# Peer Review Report

# Review Report on COVID-19 information-seeking, health literacy, and worry and anxiety during the early stage of the pandemic in Switzerland: a cross-sectional study

Original Article, Int J Public Health

## EVALUATION

**Q 1**  **Please summarize the main findings of the study.**

The basic aim of this study was to determine COVID-19 information-seeking behavior during the first stage of the pandemic in Switzerland, for the same they conducted a cross sampling epidemiological study. Qualtrics software used our personal and professional networks. Commonly used sources were official websites, participants with high health literacy also used online resources to get information; while ppl with lower using personal networks. study did not find any association between CISB and worry and anxiety among our participants.

**Q 2**  **Please highlight the limitations and strengths.**

Not much more study has been conducted in the burning topic so this will helpful to determine the COVID-19 information-seeking behavior.
Limitations: 1. this study was conducted in Swiss residents only so it difficult to generalized the finding of this study to others.
2. How to determine the total no. of study sample whether were evenly distributed in whole country?
3. Health literacy (HL) : HL was assessed using the 12-item HLS-Q12, For
the purpose of the current study, one additional item of the HLS-EU-Q added so after adding this the scale showed very good reliability with a Cronbach's alpha of 0.89.??
4. In line 202 authors used wald test why ? what are the advantage?

**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.**

1. Introduction is ok & concise.
2. How to determine the total no. of study sample whether was evenly distributed in whole country?
3. Health literacy (HL): HL was assessed using the 12-item HLS-Q12, For the purpose of the current study, one additional item of the HLS-EU-Q added so after adding this the scale showed very good reliability with a Cronbach's alpha of 0.89.??
4. In line 202 authors used wald test why? What is the advantage?
5. statistical methods seem to valid & appropriate statics test has been applied although I having some query regarding sample size Study sampling technique.
6. This must be Aim of study: To describe COVID-19 information-seeking behavior (CISB) during the first stage of the pandemic in Switzerland and identify its determinants
In line 89 to 93 it was mentioned Aims of study but actually it will the objectives of study.
7. Sampling technique, types, equal to rural/urban?
8. Some tables are missing: In line 215 Supplementary Table S1, 233 Supplementary Table S2.

## PLEASE COMMENT

**Q 4** | Is the title appropriate, concise, attractive?

ok

**Q 5** | Are the keywords appropriate?

ok

**Q 6** | Is the English language of sufficient quality?

English Acceptable slandered

**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?)

reference update & adequate

## QUALITY ASSESSMENT

| | | Rating |
|---|---|---|
| **Q 9** | Originality | 4 / 5 |
| **Q 10** | Rigor | 3 / 5 |
| **Q 11** | Significance to the field | 4 / 5 |
| **Q 12** | Interest to a general audience | 4 / 5 |
| **Q 13** | Quality of the writing | 3 / 5 |
| **Q 14** | Overall scientific quality of the study | 3 / 5 |

## REVISION LEVEL

**Q 15** | Please make a recommendation based on your comments:

Minor revisions.