



2024

Reply to Author

Follow this and additional works at: <https://www.j-saudi-heart.com/jsha>



Part of the [Cardiology Commons](#)



This work is licensed under a [Creative Commons Attribution-Noncommercial-No Derivative Works 4.0 License](#).

Recommended Citation

Alosaimi, Mohammed Abdullah (2024) "Reply to Author," *Journal of the Saudi Heart Association*: Vol. 36 : Iss. 2 , Article 7.

Available at: <https://doi.org/10.37616/2212-5043.1368>

This Letter to the Editor is brought to you for free and open access by Journal of the Saudi Heart Association. It has been accepted for inclusion in Journal of the Saudi Heart Association by an authorized editor of Journal of the Saudi Heart Association.

Reply to Author

Walid Abukhudair^a, Ahmad Z. Hafiz^a, Mohammed A. Alosaimi^{b,*}, Fares A. Alaynayn^a, Fahad A. Alosaimi^b, Rehab A. Karam^c, Tamer M. Abdelrahman^b

^a Department of Cardiac Surgery, King Fahd Armed Forces Hospital, Jeddah, Saudi Arabia

^b Department of Surgery, College of Medicine, Taif University, Taif, Saudi Arabia

^c Department of Biochemistry, College of Medicine, Taif University, Taif, Saudi Arabia

To the Editor

Thank you for sharing the insightful feedback regarding the sampling methodology in our study titled "Acceptance, Awareness, Attitude, and Practices toward Heart Transplantation, A Saudi Based Survey."¹ We acknowledge the limitations raised and appreciate the opportunity to provide the response.

Regarding internet sampling limitations, we agree that relying solely on internet-based surveys can limit the participant pool and potentially introduce bias. However, it's important to note that the internet penetration in Saudi Arabia is steadily increasing. As of 2023, over 80% of the population has internet access, with significant growth in rural areas.

We acknowledge the concern about self-selection bias introduced by using email and social media for recruitment. While this is a valid concern, it's important to consider the high response rate reflected by the large numbers of participants in our study which suggests broader interest and potentially reduces self-selection bias. Our study clearly stated the limitations associated with the sampling method in both the study limitations and discussion sections and its potential impact on generalizability. Although online surveys offer affordability, global reach, fast turnaround, ease for all, anonymity, improved data quality, standardized experience, large samples, and real-time insights.

The concern regarding the influence of misinformation on social media is valid, however our survey design include well-structured survey which was

developed following a thorough analysis of various questionnaires and a pilot study was conducted to ensure the questionnaire's effectiveness. We believe that the clear and unbiased questions could minimize the impact of pre-existing knowledge or beliefs.

In our study, healthcare professionals emerged as the most preferred source of information among participants, with social media ranking lowest, suggesting a reduced likelihood of exposure to misinformation and offering valuable insights into potential biases.

While acknowledging the limitations of internet-based sampling, it's important to consider the strengths of our study design:

- The study addressing an important topic and provides valuable insights into heart donation attitudes in Saudi Arabia, a previously under-studied area.
- Despite potential limitations, the extensive sample size and diverse responses from the five regions of Saudi Arabia present an opportunity to derive valuable insights.
- Highlighting the limitations in our study itself demonstrates transparency and strengthens the scientific rigor.

Overall, we appreciate the valuable feedback and agree that more diverse sampling methods are essential for future research to enhance generalizability. We believe our study, considering its limitations, still provides valuable insights and lays the groundwork for further research in this important area.

* Corresponding author at: College of Medicine, Taif University, Taif, Saudi Arabia.

E-mail address: m0511a@hotmail.com (M.A. Alosaimi).

Author contribution: All authors.

Conflicts of interest: None declared.

¹ Abukhudair, Walid; Hafiz, Ahmad Zaki; Alosaimi, Mohammed Abdullah; Alaynayn, Fares Abu; Alosaimi, Fahad Abdullah; Karam, Rehab Ahmed; and Abdelrahman, Tamer Mohamed (2023) "Acceptance, Awareness, Attitude, and Practices toward Heart Transplantation: A Saudi Based Survey," Journal of the Saudi Heart Association: Vol. 35: Iss. 4, Article 1. <https://doi.org/10.37616/2212-5043.1357>

