



FACILITATORS AND BARRIERS FOR COVID 19 VACCINE IN PREGNANT AND POSTPARTUM WOMEN

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INTRODUCTION

Despite remarkable advances in COVID research and development, vaccine hesitancy has been recognized as a public health threat, particularly among pregnant patients.

OBJECTIVE

The purpose of this study is to understand the factors which facilitate and those which act as barriers to COVID vaccination in pregnant patients.

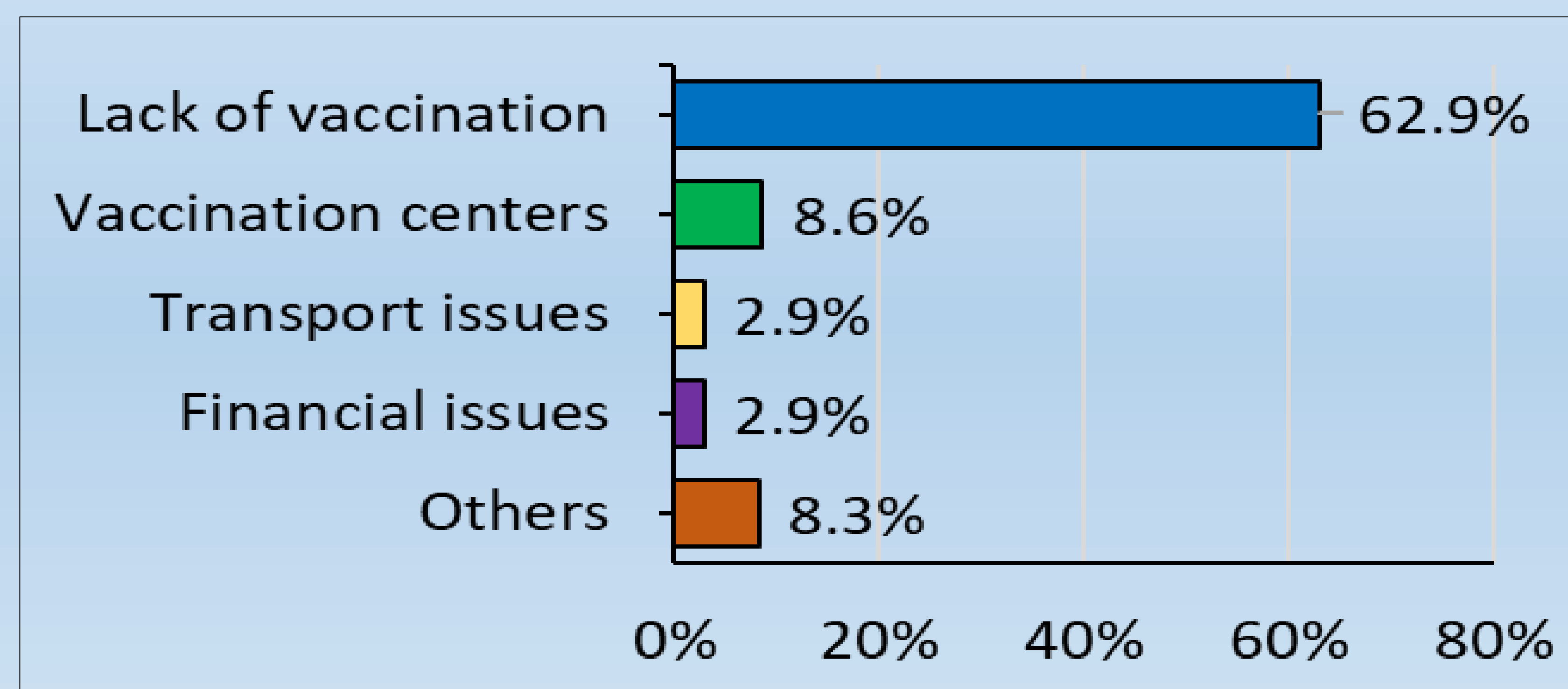
METHODOLOGY

From April 1st, 2022, to December 31st, 2022, pregnant and postpartum patients at AKUH actively took part in this cross-sectional study. A meticulously crafted research questionnaire was employed to collect the necessary data. The sample size was determined utilizing Open Epi version 3.01. Non-probability consecutive sampling was employed to select participants

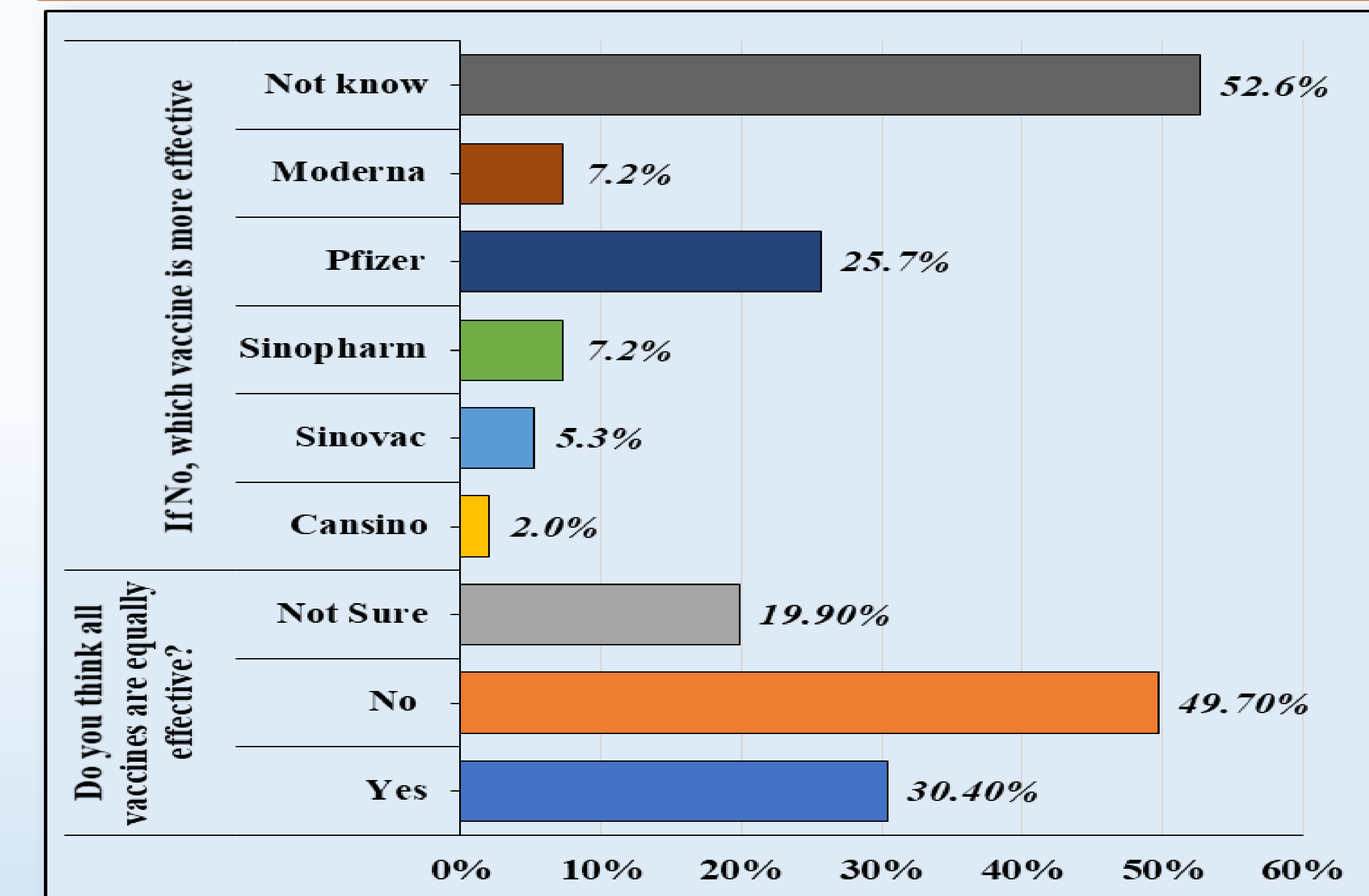
RESULTS

Out of the 300 participants enrolled in the study, 21.6% (n=66) expressed concerns about the safety of the COVID vaccine during pregnancy or were unsure due to symptoms like fever, body aches, vaginal bleeding, or decreased fetal movements. Regarding breastfeeding, 51.9% (n=159) had similar concerns. In terms of efficacy, 26.8% (n=82) believed the vaccine protects against COVID infection, while 70.3% (n=215) believed it safeguards against disease severity. Additionally, 19.3% (n=59) faced resistance from family or social circles, and 9.8% (n=30) perceived no benefit if previously infected.

% OF BARRIER IN GETTING VACCINATED



RESPONSE REGARDING VACCINE EFFECTIVENESS



CONCLUSION

Despite widespread awareness, about one-third of the patients held the belief that COVID vaccination is either unsafe or lacked knowledge about its safety during pregnancy and lactation, likely due to a lack of trials and research in this specific area. Further efforts are needed to increase awareness regarding COVID vaccination safety particularly during pregnancy and lactation.