

## COVID-19-Related Information Sources and the Relationship With Confidence in People Coping with COVID-19: Facebook Survey Study in Taiwan

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### **Abstract (600 word limits)**

**Background:** People obtain information on the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) from the internet and other sources. Understanding the factors related to such information sources aids health professionals in educating individuals.

**Objective:** This study used data collected from the online survey study on COVID-19 in Taiwan to examine what major COVID-19 information sources are available and which sources are significantly related to the self-confidence of people in coping with COVID-19 in Taiwan.

**Methods:** A total of 1904 participants (1270 non-health-care workers and 634 health care workers) were recruited from the Facebook advertisement. Their major sources of information about COVID-19, the relationships between the sources and demographic factors, and the relationships between the sources and the self-confidence in coping with COVID-19 were surveyed.

Results: Most Taiwanese people relied on the internet for COVID-19 information. Many respondents also used a variety of sources of information on COVID-19; such variety was associated with sex, age, and the level of worry toward COVID-19, as well as if one was a health care worker. For health care workers, the use of formal lessons as an information source was significantly associated with better self-confidence in coping with COVID-19. The significant association between receiving information from more sources and greater self-confidence was found only in health care workers but not in non-health-care workers. Conclusions: Medical professionals should consider subgroups of the population when establishing various means to deliver information on COVID-19.

### **Biography (200 word limit)**

Cheng-Fang Yen is working in Kaohsiung Medical University and Kaohsiung Medical University Hospital, in the Department of Psychiatry, Taiwan. He is extending his valuable service in Immunology and has been a recipient of many award and grants. His research experience includes various programs, contributions and participation in different countries for diverse fields of study. His research interests as a reflect in his wide range of publications in various national and international journals. His research interests includes neurology, neuronal disorders.

### **Research Interest**

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