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🌐 Risk perception and coping response to COVID-19 is mediated by positive and negative emotions: a study on Chinese college students

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This study aimed to assess the mediating roles of positive and negative emotions on the relationship between COVID-19-related risk perception and coping behaviours adopted by Chinese college students in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. We conducted an internet-based questionnaire survey from mid February–late October 2020, among 1038 college students, from six Chinese universities (females = 73.41%), ranging within 17–26 years. The survey questionnaire included three major components—the COVID-19-Related Risk Perception Scale (CRPS), the Positive and Negative Affect Scale (PANAS-Revision), and Coping Response of COVID-19 Scale (CRCS). Descriptive statistics and a mediated model were used to analyse the collected data. A partial mediation relationship was found between COVID-19-related risk perception and 1) active-response behaviour ($\beta=0.05$, 95% Confidence Interval [CI: 0.03, 0.08]), 2) self-protection behaviour through positive emotions ($\beta=0.03$, CI [0.01, 0.04]), and 3) risk-taking behaviour through negative emotions ($\beta=-0.04$, CI [-0.07, -0.02]). This study's double-mediation model has been shown to detect the effect coping mechanisms to COVID-19. Furthermore, it implies that public health managers should consider the differences in coping mechanisms and the diverse mediating roles of positive and negative emotions for coping with public health emergencies.

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<https://protocols.io/view/risk-perception-and-coping-response-to-covid-19-is-bzzfp73n>



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