

APRU Global Health Conference 2021

GLOBAL URBAN HEALTH

16-18 November 2021

The University of Hong Kong, Pokfulam, Hong Kong

Abstract No.

Abstract Title

114

Utilization of Dental Services Amidst New Protocols during the Covid 19 Pandemic Among Residents of Selected Communities

Theme

Environment, health & active lifestyle (e.g. air pollution, climate change, physical activities, ageing, occupational health & safety, maternal & child health/reproductive health)

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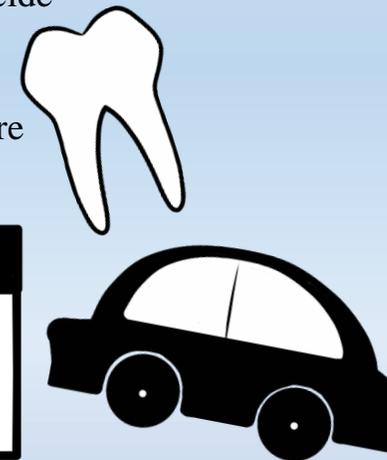
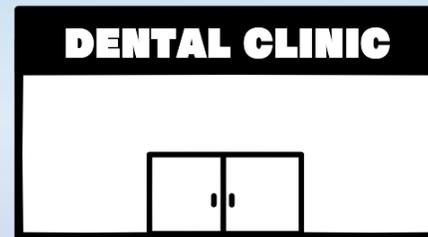
Affiliation(s):

Purpose / Background:

- This study aimed to determine how people respond to new protocols regarding access and utilization of dental services.



- It sought to answer what makes people decide to utilize or not the dental services along identified areas of utilization as follows: frequency of dental visit, type of dental care facility, type of service availed of, and accessibility.



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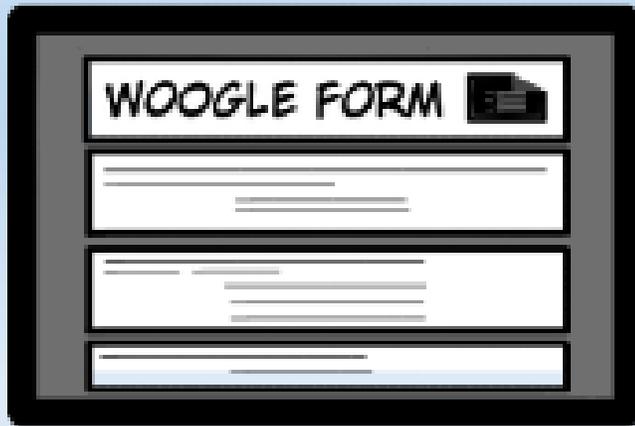
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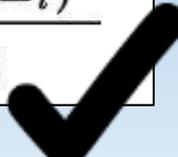
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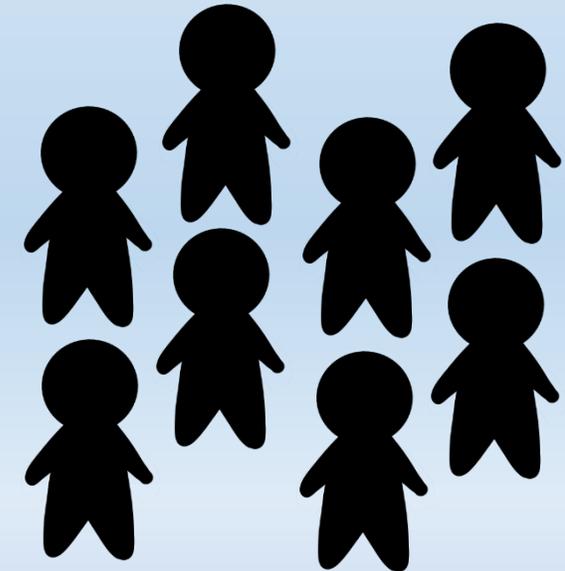
Utilization of Dental Services Amidst New Protocols during the Covid 19 Pandemic Among Residents of Selected Communities

Methods:

- An online survey questionnaire to determine the status of utilization of dental services amidst the pandemic among residents of selected communities was used.
- The chi-square test was used to determine the dependency relation between the independent variables and the moderator variable of community.
- There were 740 respondents that met the inclusion criteria.



$$\chi^2 = \sum \frac{(O_i - E_i)^2}{E_i}$$




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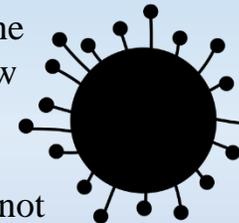
Results & Conclusions:

Results

- Most of the respondents never visited a dental care facility during the pandemic.
- The top ranking dental facility visited or preferred is the private clinic.
- Among those who availed of services, first in rank is oral prophylaxis and next is consultation.



- A higher percentage use private transportation to go to the dental facility and most of them get there within 10 to 30 minutes.
- Lockdown is a reason not to go to the dental facility.
- Cost is also a factor not to avail of dental services.
- Most of the respondents still opt to visit the dental facility, if needed, regardless of new protocols.
- Majority of the respondents consider the COVID-19 pandemic a general reason to not avail of dental services.



Conclusions

- There is dependency relation between areas/indicators of utilization and the variable of community.
- Residents of the selected communities take into consideration the situations brought about by the pandemic in their decision to utilize/avail dental services.