

PEER REVIEW HISTORY

BMJ Open publishes all reviews undertaken for accepted manuscripts. Reviewers are asked to complete a checklist review form (<http://bmjopen.bmj.com/site/about/resources/checklist.pdf>) and are provided with free text boxes to elaborate on their assessment. These free text comments are reproduced below.

ARTICLE DETAILS

TITLE (PROVISIONAL)	Impact of COVID-19 Lockdown on the Incidence and Patterns of Toxic Exposures and Poisoning in Jordan; A Retrospective Descriptive Study
AUTHORS	Raffee , Liqaa; Daradkeh, Hamza; Alawneh, Khaled; Al – Fwadleh, Aida; Darweesh, Moath; Hammad, Nouran; Almasarweh, Sami

VERSION 1 – REVIEW

REVIEWER	Omid Mehrpour Birjand University of Medical Sciences, Medical Toxicology and Drug Abuse Research Center
REVIEW RETURNED	28-Jun-2021

GENERAL COMMENTS	<p>This is retrospective study which investigated the incidence and patterns of poisoning reported to one the poisoning center in Jordan during lockdown related to Covid-19 pandemic compared to the same time period of the previous year. Although, the topic is interesting, but the author should make some more revision:</p> <p>Introduction 1.Authors mentioned that "we believe that the lockdown has led to an increase in toxic exposures and poisoning cases, especially those associated with cleaners, hand sanitizers, and alcohol". What evidence did you have that made you believe that lockdown caused an increase in poisoning before conducting your study? it'd be great if authors change that sentence to something like the following: "we sought to conduct this study to investigate whether lockdown has led to increase in poisoning cases"</p> <p>Methodology 1.The authors should provide more information about the poisoning collecting system in your country, how we can rely on the accuracy of data? 2.Please provide more information regarding statistical analysis of the study, version of the software you performed statistical analysis, eligibility criteria, and the reason about why your study was exempted from approval of the ethics committee. 3.Please provide more details about Poison Severity Score and the reason that you chose this measurement to define the terms and variable sof your study.</p> <p>Results 1.There are some information in the result section that also presented in the tables, so that please try to avoid redundancy in result section</p> <p>Discussion 1.That would be great if authors provide some more details and not just confining to comparison with other studies that similarly being conducted to investigate the impact of lockdown on poisoning for</p>
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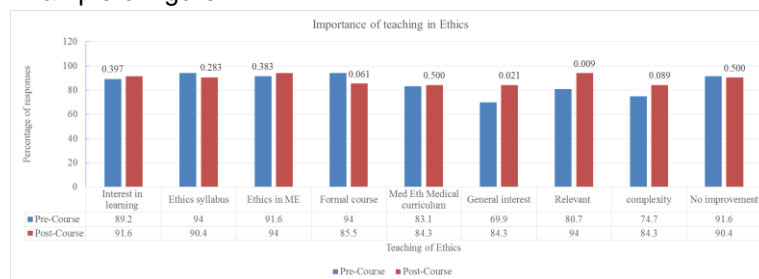
	<p>instance how's the age pattern of the poisoning that you tried to investigate in another studies.</p> <p>2.It was mentioned in discussion section that "This study highlights the important role of poison centers, as they help decrease the burden on healthcare facilities". How would this study be able to reduce the burden on the health care? It would be interesting to provide some details in this regard in discussion.</p> <p>3.The author should provide a pattern of poisoning in your country before pandemic. Also discuss if this pattern is changed. See below: Alinejad S, Zamani N, Abdollahi M, et al. A Narrative Review of Acute Adult Poisoning in Iran. Iran J Med Sci. 2017 Jul;42(4):327-346.</p> <p>4. What was the effect of pandemic on toxic alcohol poisoning?</p> <p>5. What was the effect of pandemic on opioid use? The authors might want to discuss these effects in other countries: Ataei M, Shirazi FM, Lamarine RJ, Nakhaee S,et al. A double-edged sword of using opioids and COVID-19: a toxicological view. Subst Abuse Treat Prev Policy. 2020 Dec 3;15(1):91.</p> <p>Mehrpour O, Sadeghi M. Toll of acute methanol poisoning for preventing COVID-19. Arch Toxicol. 2020 Jun;94(6):2259-2260. doi: 10.1007/s00204-020-02795-2.</p> <p>6. The reason that the severe cases and death was less should be discussed more. References The references should be in the correct format.</p>
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REVIEWER	Surjit Singh AIIMS Jodphur, Pharmacology
REVIEW RETURNED	30-Jun-2021

GENERAL COMMENTS	<p>Comments It is a well written article. However, there is scope of improvement in English language.</p> <p>Eg: Abstract Method section – Page 4 line 27. We select to study data.....for responding civil defense calls, the primary.... The comma is missing. Kindly do these type of corrections.</p> <p>English correction needed at:</p> <p>Page 5 line 26-30.</p> <p>Results:</p> <p>Page 7: line 9. Number should be along with percentage like “During COVID-19....., which represents 91% (number 285 in 2019).</p> <p>Page 7, line 20. There should not be any brackets. Like heavy metals increased by 300%, 208%...(Table 1, Figure 1). Correct line 27 table and figure number mentioned. Lable table as table 1.</p> <p>Figures: Complete figures as percentage is missing. While using excel add “data table” as table below the graph. This function is</p>
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available in excel.

Example of figure:



While adding table, you need to decrease the size of name of exposure like scorpion and snake can be used in place of scorpion stings and snake bites respectively.

Discussion: Discuss some results of reference number 14 to 16, which are similar studies, although some are discussed on page 11.

Suicidal number have not decreased. Its just percentage has decreased as there is increase in other poisoning cases.

VERSION 1 – AUTHOR RESPONSE

Reviewer 1 (Dr. Omid Mehrpour) comments

Introduction

Comment 1

Methods

Comment 1

Comment 2

The sentence was replaced (page 5 / line 5-7)

More information about poisoning collecting system in our country was provided line (page 6 / line 5)

More information about statistical analysis , software version (page 7 / line 15-18)

	<p>More information about the reason why this study was exempted from IRB review (page 8 / line 1-5)</p>
<p>Comment 3</p>	<p>More details about PSS (page 6 / line 15-20) + (page 7 / line 10-14)</p>
	<p><u>Results</u></p>
<p>Comment 1</p>	<p>We removed some of the results that seems redundant, while not affecting the readability of the results (manuscript – marked copy page 10 / line 8 + 9 + 10 +12 + 16), (page 11 / line 1 + 7 + 8 + 13 + 15 + 17), (page 12 / line 1)</p>
	<p><u>Discussion</u></p>
<p>Comment 1</p>	<p>We discuss most of the results related to other studies through the discussion section, we also added a separate sections on alcohol and opioid poisoning</p>
<p>Comment 2</p>	<p>More details about the role of poison centers (page 15 / line 21-23), (page 16 / line 1-6)</p>
<p>Comment 3</p>	<p>More details about poisoning in Jordan before the pandemic (page 14 / line 16-23)</p>

Comment on suicide	We agree with respected reviewer that the decrease was not that significant, but it is important as we link it to the decreased severity (page 14 / line13).
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VERSION 2 – REVIEW

REVIEWER	Surjit Singh AIIMS Jodphur, Pharmacology
REVIEW RETURNED	04-Oct-2021

GENERAL COMMENTS	Good work
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