

COVID-19 Vaccination Acceptance and Trust among Adults in Makkah, Saudi Arabia: A Cross-Sectional Study

Mohamed Osama Nour

Al-Azhar University, Egypt.

Umm Al-Qura University, KSA.

Background: Public acceptance, trust, and actual uptake of COVID-19 vaccines are crucial to stem the pandemic. However, vaccine availability does not necessarily mean successful mass vaccination. We aimed to investigate knowledge level, acceptance and trust in COVID-19 vaccination, and related predictors among adults in Makkah, KSA. **Methods:** A web-based cross-sectional survey was carried to assess knowledge level, acceptance, and trust in COVID-19 vaccination with related socio-demographic factors. Predictors of vaccine acceptance and trust were examined by logistic regression analysis. **Results:** The survey included 507 participants, aged 18–78 years, 55.8% were females, and 36.7% had (or one of their family members) previously been exposed to COVID-19 infection. Their knowledge about COVID-19 vaccination was satisfactory (86.2%) with 71.2% intended to receive COVID-19 vaccination, and 56.4% were confident of the vaccine effectiveness. Vaccine efficacy, duration of protection, schedule of vaccination, and recommendation by authorities may favor their decision to accept or decline COVID-19 vaccines. Good knowledge about the vaccines (OR=2.07; CI: 1.24–3.48), higher educational level (OR= 1.80; CI: 1.07–3.40), and previous seasonal flu vaccination (OR=1.66; CI: 1.09–2.53) were among significant predictors for vaccine acceptance whereas, female sex (OR=4.15; CI: 2.86–6.04), higher educational level (OR= 3.59; CI: 2.08–6.21), and good knowledge about the vaccines (OR=2.67; CI: 1.58–4.51) were among significant predictors for trust in vaccine effectiveness. **Conclusion:** Better understanding public acceptance and trust in COVID-19 vaccines and addressing barriers to vaccination help to improve vaccine coverage and to reinforce some communication characteristics of the current vaccination campaign.

Biography

Dr. Mohamed O Nour is a medicine graduate. Hold M.B.B.CH from Al-Azhar University, Diploma & Master in Pediatrics from Ain Shams University, Master and MD in Public Health & Community Medicine from Al-Azhar University, Egypt in 2011. He works as an assistant professor of Public Health & Community Medicine at Damietta Faculty of Medicine, Al-Azhar University, Egypt and Faculty of Public Health & Health Informatics, Umm Al-Qura University, Makkah, KSA. He shared in putting undergraduate programs. He has undergone various training and certifications and attended several workshops, seminars and conferences in his professional career.