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A study to assess the impact of social media on Covid-19 among geriatrics

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Abstract
The study to assess the impact of social media on covid-19 among geriatrics. A descriptive research was used for the present study. A total 60 samples were collected using non probability convenient sampling technique. A self-structured questionnaire was used to assess the demographic data and impacts of social media. The data was analyzed using descriptive and inferential statistics. The results of study the was 26(43.33%) had severe impact of social media on Covid-19, 19(31.67%) had moderate impact and 15(25%) had mild impact of social media among geriatrics, the demographic variables age, diet and co-morbid illness had shown statistically significant association with level of impact of social media on Covid-19 among geriatrics at p<0.05 level. The present study show that, the information in social media as drastic impact on geriatrics.

Keywords: impact, social media, covid 19, geriatrics

Introduction
Corona virus is a global pandemic communicable disease, has major collusions among geriatrics. Older adults, experienced greater effect due to pandemic, which includes, complication, higher mortality high risk group, distraction from daily routines, lack of specific knowledge and social dominance. Despite of the major suffering, the mass media, that probably encounters daily progress of covid-19, that in turn causes stress towards older adults. Among geriatrics, were lack of coping ability as compared to adults [1]. A study participants in Iraqi Kurdistan, reported that, the commonly used social media (face book) has spreading, panic information about covid-19 at (R=8701), the study shows statistically significant between self-reported social media use and spread of panic related information on covid-19 [2]. As consequences, older adults were identified as a group at risk and strict governmental restrictions was improved on the mental health of geriatrics [3]. The pandemic crisis, onset stimulates, social media updates, few may real, some may accompanied with gossips. Though social media and technological development, uplifts the Growth and development of countries, it probably affects the mental health of older adults during covid pandemic, with potential Covid 19 impact on social media simultaneously affects the health of geriatrics through misinformation [4]. Due to fragile nature of older adults, secondary reason and also associated co morbidities, covid-19 infection affects the elderly more severe further elderly people been forced for voluntary or forced isolation at home due to restrictions [5]. Strict pandemic safety measures, through social distancing, movement restrictions, home quarantine, social isolation significantly affects the physical, mental and cognitive ability of geriatrics. Additionally lack of money power and low income, which in turn contributes to financial crisis with pandemic crisis [6]. Media infodemic, that cover corona virus update during geographical lockdown, extended quarantine, social isolation also induced fear and caused psychological stress [7].
The objective of the study is, to assess the impact of social media on COVID-19 among geriatrics. To associate the level of social media on COVID-10 among geriatrics with the selected demographic variables.

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Material and Methods
A quantitative approach with descriptive research design was used to conduct the study in Maduravoyal, Chennai. 60 samples were selected by using non probability convenient sample techniques. The criteria for sample selection was the both male and female, able to understand English and Tamil, who are willing to participate in the study.

The exclusion criteria for the samples people who are mentally ill and not allowed, people who are not willing to participate. The data collection period was done with prior permission from Maduravoyal authorities, the ethical clearance was obtained from the institution (SIMATS). The purpose of the study was explained to the samples and written informed consent was obtained from them. The demographic data were collected using a self-structured questionnaires. The data were analyzed using descriptive and inferential statistics. The sample characteristics were described using frequency and percentage. Chi square was used to associate the level of restless leg syndrome among elderly people with selected demographic variable.

Results and Discussion
Section A: Description of the demographic variables of the geriatrics.
The results shows that, most of the middle aged people 30(50%) were male and female respectively, 30(50%) were aged between 35 – 40 years, 28(46.6%) had high school education, 34(56.7%) were full time / part time employed, 28(46.7%) had an financial income of below 10,000, 51(85%) were married, 27(45%) had no habits and 47(78.3%) had not used any medications.
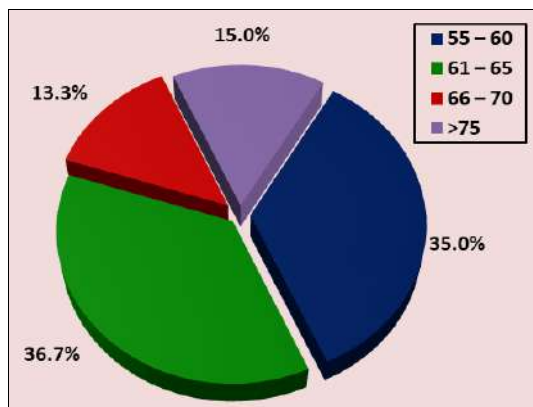

Fig 1: Percentage distribution of age of the geriatrics

Section B: Assessment of level of impact of social media on covid-19 among geriatrics.

Table 1: Frequency and percentage distribution of level of impact of social media on Covid-19 among geriatrics. N = 60

Level of Impact	No.	%
Mild (0 - 10)	15	25.0
Moderate (11 – 15)	19	31.67
Severe (16 – 20)	26	43.33

The table shows that 26(43.33%) had severe impact of social media on Covid-19, 19(31.67%) had moderate impact and 15(25%) had mild impact of social media among geriatrics.
The results also depicts that the mean score of impact of social media on Covid-19 among geriatrics was 13.67 with standard deviation 3.61 with minimum score of 5.0 and maximum score of 19.0.
The present finding is supported by Joseph S. Goveas, M. Katherine Shear (2020) conducted a study to analyze the grief and the COVID-19 Pandemic in Older Adults. As the coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) ravages the world many have died alone because of requirements for physical distancing. Even more will succumb as COVID-19 continues to spread. Moreover, deaths from other causes, numbering over 50 million annually, are also happening amid physical distancing and other COVID-19-related challenges (8).
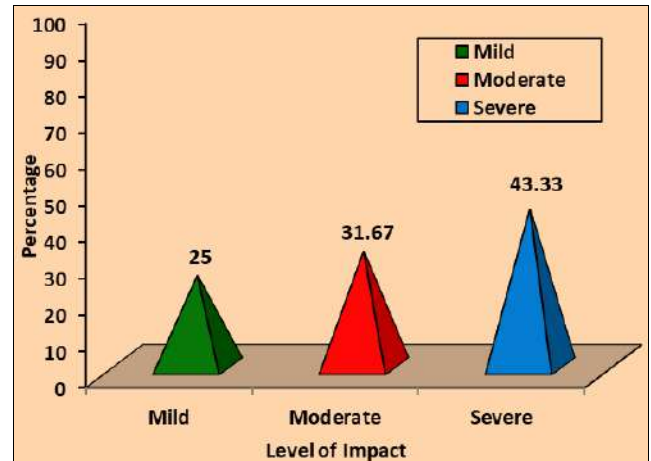

Fig 2: Percentage distribution of level of impact of social media on Covid-19 among geriatrics

Section D: Association of level of impact with selected demographic variables.
The results shows that the demographic variables age, diet and co-morbid illness had shown statistically significant association with level of impact of social media on Covid-19 among geriatrics at $p<0.05$ level and the other demographic variables had not shown statistically significant association with level of impact of social media on Covid-19 among geriatrics.
The present study is supported by Md. Tanvir Hossain *et al.*, (2020) [9] conducted a study to assess the prevalence of anxiety among Bangladeshi people during the pandemic in connection with social media exposure (SME) and electronic media exposure (EME). For this cross-sectional study, data were collected from 880 participants by a self-administered online-based questionnaire relating personal characteristics, self-rate health (SRH), SME, and EME with anxiety. Findings show that around half of the surveyed population experienced a spike of anxiety (49.1%) during the pandemic, ten times higher than the national anxiety rate in 2019. The participants with an increased SME of over four hours per day experienced a higher level of anxiety than individuals with ≤2 hours exposure to social media. (9)

Conclusion
The study investigate the impact of social media on COVID-19 among geriatrics in Maduravoyal village. The study socially uplifted the impact of geriatrics during covid pandemic. The analysis revealed that majority of the geriatrics had high impact of social media on Covid-19 and so in order to improve their quality of life among geriatrics during Covid-19 pandemic-counseling can be given to enable to overcome the impact of social medial on Covid-19.

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