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A VACCINATED WORLD — WHAT'S GETTING IN THE WAY AND HOW CAN WE ACHIEVE THIS GOAL

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BACKGROUND

The year 2020 was characterized by the spread of the Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome Coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2) and the global pandemic, affecting every corner of the world and causing an array of negative effects: sickness, deaths, debt and bankruptcy. However, despite the fact, that as of today, there are approximately 19 available vaccines in the world, that have been proven to be quite safe and effective, a large part of the population is still hesitant to get vaccinated.

Purpose:

To assess public feedback, evaluate public awareness and identify the factors preventing the public from being vaccinated.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

Using google forms a retrospective survey was done with responses from 439 respondents from Asia, Africa, Europe and former soviet states. 282 females and 157 males took part in the survey with the youngest being 15 and the oldest 72 years of age. The statistical processing of data was done using IMB SPSS version 22.0.

RESULTS

Based on the responses approximately 9.8% of our respondents are vaccinated, 5.1% of Africans, 15.1% of Asians and 8.1% of Russians and former soviet state residents. 51.2% of the vaccinated respondents voluntarily got vaccinated, 27.9% due to their work involving a high risk of getting infected, 9.3% because their work required it and another 7.0% because it was recommended to them. 88.4% of the vaccinated respondents said they experienced at least one of the side effects and only 11.6% said they had no side effects. 76.7% of the vaccinated respondents expressed

satisfaction with the vaccine, while 18.6% found it difficult to say and 4.7% said they regret getting vaccinated. 90.2% of the respondents are not vaccinated, 7.1% said they don't trust the government, 24.7% don't trust the vaccine, 13.9% believe there is no assurance of not getting infected even after getting vaccinated, 32.6% are worried about the side effects, 24.7% have no access to the vaccine, 9.3% have antibodies, 4.3% have medical reasons and only 17.2% plan on it and just haven't gotten to it.

DISCUSSION

The analysis depicts that the remaining 82.8% of unvaccinated respondents have no intention of getting vaccinated. This analysis shows that there is a need to better eliminate the people's worries and concerns and help to understand the need of getting vaccinated.

CONCLUSION

The main reason for this unwillingness to get vaccinated is due to people being uninformed about the safety and need to be vaccinated, to solve this there is a need to increase the amount of information reaching the public about the vaccine and the whole vaccination process. To add to achieving this aim, several pages on various social media platforms were created to help in reaching this aim.

Keywords:

Africa, Asia, awareness, COVID-19, Europe, vaccination.