



COVID19 VACCINE AWARENESS IN WORKPLACE AND EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS

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ABSTRACT

The dangerous Corona virus was responsible for a worldwide epidemic in 2020. Many people were forced out of their homes and businesses went bankrupt as a result of the disaster. Vaccines were proven to be the most effective therapy after a few months of confinement, according to the researchers. The study's primary goal is to discover how much people know about vaccines at their place of employment and other places of learning. As the study's goal was to increase awareness of the vaccine's acceptance, the study's findings showed a wide range of viewpoints from the interviewees, emphasising the wide range of vaccine knowledge. In January 2021, Israel became the first country in the world to completely vaccinate its population at a rate of 39.7 percent per 100 people. Finally, the United States of America has a population of roughly 25.47 million people who are fully vaccinated. Inquiries from countries across the globe have been made about purchasing the immunizations. This is for a variety of reasons, including apprehension about the infection and general prudence. Despite the fact that vaccines are an absolute necessity, some people are still unwilling to accept them. Office workers and students are the subjects of a new study that examines their knowledge of vaccines.

Keywords: COVID-19, Workplace awareness, Employees and students.

1. INTRODUCTION

Corona virus disease (COVID-19) is an infectious disease caused by the SARS-CoV-2 virus. Most people infected with the virus will experience mild to moderate respiratory illness and recover without requiring special treatment. However, elder people and those with underlying medical conditions like cardiovascular disease, diabetes, chronic respiratory disease, or cancer are more likely to develop serious illness. The best way to prevent and slow down transmission is to be well informed about the disease and how the virus spreads. Following the protocol prescribed by doctors and other medical institutions would help the individual to prevent transmission of the virus. The hesitation towards the vaccination process remains a problem worldwide. Some of the reasons include ambiguity on vaccines' knowledge, fear of vaccine side effects, and rumors of the presence of active viruses and the vaccines' overall resistance. Vaccine hesitancy is a major obstacle in the face of the COVID-19 vaccination programs, amidst scientific researches which prove that vaccines actually create immunity in the body. When a virus infects the body, JeyaRani, R., & Thangaraja, A. (2016), the immune system responds to this antigen with antibodies designed to fight it. Due to which, vaccines are considered desirable in fighting against the Corona virus. Equitable access to safe and effective vaccines, and complete knowledge on them are critical to ending the COVID-19 pandemic. In India 7 vaccines have been authorized and the commonly used ones include: Covishield and Covaxin (Thangaraja, A. 2016).

OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY

- 1) To find out the awareness of Covid19 vaccines in workplace and educational institutions.
- 2) To evaluate how widely the vaccines are accepted amongst masses.
- 3) To identify various factors influencing the decisions made by individuals.
- 4) To assess the reason behind hesitation of vaccines.

2. REVIEW OF LITERATURE

It is already difficult to design a safe, effective, and economical vaccine, but vaccine hesitancy adds an additional obstacle to researchers, scientists and government and community leaders.

- Politicians, health officials, & members of the general public are all eager to find solutions to the COVID-19 pandemic's social and economic problems. When it comes to developing vaccines, they're among the most promising.
- The uptake of the COVID-19 vaccine necessitates a smart immunization programme. Social, behavioral, and communication science are critical to the success of any such campaign. .

- COVID-19 vaccines should be provided in familiar, convenient areas that feel safe.
- Meaningful messaging from credible spokespeople can crowd out falsehoods.
- Confidence in vaccines is bolstered by openness and accountability in decision-making.
- Vaccination apprehension is a possible hazard to public health worldwide, according to a 2016 study by JeyaRani and Thangaraja. Because of the enormous global effort to create a vaccine against by the COVID-19 pandemic, nothing is known about the community's acceptance of it. It may be possible to establish strategies for enhancing the global immunisation programme by better understanding important characteristics that influence community preferences and requests for a future vaccine.
- Vaccine awareness in the general population, Thangaraja (2015): Assuring the public of vaccine safety and efficacy, as well as incorporating the vaccine into the national immunization programme, are key elements in increasing vaccination rates.

3. RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

The study's primary goal is to determine whether or not people are aware of vaccines in their workplaces and schools: To find out if people are happy with the quality of vaccines; to find out if people prefer vaccines; to confirm the factors influencing people's vaccine preferences. Data are collected, evaluated, and presented inside an effective manner in the grand strategy for conducting a financial survey at motivating study on consumer attitudes. This outlines the scope of the investigation, as well as the restrictions that had to be overcome. There is only one city in the study's scope: Chennai.

When conducting research, researchers employ several methods for gathering, compiling, and analysing data. These are tools that are utilised in a particular research study to obtain pertinent data. The most typical research instruments include surveys, questionnaires, and interviews. When it comes to conducting research, good methodology is acknowledging the truthfulness of the work being done. It specifies and specifies the actual ideas and identifies the procedures that will be used in further investigation.. Research methodology is used to examine a theory and its implementation in accordance with a specified variety of academic standards in order to determine whether or not they are relevant. This is required to ensure that all research adheres to the norms of the particular field. There are two forms of research: basic research & applied research, both of which use the same methodology. The term "basic research" refers to any investigation into a topic that has never been addressed before. In contrast, the focus of applied research is on improving upon already completed work. The set of methodologies and procedures used to gather and analyse measurements of the variables stated in the research challenge is known as a research design. [clarification needed] When a researcher embarks on an unknown adventure, the research design provides a framework for them to do so. You can use it as a framework to obtain answers to the research questions by following a set of predetermined steps and procedures to gather the information you need. A research design is a detailed blueprint for how a study will be carried out. This study makes use of descriptive research methods.

There are many ways to collect data for research purposes, but collection of data is the most common method. The two categories of data that are collected are primary and secondary. The raw data, also known as primary data, are those that are originally collected. Observation or direct conversation with participants in one form or the other and can be used to acquire primary data. Students and staff are asked a series of questions via an online survey as part of this approach.

This is the data that is gathered and assembled. In some way, it has already been analysed and subjected to statistical testing. In addition to the companies or firms, this information can be found in publications such as magazines or newspapers. For this paper, we gathered secondary data from websites and news stories. The word "sample plan" is commonly used in research projects to describe a framework for doing research. Using the sample plan, you can see the range of potential participants. At its core is a three-step process that includes determining a sample size, as well as how the data will be collected: A sample unit is a subset of a population, while a population as a whole has a certain set of characteristics. The participants in the study include both those who have received vaccinations and those who have not. The city of 'Chennai' is the sampling unit.

Individual samples or observations are counted as a sample size when conducting a survey or experiment. Sample is a word used in consumer research to describe the number of participants in a sample. The Quantity of the Data Set For the study, he was chosen. In a sampling approach, a subset of the population is picked to participate in the experiment, and the persons chosen for this study are representative of the larger group from which they have been selected. In research, there are two primary methods of sampling. Probability sampling and non-probability sampling are two examples of this. Purposive/ Judgmental sampling was utilised in this survey's sample size calculation. Non-probability sampling is a method in which it is impossible to compute the odds of selecting any one individual for a sample. There are no odds to be calculated when using probability sampling. Non-probability sampling, on the other hand, relies solely on the subjective assessment of the researcher, whereas probability sampling is random. In terms of time and money, non-probability sampling is the best option. It's very simple to use and can be utilised in situations when probability sampling isn't an option.

Non-probability sampling methods include: • Purposive/Judicial sampling • Quota sampling • Snowball sampling • Expert sampling

Purposive sampling is one of the sample methods employed in this investigation. As part of a purposive sampling technique, a researcher selects a sample based on what they believe to be the most relevant participants. It is the primary goal of purposive sampling to arrive at a sample size large enough to appropriately address the study goals. Purposive sampling is the process of selecting a non-random sample from the population to reflect a representative cross-section of that population. Because the data is gathered directly from vaccinated & non-

vaccinated persons, it is primary data. The information on vaccinations and statistics is secondary material, gleaned from periodicals and books. The study has a sample size of 110 employees and students in the city of Chennai. In order to find out how well people in different parts of Chennai understand and are aware of the Covid19 vaccinations, a survey of 110 people was conducted. Google Forms was utilised to collect data via an online questionnaire. To conduct the survey, participants must complete a collection of forms that include a series of pre-prepared questions.

After one research problem is defined and the research strategy has been sketched out, data collection begins.

- Primary and Secondary Data Sources
- Survey Method as a Research Approach

Questionnaires were used as a research tool.

- The Respondents: students and employees from Chennai's educational institutions and businesses.

Students & working professionals were asked to complete a questionnaire on Google forms, which was then used to compile the study's data. The questionnaire was organised into three sections. There were inquiries about demographic information in the first section. The second section of the survey asked dichotomous questions, i.e., yes-or-no answers. Multiple choice questions were also included in the survey. Answers to questions worded in just such a manner that they represent the respondent's opinions and thoughts were provided in the third section of the survey, which asked participants to select from 1 to 5 (strongly agree, agree, neutral, disagree, strongly disagree). Analytical methods and techniques include:

Analyzing survey or experimental results using an ANOVA test can help determine whether they are significant. There are times when the null hypothesis must be rejected in favour of the alternative hypothesis. To see if there is a substantial distinction, this is done.

When two numerically measurable and continuous variables are correlated, correlation analysis is performed to determine the strength of the link.

There are many different types of chi-square tests, and they all have the same goal: to find a statistically significant difference between two sets of data when the null hypothesis holds true. Pearson's chi-squared test is sometimes referred to as 'chi-squared test' without further clarification. To evaluate if there is a significant discrepancy between both the expected frequencies as well as the observed frequencies inside one or more categories, a chi-squared test can be employed.

As a set of statistical procedures for applying factor analysis, regression analysis is a common tool in statistical modelling. To study the link between one dependent variable and multiple independent variables, several different modelling and analysis techniques are employed. Regression analysis, on the other hand, shows how changing one of independent variables, while keeping the other variables constant, affects the average value of dependent variable.

4. DISCUSSION

In this segment, it is found that the most significant component of vaccines is their ability to keep people safe. Despite the fact that the majority of respondents vaccinated themselves for their personal benefit, only a small number of responders were influenced by their employer or educational institution. While the general public is aware of the importance of vaccines, it is possible that these recommendations may have a bigger impact if they were implemented. The respondents' worry of adverse effects needs to be better addressed. Vaccines should be widely available, so that everyone who needs them can get them without difficulty or hindrance. The immunizations should be covered by more news outlets and web portals. People who have been properly vaccinated should nevertheless adhere to all worldwide pandemic protocols in their workplaces and educational institutions. In other words, the protocol should be scrutinised by the higher-ups and other managers. This type of communication, known as "word of mouth," is an effective means of spreading the word. As a result, administrators and employees at every institution should promote the vaccine's advantages.

5. CONCLUSION

The study focuses primarily on the level of awareness people in the city of Chennai have about the Covid19 vaccinations. In this study, we focused on students in academic institutions and employees/professionals' acceptance and knowledge of vaccines, but not the study as a whole. Including it in a poll could help determine the value of raising vaccine knowledge in the future. Corona virus as well as its vaccination were well-known to the trial participants. Although the vaccination was well-accepted by the participants, there are still some concerns regarding the vaccine's potential negative effects. It is critical that vaccine information be comprehensive. The study examined how people's feelings and opinions vary under the influence of an organization. As a consequence of the poll, the participants were able to see how they might help the world at the same time by being vaccinated.

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