Association of Self-Reported COVID-19 Vaccination Status with COVID-19 Infection among Adult Long-Term Hematopoietic Cell Transplantation Survivors

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(Survey administered July 2021 – June 2022)

Hematopoietic cell transplantation (HCT) recipients are at higher risk for severe illness from COVID-19, and this study focused on their vaccination rates and infection outcomes. Among the respondents (people who answered the survey), 94% had received at least one dose of the COVID-19 vaccine, and 97% completed the primary vaccine series. Most reported minimal to no side effects from the vaccine. Older respondents and those living on the East and West coasts were more likely to get vaccinated. The study found that vaccinated individuals, along with their household contacts, were less likely to contract COVID-19 compared to those who were unvaccinated. About 1 in 6 respondents experienced a COVID-19 infection, and 10% of COVID-19 infections required hospitalization. The study also investigated other preventive measures, like wearing masks and social distancing. Vaccinated individuals took more precautions against COVID-19 compared to unvaccinated individuals. Although there were some concerns about side effects and vaccine development speed, the data collected suggests that the COVID-19 vaccination was well-tolerated among HCT survivors, and only a small percentage reported severe adverse effects. The study emphasizes the importance of promoting vaccination, especially booster doses, in this vulnerable population to reduce the risk of COVID-19-related complications.