COVID-19 Vaccine Intentions Among Black Communities in British Columbia

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Hogan’s Alley Society
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BC Immunization Forum 2022 Presenter Disclosure

- Stephanie Allen, Hogan’s Alley Society

- Relationships with financial sponsors:
  - Funded research survey “Vaccine Intentions Among Black Communities in BC”
Disclosure of Financial Support

- This program has received financial support from BCIC in the form of research survey funding.
- This program has received in-kind support from Hogan’s Alley Society board members in the form of project oversight.

Potential for conflict(s) of interest:
None
Mitigating Potential Bias

- None
Outline

• Overview & Why this research matters?
• Methods: Recruitment efforts
• Key findings from Preliminary analysis
• Moving forward
Overview & Why this matters?

- In the early months of the pandemic, Black organization leaders met with the province to ask about COVID-19 impact on Black communities in BC
- It was acknowledged that disaggregated health data was not collected or reported in BC
- Impacts on Black communities reported in other jurisdictions prompting Black organizers to address this gap
BC BLACK HEALTH CARE MATTERS
A CONVERSATION ABOUT COVID-19

BC Black Health Care Matters is a community conversation aimed at discussing the impacts of COVID-19 on the Black community. This conversation will be led by Black physicians and health care providers, in hopes of providing accurate information about Covid-19 and vaccines.

Date: May 8th
Time: 1PM PST
Register: bit.ly/BlackHealthCareMatters

Melissa Crump
Panelist

Dr. Ruth Habte
Panelist

Dr. Gina Ogilvie
Panelist

Stephanie Allen
Moderator

Dr. Michael Schwandt
Panelist

Melissa Crump
Panelist

Jan Migabo
Panelist

Dr. Rahel Zewude
Panelist

Stephanie Allen
Moderator
Community Engagement & Communications

- Active and on-going engagement on HAS social media platforms
- Several Black organizations, educational institutions, and student associations shared the survey with their members
- Interior Health shared information about the survey on social media and in their newsletter.
- In-person engagement and distribution of flyers at Black-owned convenience stores in Lower mainland
- Media interviews with CBC Radio Vancouver and Victoria, Georgia Straight and Vancouver Sun
Key Findings
Survey Population

- Telling a story of the Black respondents (303), not of all Black people in BC (43,505 Source: 2016 Stats Can)
- 437 surveys completed between Oct 24 and Feb 11 with 303 people identifying as Black
- Number of Black people: 303
- Respondent characteristics:
  - Educated (65% above bachelor’s degree)
  - Women (72% women and non-binary identified respondents)
  - Younger (63% between 25 and 44)
  - Employed and student (81%)
  - Moderate to higher income earners (2/3 make over $50k p.a.)
Preliminary Findings

- 95% have received a COVID-19 vaccine, 4% have not and 1% ineligible
- 92% received 2\textsuperscript{nd} dose, 6% reported being ineligible and 2% saying they haven’t
- 78% intent to receive a booster dose, 22% reported they don’t intend to
- Of the respondents who are yet to be vaccinated, 83% are \textit{unlikely} to receive a vaccine in future
- Of the respondents who had one dose, 50% are \textit{unlikely} to receive a second dose in future
REASONS UNLIKELY TO GET A VACCINE IN FUTURE

- Worried about the side effects of the vaccine = 28%
- The body can fight off COVID-19 = 22%
- The vaccine was developed too quickly = 22%
- I do not trust the government = 6%
- The vaccine is not effective = 22%
98 of the respondents have kids aged 5 to 12 however, 34% are unlikely to get their children vaccinated.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Vaccinate Kids? (N = 98)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Unlikely</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Likely</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>My children are vaccinated</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- 33 (34%)
- 56 (57%)
- 9 (9%)
39% of the respondents have family members who have declined the vaccine, but this did not affect the respondent’s decision to be vaccinated.

![Bar chart showing the distribution of family members that do not want the vaccine.](chart.png)
Comparative Analysis

Analyzing vaccination rates:

- Similar across age groups but lower in those aged 35 – 44 years
- Lower in those who identify as men
- Lower in respondents who have education level below college
- Lower in respondents who have had COVID-19
- Similar across all income groups
- Higher in those who regularly receive their flu shot
- Higher in those residing in the city of Vancouver compared to those living in other parts of Metro-Vancouver.
Moving forward

• Continue research with this cohort and leverage the strength of this collaboration
• Conduct deeper analysis of survey data collected with further comparative analysis
• Present findings to health authorities, policy-makers, and Black communities
• Make the case for policy change
• Acknowledge the need for—and develop trust among--Black communities in BC
• Understand and measure the lasting impacts of racism as a critical social determinant of health—interpersonal, structural, and systemic
• Commit to working with community-based groups in the collection, analysis, and reporting of disaggregated race-based health data
• Evolve vaccine delivery plans according to the needs of Black communities across BC
• Establish and fund a permanent Black health research body that can implement systemic disaggregated data collection and reporting on BC’s Black communities
Thank you!

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