

Table S1. COVID-19 resources within ACIPC and ASID official websites used by respondents

	<i>Resources</i>	<i>ICPs</i> (<i>N=103</i>)		<i>ID</i> <i>physicians</i> (<i>N=45</i>)	
		<i>n</i>	<i>%</i>	<i>n</i>	<i>%</i>
<i>ACIPC official website</i>	Australian Government Department of Health COVID-19 website link	64	62.1	-	-
	Australian states and territories website links	58	56.3	-	-
	CDNA National Guidelines for Public Health Units website link	49	47.6	-	-
	ACIPC COVID-19 position statement	40	38.8	-	-
	Johns Hopkins Coronavirus Resource Center website link	36	35	-	-
	WHO website link	31	30.1	-	-
	None of the above	17	16.5	-	-
	Smart Traveller	9	8.7	-	-
	NZ Ministry of Health website link	1	1	-	-
<i>ASID official website</i>	ASID Ozbug email discussion forum	-	-	38	84.4
	National COVID-19 Clinical Evidence Taskforce: Living Guidelines	-	-	27	60
	ASID interim guidelines for the clinical management of COVID-19 in adults	-	-	18	40
	ASID webinar series	-	-	14	31.1
	Updated interim guidelines for the clinical management of COVID-19 in children and adolescents	-	-	6	13.3
	Paediatrics (MDU COVID-19 kids research evidence update; Don't forget the bubbles COVID-19 resources)	-	-	4	8.9
	MIDG COVID-19 discussion forums	-	-	4	8.9
	Advice for clinicians: Paediatric Inflammatory Multisystem Syndrome Temporally associated with SARS-CoV-2 (PIMS-TS)	-	-	2	4.4
	Other useful guidelines available (Haematology-Oncology; Residential aged care facilities; dental; detention facilities)	-	-	2	4.4
	None of the above	-	-	0	0

Table S2. Level of preparedness for COVID-19 at individual, workplace, and national levels

		<i>Individual preparedness for COVID-19 as of 31 December 2019</i>	<i>Individual preparedness for COVID-19 today</i>	<i>Workplace preparedness to manage COVID-19 today?</i>	<i>Australia's preparedness for COVID-19 today?</i>
		<i>n (%)</i>	<i>n (%)</i>	<i>n (%)</i>	<i>n (%)</i>
<i>ICPs (N=100)</i>	Not at all prepared	32 (32)	-	1 (1)	15 (15)
	Slightly prepared	33 (33)	-	4 (4)	18 (18)
	Somewhat prepared	27 (27)	4 (4)	15 (15)	38 (38)
	Moderately prepared	8 (8)	55 (55)	52 (52)	23 (23)
	Extremely prepared	-	41 (41)	28 (28)	6 (6)
<i>ID physicians (N=45)</i>	Not at all prepared	22 (48.9)	-	2 (4.4)	6 (13.3)
	Slightly prepared	13 (28.9)	1 (2.2)	3 (6.7)	16 (35.6)
	Somewhat prepared	8 (17.8)	11 (24.4)	13 (28.9)	17 (37.8)
	Moderately prepared	2 (4.4)	28 (62.2)	21 (46.7)	5 (11.1)
	Extremely prepared	-	5 (11.1)	6 (13.3)	1 (2.2)

Table S3. Respondents' opinion about the clear, timely and authoritative provision of information about COVID-19

		<i>Clear, timely and authoritative information provided by the respondents' workplace</i>	<i>Clear, timely and authoritative information provided by state or territory government health departments</i>	<i>Clear, timely and authoritative information provided by the Australian Government Department of Health</i>
		<i>n (%)</i>	<i>n (%)</i>	<i>n (%)</i>
<i>ICPs</i> (<i>N=100</i>)	Strongly disagree	2 (2)	4 (4)	2 (2)
	Somewhat disagree	10 (10)	10 (10)	7 (7)
	Neutral	13 (13)	6 (6)	5 (5)
	Somewhat agree	42 (42)	45 (45)	63 (63)
	Strongly agree	33 (33)	35 (35)	23 (23)
<i>ID physicians</i> (<i>N=45</i>)	Strongly disagree	-	-	-
	Somewhat disagree	7 (15.6)	5 (11.1)	6 (13.3)
	Neutral	7 (15.6)	9 (20)	12 (26.7)
	Somewhat agree	20 (44.4)	22 (48.9)	22 (48.9)
	Strongly agree	11 (24.4)	9 (20)	5 (11.1)

Table S4. Types of COVID-19 specific education, training or instruction received by ICPs and ID physicians at their workplace

<i>Type of education, training or instruction received</i>	ICPs n (%)	ID physicians n(%)
	Yes No	Yes No
In-service education	60 (58.3) 43 (41.7)	14 (31.1) 31 (68.9)
Lectures or Grand rounds	22 (21.4) 81 (78.6)	26 (57.8) 19 (42.2)
Practical PPE instruction	61 (59.2) 42 (40.8)	-
PPE equipment training and certification	-	19 (42.2) 26 (57.8)
Written materials	63 (61.2) 40 (38.8)	17 (37.8) 28 (62.2)
Infectious diseases-specific e-learning	-	5 (11.1) 40 (88.9)
Total	103 (100)	45 (100)

Table S5. Respondents' workplace involvement in assessing, treating and referring suspected or confirmed COVID-19 cases

	ICPs (n=97)			ID physicians (n=42)		
	Yes	No	Don't know	Yes	No	Don't know
<i>Assessing suspected COVID-19 cases</i>	81.4	17.5	1	97.6	2.4	-
<i>Treating suspected of confirmed COVID-19 cases</i>	59.8	40.2	-	83.3	11.9	4.8
<i>Referring suspected of confirmed COVID-19 cases</i>	49.5	49.5	1	9.5	90.5	-

Figure S1. Respondents level of concern about contracting SARS-CoV-2

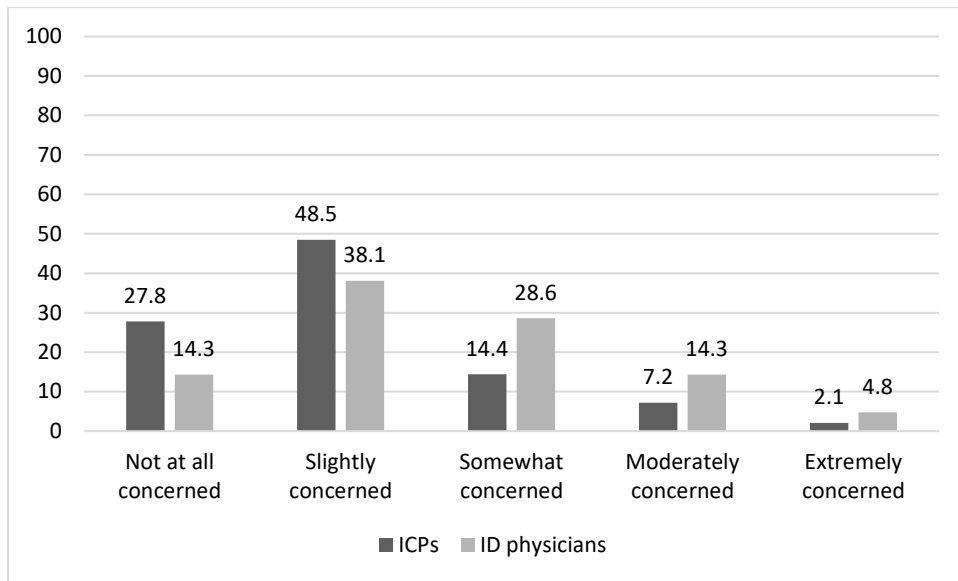


Figure S2. Impact of COVID-19 on respondents' level of stress

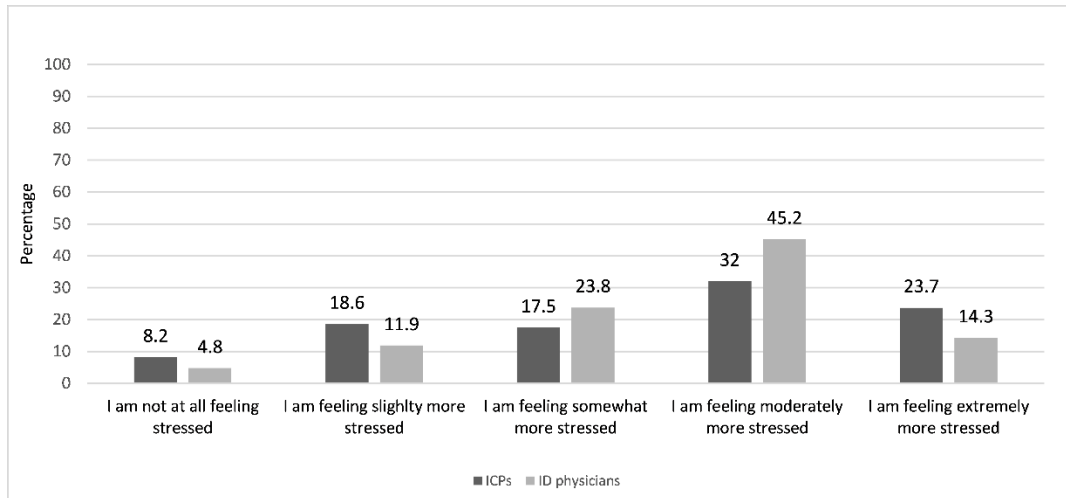


Figure S3. Impact of COVID-19 on respondents' workload

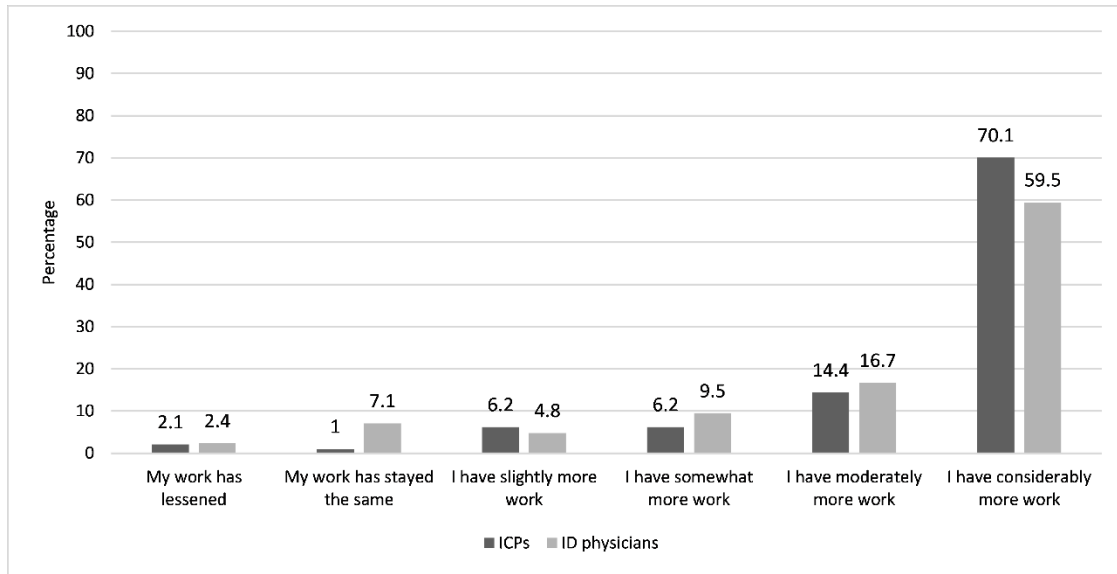


Table S6. Respondents’ comments on their single biggest issue about COVID-19

Category	Infection control professionals	Infectious diseases physicians
Keeping up-to-date with the influx of information	<i>“my biggest issue has been keeping up with 'relevant' COVID 19 information without being overwhelmed” (Respondent 17)</i>	<i>‘Conflicting information from different levels of government, WHO, CDC, etc.’ (Respondent 11)</i>
	<i>‘Being up to date with all the information distributed’ (Respondent 12)</i>	<i>Rapidly changing landscape with numerous publication that is hard to catch up, and non-peer review (media reports) dominating any peer reviewed evidence’ (Respondent 22)</i>
PPE stock, training availability and regular changes to PPE guidelines	<i>‘Personal Protective Equipment. - Ensuring all clinics have adequate supplies. - Education of staff on what PPE is required and when. – Managing staff wanting to use PPE when it is not necessary and their concerns about PPE’ (Respondent 19)</i>	<i>‘PPE, both ensuring adequate supply if there is a new outbreak of cases in WA and ensuring consistent use across the hospital I work in (while following current State guidelines). The fear in hospital staff was very hard to address.’ (Respondent 42)</i>
	<i>‘PPE availability Shortage or lack of cleaning products and hand hygiene products’ (Respondent 22)</i>	<i>‘Preventing healthcare worker infection is the most important thing, the impact on PPE, training and confidence is huge. Waiting for approval from executive to bring in HCW masks etc is frustrating. We need to be agile. It is a marathon, there is a lot of fatigue within ID after all these months, and yet it is all beginning again’ (Respondent 28)</i>

Communication difficulties between executive management and staff members	<i>'Communication. Decisions were made ad hoc by executive and not communicated well at all but my team and I were dealing with the fallout' (Respondent 15)</i>	<i>'Lack of preparedness and lack of communication in my institution' (Respondent 4)</i>
	<i>'Lack of effective leadership within the facility - too many executive/managers involved in decision making' (Respondent 41)</i>	<i>'We need an Australian communicable diseases centre. We could have streamlined so many local policies and procedures, had one unified voice for national communication, and saved thousands of hours at the local levels' (Respondent 17)</i>
Facing uncertainties under a rapidly changing landscape	<i>'Rapidly evolving changes, differences in approaches. Health services disregarding state guidelines and creating their own' (Respondent 37)</i>	<i>'Uncertainty about travel, length of lockdown, ability to conduct research (i.e. professional activities outside of clinical and teaching work)' (Respondent 18)</i>
	<i>'With the uncertainty of it all, I understand it is hard to make statements. However, I rather have statements that include 'at this point of time' then no communication or no ownership on some decisions leaving people scared or in fear to know what is 'right or wrong'' (Respondent 66)</i>	<i>'Uncertainty with regards to the duration for which surge capacity will be required' (Respondent 22)</i>
Community and staff compliance	<i>'A second wave due to relaxation of individuals personal hygiene and physical distancing responsibilities, large gatherings and opening up State/Territory and Australian borders' (Respondent 3)</i>	<i>'Too early relaxation of "lock down" Complacency. Failure of authorities to promote single simple messages eg in community mask use' (Respondent 16)</i>

	<i>'Compliance of other staff, with regards to implementing the COVID-19 specific measures. Eg: Additional PPE use, common sense, and high standards of IPC' (Respondent 62)</i>	<i>'The interference of politicians and the pressure they are exerting to cut corners' (Respondent 23)</i>
Apparent lack of basic understanding of infection control	<i>'Lack of general preparedness by HCWs to manage infection transmission risks' (Respondent 7)</i>	<i>Lack of consistent engagement and consideration of ID expertise at hospital executive preparedness planning and state health department disaster preparedness and disease control levels with the converse consistent expectation that ID services will invariably be the frontline when it comes to dealing with hospital staff anxieties regarding PPE & management protocols and decision-making/advice regarding individual clinical case concerns, more often than not with little executive level appreciation of or recognition for the effort and stress involved. In summary, an overly bureaucratised institutional and governmental response with inadequate respect for and recognition of the value of clinical ID and practical Infection Control expertise (Respondent 36)</i>

	<i>'Providing well established evidence on IPC practices was not understood and repeat requests to multiple agencies occurred resulting in the answer I had initially provided. This I understood to be a panic response to the pandemic and lack of understanding of IPC in healthcare settings. Policies and procedures across multiple departments were rewritten for Covid which I believe was unnecessary when IPC principles remain the same' (Respondent 19)</i>	<i>'We haven't learned from SARS1- why would be learn now' (Respondent 21).</i>
Workload	<i>'The dramatic increase in workload, especially during the early stages. Worked 12-hour days on my own with no other support, no admin support. Trying to appear calm and reassure others whilst feeling overwhelmed was difficult' (Respondent 102)</i>	<i>'Maintaining workforce to provide clinical care when we are already exhausted and afraid - this is a marathon and resources are depleted' (Respondent 41)</i>
	<i>'The workload during the initial preparedness phase and the media hype which created high anxiety in myself and many of my colleagues' (Respondent 9)</i>	<i>Having to look after patients and services on top of my previous workload with little or no extra personnel or other resources. Obtaining basic equipment or resources to monitor patients. Lots of money given to nebulous entities none given to actually looking after patients (Respondent 1)</i>

No vaccines	<i>'That there is no vaccine and as yet no clear treatment plan to reduce mortality' (Respondent 14)</i>	<i>'In the absence of effective therapy and vaccines, I think the Infectious Diseases community and the patient institutions they work in will have to be prepared for recurrent local epidemics for the foreseeable future and adapt due a 'new normal' both in terms of clinical practice and personal lives' (Respondent 10)</i>
Aged care-related risks	<i>'I am really worried about the risk to vulnerable community of residents (Residential aged care facility)' (Respondent 45)</i>	-
Fear	<i>'Fear amongst HCWs' (Respondent 92)</i>	<i>'Managing irrational fears and stress among colleagues (and friends)' (Respondent 18)</i>
Ignorance	<i>'Dealing with the ignorance of people on a daily basis. Even trained health professionals have demonstrated some pretty unedifying behaviour that has been out of proportion to the level of risk' (Respondent 47)</i>	<i>'There is a lack of respect for experts in the field and content experts are being overridden by decision makers, politicians and people without direct content knowledge or experience' (Respondent 5)</i>

Infection Control Professionals and COVID-19: Have your say!

INFECTION CONTROL PROFESSIONALS' KNOWLEDGE, PREPAREDNESS AND EXPERIENCES OF MANAGING SARS-COV-2 and COVID-19 IN AUSTRALIAN HEALTHCARE SETTINGS: A MULTIDISCIPLINARY STUDY

Participant Information Statement (HREC 2020/200)

(1) What is this study about?

We would like to invite you to take part in an ACIPC approved research study about Infection control professionals' knowledge, preparedness and experiences of managing SARS-CoV-2 and COVID-19 in the Australian healthcare settings. You have been invited to participate in this study because you are a member of ACIPC. ACIPC has approved this study of its members, infection control professionals, who are front-line healthcare workers with a fundamental role in managing the health and wellbeing of the Australian community.

This Participant Information Statement tells you about the research study. Knowing what is involved will help you decide if you want to take part in the research. Please read this sheet carefully and ask questions about anything that you don't understand or want to know more about. Participation in this research study is voluntary. By giving your consent to take part in this study you are telling us that you understand what you have read, agree to take part in the research study as outlined below, and agree to the use of your personal information as described.

(2) Who is running the study?

The study is being led by Professor Ramon Z. Shaban from the University of Sydney and Western Sydney Local Health District with his infection control colleagues Dr Deborah Macbeth, Professor Brett Mitchell, Associate Professor Philip Russo and Professor Marilyn Cruickshank, together with researchers Dr Cecilia Li, Dr Cristina Sotomayor-Castillo and Dr Shizar Nahidi from the University of Sydney. This study is an unfunded investigator-initiated project, and we do not require any additional resources than those available to us in our usual employment to ensure successful completion of this study. The researchers declare no conflicts of interest.

(3) What will the study involve for me?

We would like you to complete a short, anonymous online survey comprising of four sections. Section 1 asks a few demographic questions about you. Section 2 asks questions about your knowledge of COVID-19. In Section 3 we explore aspects about your preparedness for COVID-19, including training, provision of information and availability of guidelines. In the last section we explore your experiences of working as an infection control professional in the context of COVID-19. We ask that you do not include any personally identifying information in the survey responses. Most questions will have pre-defined answers; however, some will ask for a written response. Should you wish to do so, you are welcome to expand your replies or make any other comments at the end of the survey. By ticking the "I agree to participate" checkbox at the end of this statement you consent to participate in this study.

(4) How much of my time will the study take?

We estimate the survey will take you 10 minutes to complete.

(5) Who can take part in the study?

This is a survey of members of ACIPC. We are conducting a similar survey of 9 other frontline healthcare workers including infectious diseases physicians, general practitioners, emergency physicians, emergency nurses, intensivists, critical care nurses, public health physicians, paramedics and anaesthetists via their professional college or society.

(6) Do I have to be in the study? Can I withdraw from the study once I've started?

Participation in this study is completely voluntary and you do not have to take part. Your decision whether or not to participate will not affect your current or future relationship with ACIPC, the researchers, anyone else at the University of Sydney or any other organisation. Submitting your completed questionnaire is an indication of your consent to participate in the study. You can withdraw your responses any time before you have submitted the questionnaire. Once you have submitted it, your responses cannot be withdrawn.

(7) Are there any risks or costs associated with being in the study?

The risks to you participating in this study are low/negligible. The study is an anonymous online survey and participation is voluntary. Aside from giving up your valuable time, we do not expect that there will be any risks or costs associated with taking part in this study. There is no information obtained in connection with this research project that can identify you. All collected information will remain confidential and will only be accessed by the investigators. No data that identifies you will be reported in publications or presentations arising from the study. The

information you provide will only be used for the purpose of this research study, and will only be disclosed with your permission, except as required by law.

(8) Are there any benefits associated with being in the study?

While we cannot guarantee that you will receive any direct benefits from being in the study, this study will provide valuable information about your knowledge, preparedness and experiences of managing COVID-19 in the Australian healthcare settings. This information will help to identify gaps in infection control preparedness, inconsistencies between international and national guidelines, and any evidence-practice gaps in infection control practice.

(9) What will happen to information about me that is collected during the study?

By providing your consent, you are agreeing to us collecting your survey responses for the purposes of this research study. The information you provide will only be used for the purposes outlined in this Participant Information Statement. There is no information obtained in connection with this research project that can identify you. All collected information will remain confidential and will only be accessed by the researchers. The information you provide will be stored securely and kept strictly confidential, except as required by law. It is anticipated that the results of this research study will be published and/or presented in a variety of scientific forums. In any publication and/or presentation, information will be provided in such a way that you or your healthcare facility cannot be identified, except with your express permission. All data will be stored on password-protected confidential servers within the Western Sydney Local Health District and the University of Sydney Westmead Campus, in accordance with prevailing legislation policies at both institutions. In accordance with The University of Sydney Policy, records for this study will be stored securely for five years following publication of the results before destruction.

(10) Can I tell other people about the study?

Yes, you are welcome to tell other people about the study.

(11) What if I would like further information about the study?

For more information about the study please contact Coordinating Principal Investigator Professor Ramon Z. Shaban via email office.professor-shaban@sydney.edu.au or telephone 02 8627 3117

(12) Will I be told the results of the study?

You have the right to receive feedback about the overall results of this study. This feedback will be in the form of a one-page lay summary. No personalised feedback will be provided. If you wish to receive the one-page lay summary, please provide your email address at the end of the survey. You will receive this feedback after the study is completed.

(13) What if I have a complaint or any concerns about the study?

Research involving humans in Australia is reviewed by an independent group of people called a Human Research Ethics Committee (HREC). The ethical aspects of this study have been approved by the HREC of the University of Sydney (HREC 2020/200). The study has also been approved for distribution by ACIPC. As part of this process, we have agreed to carry out the study according to the National Statement on Ethical Conduct in Human Research (2007). This statement has been developed to protect people who agree to take part in research studies. If you are concerned about the way this study is being conducted or you wish to make a complaint to someone independent from the study, please contact the University HREC using the details outlined below quoting the study title and protocol number:

The Manager, Human Ethics Administration, University of Sydney. Telephone +61 2 8627 8176. Email: human.ethics@sydney.edu.au, Facsimile: 02 8627 8117

By ticking the "I agree to participate" checkbox, you consent to participate in this study.

I agree to participate

This is a list of the acronyms used in the survey:

SARS-CoV-2: Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome Coronavirus 2 COVID-19: Coronavirus Disease 2019

SECTION 1: DEMOGRAPHICS

1. What is your country of residence?

- Australia
- New Zealand
- Other

2. In which Australian state or territory do you currently or ordinarily work?

- Australian Capital Territory
- New South Wales
- Northern Territory
- Queensland
- South Australia
- Tasmania
- Victoria
- Western Australia
- I don't live in Australia

3. How many years have you worked in your professional field as of 01 January 2020?

4. Have you completed an infection prevention and control qualification?

- Yes
- No

4a. Please specify

5. Are you currently credentialed with the Australasian College of Infection Prevention and Control (ACIPC)?

- Yes
- No

5a. What level of ACIPC credentialling do you hold?

- Primary Infection Control Professional
- Advanced Infection Control Professional
- Expert Infection Control Professional

SECTION 2: KNOWLEDGE In this section we would like to ask some questions about what you know about COVID-19.

6. Where do you routinely go for up-to-date information about COVID-19? (Please select all that apply)(Please select all that apply)

- World Health Organization website
- US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) website
- Australia Government Health Protection Principal Committee
- 2019 Australian Guidelines for the Prevention and Control of Infection in Healthcare
- Communicable Diseases Network Australia (CDNA) Guidelines
- State/territory departments of health website
- Commonwealth Department of Health website
- Colleagues
- Scientific literature and journals
- Social media (e.g. Twitter, Facebook),
- Television, radio or newspaper
- ACIPC website
- National COVID-19 Clinical Evidence Taskforce
- Other

7. Which of the following ACIPC website COVID-19 resources do you use? (Please select all that apply)

- Australian Government Department of Health COVID-19 website link
- Australian states and territories website links
- NZ Ministry of Health website link
- Johns Hopkins Coronavirus Resource Center website link
- Smart Traveller website link
- WHO website link
- CDNA National guidelines for public health units website link
- ACIPC COVID-19 position statement
- None of the above

8. How would you rate your current level of knowledge about COVID-19?

- Poor
- Fair
- Good
- Very good
- Excellent

9. Information about this outbreak changes rapidly. How easy or difficult is it to keep up-to-date with the following areas of information about COVID-19?

	Very difficult	Difficult	Neutral	Easy	Very easy
Case definition	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Epidemiology (Data on the number of cases and locations)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Clinical presentation, signs, symptoms	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Laboratory testing	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Infection prevention and control measures	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Use of personal protect equipment	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Treatment and management	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Isolation practices	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Contact tracing and outbreak management	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Travel advisory and restrictions	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Public health orders	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

SECTION 3: PREPAREDNESS**In this section we want to know about aspects of preparedness for COVID-19.**

10. Have you completed any general outbreak management education and training?

- Yes
 No

10a. Who provided this education and training?

- Internal program run within my workplace
 ACIPC
 External program

11. Are you a member of a COVID-19 planning or response committee? (Please select all that apply)

- Yes, at hospital level
 Yes, at health district level
 Yes, in a private business
 Yes, at state level
 Yes, at national level
 Yes, at international level
 No

12. How prepared were you for COVID-19 on 31 December 2019?

- Not at all prepared
 Slightly prepared
 Somewhat prepared
 Moderately prepared
 Extremely prepared

13. How prepared are you for COVID-19 today?

- Not at all prepared
 Slightly prepared
 Somewhat prepared
 Moderately prepared
 Extremely prepared

14. How prepared do you think your workplace is to manage COVID-19 into the future?

- Not at all prepared
 Slightly prepared
 Somewhat prepared
 Moderately prepared
 Extremely prepared

15. How prepared do you think Australia was for COVID-19?

- Not at all prepared
 Slightly prepared
 Somewhat prepared
 Moderately prepared
 Extremely prepared

16. In your opinion, has your workplace provided clear, timely and authoritative information about COVID-19?

- Strongly disagree
 Somewhat disagree
 Neutral
 Somewhat agree
 Strongly agree

17. In your opinion, has your state or territory government health department provided clear, timely and authoritative information about COVID-19?

- Strongly disagree
 Somewhat disagree
 Neutral
 Somewhat agree
 Strongly agree

18. In your opinion, has the Australian Government Department of Health provided clear, timely and authoritative information about COVID-19?

- Strongly disagree
 Somewhat disagree
 Neutral
 Somewhat agree
 Strongly agree

19. Have you received specific education, training or instruction about COVID-19 within your workplace?

- Yes
 No

19a. What kind of education, training or instruction did you receive?(Please select all that apply)

- In-service education
 Lectures or Grand Rounds
 Practical Personal Protective Equipment instruction
 Written materials

19b. How would you rate the adequacy of this education, training or instruction?

- Not at all adequate
 Slightly adequate
 Somewhat adequate
 Mostly adequate
 Entirely adequate

20. Have you received training or certification in the use of personal protective equipment (PPE) for managing COVID-19?

- Yes
 No

20a. How would you rate the adequacy of this training or certification in the use of personal protective equipment (PPE) for managing COVID-19?

- Not at all adequate
 Slightly adequate
 Somewhat adequate
 Mostly adequate
 Entirely adequate

21. How confident are you in using personal protective equipment (PPE) for managing COVID-19?

- Not at all confident
 Slightly confident
 Somewhat confident
 Mostly confident
 Entirely confident

22. Does your workplace have COVID-19 guidelines and an outbreak response plan?

- Yes
 No
 Don't know

22a. How familiar are you with your workplace's COVID-19 guidelines and outbreak response plan?

- Not at all familiar
 Slightly familiar
 Somewhat familiar
 Moderately familiar
 Entirely familiar

22b. How easy or difficult is it for you to adhere to your workplace's guidelines and outbreak response plan for COVID-19?

- Very difficult
 Difficult
 Neutral
 Easy
 Very easy

SECTION 4: EXPERIENCES

In this section we want to hear about your experiences of working in the COVID-19 outbreak.

23. Is your workplace involved in assessing suspected cases of COVID-19? Yes
 No
 Don't know
-
24. Does your workplace refer suspected or confirmed cases COVID-19 to other facilities? Yes
 No
 Don't know
-
25. Is your workplace involved in treating suspected or confirmed cases of COVID-19? Yes
 No
 Don't know
-
26. Have you been directly involved in caring for confirmed or suspected cases of COVID-19? Yes
 No
 Don't know
-
27. How concerned are you currently about contracting SARS-CoV-2? Not at all concerned
 Slightly concerned
 Somewhat concerned
 Moderately concerned
 Extremely concerned
-
28. Have you taken annual leave because you are, or have been, concerned about contracting SARS-CoV-2 at work? Yes
 No
 Prefer not to say
-
29. Have you taken sick leave because you are, or have been, concerned about contracting SARS-CoV-2 at work? Yes
 No
 Prefer not to say
-
30. Have you, or would you, avoid telling others that you have cared for patients with COVID-19 because you are afraid of a negative reaction from them? Yes
 No
 Don't know
 Prefer not to say
-
31. Do you feel that your family or friends have, or are, avoiding contact with you due to the nature of your work? Yes
 No
 Don't know
 Prefer not to say
-
32. Have you experienced or witnessed racial or other forms of discrimination at work associated with the COVID-19 outbreak? Yes
 No
 Don't know
 Prefer not to say
-
33. Has the COVID-19 outbreak increased your workload (i.e. added to your normal, daily duties)? No, it has lessened
 No, it has stayed the same
 Slightly more
 Somewhat more
 Moderately more
 Considerably more

34. Do you feel more stressed than usual at work due to the outbreak of COVID-19?

- Not at all
- Slightly
- Somewhat
- Moderately
- Extremely

35. Have you participated in any of the following COVID-19 outbreak response activity? (Please select all that apply)

- Reviewing and updating policies or procedures
- Establishing fever clinics
- Training in donning and doffing PPE
- Supporting healthcare staff
- Supporting other staff
- Planning for surge capacity
- None of the above

36. Does your workplace provide debriefing or staff psychological support services to you regarding COVID-19?

- Yes, debriefing only
- Yes, staff psychological support only
- Yes, both
- Neither
- Don't know

37. Have you attended debriefings in your workplace regarding COVID-19, and were they useful?

- No
- Yes, but it was not useful
- Yes, and it was slightly useful
- Yes, and it was moderately useful
- Yes, and it was extremely useful

38. Have you accessed psychological support services in your workplace regarding COVID-19, and was it useful?

- No
- Yes, but it was not useful
- Yes, and it was slightly useful
- Yes, and it was moderately useful
- Yes, and it was extremely useful

39. What is for you the single biggest issue about COVID-19?

40. Do you have any other comments to make about SARS-CoV-2 and COVID-19?

If you wish to receive a summary of the survey findings, please provide your email address.

Infectious Diseases Physicians and COVID-19: Have your say!

INFECTIOUS DISEASES PHYSICIANS' KNOWLEDGE, PREPAREDNESS AND EXPERIENCES OF MANAGING SARS-COV-2 and COVID-19 IN AUSTRALIAN HEALTHCARE SETTINGS: A MULTIDISCIPLINARY STUDY

Participant Information Statement (HREC 2020/200)

(1) What is this study about?

We would like to invite you to take part in an ASID approved research study about infectious diseases physicians' knowledge, preparedness and experiences of managing SARS-CoV-2 and COVID-19 in the Australian healthcare settings. You have been invited to participate in this study because you are a member of ASID. ASID has approved this study of its members, ID physicians, who are front-line healthcare workers with a fundamental role in managing the health and wellbeing of the Australian community.

This Participant Information Statement tells you about the research study. Knowing what is involved will help you decide if you want to take part in the research. Please read this sheet carefully and ask questions about anything that you don't understand or want to know more about. Participation in this research study is voluntary. By giving your consent to take part in this study you are telling us that you understand what you have read, agree to take part in the research study as outlined below, and agree to the use of your personal information as described.

(2) Who is running the study?

The study is being led by Professor Ramon Z. Shaban from the University of Sydney and Western Sydney Local Health District with his ID physician colleagues Dr Nicky Gilroy, Dr Patricia Ferguson, Professor Tania Sorrell and Dr Matthew Watts together with researchers Dr Cecilia Li, Dr Cristina Sotomayor-Castillo and Dr Shizar Nahidi from the University of Sydney. This study is an unfunded investigator-initiated project, and we do not require any additional resources than those available to us in our usual employment to ensure successful completion of this study. The researchers declare no conflicts of interest.

(3) What will the study involve for me?

We would like you to complete a short, anonymous online survey comprising of four sections. Section 1 asks a few demographic questions about you. Section 2 asks questions about your knowledge of COVID-19. In Section 3 we explore aspects about your preparedness for COVID-19, including training, provision of information and availability of guidelines. In the last section we explore your experiences of working as an ID physician in the context of COVID-19. We ask that you do not include any personally identifying information in the survey responses. Most questions will have pre-defined answers; however, some will ask for a written response. Should you wish to do so, you are welcome to expand your replies or make any other comments at the end of the survey. By ticking the "I agree to participate" checkbox at the end of this statement you consent to participate in this study.

(4) How much of my time will the study take?

We estimate the survey will take you 10 minutes to complete.

(5) Who can take part in the study?

This is a survey of members of ASID. We are conducting a similar survey of 8 other frontline healthcare workers including emergency nurses, general practitioners, emergency physicians, infection control specialists, intensivists, critical care nurses, public health physicians and paramedics via their professional college or society.

(6) Do I have to be in the study? Can I withdraw from the study once I've started?

Participation in this study is completely voluntary and you do not have to take part. Your decision whether or not to participate will not affect your current or future relationship with ASID, the researchers, or anyone else at the University of Sydney and/or any other organisation. Submitting your completed questionnaire is an indication of your consent to participate in the study. You can withdraw your responses at any time before you have submitted the questionnaire. Once you have submitted it, your responses cannot be withdrawn.

(7) Are there any risks or costs associated with being in the study?

The risks to you participating in this study are low/negligible. The study is an anonymous online survey and participation is voluntary. Aside from giving up your valuable time, we do not expect that there will be any risks or costs associated with taking part in this study. There is no information obtained in connection with this research project that can identify you. All collected information will remain confidential and will only be accessed by the investigators. No data that identifies you will be reported in publications or presentations arising from the study. The

information you provide will only be used for the purpose of this research study, and will only be disclosed with your permission, except as required by law.

(8) Are there any benefits associated with being in the study?

While we cannot guarantee that you will receive any direct benefits from being in the study, this study will provide valuable information about your knowledge, preparedness and experiences of managing COVID-19 in the Australian healthcare settings. This information will help to identify gaps in infection control preparedness, inconsistencies between international and national guidelines, and any evidence-practice gaps in infectious diseases-related practice.

(9) What will happen to information about me that is collected during the study?

By providing your consent, you are agreeing to us collecting your survey responses for the purposes of this research study. The information you provide will only be used for the purposes outlined in this Participant Information Statement. There is no information obtained in connection with this research project that can identify you. All collected information will remain confidential and will only be accessed by the researchers. The information you provide will be stored securely and kept strictly confidential, except as required by law. It is anticipated that the results of this research study will be published and/or presented in a variety of scientific forums. In any publication and/or presentation, information will be provided in such a way that you or your healthcare facility cannot be identified, except with your express permission. All data will be stored on password-protected confidential servers within the Western Sydney Local Health District and the University of Sydney Westmead Campus, in accordance with prevailing legislation policies at both institutions. In accordance with The University of Sydney Policy, records for this study will be stored securely for five years following publication of the results before destruction.

(10) Can I tell other people about the study?

Yes, you are welcome to tell other people about the study.

(11) What if I would like further information about the study?

For more information about the study please contact Coordinating Principal Investigator Professor Ramon Z. Shaban via email office.professor-shaban@sydney.edu.au or telephone 02 8627 3117

(12) Will I be told the results of the study?

You have the right to receive feedback about the overall results of this study. This feedback will be in the form of a one-page lay summary. No personalised feedback will be provided. If you wish to receive the one-page lay summary, please provide your email address at the end of the survey. You will receive this feedback after the study is completed.

(13) What if I have a complaint or any concerns about the study?

Research involving humans in Australia is reviewed by an independent group of people called a Human Research Ethics Committee (HREC). The ethical aspects of this study have been approved by the HREC of the University of Sydney (HREC 2020/200). The study has also been approved for distribution by ASID. As part of this process, we have agreed to carry out the study according to the National Statement on Ethical Conduct in Human Research (2007). This statement has been developed to protect people who agree to take part in research studies. If you are concerned about the way this study is being conducted or you wish to make a complaint to someone independent from the study, please contact the University HREC using the details outlined below quoting the study title and protocol number:

The Manager, Human Ethics Administration, University of Sydney. Telephone +61 2 8627 8176. Email: human.ethics@sydney.edu.au, Facsimile: 02 8627 8117

By ticking the "I agree to participate" checkbox, you consent to participate in this study.

I agree to participate

This is a list of the acronyms used in the survey:

SARS-CoV-2: Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome Coronavirus 2 COVID-19: Coronavirus Disease 2019

SECTION 1: DEMOGRAPHICS

1. What is your country of residence?

- Australia
- New Zealand
- Other

2. In which Australian state or territory do you currently or ordinarily work?

- Australian Capital Territory
- New South Wales
- Northern Territory
- Queensland
- South Australia
- Tasmania
- Victoria
- Western Australia
- I don't live in Australia

3. What is your speciality?
(please select all that apply)

- Adult infectious diseases
- Paediatric infectious diseases
- Dual trained with microbiology
- Dual trained with general medicine
- Dual trained with other speciality (please specify)

4. How many individual specialists are employed in your infectious diseases department?

5. How many years have you worked in your professional field as of 01 January 2020?

SECTION 2: KNOWLEDGEIn this section we would like to ask some questions about what you know about COVID-19.

6. Where do you routinely go for up-to-date information about COVID-19? (Please select all that apply)

- World Health Organization website
- US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) website
- Australia Government Health Protection Principal Committee
- 2019 Australian Guidelines for the Prevention and Control of Infection in Healthcare
- Communicable Diseases Network Australia (CDNA) Guidelines
- State/territory departments of health website
- Commonwealth Department of Health website
- Colleagues
- Scientific literature and journals
- Social media (e.g. Twitter, Facebook),
- Television, radio or newspaper
- ASID website
- National COVID-19 Clinical Evidence Taskforce
- Local (hospital) practice guidelines
- Other

7. Which of the following ASID COVID-19 resources do you use? (Please select all that apply)

- National COVID-19 Clinical Evidence Taskforce: Living Guidelines
- Updated Interim guidelines for the clinical management of COVID-19 in children and adolescents
- ASID Interim guidelines for the clinical management of COVID-19 in adults
- Other useful guidelines available (Haematology-Oncology; Residential Aged Care Facilities; Dental; Detention Facilities)
- Paediatrics (MDU COVID-19 kids research evidence update; Don't forget the bubbles COVID-19 resources)
- Advice for clinicians: Paediatric Inflammatory Multisystem Syndrome Temporally associated with SARS-COV-2 (PIMS-TS)
- MIDG COVID-19 Discussion Forums
- ASID Ozbug email discussion forum
- ASID webinar series
- None of the above

8. How would you rate your current level of knowledge about COVID-19?

- Poor
- Fair
- Good
- Very good
- Excellent

9. Information about this outbreak changes rapidly. How easy or difficult is it to keep up-to-date with the following areas of information about COVID-19?

	Very difficult	Difficult	Neutral	Easy	Very easy
Case definition	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Epidemiology (Data on the number of cases and locations)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Clinical presentation, signs, symptoms	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Laboratory testing	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Infection prevention and control measures	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Use of personal protect equipment	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Treatment and management	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Isolation practices	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Contact tracing and outbreak management	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Travel advisory and restrictions	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Public health orders	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

SECTION 3: PREPAREDNESS

In this section we want to know about aspects of preparedness for COVID-19.

10. Have you completed any general outbreak management education and training?

- Yes
 No

10a. Who provided this education and training?

- Internal program run within my workplace
 ASID
 External program

11. Are you a member of a COVID-19 planning or response committee? (Please select all that apply)

- Yes, at unit level
 Yes, at hospital level
 Yes, at health district level
 Yes, at state level
 Yes, at national level
 Yes, at international level
 No

12. How prepared were you for COVID-19 on 31 December 2019?

- Not at all prepared
 Slightly prepared
 Somewhat prepared
 Moderately prepared
 Extremely prepared

13. How prepared are you for COVID-19 today?

- Not at all prepared
 Slightly prepared
 Somewhat prepared
 Moderately prepared
 Extremely prepared

14. How prepared do you think your workplace is to manage COVID-19 into the future?

- Not at all prepared
 Slightly prepared
 Somewhat prepared
 Moderately prepared
 Extremely prepared

15. How prepared do you think Australia was for COVID-19?

- Not at all prepared
 Slightly prepared
 Somewhat prepared
 Moderately prepared
 Extremely prepared

16. In your opinion, has your workplace provided clear, timely and authoritative information about COVID-19?

- Strongly disagree
 Somewhat disagree
 Neutral
 Somewhat agree
 Strongly agree

17. In your opinion, has your state or territory government health department provided clear, timely and authoritative information about COVID-19?

- Strongly disagree
 Somewhat disagree
 Neutral
 Somewhat agree
 Strongly agree

18. In your opinion, has the Australian Government Department of Health provided clear, timely and authoritative information about COVID-19?

- Strongly disagree
 Somewhat disagree
 Neutral
 Somewhat agree
 Strongly agree

19. Have you received specific education, training or instruction about COVID-19 within your workplace?

- Yes
 No

19a. What kind of education, training or instruction did you receive?(Please select all that apply)

- In-service education
 Lectures or Grand Rounds
 Practical Personal Protective Equipment training and certification
 Written materials
 Infectious diseases-specific e-learning

19b. How would you rate the adequacy of this education, training or instruction?

- Not at all adequate
 Slightly adequate
 Somewhat adequate
 Mostly adequate
 Entirely adequate

20. Have you been involved in providing/producing information or training for managing COVID-19?

- Yes
 No

21. Have you been specifically involved in providing/producing information or training in using personal protective equipment (PPE) for managing COVID-19?

- Yes
 No

22. Has your facility purchased PAPR during the COVID-19 outbreak?

- Yes
 No
 Had already

22a. Have you been involved in the implementation of PAPR use in your facility?

- Yes
 No

23. Have you received training or certification in the use of personal protective equipment (PPE) for managing COVID-19?

- Yes
 No

23a. How would you rate the adequacy of this training or certification in the use of personal protective equipment (PPE) for managing COVID-19?

- Not at all adequate
 Slightly adequate
 Somewhat adequate
 Mostly adequate
 Entirely adequate

24. How confident are you in using personal protective equipment (PPE) for managing COVID-19?

- Not at all confident
 Slightly confident
 Somewhat confident
 Mostly confident
 Entirely confident

25. Does your workplace have COVID-19 guidelines and an outbreak response plan?

- Yes
 No
 Don't know

25a. How familiar are you with your workplace's COVID-19 guidelines and outbreak response plan?

- Not at all familiar
- Slightly familiar
- Somewhat familiar
- Moderately familiar
- Entirely familiar

25b. How easy or difficult is it for you to adhere to your workplace's guidelines and outbreak response plan for COVID-19?

- Very difficult
- Difficult
- Neutral
- Easy
- Very easy

SECTION 4: EXPERIENCES

In this section we want to hear about your experiences of working during COVID-19 outbreak.

26. Is your workplace involved in assessing suspected cases of COVID-19?

Yes
 No
 Don't know

27. Does your workplace refer suspected or confirmed cases COVID-19 to other facilities?

Yes
 No
 Don't know

28. is your workplace involved in treating suspected or confirmed cases COVID-19 to other facilities?

Yes
 No
 Don't know

29. Have you been directly involved in caring for confirmed or suspected cases of COVID-19?

Yes
 No
 Don't know

30. How concerned are you currently about contracting SARS-CoV-2?

Not at all concerned
 Slightly concerned
 Somewhat concerned
 Moderately concerned
 Extremely concerned

31. Have you asked to be deployed from your usual work to an area that is less likely to have direct contact with COVID-19 patients or to work from home?

Yes
 No
 Prefer not to say

32. Have you made changes to your living arrangements to reduce risk while caring for confirmed or suspected cases of COVID-19 (e.g., moving out of a shared bedroom, or staying in another house)?

Yes
 No
 Prefer not to say

33. Do you have a medical condition that puts you at a higher risk of acquiring infection or of developing a more severe infection?

Yes
 No
 Don't know
 Prefer not to say

34. Do you have children?

Yes
 No
 Prefer not to say

35. Do you have family members that are more at risk of COVID-19?

Yes
 No
 Prefer not to say

36. Have you taken annual leave because you are, or have been, concerned about contracting SARS-CoV-2 at work?

Yes
 No
 Prefer not to say

37. Have you taken sick leave because you are, or have been, concerned about contracting SARS-CoV-2 at work?

Yes
 No
 Prefer not to say

38. Have you, or would you, avoid telling others that you have cared for patients with COVID-19 because you are afraid of a negative reaction from them?

- Yes
 No
 Don't know
 Prefer not to say

39. Do you feel that your family or friends have, or are, avoiding contact with you due to the nature of your work?

- Yes
 No
 Don't know
 Prefer not to say

40. Have you experienced or witnessed racial or other forms of discrimination at work associated with the COVID-19 outbreak?

- Yes
 No
 Don't know
 Prefer not to say

41. Has the COVID-19 outbreak increased your workload (i.e. added to your normal daily duties)?

- No, it has lessened
 No, it has stayed the same
 Slightly more
 Somewhat more
 Moderately more
 Considerably more

42. Do you feel more stressed than usual at work due to the outbreak of COVID-19?

- Not at all
 Slightly
 Somewhat
 Moderately
 Extremely

43. Have you participated in any of the following COVID-19 outbreak response activity? (Please select all that apply)

- Reviewing and updating policies or procedures
 Establishing fever clinics
 Training in donning and doffing PPE
 Supporting healthcare staff
 Supporting other staff
 Planning for surge capacity
 None of the above

44. Does your workplace provide debriefing or staff psychological support services to you regarding COVID-19?

- Yes, debriefing only
 Yes, staff psychological support only
 Yes, both
 Neither
 Don't know

45. Have you attended debriefings in your workplace regarding COVID-19, and were they useful?

- No
 Yes, but it was not useful
 Yes, and it was slightly useful
 Yes, and it was moderately useful
 Yes, and it was extremely useful

46. Have you accessed psychological support services in your workplace regarding COVID-19, and was it useful?

- No
 Yes, but it was not useful
 Yes, and it was slightly useful
 Yes, and it was moderately useful
 Yes, and it was extremely useful

47. What is for you the single biggest issue about COVID-19?

48. Do you have any other comments to make about SARS-CoV-2 and COVID-19?

If you wish to receive a summary of the survey findings, please provide your email address.
