



Factors associated with the stigma-discrimination complex towards healthcare workers among university students during the coronavirus pandemic in Mexico

Factores asociados al complejo estigma-discriminación hacia trabajadores de la salud entre estudiantes universitarios durante la pandemia de coronavirus en México

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Abstract

Introduction: COVID-19-related stigma towards healthcare professionals negatively influences their job performance and well-being, however, this issue has not been sufficiently investigated. **Objective:** To determine the frequency and variables associated with COVID-19-related stigma toward health care workers in a university population in Mexico. **Materials and methods:** Cross-sectional study. An online questionnaire was sent to 1,054 students between 18 and 29 years of age. Demographic variables, religiosity, fear of COVID-19 and its association with COVID-19-related stigma-discrimination towards health workers (dependent variable) were analyzed. Bivariate analysis and a generalized linear model were performed to calculate adjusted prevalence ratios. **Results:** The proportion of high stigma-discrimination was 12.4% and was associated with high fear of COVID-19 RPa= 1.51 (95% CI 1.06 - 2.23). **Conclusion:** The findings highlight the importance of establishing programs to reduce COVID-19-related stigmatization towards healthcare professionals.

Keywords: Social stigma; risk factors; health personnel; students, COVID-19. (Source: DeCS, Bireme).

Resumen

Introducción: El estigma relacionado con la COVID-19 hacia los profesionales de la salud influye negativamente en su desempeño laboral y bienestar, sin embargo, este tema no ha sido suficientemente investigado. **Objetivo:** Determinar la frecuencia y las variables asociadas al estigma relacionado con el COVID-19 hacia los trabajadores de la salud en una población universitaria de México. **Materiales y métodos:** Estudio transversal. Se envió un cuestionario en línea a 1.054 estudiantes de entre 18 y 29 años. Se analizaron variables demográficas, religión, miedo al COVID-19 y su asociación con el estigma-discriminación hacia el personal de salud relacionado con la COVID-19 (variable dependiente). Se realizó un análisis bivariado y un modelo lineal generalizado para calcular las razones de prevalencia ajustadas. **Resultados:** La proporción de estigma-discriminación alto fue de 12,4% y se asoció con miedo alto a la COVID-19 RPa=1,51 (IC=95% 1,06-2,23). **Conclusión:** Los hallazgos destacan la importancia de establecer programas para reducir la estigmatización relacionada con COVID-19 hacia los profesionales de la salud.

Palabras clave: Estigma social; factores de riesgo; personal sanitario; estudiantes, COVID-19. (Fuente: DeCS, Bireme).

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