COVID-19 vaccine acceptance among pregnant, lactating and planning to conceive Jordanian women.

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Abstract

COVID-19 vaccination is a significant worldwide strategy to control the spread of this pandemic. However, vaccine refusal and hesitancy are significant barriers for the vaccination program's success. To evaluate the willingness and intention of pregnant and lactating women toward receiving a booster dose against COVID-19, as well as the associated factors. In this cross-sectional study, a custom-designed questionnaire was given to Jordanian pregnant/planning to get pregnant and lactating females attending different gynecologist clinics in Jordan, to assess the willingness, knowledge, practice, and intention to receive a booster dose of COVID-19 vaccine. Regression analysis was conducted to assess the factors associated with knowledge, practice, and intention to receive COVID-19 vaccine booster dose.

A total of 695 females enrolled in the study. Around 62.7% of the participants were in the age group 18-29 years. The participants showed good knowledge about COVID-19 and good adherence to protective precautions against COVID-19. Older age, having a chronic disease, high education, high income, and high

perceived dangerousness of COVID-19 were significantly associated with higher knowledge about

COVID-19. High perceived dangerousness of COVID-19 was significantly associated with better practice.

Participants who anticipated they might contract COVID-19 in the next six months, had high perceived

dangerousness of COVID-19, had high knowledge, received COVID-19 vaccine based on conviction, and

smokers had higher intention to receive a booster dose of the COVID-19 vaccination.

In order to increase pregnant and lactating women's awareness of COVID-19 vaccination, and increase

their intention to receive a booster dose of the vaccine, public health organizations should think about

developing comprehensive health education campaigns, and conduct further research to ensure the safety

and efficacy of COVID-19 vaccines in this group of people.

Key words: COVID-19 vaccine, booster dose, willingness, practice, intention, pregnant, lactating.