## Abstract

**Perception (hesitancy) of the inhabitants and health professionals of Conakry and Coyah on Vaccination against COVID-19- Guinea.**
**(CAP study of 1014 people)**

Alpha Mahmoud Barry 1, Henri Gautier Ouédraogo (Country PI – Burkina Faso), Seydou Doumbia (Country PI – Mali) Sylvain Faye (Country PI – Sénégal) Abdul Mbawah (Country PI – Sierra Leone), Ralf Krumkamp (épidémiologiste), Dewi Ismajani Puradiredja (Co-PI), Daniela Fusco (PI Consortium), Mame Maryam Sarr (Country PI – Guinea),

Guinea, like other African countries, is affected by COVID-19 with 3,000 confirmed cases and nearly 200 deaths since the beginning of the pandemic in February 2021.

Guinea has carried out numerous activities to control the epidemic. At present, the vaccination coverage is still very low (around 4%), In order to better understand the perception and reasons for the population's hesitancy to be vaccinated against covid-19, under the technical and financial assistance of ACHES, the present study was conducted among not only the population but also health professionals in Conakry, its suburbs and Coyah.

The aim of the study is to contribute to the success of the vaccination campaign against COVID-19 in the country. Specifically, it was to (i) measure vaccine hesitancy (ii) identify the main factors that would lead the population reluctant to vaccinate against COVID-19.

**A descriptive cross-sectional** study combining literature review and the application of a questionnaire (open and closed questions) to the population and health professionals, randomly selected sites was used. The study protocol was submitted to and reviewed by the National Health Research Ethics Committee and a letter of approval was obtained before data collection began.

**The results obtained are as follows:** Of the total number of interviewees, 150 health professionals and 1014 individuals from the population responded to the questionnaires, 43% women (48%, living in rural areas) with an average age of 16 years;

- According to their occupation, housewives (15%) were in first place, followed by income-generating agents (11%), students (10%), civil servants (10%), workers in the private sector (7%) and the unemployed (5%);
- According to the level of education, Universities occupy the first place (36%), followed by secondary education (26%) and professional training (14%).
- Regarding the level of information, 72% said they had heard of the vaccine against COVID-19, 25% had been tested before, among which 18% would like to be vaccinated if the opportunity arose;
- On the perception of risk and commitment to the vaccine, 16% of respondents were female, they thought to be were at risk of contracting Covid (32%), 61% and agreed to be vaccinated if they had the opportunity; 54% would also agree to vaccinate their children against if they had the opportunity as well;
- On the reasons that justify the hesitation to the vaccine, the fear of post-vaccine side effects come in first position (64%), followed by the low level of information on vaccines and their short- and long-term side effects (25%), rumors on social networks (5%) and other reasons (6%); Regarding the protection by the vaccine, 80% of the interviewees think that vaccination against COVID-19 could protect the community
- **On the acceptance of the covid-19 vaccine**, 79% of professionals working in national hospitals are willing to be vaccinated. 40% have no preference,
- *On the choice of the type of vaccine, the majority (51%), do not have a preference, the others but there was no significant difference in preference between the types of vaccines (p=0.07)*
- **The main recommendations** made for the success of the vaccination are (i) Strengthen the quality of information on the side effects and especially on the risks related to vaccines (78%); (ii) Run outreach campaigns (72%).
- **When comparing the proportions (hesitancy)** of those who said they would not accept to be vaccinated even if the opportunity arose, respondents, *there are no difference between this proportion is not significant (p=0.085)*

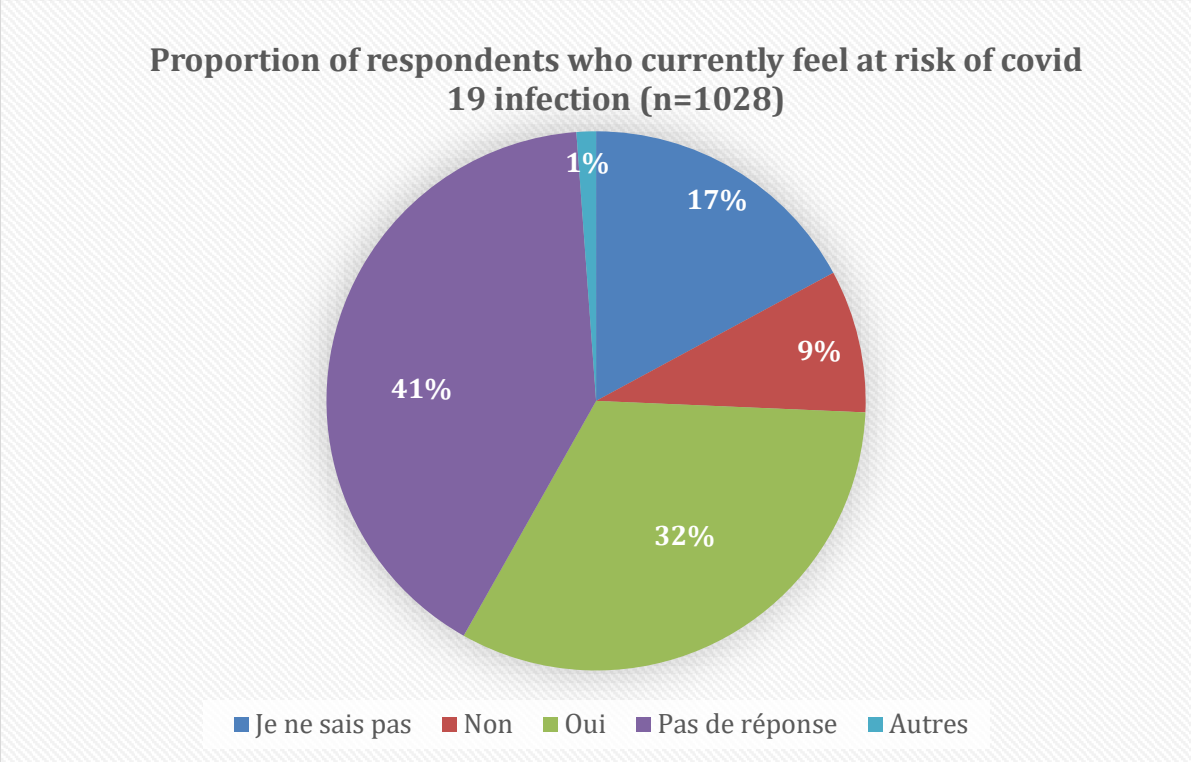
[1] Country PI –Guinea;

***Mots-clés :*** *Perception de la population, risque, Vaccination, COVID-19,*

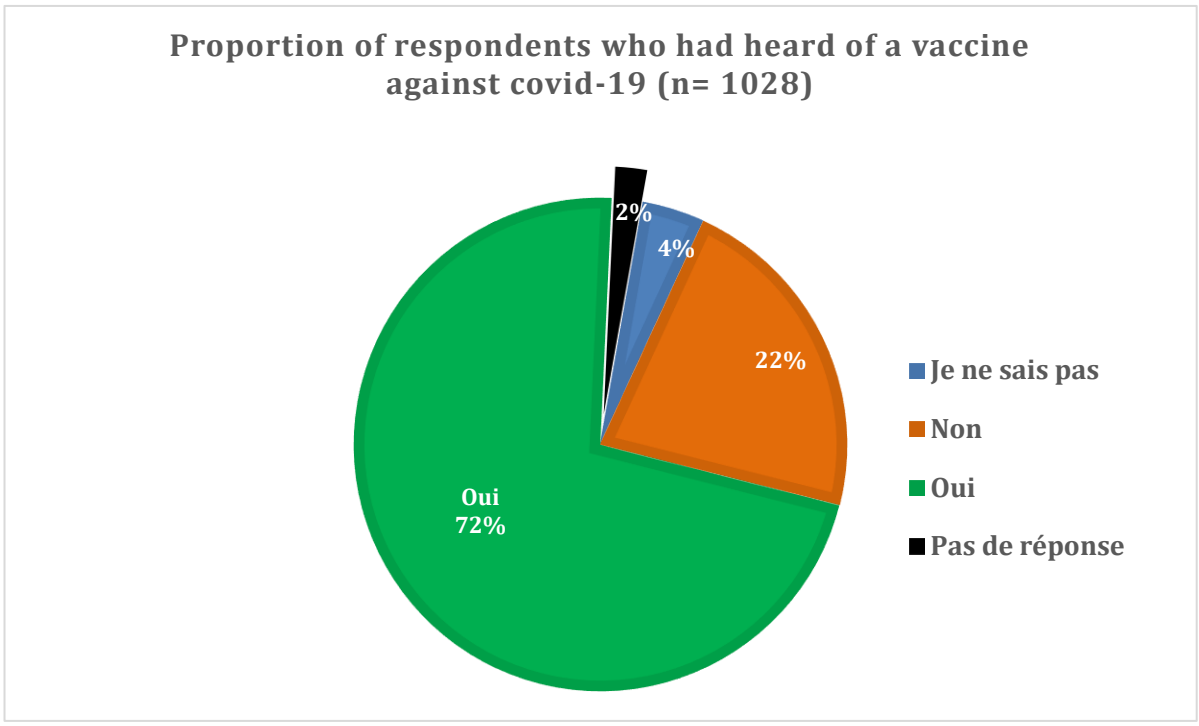
## Graphics

Comparison of the acceptance of the COVID-19 vaccine in the countries of the sub-region

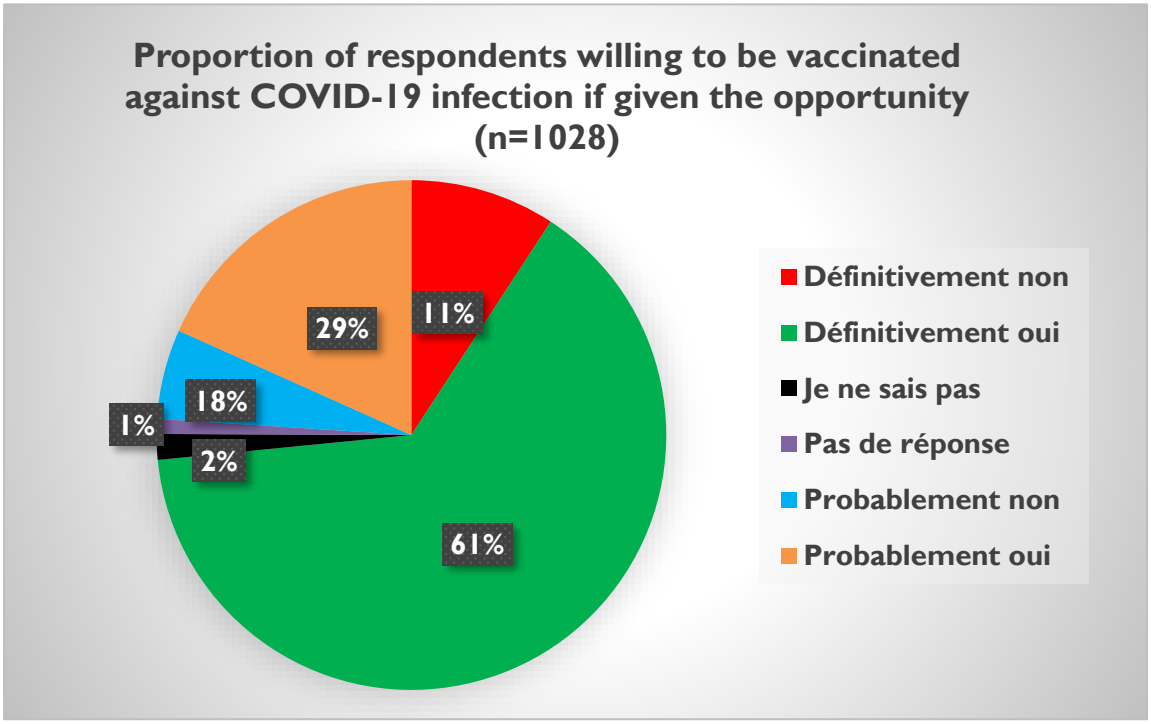
| Countries that participated in the Covid-19 vaccine perception survey | Will you get the COVID-19 vaccine if the opportunity arises? | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| | YES | NO | PROBABLY |
| **Guinea** | 330 (61%) | 58 (11%) | 156 (29%) |
| **Mali** | 173 (30%) | 128 (22%) | 281 (48%) |
| **Sénégal** | 111 (18%) | 272 (44%) | 242 (39%) |
| **Burkina Fasso** | 140 (29%) | 153 (32%) | 187 (39%) |
| **Sierra Leone** | 206 (53%) | 68 (17%) | 117 (30%) |

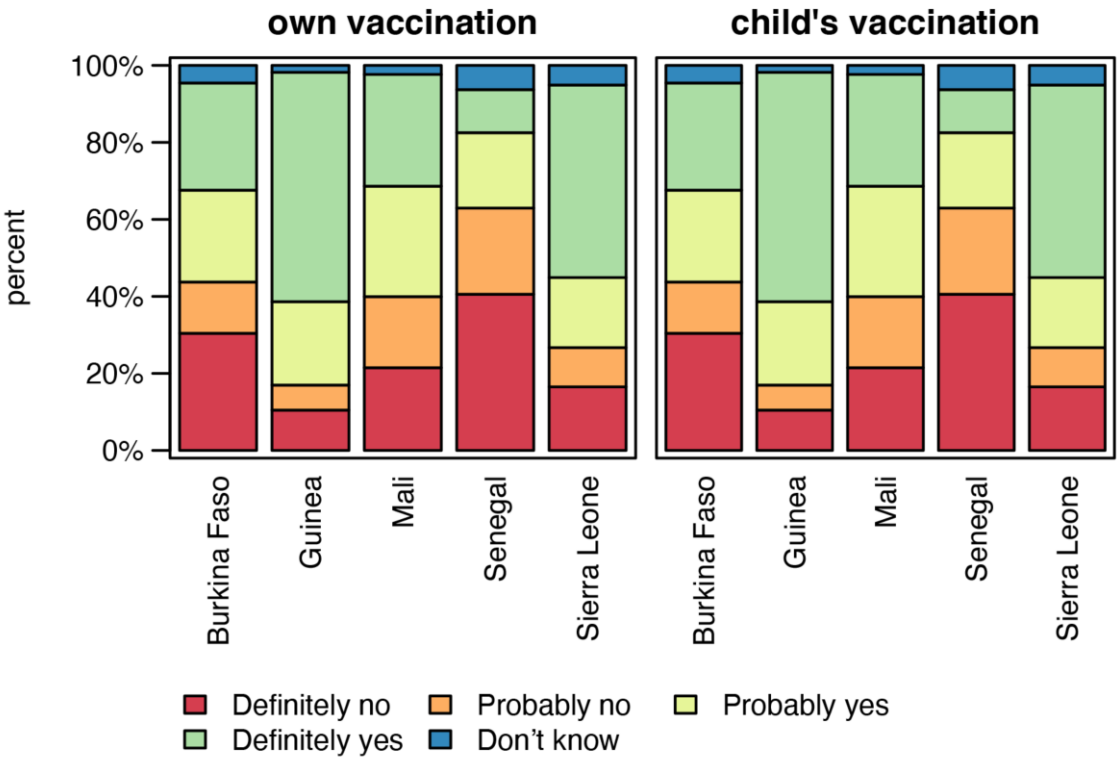



***Mots-clés :*** *Perception de la population, risque, Vaccination, COVID-19,*




***Mots-clés :*** *Perception de la population, risque, Vaccination, COVID-19,*




***Mots-clés :*** *Perception de la population, risque, Vaccination, COVID-19,*

***Mots-clés :*** *Perception de la population, risque, Vaccination, COVID-19,*