

A Descriptive Study to Assess the Impact of COVID-19 Post-Pandemic Among Teachers in Selected Schools of Panchgani

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Abstract: Corona is a contagious disease that has affected the whole population worldwide. The closure of all educational institutions as a preventive measure against the spread of Covid-19 has affected the educational system worldwide. The main obstacles encountered by teachers were lack of technical skills and infrastructure, expensive internet costs, learner's poor attitude, shortage of equipment, and lack of time. In this study, we sought to better understand the impact of post Covid-19 pandemic among the teachers both males and females with a post-pandemic assessment questionnaire. Data was collected from 50 participants by administering the questionnaire to teachers who understood English. Tool consisted of two Sections, Demographic variables (age, gender, marital status, religion etc.) and Post-Pandemic Assessment tool which consists 30 questions on six domains (physical health, mental health, professional aspect, work-family balance, financial aspects and social aspects) based on a 5-point Likert Scale. The study revealed that social impact (mean=19.98) was the highest, as the teachers found difficulty in connecting with others post pandemic. The second highest impact was work-family balance (mean=19.32). The third highest impact was physical impact (mean=19.16). The fourth highest impact on the teachers after pandemic was impact on mental health (mean=17.64). The fifth was professional aspect (mean=17.54) and the least was on financial aspects (mean= 15.74).

Keywords: COVID-19, impact, post-pandemic, teachers.

1. Introduction

Corona is a contagious disease that is caused by Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome Corona Virus (SARS-COV-2) [1]. In humans, this virus is known to cause respiratory infections which may range from common cold to more severe diseases such as Middle East Respiratory Syndrome (MERS) and Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS). The SARS associated corona virus is an airborne virus that can spread through small droplets which are suspended in the air and also can spread indirectly through surfaces. It is basically a single- stranded RNA virus which is spherical in shape and Crown- like appearance [2]. The Covid-19 pandemic has changed our understanding of the world. The health systems and other

sectors were also grossly affected by the pandemic. The spread of COVID-19 has caused drastic changes in the physical, psychological, social and even the spiritual health of the population all around the world [3]. This COVID-19 outbreak has severely disrupted the economy and educational system. The governments were struggling to slow down the spread of virus by announcing lockdowns, restricting gatherings etc. The various religious, cultural, social, scientific, sports and political mass gatherings and all modes of travel were restricted and halted. In India, around 250 million students were affected due to school closures at the onset of lockdown induced by COVID-19. The pandemic caused several challenges in public and private schools which included an expected rise in dropouts, learning difficulties, and increase in stress and workload [4].

2. Methodology

Research Approach: In this study, the investigator identified and described the post pandemic impact of Covid-19 among the teachers of selected schools.

Research Design: In this study, descriptive design was used to evaluate the impact of Covid-19 post-pandemic among the teachers of the selected school.

Setting of the study: The setting of this study was selected schools of Panchgani.

Target population: In this study, the teachers both male and female between 25years to 60 years were included.

Sample: In this study, sample refers to the teachers teaching 1st to 10th standard both male and female as per the inclusion criteria were included.

Sampling techniques: A Non-Probability Purposive Sampling technique was adopted in this study.

Sample size: In this study, fifty school teachers participated from the selected schools of Panchgani.

3. Discussion

Data was collected from 50 school teachers soon after the

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pandemic in year 2022, who were eligible for the study. We chose schools in Panchgani because they were easily accessible and cost effective. The schools who met the inclusion criteria were selected. The majority of the teachers were females (56%) and were between the ages of 25-35 years (46%). Majority of the teachers were married (76%), and belonged to Hindu religion (72%). 52 % of the teachers were graduates, working in private sector. 60% of the teachers were from nuclear families, and their monthly income ranged from Rs. 10,000/- to Rs. 25,000/- (54%). Most of the teachers (46%) had minimum of 1 year to 10 years of teaching experience. The majority of the teachers (70%) were tested negative for Covid-19 during the pandemic. The study revealed that Covid-19 had a serious impact on the teachers post pandemic on dimensions such as social aspects (mean =19.98), work-family balance (mean = 19.32), physical health (mean = 19.16), mental health (mean = 17.64), and professional aspects (mean = 17.42), financial aspect (mean = 15.74). (Figure 1) The social dimensions score high they were unable to physically interact with their students and colleagues. Financial aspect was least affected, this could be because they would have been getting their monthly remunerations and their traveling expenses would have reduced.

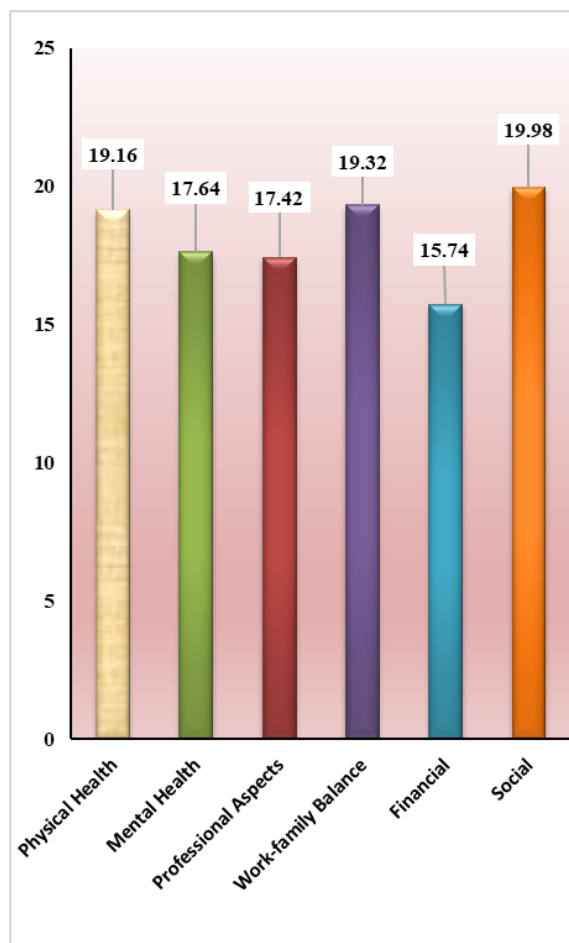


Fig. 1. COVID-19 post pandemic assessment: A comparison of average scores

4. Conclusion

This study reveals that, the teachers have faced various difficulties in different aspects of their health post Covid-19 pandemic which interferes with their day-to-day activities and their ability to cope with it. The closure and reopening of educational institutions have changed the usual pattern of teaching-learning activities which have made it difficult for both teachers and students after the pandemic. The Covid-19 pandemic has both positive as well as negative impact on all aspects of life. The pandemic has created a negative impact on physical and mental health, professional and financial aspect. The highest impact was on the social health of the teachers due to lockdown, social distancing etc. The total score of the study reveals that 84% of the teachers experienced high impact of post Covid-19 pandemic on various aspect of health.

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