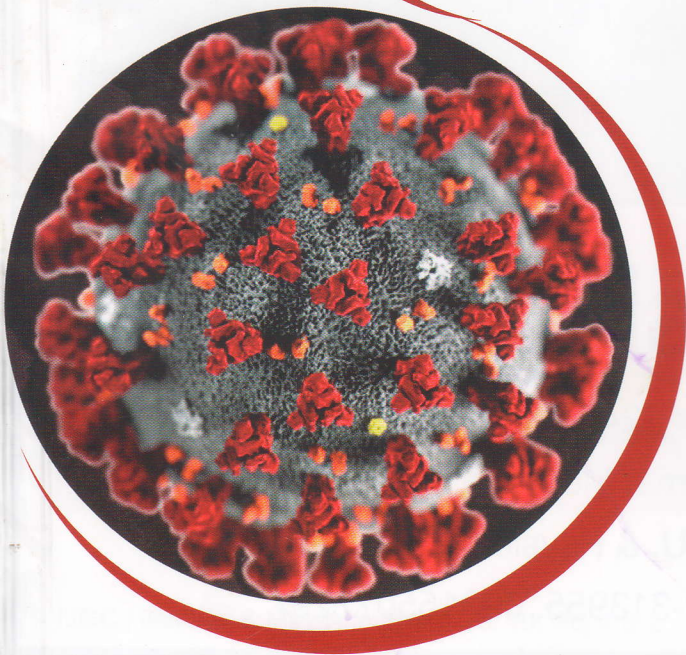
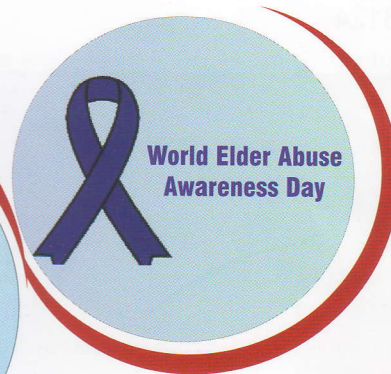


IJGC

INDIAN JOURNAL OF GERIATRIC CARE

JAN-APR & MAY-AUG 2021, VOL. 10 NO 1 & 2



HIGHLIGHTS

- Gerontechnology and its Applications in Elderly Care
- Dementia Care Using Web-Based Mobile Applications
- COVID-19 and Senior Citizens
- COVID-19 Vaccination in Older People



EDITOR IN CHIEF

Dr. O. P. Sharma

ASST. EDITORS

Dr. Vivek Handa, Dr. J. K. Sharma, Dr. Mohit Sharma,
Dr. Anil K. Manchanda, Dr. Puneet Khanna

ASSOCIATE EDITORS

Dr. Anand P Ambali, Dr. Sachin Desai

DESK EDITOR

Dr. B. B. Gupta

MEMBERS

Dr. P.S. Shankar, Dr. V. K. Arora, Dr. B. C. Bansal, Dr. Vinod Kumar, Dr. K. Satyanarayana, Dr. Satish Gulati, Dr. M.V. Jali, Dr. S. N. Gaur, Dr. M.S. Sridhar,
Dr. M.E. Yeolekar, Dr. H.L. Dhar, Dr. S. R. Iyer, Dr. N.S. Neki, Dr. Agam Vora & Dr. Prabha Adhikari

NATIONAL ADVISORS

Dr. Ashok Seth, Dr. Viveka Kumar, Dr. Ambrish Mithal, Dr. Anup Mishra, Dr. Ashish S. Contractor, Dr. Ashish Sharma, Dr. Ashok Kumar Das, Dr. Avdhesh Sharma, Dr. Chand Wattal, Dr. Col. Ashutosh Ojha, Dr. G. P. Dureja, Dr. G. P. Singh, Dr. H. K. Chopra, Dr. Indumati Ambulkar, Dr. J. Balachander, Dr. J. J. Kattakayam, Dr. J. C. Suri, Dr. Garima Handa, Dr. K. M. Mohan Das, Dr. Lalit Verma, Dr. M.V. Padma, Dr. N. K. Bohra, Dr. Nidhi Dhawan, Dr. Nimish Shah, Padma Mallika Khanna Hazra, Dr. Praveen Chandra, Dr. R. S. Gupta, Dr. H. K. Rao, Dr. Rajeev Sood, Dr. Raju Vaishya, Dr. Ramneek Mahajan, Dr. S.K. Wangnoo, Dr. Sajith Kumar, Dr. Sameer Srivastava, Dr. Sanjay Wadhwa, Dr. Sanjeev Lalwani, Dr. Sanjeev Saxena, Dr. Sanjiv Kandhari, Dr. Shoaib Padaria, Dr. Suneeta Mittal, Dr. U. Ramakrishna, Dr. U. K. Mishra, Dr. Amit Gupta, Dr. Kaushik Ranjan Das, Dr. Anita Basavaraj, Dr. Sajesh Asokan, Dr. Anita Nambiar, Dr. Sandeep P. Tamane & Dr. Ved Chaturvedi

INTERNATIONAL ADVISORS

Dr. Vijay Sood, Dr. G. R. Sethi, Dr. B. K. Mondal – UK, Dr. Sunil Kaul, Dr. Renu Wadhwa – Japan, Dr. Arvind Modawal – USA

Subscription Information:

Indian Journal of Geriatric Care is published three times a year.

DELENG/2012/42798 Dt. 12 June 2012, Price Rs. 20 Per Copy

Annual subscription for Journal, all flyers and circulars Rs: 1000.00 (One Thousand Only) for India; for other countries US \$ 40. The journal is dispatched within India by surface mail and to other countries by sea mail.

Copyright and Photocopying:

No part of this publication may be reproduced or transmitted in any form or by any means, electronic or mechanical, including, photocopy without written permission from the Editor in Chief.

Business Correspondence:

Enquires concerning subscription, advertisement, etc, should be addressed to Dr.O.P.Sharma, Editor-in- Chief, IJGC, K-49 Green Park Main New Delhi 110016. Tel: 9810627346. Email : opsharma.gsi@gmail.com

Edited, printed and published by:

Dr. O.P. Sharma, for The Geriatric Society of India, K-49 Green Park Main, New Delhi-110016.

The Editor disclaims any responsibility or liability for statements made and opinion expressed by authors or claims made by advertisers.

Advertorial Enquiry:

Dr. O.P. Sharma, Editor-in- Chief, IJGC, K-49 Green Park Main, New Delhi-110016. Tel: 9810627346. Email : opsharma.gsi@gmail.com

Printed at Modest Graphics (P) Ltd, C-53, DDA Sheds, Okhla Phase-I, New Delhi, India.

COVID-19 Vaccination in Older People

PRIYANKA TOMAR*, ANAND P AMBALI **

INTRODUCTION

The impact of corona virus is not limited to any age group yet certain age brackets are more vulnerable to it for instance the elderly. The older people are at a higher risk of COVID-19 infection due to their decreased immunity and body reserves, as well as multiple associated co-morbidities like Type-2 Diabetes Mellitus, Hypertension, Chronic Kidney Disease and Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease. Also, course of the disease tends to be more severe in case of elderly resulting in higher mortality. As age advances, disruption of both innate and adaptive arms of the immune system has been reported. In addition, the elderly exhibit a continual production of inflammatory mediators and cytokines, also known as 'inflammaging'.

COVID-19 VACCINES IN INDIA

Central Drugs Standard Control Organization (CDSCO) has given emergency use authorization (EUA) to two vaccines in India, Covishield and Covaxin. Recently, in the month of April 2021, another vaccine, Sputnik-V, has been given EUA.¹

Covishield vaccine is manufactured using Viral Vector based Technology whilst Covaxin is a Whole-virion Inactivated Coronavirus Vaccine. Both Covishield as well as Covaxin has completed their Phase I and Phase II trials. Also, Covishield has completed the bridging trials in India.¹

ONLINE REGISTRATION PORTALS

Ministry of health and family welfare has developed an online registration portal for immunization against covid, Cowin.gov.in. This portal allows convenient registration using Mobile number or Aadhar no. or any other identity document and thereby choose the vaccination location and confirm the slot to get vaccine.

STATISTICS AT A GLANCE!

Indian government started vaccinating aged against Novel Corona Virus on 1st March 2021. More than 40,000 sites across the nation had been conducting covid

*Postgraduate Student, **Professor Geriatric Clinic, BLDE DU, Shri B M Patil Medical College Hospital and RC, Vijayapura - 586103

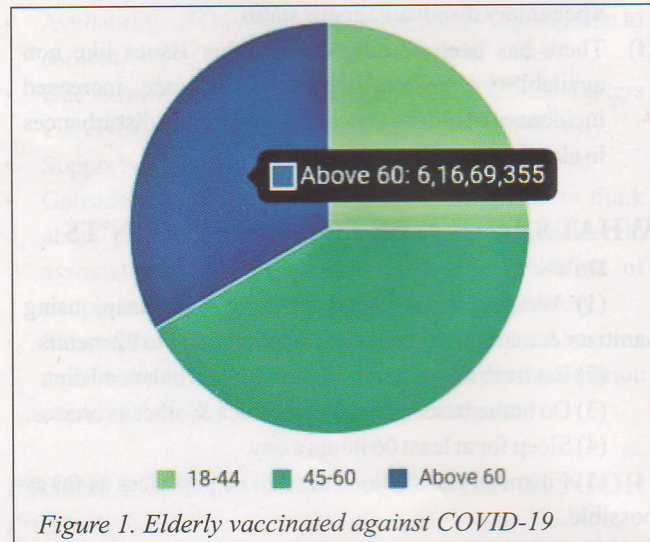


Figure 1. Elderly vaccinated against COVID-19

vaccination drives. Over 6 crore aged members of society have been vaccinated till now (Figure 1). On an average, more than 6000k elderly population was getting vaccinated on a weekly basis up to 9th April, 2021. Thereafter, a downfall is visible plummeting the average to around 3500 people receiving the vaccination in a week. In the last 30 days, maximum number of people (over 800k) have been vaccinated as on 10 May while weekend (Sunday) shows the biggest dip with less than 100k being vaccinated on those days.²

In Karnataka alone, over 1 crore have received the first dose followed by over 29 lakh people who have received the second dose as well. Maharashtra has the maximum vaccination coverage followed by the states of Uttar Pradesh, Rajasthan and Gujarat.³ (Figure 2)

COVID-19 VACCINATION AND ELDERLY

Typically, the measure of efficacy of vaccine are Antibody (Ab) titres, Ab isotypes and ability of immune system to neutralize the pathogens. Immune ageing or immune senescence affects both innate and adaptive immunity. With old age there is a decline in naïve T cells which are available in the body to respond to the vaccine. The

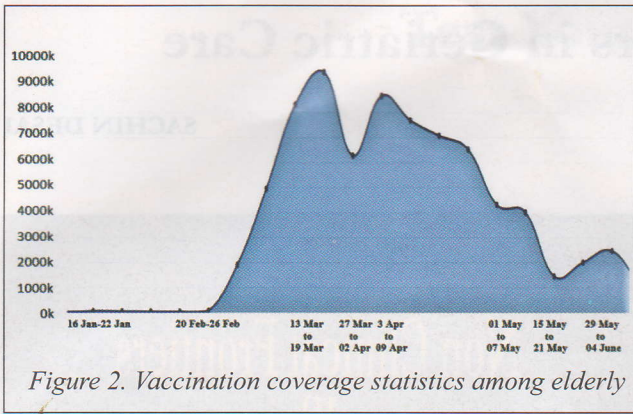


Figure 2. Vaccination coverage statistics among elderly

normal ratio of CD4:CD8 cells is higher in old age as there is a drastic decrease in CD8 T cells. Also ageing causes decrease in T cell survival. Better vaccine efficacy as well as improvement in the immune responsiveness in the individual is required to evoke good response to immunization.⁴

Adverse events following immunization-In most of the vaccinated cases, minor side effects are normal. Common side effects after vaccination are arm soreness, mild fever, tiredness, headaches, muscle or joint aches. In extremely rare cases, an immediate severe allergic reaction has appeared after first dose of covid vaccine. In such cases second dose of vaccine is contraindicated⁵ So far, no major adverse events have been reported following vaccination.

OURACTIVITY

We at geriatric clinic had organised sensitization programme regarding COVID19 Vaccine for Elderly on March 3, 2021. The Immunization Officer of Vijayapura District Dr Nagerbatta, Nodal officer of two medical colleges Dr. Mallikarjun C Yadavvanavar and Dr Anand N. Patil, District surveillance officer Dr. M. B. Biradar, Medical Superintendent Dr R. M. Honnutagi and WHO Representative Dr. Mukund Galgali had participated and clarified doubts of the seniors on vaccine. The heads of all senior citizen forums, NGO's and medical officers had actively participated.

CONCLUSION

The vaccine coverage has been good across India among elderly population. The older people need to be thanked for being proactive in getting their dose of vaccine. The government has now allowed to reach the community where older people are living in more number and immunize them.

REFERENCES

1. https://www.mohfw.gov.in/covid_vaccination/vaccination/index.html
2. <https://dashboard.cowin.gov.in>
3. <https://www.mohfw.gov.in/pdf/CumulativeCovidVaccinationCoverageReport7thJune2021.pdf>
4. Soiza RL, Scicluna C, Thomson EC. Efficacy and safety of COVID-19 vaccines in older people. Age and Ageing. 2021 Mar;50(2):279-83.