

The Impact of COVID-19 Vaccine Brands on Vaccine Uptake among Medical Technology students from a Tertiary School in Manila

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ABSTRACT

Introduction: The Coronavirus pandemic has urged several medical professionals and government agencies to extensively recommend public immunization. Following the manufacture of COVID-19 vaccines, authorities turn to vaccination hoping to improve the state of the pandemic. However, portions of the population are still hesitant to get vaccinated despite its availability. Vaccine uptake was also affected due to misinformation circulating on various platforms. The researchers aimed to determine if Medical Technologist students from a tertiary school in Manila have personal preferences for the COVID-19 vaccine.

Materials and Methods: With 327 Medical Technology students participating in the research, a snowball sampling technique was utilized. The collated data underwent a Chi-square test where a p-value of >0.5 was considered to be statistically significant. Descriptive statistics were used to narrate the frequency, percentage, and mean of the distribution of the responses with the demography and the questions which were in the survey.

Results: Almost ninety-nine percent (98.9%) of respondents believed that it was very important to get vaccinated against COVID-19. Regarding vaccine preference, this study found that preference for vaccine brands does not have a significant effect on students' decision to get vaccinated ($\beta = -15.612$, $p > 0.05$).

Conclusions: Widening the population and focusing on areas of low vaccination rates are recommended for future research. 96.6% of respondents wished to know more about these vaccine brands; therefore, proper dissemination of vaccine information is recommended among school institutions and LGUs.

Keywords: COVID-19, brand preference, vaccine uptake