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### Public knowledge about COVID-19, Antibiotic resistance, and Attitude toward giving antibiotics to COVID-19 patients: a Jordanian cross-sectional study

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#### Abstract

**Background:** COVID-19 has changed the lives of many people around the world. Also, antibiotic resistance is a serious global problem. Many studies were conducted about public knowledge of these two topics with overall good knowledge about COVID-19 and poor public knowledge about antibiotic resistance.

**Objective:** Evaluate public knowledge about COVID-19, antibiotic resistance, and public attitude toward giving antibiotics to COVID-19 patients.

**Method:** This cross-sectional study was conducted using an online questionnaire that targeted the general population in Jordan aged 18 or above. The questionnaire was distributed using social media.

**Results:** A total of 482 participants were included with a mean age of 32, in which 51.5% of them were males, 43.4% work or study in the medical field, and 82.6% were vaccinated. Mean knowledge scores about COVID-19 and antibiotic resistance were 6.19 and 3.18 respectively. Participants who study or work in the medical field showed significantly higher knowledge about COVID-19 and antibiotic resistance than others ( $p$ -value for both sections was  $<0.001$ ). In addition, vaccinated participants showed significantly higher knowledge about COVID-19 than non-vaccinated ( $p < 0.001$ ). We found that people who earn less than 500 JD monthly had significantly lower knowledge about antibiotic resistance than those who earn more than 1000 JD ( $p < 0.024$ ). Additionally, we found that people who will only take antibiotics when prescribed by a doctor had the highest knowledge of COVID-19 (mean $\pm$ std.= 6.35 $\pm$ 1.46) On the other hand, people who will never take antibiotics for COVID-19 scored the highest on their knowledge of antibiotic resistance (mean $\pm$ std =4.05 $\pm$ 1.33).

**Conclusion:** Our findings suggested good knowledge about COVID-19, moderate knowledge about antibiotic resistance, and a relatively satisfactory attitude toward giving antibiotics to COVID-19 patients among the participants. More awareness campaigns about antibiotic resistance and COVID-19 vaccines importance are needed

**Keywords:** Public knowledge, Public attitude, COVID-19, Antibiotic resistance, Jordan

#### Biography

I am currently a 3rd year medical student at the University of Jordan. I am interested in medical research, and I tried my best to be involved in this field as much earlier as I can to follow my ambition and to contribute to the scientific field. I took many courses to learn more and more about research and its processes, but I believed that the best way to learn a thing is to do it. Therefore, I stated my way in research by doing this study and I hope to be a part of this great congress!