

Does Enforcement in COVID-19 Vaccination Measurement Effective?

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Background

- Indonesia has achieved significant COVID-19 vaccination coverage.
- Until May 2023, 86% of target recipients have received the first dose, and more than 74% have received a complete dosage
- However, debate at the community level about the for and againsts of the COVID-19 vaccination persists
- The intake of COVID-19 vaccination booster is decreasing with only 37% intake for 1st booster and 1% for 2nd booster (MoH, 2023)

Specific Aims & Objectives

The study aims to understand the community's perceptions, acceptance, concerns, and attitudes towards COVID-19 vaccination to provide policy advice for more inclusive risk communication approaches in the context of health crises

Indonesia's COVID-19 Measures

- The Indonesian government's measures to roll out the COVID-19 vaccine have significantly increased vaccine coverage.
- Indonesia has utilised every level of governments structure down to the village, including the military to expand vaccine coverage.
- Vaccination policy also imposed administrative sanction to those who refuse to be vaccinated.

Reinforcing Factors

- The perceived risk of administrative consequences if not vaccinated, such as the termination of social assistances and access to public services, was the most prominent reinforcing factor, especially among men.
- Influence from family, peers, clinicians, community leaders and religious leaders reinforced elderly men and women to be vaccinated.

Predisposing Factors

- Public perceptions of COVID-19 susceptibility, severity, and fatality, along with the benefits of vaccines, were found to be the predisposing factors
- Regardless, even though perceptions towards vaccination were **negative**, they still got vaccinated due to the reinforcing factors mentioned.
- Meanwhile, individuals with **positive** perceptions towards vaccination were still concerned and felt they lacked information regarding the vaccine and its potential effects to their long-term health.

Conclusions

- This study discovers that even though the enforcements were effective in increasing the COVID-19 vaccination, they were found ineffective in achieving risk communication objectives to help people make informed decisions amidst the crisis (WHO, 2008).
- This may not only decrease public's trust in vaccination in times of crises, but may also decrease further demand for routine childhood and adult immunisations.
- The study recommends a more inclusive risk communication approaches, especially for vulnerable groups such as people with disabilities, the elderly, and women as they experience pandemics and health conditions differently.

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