



Knowledge and attitudes regarding COVID-19 among rural population: A cross-sectional survey

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COVID-19 (name given by WHO in February, 2020 for the disease caused by the novel coronavirus SARS-CoV-2) started in December like a viral outbreak in Wuhan city of central Hubei province of China

Corona viruses, so named due to the due to its envelope studded with projecting glycoproteins which resembles to a crown like structure ('corona' in Latin) and surrounds a core which consisted of matrix protein enclosed within

India reported its first COVID-19 case on January 30, 2020 and numbers began to rise in late March 2020, at a low rate, which may be due to several government policies including terminating all international flights and implementing a nation-wide lockdown at an early stage of the pandemic

Mass media is instrumental in affecting knowledge and attitudes of people for adopting / maintaining healthy lifestyle. It is a well-known fact that Media influences our behavior toward health belief by informing and educating people. Mass media interventions have great impact on common people's knowledge, attitudes and behavior towards COVID-19 pandemic.



AIM

The primary aim is to determine the knowledge about COVID-19 among the rural population and the secondary aim is to assess the people's attitude towards govt actions

OBJECTIVES

- To assess people's knowledge about COVID-19 signs and symptoms
- To assess people's knowledge about spread and prevention of COVID-19
- To assess people's attitude towards govt actions

Methodology

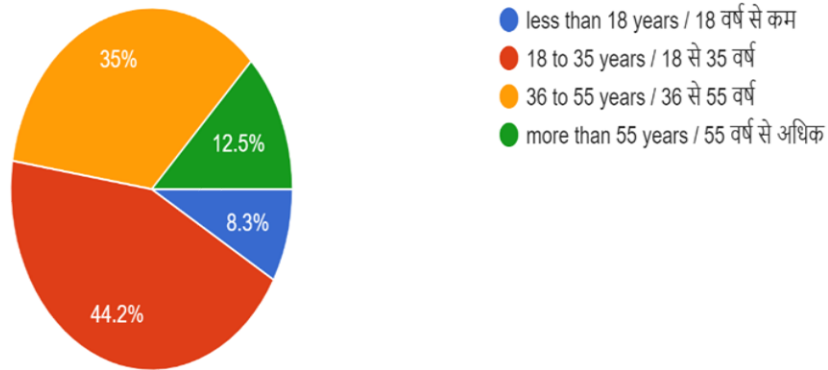
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- **Study design:** Cross sectional, Descriptive
- **Study location:** Kharela town of Mahoba district in Uttar Pradesh
- **Duration of study:** 90 days
- **Sample size:** 120
- **Sampling technique:** Convenience Sampling, people visiting the shop were interviewed on their consent and the data was recorded as per their response in the google form
- **Data Type:** Primary Data
- **Data Collection** – A self-administered questionnaire was used to collect the data.
Data Analysis – Responses were analyzed using Microsoft Excel. Graphical representations were used for data analysis. Primarily, pie charts and histograms were used for depiction of results obtained through responses from various people



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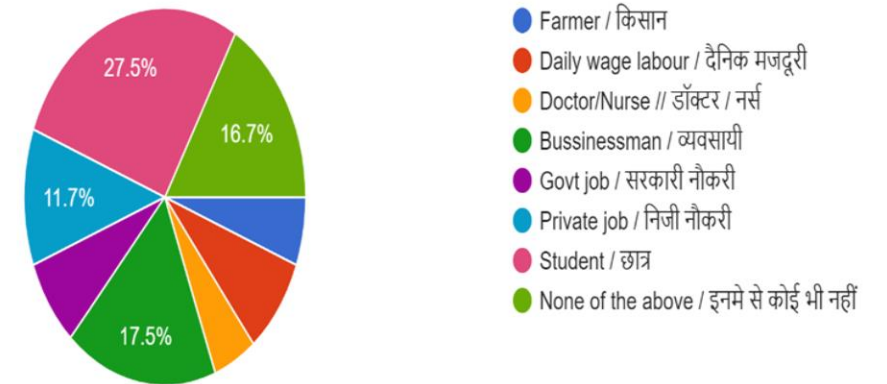
Responses

Age / आयु
120 responses



Out of 120 respondents, 79.2% people belong to age group 18-55 years

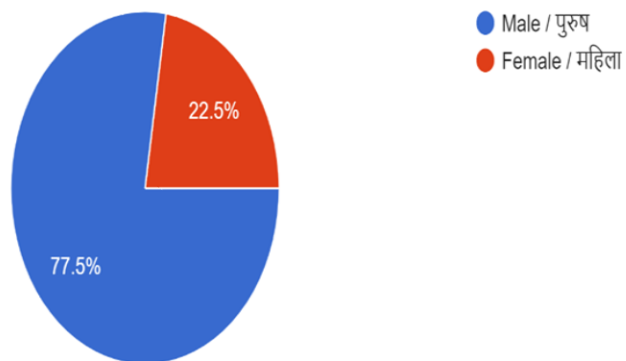
Occupation / व्यवसाय
120 responses



Majorly respondents were students followed by people having their own business

Gender / लिंग

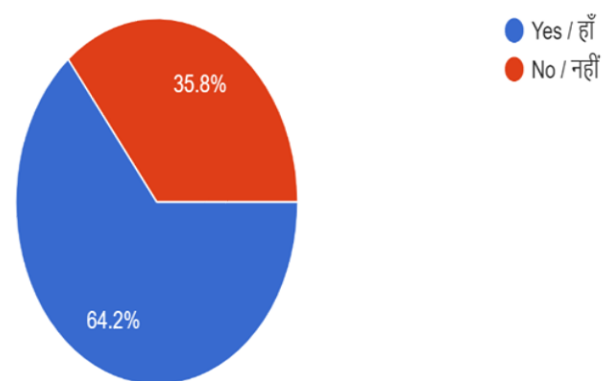
120 responses



77.5% of the respondents were male and the remaining 22.5% were females

Do you know about COVID-19? / क्या आप COVID-19 के बारे में जानते हैं?

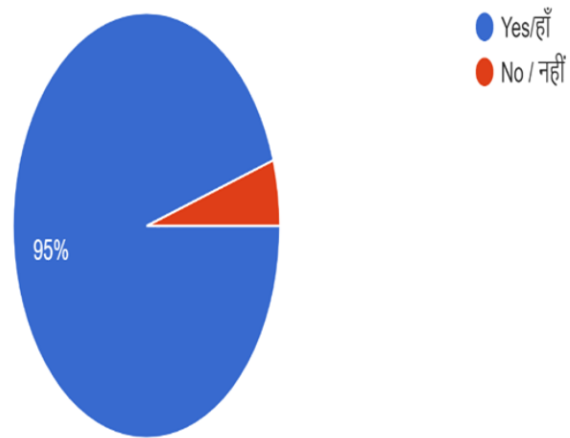
120 responses



64.2% of the respondents were aware about the COVID-19 pandemic

Do you know about Corona virus? / क्या आप कोरोना वायरस के बारे में जानते हैं?

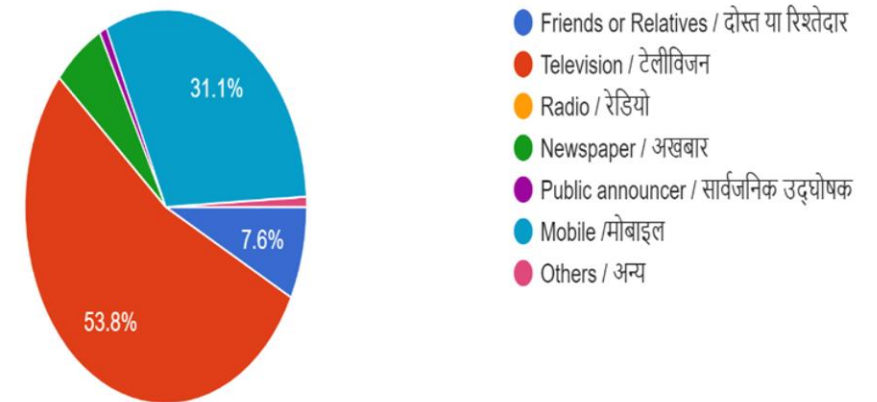
120 responses



95% of respondents are aware about the Corona virus

What is your primary source of information regarding Corona virus news and updates? / कोरोना वायरस समाचार और अपडेट के बारे में आपकी प्राथमिक जानकारी क्या है?

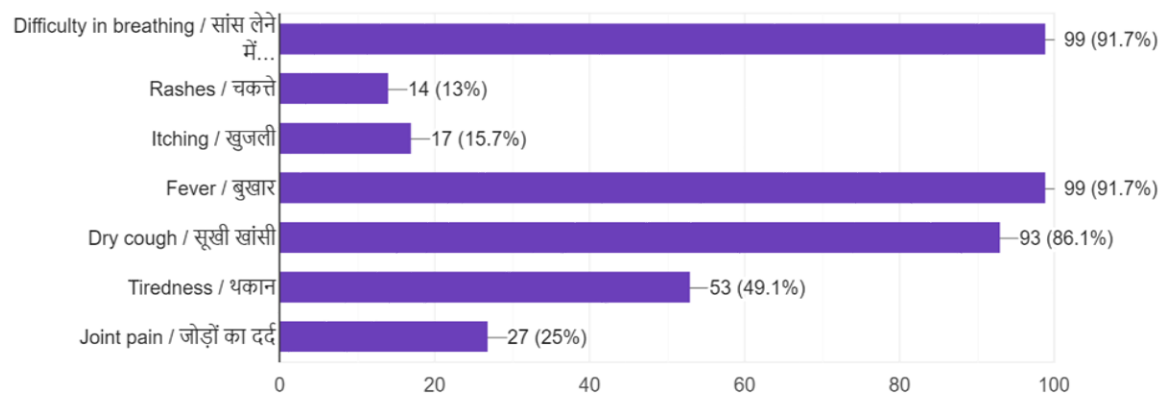
119 responses



Television is the primary source of information for the respondents followed by mobile

Symptoms of Corona virus infection (Tick all those that are correct) / कोरोना वायरस संक्रमण के लक्षण (उन सभी को टिक करें जो सही हैं)

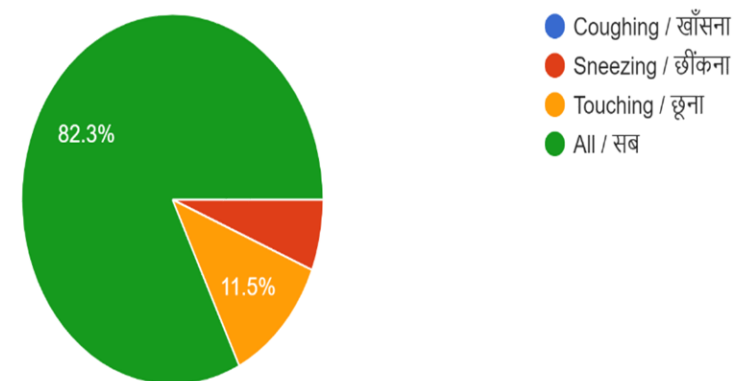
108 responses



More than 80% of the respondents choose difficulty in breathing, fever and dry cough as the symptoms of Corona virus infection

How does the virus spreads / वायरस कैसे फैलता है

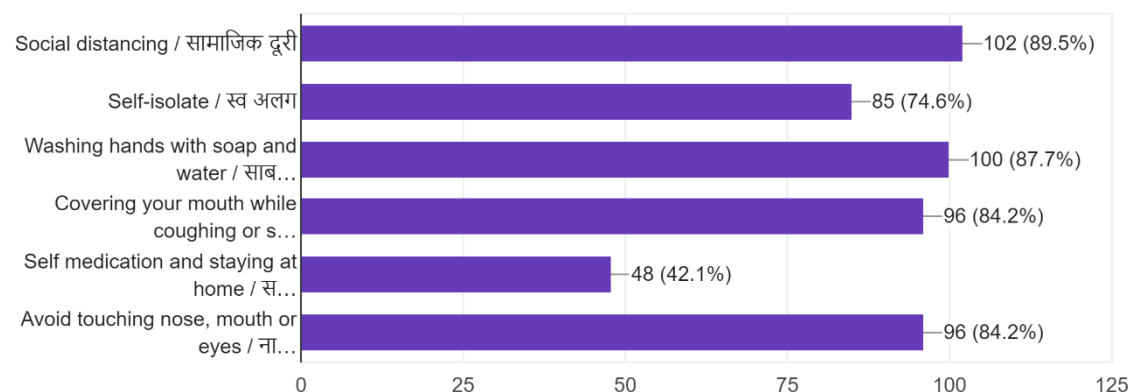
113 responses



82.3% of the people accept that virus spreads through Coughing, Sneezing and Touching

How can you stop the virus from spreading?(Tick all those that are correct) / आप वायरस को फैलने से कैसे रोक सकते हैं? (उन सभी को टिक करें जो सही हैं)

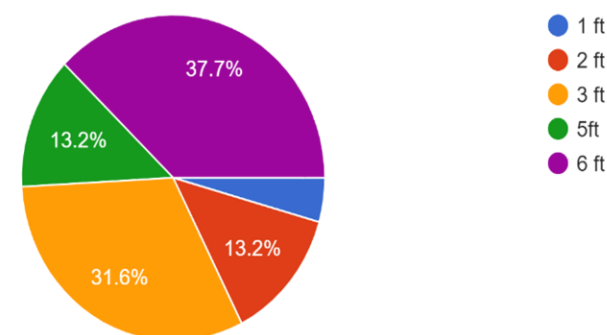
114 responses



More than 70% of the respondents are aware of the ways to prevent virus spread and more than 50% refrains from preferring self-medication and staying at home

How much distance is to be maintained with each other in order to prevent virus spread / वायरस फैलने से रोकने के लिए एक दूसरे के साथ कितनी दूरी बनाए रखनी है

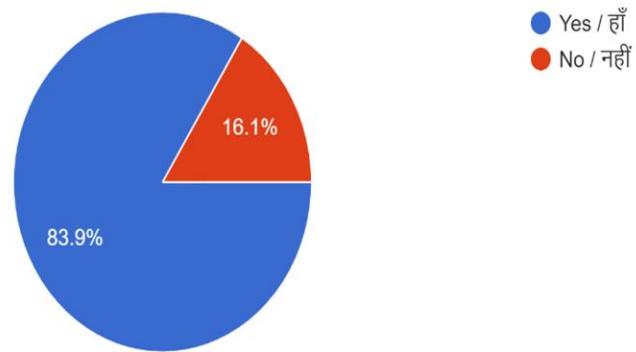
114 responses



More than 80% of the respondents are aware that at least 3ft distance is to be maintained with each other

Do you think that covering your mouth with a cloth will prevent the spread of corona virus infection? / क्या आपको लगता है कि मुंह को कपड़े से ढक... कोरोना वायरस के संक्रमण को फैलने से रोका जा सकता है?

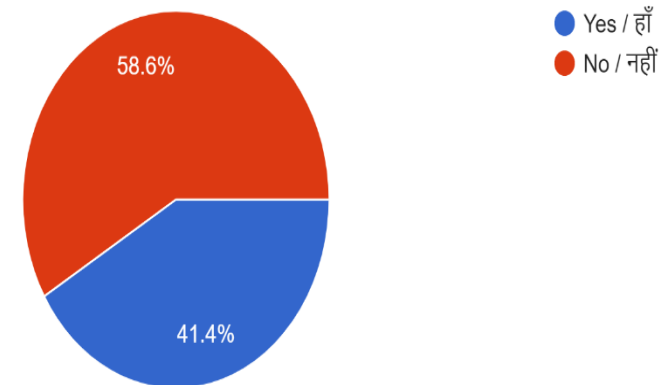
112 responses



More than 80% of the respondents think that covering the mouth with a cloth will prevent the spread of corona virus

Do you think that person infected with corona virus will show no symptoms? / क्या आपको लगता है कि कोरोना वायरस से संक्रमित व्यक्ति कोई लक्षण नहीं दिखाएगा?

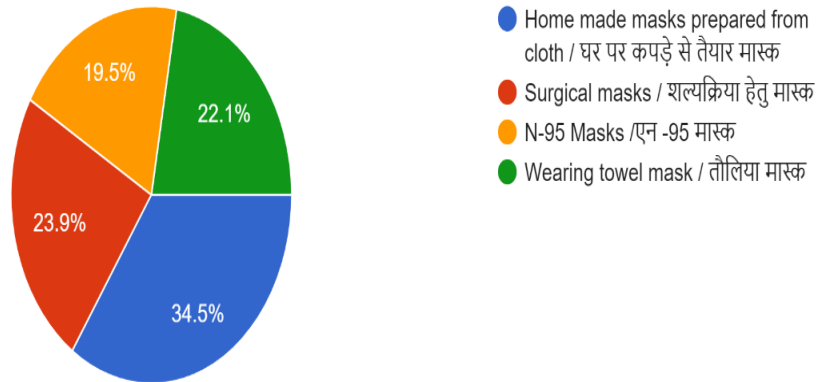
111 responses



58.6% of respondents dont think that person infected with corona virus will show no symptom

What type of masks do you use / आप किस प्रकार के मास्क का उपयोग करते हैं

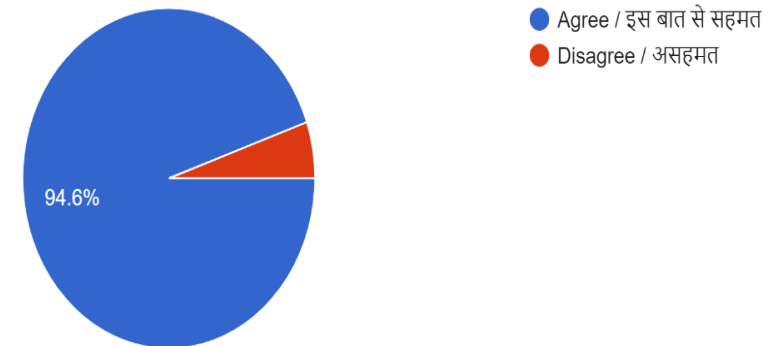
113 responses



More than 50% of the respondents use cloth as a measure of prevention against the infection

India will win a war against Corona virus / भारत कोरोना वायरस के खिलाफ युद्ध जीतेगा

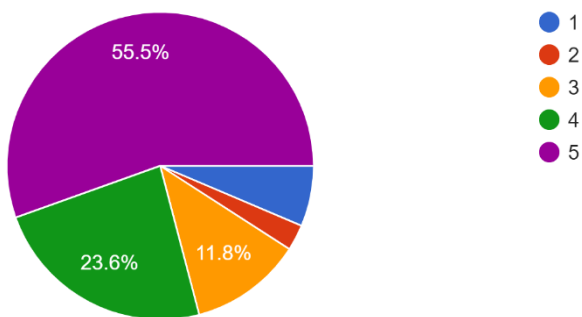
112 responses



94.6% of the respondents believe that India will win the war against Corona virus

Govt is providing adequate information regarding spread and prevention of the virus(1-Strongly disagree and 5-strongly agree) / वायरस के प्रसार और ...न कर रही है (1-दृढ़ता से असहमत और 5-दृढ़ता से सहमत)

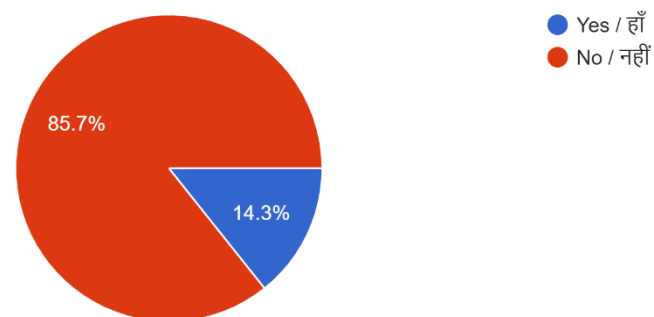
110 responses



More than 50% of the respondents strongly agree with the fact that govt is providing adequate information regarding spread and prevention of Corona virus infection

Do you share your mask with other people in the house / क्या आप घर के अन्य लोगों के साथ अपना मुखौटा साझा करते हैं

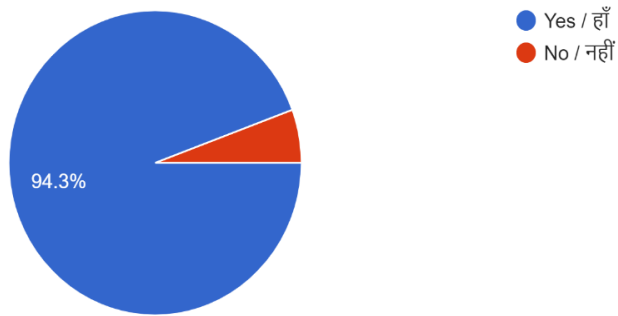
112 responses



More than 85% of the respondents don't share their masks with anyone else

Does each member of your house have a separate mask

106 responses



94.3% of the respondents have separate masks for each member of their house

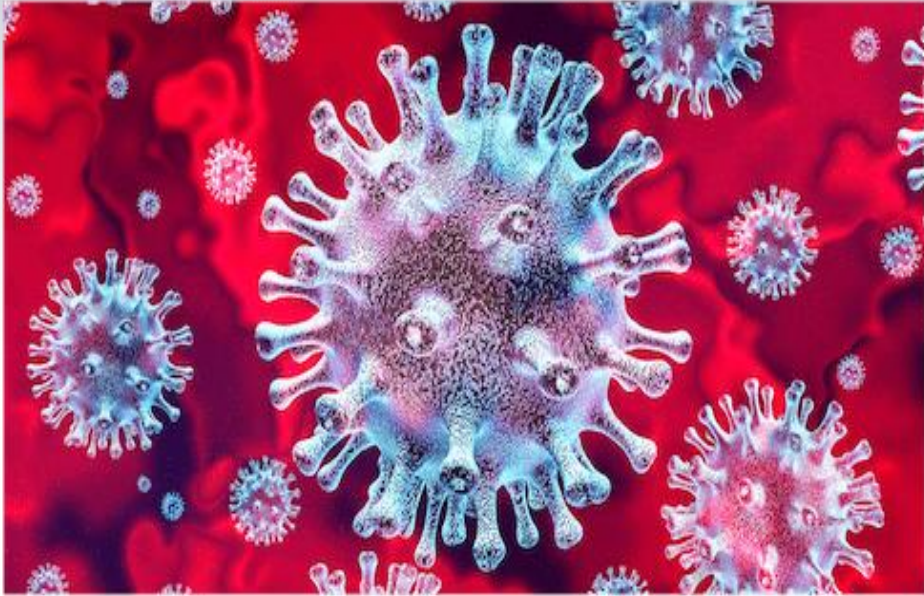
What should you do in case you have fever with dry cough and difficulty in breathing / सूखी खांसी के साथ बुखार और सांस लेने में कठिनाई के मामले में आपको क्या करना चाहिए

112 responses



92% of the respondents prefer to seek medical help in case of having fever with dry cough and difficulty in breathing

Discussions



- The respondents are knowledgeable about the spread and prevention of COVID-19.
- People primarily use television and mobile phones as a means to get information regarding the spread and prevention of corona virus and the data also suggests that these sources are adequate and reliable in dispensing information.
- Media is doing a great role in educating people regarding symptoms and precautionary measures to be taken in order to avoid the infection.
- People have a positive attitude towards govt actions as they believe that one day India will win the war against COVID-19.
- People also know about the importance of masks as we can see that most respondents have separate mask for each member of the household.

Results show that more people prefer to wear Cloth masks or towel as a protective barrier against the infection. Keeping this in mind, govt should also educate people to maintain proper hygiene of the handmade cloth masks

Mobile is one of the primary sources of information for the respondents, so it should be monitored that the information which people receive through internet or various social media platforms is authentic. Govt should also try to keep a strict check on sensitive and fake content too.



- With total number of confirmed COVID-19 cases touching 200k, it is now becoming extremely important that people should strictly follow the necessary preventive measures such as Social distancing, practicing hand and respiratory hygiene, wearing masks when necessary, etc.
- The results from this study depicts that there is adequate knowledge among the respondents regarding COVID-19. People are aware about the various ways through which this virus can make them sick, they are also aware about the preventive measure to be taken at this time of pandemic and what to do if in case they show symptoms of the virus infection.
- Television and mobile phones play a big role in reaching masses even in rural setting. The positive attitude of the people towards govt actions in curbing the pandemic was of utmost importance since we need to fight virus at the individual level. It is not only the duty of govt or the Corona fighters to help us get rid of this virus, but it should be a cumulative effort from each and every individual if we really want to eliminate this virus.
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QUESTIONS?

