

## **TUFH 2020** Abstracts

Title	Knowledge, perception, and preparedness Respond to Coronavirus Disease-2019 (COVID-19) outbreak among Ghanaians: online cross-sectional survey
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Content	Coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) is recognized as global pandemic, affecting more than 300,000 worldwide. Ghana joined the international community by confirming first two COVID-19 cases on March 12, 2020. The study aimed to assess the public knowledge, perception, and preparedness to responds to the COVID-19 in Ghana. A cross-sectional study was conducted to collect information from Ghanaian during the early stage of the outbreak from 12th to 20th March 2020. Electronic based questionnaire was developed to assess the behaviour of Ghanaian during COVID-19 outbreak. Respondents aged 18 years and above were invited to participate by posting the link to the survey on all social medias and online platforms. A total of 350 participants were recruited into the study; 56% were males, 68.9% were single and 95.1% had attained tertiary education. 62.7% had "good" knowledge about the outbreak, 68.3% had a high risk of contracting infection, and 81.4% had a moderate preparedness skills. Internet (77.1%) was the major sources of information. knowledge of COVID-19 was significantly associated with education (p< 0.001), age (p=0.018), employment (p=0.011), and health-related occupation (P=0.001) but only religion was associated with perception. Though overall public knowledge was good, disparity exist among the least educated population, there was high risk perceptions and moderate preparedness skill to respond to COVID-19 among the study population. We recommend that educational campaigns through timely online update on COVID-19, van mobilization and mass media broadcasting should target all groups including those in the rural communities.