Vaccine Antagonism in COVID-19 Pandemic: An Appraisal of Statistics and Foundations

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Abstract
Non-adherence to medical managements or non-compliance with standard shielding maneuvers is a familiar topic in the field of medicine. But now, after delivery of trustable vaccines, though in different brands, refusal of some people, due to personal alibis, to take part actively in vaccination programs against the dominant pandemic of SARS-CoV-2, and energetic encouragement of others to take the same antagonistic attitude, while immunization is the first-line strategy for controlling and preventing the aforementioned sickness, has augmented the said problem, especially when the delivered vaccines are not unreachable for them. Such an attitude, though not prevalent, may be considered as an intruding factor during implementing community vaccination, and if remains unanswered, may delay in some way the desired national outcomes. In the present article the said dilemma, along with the plausible psychodynamic, psychopathologic, cultural or administrative causes, as well as available proofs and statistics, has been discussed, concisely.

Keywords: COVID-19; SARS-CoV-2; pandemic; vaccine; vaccination; immunization; antipathy; culturable virus; megalo-organisms

Introduction:
While in another article, the problem of non-adherence to standard shielding maneuvers, whether individually or publicly, has been discussed [1], and in other paper the analogous non-compliance in proficient staffs [2], too, has been talked over, which are, principally, problems in the realm of primary prevention, now another similar confrontation is noticeable, which is over again in the said phase of prevention: that is, rejection of some people, due to personal alibis, to participate actively in immunization programs against the dominant pandemic of SARS-CoV-2 (COVID-19), and energetic encouragement of others to take the same antagonistic attitude, while it is the first-line strategy for controlling and preventing the said sickness. Such an attitude, though not prevalent, may be considered as an intruding factor during implementing community vaccination, and if remains unanswered, may delay in some way the desired national outcomes. In the present article the said dilemma, along with plausible conscious or unconscious reasons, besides current state of affairs and statistics, will be discussed, briefly.

Background:
Severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2) is primarily spread through saliva droplets, and lengthy physical nearness is considered the main risk factor for contagion. The germ may affect infected persons differently according to preconditions and age. Hence, there is an increased risk of hospitalization, admission to intensive care units (ICU) and decease due to increased age and for those with certain underlying illnesses [3, 4]. It is estimated that up to one-third of the Europeans is either elderly or has one of the underlying disorders, such as chronic respiratory disease, diabetes, hypertension, cardiovascular disease, malignancies, liver disease, certain neurological diseases Down syndrome, and debilitated immune systems, which are associated with risk of severe infection from SARS-CoV-2 [4]. Other issues, such as smoking and obesity, have likewise been noticed to be related with risk of severe sickness from SARS-CoV-2 [5, 6]. Inoculation against SARS-CoV-2 is presently being executed worldwide to control the current pandemic. Nonetheless, there are yet queries about the precise nature of safety offered by the different vaccines presently in use and those still in progress. Two of those important inquiries are whether the vaccines A) prevent infection, and B) block transmission. Preventing contagion denotes to a vaccine preventing an inoculated person from getting septic even if they are exposed to the infection. Blocking spread mentions to the vaccine preventing an immunized person who gets infected with the virus from communicating it to other persons [7]. Without a healing treatment or a vaccine, non-pharmaceutical interventions (NPI), such as physical distancing, have been used to reduce the illness. Nevertheless, there are worries about the long-standing sustainability of compliance with such defensive rules in terms of population acceptance and obedience, in addition to the impending societal and financial disadvantages. Therefore, along with NPIs, the development and usage of innocuous and operative vaccines against SARS-CoV-2 is considered the most favorable alternative for controlling the contagion in the long-term. An extraordinary number of vaccine nominees against a single disease and
with different physiognomies are presently under development. These vaccines are being settled using various high-tech stages, both those previously established and new ones, such as mRNA vaccines [8]. The SARS-CoV-2 epidemic highpoints, once more, the susceptibility of human being to new contagions and immunization remains a conceivable scheme to return to ordinary life [9]. Also, with regard to surveillance objectives, generally the efficiency of SARS-CoV-2 vaccines will be examined against: virologically approved symptomatic illness using PCR, laboratory sanctioned infection (symptomatic or asymptomatic) using PCR, or by indicating seroconversion caused by infection, indications of infectiousness and transmissibility - viral load (CT value) and culturable virus, hospitalization, mortality, and straight on person to person spread [10].

**Evidential Analysis of Vaccination:**

A number of studies have been published that give answers to queries about effectiveness of vaccination against COVID-19, which have been summarized in Table 1.

| Studies | Year | Conclusion |
|---------|------|------------|
| Moghadas et al. | 2021 | Vaccination strategy can significantly influence the numbers of patients with COVID-19 in all age groups and lower hospitalization and death rates just in older age groups. |
| Patel et al. | 2021 | High vaccination coverage, along with continued adherence to non-pharmaceutical interventions, can contribute to a large reduction in risk of SARS-CoV-2 infection |
| Moghadas et al. | 2021 | While vaccination can have a substantial impact on reducing disease transmission, with uptake of 40% or less in the population, vaccination is unlikely to completely eliminate the need for non-pharmaceutical interventions |
| Roghani A | 2020 | Vaccination strategy can significantly influence the numbers of patients with COVID-19 in all age groups and lower hospitalization and death rates just in older age groups. |
| Vasilelou et al. | 2021 | Higher protection against hospitalization |
| Public Health England | 2021 | A greater than 50% reduction in symptomatic cases, even in older vaccines; any cases that do occur in older vaccinated people are around as half as likely to lead to hospitalization and/or death. This suggests that those that do develop symptomatic COVID-19 infection after vaccination have a less severe course. |
| Hall et al. | 2021 | Vaccine effectiveness against symptomatic and asymptomatic infection to be 70% (95% CI: 53%, 87%) 21 days after the first dose and 85% (95% CI: 74% - 96%) 7 days after the second dose. This study was conducted when the UK variant (B.1.1.7) predominated SARS-CoV-2 infections in the UK and provides evidence that the Pfizer/BioNTech vaccine protects against the UK variant |
| Amit et al. | 2021 | A study of health care workers found that 1 dose of the Pfizer/BioNTech vaccine resulted in a reduction of the rate of SARS-CoV-2 infection by 75% 15-28 days after the first dose of vaccination |
| European Centre for Diseases Prevention and Control (ECDC) | 2020 | The highest efficiency in terms of deaths averted is gained from vaccinating adults aged 80 years and over, but in terms of life years saved the most efficient strategy is to extend the program to include younger adults with preconditions; 50% efficacy against infection in all adults, 95% efficacy against clinical disease |
| National Institute for Public Health and the Environment (RIVM) [Netherlands] | 2021 | While implementing a COVID-19 vaccination program results in fewer cumulative new infections, new cases, hospital admissions, IC admissions, new deaths, life years lost, and DALYs compared to no vaccination, the old to young vaccination program resulted in the smallest number of infections, cases, hospital admissions, IC admissions, deaths, life years lost and DALYs |
| Chodick et al. | 2021 | Pfizer/BioNTech vaccine had an effectiveness of 51% against infection 13-24 days after the first dose. |
| Hunter et al. | 2021 | A re-analysis of the above data found that by 24 days after vaccination vaccine effectiveness reached 90% |
| Petter et al. | 2021 | A recent study from the UK estimated vaccine effectiveness against symptomatic COVID-19 to be approximately 60-70% in individuals aged 70 and older after the first dose. Vaccine effectiveness increased to approximately 85-90% after the second dose. |

**Table 1. Available studies with optimistic outcomes re vaccination strategy.**

**Discussion:**

After the recent pandemic of SARS-CoV-2, along with its huge morbidity, mortalities, and worldwide socioeconomic complications, eventually, by the help of science and biotechnology, a number of vaccines against COVID-19, although in different varieties, has been delivered, which like their earlier prototypes, wish to challenge and eradicate the present intrusive microorganism and return the existing state of affairs to the pre-pandemic situation. Vaccine, as a well-founded way out and biomedical armament against a germ, which along with its frequent readjustments challenges vulgarly the existing remedies and therapeutic maneuvers, is the solitary implement for performing miracle by the capability of human being; an armament which has been evolved continuously and inexhaustibly through methodical outlook and unbiased practicality. For example, eradication of smallpox in the last century, and substantial decline of incidence of poliomyelitis, mumps, measles, tetanus, diphtheria, varicella, pertussis, etc.
tuberculosis, hepatitis (type A and B), rabies, influenza, pneumococcal pneumonia, meningococcal meningitis, whether endemically or epidemiologically, by active immunizations, has changed radically the natural life of human being and so was a man-made phenomenon. For sure, such an upgrading in lifecycle could not be acquired by nagging or grousing; it demanded humanitarian scientists, who could challenge the natural disasters open-mindedly and sturdily. But, in spite of general greeting, some people repel inoculation and encourage others to avoid active immunization because they are suspicious of efficacy or safety of available vaccines, and pronounce that maybe it will annihilate the rest of survivors. While watchfulness with respect to existent threats and real vulnerabilities is an understandable and indispensable code for assuring the safety of self and kinsfolk, excessive distress or irrational antipathy destroys the desired wellbeing. What determines the trustworthiness of a blueprint or instrument? At this time, every evidence-based approach that is established on scientific perspective and methodical assessment can be trustable, except when its detriment is clearly and statistically more than its profit. Who differentiates between disadvantage and advantage? Only the scientist can differentiate between disadvantage and advantage, while he or she ought to consider the ethical issues, too. Who determines the moral code of studies? The ethical committee of associated administration can observe principled values, which are, in biomedical studies, in accordance with The 'Declaration of Helsinki and Ethical Principles for Medical Research Involving Human Subjects’ [28]. Accordingly, all human procedures are followed in accordance with the fitting standards of the Institutional Ethics Committee (Human Studies) and with the Helsinki Declaration of 1975, as revised in 2013. Also, the written informed consent is obtained from the participants, who constitute the considered sample size of every study. Thus, particularly in technologically advanced countries, different aspects or dimensions of biomedical investigations are required to be measured systematically. At this instant and with respect to vaccination, the said protocols are typically observed in the best way. As like as the great wars, which demand skilled commanding officers, pandemics, also, demand knowledgeable specialists. Governing contagion demands specific armamentarium. In this regard, vaccine is one of the most vital armaments, which shapes the primary prevention, instead of secondary prevention, which consist of various therapeutic exercises for management or treatment of ailments, or tertiary prevention, which aims to offset the incapacitating aftermath of illnesses. Persons, who, in spite of available proofs and findings (Table 1), while deny actuality or jeopardy of epidemics, persons who are suspicious of, mentally sick, cerebrally debilitated, or civically devious persons, too; concerns which must be appraised knowledgeably and fairly (Tables 2, 3, and 4) [29, 33], because they seem like megalo-organisms that collaborate with microorganisms.

| Image of illness and weakness |
| Negative experience of others in spite of usage |
| Unknown side effects |
| Unconscious illness tendencies |
| Unconscious wish of death |
| Countertransference to governs, supervisors or health staff |
| Unconscious sense of guilt |

**Table 2.** Psychodynamic factors that may, unintentionally, prompt antagonism with regard to immunization [29, 30].

| Paranoid personality traits or disorders |
| Schizotypal personality traits or disorders |
| Antisocial personality traits or disorders |
| Passive-aggressive personality traits or disorders |
| Sadistic-aggressive personality traits or disorders |
| Sadistic-masochistic personality disorder |
| Depressive personality disorder |
| Intellectual disability |
| Borderline intellectual functioning |
| Oppositional defiant disorder |
| Conduct disorder |
| Depression |
| Phobia |
| Bipolar disorder |
| Delusional disorder |

**Table 3** - Psychopathologic factors that may induce skepticism about vaccination [31, 32].

| Obeying cult’s rubrics |
| Inadequacy of robust proof in support of effectiveness of available vaccines |
| Worried about free will and independence |
| Relying on strange healers, like shamans, faith healers, naturopaths, and witchdoctors, which seem godlike and free from mistakes or limitations of conventional medicine. |
| Inaccessibility to favored brand among available preparations |
| Disbelieve in managerial system of manufacturing and distribution |
| Political or social antagonism |
| Shortage of an all-encompassing nationwide platform |

**Table 4** – Cultural issues that may decline active participation in vaccination programs [33, 34].
So, they may be considered as mortal enemy of civilization and humanity. While everybody has right, such as, to eat adequately or waste with hunger, to walk or drive, to get married or prefer bachelorhood, to rent or be a renter, and to choose between different alternatives, nobody have right to do misconduct or persuade or enforce others to commit crime or attempt suicide. For the sake of safety and survival of society, autonomy and free will cannot be infinite. Though such attitudes may sometimes have populist allures, they are not bearable because they are intrinsically chaotic. Persuading others to avoid participation in immunization is equal to endanger of pollution, morbidity and mortality. It is not, for example, similar to antipsychiatry attitudes, which involves a cadenced frolicking with metaphors and suppositions, by unauthorized guys for uninform laypeople, who have never understood the real meaning of stigma and severe mental illness, and have never gotten the technical hitches of psychiatric rehabilitation [34]. ‘Twisting folks’ thoughts in the direction of refusal of vaccination is per se a criminality because it exposes them to risky situation. Anyhow, though inoculation is the foremost tactic for control and prevention of COVID-19, specific shielding methods, such as wearing facemasks, hand cleanliness, social separation, and suitable ventilation are in the same way significant defensive maneuvers to decrease the risk of becoming septic with viral contagion during a pandemic [35-37], up until delivery of enough vaccination in the community and permission by authorized supervisors. According to some studies, while vaccination can have a real impact on reducing disease transmission and adverse clinical outcomes, with uptake of 40% or less in the population, vaccination is unlikely to eliminate the need for non-pharmaceutical interventions [15]. Undoubtedly, apposite interventions for targeting public misunderstandings about recommended shielding and preventive maneuvers can reduce preventable infection rates during pandemic. No society can stay alive without collective care and concern. Thoughtless demeanor of an inhabitant, thanks to private considers, is not allowed, since prejudice is endless, while fairness has clear boundaries and clues. Converting group favoritism to joint fairness is a stipulation if allowed, since prejudice is endless, while fairness has clear boundaries and clues. Converting group favoritism to joint fairness is a stipulation if

**Conclusion:**

Providing public safety is not possible without active participation and mutual group effort of all citizens, particularly through catastrophes and pandemics. So, while personal guardedness or skepticism is in the frame of citizens' rights, propagation of societal cynicism, based on subjective uncertainties and philosophies, does not have anything to do with civil liberties, since it may ruin publics’ confidence and well-being seriously and irremediably. Moving from subjective deduction to objective verification could be acknowledged as one of the most important outcomes of cultural - historical evolution of human being. At present, Evidence - Based Medicine (EBM) and systematic biomedical studies can be accepted as trustworthy screens for escaping unsoundness and partiality, and final choice of favored method among some choices, especially with regard to civic protection. In nationwide misfortunes, individualism cannot be acknowledged as a respectable philosophy if it is devoid of problem - solving, assistant, or alleviating role. According to the available data, community participation in national vaccination programs is the best way for guaranteeing healthier environments and existence.

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