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OPEN PEER REVIEW

COVID-19 Vaccination Hesitancy Among 5 - 11-year-old Iranian Children's Parents: What Are Underlying Beliefs?

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About this report

This open peer review (OPR) report shows the public comments made on this article during peer review, by the reviewers, the associate editor and the editor-in-chief, for every revision round, together with the authors' replies. Comments appear only with the consent of the people who wrote them. Reviewers who chose to sign their report are named; the others are shown as "Referee". Comments are edited for language only, and confidential remarks to the editors are not included.

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1 Original submission

3 comments · 18 Nov 2022 – 27 Dec 2022

Referee 1 Reviewer

REJECT 18 Nov 2022

Dear author
To investigate the attitude of Iranian society, it is necessary to conduct a qualitative study with an exploratory approach. For this purpose, parents who did not vaccinate their children on time are asked open-ended questions, and then their answers are analyzed by content thematic analysis, and the final result is presented in the form of axes obtained from this analysis.
Presenting a questionnaire based on a literature review to the target population and collecting their answers is not the correct method to analyze the attitude of Iranian parents.
Regards

Alireza Nateghian Reviewer

MINOR REVISION 3 Dec 2022

Thank you very much for submitting the paper to me. It is a very important area, and the whole article seems OK to me, but there are some comments:
1. In the introduction, it should be noted that the types of vaccines available for kids in different countries can affect parents' decisions about vaccination, and this matter should be discussed in the discussion section as well.
2. The questionnaire must be validated first. Did you validate it statistically first to prevent bias during the research?

Associate Editor

REJECT 27 Dec 2022

Dear authors
Your manuscript has been reviewed by reviewers whose comments are appended.
There are significant objections to your manuscript (study design) being published in its current form.
Thanks

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Revision 1

AUTHORS' RESPONSE TO REVIEWERS

Authors' reply to reviewers

The next pages contain the authors' point-by-point reply to the comments of this revision round, as submitted with the revised manuscript. It is published as the authors wrote it.

We appreciate the opportunity you provided for the improvement of our manuscript. The changes were made according to the comments in the manuscript itself.

Reviewer1

1. in the introduction, it should be noted that the types of vaccines available for kids in different countries can affect the parent’s decision for vaccination. This matter should also be discussed in the discussion part.

   The noted corrections were incorporated into the text

2. the questionnaire must be validated first, did you validate statistically first to prevent bias during research?

   The questionnaire was created and validated based on a literature review and edited by two independent epidemiologists (to ensure face validity) and assessed by four specialists including an epidemiologist, a pediatrician, an infectious disease specialist, and an immunologist (to ensure content validity).

Reviewer 2
Dear author
To investigate the attitude of Iranian society, it is necessary to conduct a qualitative study with an exploratory approach. For this purpose, parents who did not vaccinate their children on time are asked open-ended questions and then their answers are analyzed by content thematic analysis and the final result is presented in the form of axes obtained from this analysis. Presenting a questionnaire based on a literature review to the target population and collecting their answers is not the correct method to analyze the attitude of Iranian parents.

Although the opinion expressed is correct and more accurate results may be obtained if open-ended questions are asked, the data of this study were collected in the conditions of the Corona pandemic and the questions should have been asked to the participants online. And in web-based questions, participants usually answer open-ended questions with difficulty and as a result, the number of participants was significantly reduced; on the other hand, according to the review of the literature, there have been several articles in the world similar to the methodology of our study and they have had acceptable results. (like reference number 15)
In the future, we will try to use the valuable opinions of the honorable judge in our work method if the corona pandemic and children's vaccination continue.

Associate Editor 1:
Your manuscript has been reviewed by reviews whose comments are appended.
There are significant objections to your manuscript (study design) being published in its current form.

The noted corrections were incorporated into the text

2 Revision 1

1 comment · 11 Feb 2023

Associate Editor

MINOR REVISION 11 Feb 2023

Dear authors
Thank you for the revision.
There are some minor corrections that need your consideration.
First of all, use "online questionnaire" or "web-based questionnaire" throughout the manuscript. "online-based questionnaire" is not a familiar scientific term.
Second, your main results are not presented in the abstract results section. Summarize the following statements and add them to the abstract results section: "The most common wrong beliefs were probable vaccines' side effects in the future, the undesirable effect of vaccination on children's growth, and the awful effect of the vaccine on fertility, with the prevalence of 82.7%, 81.2%, and 76.7%, respectively. Among 1093 participants, 78.6% had at least five wrong beliefs or excuses for not vaccinating their children."
Line 5: "47% of all teenage deaths caused by COVID-19 occurred in children ages 0-9." is more informative. Add "teenage".
Lines 17-18: Add statistics for the following statement in the abstract: "The noteworthy point is that most parents were vaccinated with 2-3 doses against COVID-19."
Line 27: Remove "revolutionized human-being life and".
Lines 44-45: " their child's vaccination" is correct.
Line 59: Add "." after "(to ensure content validity)" and rewrite the following statements as a separate phrase using clearer wording.
Line 66: "IBM SPSS": add version details and statistical tests used for analysis.
Lines 95-96: The following statement is uninformative and should be improved (negative or positive correlation?).
The discussion section should start with the overall study findings.
Line 112: "80%" is correct.
Line 116: "10%" is correct.
Line 117: "100%" is correct.
Lines 116-117: The following statement is completely uninformative: "On the one hand, less than 10 percent of them did not vaccinate themselves, and on the other hand, 100 percent did not vaccinate their children." Provide a more readable statement.
Add study limitations at the end of the discussion section.
Add the conclusion section.

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Revision 2

AUTHORS' RESPONSE TO REVIEWERS

Authors' reply to reviewers

The next pages contain the authors' point-by-point reply to the comments of this revision round, as submitted with the revised manuscript. It is published as the authors wrote it.

We appreciate the opportunity you provided for the improvement of our manuscript. The changes were made according to the comments in the manuscript itself.

Associate Editor1

First of all, use "online questionnaire" or "web-based questionnaire" in the whole manuscript. "online-based questionnaire" is not a familiar scientific term.

The mentioned changes were entered into the text.

Second, your main results are not presented in the abstract results section!!? Summarize the following statements and add it to the abstract results section: "The most common wrong beliefs were probable vaccines' side effects in the future, the undesirable effect of vaccination on children's growth, and the awful effect of the vaccine on fertility, with the prevalence of 82.7%, 81.2%, and 76.7%, respectively. Among 1093 participants, 78.6% had at least five wrong beliefs or excuses for not vaccinating their children."

The mentioned changes were entered into the text.

Line 5: "47% of all teenage deaths caused by COVID-19 occurred in children ages 0-9." is more informative. Add "teenage"

The mentioned changes were entered into the text.

Lines 17-18: Add statistics for the following statement in the abstract: "The noteworthy point is that most parents were vaccinated with 2-3 doses against COVID-19."

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Line 27: remove "revolutionized human-being life and"

The mentioned changes were entered into the text.

Lines 44-45: " their child's vaccination" is correct.

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The mentioned changes were entered into the text.

Add study limitations at the end of the discussion section.

We added the study limitations.

Add the conclusion section.

We added the conclusion.

3 Revision 2

0 comments

No public comments in this round.