

Public's Willingness to Perform COVID-19 Self-Testing during the Transition to the Endemic Phase in Malaysia – A Population-Based Cross-Sectional Study

Greetings, we are a team of medical doctors/researchers from various universities and health institutions in Malaysia who would like to know the willingness of Malaysians to do self-testing for COVID-19.

Beginning 1st of April 2022, Malaysia has entered into the Transition to the Endemic Phase of COVID-19 which emphasize on TRIIS - Test, Report, Isolate, Inform, and Seek treatment.

Self-testing for COVID-19, refers to collection of specimen (saliva, or nasal/throat swab), conduction of test, and interpretation of the result, by individuals themselves using rapid antigen kits.

Your input is very important. There is no right or wrong for your answer. You will be required to provide basic information about yourself and subsequently answer short and simple questions. The information that you provided will be kept strictly confidential.

This study has been approved by the Ethics Committee of University Malaya - MREC ID. 2022312-11071.

* Indicates required question

1. Do you wish to participate? *

Mark only one oval.

Yes

No

A. Socio-demographic data:

Please choose the best answers that describe yourself.

2. What is your age? *

3. What is your gender? *

Mark only one oval.

Male [1]

Female [2]

4. What is your marital status? *

Mark only one oval.

Married [1]

Single [2]

Separated/widow [3]

5. Where are you currently staying? *

Mark only one oval.

Central region - Selangor, Kuala Lumpur, and Putrajaya [1]

Southern region - Johor, Melaka, and Negeri Sembilan [2]

Northern region - Kedah, Perlis, Penang, and Perak [3]

East coast - Kelantan, Terengganu, and Pahang [4]

Borneo - Sarawak, Sabah, and Labuan [5]

6. What is your highest education level? *

Mark only one oval.

University or college [1]

Secondary school and below [2]

7. What is your household income? *

Mark only one oval.

- B40 (RM6200 or less) [1]
 M40 (> RM6200 - 13,000) [2]
 T20 (> RM13,000) [3]

8. What is your occupation? *

Mark only one oval.

- Employed [1]
 Unemployed/retired [2]

9. Are you a healthcare worker? *

Mark only one oval.

- Yes [1]
 No [2]

10. Are you staying with elderly or someone with chronic illness? *

Mark only one oval.

- Yes [1]
 No [2]

11. Are you staying with young children? *

Mark only one oval.

- Yes [1]
No [2]

12. Do you have chronic illness? *

Mark only one oval.

- Yes [1]
- No [2]
- Prefers not to answer [3]

13. Have you been diagnosed with COVID-19? *

Mark only one oval.

- Yes [1]
- No [2]

14. Have you ever had close contact with COVID-19 patients? (choose the most severe category) *

Mark only one oval.

- Yes, and need quarantine [1]
- Yes, and only need self-surveillance [2]
- No [3]

15. Have you received your COVID-19 vaccine? (at least one dose) *

Mark only one oval.

- Yes [1]
- No [2]

16. Have you ever performed self-testing for COVID-19 **since 1st April 2022?** *

Mark only one oval.

Yes [1]

No [2] *Skip to question 20*

B. Reasons for performing COVID-19 self-testing:

Questions in this section focus on your COVID-19 self-testing that done **since 1st April 2022.**

17. What type of COVID-19 self-testing kits do you use? *

Mark only one oval.

Saliva kit [1]

Nasal/throat swab kit [2]

Both [3]

18. What are the reasons that you perform self-testing for COVID-19? (can choose * more than one answer)

Check all that apply.

I have symptoms of COVID-19 [1]

I have close contact with someone diagnosed with COVID-19 (defined as same household or workplace; or face-to-face less than 1 meter without a mask for more than 15 minutes) [2]

I have casual contact with someone diagnosed with COVID-19 (defined as any form of contact other than close contact) [3]

Due to requirement to travel [4]

Due to requirement to return to work or school [5]

Due to requirement at the workplace or school as part of regular surveillance [6]

Due to requirement by the healthcare authorities or institutions (example: before admission/procedures; or before visiting/taking care of patients) [7]

For self-surveillance before or after traveling [8]

For self-surveillance before or after mass gatherings/social functions [9]

For self-surveillance before or after festival celebrations [10]

For self-surveillance when the cases of COVID-19 in the community are high [11]

19. If you perform self-testing for COVID-19 due to other reason than above, please state the reason here. (optional to answer)

C. Willingness to do self-testing for COVID-19:

Willingness of an individual to do self-testing for COVID-19 can change over time and influenced by various factors.

In the following questions, we would like to know your willingness to do self-testing for COVID-19 **FROM NOW ON** and the reasons behind your decision.

20. **FROM NOW ON**, I am willing to do self-testing for COVID-19 if needed/indicated: *

Mark only one oval.

- Yes [1] *Skip to question 21*
- No [2] *Skip to question 37*
- Hesitate [3] *Skip to question 53*

D. Willing to do self-testing for COVID-19 **FROM NOW ON**:

There are various reasons why people are willing to do self-testing for COVID-19.

For yourself, what are the reasons that your are **WILLING** to do self-testing for COVID-19?

21. 1. I can get treatment as early if tested positive for COVID-19. *

Mark only one oval.

- Yes [1]
- No [2]

22. 2. I can isolate myself as early to limit transmission if tested positive for COVID-19. *

Mark only one oval.

Yes [1]

No [2]

23. 3. I am at high risk of getting severe COVID-19. *

Mark only one oval.

Yes [1]

No [2]

24. 4. I have household members who are at high risk of developing severe COVID-19. *

Mark only one oval.

Yes [1]

No [2]

25. 5. I have young children at home. *

Mark only one oval.

Yes [1]

No [2]

26. 6. COVID-19 self-testing kit is cheap. *

Mark only one oval.

Yes [1]

No [2]

27. 7. COVID-19 self-testing is easy to perform. *

Mark only one oval.

Yes [1]

No [2]

28. 8. COVID-19 self-testing is not discomfort/painful. *

Mark only one oval.

Yes [1]

No [2]

29. 9. COVID-19 self-testing ensures privacy as only I know the result. *

Mark only one oval.

Yes [1]

No [2]

30. 10. Result of COVID-19 self-testing is accurate. *

Mark only one oval.

Yes [1]

No [2]

31. 11. Result of COVID-19 self-testing is rapid. *

Mark only one oval.

Yes [1]

No [2]

32. 12. For reassurance before or after traveling. *

Mark only one oval.

Yes [1]

No [2]

33. 13. For reassurance before or after mass gatherings/social functions. *

Mark only one oval.

Yes [1]

No [2]

34. 14. For reassurance before or after festival celebrations. *

Mark only one oval.

Yes [1]

No [2]

35. 15. For reassurance when the COVID-19 cases in the community are high. *

Mark only one oval.

Yes [1]

No [2]

36. 16. Other reasons not mentioned above. (optional to answer)

Skip to section 8 (End of Survey)

E. Not willing to do self-testing for COVID-19 **FROM NOW ON:**

There are various reasons why people are not willing to do self-testing for COVID-19.

For yourself, what are the reasons that your are **NOT WILLING** to do self-testing for COVID-19?

37. 1. I fear being diagnosed with COVID-19. *

Mark only one oval.

Yes [1]

No [2]

38. 2. I do not want to be socially stigmatized due to COVID-19. *

Mark only one oval.

Yes [1]

No [2]

39. 3. I do not want to be isolated due to COVID-19. *

Mark only one oval.

Yes [1]

No [2]

40. 4. I have received the COVID-19 vaccine. *

Mark only one oval.

Yes [1]

No [2]

41. 5. I am at low risk of getting severe COVID-19. *

Mark only one oval.

Yes [1]

No [2]

42. 6. I do not have a household member who is at high risk of developing severe COVID-19. *

Mark only one oval.

Yes [1]

No [2]

43. 7. I do not have young children at home. *

Mark only one oval.

Yes [1]

No [2]

44. 8. COVID-19 is now equal to the common cold/flu. *

Mark only one oval.

Yes [1]

No [2]

45. 9. I do not believe in COVID-19. *

Mark only one oval.

Yes [1]

No [2]

46. 10. I have the autonomy not to be tested for COVID-19. *

Mark only one oval.

Yes [1]

No [2]

47. 11. COVID-19 self-testing kit is expensive. *

Mark only one oval.

Yes [1]

No [2]

48. 12. COVID-19 self-testing is difficult to perform. *

Mark only one oval.

Yes [1]

No [2]

49. 13. COVID-19 self-testing is discomfort/painful. *

Mark only one oval.

Yes [1]

No [2]

50. 14. Result of COVID-19 self-testing is less accurate. *

Mark only one oval.

Yes [1]

No [2]

51. 15. I am not aware COVID-19 can be self-tested. *

Mark only one oval.

Yes [1]

No [2]

52. 16. Other reasons not mentioned above. (optional to answer)

Skip to section 8 (End of Survey)

F. Hesitate to do self-testing for COVID-19 FROM NOW ON:

There are various reasons that people will consider before willing or not willing to do self-testing for COVID-19.

Factors that affect your decision for willingness to do self-testing for COVID-19 include:

53. 1. The availability of early treatment for COVID-19. *

Mark only one oval.

Yes [1]

No [2]

54. 2. The availability of effective treatment for COVID-19. *

Mark only one oval.

Yes [1]

No [2]

55. 3. The isolation policy for COVID-19 by the authority. *

Mark only one oval.

Yes [1]

No [2]

56. 4. The public perception towards people diagnosed with COVID-19. *

Mark only one oval.

Yes [1]

No [2]

57. 5. My risk of getting severe COVID-19. *

Mark only one oval.

Yes [1]

No [2]

58. 6. My household members' risk of developing severe COVID-19. *

Mark only one oval.

Yes [1]

No [2]

59. 7. Any young children at home. *

Mark only one oval.

Yes [1]

No [2]

60. 8. The price of COVID-19 self-testing kit. *

Mark only one oval.

Yes [1]

No [2]

61. 9. The steps to perform COVID-19 self-testing. *

Mark only one oval.

Yes [1]

No [2]

62. 10. The discomfort/pain caused by COVID-19 self-testing. *

Mark only one oval.

Yes [1]

No [2]

63. 11. The accuracy of COVID-19 self-testing kit. *

Mark only one oval.

Yes [1]

No [2]

64. 12. The cases of COVID-19 in the community. *

Mark only one oval.

Yes [1]

No [2]

65. 13. The recommendation by the government. *

Mark only one oval.

Yes [1]

No [2]

66. 14. The recommendation by the healthcare workers. *

Mark only one oval.

Yes [1]

No [2]

67. 15. Other reasons not mentioned above (optional to answer):

Skip to section 8 (End of Survey)

End of Survey

Thank you for your participation.

