



# Knowledge and Attitude of General Population towards Covid-19 Vaccination

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**Abstract.** Background: Corona virus has affected the people all around the globe. The only measure to prevent this deadly virus is to mask up, maintain physical distancing, frequent hand washing and vaccination. Some people are deciding not to get the coronavirus vaccines because of the lack of knowledge, mistrust of those involved in producing and selling vaccinations, risk perception, subjective norms, religious and moral convictions, and certain myths created in the minds of common masses make them to opt out from vaccinating themselves which will affect people of all different backgrounds, ages and ethnicities and waiting too long to be vaccinated allows the coronavirus to continue spreading in the community, with new variants emerging. Methods: Present study included Quantitative non-experimental survey type design which was carried out on 140 individuals. Convenient sampling technique was chosen for selection of samples. A standardized tool was used for data collection. Descriptive and inferential statistics were used to analyse the data. Conclusions: Majority of the people were having average knowledge regarding covid-19 vaccination and good attitude towards covid-19 vaccination. People with higher qualification and good profession were having good attitude and knowledge regarding Covid-19 vaccination, thus less hesitant in getting Covid vaccine. People with good knowledge & awareness regarding covid-19 vaccination were having very good attitude towards covid-19 vaccination, so higher authorities must find ways and arrange awareness programs regarding importance of covid-19 vaccination to educate more and more people to end this pandemic.

## 1. Introduction

WHO declared covid-19 a pandemic on 11 March 2020. Vaccination is an important aspect of preventing deadly diseases. Vaccination helps the human immune system in recognizing the various pathological agents capable of causing a disease. Vaccination helps in making our body capable of fighting a specific pathological agent. When there is no treatment available that too for a deadly disease vaccination is the only way to prevent oneself from getting the infection. In the context of the current worldwide health and financial crisis from COVID-19, vaccines have become the primary anticipated means to end its effects. So, reducing the spread of new COVID-19 infection is anticipated through vaccination of all people, with particular concern for a risky population like healthcare workers. Besides the efficient community-level health measures like wearing face masks, social distancing, avoidance of populated areas, awareness creation, and handwashing, effective vaccination is vital to prevent morbidity and mortality of the pandemic. The COVID-19 vaccines work with your immune system so your body will be ready to fight the coronavirus if you are exposed to it. As the COVID-19 pandemic continues, getting the vaccine is a powerful step in taking charge of your health. India began the COVID 19 vaccination campaign on 16 January 2021. Currently the main vaccines available in India are Oxford-Astra Zeneca vaccine locally referred to as Covishield, Bharat Biotech-ICMR indigenous vaccine named Covaxin and the Russian Sputnik V vaccine which is imported. In addition, several other vaccines have also been given emergency use authorization. While availability and distribution of the vaccines remains a challenge, even in places where vaccines are made available there is vaccine hesitancy. Scientific literature indicates that vaccine hesitancy has increased since the influenza pandemic in 2009. Vaccine hesitancy may exist even among people who believe in the importance of vaccinations. Vaccine hesitancy is not limited to the general public; despite recommendations for the vaccination of all HCWs against infectious diseases, HCWs also report vaccine hesitancy. Vaccine hesitancy among HCWs is also influenced by multiple factors including fear of side-effects and misconceptions concerning safety and importance. Individual beliefs and perceptions, embedded in personal, social, and cultural values, indirectly affect people's health behaviours, frequently without their awareness, which can be seen in decisions about vaccinations. Vaccine hesitancy can affect people of all different backgrounds, ages and ethnicities. But waiting too long to be vaccinated allows the coronavirus to continue spreading in the community, with new variants emerging. Certain myths created in the minds of common masses make them to opt out from vaccinating themselves. There is lot of mistrust and concerns about the effects of vaccination were the most important determinants of both uncertainty and unwillingness to get vaccinated against COVID-19. Some people have a belief that the vaccines are intended to inject microchips into individuals and that the vaccines may cause infertility in the individuals. The negative attitude towards covid-19 vaccination could pose a serious threat to the preventive measures aimed at controlling COVID-19 spread in the area.