

Telepharmacy Knowledge, Attitude and Practice among Egyptian Pharmacists amid the COVID-19 Pandemic

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INTRODUCTION

Telepharmacy has garnered increased global attention due to the COVID-19 pandemic's impact on direct access to pharmacy services. There is little information available in Egypt about pharmacists' knowledge, attitudes, and scope of telepharmacy practice.

AIM AND OBJECTIVES

To assess the knowledge, attitude, and practice (KAP) of Egyptian pharmacists regarding telepharmacy during the COVID-19 Pandemic.

METHODS

- ➤ It is a cross-sectional quantitative survey study.
- A 21-item survey was developed, validated by a panel of five experts (S-CVI/Ave = 0.93).
- The survey has four sections to collect data on participants' demographics, knowledge, attitude, and practice of telepharmacy.
- The data were collected between March and June 2021 through online survey distribution to Egyptian pharmacists in ambulatory care settings.
- > SPSS version 27 was used for descriptive and inferential statistics.
- \triangleright A p-value of < 0.05 was considered statistically significant.

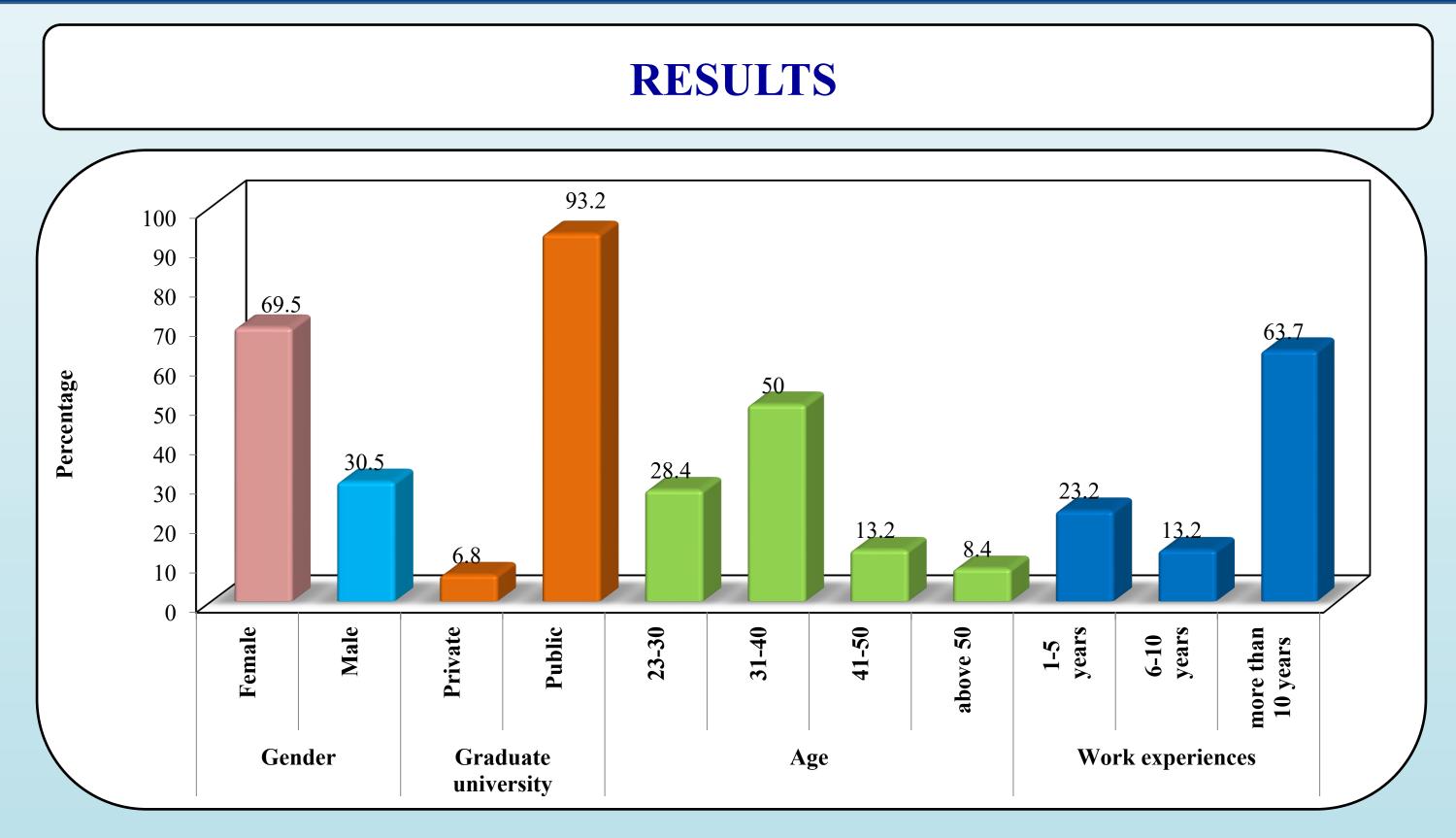


Figure (1): Demographics of the survey participants

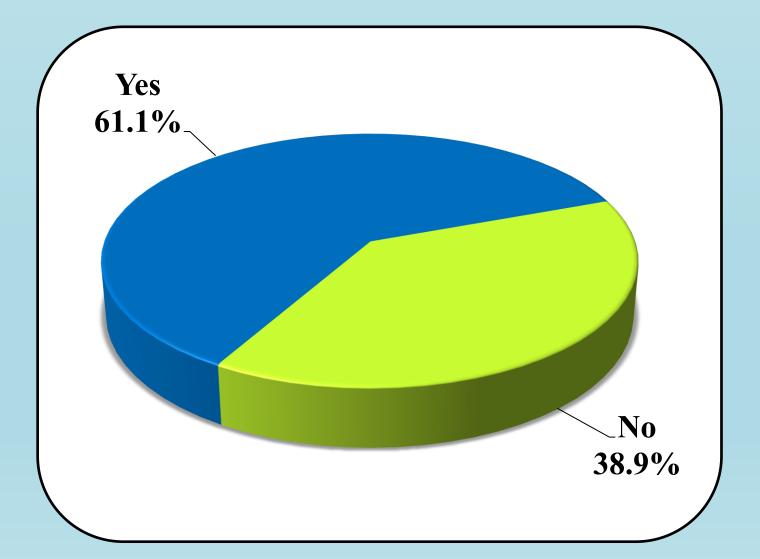


Figure (2): Prior knowledge to Telepharmacy

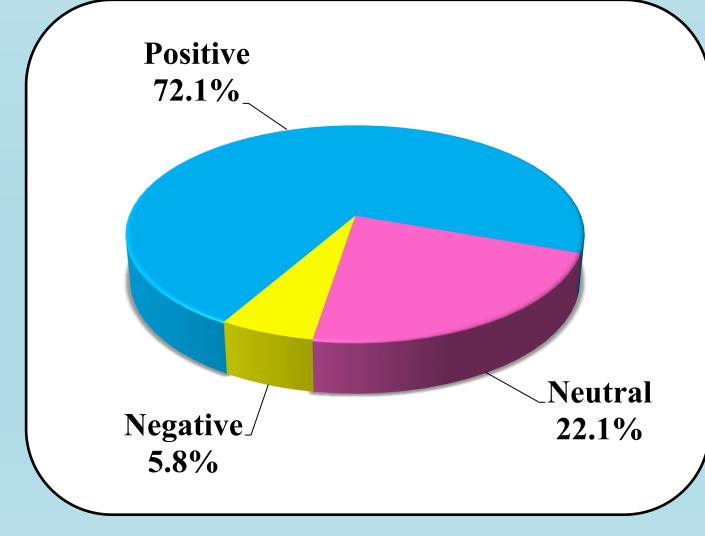


Figure (3): Interest in Telepharmacy certification program

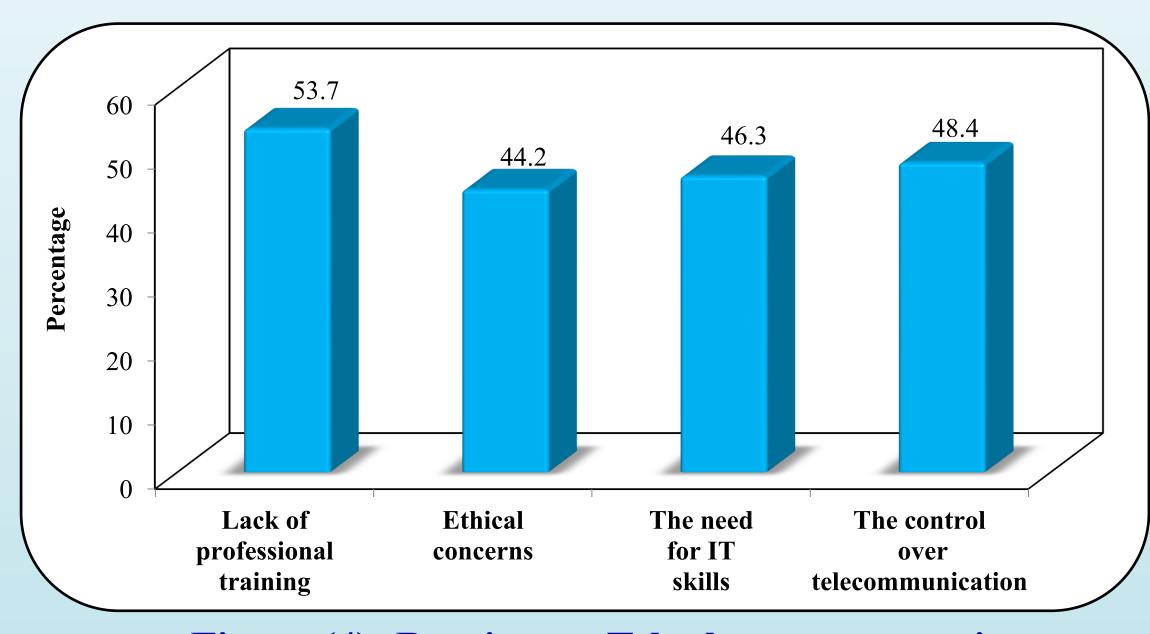


Figure (4): Barriers to Telepharmacy practice

Inferential statistics showed that the female gender (OR = 3.5, p = 0.003) and the prior knowledge of telepharmacy (OR=1.9, p=0.045) were significantly associated with the expansion of telepharmacy in response to the pandemic

CONCLUSION

While a considerable proportion of the participants were unfamiliar with telepharmacy as a term, they had a positive attitude towards the potential opportunities of telepharmacy amid the COVID-19 pandemic. Addressing the reported barriers will be critical to telepharmacy services being fully integrated in Egypt.