Supplementary Table 1. Health literacy ratings

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Health literacy variable: How easy or difficult would you say it is to…** | **Very easy**  **N (%)** | **Easy**  **N (%)** | **Neutral**  **N (%)** | **Difficult**  **N (%)** | **Very difficult**  **N (%)** |
| Find the information you need related to COVID-19 | 184  (29.5) | 281  (45.1) | 69  (11.1) | 78  (12.5) | 11  (1.8) |
| Understand information about what to do if you think you have COVID-19 | 154  (24.7) | 287  (46.1) | 69  (11.1) | 102  (16.4) | 11  (1.8) |
| Judge if the information about COVID-19 in the media is reliable | 52  (8.3) | 181  (29.1) | 134  (21.5) | 194  (31.1) | 62  (10.0) |
| Understand restrictions and recommendations of authorities regarding COVID-19 | 171  (27.4) | 245  (39.3) | 81  (13) | 103  (16.5) | 23  (3.7) |
| Follow the recommendations on how to protect yourself from COVID-19 | 180  (28.9) | 282  (45.3) | 54  (8.7) | 90  (14.4) | 17  (2.7) |

Supplementary table 2. Trust in Information Sources

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Variable** | **Very little trust**  **N (%)** | **Little trust**  **N (%)** | **Neutral**  **N (%)** | **Mostly trust**  **N (%)** | **A great deal of trust**  **N (%)** |
| Television | 85  (13.6) | 138  (22.1) | 128 (20.5) | 250  (40.1) | 22  (3.5) |
| Newspaper | 87  (14) | 141  (22.6) | 119  (19.1) | 258  (41.4) | 18  (2.9) |
| Health workers | 15  (2.4) | 75  (12.0) | 75  (12.0) | 336  (53.9) | 122  (19.6) |
| Social media | 126  (20.2) | 196  (31.5) | 128  (20.5) | 166  (26.6) | 7  (1.1) |
| Radio | 76  (12.2) | 154  (24.7) | 163  (26.2) | 217  (34.8) | 13  (2.1) |
| Ministry of Health | 73  (11.7) | 100  (16.1) | 65  (10.4) | 264  (42.4) | 121  (19.4) |
| CARPHA | 60  (9.6) | 86  (13.8) | 67  (10.8) | 264  (42.4) | 146  (23.4) |
| Celebrities and social medial influencers | 202  (32.4) | 227  (36.4) | 121  (19.4) | 69  (11.1) | 4  (0.6) |
| WHO | 43  (6.9) | 74  (11.9) | 47  (7.5) | 242  (38.8) | 217  (34.8) |
| COVID-19 hotlines | 59  (9.5) | 92  (14.8) | 137  (22.0) | 251  (40.3) | 84  (13.5) |
| Social network | 115  (18.5) | 209  (33.5) | 154  (24.7) | 135  (21.7) | 10  (1.6) |
| Religious groups | 178  (28.6) | 195  (31.3) | 155  (24.9) | 86  (13.8) | 9  (1.4) |

Supplementary Table 3. Confidence in institutions

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Variable** | **Not at all confident**  **% (N)** | **Low confidence**  **% (N)** | **Neutral**  **% (N)** | **Moderately confident**  **% (N)** | **Very confident**  **% (N)** | **Not applicable**  **% (N)** |
| Family doctor | 42  (6.6) | 88  (14.1) | 146  (23.4) | 236  (37.9) | 86  (13.8) | 26  (4.2) |
| Employer | 90  (14.4) | 145  (23.3) | 126  (20.2) | 152  (24.4) | 63  (10.1) | 47  (7.5) |
| Hospitals | 34  (5.5) | 131  (21.0) | 91  (14.6) | 297  (47.7) | 65  (10.4) | 5  (0.8) |
| Ministry of health | 58  (9.3) | 121  (19.4) | 91  (14.6) | 266  (42.7) | 85  (13.6) | 2  (0.3) |
| CARPHA | 45  (7.2) | 107  (17.2) | 107  (17.2) | 261  (41.9) | 97  (15.6) | 6  (1.0) |
| Schools | 144  (23.1) | 254  (40.8) | 119  (19.1) | 93  (14.9) | 10  (1.6) | 3  (0.5) |
| Public transport | 165  (26.5) | 272  (43.7) | 110  (17.7) | 72  (11.6) | 3  (0.5) | 1  (0.2) |
| Police | 158  (25.4) | 238  (38.2) | 127  (20.4) | 19  (14.4) | 9  (1.4) | 1  (0.2) |
| Place of worship | 156  (25.0) | 184  (29.5) | 131  (21.0) | 116  (18.6) | 20  (3.2) | 16 (2.6) |

Supplementary Table 4. Belief in Misinformation

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Variable** | **Very untrue of what I believe**  **N (%)** | **Untrue of what I believe**  **N (%)** | **Neutral**  **N (%)** | **True of what I believe**  **N (%)** | **Very true of what I believe**  **N (%)** |
| Wearing a face mask causes carbon dioxide toxicity | 288  (46.2) | 141  (22.6) | 82  (13.2) | 92  (14.8) | 20  (3.2) |
| Sunlight or high temperatures will protect me from getting COVID-19 | 315  (50.6) | 173  (27.8) | 67  (10.8) | 60  (9.6) | 8  (1.3) |
| Garlic, ginger tea, bush medicine could prevent me from getting COVID-19 | 342  (54.9) | 155  (24.9) | 63  (10.1) | 54  (8.7) | 9  (1.4) |
| COVID-19 is spread by Mosquitoes | 527  (84.6) | 76  (12.2) | 16  (2.6) | 3  (0.5) | 1  (0.2) |

Supplementary Table 5. Belief in Conspiracies

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Variable** | **Definitely False**  **N (%)** | **Probably False**  **N (%)** | **Neither true nor false**  **N (%)** | **Probably True**  **N (%)** | **Definitely True**  **N (%)** |
| Many important things happen which public is not aware of | 10  (1.6) | 38  (6.1) | 39  (6.3) | 309  (49.6) | 227  (36.4) |
| Politicians usually do not tell us true motives for their decisions | 6  (1.0) | 23  (3.7) | 40  (6.4) | 298  (47.8) | 256  (41.1) |
| Government agencies usually monitor all citizens | 66  (10.6) | 159  (25.5) | 119  (19.1) | 227  (36.4) | 52  (8.3) |
| Events which seem to lack a connection are often the result of secret activities | 55  (8.8) | 129  (20.7) | 146  (23.4) | 226  (36.3) | 67  (10.8) |
| There are secret organisations that influence political decisions | 39  (6.3) | 88  (14.1) | 86  (13.8) | 252  (40.4) | 158  (25.4) |

Supplementary Table 6. Reason for and against getting tested for COVID-19 and sharing names of contacts

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Reasons for Getting Tested** | **Number**  **N (%)** | **Reasons for Not Getting Tested** | **Number**  **N (%)** |
| Getting tested would cost money | 33 (33) | I want to receive the appropriate care in case of a positive test | 376 (72.6%) |
| I do not know where to go to be tested | 11 (11) | This is my responsibility as a citizen | 380 (73.4%) |
| It is too time consuming to get tested | 25  (25) | I would face penalities if I did not | 74 (14.3%) |
| Loss of income due to quarantine while waiting for results | 24  (24) | I believe this helps stop the spread | 369 (71.2%) |
| Loss of income if positive test | 15  (15) | This way I can protect other people | 442 (85.3%) |
| People may blame me for my actions if I test positive | 17  (17) | My friends and family would expect me to get tested | 180 (34.7%) |
| I may face fines if violated COVID-19 restrictions | 8  (8) |  |  |
| I do not trust authorities with my personal data | 20  (20) |  |  |
| I do not believe COVID-19 exists | 5 (5) |  |  |
| There is nothing I can do even if I get a positive test | 29 (29) |  |  |
| I am not able to self isolate if I test positive | 10 (10) |  |  |
| I do not think tests are reliable | 16 (16) |  |  |
| I am worried people will treat me badly if I test positive | 12 (12) |  |  |
| I am worried I will be infected at the testing site | 24 (24) |  |  |
| I think testing will be painful | 38 (38) |  |  |

Supplementary Table 7 Reasons for and against sharing names for contract tracing

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Reasons for Not Sharing Names** | **Number (%)** | **Reasons for Sharing Names** | **Number (%)** |
| I could contact them myself | 14 (36.8) | I believe this helps stop the spread of COVID-19 | 499 (85.7) |
| Could result in loss of income for those people due to quarantine | 11 (28.9) | This is my responsibility as a citizen | 450 (77.3) |
| People would blame me for sharing names | 14(36.8) | This way I can protect other people | 527 (90.5) |
| I do not trust the authorities | 19 (50%) | My friends and family would expect me to do this | 239 (41.1) |
| My family and friends would expect me not to share names | 9 (23.7) | I would face penalities if I did not | 74 (12.7) |
| I would cause inconvenience for people whose names I shared | 19 (50%) |  |  |
| I do not want others to know I tested positive | 8 (21.1) |  |  |

Supplementary Table 8. Vaccine Opinions

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Variable** | **Strongly disagree**  **N (%)** | **Disagree**  **N (%)** | **Neutral**  **N (%)** | **Agree**  **N (%)** | **Strongly agree**  **N (%)** |
| If a vaccine is available and recommended for me, I would get it | 57  (9.1) | 94  (15.1) | 82  (13.2) | 233  (37.4) | 157  (25.2) |
| I believe a vaccine can help control spread | 21  (3.4) | 55  (8.8) | 59  (9.5) | 284  (45.6) | 204  (32.7) |
| If I knew I had been infected before I would not get the vaccine if available | 150  (24.1) | 206  (33.1) | 126  (20.2) | 104  (16.7) | 37  (5.9) |
| When everyone is vaccinated against COVID-19, i don’t have to get vaccinated too | 247  (39.6) | 219  (35.2) | 91  (14.6) | 49  (7.9) | 17  (2.7) |