

Peer Review File

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Reviewer comments-Reviewer A

First, the title did not indicate the subjects of this study and the study site is overstated since the survey was conducted in one village only, not the southwestern regions in China.

Reply: we revised the title to: Attitudes and Behaviors on Prevention and Control of COVID-19 in a less developed village of Southwest China: A Cross-sectional Survey.

Second, in the abstract, the authors did not analyze the knowledge gap on this research focus in the residents of the Autonomous Prefecture in the background, did not describe the survey questionnaire and how the data were analyzed in the methods, did not describe the demographic characteristics of the study sample in the results, and did not have detailed comments for the public health implications of the findings.

Reply: we added some reference in background (see page 3, line 58-86).

Third, there have been many published studies on the attitudes and behaviours on prevention and control of COVID-19 in the literature but the authors did not review these studies and analyze the limitations and knowledge gaps of prior studies in the introduction.

Reply: we added some reference in background (see page 3, line 58-86).

Fourth, in the methodology of the main text, the authors did not describe the sample size estimation and the content or sample items of the attitude and behaviour questionnaire. It remains unclear what the authors indicated by “expert validity score of 0.912”. Indicators for the reliability and validity are poorly reported. I also did not agree with the cut-off scores of the questionnaire since the authors did not provide convincing explanations for them and the cited paper is problematic. In statistics, please describe multiple regression analysis to identify the factors associated with attitude and behaviour scores.

Reply: we added revise it (see page 4, line 102-106, page 5, line 130-137)

Reviewer comments-Reviewer B

1) Comment 1 : First, the title should clearly indicate the study site, an impoverished village in Liangshan Yi Autonomous Prefecture, attitudes, beliefs, and behaviors related to COVID-19 prevention and control as the outcomes of interest of this study, and the clinical research design, i.e., a comparative study between Han and Yi ethnic group.

Reply1: modified.

Changes in the text: Attitudes and Behaviors on Prevention and Control of COVID-19 in a less developed region of Southwest China: A cross-sectional survey

2) Comment 2 : Second, the abstract is far inadequate, which needs further revisions. In the background, because the title is the comparison between Han and Yi, the authors need to explain the public health needs for comparing different ethnic groups, and what the limitations and knowledge gaps are on this research focus. In the methods, please describe the inclusion criteria, ways of questionnaire administration, questions in the questionnaire, and the assessment of basic socio-demographic characteristics. The results should first the sample sizes and characteristics of the Han and Yi samples. The comparative results on the scores of attitudes, beliefs, and behaviors and P values should be reported. The conclusion is overstated because the authors did not investigate all ethnic minorities in China and please tone down it.

Reply2: modified.

Changes in the text: firstly, sorry for mistaken, this study focus on “a less developed region of Southwest China” , not nationality, already modified the title.

Methods: described the inclusion criteria, ways of questionnaire administration, questions in the questionnaire. But put the assessment of basic socio-demographic characteristics in the results part.

Results: this study is focus on less developed region, so we tone down Han and Yi.

Conclusion: revised as follow

To sum up, the people in this village had a positive attitude toward epidemic prevention and control, but there was still room for improvement in prevention and control behavior. Focus should be on strengthening training in hand hygiene, using chopsticks when eating, and wearing masks when going out, with further relevant training for ethnic minorities. However, as this study only investigated the population of one village and only analyzed the general demographic data, the research results have certain limitations.

Introduction: added some information and reference in the introduction.

3) Fourth, in the methodology of the main text, please describe the research design and sample size estimation procedures of this study. The authors need to consider the sample representativeness of the online survey because of the low literacy in rural Chinese. Please use a table to list the items and scoring rules in the questionnaire. The authors need to describe the theoretical basis for the questionnaire, the process of the development of the questionnaire, and the psychometric properties of the three parts of the questionnaire: attitudes, beliefs, and behaviors. The criteria for good, moderate, and poor in the questionnaire results are not convincing and the cited reference 7 is wrong. In statistics, please describe the comparisons of the demographic characteristics and the questionnaire scores between Han and Yi groups. The authors should specify to the distribution of variables and which variables were compared by using t test or Chi-square test. Please ensure $P < 0.05$ is two-sided.

Reply4: modified.

Changes in the text: It has been modified in the corresponding section