Journal of Nursing and Midwifery Sciences
Volume 12 · Issue 4 · e163823

OPEN PEER REVIEW

The Relationship Between Health Literacy and Preventive Behaviors Towards COVID-19 Among Rural Thai Youth: A Cross-sectional Study

Niwat Songsin, Waraporn Boonchieng, Rachanon Runnuch

SUBMITTED	REVISED	ACCEPTED	DOI
16 Jun 2025	8 Sep 2025	13 Sep 2025	10.5812/jnms-163823

About this report

This open peer review (OPR) report shows the public comments made on this article during peer review, by the reviewers, the associate editor and the editor-in-chief, for every revision round, together with the authors' replies. Comments appear only with the consent of the people who wrote them. Reviewers who chose to sign their report are named; the others are shown as "Referee". Comments are edited for language only, and confidential remarks to the editors are not included.

More about open peer review: brieflands.com/knowledgebase/opr

Contents

1 Original submission Referee 1 2
2 Revision 1 Referee 1 3
Authors' reply to reviewers 4
Reviewer and editor comments 8
3 Revision 2 Referee 1 9
Authors' reply to reviewers 10
Reviewer and editor comments 12
4 Revision 3 Referee 1 13
Authors' reply to reviewers 14
Reviewer and editor comments 15
5 Revision 4 16
Authors' reply to reviewers 17
Reviewer and editor comments 18

1 Original submission

1 comment · 18 Jul 2025

Referee 1 Reviewer

MAJOR REVISION 18 Jul 2025

Greetings and warm regards
Thank you for submitting your valuable manuscript to the journal. There are concerns from the reviewers regarding this manuscript; the relevant comments are provided in the manuscript file. Please make accurate and transparent revisions. Otherwise, the manuscript will not be accepted. Thank you

2

Revision 1

AUTHORS' RESPONSE TO REVIEWERS

Authors' reply to reviewers

The next pages contain the authors' point-by-point reply to the comments of this revision round, as submitted with the revised manuscript. It is published as the authors wrote it.

The Relationship Between Health Literacy and Preventive Behaviours towards COVID-19 among Rural Thai Youth: A cross-sectional study

No.	Item	Suggestion for reviewer's	Author's reply
1	Abstract	Please write one objective based on the title	We have revised the manuscript in response to your comments and suggestions. by highlighted in yellow.
2	Abstract	The method was written incompletely. The time and place of the research should be mentioned. What is the data collection tool and how was it completed? The sampling method should be written more precisely.	We have revised the manuscript in response to your comments and suggestions. by highlighted in yellow.
3	Abstract	If there is a relationship between health literacy or preventive behaviors with demographic characteristics, it should be mentioned	We have revised the manuscript in response to your comments and suggestions. by highlighted in **yellow**.
4	Keywords	Keywords should be modified based on mesh.	We have revised the manuscript in response to your comments and suggestions. by highlighted in **yellow**.
5	Background	The introduction was fairly well written. The introduction section needs a major overhaul. In this section, address health literacy and behavior prediction, respectively. Then provide global statistics and statistics from your country. Finally, state the purpose of the study and the existing discussion. Remove redundant material. In other	We have revised the manuscript in response to your comments and suggestions. by highlighted in **yellow**.

		words, reorganize.	
6	Objectives	Summarize in one sentence.	We have revised the manuscript in response to your comments and suggestions. by highlighted in **yellow**.
7	3.1 Study Design	Were there any covid-19 cases in Thailand as of December 2023?	Yes. From August to December 2023, there were 969 new COVID-19 cases, averaging 138 cases per day, according to data from the Department of Disease Control, Thailand.
8	3.2 Study Participants	Why the 17% sample dropout? Youth over 18 in schools?	Due to incomplete data, unanswered questionnaires, and participant withdrawal from the study, the researcher collected data from individuals aged 15–20 years. Data were collected from both high school students and those enrolled in Vocational Certificate programs, particularly those over 18 years of age.
9	3.2 Study Participants	What are the exclusion criteria?	
10	3.3 Instruments	Where is the source and reference for preparing the questionnaire? How was its validity and reliability confirmed?	The researcher adapted the health literacy questionnaire from the Health Education

			Division, Ministry of Public Health, Thailand, and then tested the instrument's quality by calculating the IOC value and reliability before use.
11	Data Collection	Was the data collection only through letters and correspondence? please explain it completely.	
12	Data Collection	Were the university participants not mentioned before?	Data were collected from schools and colleges offering Vocational Certificate programs, particularly targeting individuals aged over 18 years.
13	3.5 Ethical Considerations	Other ethical considerations should be added to the ethical considerations section.	We have revised the manuscript in response to your comments and suggestions. by highlighted in **yellow**.
14	4. Results	Complete the table titles. Combine Tables 3 and 4.	We have revised the manuscript in response to your comments and suggestions. by highlighted in **yellow**.
15	5. Discussion	Discussion needs enrichment. Use more relevant articles for interpretation and analysis of the results of this study with other studies in the discussion.	We have revised the manuscript in response to your comments and suggestions. by highlighted in **yellow**.
16	References	please write the references based on the journal guideline.	We have revised the manuscript in response to your comments and suggestions. by

			highlighted in **yellow**.

2 Revision 1

1 comment · 10 Aug 2025

Referee 1 Reviewer

MAJOR REVISION 10 Aug 2025

Greetings and warm regards
Thank you for your revisions. There are still concerns that need to be addressed, especially regarding the tools used. Please address them carefully; otherwise, the manuscript will unfortunately not be suitable for publication.
best regards

3

Revision 2

AUTHORS' RESPONSE TO REVIEWERS

Authors' reply to reviewers

The next pages contain the authors' point-by-point reply to the comments of this revision round, as submitted with the revised manuscript. It is published as the authors wrote it.

The Relationship Between Health Literacy and Preventive Behaviours towards COVID-19 among Rural Thai Youth: A cross-sectional study

No.	Item	Suggestion for reviewer's	Author's reply
1	Background	The introduction was fairly well written. The introduction section needs a major overhaul. In this section, address health literacy and behavior prediction, respectively. Then provide global statistics and statistics from your country. Finally, state the purpose of the study and the existing discussion. Remove redundant material. In other words, reorganize.	We have revised the manuscript in response to your comments and suggestions. by highlighted in **yellow**.
2	3.1 Study Design	"Those who refused to participate in the study or did not provide informed consent" cannot be considered as an exclusion criterion. You can consider it as "having informed consent to participate in the study" as an inclusion criterion.	We have revised the manuscript in response to your comments and suggestions. by highlighted in **yellow**.
3	3.3 Instruments	The information required to explain the psychometric properties of the instruments, especially the types of **validity**, is insufficient. Please write them in more detail.	We have revised the manuscript in response to your comments and suggestions. by highlighted in **yellow**.
4	3.6 Statistical Analysis	Were the results of this analysis fully presented in the results section?	We have revised the manuscript in response to your comments and suggestions. by highlighted in **yellow**.
5	5. Discussion	Statistical indicators should not be included in the discussion. Strengths and limitations of the	We have revised the manuscript in response to your comments and suggestions. by highlighted in **yellow**.

The Relationship Between Health Literacy and Preventive Behaviours towards COVID-19 among Rural Thai Youth: A cross-sectional study

No.	Item	Suggestion for reviewer's	Author’s reply
		study please be provided.	
6	Conclusions	Implications related to the results in this study should be presented in a more practical way.	We have revised the manuscript in response to your comments and suggestions. by highlighted in **yellow**.

3 Revision 2

1 comment · 22 Aug 2025

Referee 1 Reviewer

MINOR REVISION 22 Aug 2025

Greetings and warm regards
Thank you for the revisions. However, there are still concerns in the manuscript that need to be addressed. Therefore, I request that the manuscript be revised based on the reviewers' comments. Thank you.

4

Revision 3

AUTHORS' RESPONSE TO REVIEWERS

Authors' reply to reviewers

The next pages contain the authors' point-by-point reply to the comments of this revision round, as submitted with the revised manuscript. It is published as the authors wrote it.

The Relationship Between Health Literacy and Preventive Behaviours towards COVID-19 among Rural Thai Youth: A cross-sectional study

No.	Item	Suggestion for reviewer's	Author's reply
1	Abstract	The way you wrote this section means you have actually questioned the necessity of the study. Please have this section completely revised. In this section, more emphasis should be placed on the importance and necessity of conducting the study.	We have revised the manuscript in response to your comments and suggestions. by highlighted in **yellow**.
2.	3.3 Instruments	No explanation was provided about other types of validity; such as face validity. Also, no explanation was provided about the CVR index. Please provide a valid reference for the criteria.	We have revised the manuscript in response to your comments and suggestions. by highlighted in **yellow**.
3	5.1 Conclusions	Implications related to the results in this study should be presented in a more practical way.	We have revised the manuscript in response to your comments and suggestions. by highlighted in **yellow**.

4 Revision 3

1 comment · 4 Sep 2025

Referee 1 Reviewer

MINOR REVISION 4 Sep 2025

Greetings and warm regards
Thank you very much for your efforts. The manuscript has been improved; however, there are still some concerns. Please revise the manuscript based on the comments that have been provided in the manuscript file.

5

Revision 4

AUTHORS' RESPONSE TO REVIEWERS

Authors' reply to reviewers

The next pages contain the authors' point-by-point reply to the comments of this revision round, as submitted with the revised manuscript. It is published as the authors wrote it.

The Relationship Between Health Literacy and Preventive Behaviours towards COVID-19 among Rural Thai Youth: A cross-sectional study

No.	Item	Suggestion for reviewer's	Author’s reply
1	3.3 Instruments	You wrote the following sentence in previous versions, but it was removed in the new version. Please add it if possible and provide a valid reference to it. "This section was adapted from a health literacy assessment based on the "3A 2S" principles (Access, Analyze, Apply, Self-management, and Media literacy), originally designed for the working-age population in health-promoting villages."	We have revised the manuscript in response to your comments and suggestions. by highlighted in **yellow**.
3	**5. Discussion**	Please write down the limitations of your own study, not the studies of others.	We have revised the manuscript in response to your comments and suggestions. by highlighted in **yellow**.

5 Revision 4

0 comments

No public comments in this round.