

ABSTRACT

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Title: Parents of the Pre-School Children and Vaccination III.

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Introduction: Vaccination has always been controversial and highly debated issue. There are **its** supporters, but also strict opponents. However, vaccination is still the most effective and most economical form of fight against various diseases. Vaccination annually saves several million lives.

Aim: The main aim of my thesis is to evaluate the results obtained from the questionnaires and determine whether respondents' age or higher education have an impact on the belief in the legitimacy, safety and efficacy of vaccination. Then I watched the risk of adverse effects on the child's sex and the most frequent type of adverse reactions, which occurred after vaccination. The aim was also to determine whether children were vaccinated by non-compulsory vaccines, further as their parents knew about vaccination and what changes in vaccination they desired for their children.

Methodology: The research was conducted by questionnaire survey. Questionnaires were distributed to parents of pre-school children in nursery schools in the Central Region of the Czech Republic. Data were collected in seven kindergartens from April to October 2014. Completed questionnaires I compiled by a frequency analysis and the

results recorded using *Microsoft Excel 2010* into tables and graphs. I divided the questionnaires by age and attainment of the highest education of the respondents.

Results: The survey involved 157 respondents. Only 51 % of the questionnaires were returned. Most of the pre-school children are 5 years old (64 %) and they are predominantly girls (55 %). Optional vaccination have not 29 % of pre-school children, others have one, two or even three or more of optional vaccination. Children are inoculated with optional vaccines against most pneumococcal infections, hepatitis A and encephalitis. More than 50 % of children tolerate vaccination well. Half of the children had ever after vaccination adverse reaction, mostly involving fever, swelling or redness. In half of cases of inoculated children, the intensity of the response to vaccination was weak and they suffered it well. The strongest response was to hexa vaccine (27 %). My questionnaire survey showed that 92 % of pre-school children were vaccinated exactly according to the immunization calendar. Morbidity for 90 % of vaccinated children had not increase. 76 % of parents know about differences in legislation relating to vaccination outside the Czech Republic. One hundred percent faith in the legitimacy of vaccination have 37 % of the respondents, 29 % in efficiency and the least confident in the safety of vaccination have only 22 % of parents. I have not found the connection between the age of respondents or higher education of respondents and impact on the belief in the legitimacy, safety and efficacy of vaccination. Changes in the immunization calendar would be welcomed by only 22 % of parents. The most would be welcomed the introduction of individual vaccination schedule (20 %). The most frequent source of information on vaccination in the Czech Republic is the physician in 76 %.

Conclusion: Opinions on vaccination vary considerably, partly depending on the age of mothers and fathers, but also on their highest level of education attained. We cannot say, that with increasing age or increasing education there is belief in the legitimacy, effectiveness or safety of vaccinations higher or decreased. Faith in vaccination is still relatively high. Relationship between the frequency of adverse effects of vaccines and the child's sex was not confirmed.