

recognized as an adequate measure to reduce mortality, it still raises concerns about its efficacy and safety.

Objectives: Assessment of worries and attitudes among Tunisian elderly towards the pandemic.

Methods: A descriptive cross-sectional study on a sample of 50 consultants in a geriatric service, aged between 65 years and over. A questionnaire was formulated based on the recommendations of WHO and INEAS.

Results: The average age of our population is 74.6 years. The participants were mainly female, retired (76%) and with low educational attainment. Most of the elderly reported that they respected the wearing of the mask in public (90%) and washing their hands regularly (92%). Social distancing was respected by only 44% of the participants. Concerning the vaccine registration, we noted that 48% of the subjects expressed their willingness to register on the Evax.tn platform. On the other hand, 15 people expressed their refusal to receive the anti-Covid vaccine. We noted that only 22% had a dose of the Covid-19 vaccine. Only 4% of the respondents did not have concerns about new variants of the virus. About half (52%) of the subjects expressed significant concern about an increased risk of virulence and mortality due to the new variant. Vaccination was considered ineffective by most of the participants (70%).

Conclusions: Addressing worries about vaccine would be an important step to accept it among Tunisian elderly. Adequate information strategy is essential to change attitudes during the pandemic.

Disclosure: No significant relationships.

Keywords: attitudes; Covid-19; worries; Elderly

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Vaccine hesitancy and conspiracy theories: a Jungian perspective

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Introduction: Endorsing conspiracy theories seems to constitute a major feature of contemporary collective anti-vaccine movements (Vignaud & Salvadori, 2019). As revealed by the COVID-19 pandemic, this contributes to increased worldwide vaccine hesitancy (de Figueiredo et al., 2020).

Objectives: The present work aims at providing novel insight into the collective psychological underpinnings of conspiracy-based vaccine discourses.

Methods: Our approach is inspired by Jung's view that human groups produce narratives to project their collective conflicts (e.g., social, religious, political) onto reality. We analyze these projections in relation to the "halo effect" phenomenon, namely taking metaphorical extensions of (scientific) concepts at face value (e.g. Keller, 1995). Accordingly, we discuss one version of "the Great Reset" theory, claiming that COVID-19 vaccines are used by "the elite" to control behavior and abolish fundamental freedoms.

Results: Our analysis suggests that Western societies are manifesting some of their existential concerns through anti-vaccine discourse. In "the Great Reset" narrative, *characters* (people, vaccines,

elites, immune systems, etc.) and *plot* can be read as symbols of, respectively, *structural elements* of the collective psyche (socio-cultural values, aggressive drives, death anxiety, psychic defenses, etc.), and *dynamic interrelations* among these elements.

Conclusions: Conspiracy theories can be understood as shared narratives serving the purpose of giving shape to collective fears. Within such a framework, references to "vaccines" and "immunity" are the manifestations of a state of crisis of collective psychic defenses.

Disclosure: No significant relationships.

Keywords: conspiracy theory; COVID19; vaccine skepticism; collective psyche

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Psychological determinants associated with vaccination intentions acceptance during pandemic events

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Introduction: Psychological factors, like general self-efficacy, optimism or subjective well-being, might further enhance the understanding of why certain people vaccinate while others do not.

Objectives: To identify psychological factors associated with people's decision to vaccinate during pandemic events.

Methods: A literature review has been made through PubMed database.

Results: Psychology offers three general propositions for understanding and intervening to increase uptake where vaccines are available and affordable. The first proposition is that thoughts and feelings can motivate getting vaccinated. Low confidence in vaccine effectiveness and concern about safety correlate reliably with not getting vaccinated. The second proposition is that social processes can motivate getting vaccinated. Social norms are associated with vaccination. Recommendation by friends, mainstream media and social media affected vaccination intention. The third proposition is that interventions can facilitate vaccination directly by leveraging, but not trying to change, what people think and feel. To increase vaccine uptake, these interventions build on existing favorable intentions by facilitating action (through reminders, prompts, and primes) and reducing barriers (through logistics and healthy defaults); these interventions also shape behavior (through incentives, sanctions, and requirements). Perceived risk and effectiveness of the vaccine as well as trust in the government and health authorities was related to people's vaccination intention.

Conclusions: There are significant associations of general individual psychological constructs with the decision to vaccinate. This may provide useful frameworks for understanding the causal mechanisms behind this relationship, which could help to develop intervention strategies to effectively promote vaccination intentions that increase vaccination rates among population.

Disclosure: No significant relationships.

Keywords: COVID-19 vaccination; vaccination intention; Psychological determinants; Vaccine acceptance