

of acidosis. The mean random blood sugar (RBS) among patients who diagnosed with starvation ketoacidosis was 5.95 mmol/L. Total of 25 from 31 patients (80.64 %) went into CRS, and required oxygen supplementation and 13 patients (41.94%) required ICU care. We also observed 21 out of 31 patients (67.74%) in our sample population whom needed delivery of the fetus

Conclusion: Starvation ketoacidosis in Covid 19 Obstetric patients may precede CRS and ICU admission. The association of starvation ketoacidosis with CRS and ICU admission or worsening Covid 19 pneumonia need to be further evaluated in a bigger study sample. A prompt early multidisciplinary treatment involving Infectious Disease team, Intensive Care team and Obstetric Team could avoid undesirable patient outcome.

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Topic 06: COVID-19 Ethics and Misinformation

OP06.01 (216)

Methods for Counting COVID-19 Deaths in US States and Territories

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Purpose: The US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) never issued guidelines on how states should publicly report COVID-19 deaths, and as a result, states ended up settling on different methods. Critics have claimed that some methods, such as counting “deaths with COVID-19” rather than “deaths from COVID-19”, resulted in overcounts of COVID-19 deaths. While it is clear from alternate measures like excess mortality that all states undercounted COVID-19 deaths, we investigated whether different methods had any effect on state death reporting.

Methods & Materials: We identified the methods states use to report COVID-19 deaths on their dashboards, then compared state-reported data collected by CDC in its COVID Data Tracker against data from the CDC's National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS)'s national review of death certificates measuring deaths from COVID-19. Comparing state data against this standardized national dataset allowed us to see if state definitions affected their reporting.

Results: Contrary to critics' claims, few states have definitions that could systematically include individuals who died of causes unrelated to COVID-19. State death definitions instead vary along two lines: whether positive PCR tests were required to count COVID-19 deaths—with states requiring tests having cumulative totals 9.03% lower than NCHS data, while states not requiring them had totals 10.21% higher ($p=.06$)—and whether states exclusively used death certificates to measure COVID-19 deaths, with these states' totals coming in 27.63% higher than NCHS data, compared to 3.26% higher for states using additional information ($p=.11$).

Conclusion: Rather than certain methods leading to systematic overcounts of COVID-19 deaths, it appears some methods could be especially prone to undercounts. Only states using death certificate reviews had counts substantially higher than NCHS data, and since NCHS also uses death certificates, the difference appears to be a matter of the faster speed of state review. Meanwhile, many states

using different methods have discovered they missed large quantities of COVID-19 deaths in their counts. The CDC should have provided leadership to states on how they should report COVID-19 deaths to avoid any preventable undercounts, and public communication to quell misinformation about overcounts.

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Access to Information, Concerns, Myths and Truths on Food Safety During COVID-19: An Overview of Portuguese Population

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Purpose: The COVID-19 pandemic raised questions and concerns about the possibility of transmission of SARS-CoV-2 via foods. While cases of COVID were rapidly rising, information related to the virus and ways of prevention was also increasing, with much of this information being provided by the media and the general population. In this context, this study had two main objectives: 1) To understand the doubts and concerns of the Portuguese population related to food safety during the first wave of COVID-19 and how they clarified these issues and 2) to analyze the population's opinion on myths and truths related to the transmission of the infection.

Methods & Materials: A survey including questions about a) concerns and information on food safety during the first wave of COVID-19 pandemic; b) myths and truths about COVID-1 and c) respondents' profile. The survey was released online between June and October of 2020.

Results: The main doubt of the respondents was related to the manipulation of food (40,7%) followed by the possibility of transmission of COVID-19 through food (12,6%) and which foods should be avoided due to the pandemic (12,6%). 33,3% of the participants stated that television was the main mean of information accessed to clarify these doubts, followed by a Guideline launched by the Directorate-General of Health (31,8%). However, 50,3% said that they had only found answers to some of their questions. 50% of the respondents with higher level of education and 30% of the respondents with lower level of education had doubts about the possibility of the transmission of COVID-19 through food. Also, most of the survey participants disagreed with the affirmations regarding popular ways of disinfecting food to prevent infection.

Conclusion: COVID-19 pandemic raised several doubts, however when related to food safety, the main doubt was about the manipulation of food due to the concern of SARS-CoV-2 transmission. Most respondents do not believe myths about COVID-19 and food safety, but this was dependent on the level of education.

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Medical Students and Youth-Led Efforts against Infodemic

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