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***Knowledge, attitudes and uptake of COVID-19
vaccinations among health workers
at Mbarara Regional Referral Hospital***

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Abstract:

Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) is a highly contagious infection that mainly affects the respiratory system of patients and the number of deaths is approximately five million globally with Africa having more than 4.69 million people infected with the virus since beginning of the pandemic (WHO, 2020). This study was a hospital based cross sectional descriptive design as data was collected from the participants at one point in time using a researcher administered questionnaire on a sample of 138 health workers at Mbarara Regional Referral Hospital who were randomly sampled. Data was entered into SPSS, Statistical package for social sciences, version 22.0 for analysis. Results. It was found out that majority (67.4%) had ever heard about COVID -19 vaccination and 85.5% had vaccinated. The majority believed that vaccination is safe with some side effects (87.0%). Majority (73.3%) of the participants had positive attitude towards vaccine and 26.8% had negative attitude towards vaccination. Conclusion. This study revealed that majority of the health workers generally have good knowledge about COV -19 vaccine. However, in the context of a zoonotic variant of the corona virus, vaccine hesitancy is obstructive to implementing vaccination campaigns.

Keywords:

Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19), Vaccination, health system factors, Intensive care units (ICU), oxygen and personal protective equipment (PPE)