

Special Issue

Opportunities and Barriers to Immunization Hesitance

Message from the Guest Editors

Growing resistance to vaccination requires a new approach to public health in the context of worldwide pandemics. The mismatch between stated beliefs and behaviors reveals the shortcomings of survey research in the context of a socially undesirable trait: few are willing to acknowledge needle fear, and medical investigators often lack personal empathy with the problem needed for appropriate design. Freeman et al. estimated that 15% of those in the UK refusing vaccines did so due to needle fear. Basic issues of pain, vasovagal response, and fear of side effects once thought relevant only in pediatrics have become relevant to regaining trust and willingness for population-based vaccination. Both understanding the basic interplay of pain, fear, and residual perspectives on vaccine acceptance and optimizing the appropriateness of vaccines individually can rebuild trust in the most basic pillar of public health.

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Vaccines (ISSN 2076-393X) has had a 6-year history of publishing peer-reviewed state of the art research that advances the knowledge of immunology in human disease protection. Immunotherapeutics, prophylactic vaccines, immunomodulators, adjuvants and the global differences in regulatory affairs are some of the highlights of the research published that have shaped global health. Our open access policy allows all researchers and interested parties to immediately scrutinize the rigorous evidence our publications have to offer. We are proud to present the work and perspectives of many to contribute to future decisions concerning human health.

Editor-in-Chief

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