



The Side Effects of COVID-19 Vaccines and Its Association With ABO Blood Type Among the General Surgeons in Saudi Arabia

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ABSTRACT

Introduction:

The benefits of vaccination outweigh its risks as it protects approximately two to three million individuals from infectious diseases annually. With the coronavirus disease 2019, new vaccines have been developed. Previous studies have shown a relationship between ABO blood groups and coronavirus. Some vaccination side effects which may impair an individual's ability to perform tasks that require fine motor skills, such as those performed by a general surgeon. Therefore, this study aimed to identify the association between ABO blood groups and the side effects of COVID-19 vaccines among general surgeons in Saudi Arabia.

Method:

A cross-sectional study regarding the side effects following COVID-19 vaccination was conducted in Saudi Arabia General surgeons who had received COVID-19 vaccines.

Results:

A total of 612 surgeons responded. Approximately, 74.7% of the respondents reported side effects after receiving vaccines. Tiredness was the most commonly reported side effect. There was a significant relationship between the type of vaccine and the appearance of side effects ($p = 0.004$). However, there was no significant relationship between the appearance of side effects and age, gender, blood group, number of doses, and past history of COVID-19 infection ($p > 0.05$). Of the total participants, 256 (41.8%) stated that the side effects of the vaccine affected their work performance. Also, there was a significant relationship between the severity of side effects and type of vaccine ($p = 0.004$).

Conclusion:

Three-quarters of the participants reported side effects after the COVID-19 vaccination, which affected the work performance of 41% of participating general surgeons. There was no significant relationship between the appearance of symptoms and age, gender, blood group, number of doses, and past history of COVID-19 infection. However, there was a significant relationship between the severity of side effects and gender and type of vaccination.

BIOGRAPHY:

Fatimah Aledili has completed her Bachelor's in MBBS from King Faisal University, Saudi Arabia. She is alumnus and leader in different programs, including Qimam fellowship, SYLEP, Future Shapers Initiative Program and research teams. She has published Three papers in certified journals over past two years, and two ongoing papers in process of publication.

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