

Patient Doctor Relationship in COVID -19 Times, A Cross-Sectional Study in Aljouf Region

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ABSTRACT

Study Design: Cross sectional

Introduction: Among interpersonal relationship the patient doctor relationship is an important yet difficult one. The importance of this relationship lies in the fact that it has been associated with patient satisfaction, adherence to treatment and treatment outcome. Covid 19 regulations including distancing and masking have affected this relationship. The objective of this study was to assess the satisfaction of patients regarding doctor patient relationship during the pandemic conditions

Methodology: Across sectional study with 342 participants using pre-validated Arabic version of PDRQ-9 was conducted during the pandemic restrictions. Data was collected by direct interview and recorded on electronic forms. All participants were above age of 18 and had visited the PHC at least one time before the pandemic.

Results: The questionnaire had 9 items with a likert scale of 1 to 5 with minimum score possible 9 and maximum score 45, the average score obtained was 25 showing low overall satisfaction. The mean of all individual items was between 2.7 and 2.88 with a minimum mean of 1 and maximum of 5 possible. There was no significant association between score and age or gender. 56% of the participants believed that the patient doctor relationship has changed during pandemic

Conclusion: The overall scoring of all items in the patient doctor relationship satisfaction was average.

Key Words: patient doctor relationship, PDRQ-9, patient satisfaction in covid 19

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