**Supplementary Table 1: Knowledge regarding antimicrobial use among the participants**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| QN | Questions | Correct, %  |
| 1 | Antimicrobials are used for treating infections caused by microorganisms such as bacteria, viruses, or fungi. | 898 (88.8) |
| 2 | It is good to take antimicrobials against the common cold, flu, and cough. | 359 (35.5) |
| 3 | Antimicrobials can be obtained from a pharmacy without a doctor's prescription (as over-the-counter drugs) | 388 (38.4) |
| 4 | If a dose of antimicrobial is missed, a double dose can be taken with the next dose | 592 (58.6) |
| 5 | Misuse of antimicrobials can lead to antimicrobial resistance | 593 (58.7) |

Responses= true, don’t know, and false

Questions (QN) 2, 3, and 4 are the statements that opposed the notion of knowledge about antimicrobial use. Their false response was given 1 point.

Questions 1 and 5 are the statements that supported the notion of knowledge about antimicrobial use. Their true response was given 1 point.

**Supplementary Table 2: Behaviors towards antimicrobial use among the participants**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| QN | Questions | SA | A | N | D | SD |
| 1 |  Always complete the duration of antimicrobial therapy as suggested by the physician. | 403(39.9) | 331(32.7) | 123(12.2) | 56(5.5) | 98(9.7) |
| 2 | Take the antimicrobials directly from the pharmacies as over-the-counter agents without a prescription from a doctor. | 62(6.1) | 177(17.5) | 212(21.0) | 310(30.7) | 250(24.7) |
| 3 | Do not share antimicrobials with someone else in family/friends with similar symptoms | 338(33.4) | 343(33.9) | 165(16.3) | 114(11.3) | 51(5.0) |
| 4 | If the symptoms do not improve after taking antimicrobials, stop taking them by yourself. | 170(16.8) | 300(29.7) | 168(16.6) | 231(22.8) | 142(14.0) |
| 5 | Do not miss any dose during the antimicrobials therapy | 425(42.0) | 345(34.1) | 99(9.8) | 83(8.2) | 59(5.8) |

Responses= SA: Strongly, Agree: A, N: Neutral, D: Disagree, SD: Strongly Disagree

Questions 2 and 4 are the statements that opposed the notion of behaviour towards antimicrobial use. The SD response to their question was given 5 points while the SA response to their question was given 1 point. Rest responses viz., D, N, and A to QN 2 and 4 were given 4, 3, and 2 points respectively.

Questions 1, 3, and 5 are the statements that supported the notion of behaviour towards antimicrobials use. The SD response to their question was given 1 point while the SA response to their question was given 5 points. Rest responses viz., D, N, and A to QN 1, 3, and 5 were given 2, 3, and 4 points respectively.

**Supplementary Table 3: Practices toward antimicrobial use among the participants**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| QN | Questions | SA | A | N | D | SD |
| 1 | I usually take antimicrobials without a physician’s recommendation. | 190(18.8) | 308(30.5) | 139(13.7) | 281(27.8) | 93(9.2) |
| 2 | I generally take antimicrobials to get relief from fever, cough, common cold, or flu. | 139(13.7) | 235(23.2) | 115(11.4) | 406(40.2) | 116(11.5) |
| 3 | I generally request a physician to prescribe antimicrobials without a culture report of blood or urine. | 151(14.9) | 254(25.1) | 203(20.1) | 306(30.3) | 97(9.6) |
| 4 | I stop taking antimicrobials as soon as the symptoms subside. | 111(11.0) | 188(18.6) | 132(13.1) | 425(42.0) | 155(15.3) |
| 5 | I take a low dose of antimicrobials due to the fear of side effects. | 96(9.5) | 177(17.5) | 149(14.7) | 415(41.0) | 174(17.2) |
| 6 | I leave unused antimicrobials around the reach of children or the elderly. | 287(28.4) | 258(25.5) | 166(16.4) | 178(17.6) | 122(12.1) |
| 7 | I take antimicrobials upon a friend’s suggestion | 285(28.2) | 271(26.8) | 215(21.3) | 198(19.6) | 42(4.2) |
| 8 | I have sometimes taken expired antimicrobials. | 455(45.0) | 254(25.1) | 175(17.3) | 80(7.9) | 47(4.6) |
| 9 | I have used leftover antimicrobials | 317(31.4) | 244(24.1) | 196(19.4) | 189(18.7) | 65(6.4) |
| 10 | I have sometimes taken antimicrobials of a similar group when the prescribed one was not available. | 167(16.5) | 158(15.6) | 168(16.6) | 346(34.2) | 172(17.2) |

Responses= SA: Strongly, Agree: A, N: Neutral, D: Disagree, SD: Strongly Disagree

Questions 1 to 10 are the statements that opposed the notion of behavior toward antibiotics use. The SD response to their question was given 5 points while the SA response to their question was given 1 point. Rest responses viz., D, N, and A to questions 1 to 10 were given 4, 3, and 2 points respectively.