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COVID-19 vaccinations in people with primary ciliary dyskinesia

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Why did we do this research and why is it important?

Vaccinations against COVID-19 can prevent the spread of the disease and can protect against severe symptoms in case of infection. People with primary ciliary dyskinesia (PCD) may be at higher risk of severe COVID-19 disease and are therefore strongly recommended to get vaccinated. Here, we studied how many people with PCD got vaccinated against COVID-19, how fast people got vaccinated in different countries, and which side effects people with PCD experienced after vaccination.

How did we do this study?

We analysed data from the COVID-PCD study. COVID-PCD is a research study that includes people with PCD from anywhere in the world. It was set up in collaboration between people with PCD and researchers from the University of Bern (Switzerland) in spring 2020. In May 2021, COVID-PCD participants completed an online questionnaire with questions about COVID-19 vaccinations.

What did we find out and what does it mean?

431 people from 31 countries answered questions about COVID-19 vaccinations. Almost all adults with PCD (96%) had been vaccinated by June 2021. People living in the United Kingdom were vaccinated faster than in other countries. The most common reason for not wanting to get

vaccinated was fear of side effects. Mild side effects such as swelling and pain around the injection site were common, but nobody reported severe side effects.

In summary, most people with PCD got vaccinated against COVID-19. The high vaccination willingness in this study might be because of the extraordinary effort taken by PCD support groups to inform people about COVID-19 vaccination.

Further information www.covid19pcd.ispm.ch

Full article reference: Pedersen ESL, Mallet MC, Lam YT, Bellu S, Cizeau I, Copeland F, Fernandez TL, Manion M, Harris AL, Lucas JS, Santamaria F, Goutaki M, Kuehni CE, Covid-Pcd Patient Advisory Group. COVID-19 Vaccinations: Perceptions and Behaviours in People with Primary Ciliary Dyskinesia. Vaccines (Basel). 2021 Dec 17;9(12):1496. doi: 10.3390/vaccines9121496.

You can read the full article in English here.

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