Attitudes about Influenza and Pneumococcal Disease Prevention

A National Foundation for Infectious Diseases (NFID) survey\(^1\) conducted among US adults uncovered insights about influenza (flu) and pneumococcal disease knowledge, as well as attitudes and behaviors around vaccination.

**FLU**

60% agree the flu vaccine is the best preventive measure against flu-related deaths and hospitalizations

but, only 52% said they plan to get vaccinated against flu this season

1 in 4 who are at greater risk for flu-related complications said they were not planning to get vaccinated\(^2\)

71% of US adults say they trust their doctor a great deal/a lot\(^3\)

Healthcare professionals are trusted for flu vaccine information far more than other sources

Top reasons for NOT getting a flu vaccine\(^6\)

- 51% don’t think flu vaccines work very well
- 34% are concerned with side effects of the vaccine
- 22% are concerned about getting flu from the vaccine

70% do not trust social media as a source of information about flu vaccines

60% agree that social media platforms should implement policies to reduce inaccurate information about flu vaccination

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60% of high-risk individuals report that they have never been advised to get vaccinated against pneumococcal disease\(^7\)

Vaccination is the best way to protect against flu and pneumococcal disease and related complications. Visit www.nfid.org to learn more about how you can #FightFlu and #PreventPneumo.

**PNEUMOCOCCAL DISEASE**

46% of high-risk individuals were unfamiliar with pneumococcal disease\(^3\)

Nearly 60% of high-risk individuals report that they have never been advised to get vaccinated against pneumococcal disease\(^8\)

70% of individuals at high-risk for pneumococcal disease said they were not planning on getting vaccinated

Top reasons for NOT getting a pneumococcal vaccine\(^8\)

- 42% are concerned with side effects of the vaccine
- 20% don’t like needles
- 12% don’t think pneumococcal vaccines work very well

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1. The nationwide survey was conducted August 15-18, 2019, using the AmeriSpeak® Panel, the probability-based panel of NORC at the University of Chicago. Online and telephone interviews using landlines and cell phones were conducted with 1,002 adults age 18 years and over. The margin of sampling error is plus or minus 4.3 percentage points.

2. Top responses reflect survey respondent answers when asked to select “all that apply.”

3. Individuals at high risk for complications include those age 65+, who smoke or have diabetes, asthma, heart disease, or kidney disease.

4. Responses reflect survey respondents ranking selections on scale of “trust a great deal/a lot,” “trust somewhat,” and “trust a little/not at all.”

5. 46% of high-risk individuals were unfamiliar with pneumococcal disease.

6. Responses reflect survey respondents ranking selections on scale of “trust a great deal/a lot,” “trust somewhat,” and “trust a little/not at all.”

7. 60% of high-risk individuals report that they have never been advised to get vaccinated against pneumococcal disease.

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