

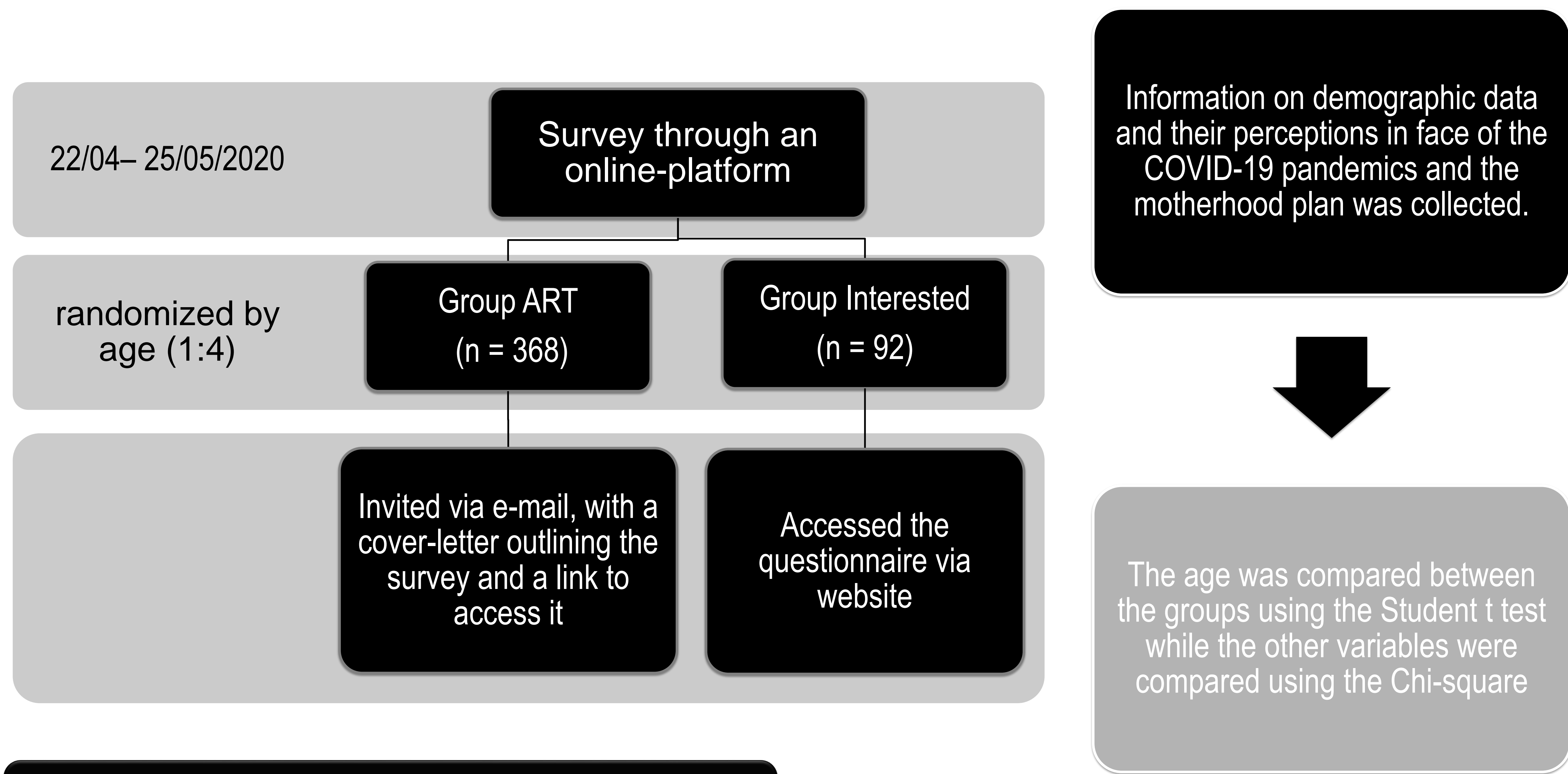
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OBJECTIVE

The novel coronavirus (Covid-19) outbreak led to a public health emergency of international concern, putting health organizations on alert. World authorities implemented suppression plans to control community spread, including restrictions to non-urgent medical care. Assisted reproduction centers had to adapt to these restrictions. The infertility diagnosis and reproductive treatments possess an inherent psychological burden. This associated with the uncertainty of the consequences of the passage of time in the prognosis of treatments may impact on patient’s psychological health. The goal for the present study was to investigate whether women seeking fertility care have different perception concerning the impact of Covid-19 on the motherhood plan than a target population?

MATERIALS AND METHODS



CONCLUSION

Besides the fear of becoming sick, the economic burdens are the main reason for the delay in the motherhood plain, especially among women seeking for fertility care. This may be due to the fear of future economic instabilities and the fact that, in Brazil, ART does not qualify for reimbursement.

RESULTS

Distribution of age, marital status and patient’s opinion about the possibility of become pregnant among groups

| | Group ART (n=368) | Group Interested (n=92) | p |
|--|-------------------|-------------------------|--------|
| Age | 38.5 ± 6.2 | 37.1 ± 6.8 | 0.064 |
| Married or in a common-law relationship | 83.4% (307/368) | 50.0% (46/92) | <0.001 |
| Pandemic could affect the parenthood plans | 47.8% (176/368) | 28.2% (26/92) | <0.001 |

Opinion about the duration of the suppression strategies in patients in art-group and interested-group

| | Group ART (n=368) | Group Interested (n=92) | P | |
|--|-------------------------------|-------------------------|-------|--------|
| Duration of the suppression strategies | End of May/2020 | 9.8% | 3.2% | 0.033 |
| | End of June/2020 | 23.6% | 7.6% | <0.001 |
| | End of July/2020 | 21.2% | 7.6% | <0.001 |
| | End of August/2020 | 13.0% | 39.1% | <0.001 |
| | Beyond the end of August/2020 | 31.8% | 42.4% | 0.054 |

Opinion on whether the plan to become pregnant was postponed and the reasons why in art-group and interested-group

| | | Group ART (n=368) | Group Interested (n=92) | P |
|---|------------------------------|-------------------|-------------------------|--------|
| Pregnancy plan | Postponed | 41.3% | 60.8% | 0.005 |
| | Fear of getting sick | 60.5% | 64.3% | 0.410 |
| Reasons to postpone the motherhood plan | Economic reasons | 43.4% | 26.8% | 0.029 |
| | Pessimist view of the future | 11.8% | 23.2% | 0.041 |
| | Medical advice | 2.6% | 0.0% | NA |
| | Discontinuation of ART | 46.7% | 3.6% | <0.001 |
| | Other | 13.1% | 17.8% | 0.392 |