

# The knowledge, attitudes and practices of facemask practice during COVID-19 pandemic

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## ABSTRACT

**Introduction:** The use of facemask as precaution from COVID-19 cross-transmission have been strongly advocated by healthcare agencies as a public health management strategy to mitigate the pandemic burden on the healthcare system. **Methods:** This cross-sectional study aimed to investigate the knowledge, attitudes and practices (KAP) according to facemask practice during COVID-19. Descriptive statistics, chi-square test, t-test and one-way analysis of variance (ANOVA) and multivariable linear regression was used to identify factor contributing to knowledge while Binomial analysis was used to investigate factors contributing to practice. **Results:** Among 268 participants included in the study, those with medical-grade facemask had better knowledge score (88.8%) compared to non-medical facemask (86.3%) and those without facemask (78.6%). Majority of participants had positive attitudes on controlling COVID-19 pandemic (88.8%), the ability in overcoming the pandemic (99.2%) and use of facemask in a public place (98.9%). Participants using medical-grade facemask (Adjusted Odds Ratio; AOR 5.9, 95% CI 1.9-18.0;  $p=0.002$ ) have appropriate practices towards COVID-19. However, Participants using medical-grade facemask were 9.2 times (AOR 9.2, 95% CI: 3.5 to 24.5,  $p<0.001$ ) more likely to reuse of facemask without washing. **Conclusion:** The results highlight adequate KAP among respondents. However, hygienic use of facemask needs to be disseminated among general population.