



An Evaluation of Functional Status Inindividual With Covid Recovery Using Post Covid-19 Functional Scale (Pcfs) Questionnaire.

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ABSTRACT:

Background: A “Post-COVID-19 Functional Status (PCFS) scale” is recommended in the COVID-19 pandemic. It is proposed that it could be used to exhibit direct retrieval and the functional sequel of COVID-19. It plays a vital role in assessing functional status for patients with covid recovery for tracking the progression. There is a paucity of such studies in India; therefore, there is a need to evaluate the functional status of individuals with covid recovery.

Methodology: Inform consent was asked in the language best understood by the participant and the demographic details were taken. Confirmed diagnosis of COVID-19 based on lab reports such as PCR test, Antigen test and Radiographic reports participant were selected according to inclusion & exclusion criteria. Using Post COVID-19 Functional Scale (PCFS) Questionnaire, participants were interviewed in the best language understood by them. Statistical analysis was done after data collection using SPSS software.

Results: Out of 1000 participants, 680 were males and 320 were females. The mean age was 43.49 years and the range was 30-60 years table. According to WHO Ordinal Scale for Clinical Improvement Score 69.9% were admitted in hospital among which 40.3% didn't require oxygen therapy, 24.5% required oxygen therapy and 5.1% required ventilator support and 30.1% were home quarantined. 96% of COVID-19 recovered cases have diverse degrees of functional restrictions ranging from negligible (11.1%), slight (42.7%), moderate (25.8%) to severe (16.5%) based on PCFS. Majority of population had light to moderate functional limitation.

Conclusion: Most of the COVID-19 recovered cases have varying degrees of functional restrictions ranging from negligible to severe based on PCFS, emphasizing more towards light to moderate function

all limitations.

KEYWORDS: COVID-19; SARS-CoV-2; Post COVID-19; post-COVID-19, Functional Status; Post COVID-19 Functional scale

I. INTRODUCTION

Corona viruses are a family of viruses that can cause illnesses such as the common cold, severe acute respiratory syndrome (SARS) and Middle East respiratory syndrome (MERS). In 2019, a new corona virus was identified as the cause of a disease outbreak that originated in China. The virus is now known as the severe acute respiratory syndrome corona virus 2 (SARS-CoV-2) ⁽¹⁾. In March 2020, the World Health Organization (WHO) declared the COVID-19 outbreak a pandemic. Covid-19 is caused by novel enveloped single stranded RNA virus (SARS CoV-2). Prevalence rate - In middle age is 5.26%, In elderly age is 5.56%. Signs and symptoms of corona virus disease 2019 (COVID-19) may appear two to 14 days after exposure. This time after exposure and before having symptoms is called the incubation period. It includes Fever, Cough, Tiredness; early symptoms of COVID-19 may include a loss of taste or smell. Other symptoms can include: Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing, Muscle aches, Chills, Sore throat, Runny nose, Headache, Chest pain, pinkeye (conjunctivitis) ⁽²⁾. Medical management includes chloroquine, hydroxychloroquine, lopinavir, azithromycin. Physiotherapy management includes airway clearance technique, positioning, bronchial hygiene, breathing techniques. Prevention includes practices social distancing, wear a mask, follow proper hand washing regimen and take precautions. Indeed, as of January 2021, over 103 million confirmed cases have been accounted globally. In the coming weeks and months, emphasis will gradually also involve post-acute care of covid-19 survivors. Previous outbreaks of coronaviruses have been associated with persistent pulmonary function impairment, muscle weakness, pain, fatigue, depression, anxiety, vocational problems and reduced quality of life to various degrees ⁽³⁾.



Given the heterogeneity of COVID-19 in terms of clinical and radiological presentation, it is pivotal to have a simple tool to monitor the course of symptoms and the impact of symptoms on the functional status of patients.⁽⁴⁾ It is not known why some people's recovery is prolonged. Persistent viraemia due to weak or absent antibody response, relapse or reinfection, inflammatory and other immunoreactions, deconditioning and mental factors such as post-traumatic stress may all contribute. Long term respiratory, musculoskeletal, and neuropsychiatric sequelae have been described for other coronaviruses (SARS and MERS), and these have pathophysiological parallels with post-acute Covid-19.⁽⁵⁾

Functional capacity represents an individual's maximum capacity to perform daily activities in the physical, psychological, social, and spiritual domains of life, functional performance refers to the activities people actually do during the course of their daily lives. A maximal exercise test measures physical functional capacity, while a self-report of activities of daily living measures. Functional status can be influenced by biological or physiological impairment, symptoms, mood, and other factors. It is also likely to be influenced by health perceptions. For example, a person whom most would judge to be well but who views himself as ill may have a low level of functional performance in relation to his capacity.⁽⁶⁾

It is essential to have an easier measure to record the progression of symptoms and the effect of these symptoms on the functional state of the affected patients. Because of the extensive number of COVID-19 recovered cases that require follow-up, a simple and standardized measure to categorize those patients complaining from stagnant or partial recovery would aid in guiding the deliberate use of medical funds and will also systematize research efforts. Recently, a group of investigators recommended an ordinal scale for evaluation of patient-relevant functional restrictions. Following an event of venous thrombo-embolism (VTE): the post-VTE functional status (PVFS) scale^(7, 8). It covers the full spectrum of functional consequences and focuses on both restrictions in usual activities and alterations in life-style in 6-scale scores. It is already known that there is a great frequency of pulmonary embolism, myocardial injury/myocarditis and neurological dysfunctions, in severely ill cases with CO

VID19⁹.¹⁰⁾ That's why Klok and his colleagues proposed their Functional Status (PCFS) scale (after slight adaptation) to be valuable in the existing COVID-19 pandemic. The recommended scale could be used upon hospital discharge, at 4-8 weeks after discharge to display direct rescue, and at 6 months to evaluate functional residue⁽¹¹⁾.

II. EXPERIMENTATION

Study design - The study was a descriptive study followed up by a telephonic interview. The study was conducted after approval from the ethical committee and institutional review board. Informed verbal consent was taken from all participants via a phone conversation before proceeding to the survey.

Study setting - All participants in the study were recruited from the COVID-19 registry of MGM Medical College and Hospital, Kamothe.

Participants - The inclusion criteria consist of individuals diagnosed with COVID-19 with a positive RT-PCR test, both males and females within the age group of 30-60 years were included. Participants will be a part of inclusion criteria if they were aware, oriented and able to communicate; Patients who recovered from COVID-19 (post recovery 4-6 weeks). Based on WHO ordinal scale for clinical improvement under the score of 1-7 (mild – Severe disease). Exclusion criteria were patients under the age of 30 years and above 60 years Based on WHO ordinal scale for clinical improvement under the score of 0 (unaffected) and 8 (Death).

Data Collection – The study involved a total of 1000 participants, randomly selected from a list of 2000 patients. Out of that 680 were males and 320 were females. Post COVID-19 Functional Scale (PCFS) questionnaire was used in the survey to interview participants via telecommunication. The survey was conducted for 6 weeks. The data collection was done 4 weeks post recovery. Demographic data including age, sex, history of hospital, confirmatory tests, WHO Ordinal scale for clinical improvement score was taken.

Symptom's score- The severity of involvement of status was ranked by the interviewer with a Post COVID-19 Functional scale consisting of No Functional Limitations, Negligible Functional Limitations, Slight Functional Limitations, Moderate Functional Limitations, Severe Functional Limitations.

Statistical method – Data was coded and analyzed using the Statistical Package of Social Science software program, version 28 (IBM SPSS 28 Statistics for windows, Armonk, NY: IBM Corp).



Data was presented as range, mean, standard deviation, for age a quantitative variable and frequency, percentage for qualitative variables. The frequencies and respective percentages were calculated and presented in a pie chart.

The MGM Covid Data, Post Covid Data and patients with a positive RT PCR test result. The demographic and clinical characteristics of the study population comprising 1000 participants are presented which are randomly selected from a list of 2000 patients that included patients from

III. RESULTS

Table-1 Demographic data

| PARTICULAR | FREQUENCY | PERCENT(%) |
|---------------|-----------|------------|
| AGE | | |
| 30-60 | 43.49 ±10 | - |
| GENDER | | |
| Male | 680 | 68 |
| Female | 320 | 32 |

| WHO ORDINAL SCALE FOR CLINICAL IMPROVEMENT SCORE | | |
|--|-----|------|
| No limitation of activities | 57 | 5.7 |
| Limitation of activities | 244 | 24.4 |
| Hospitalized, no oxygen therapy | 403 | 40.3 |
| Hospitalized, Oxygen by Mask or nasal prong | 245 | 24.5 |
| Non-invasive Oxygen ventilation or high flow | 50 | 5.0 |
| Intubation and mechanical ventilation | 1 | .1 |

Out of 1000 participants, 680 were males and 320 were females. The mean age was 43.49 years and the range was 30-60 years table. According to WHO Ordinal Scale for Clinical Improvement Score 69.9% were admitted in hospital amongst which 40.3% didn't require oxygen therapy, 24.5% required oxygen therapy and 5.1% required ventilator support and 30.1% were home quarantined.

Post COVID-19 Functional Status Scale (PCFS):

- According to Post COVID-19 Functional Status Scale (PCFS) Most of the COVID-19 recovered cases have varying degrees of functional restrictions ranging from negligible to severe based on PCFS, emphasizing more towards light to moderate functional limitations.

Table 2-Symptom Checklist

| Limitations | Frequency | Percent | Valid Percent |
|--|-----------|---------|---------------|
| No Limitation | 39 | 3.9 | 3.9 |
| Symptom from Covid without functional limitation or problem with relaxing. | 19 121 | 12.1 | 12.1 |



| | | | |
|---|-------------|------------|------------|
| Symptoms, through which usual duties/activities savoided, reduced or spread overtime. | 840 | 84 | 84 |
| Total | 1000 | 100 | 100 |

Out of 1000 population, 96% participants had a trivial limitation in activities after recovery from COVID-19. 84% patients had post COVID symptoms through which usual duties/activities avoided, reduced or spread overtime and 12.1% patients had symptoms

from COVID-19 without functional limitation or problem with relaxing and trauma. 2.8% of patients require constant care represented in table (2).

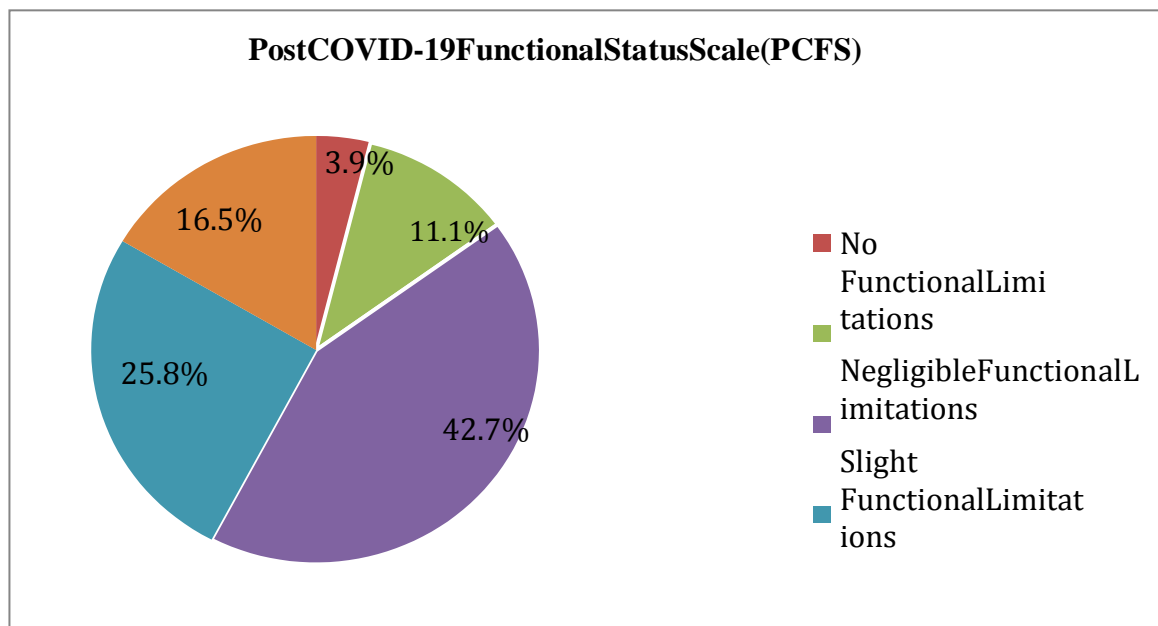
Table 3-Post COVID-19 Functional Status Scale (PCFS)

| Limitations | Frequency | Percent | Valid Percent |
|-----------------------------------|-----------|---------|---------------|
| No Functional Limitations | 39 | 3.9 | 3.9 |
| Negligible Functional Limitations | 111 | 11.1 | 11.1 |
| Slight Functional Limitations | 427 | 42.7 | 42.7 |
| Moderate Functional Limitations | 258 | 25.8 | 25.8 |
| Severe Functional Limitations | 165 | 16.5 | 16.5 |

11.1% had negligible functional limitation (Grade 1), 42.7% had slight functional limitation (Grade 2), 25.8% had moderate functional limitation

(Grade 3) and 16.5% had severe functional limitation (Grade 4). Wherein, 3.9% had no functional limitations (Grade 0) table (3)

Figno.1-Post-Covid Functional Limitations



CONCLUSION

This study concludes that 96.1% patients recovered from COVID-19 have significant limitation in functional status. Slight

functional limitation was most commonly manifested followed by moderate functional limitation in activities of daily living 4 weeks post recovery. The study result increases our understanding of the spectrum of



covid-19 and gives more in-depth information which in turn may lead to more efficient care for Covid-19 survivors and will help the patient to get back to their activities of daily living independently without any limitations.

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