

3 facts on Covid-19 knowledge in rural Raipur, Chhattisgarh



We reached out to female **Mor Awaaz** enrollees in rural Raipur about their awareness of Covid-19 in two waves:

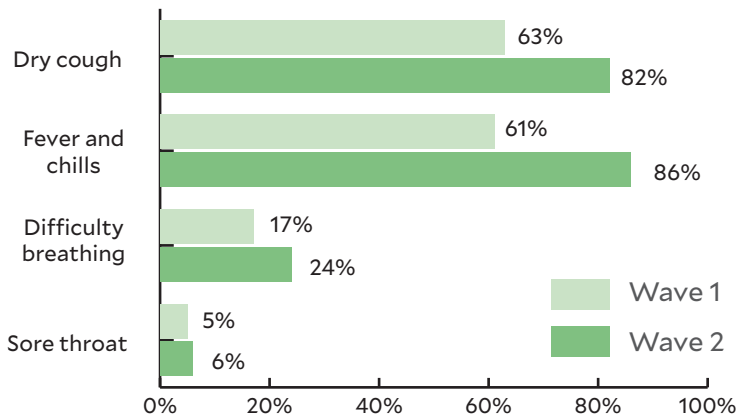
Wave 1: from April 14 - May 11

Wave 2: from May 22 - July 14

This is what we discovered:

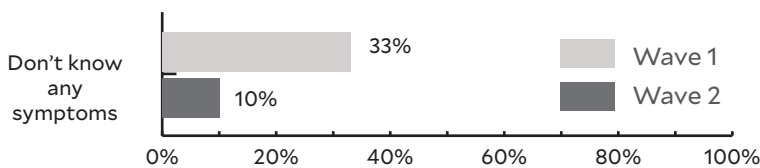
Comparing Wave 1 and Wave 2 surveys

FACT 1: Awareness of main Covid-19 symptoms has improved between waves, but some knowledge gaps still persist.



82% can name **dry cough** and **86%** can name **fever and chills** as symptoms (versus just over 60% in Wave 1).

However, knowledge levels of common symptoms such as difficulty breathing and sore throat are still low. **76%** of respondents could not name **difficulty breathing** as a major symptom for Covid-19.



The percentage of women who are **uninformed** decreased from **33%** in Wave 1 to **10%** in Wave 2.

Responses from 2,675 women in Wave 1 and 2,382 women in Wave 2. The sample in Wave 2 has been re-weighted based on the sample in Wave 1. Results account for women's age and years of education. All responses are unprompted.

IN OUR SAMPLE...

Wave 1:

- Sample size: **2,675** women
- GPs: **179**
- Average age: **41**
- Average years of schooling: **4**
- 61%** worked for NREGA between July 2018 - October 2019
- 62%** are members of SHGs
- 33%** have a child under 6 years in the household

Wave 2:

- Sample size: **2,382** women
- GPs: **212**
- Average age: **39**
- Average years of schooling: **4.2**
- 62%** worked for NREGA between July 2018 - October 2019
- 62%** are members of SHGs
- 25%** have a child under 6 years in the household



Covid-19 and ASHA workers



We reached out to **47 ASHA workers** in 41 GPs during wave 1.*

Average age: **42**

91.5% completed at least 1 year of schooling

89% are members of SHGS

60% worked for NREGA between July 2018–October 2019

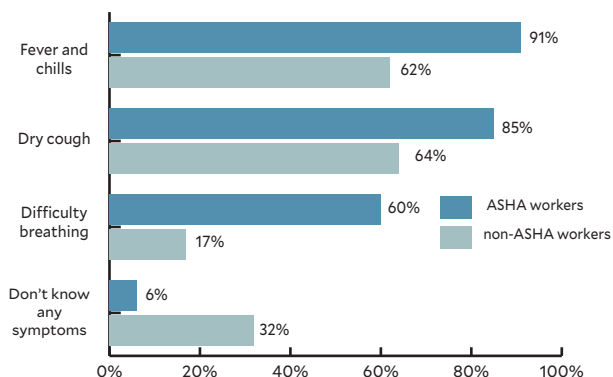
34% have a child under 6 years in the household

*Because of the small sample size, we caution against drawing broad conclusions from the data.

FACT 2: ASHA workers are better informed of Covid-19 symptoms compared to other women.

ASHA workers are less likely to report not knowing any symptoms. However, knowledge gaps still exist for less common symptoms like **difficulty breathing**.

Awareness of top 3 Covid-19 symptoms

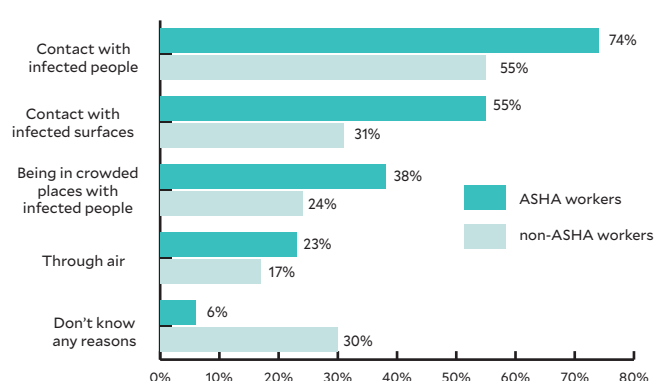


Responses from 1,438 women from Wave 1.

FACT 3: ASHA workers are also better informed about reasons for Covid-19 spread compared to other women.

ASHA workers are less likely to report not knowing any reasons for spread. However, knowledge gaps still exist for less common reasons like **being in crowded places** and **through air**.

Awareness of reasons for Covid-19 spread



Responses from 1,426 women from Wave 1.

Lessons and Policy Recommendations



1 ASHA workers **know more about Covid-19 symptoms and reasons for spread** than non-ASHA workers: ASHA workers should be encouraged to **share their Covid-19 related knowledge** into their community.

2 However, ASHA workers still have **knowledge gaps**: It is important to find ways to **further improve their awareness** about Covid-19 symptoms and prevention, especially through official channels.

Mor Awaaz is a phone-based service for women, developed by a team of researchers from Yale University, Harvard University, University of Warwick, University of Southern California and Duke University, as well as EPoD India at LEAD.



Its mission is to **empower women as changemakers in their homes and communities** by creating a dynamic information-sharing loop between women and the state government. To learn more, please contact morawaaz@gmail.com.