

Implications of COVID-19 Pandemic on Life Scientists in the Philippines

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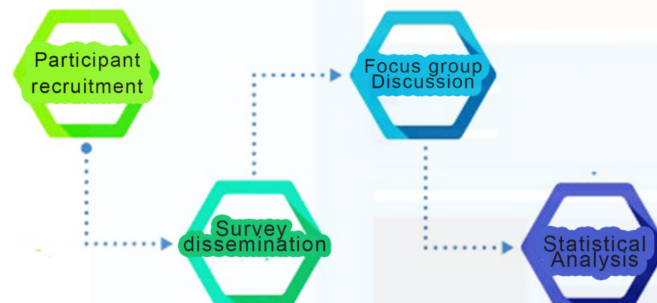
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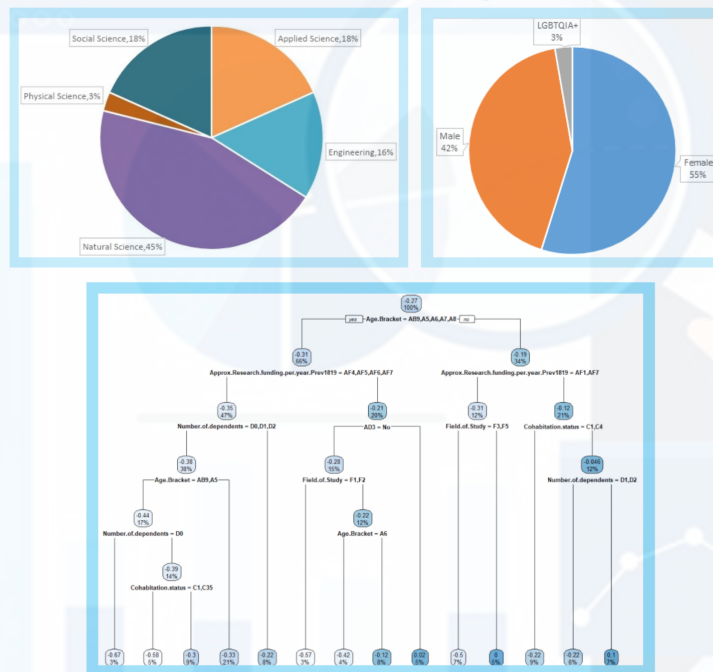
Introduction

For almost two years, the pandemic has delayed scientific activities, lost opportunities, and gave heterogeneous effects depending on the field, gender and demographic situation (Myers et al., 2020; Sumabranya et al., 2020; Drake, 2020). In the Philippines, different fields of science have experienced both similar and varied outcomes. Thus, it is essential to determine the status of life scientists and their research, solicit information on the varied factors affecting their work, and propose a science-based policy recommendation for post-pandemic planning and management.

Methodology



Results and Analysis



From left to right, top to bottom: Figure 1. Distribution of the fields of science, n=107.; Figure 2. Distribution of the gender, n=107.; Figure 3. Regression tree of the various factors (eg. age bracket, annual funding, number of dependents, field of study and cohabitation status) which implicates a degree of change among participants.

Conclusion

Individual factors (eg. field of science, age, number of dependents, etc.) do not impose a significant effect on the quantity of research publication nor on the research quality. However, combinations of these factors imposed significant changes, both positive and negative.

Recommendations



Strengthen vaccination program



Overhaul the procurement system



Improve the efficiency of government offices and institution



Realistic and focused research planning and management

Acknowledgement



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