

KNOWLEDGE OF STUDENTS' INFECTION CONTROL WHEN PARTICIPATING IN COVID-19 TEST SAMPLING IN THE COMMUNITY

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ABSTRACT

Background: Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) pandemic got extremely complicated in 2021, appeared many new strains of viruses with high infectivity. So, knowledge and manipulation were important for protecting students against infection in COVID-19 sampling. **Objectives:** The study surveyed knowledge of students' infection control when participating in COVID-19 test sampling in the community. **Materials and methods:** A cross-sectional descriptive study was conducted on 195 volunteer students of Can Tho University of Medicine and Pharmacy (CTUMP). A series of 11 questions were also used to interview the participants. **Results:** The proportion of female volunteers who participated in the research was 52.8%, higher than male volunteers (47.2%). Students in the 45th cohort participated in research with the highest quantity (43.6%) and the lowest in the 42nd cohort (0.5%). The research had the largest number of general medical students participating (69.2%). The results showed that the knowledge of regular hand washing, removing gloves, removing N95 masks, and the time of disinfection spray with median points equal to the maximum point. The median overall knowledge score for the principle of removing Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) was 50%, compared to the maximum point of 100%. Only 24.6% of students got maximum scores in the knowledge of minimum safe distance, whereas 98.5% achieved maximum scores in the knowledge of COVID-19 sample collection skills. **Conclusions:** Students who took part in COVID-19 community sampling had a good understanding of most research topics. However, the principle of removing PPE was not well-understood.

Keywords: COVID-19, infection control, knowledge, SARS-CoV-2, CTUMP.