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## RESEARCH ARTICLE

### METHODS OF EDUCATING PEOPLE AND PROVIDING PUBLIC AWARENESS AND ENCOURAGING PUBLIC COLLABORATION TOWARDS CORONA VIRUS DISEASE (COVID-19)

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#### Abstract

This study was done by Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Baramati in the year 2020-2021. One of the activities is public education and information dissemination by using local media and other methods. But little is known about level of public awareness of the disease and its prevention methods. So, this study generates important information regarding the level of public awareness of the disease which in turn contributes to designing better mitigation strategies. Hence this study was conducted to explore for educating peoples and providing awareness in public and also for encouraging public collaborations towards COVID-19 among residents of Western Zone, Maharashtra, India specially villages near by Baramati tahasils.

Most participants mentioned common symptoms of the disease. Participants indicated different modes of transmission of COVID-19, explicitly; hand shaking, hugging, sitting together, contact with droplets during coughing and sneezing, making contact with infected air and objects, skin penetration and sharing clothes. 95% peoples under this study completed their Vaccination within the time.

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#### Introduction:-

The novel corona virus disease 2019 (COVID-19) is an infectious disease caused by a novel corona virus now called severe acute respiratory syndrome corona virus 2 (SARS-COV-2) and can be transmitted from person to person via contact with respiratory droplets.

The novel corona virus disease 2019 (COVID-19) presents an important and urgent threat to global health. Since the outbreak in early December 2019 in the Hubei province of the People's Republic of China, the number of patients confirmed to have the disease and deaths from it increased at an alarming rate through time.

It was initially reported to the World Health Organization (WHO) on December 31, 2019. On January 30, 2020, the WHO declared the COVID-19 outbreak a global health emergency. On March 11, 2020, the WHO declared COVID-19 a global pandemic. Despite public health responses aimed at containing the disease and delaying the spread, several countries have been confronted with a critical care crisis, and more countries will almost certainly follow.

Major prevention methods recommended by the WHO include; regularly and thoroughly clean hands with an alcohol-based hand rub or wash them with soap and water, maintaining social/physical distancing, avoid touching eyes, nose and mouth, and different protection measures based on the situations.

One of the activities is public education and information dissemination by using local media and other methods. But little is known about level of public awareness of the disease and its prevention methods. So, this study generates important information regarding the level of public awareness of the disease which in turn contributes to designing better mitigation strategies. Hence this study was conducted to explore for educating peoples and providing awareness in public and also for encouraging public collaborations towards COVID-19 among residents of Western Zone, Maharashtra, India specially villages near by Baramati tahasils.

### Methodology:-

The study was conducted in selected villages of Pune districts which comes under Western Zone of Maharashtra (India) and Villages are of Baramati tehsils. Residents from Dhakale, Pandare, Korhale, Kokare wasti, Yelewasti & Malegaon Khurd were included in this study. A qualitative study with a descriptive qualitative approach was used.

In-depth interview (IDI) was chosen as the data collection method to capture awareness and practices related to COVID-19 by using an interview guide. The interview guide mainly includes, brief socio-demographic characteristics, awareness and prevention methods of COVID-19 and possible suggestions to tackle the pandemic. This method is useful to have as each participant has an opportunity to share feelings, perspectives, and experiences concerning the problem. A semi-structured interview guide which included socio-demographic components, awareness and prevention aspects of COVID-19 was used to collect data..

The interview was audio-recorded by using a recorder. Potentially eligible and interested participants received consent forms in their local language and were informed that their participation would be voluntary and there would be no personal consequences or benefits to participation. Informed written consent was obtained from all participants. Confidentiality and anonymity was maintained when quoting research participants.

Four Important Methodology were studied under this study:-

1. Awareness programme of recommended diet at village levels & its competition.
2. Mask Awareness in Peoples for increases the public Collaborations.
3. Vaccination Awareness in Peoples and for increases the public participation.
4. Awareness Programme about social distancing, hand washing with sanitizer & wearing ofmask, during Corona period.

Methodology or assessment techniques used for making awareness in the public and forpublic collaborations:-

Methods of educating people & providing public awareness & encouraging publiccollaborations
Methodology I :- Awareness programme of recommended diet at village levels & itscompetition
In short information of activity :- <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Raised awareness on the importance of nutritious food, how a nutritious diet important for improving the immunity powers of human in village like Dhakale, Pandare, Kokare Vasti, Korhale, Yele Vasti, Morgaon &amp; Malegaon khurd.</li> <li>➤ Took nutrition plate competition with the help of anganwadi sevika.</li> <li>➤ Broadcast the interview of Dr. Amruta Waghchaure during the Programme.</li> </ul>

Impact because of activity :-

- This program has created awareness among the people of 7 villages about what kind of nutritious food should be taken so that you do not get Covid-19 disease and your immune system will increase.
- 200 people from 7 villages were selected and only 2% of Covid-19 people were found in this village due to this program.

Photos of Methodology Implemented



Methods of educating people & providing public awareness & encouraging public collaborations

Methodology II: - Mask Awareness in Peoples for increases the public Collaborations.

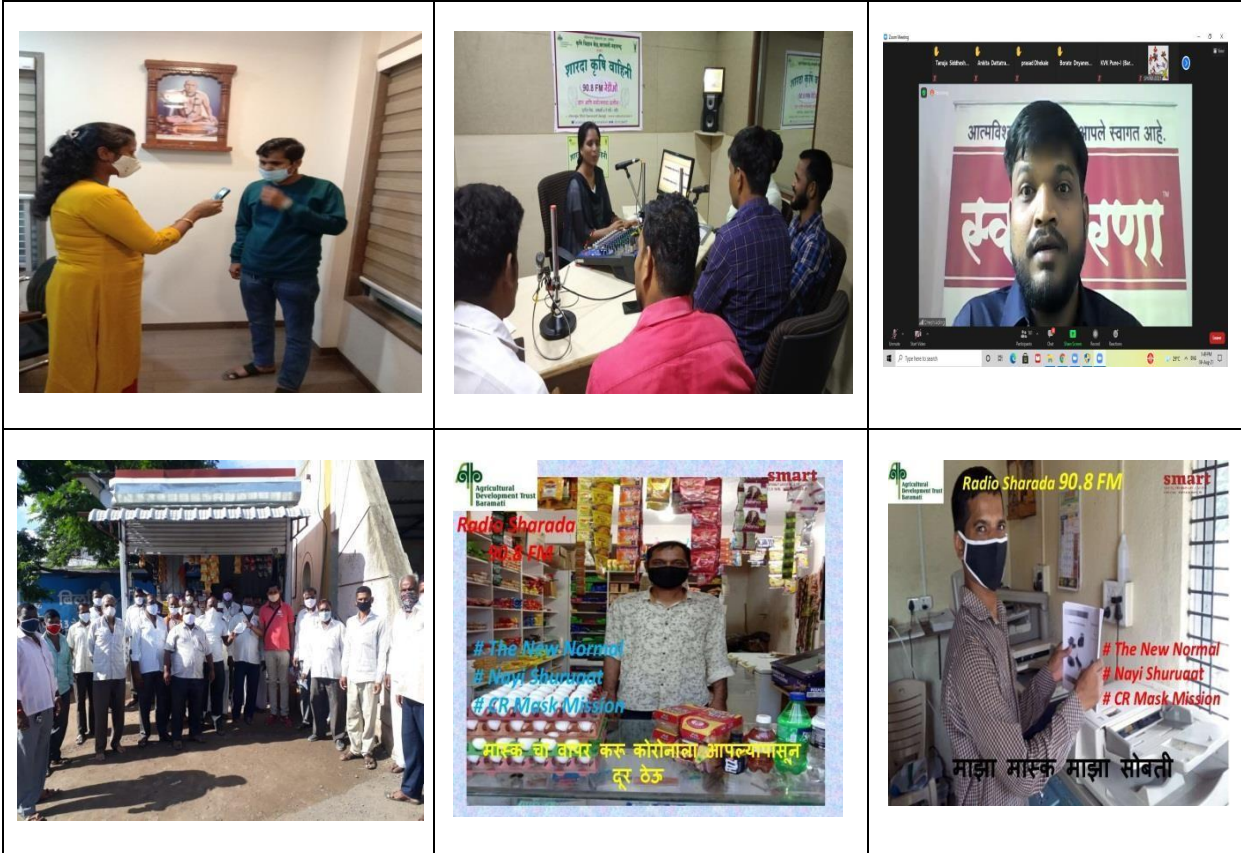
In short information of activity :-

- In this, a team of 100 youths was formed as "Young Warriors" and through them corona prevention measures were promoted and disseminated.
- Various stickers went viral on social media for mask awareness.

Impact because of activity :-

- Participating organization: - SMART – New Delhi, UNISEF, ADT, KVK, Baramati, CEMCA, Ayush Mantralay, Sharda Krushi Vahini, Data Leads Parent Organization.
- Experts from different fields conducted interviews with doctors and teachers about the Covid-19 virus and disseminated it through social media.

Photos of Methodology Implemented



<p>Methods of educating people &amp; providing public awareness &amp; encouraging public collaborations</p>
<p>Methodology III: - Vaccination Awareness in Peoples and for increases the public participation.</p>
<p>In short information of activity :-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Interviews with all the leading doctors who were working to prevent the covid-19 virus were broadcast on the radio. So that everyone will know.</li> <li>➤ Spread all the information to the people from what Sapp group.</li> </ul>
<p>Impact because of activity :-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Fear of the corona virus decreased among the people and people started taking preventive measures well.</li> <li>➤ 90% of people started taking all these corona preventive measures.</li> <li>➤ 95 % peoples under this study completed their Vaccination within the time.</li> </ul>
<p>Photos of Methodology Implemented</p>





Methods of educating people & providing public awareness & encouraging public collaborations

Methodology IV: - Awareness Programme about social distancing, hand washing with sanitizer & wearing of mask, during Corona period.

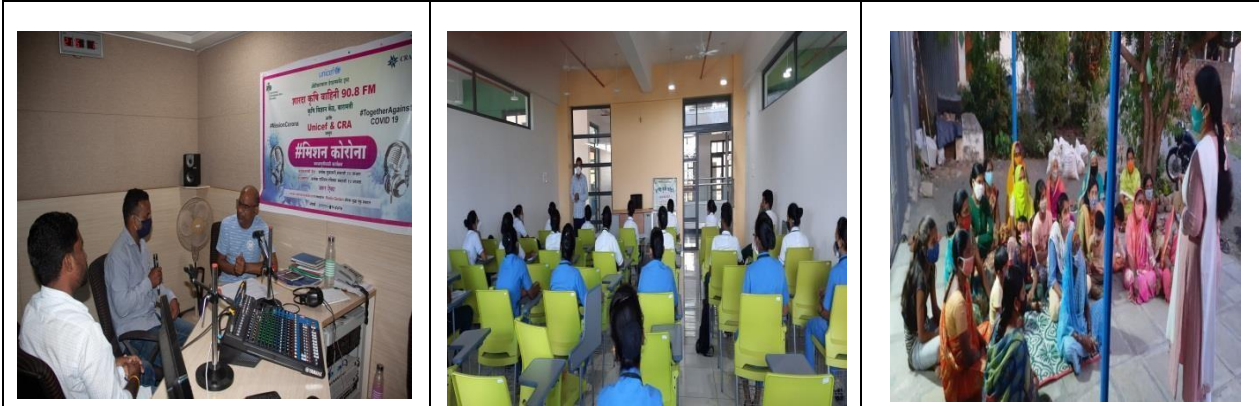
In short information of activity :-

- A total of 10 schools and 5 colleges and 7 villages under the "Corona Mission" everyone was given the information on how to take care not to become a corona was given to everyone through training.
- Information was given on preventive measures like social distancing, sanitizer, hand washing, mask use to prevent corona.

Impact because of activity :-

- Due to the participation of the trainees, only 10-12% of the cases of corona were found in selected 7 villages.

Photos of Methodology Implemented



### Conclusion & Research findings:-

1. Generally, most of the interviewed participants indicated that COVID-19 is a newly emerged viral disease, affecting all people in all countries in the world, transmitted from person to person. Some participants linked the disease with the anger of God on people and some others had confusion with zoonotic diseases.
2. Most participants mentioned common symptoms of the disease. Participants indicated different modes of transmission of COVID-19, explicitly; hand shaking, hugging, sitting together, contact with droplets during coughing and sneezing, making contact with infected air and objects, skin penetration, and sharing clothes.
3. Hand washing, avoiding hand shaking, wearing masks and gloves, using sanitizer, physical distancing, general personal hygiene, holy water, consuming hot drinks, chili papers, garlic and ginger were identified as prevention methods of the disease by participants of the in-depth interview.
4. 200 people from 7 villages were selected and only 2% of Covid-19 people were found in this village due to this program.
5. Experts from different fields conducted interviews with doctors and teachers about the Covid-19 virus and disseminated it through social media and its 100% impact for making awareness for CORONA-19 Virus.
6. Fear of the corona virus decreased among the people and people started taking preventive measures well.
7. 90% of people started taking all these corona preventive measures.
8. 95% of people under this study completed their Vaccination within the time.
9. Due to the participation of the trainees, only 10-12% of the cases of corona were found in selected 7 villages.

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