TUFH 2020 Abstracts

Title	**Knowledge and perception of medical students about COVID-19 pandemic and their intention to participate in voluntary program against covd-19 to empower their community in Bisha, Saudi Arabia, 2020**
Type	Oral Presentation *Systems and Community Based Responses for COVID 19*
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Content	Background: The recent pandemic of COVID-19 has become a major concern for the people and governments across the world. Objectives: Our study aims to assess knowledge and perceptions toward COVID-19. Also, to identify their intension to participate in voluntary program against covd-19 in College of Medicine Bisha University (UBCOM), Saudi Arabia. Methodology: This is a descriptive cross sectional institutional based study was conducted in University of Bisha College of Medicine which recently established with the underlying principle of contributing to develop of health status in rural areas in Southern Saudi Arabia. Data was collected by "online Survey" using information from the World Health Organization (WHO). Consent was obtained. Main results: The response rate was 95/186 (51%) of the total number of the college students, of them 73 (76.8%) were male and the 22 (23.2%) were female. Most of the respondents were among first year students 35 (36.8%). However, 37.9% of the student have been already participate in voluntary program against covd-19, about 75.8% showed desire to participate in voluntary program of in their community. More than 90 % of respondents recommend their colleagues to participation in such program. The level of knowledge (overall 74.4%) by COVID-19 was effectively influences by the academic level (p-value 0.002). Conclusion: Medical students in UBCOM have adequate knowledge about COVID-19 with strong desire to empower their local community to overcome this critical time of COVID-19 pandemic and push their peer to follow the same attitude.