

# PROBLEMS AND PROSPECTS OF VACCINATION AGAINST INFLUENZA AMONG RISK GROUPS IN PREGNANT WOMEN AND STUDENTS' OF THE **URGENCH BRANCH OF TMA**

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### Abstract

In this work, the awareness of students about the course of influenza was investigated. The attitude of students to influenza vaccination in pregnant women and students was analyzed. Influenza does not lose its relevance at the present time, causing the development of local outbreaks, epidemics in different regions of the world, where, despite the availability of effective immunoprophylaxis, death of patients from this nosological form is noted. Unfavorable outcomes are reported among the unvaccinated categories. In our opinion, adherence to this preventive measure among target risk groups (students and pregnant women) is important.

**Keywords:** influenza, immunization, students, pregnant women.

## **Objective**

Establish adherence of medical school students to influenza vaccination.

- 1. To assess the awareness of students about the issues of the course of influenza;
- 2. Determine the adherence of medical students to influenza vaccination; 3. To establish the attitude of medical students towards influenza vaccination among pregnant women.

### **Materials and Methods**

This study included 65 2nd year students of the Medical and Preventive Faculty (MP) of the Urgench branch of TMA. The questionnaire consisted of 14 questions,



most fully revealing the question of interest to us. Data processing and analysis of the research results were carried out using Microsoft Excel.

### Results

Stage 1 of the work consisted in establishing the awareness of the 2nd year students of the MP faculty about the aspects of the course of influenza. Typical symptoms of influenza, according to students' answers, are: weakness - 57 students (89.3%), headache and muscle aches - 55 (86.7% each), fever - 51 (81.3%), nasal congestion - 39 (65.3%), cough 37 (62.7%) and chest pain 12 (29.3%). Among the other answers, the following were also encountered: temperature — 10 respondents (18.7%), vomiting — 3 (5.3%), diarrhea — 2 (4%), and the presence of a rash -2 (2.7%). When evaluating the answers to the question about the mechanism of transmission of the influenza virus, we received: the aerosol transmission mechanism was chosen by 48 students (76%), aerosol and contact transmission mechanism - 12 (17.3%), contact mechanism - 1 student (1.3%), aerosol and fecal-oral mechanisms-2 (2.7%), aerosol, contact and fecaloral mechanisms - were noted by 2 students (2.7%) Among the respondents 33 students had the flu, which is 57.3%. Of these, the flu was mild in 19 respondents (67.4%), severe - in 11 (25.6%), with complications in the form of otitis media in 2 (4.7% and with complications in the form of pneumonia - in 1 respondent ( 2.3%) Stage 2 consisted of assessing the adherence of 2nd year students of the MP faculty to influenza vaccination. It was found that 22 respondents (28%) were vaccinated once in their entire life, 20 - (38.7%) - annually vaccinated against seasonal influenza, 21 (29.3%) - do not take part in influenza vaccination campaigns and 2 (4%) - would like to be vaccinated, but have constant contraindications to participation in this highly effective event. Among the students who took part in the vaccination, 33 respondents (66%) did not notice any adverse reactions. Among the rest of the respondents noted weakness - 12 (26%), pain at the injection site - 6 (14%), headache - 4 (10%) and fever - 1 (2%). Serious adverse reactions (anaphylactic shock) were not noted ... When assessing the effectiveness of vaccination, it was found that only 30 students (48%) consider vaccination to be an effective measure against influenza, 8 (12%) do not consider vaccination as such, and 27 (40%) find it difficult to answer the question. In the current epidemic season, only 20 students planned to be vaccinated, which corresponds to 34.7%. 40 respondents (57.3%) did not plan to take part in vaccination campaigns against seasonal influenza and 5 (8%) are not able to

participate in ongoing campaigns due to the presence of constant contraindications. Stage 3 consisted in assessing the attitude of 2nd year students of the MP faculty to vaccination of pregnant women against influenza. At this stage, it has been established that 48 respondents consider to vaccinate pregnant women against seasonal flu (74%). We received answers on vaccination tactics: I trimester - 28 respondents (46.7%), I and II trimesters - 1 student (1.7%), I, II and III trimesters - 8 respondents (24.7%), II trimester - 4 students (10%), II and III trimesters - 2 respondents (5%) and 5 students believe that pregnant women should be vaccinated against influenza in the III trimester (15%). Among the surveyed students, only 40 (65.3%) are of the opinion that influenza vaccination is harmless for pregnant women. Only 31 respondents (50.7%) believe that influenza vaccination of pregnant women will protect the child from this disease. At the same time, 50 respondents (66.7%) are sure that the flu suffered during pregnancy can have an adverse effect on the fetus. At the last stage of questioning the 2nd year students of the MP faculty, it was found that only 23 students (34.7%) were satisfied with the information on influenza immunization provided by medical organizations, and 42 respondents (65.3%) would like to receive more information from these organizations.

## **Conclusions**

1.Students of the 2nd course of the Faculty of MP have an insufficient understanding of the flu course in the population; 2.Only 20 students (38.7%) annually take part in influenza vaccination campaigns, and only 20 students planned to participate in the current epidemic season (34, 7%), which indicates insufficient coverage of immunoprophylaxis among students; 3. Most of the surveyed students - 48 (74%) - consider it necessary to vaccinate pregnant women against this highly dangerous disease, but only 40 students (65.3%) consider this event safe for pregnant women. At the same time, 50 respondents (66.7%) are sure that the flu, transferred during pregnancy, can have an adverse effect on the fetus. The data obtained indicate a lack of awareness among students on the issues of influenza immunization among pregnant women.

#### Literature

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**Analysis and Inventions** 

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