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Research Article

**THE IMPORTANCE OF MAKING APPOINTMENTS FOR  
CHILDREN'S VACCINATIONS AT HEALTH CENTERS**

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**Abstract:**

*The aim of the case study is the importance of making an appointment for vaccinations at the health center through the Ministry of Health's appointment application, emphasizing the importance of having a vaccination vaccine for your child at the health center through the appointment application, getting to know the health center affiliated with it to vaccinate your child, the importance of the competent employee taking the necessary procedures to vaccinate your child. Thus, identifying the difficulties faced by the health auditor when making an appointment at his health center. The importance of knowing the trends and opinions of the residents of the Holy City of Mecca regarding making an appointment for vaccinations through the Ministry of Health's Mawid application. The questionnaire was designed via the Google Drive application, and distributed via the social networking application (WhatsApp), with full transparency to the targets of the research, who are residents of the city of Mecca, where 750 questionnaires were distributed to mobile groups according to the available circumstances, and it was obtained Responses to 600 questionnaires were obtained.*

**Keywords:** Importance, making appointments, children's vaccinations, health centers

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## INTRODUCTION:

Vaccination or vaccination <sup>(1)</sup> is the use of material that catalyzes an immune reply (vaccine) to stimulate a person's immunity to form specialized immunity to a pathogen, such as a virus. Vaccines are the most effective way to prevent infectious diseases, as they prevent or reduce the expand of contagious illnesses vaccinating a large percentage of people leads to what is called herd immunity. As for the activity of vaccines, they have been widely studied and verified - for example: the influenza vaccine <sup>(2)</sup>, Papilloma vaccine - Chicken pox vaccine <sup>(3)</sup>. The widespread immunity induced by vaccines is largely accountable for the worldwide eradication of smallpox as well as the containment of some diseases such as polio, measles, and tetanus. In a report by the World Health Organization, specific currently confirmed vaccines prevent or help prevent or control preventable infections. The active agent from a vaccine may be intact but inactive (noninfectious) or this agent may be weakened with little infectivity. The energetic agent is acquired from the pathogen or is filtered from the contents of the pathogen producing an important immune response. Example (cover the outer protein of the virus). Toxoid is a substance that is produced to immunize against the toxic substance in a specific disease. An example of this is: amending the structure of (tetanospasmin), "which is the toxic substance for tetanus," so that its toxic impact is taken off, but it still has the ability to cause an immune response <sup>(4)</sup>. Vaccines may also consist of preservatives to stop contamination from bacteria or fungi. Until recent years, the preservative Thermosil was used in several vaccines that did not contain live viruses. Until 2005, the influenza vaccine was the only vaccine containing more than a trace amount of Thermocyl in the United States <sup>(5)</sup>. Which is currently recommended only for children with certain risk factors <sup>(6)</sup>. The single-dose influenza vaccine available in Britain does not contain Thermosil in its list of ingredients. Preservatives may be used at multiple stages of vaccine production. The most active methods of measurement may reveal traces of it in the final product, as well as its presence in the environment or in the population in general <sup>(7)</sup>. Within the scope of the Ministry of Health's efforts to preserve the health of children in the Kingdom, and keep them and groups of society from illness, the Ministry created this service to inform parents of the dates of basic vaccinations against the diseases targeted for vaccination according to the new vaccination schedule of the Ministry of Health, where a recall message of the vaccination appointment is sent to the mobile phone or e-mail. One week before the child's vaccination date. The children's vaccination appointment alert service can be obtained by using the

health department's electronic portal, entering the electronic services section, and then accessing the children's vaccination date alert service. There are no preconditions that block obtaining the service, as it is available to all members of society. But there are some normal conditions: Enter your phone number or email, and enter the child's name. enter the child's date of birth. A reminder message about the vaccination time will be sent to the mobile telephone or email one week before the child's vaccination appointment. And the service fee is free. connection is made through the unified number of the Ministry of Health (937) to supply technical support for the service. <sup>(8)</sup>

## 2-MATERIAL AND METHODS:

The is started in (the holy city of Mecca in Saudi Arabia), began writing the research and then recording the questionnaire in March 2023, and the study ended with data collection in August 2023. The researcher used the descriptive analytical approach that uses a quantitative or qualitative description of the social phenomenon (the importance of making appointments for children's at health centers). This kind of study is characterized by analysis, reason, objectivity, and reality, as it is concerned with individuals and societies, as it studies the variables and their effects on the health of the individual, society, and consumer, the spread of diseases and their relationship to demographic variables such as age, gender, nationality, and marital status. Status, occupation <sup>(9)</sup>, And use the Excel 2010 Office suite histogram to arrange the results using: Frequency tables Percentages <sup>(10)</sup>. A questionnaire is a remarkable and helpful tool for collecting a huge amount of data, however, researchers were not able to personally interview participants on the online survey, due to social distancing regulations at the time to prevent infection between participants and researchers and vice versa (not coronavirus participation completely disappearing from society). He only answered the questionnaire electronically, because the questionnaire consisted of thirteen questions, all of which were closed. The online approach has also been used to generate valid samples in similar studies in Saudi Arabia and elsewhere <sup>(11)</sup>

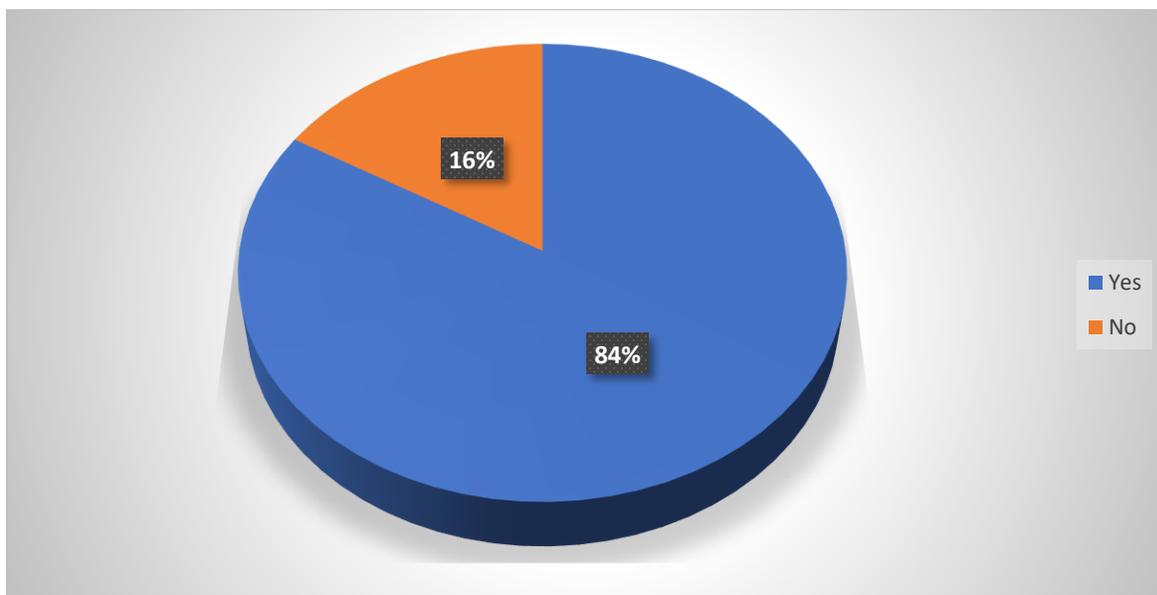
## 3- RESULTS:

As for the percentage of participation in the research questionnaire, it amounted to 99.3%, and the percentage of non-participants was 0.7%. As for the ages of participants in the questionnaire, it was as follows: 6% of those aged 16-25 years, and 20.7% of those aged 26-35 years. From the ages of 36-45 years, their percentage reached 28.1%, and from the ages of 46-55 years, their percentage reached 45.2%. As for

the gender of the participants: 59.7% male, 40.2% female. As for the nationality of the participants, 98.5% were Saudis, and 1.5% were non-Saudis. As for the educational status, it was as follows: neither read nor write 0.9%, primary certificate 0%, intermediate certificate 3.5%, high school certificate 13.3%, university certificate 58.5%, diploma certificate 13.3%, master's certificate 8%, doctorate certificate 2.5%. As for the professions of the participants in the questionnaire, they were as follows: Perpetrator 19.4%, student 4.7%, government employee 51.9%, private sector employee 12.4%, freelancer 11.6%. When moving to the answers to the questionnaire, they were as follows: The first question was about: Do you use the appointments application to book an appointment to vaccinate your child? The answer was yes 83.6%, no 16.4%. The second question: Did you encounter difficulties when booking an appointment to vaccinate your child at the health center? mention it? If possible? The answers were: there is no suitable appointment or the appointment is very far away, always yes, there are no appointments nearby, not all vaccinations are available, there is no, yes, no. As for

the third question: Are all vaccinations available at the health center? Yes 78.5%, No 21.5%. The fourth question: Are vaccination doses available in sufficient quantities to vaccinate your children at the health center? The answer was yes 76.3%, no 23.7%. The fifth question: Do you find available appointments to book vaccinations for your child at the health center? Yes 79.3%, No 20.7%. The sixth question: Do you find an alternative to vaccinations for your child in other health centers (other than your health center)? Yes 76.5%, No 23.5%. The seventh question: Is it a priority to book a vaccination appointment or go early to the health center? The answer was yes 84.3%, no 15.7%. The eighth question: Does the immunization nurse follow all necessary procedures when giving your child/girl the vaccination vaccine? Yes 88.8%, No 11.2%. As for the ninth question about whether the vaccination is taken when your son/daughter has a fever or a cold? Yes 11.9%, No 88.1%. The last question: What is your impression of receiving vaccines for your child/girl within health centers? The answer was yes, excellent at a rate of 69.6%, acceptable at 26.7%, and poor at 3.7%. (figure No.1).

Figure No.1: Opinions of the participants in the research questionnaire (residents of the Holy City of Mecca) regarding booking an appointment from the appointment application for their children to be vaccinated



#### 4-DISCUSSION:

We conclude from this study that, according to the Spanish results, the participants in the questionnaire stated that their impression of receiving vaccinations at their health center is as follows: excellent 69.6%, good 26.7%, and bad 3.7%.

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