age (SD) of Participants was 16.89 (2.84) years, (Table 1).

Prevalence of adherence to all measures was found 23%. The prevalence was not found to be associated with age (Table 1). The most common measure adhered to by participants was the use of face cover (64.2%) followed by hand wash (50.7%). The remaining measures were followed by only half of the participants (Table 2).

The bivariate association among adherence to CAB, HBM factors and social axioms. For HBM factors, perceived susceptibility displayed a positive association with adherence to all five CAB measures ($r=0.27$ to 0.75 , $p<0.01$), and perceived severity also showed a positive association with five CAB measures ($r=0.16$ to 0.19 , $p<0.01$). Perceived benefit also shows a positive association with all CAB measures ($r=0.27$ to 0.89 , $p<0.01$), while perceived barrier showed a negative association with CAB measures ($r=-0.11$ to -0.16 , $p<0.01$). Cue to action was positively associated with proper handwashing, physical distancing, avoiding face touch and cleaning the surfaces ($r=0.19$, 0.58 , 0.48 , 0.34 respectively, $p<0.01$).

Table 1: Distribution of sociodemographic characteristics.

Characteristics		Total (n=384)	Adherence(n=86)	Non-adherence(n=298)	P value
	Male	207 (56)	54	153	
Gender	Female	169 (44)	32	137	.325

p<0.05

Table 2: Adherence to CAB measures

CAB measure	Total (n=384) (%)	P value
Adherence to all measures	24	0.34
Handwashing	53.75%	0.864

CAB measure	Total (n=384)N (%)	P value
Face mask	248 (64.20)	0.46
Social distancing	133 (34.64)	0.24
Avoiding touching face	100 (26.04)	0.56
Cleaning or disinfection of surface	82 (21.35)	0.20

CAB: COVID-19 appropriate behavior.

For two social axioms, social cynicism was negatively associated with avoiding touching the face and cleaning the surface ($r=0.17$ and -0.18 respectively, $p<0.01$), whereas reward for application was positively associated with physical distancing, avoiding touching face and cleaning the surface ($r=0.18, 0.16, 0.24$ respectively, $p<0.01$).

Multivariate associations between CAB measures and HBM/social axioms were explored by multivariate linear regression after controlling age. Perceived susceptibility was positively associated with all five CAB measures ($\beta=0.26-0.70$, $p<0.01$). Perceived severity was positively associated with handwashing, face cover and physical distancing ($\beta=0.04-0.19$, $p<0.05$). The perceived benefit was found positively associated with face cover and cleaning the surface ($\beta=0.10, 0.14$ respectively, $p<0.05$). The perceived barrier was negatively associated with physical distancing and avoiding touching the face ($\beta=-0.11, -0.07$ respectively, $p<0.05$). Cue to action was found associated with hand washing and cleaning the surface ($\beta=0.49, 0.42$ respectively, $p<0.05$). Amongst social axioms, social cynicism was negatively associated with hand wash and physical distancing ($\beta=-0.10, -0.09$ respectively, $p<0.05$), whereas reward for application was found associated with only hand wash. ($\beta=0.06$, $p<0.05$).

DISCUSSION

The ongoing review inspected adherence to five sorts of CAB gauges, a portion of these actions were implemented by regulation with punishment arrangements for resistance. The commonness of adherence to every one of the five measures

was viewed as around 15%. A comparative pervasiveness was likewise detailed in a concentrate in Ethiopia.¹¹ It was lower than the discoveries revealed in different examinations from India and elsewhere.^{9,10,12-14} These examinations were restricted to the PC proficient populace just, this might be the justification behind the higher predominance in these examinations. Among the five CAB measures, facial coverings or cover wearing in broad daylight was probably going to have stuck. This was reliable to other studies.^{9,10,14} It might be because of the simple accessibility of facial coverings or covers, even hand-crafted fronts of material were viewed as powerful by GOI.^{6,7}

Just around 50.7% of members rehearsed hand washing. Hand washing was accounted for higher in the general population.^{9,10,12} Adherence to physical removal, trying not to contact the face and it was seen as around 25% to clean the surface. Adherence to CAB measures was not viewed as related to age. A concentration in China likewise didn't find such associations.¹⁰

The relationship of adherence with five HBM builds was additionally examined. Seen powerlessness was viewed as related to adherence to every one of the five CAB measures. This concurred with one more study.⁹ Perceived seriousness was likewise viewed as related to adherence to hand washing, face cover, and physical separation. Our discoveries were reliable to other studies.^{9,10,18} Interventions that target apparent seriousness are data on risk variables and wellbeing outcomes.^{19,20}

Younger individuals might resist the development of seriousness due to an excessive amount of idealism, so extra data, for example, mortality in peers, devastating financial

weight, and obliteration of the family ought to be conveyed.^{21,22}

Both saw the benefit and saw hindrance were viewed as related to a portion of the CAB estimates in the multivariate examination. This was steady with other studies.^{9,10,23} Our discoveries recommend that a legitimate comprehension of seen benefit and saw the obstruction of any mediation is expected prior to carrying out to successfully work it. MacCaul *et al* recommended that modified messages can be successful in advancing the apparent advantage of health.²³ Since COVID-19 is infectious, CAB not exclusively is gainful to oneself yet additionally can add to the local area's wellbeing in general. Consequently, the view of advantages to others may likewise be advanced in wellbeing campaigns.¹⁰ Additionally, endeavours ought to be made in ongoing efforts to change the impression of boundaries, for example, burden, cost and companion tension while embracing CAB.

Prompt to activity was viewed as related to adherence to CAB in multivariate examination. A comparable affiliation was accounted for in China and Iran among the general population.^{9,10} It might be useful in the present computerized time where customized updates and guiding meetings can be conveyed successfully in a limited capacity to focus on short message administrations, calls and online entertainment.

The summed-up friendly convictions or social maxims were likewise observed to be related to adherence to CAB in our review. This concurred with one more review done during the COVID-19 pandemic.¹⁰ The instrument of relationship between friendly maxims and well-being conduct is muddled. A few scientists have recommended this affiliation is roundabout, while others found it direct.^{16,17,24} Reward for application, for example, appreciation was seen as decidedly connected with CAB in our review. Reward advances exertion effort and causes positive attitudinal changes.²⁵ Social criticism was adversely connected with CAB measures. It suggests that a negative view toward power or society has an unwanted result on adherence to the CAB proposed by the public authority. Mediations pointed toward lessening social criticism might have a delay to work, however, it could be helpful to get ready individuals for confronting possible future unexpected conditions or tolerating endorsed intercessions, for example, vaccines.¹⁰

LIMITATIONS

Our review had a few limits. To begin with, it was restricted to just youths. Second, it considered just restricted intrapersonal factors in view of the HBM and social maxims, factors, for example, the character was not thought of. Signs of openness, and conduct factors (past information and propensities) were not controlled for examination.

Funding: No funding sources Conflict of interest: None declared.

Ethical approval: The study was approved by the Institutional Ethics Committee.

REFERENCES

- Ministry of Health and Family Welfare. Fact sheet: COVID-19 India, 2020. Available at: <https://www.mohfw.gov.in/>. Accessed on 12 April 2021.
- WHO. Fact sheet: Country and Technical Guidance, 2020 [cited 2021 Apr 30]. Available at: <https://www.who.int/emergencies/diseases/novel-coronavirus-2019/technical-guidance-publications>. Accessed on 12 April 2021.
- ICMR COVID Study Group, COVID Epidemiology and Data Management Team, COVID Laboratory Team, VRDLN Team. Laboratory surveillance for SARS-CoV-2 in India: Performance of testing descriptive epidemiology of detected COVID-19, January 22-April 30, 2020. *Indian J Med Res.*, 2020; 151(5): 424-37.
- Chatterjee S, Sarkar A, Karmakar M, Chatterjee S, Paul R. SEIRD model to study the asymptomatic growth during COVID-19 pandemic in India. *Indian J Phys Proc Indian Assoc Cultiv Sci.*, 2020; 94:1-13.
- Kumar N, Hameed SKS, Babu GR, Venkataswamy MM, Dinesh P, Kumar BGP, *et al.* Descriptive epidemiology of SARS-CoV-2 infection in Karnataka state, South India: Transmission dynamics of symptomatic vs. asymptomatic infections. *Clinic Med.*, 2021; 32: 100717.
- Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Government of India. Fact sheet: An Illustrative Guide on COVID Appropriate Behaviours, 2020. Available at: <https://www.mohfw.gov.in/pdf/Illustrativeguidelineupdate.pdf>. Accessed on 12 April 2021.
- Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Government of India. Fact sheet: 30th SOP on preventive measures in markets to contain spread of COVID-19, 2020. Available at: <https://www.mohfw.gov.in/pdf/4SoPstobefollowedInShoppingMalls.pdf>. Accessed on 11 April 2021.
- Mehanna A, Elhadi YAM, Lucero-Prisno DE. Factors influencing intention to adhere to precautionary behavior in times of COVID-19 pandemic in Sudan: an application of the health belief model. *medRxiv.* 2020.
- Shahnazi H, Ahmadi-Livani M, Pahlavanzadeh B, Rajabi A, Hamrah MS, Charkazi A. Assessing preventive health behaviors from COVID-19: a cross sectional study with health belief model in Golestan Province, Northern of Iran. *Infect Dis Poverty.* 2020; 9(1):157.
- Tong KK, Chen JH, Yu EW, Wu AMS. Adherence to COVID-19 precautionary measures: applying the health belief model and generalised social beliefs to a probability community sample. *Appl Psychol Heal Well Being.* 2020; 12(4): 1205-23.
- Bante A, Mersha A, Tesfaye A, Tsegaye B, Shibiru S, Ayele G, *et al.* Adherence with COVID-19 preventive measures and associated factors among residents of Dirashe district, Southern Ethiopia. *Patient Prefer Adherence.* 2021; 15: 237-49.
- Yehualashet SS, Asefa KK, Mekonnen AG, Gemedo BN, Shiferaw WS, Aynalem YA, *et al.* Predictors of adherence to COVID-19 prevention measure among communities in North Shoa Zone, Ethiopia based on health belief model: A cross-sectional study. *PLoS One.* 2021; 16: 0246006.
- Apanga PA, Kumbeni MT. Adherence to COVID-19 preventive measures and associated factors among pregnant women in Ghana. *Trop Med Int Heal.* 2021.
- Banerjee R, Banerjee B. Public perspective and adherence to government directives in the face of COVID-19 situation in India. *MAMC J Med Sci.*, 2020; 6(2): 90-6.
- Rosenstock IM. Historical Origins of the Health Belief Model. *Health Educ Behav.*, 1974; 2(4): 328-35.
- Bond MH, Leung K, Au A, Tong K, Chemonges- Nielson Z. Combining social axioms with values in predicting social behaviours. *Eur J Pers.*, 2004; 18: 177-91.
- Kurman J. What I do and what I think they would do: social axioms and behaviour. *Eur J Pers.*, 2011; 25: 410-23.
- Harper CA, Satchell LP, Fido D, Litzman RD. Functional Fear Predicts Public Health Compliance in the COVID-19 Pandemic. *Int J Ment Health Addict.*, 2020; 18: 1-14.
- Jones SL, Jones PK, Katz J. Health belief model intervention to increase

- compliance with emergency department patients. *Med Care.* 1988; 26(12): 1172-84.
- Kelly RB, Zyzanski SJ, Alemagno SA. Prediction of motivation and behavior change following health promotion: role of health beliefs, social support, and self-efficacy. *Soc Sci Med.*, 1991; 32(3): 311-20.
- Weinstein ND. Reducing unrealistic optimism about illness susceptibility. *Heal Psychol.*, 1983; 2(1): 11-20.
- Weinstein ND, Klein WM. Resistance of personal risk perceptions to debiasing interventions. *Heal Psychol.*, 1995; 14(2): 132-40.
- McCaul KD, Wold KS. The effects of mailed reminders and tailored messages on mammography screening. *J Community Health.* 2002; 27(3): 181-90.
- Liem AD, Hidayat SS, Soemarmo S. Do general beliefs predict specific behavioral intentions in indonesia? The role of social axioms within the theory of planned behavior. New York: Springer; 2009: 217-38.
- Zhou F, Leung K, Bond MH. Social axioms and achievement across cultures: The influence of reward for application and fate control. *Learn Individ Differ.*, 2009; 19(3): 366-71.