Э.Б. Мендонза

АНАЛИЗ ПРИВЕРЖЕННОСТИ ВАКЦИНАЦИИ И ПРИЧИНЫ ОТКАЗОВ

Научный руководитель: ассист. Е.В. Сазонов
Кафедра поликлинической терапии
Белорусский государственный медицинский университет, г. Минск

A.B. Mendonza

ANALYSIS OF REASONS BEHIND VACCINE HESITANCY AND REFUSAL

Tutor: assistant E.V. Sazonov
Department of Outpatient Therapy
Belarusian State Medical University, Minsk

Резюме. В этой статье представлены результаты анализа причин, по которым вакцинация вызывает сомнения и отказ от нее.

Ключевые слова: нерешительность в отношении вакцины, модель 3 Cs.

Resume. This article presents the results of analysis of reasons behind vaccine and hesitancy, and refusal.

Keywords: vaccine hesitancy, 3 Cs model.

Relevance. Vaccinations have been claimed to be the most successful inventions in the public health sphere, decreasing the risks and complications of a disease, as well as eradicating some life-threatening diseases, such as polio and small pox in many parts of the world. However, a downward trend of vaccine coverage in many countries has been recorded over the past 10 years, consequently followed by an increase in the number of “zero-dose“ children posing a challenge to medical workers as well as the general population of an increase in outbreak of preventable diseases.

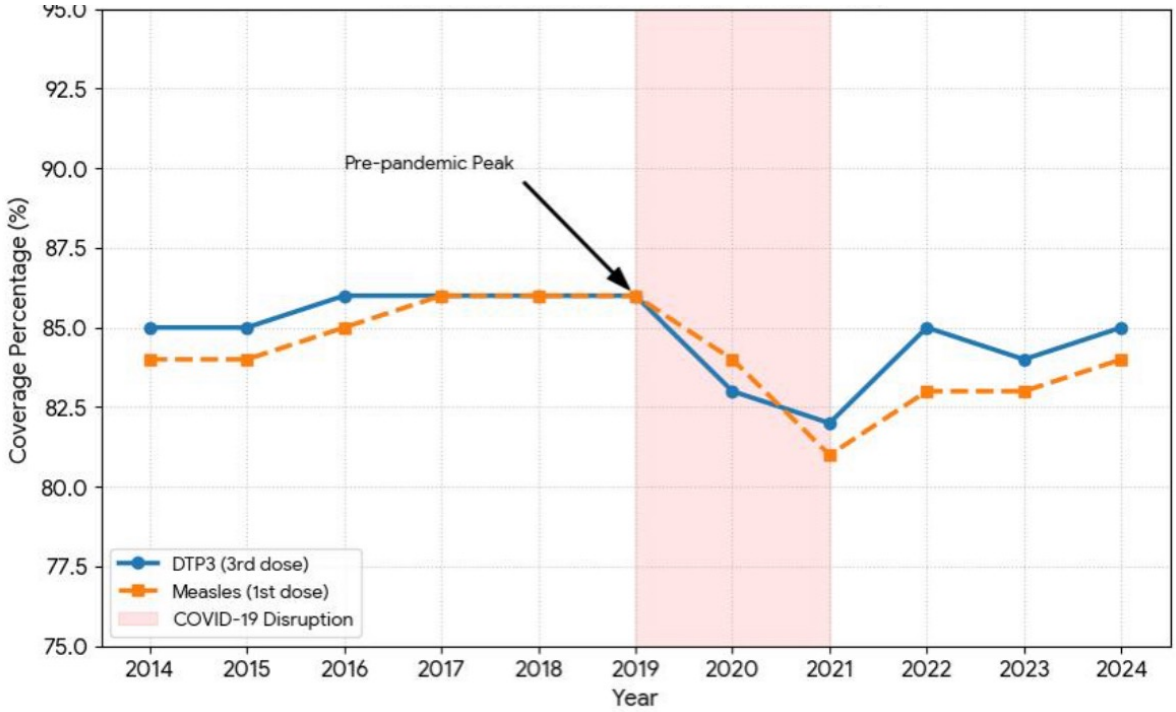

Fig. 1 – Global vaccination coverage (2014-2024)

Aim: to research peoples opinions towards vaccination

Objective: to study peoples attitudes towards vaccination and analyze various reasons behind refusing vaccines.

Materials and methods. The retrospective study analyzed 230 medical surveys answered by patients, and data from research papers from Medscape and PubMed on popularly stated causes for vaccine hesitancy.

Results and their discussion. The WHO recommends the "3 Cs" model to understand the reasons behind hesitancy and refusals of vaccinations : confidence, complacency, and convenience.

Our survey had the following results:

A total of 230 patients took the survey consisting of 32,2% female and 67,8% male and a split of age groups as 32,6% over the age of 60, 30,4% aged 46-60, 14,8% aged 36-45, 11,3% of 26-35 year-olds and 10,9% of 25 and under.

After analyzing results of the surveys the following conclusions can be drawn:

58,2% stated to have a positive attitude to vaccination while 28,3% felt neutral about it and 13,5% have a negative attitude towards it.

The main factors responsible for influencing peoples opinion on vaccinations are doctors recommendations(57,8), experiences of the past(44,3%), statistics and scientific material(23,5%) and fear of possible risks(17,%)

The main concerns regarding vaccinations were stated as fear of serious risks/complications as well as long-term negative consequences(89,1%), low quality and lack of research of vaccines(25,6%) and lack of information about the benefits(14,8%). 64,3% believe that the benefits of vaccination outweigh the risks and 12,7% voted for the opposite.

When asked if there was a change in attitude towards vaccinations post the COVID-19 pandemic, 44,3% stated that their opinion did not change, 24,8% stated their confidence in vaccines increased while 11,3% experienced a decline in confidence in vaccines.

2 paradoxes were observed :

a) In more than half of the people, an increase in confidence in vaccine was not observed despite them voting that the pros outweigh the cons of vaccines.

b) Although individuals relate to vaccines in a positive manner, they claim that they are not likely to get vaccinated themselves.

This is a reflection of the psychological "intention-behaviour gap" encouraging physicians to navigate patients' deeply human behavioural patterns.

Patients also have been asked about things that can change their mind about vaccination and the next results were obtained: 59,9% want more open and more clear information from doctors, 45,7% need publications and independent research. About 15% are interested in mass media publications and open lections from medical workers. About 18% ready to follow the example of authorities and 13,9% patients are not ready to change their opinion.

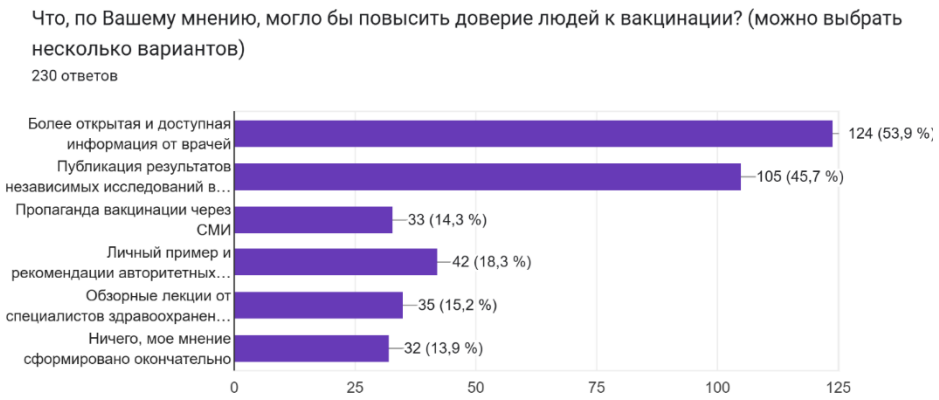

Fig. 2 – Poll results from the survey on the question "What do you think could increase confidence in vaccination?"

Conclusions. A downward trend of vaccine coverage in many countries has been recorded over the past 10 years, which poses a challenge, not only to the medical workers but also to the general population of an increase in outbreak of preventable diseases. Nowadays the main barrier is the fear of side effects (89,1%) and long-term consequences. Therefore, active measures to combat the main causes for vaccine refusal, such as lack of confidence in doctors, inaccessible vaccines and false information must be taken by increasing qualification of healthcare providers,increasing accessibility and mandating vaccines by protocol as well as ensuring effective delivery of accurate information in order to restore immunity and reverse the declining trends.

Literature

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