

# The effect of fear and knowledge on preventive practice towards COVID-19 among pregnant women who attend antenatal care in Northwest Ethiopia, 2020: Institution-based cross-sectional study



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### Abstract

**Background:** The novel coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) pandemic has infected over one million individuals with almost 50,000 deaths worldwide. COVID-19 is currently a global health threat and public health emergency. Therefore Accurate and up-to-date information regarding COVID-19 prevention and control is essential.

**Objective:** The aim of the study was to assess effect of fear and knowledge on preventive practice towards COVID-19 among pregnant women who attending antenatal care in Gondar town, northwest, Ethiopia, 2020.

**Methods:** Institution based cross-sectional study was conducted “Between” July 2020 to August 2020. Systematic random sampling technique was used to select 422 participants. The data were collected by face to face interviews using pretested and structured questionnaires. The data entered using Epi-Info version 7 and analyzed using SPSS version 22 software. Bivariate and multivariable logistic regression model was fitted to assess factors associated with COVID-19 preventive practice. Adjusted Odds Ratio with 95% confidence interval was used to determine the association between covariates and the outcome variable, with p-value  $\leq 0.05$ .

**Result:** The current study, Good preventive practice towards COVID-19 among pregnant women found to be (47.4%). Fear towards COVID-19 among pregnant women found to be (50.9%). Majority of the respondents (55.0%) were good knowledge. Having fear towards COVID-19 [AOR: 2.485, 95% CI: (1.664-3.711)] and having good knowledge towards COVID-19 [AOR: 2.308, 95% CI: (1.541-3.457)], were significantly associated with prevention practice of COVID 19.

**Conclusion and recommendation:** These findings suggest the need for health care providers and concerned stakeholders to develop, motivate, educate and inform for pregnant women, in order to encourage them to engage on prevention practice COVID 19.

### Biography

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