



During the epidemic, provide a non-face-to-face online platform to purchase anti-epidemic meal boxes for hospital staff

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Abstract Introduction/Background

As the COVID-19 pandemic continues to spread around the world, statistics show that traditional markets and supermarkets have the risk of cluster infections, causing people to feel anxious about going out to buy fresh fruits, vegetables, and meals.

Concerning the high risk of infection while purchasing foods, the non-face-to-face online platform has been designed by the dietitian team for staff to purchase “anti-epidemic meal boxes”, and “vegetables and fruits treasure boxes”. This tool can help minimize contact opportunities by allowing hospital staff to order and pay for their food online. Meanwhile, contactless pickup would also be allocated with different time slots.

Materials and Methods

“Anti-epidemic meal boxes” were designed by the dietitian team to be served as reheated or ready-to-eat food (Figure A). Various fruits and vegetables were also available, called “vegetables and fruits treasure boxes” (Figure B). The supply was certified by the HACCP kitchen Supplier-Taipei Agricultural Products Co., Ltd., and all ingredients could be traced.

The online platform tool, called Google Forms, was designed by the dietitian team to order their foods (Figure C). Online questionnaires were created to gather staff opinions on the risk of cluster infections and to collect feedback on purchasing “anti-epidemic meals” and “vegetables and fruits treasure boxes”.

A



Figure A.
“Anti-epidemic meal boxes”

B



Figure B.
vegetables and fruits treasure boxes”

C

嗎哪天然之味 員工外帶防疫餐，開團囉!!
anti-epidemic takeaway meal boxes **SALES**

(菜餚示意圖)

	7/5	7/6	7/8	7/9
時段 15:30-16:00	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
時段 17:00-17:30	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Figure C.
The online platform tool

Results

A total of 202 questionnaires were collected from April 2021 to June 2022, approximately 60% of staff were 31-50 years old, and women accounted for the vast majority (94%). 97% and 99% of the staff believed that a balanced nutritional meal, and intake of fresh fruits and vegetables can help protect from viruses, respectively.

A total of 183 staff (91%) believed that buying fresh foods outside would increase the risk of cluster infection. 97% of the staff agreed that the “anti-epidemic meal boxes” launched by the dietitian team can effectively reduce the risk of infection when going out, and 94% of the staff believe these “anti-epidemic meal boxes”, and “vegetables and fruits treasure boxes” can bring a sense of security, satisfaction, and deliciousness.

Discussion and Conclusion

Most staff believe that the risk of group infection can be reduced by buying “anti-epidemic meal boxes”, which can provide balanced nutrition to boost their immunity. By designing an order form that is user-friendly, hospital staff could easily pay online, and pick-up time would be staggered to minimize face-to-face contact while purchasing. Therefore, providing non-face-to-face “anti-epidemic meal boxes” and fresh fruits and vegetables can effectively make hospital staff access to nutritious and safe food options, which can help to give a sense of security, and enhance their quality of life. Furthermore, they would have enough energy to work on the anti-epidemic frontline.