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"PRIMARY HEALTH CARE: A PATH
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SYSTEMS AND COMMUNITY BASED
RESPONSES TO COVID-19

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TUFH 2020 Abstracts

Title	Coronavirus Disease-2019: Knowledge, Attitude, and Practices of Health Care Workers at Makerere University Teaching Hospitals, Uganda
Type	Oral Presentation <i>Systems and Community Based Responses for COVID 19</i>
Presenting Author	Ronald Olum
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Country	Uganda
Abstract N°	TUFH469
Content	<p>Background: Coronavirus diseases- 2019 (COVID-19) is an emerging public health problem threatening the life of over 2.4 million people globally. The present study sought to determine knowledge, attitude and practices of health care workers (HCWs) towards COVID-19 in Makerere University Teaching Hospitals (MUTHs) in Uganda. Methods: An online cross sectional was undertaken through WhatsApp Messenger among HCWs in four MUTHs. HCWs aged 18 years and above constituted the study population. KAP towards COVID-19 was assessed by using a pre-validated questionnaire. All analyses were performed using STATA 15.1 and GraphPad Prism 8.3. Results: Of the 581 HCWs approached, 136 (23%) responded. A vast majority of the participants were male (n=87, n=64%), with a median age of 32 (range: 20-66) years. Eighty-four (62%) were medical doctors and 125 (92%) had at least a bachelor's degree. Overall, 69% (n=94) had sufficient knowledge, 21% (n=29) had positive attitude and 74% (n=101) had good practices towards COVID-19. Factors associated with knowledge were age >40 years (aOR: 0.3; 95%CI: 0.1-1.0; p=0.047) and news media (aOR: 4.8; 95%CI: 1.4-17.0; p=0.015). Factors associated with good practices were age 40 years or more (aOR: 48.4; 95%CI: 3.1-742.9; p=0.005) and holding a diploma (aOR: 18.4; 95%CI: 1-322.9; p=0.046). Conclusions. Continued professional education is advised among HCWs in Uganda to improve knowledge of HCWs hence averting negative attitudes and promoting positive preventive and therapeutic practices. We recommend follow up studies involving teaching and non-teaching hospitals across the country.</p>