

COVID-19 Outbreaks in Nursing Homes Despite Full Vaccination with BNT162b2 of a Majority of Residents

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Keywords

Coronavirus disease 2019 · Severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 · Vaccination · Outbreak · Older adults · Nursing home

Abstract

Background: It is not known if widespread vaccination can prevent the spread of severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2) in subpopulations at high risk, like older adults in nursing homes (NH). **Objective:** The objective of the study was to know if coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) outbreaks can occur in NH with high vaccination coverage among its residents. **Methods:** We identified, using national professional networks, NH that suffered COVID-19 outbreaks despite having completed a vaccination campaign, and asked them to send data, using predefined collecting forms, on the number of residents exposed, their vac-

ination status and the number, characteristics, and evolution of patients infected. The main outcome was to identify outbreaks occurring in NH with high vaccine coverage. Secondary outcomes were residents' risk of being infected, developing severe disease, or dying from COVID-19 during the outbreak. SARS-CoV-2 infection was defined by a positive reverse transcriptase-polymerase chain reaction. All residents were serially tested whenever cases appeared in a facility. Unadjusted secondary attack rates, relative risks, and vaccine effectiveness during the outbreak were estimated. **Results:** We identified 31 NH suffering an outbreak during March–April 2021, of which 27 sent data, cumulating 1,768 residents (mean age 88.4, 73.4% women, 78.2% fully vaccinated). BNT162b2 was the vaccine employed in all NH. There were 365 cases of SARS-CoV-2 infection. Median secondary

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attack rates were 20.0% (IQR 4.4%–50.0%) among unvaccinated residents and 16.7% (IQR 9.5%–29.2%) among fully vaccinated ones. Severe cases developed in 42 of 80 (52.5%) unvaccinated patients, compared with 56 of 248 (22.6%) fully vaccinated ones (relative risks [RR] 4.17, 95% CI: 2.43–7.17). Twenty of the unvaccinated patients (25.0%) and 16 of fully vaccinated ones (6.5%) died from COVID-19 (RR 5.11, 95% CI: 2.49–10.5). Estimated vaccine effectiveness during the outbreak was 34.5% (95% CI: 18.5–47.3) for preventing SARS-CoV-2 infection, 71.8% (58.8–80.7) for preventing severe disease, and 83.1% (67.8–91.1) for preventing death. **Conclusions:** Outbreaks of COVID-19, including severe cases and deaths, can still occur in NH despite full vaccination of a majority of residents. Vaccine remains highly effective, however, for preventing severe disease and death. Prevention and control measures for SARS-CoV-2 should be maintained in NH at periods of high incidence in the community.

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Introduction

Vaccines are a key component of any strategy for achieving long-term control of the current severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2) pandemic. In addition to preventing coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) morbidity and mortality, they are also expected to limit further spread of the disease [1, 2]. There is great hope that extensive vaccination against SARS-CoV-2 will allow a progressive return to normal life.

Several vaccines have proven in large randomized trials to be highly effective for preventing COVID-19 symptomatic or severe disease and death [3–7]. However, most people enrolled in those trials were middle-aged adults, and few data are available for some subpopulations at high risk. Frail older patients, in particular, like those living in nursing homes (NH), are one of the groups most at risk of acquiring SARS-CoV-2 infection, suffering severe disease, and dying [8–10]. However, they have been poorly represented in clinical trials. A few studies have analyzed antibody and/or cellular immune response following vaccination in limited numbers of older people (40–200 older people included) reaching inconsistent results [11–14]. A recent observational study using national surveillance data after a nationwide vaccination campaign in Israel found that BNT162b2 vaccine maintained high effectiveness in the general population of older adults, including adults aged 85 or older [15].

Despite limited effectiveness data, older patients in NH have understandably been a priority target for vac-

ination in most countries. In France, residents of NH were the first target of the national vaccination campaign [16]. In January and February 2021, BNT162b2 vaccine was offered to all residents and to their health care professionals aged 50 years or older, or with risk factors for severe COVID-19 disease. Most residents and many health care professionals accepted.

In March and April 2021, France suffered a third wave of the COVID-19 pandemic, in which the B.1.1.7 (Alpha) variant, more contagious, was dominant (82.6% of all strains analyzed) [17]. We were then concerned to learn that COVID-19 outbreaks had developed in some NH despite the previous vaccination of a large proportion of their residents, and that they included severe cases and even deaths. We described one of those outbreaks in a separate report [18]. We also wanted to know if such outbreaks were just a rare, isolated event, or there were more. Therefore, we looked for other cases of COVID-19 outbreaks in NH with high vaccination rates among its residents.

Methods

The objective of the study was to know if COVID-19 outbreaks could occur in NH during a pandemic wave once a majority of its residents were fully vaccinated and to have a rough estimation of the frequency of such events – this is, if they were very rare or something more frequent. If such outbreaks did not appear to be rare, we secondarily aimed to estimate secondary attack rates and vaccine effectiveness in those particular circumstances (older patients in NH, during an outbreak, in a period of high exposition to the virus), i.e., a worst-case scenario.

We contacted colleagues working in geriatric facilities in France, from April 15 to May 10, 2021, by e-mail and phone, using personal contacts and several regional, and national professional networks (Société Française de Gériatrie et Gérontologie, Gérontopôle d'Île-de-France, Collégiale de gériatrie de l'APHP, Conseil National des Professionnels de Gériatrie). We asked them to report to us any recent COVID-19 outbreak (three or more grouped cases over a 10-day period) arising in NH that included patients previously vaccinated.

One investigator (A.R., J.B.) called the medical coordinator of any NH that answered the survey, or that we had identified as possibly having had an outbreak, to confirm the outbreak and proportion of vaccinated residents, and request him or her to participate in the study. Centers that accepted to participate were asked to send data, using predefined collecting forms, on the number of persons exposed, their vaccination status, the vaccine administered, time elapsed from vaccination to the onset of the outbreak and the number, basic demographic data, and evolution of patients infected, including deaths and the cause of death, as well as any data available on SARS-CoV-2 variants or sequencing, if those have been performed.

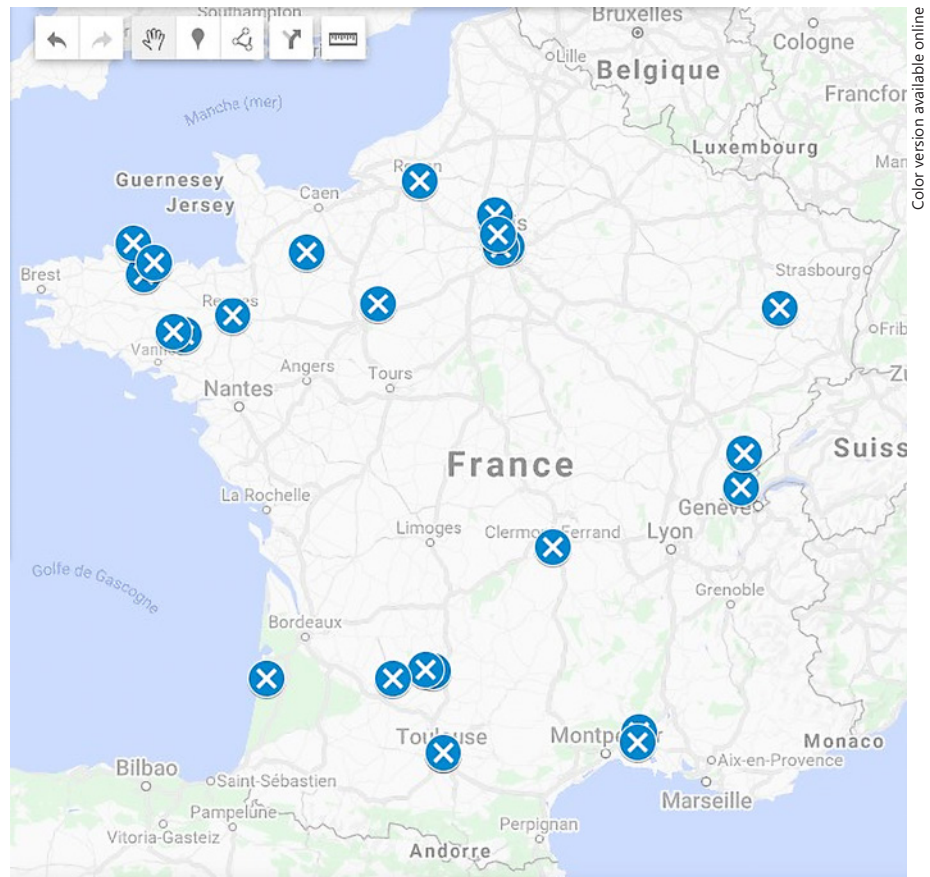


Fig. 1. Geographical localization of long-term care facilities affected by SARS-CoV-2 outbreaks. Generated using Google My Maps.

COVID-19 infection was defined on the basis of a positive reverse transcriptase-polymerase chain reaction test. French national procedures mandate that, when a case is detected in an NH, a systematic screening by reverse transcriptase-polymerase chain reaction on nasopharyngeal swabs of all residents and health care professionals were conducted [19]. The screening is repeated 7 days later on those residents initially negative. For the purposes of this study, we defined severe COVID-19 disease as any patient requiring oxygen or intravenous fluids for more than 48 h, requiring hospitalization, or dying from COVID-19 (defined as any patient who died from COVID-19 disease or from a decompensation of previous pathologies precipitated by the COVID-19 infection).

Persons who had received their second vaccine dose ≥ 7 days before the outbreak were considered fully vaccinated, consistent with the effect observed in BNT162b2 mRNA vaccine clinical trials [3]. Persons who had received only one dose or a second dose less than 7 days before the onset of the outbreak were considered partially vaccinated.

We estimated secondary attack rates following the index case for each outbreak, in fully vaccinated, partially vaccinated, and unvaccinated patients. Relative risks were calculated comparing unvaccinated residents versus fully vaccinated residents (i.e., fully vaccinated residents were set as the reference group). Vaccine effectiveness in fully vaccinated residents during the outbreak ($[\text{risk among unvaccinated group} - \text{risk among vaccinated group}] / \text{risk among unvaccinated group}$) was calculated for the following out-

comes: SARS-CoV-2 infection (including asymptomatic cases), severe COVID-19 disease, and death from COVID-19. Correlation between vaccination rates among residents and secondary attack rates was explored using univariate regression. While we initially planned for, the data we finally retrieved did not allow us to conduct a multivariate analysis in order to adjust for important covariates like vaccine coverage in staff, staff numbers, clustering of observations, and individual characteristics of vaccinated and unvaccinated residents. Thus, only crude estimates were calculated.

We followed the STROBE statement for improving the reporting of observational studies [20]. The completed STROBE checklist is available as online supplementary material (for all online suppl. material, see www.karger.com/doi/10.1159/000523701).

Results

We identified 31 NH that experienced a COVID-19 outbreak occurring from February 1st to April 30th, 2021. Four declined to participate or did not send data. We report the analysis of 27 NH distributed all along with the national territory (Fig. 1).

Table 1. Number of residents, vaccination status, and SARS-CoV-2 infection cases, by facility

Facility ID number – region	Residents, at outbreak onset				SARS-CoV-2 infection			Unvaccinated versus vaccinated, RR (95% CI)
	total, N	fully vaccinated, n (%)	partially vaccinated, n (%)	unvaccinated, n (%)	total, N	fully vaccinated, n (% attack rate*)	partially vaccinated, n (% attack rate*)	
1 – Côtes-d’Armor	53	52 (98.1)	0	1 (1.9)	5	5 (9.6)	0	0
2 – Côtes-d’Armor	58	52 (89.7)	2 (3.4)	4 (6.9)	6	5 (9.6)	0	1 (25.0)
3 – Côtes-d’Armor	58	45 (77.6)	5 (8.6)	8 (13.8)	4	3 (6.7)	0	1 (12.5)
4 – Gard	23	14 (60.9)	3 (13.0)	6 (26.1)	3	3 (21.4)	0	0
5 – Gard	59	54 (91.5)	0	5 (8.5)	13	13 (22.0)	0	0
6 – Haute-Garonne	74	62 (83.8)	11 (14.9)	1 (1.3)	10	4 (6.4)	5 (45.4)	1 (100)
7 – Haute-Garonne	79	62 (78.5)	8 (10.1)	9 (11.4)	29	21 (33.9)	3 (37.5)	5 (55.6)
8 – Hauts-de-Seine	95	63 (66.3)	8 (8.4)	24 (25.3)	26	6 (9.5)	8 (100)	12 (50.0)
9 – Ile-et-Vilaine	107	56 (52.3)	23 (21.5)	28 (26.2)	15	7 (12.5)	4 (17.4)	4 (14.3)
10 – Jura	57	44 (77.2)	1 (1.7)	12 (21.1)	22	17 (38.6)	1 (100)	4 (33.3)
11 – Jura	26	23 (88.5)	1 (3.8)	2 (7.7)	13	12 (47.8)	1 (100)	0
12 – Landes	74	70 (94.6)	2 (2.7)	2 (2.7)	17	14 (20.0)	2 (100)	1 (50.0)
13 – Lot	41	28 (68.3)	3 (7.3)	10 (24.4)	29	17 (60.7)	2 (66.7)	10 (100)
14 – Lot	60	48 (80.0)	0	12 (20.0)	18	14 (29.2)	0	4 (33.3)
15 – Lot-et-Garonne	71	54 (76.1)	2 (2.8)	15 (21.1)	18	16 (29.6)	2 (100)	0
16 – Morbihan	62	50 (80.6)	0	12 (19.3)	6	5 (10.0)	0	1 (8.3)
17 – Morbihan	28	22 (78.6)	1 (3.6)	5 (17.9)	12	8 (36.4)	0	4 (80.0)
18 – Orne	84	80 (95.2)	0	4 (4.8)	4	4 (5.0)	0	0
19 – Puy de Dôme	72	65 (90.3)	0	7 (9.7)	19	15 (23.1)	0	4 (57.1)
20 – Sarthe	75	71 (94.7)	0	4 (5.3)	11	10 (14.1)	0	1 (25.0)
21 – Seine-Maritime	68	56 (82.4)	2 (2.9)	10 (14.7)	15	11 (19.6)	2 (100)	2 (20.0)
22 – Val de Marne	80	21 (26.2)	14 (17.5)	45 (56.2)	17	2 (9.5)	3 (21.4)	12 (26.7)
23 – Val d’Oise	54	42 (77.7)	0	12 (22.2)	4	3 (7.1)	0	1 (8.3)
24 – Tarn	89	80 (89.9)	4 (4.5)	5 (5.6)	20	17 (21.2)	2 (50.0)	1 (20.0)
25 – Vosges	37	24 (64.9)	0	13 (35.1)	11	4 (16.7)	0	7 (53.8)
26 – Yonne	105	93 (88.6)	0	12 (11.4)	7	5 (5.4)	0	2 (16.7)
27 – Yonne	79	46 (58.2)	10 (12.7)	23 (29.1)	11	7 (15.2)	2 (20.0)	2 (8.7)
Totals	1,768	1,377 (78.2)	100 (5.7)	291 (16.5)	365	248 (18.0)	37 (37.0)	80 (27.5)
								1.52 (1.23–1.90)

* Secondary attack rate, after the index case.

Table 2. SARS-CoV-2 total cases, severe disease, mortality, RRs, and estimated vaccine effectiveness in unvaccinated residents compared with vaccinated residents of long-term care facilities

	Total (n = 365)	Unvaccinated (n = 80)	Partially vaccinated (n = 37)	Fully vaccinated (n = 248)	p value	Unvaccinated versus fully vaccinated RRs (95% CI)	Vaccine effectiveness (95% CI)
Age, years, mean (SD)	88.3 (8.1)	86.6 (8.8)	88.8 (6.1)	88.6 (8.1)	0.148	–	–
Women, n (%)	268 (73.4)	59 (77.6)	32 (72.7)	177 (72.2)	0.646	–	–
SARS-CoV-2 infection, any severity, n	365	80	37	248	<0.001	1.52 (1.23–1.90)	34.5 (18.5–47.3)
Asymptomatic, n (%)	189 (51.8)	19 (23.7)	23 (62.2)	143 (57.7)	<0.001	0.23 (0.14–0.42)	–
Symptomatic, n (%)	176 (48.2)	61 (76.3)	14 (37.8)	105 (42.3)	<0.001	2.75 (1.90–3.03)	63.6 (51.4–72.8)
Severe COVID-19,* n (%)	112 (30.7)	42 (52.5)	10 (27.0)	56 (22.6)	<0.001	4.17 (2.43–7.17)	71.8 (58.8–80.7)
Requiring O ₂ , n (%)	76 (20.8)	35 (43.7)	9 (24.3)	32 (12.9)	<0.001	5.69 (3.17–10.2)	–
Requiring IV fluids, n (%)	58 (15.8)	22 (27.5)	6 (16.2)	30 (12.1)	0.002	2.92 (1.56–5.46)	–
Hospitalization, n (%)	46 (12.6)	24 (30.0)	5 (13.5)	17 (6.9)	<0.001	6.19 (3.10–12.3)	85.0 (72.5–91.9)
Death, n (%)	38 (10.4)	20 (25.0)	2 (5.4)	16 (6.5)	<0.001	5.11 (2.49–10.5)	83.1 (67.8–91.1)

RRs, relative risks. * Severe disease was defined as COVID-19 requiring oxygen (O₂) therapy, intravenous (IV) fluid infusion, hospitalization, or leading to death.

Data summarized by NH is shown in Table 1. Of the 1,768 residents present in the 27 facilities, 78.2% were fully vaccinated (95% CI: 71.9–83.9), 5.7% partially vaccinated (95% CI: 3.38–8.02), and 16.5% were not vaccinated (95% CI: 11.9–21.1). BNT162b2, an mRNA vaccine, was the vaccine administered in all NH. Vaccine has been administered in most cases in January and February 2021, during a national vaccination campaign targeting NH residents.

There were a total of 365 cases of SARS-CoV-2 infection in the facilities. Attack rates varied largely between facilities. Among fully vaccinated residents, the secondary attack rate ranged from 5.0% to 60.7% (median 16.7%, IQR 9.5%–29.2%). Secondary attack rates among partially vaccinated and unvaccinated residents ranged from 0% to 100% in both groups. Median values were 17.4% (IQR 0.0%–66.7%) for partly vaccinated residents and 20.0% (IQR 4.4%–50.0%) for unvaccinated residents. There was no correlation between the proportion of residents fully vaccinated in each NH and its global secondary attack rate ($r = -0.12, p = 0.72$).

Data on SARS-CoV-2 infection severity and related deaths are displayed in Table 2. In the pooled population of patients who suffered SARS-CoV-2 infection despite previous full vaccination, 143 (57.7%) were asymptomatic at all times, 49 (19.7%) had mild symptoms, and 56 (22.6%) developed severe disease. Among unvaccinated patients, 19 (23.7%) were asymptomatic, 19 (23.7%) had mild symptoms, and 42 (52.5%) developed severe disease. The death rate was 6.5% among fully vaccinated patients and 25.0% among unvaccinated ones. The relative risks of unvaccinated persons, compared to vaccinated, were 1.52 (95% CI: 1.23–1.90) for being infected with SARS-CoV-2, 2.75 (95% CI: 1.90–3.03) for developing symptomatic disease, 4.17 (95% CI: 2.43–7.17) for developing severe disease, and 5.11 (95% CI: 2.49–10.5) for dying from COVID-19. BNT162b2 vaccine estimated effectiveness during the outbreak was 34.5% (95% CI: 18.5–47.3) for preventing SARS-CoV-2 infection, 63.6% (95% CI: 51.4–72.8) for preventing symptomatic disease, 71.8% (95% CI: 58.8–80.7) for preventing severe disease, and 83.1% (95% CI: 67.8–91.1) for preventing death from COVID-19.

Finally, we were able to retrieve only very limited data regarding SARS-CoV-2 variants and staff vaccination coverage. A search for variants was negative in two of the facilities, variant B.1.1.7 was found in one facility and variant B.1.351 was found to be the responsible for the outbreak in another facility. Staff vaccination coverage was obtained from three NH only. Health

caregivers fully vaccinated at the beginning of the outbreak were 1 of 32 (3.1%), 33 of 100 (33.0%), and 35 of 50 (70.0%).

Discussion

Our study shows that outbreaks of COVID-19 can definitely occur in fully vaccinated older patients residing in NH, leading to severe cases, hospitalizations, and even deaths. We observed a high secondary attack rate in many facilities, despite high vaccine coverage among residents, suggesting that vaccination did not block SARS-CoV-2 transmission in this population. On the other hand, the risk of severe disease and death was considerably lower in vaccinated residents than in nonvaccinated.

A limitation of our work is that we did not systematically survey all 7,200 NH existing in France. Probably there were other NH that suffered outbreaks but that our survey did not reach, or they did not answer, so it is not possible to obtain a reliable estimate of the incidence of this type of outbreaks. In any case, we can say that they are not rare, isolated events.

It is also important to note that attack rates in our study are secondary attack rates during an outbreak and are not an estimation of the general incidence of cases among vaccinated individuals in NH. Similarly, it is important to understand that the vaccine effectiveness we estimate here is a measure during the outbreak; this is, in a situation of high exposure to the virus and in a subgroup of older people, residents of NH, who typically are very frail. This is a worst-case scenario and not an estimation of the actual effectiveness of BNT162b2 vaccine in the general population of older persons residing in NH.

Few COVID-19 outbreaks had been reported to date in groups of persons well vaccinated against SARS-CoV-2. In separate reports, we documented COVID-19 in vaccinated older persons during an outbreak in a hospital rehabilitation unit and in an NH, both in France [18, 21]. Cavanaugh et al. [22] recently described a COVID-19 outbreak in an NH in Kentucky, USA, involving 26 residents, of whom 18 have been fully vaccinated. By contrast, Teran et al. [23] followed COVID-19 cases for several months in 75 skilled nursing facilities in Chicago after a vaccination campaign. They found only 22 residents developing SARS-CoV-2 infection after full vaccination and no case of secondary transmission inside facilities [23].

A lower effectiveness of COVID-19 vaccines among older and frail patients, as compared to the efficacy docu-

mented in randomized clinical trials, is not completely unexpected. Impaired immunogenicity of vaccines, attributed to immunosenescence, a broad term for declining immunity with age, involving both humoral and cellular immune responses, has been well described in older patients with frailty or living in NH [24, 25]. Several studies have documented a reduced antibody response to influenza vaccine [26, 27] and other virus vaccines [28, 29] in NH residents. Two published studies [14, 30] and one still unpublished [31] (at the moment of writing this report) have found a reduced antibody response to BNT162b2 vaccine in older long-term care residents. Nonetheless, even if a decreased effectiveness of SARS-CoV-2 vaccines could be expected in this population, the occurrence of outbreaks in geriatric settings among vaccinated residents is highly concerning. It is also very different from data obtained in the general population of older persons, as in a recent national observational study in Israel that found a preserved high effectiveness (94.1%–97.4%) of BNT162b2 vaccine in persons 85 years or older [15].

It is important to note that the SARS-CoV-2 vaccine was not completely ineffective in our study. The risk of developing severe disease or dying from COVID-19 was greatly reduced in vaccinated residents. Mortality, in particular, was largely reduced among vaccinated persons, compared with nonvaccinated residents in the same facilities. Overall, those finding suggests that the main effect of vaccination in these patients might be reducing the severity of the infection rather than avoiding the infection itself or blocking its transmission.

There are other reasons that might explain our observations. One is a lower effectiveness of BNT162b2 vaccine against some SARS-CoV-2 variants. Data on variants in our study was very limited but identified two variants involved in outbreaks. Variant B.1.1.7 (Alpha), which was confirmed in one facility, was highly prevalent (82.6% of all strains) in France during the period studied [17]. It has been reported that BNT162b2 vaccine induces a reduced neutralizing antibody response against this variant [32]. Variant B.1.351 (Beta) was found to be the responsible for the outbreak in another center. B.1.351 variant has been found to escape neutralization by several monoclonal antibodies and by plasma from convalescent patients [33, 34]. Other factor that may facilitate outbreaks in NH is low vaccination coverage among staff members. We retrieved staff vaccination rates from few facilities, but it was clearly lower than in residents. Finally, all the outbreaks described in this work happened during a pandemic wave, and it is known that the incidence of COVID-19 among NH residents and staff members usually

follows closely the incidence of COVID-19 in surrounding communities [35].

Our study has thus several important limitations. We did not cover all NH in our country and probably there were other outbreaks our survey did not find, so we cannot make an estimation of its actual incidence. Data retrieved on SARS-CoV-2 variants, staff vaccination coverage, and resident's individual characteristics (especially comorbidities, immune suppression, and data on previous SARS-CoV-2 infection or antibody levels) were limited, hence their influence on the risk of developing an outbreak could not be analyzed. It is also important to note, as already discussed, that the estimations of vaccine effectiveness here made are circumscribed to a particular situation – high virus exposure during an outbreak. Moreover, older people living in NH are usually frailer and cumulate more comorbidities than other groups of older persons, so the estimations made for this population should not be extrapolated to the general population of older persons.

In spite of these limitations, our findings have practical implications. First, they underscore that vaccination alone, even when extensive, cannot guarantee an absence of outbreaks in NH. Prevention and control measures against SARS-CoV-2 in NH and other geriatric facilities should be maintained for the moment, at least at times of high COVID-19 incidence in the surrounding community. Such measures would need to be adapted, though, as prolonged isolation or reduced human contact can have important psychological consequences in older people [36–38]. Secondly, our findings stress that more research is needed to improve vaccines effectiveness in this population – and probably in other populations also at risk, like immunosuppressed patients. Possible strategies might be the administration of additional doses – a strategy supported by recent studies [39] and chosen by many countries - the administration of a higher dose of antigen, or the sequential combination of different vaccines.

In conclusion, in this study, we found that COVID-19 outbreaks can still occur in older residents in NH despite full vaccination with BNT162b2 of a majority of them. In this setting and under similar circumstances – high COVID-19 incidence during a pandemic wave – high vaccination coverage among residents does not guarantee to prevent SARS-CoV-2 from spreading in the facility. Nonetheless, BNT162b2 vaccine appears to remain highly effective for preventing severe disease, hospitalization, and death.

Prevention and control measures for SARS-CoV-2 should be still maintained in NH at periods of high inci-

dence in the community. More research is needed to improve the effectiveness of SARS-CoV-2 vaccines in frail older persons.

Appendix

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Statement of Ethics

The study was conducted in accordance with the Declaration of Helsinki. This type of study is exempt from the Ethic Committee review or oral or written participants' consent according to French law (Décret no. 2016-1537, November 17, 2016). All data collected was anonymous and was managed according to the requirements of the French National Commission Informatique et Libertés (CNIL) for the use of data in noninterventional health studies (declaration number 2216052v0).

Conflict of Interest Statement

Dr. Hanon reports personal fees from Bayer Healthcare, Servier, Astra-Zeneca, Boston Scientific, Vifor, BMS, Pfizer, and Boehringer Ingelheim, outside the submitted work. Dr. Jeandel reports personal fees from Bayer, Boehringer Ingelheim, BMS, Pfizer, Novartis, Servier, and Vifor, outside the submitted work. Dr. Belmin reports personal fees from Novartis and Pfizer, outside the submitted work. Dr. Lafuente-Lafuente, Dr. Rainone, Dr. Guérin, and Dr. Drunat have nothing to disclose.

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Author Contributions

Carmelo Lafuente-Lafuente: conceptualization, methodology, formal analysis, software, supervision, validation, and writing – original draft. Antonio Rainone: investigation, data curation, formal analysis, visualization, validation, and writing – original draft. Olivier Guérin: investigation, data curation, and project administration. Olivier Drunat: investigation, resources, and supervision. Claude Jeandel: investigation, resources, and supervision. Olivier Hanon: project administration, resources, validation, writing – review and editing. Joël Belmin: conceptualization, formal analysis, funding acquisition, project administration, supervision, validation, visualization, and writing – review and editing.

Data Availability Statement

The data that support the findings of this study is openly available in the Open Science Framework (DOI: 10.17605/OSF.IO/7R349).

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