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COVID-19 VACCINE HESITANCY

Published on August 7, 2020

**Temitayo Famoroti**MD, Pathologist (Virology), Vaccinologist open to new opportunities in
Biopharma-Medical affairs (Drug/Vaccine safety)

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The issue of vaccine hesitancy is a major problem facing vaccine uptake in recent times, which leads individuals to refuse or delay vaccinations for themselves or their children. Vaccine hesitancy is caused by a multitude of reasons and it has been gaining traction and momentum recently and may impact the successes achieved by organizations such as the Vaccine Alliance (GAVI), World Health Organization (WHO), Bill and Melinda Gates foundation, which are all in the fore-front of vaccination campaigns.

Some of the reasons for hesitancy are associated with safety of vaccines, suspected adverse events/reactions, religious beliefs and cultural inclinations. In the 21st century, the rate at which misinformation circulates, coupled with the ongoing global COVID-19 pandemic are emerging as drivers of hesitancy. All these have led to a reduction in the global uptake of vaccines. Furthermore, the debate around COVID-19 has sparked off major arguments about vaccine safety, spurning a plethora of conspiracy theories and thus adding more gasoline to the already burning vaccination hesitancy inferno.

Will the world recover from the current hesitancy towards vaccination? What is the way forward in the roll out of COVID-19 vaccine? I have recently interacted on a one-on-one with various individuals with different levels of education, academic backgrounds and interestingly the feedbacks from many of them is that they have become secret anti-vaxxers and their opinions about vaccines are often times alien to their academic backgrounds.

Due to the recent COVID-19 global pandemic, I decided to carry out an online poll by sending out messages to my LinkedIn network to fill out an easy to complete questionnaire about their willingness to be vaccinated against COVID-19.

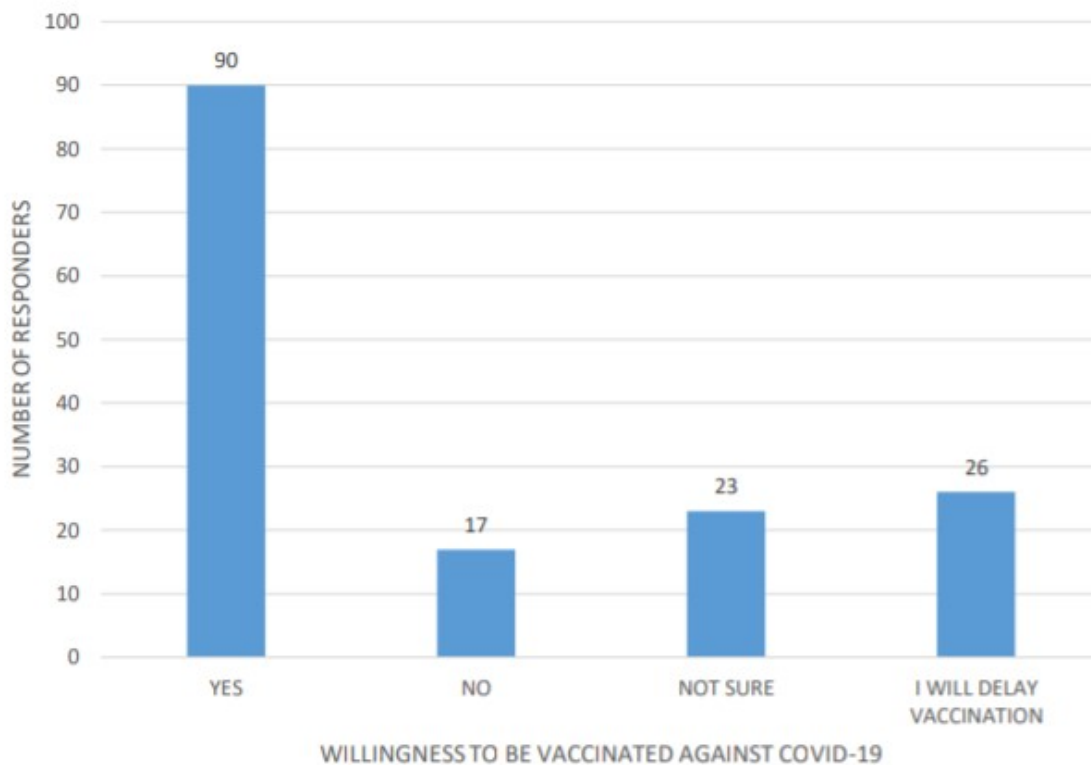
The chart below shows the responses from 156 participants.



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YES 90 (57.7%) NOT SURE (14.7%)

NO 17 (10.9%) I WILL DELAY VACCINATION (16.7%)

https://www.linkedin.com/posts/temitayo-famoroti-72018634_vaccinehesitancy-activity-6670060427747053568-NJ9s

Almost all my responders in this survey have at least a bachelor's degree, which is above the minimum level of literacy. Therefore, this outcome highlights the challenges ahead when the COVID-19 vaccine is ready for roll out. It shows that people are reluctant to be vaccinated against COVID-19 and coupled with the rampant social media conspiracy theories circulating about issues of 5G network, population control and the politics around COVID-19.

The question at the moment is what are the new strategies that will break this circle of hesitancy? Otherwise, the successes achieved in the past year



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that were once

though it is common feeling to shy heads back into the human population.

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Roger Goetsch • 2nd

Senior advisor at FDA

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Thanks, interesting to know what the folks that wouldn't vaccine had plans for their future? Isolation or just accept COVID-19 for what it is?

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Unfortunately these aspects were not explored in the mini study, but I am sure no one can isolate forever. I will think their reasoning is likely based on the fear of vaccination which will likely drive them towards accepting COVID-19 for what it is, 'more like a wait and see approach'.

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Roger Goetsch • 2nd

Senior advisor at FDA

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Temitayo Famoroti the models are predicting we need 80% inoculations for the first season of vaccines to bring COVID-19 to the level of the common flu?

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Gregorio Blanco • 2nd

Ready to transfer my clinical knowledge into the pharmaceutical and biotech industries

4mo ...

Hesitancy exists, there is no doubt about
But lets travel a couple of months forward.

A couple of vaccines have been approved and they are ready to use, national health authorities have reviewed the results and found them safe and effective, media will be burdening the population with news and information, positive economic forecast after mass vaccination is widespread

[see more](#)

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Thank you for an interesting analysis of the situation.

Information and opinion is 'fluid' and it keeps evolving as more data becomes available. As new data becomes available, it can either shift opinions to the right or left. As scientists the outcome can either be positive or negative. If the outcome is positive we still need to reduce the level of negative opinions against vaccines and even if the outcome is negative, scientists will still need to go ...see more

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