

Session/Poster#

Presenter

A15

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Health Locus of Control and Vaccine Hesitancy in Inner-City Kidney Disease Patients

Introduction: Health locus of control may influence pts interaction with the medical system. Understanding pt beliefs in medicine and attitude toward the health system and professionals is important because these may play a role in vaccine hesitancy.

Methods: A random sample of 9 chronic kidney disease, 28 dialysis, and 38 transplant pts were surveyed regarding beliefs in medicine and vaccine hesitancy. The Multidimensional Health Locus of Control (MHLC) Scale was used to measure internal (IHLC) vs. powerful others (PHLC) vs. chance (CHLC) loci of control.

Results: Mean age was 59.6+/-14.6 yrs, 45.3% men (34), 64% identified as Black (48), 53.3% non-US born (40), 52% did not finish college (39). On a scale of 6-36 with higher scores indicating more alignment with that particular locus of control, our population's mean IHLC was 23.6, PHLC was 23.5, and CHLC was 18.1. Those with more alignment with CHLC were more likely to report that they use family and friends for health advice ($r=0.425$ $p=0.006$) and trust that advice ($r=0.366$ $p=0.017$). Of those that answered, 87.8% of pts reported receiving the COVID vaccine and 31.6% had received 3 doses as of 7/2022. 37.8% were hesitant at some point to receive the vaccine. Those that agree that seeing a doctor regularly prevents illness were more likely to have received more doses of the vaccine ($r=0.436$ $p=0.01$), and those that agree that "health professionals are my main source for medical information" are more likely to plan on getting the Booster ($r=0.581$ $p=0.047$).

Conclusions: In our population: 1. More people aligned with the PHLC and IHLC over the CHLC. 2. Those with a CHLC were more likely to rely on family and friends for health advice. 3. The majority of pts received the COVID vaccine, and over 30% were hesitant to receive it. 4. Those that are less vaccine hesitant have a more positive view of health professionals and report that they use them as their main source for medical information.