

Questionnaire to evaluate public concerns and knowledge about the novel Coronavirus (COVID-19)

Please complete this questionnaire and help us to evaluate how society copes with the novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) related information. Your sincere answers and shared experiences might help us to better understand how public perceives the situation and how it can be improved today and during similar crises in the future. This is anonymous questionnaire and your answers will remain confidential and be used only for scientific purposes. The study is performed by scholars from the Vytautas Magnus University, Kaunas, Lithuania. Only people of the age 18 and above who currently live in Lithuania can participate. It will take 10 minutes of your time.

Thank you very much!

I. General information and perceived vulnerability to disease

1. What is your age:

- a. 18–25 years
- b. 26–40 years
- c. 41–60 years
- d. 61+ years

2. What is your gender:

- a. Male
- b. Female

3. What is your education:

- a. Did not graduate high school
- b. Graduated high school
- c. College or some university education
- d. University degree
- e. Other

4. Where do you live?

- a. City
- b. Region/rural area

5. What is your current employment status?

- a. Employed
- b. I am a student
- c. Not employed
- d. Retired
- e. Other

6. How do you rate your health at the given moment?

- a. Perfect
- b. Good
- c. Neither good nor poor
- d. Poor
- e. Very bad
- f. Prefer not to say

7. Please evaluate the statements listed below based on your previous experiences with possible answers ranging from 1 (strongly disagree) to 7 (strongly agree).

	Strongly disagree (1)	Disagree (2)	Somewhat disagreed (3)	Neither agree not disagreed (4)	Somewhat agree (5)	Agree (6)	Strongly agree (7)
(1) It really bothers me when people sneeze without covering their mouths.							
(2) If an illness is 'going around', I will get it.							
(3) I am comfortable sharing a water bottle with a friend. (R)							
(4) I don't like to write with a							

pencil someone else has obviously chewed on.							
(5) My past experiences make me believe I am not likely to get sick even when my friends are sick. (R)							
(6) I have a history of susceptibility to infectious diseases.							
(7) I prefer to wash my hands pretty soon after shaking someone's hand.							
(8) In general, I am very susceptible to colds, flu, and other infectious diseases.							
(9) I dislike wearing used clothes because you don't know what the past person who wore it was like.							
(10) I am more likely than the people around me to catch an infectious disease.							
(11) My hands do not feel dirty after touching money. (R)							
(12) I am unlikely to catch a cold, flu, or other illness, even if it is going around. (R)							
(13) It does not make me anxious to be around sick people. (R)							
(14) My immune system protects me from most illnesses that other people get. (R)							
(15) I avoid using public telephones because of the risk that I may catch something from the previous user.							

II. Public knowledge about COVID-19 and information sources

8. What do you think, are these statements true or false? Please select one answer true, false or I don't know.

	True	False	I don't know
(1) You can contract get the coronavirus COVID-19 after a contact with a contaminated person.			
(2) Novel coronavirus is easily transmittable viral disease, especially dangerous to elderly and people with chronic diseases.			
(3) Novel coronavirus is especially dangerous to children.			
(4) Good hand washing habits and avoidance of big public gatherings can help to prevent the spread of the virus.			
(5) Face masks do not help to prevent the transmission.			

9. What to your knowledge are the symptoms of the COVID-19? Please select one answer: yes/no/I don't know.

	Yes	No	I don't know
(1) Fever			
(2) Headache			
(3) Cough			
(4) Shortness of breath			

(5) Rash			
(6) Diarrhea			

10. What would you do, if you experience cold like symptoms, but you were not traveling recently, nor you had a contact with possible COVID-19 carrier?

- a) call your primary care doctor
- b) go to the emergency room
- c) call 112
- d) stay at home and manage your symptoms
- e) ignore the symptoms and live your life as usual
- f) call 1808
- g) I don't know

11. What should you be doing in order to prevent novel coronavirus (COVID-19) if you do not feel any cold like symptoms and did not have any contact with possible COVID-19 carrier. Please select one answer for each statement: yes/no/difficult to say.

	Yes	No	Difficult to say
(1) wash your hands more often			
(2) stay home, don't go shopping and keep away from crowded places			
(3) follow quarantine requirements			
(4) wear facemask			
(5) strengthen your immune system			
(6) stay away from people who have cold like symptoms			
(7) keep your distance from others, preferably by 1-2 meters			

12. What are the main sources you get coronavirus related information from? Please evaluate each listed source of information according to how often you use it to get the information about COVID-19 . Please select one answer: very often/often/sometimes/never.

	Very often	Often	Sometimes	Never
(1) Friends and relatives				
(2) Colleagues and coworkers				
(3) Healthcare workers				
(4) Lithuania's governmental institutions				
(5) Politicians, Party leaders, members of parliament				
(6) TV				
(7) Radio				
(8) Newspapers				
(9) Internet news portals				
(10) Social networks				
(11) International health organizations (eg. WHO)				
(12) Famous people and influencers				

13. Based on your opinion, what are the most reliable sources of the information about the coronavirus (COVID-19)? Please, evaluate each source and select one answer for each source.

	Very reliable (1)	Somewhat Reliable (2)	Neither reliable nor not reliable (3)	Not reliable (4)	Completely not reliable (5)
(1) Friends and relatives					
(2) Colleagues and coworkers					
(3) Healthcare workers					
(4) Lithuania's governmental institutions					
(5) Politicians, Party leaders, members of parliament					
(6) TV					
(7) Radio					

(8) Newspapers					
(9) Internet news portals					
(10) Social networks					
(11) International health organizations (eg. WHO)					
(12) Famous people and influencers					

III. Public concerns

14. How do you evaluate the threat of the novel coronavirus (COVID-19) for yourself and your family?

- a) Low
- b) Low but real
- c) Real
- d) High
- e) Very high

15. Which of the following statement best reflects your state of mind when facing coronavirus outbreak. Please select one answer.

- a) I am totally calm. It's just another virus. There are so much more serious things in the world happening right now.
- b) Of course I am concerned about what is happening with this virus all around the world and in Lithuania, but it is very important to stay calm and rational.
- c) I am freaking out - we are not safe in this world today.
- d) I don't know anything about coronavirus and why we should be freaking out.

16. Please share with us your reactions to the following statements, situations by evaluating them from 1 to 5. Please select one answer

	It's very scary (1)	Scary (2)	Somewhat scary (3)	Neither scary nor not scary (4)	Almost not scary (5)	Not scary at all (6)
(1) Uncertainty related to this virus: how to stop it, how many people will get it, when everything will be over?						
(2) Lack of information: I don't have enough information about the virus and situation in the country and abroad.						
(3) Uncertainty: I don't know how to protect my loved ones and myself.						
(4) The impact on Lithuania's and world economy.						
(5) I am afraid that I will get the virus (or my loved ones).						
(6) Unpreparedness of Lithuanian institutions to manage this situation.						
(7) Lithuanian health-care institutions are ill-prepared to fight the virus.						
(8) Coronavirus spread across the Europe.						
(9) Empty shelves in local grocery stores.						
(10) First officially confirmed coronavirus (COVID-19) case in						

Lithuania.						
(11) WHO declares coronavirus outbreak a pandemic.						
(12) There is now a vaccine for this disease.						
(13) Global outbreak of the virus.						
(14) Closure of schools and universities, ban of public events and restrains of international traveling.						
(15) Lithuania declares quarantine in all of its territory.						
(16) The closure of Lithuanian borders.						

Thank you for your time and sincere answers. Stay safe and healthy.

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