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WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION

Topic B: “Discuss the Scepticism regarding the Adoption of Vaccination Programs”



Welcoming letter

Dear delegates, it is with great pleasure to welcome you to the CFMUNX. As we prepare you for this prestigious event, we extend our warmest greetings and heartfelt gratitude for your participation.

Within this background paper, we have endeavoured to provide you with a comprehensive overview of the model's objectives, theme, and featured topics. We strongly encourage you to familiarize yourself with the content, as it will serve as a helpful reference during the conference proceedings. As esteemed , we value your contributions and look forward to hearing your unique perspectives.

We encourage you to actively participate in the various sessions and engage in thought-provoking discussions.



Together, we can create a conducive atmosphere of meaningful dialogue, innovative thinking, and collaborative action.

Once again, we extend our sincerest welcome to you. Your presence at the CFMUN is highly valued, and we are confident that your contributions will make this event a resounding success. We hope that this model serves as a prominent platform for you to share your knowledge, broaden your horizons, and leave with lasting memories.

On behalf of the organizing committee, we wish you a memorable and rewarding experience at the CFMUN. May this be the beginning of partnerships, impactful collaborations, and a pathway to a brighter future.

Warm regards,
Chair of WHO



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I. Committee Background

The World Health Organization, founded in 1948, is the United Nations agency in charge of advancing universal health care to an international level.

They organize and lead the global response to health emergencies, and encourage leading healthier lives, from prenatal care through old age. With the help of science-based policies and programs, Triple Billion targets set forth an ambitious strategy for the globe to achieve universally good health.

Topics discussed include adult mortality, alcohol control policies, ambient air pollution, anemia in women and children, anti-dementia medication and care products availability, assistive technology indicators, awareness and friendliness and more. (World Health Organization, n.d.).

II. Introduction to the Topic

Scepticism about vaccines over the years has become a global health problem. The mystery and uncertainty due to vaccination manifests itself from a complicated interrelationship of several factors, involving ignorance, civilizational beliefs, and the historical insecurities of the medical establishment.

We will delve into the branch of this scepticism, investigating its reasons, effects, and how different societies are investigating this conflict. Through a study entirely of cases, judgments of specialists, and scientific testimonies, what we seek is to give a different point of view, a fairly level one, asking why a sector of the world's habitats continues to question vaccines. Although, its good impact was assured in disease prevention measures.

III. Evolution of the Topic

A global confrontation with great repercussions for health, the case of scepticism regarding the vaccination program, is developing in different ways and different countries. It is not only due to various traditions and historical disbelief, it is also because of the simple spread of misinformation through social media.

The spread of false information and the conspiracy of hypotheses about vaccines is one of the main causes that incite scepticism towards vaccination programs.

Social media has become the main source of propaganda, where they inspire claims about the efficiency of vaccines.



Social media is known to typically spread information based on supposed evidence that is often not true. Several media communicate that what they apply to our body are substances that are harmful to it.

These cases lead a large part of the community to spread fears and questions about vaccination, although science has proven its multiple benefits, since it is a safe and effective tool, proving that it does help. Vaccines are quite effective since it is the best defense against multiple diseases.

Even so, this must be addressed. As we saw, this scepticism derives from many variants, such as political, social, and cultural factors that are different in each region. Raising this question requires a diverse perspective that takes into account these differences and also clearly promotes public health, proving that vaccines serve people's safety.



IV. Relevant Events

A. Panorama

The anti-vaccine movements, are intertwined with the history of these. Although, vaccines have saved many lives, there has always been mistrust, usually spread by incorrect information, fear, and denial.

Premature Resilience in the Twentieth Century:
The beginning of anti-vaccine activity begins with the application of the smallpox vaccine by Edward Jenner (1796). This disease was devastating and thanks to Jenner's vaccine there was a lot of hope. Despite everything, many people believed Jenner's creation to be false. After this, an Anti-Vaccine League was created, thanks to scepticism and concern for personal safety, since this vaccine was mandatory, which is why several resisted. This led to several similar complaints and protests in other regions.

B. Points of view

Agreements regarding the MMR vaccine and autism: It can be said that it is the most notable case in the recent world of scepticism towards the programs and the vaccines themselves. The MMR vaccine and its supposed connection with autism. An alleged verification, by Andrew Wakefield, said there was a relationship between this vaccine and autism (1998). Although, this verification was discarded, it had a strong impact, causing fewer people to be vaccinated and there were more cases of measles.

Refusal to get the COVID-19 vaccine: This pandemic created a chain reaction of new opposition against vaccines. Despite the effective movement of production and application of the coronavirus vaccine, there were several cases of denial of it. This was thanks to the lack of communication, political ideas, and fear of new technology.



V. UN and External Actions

A. UN Actions

Scepticism worldwide presents a great risk to public health, which led the United Nations (UN) to take definitive measures. Identifying the harmful effect of this scepticism on vaccination programs and overall health security, the UN has stepped in various ways to fight ignorance and encourage vaccine safety.

At WHO (UN campaign) we have an important role in the moment of scepticism about vaccines through trust and strategy in public participation. We have created great campaigns to spread concise information with scientific evidence about vaccines. We expose false myths, make clear concepts, and provide transparent data about vaccination programs.



The UN has stressed the value of contributing to various external stakeholders (health care providers and civil society organizations) to increase safety and confidence in vaccines.

These collaborations manage to clear up doubts in the different regions and adapt communication approaches.

The United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) is a key factor, usually in raising scepticism between parents and caregivers. What UNICEF does is create educational campaigns to promote the importance of vaccines in children. (UN Campaign)

Thanks to these efforts, the UN and the world community are not only fighting against this scepticism but are also striving to create a more effective and better global health system.

It is clear that through this effort, absolute confidence in vaccination can be generated, moving towards a safer and healthier world community.

B. External Actions

Misinformation and Conspiracy Theories: One significant external factor fuelling scepticism towards vaccination programs is the spread of misinformation and conspiracy theories.

In the age of social media and the internet, false claims and unfounded beliefs about vaccines can quickly gain traction. Anti-vaccine groups and individuals often exploit these platforms to disseminate misleading information, raising doubts about the safety and efficacy of vaccines. Such misinformation can erode public trust and contribute to vaccine hesitancy.

Media Influence: The media's portrayal of vaccination programs and related issues also shapes public perception and contributes to scepticism. In some instances, media coverage may sensationalize rare adverse events associated with vaccines, leading to public concern and doubt.

The media's responsibility to provide accurate and balanced reporting is crucial in preventing the amplification of unfounded fears and scepticism surrounding vaccinations.

Historical Controversies: Scepticism surrounding vaccination programs can also be influenced by historical controversies.

Past incidents, such as the infamous Wakefield study linking vaccines to autism, have had a lasting impact on public perception.

Despite the study being discredited and retracted, its legacy persists, contributing to ongoing scepticism towards vaccines. Examining the scientific consensus and updated research is crucial in dispelling misconceptions rooted in historical controversies.



VI. Conclusion

In conclusion, the response to vaccine scepticism, tells us the important need for a coordinated and varied vision. By implementing precise measures, individuals can be persuaded to re-roll or simply accept the efficacy of the vaccination program for their benefit, resulting in a more wholesome populace.

As the world continues to confront this case, it is increasingly clear that overcoming this scepticism about vaccination programs is necessary for the triumph of global health drives. Ensuring the widespread acceptance of this matter, is essential to combat current pandemics and not only that, but also those that come in the future.

Making people trust the substance that has been introduced into their bodies is our most urgent objective, since only our present and future generations are expected to have much higher and better public health.



VII. Committee Focus

Faced with this situation, it is necessary to look for effective and productive ways to avoid the consequences for people who do not get vaccinated because they do not believe in these programs. Delegates must find solutions against scepticism about vaccination and its programs.

- What myths are causing dissatisfaction in vaccination programs?
- How can the efficiency of vaccines for health be demonstrated?
- How many people in your delegation are vaccinated against diseases? How many do not believe?
- Has your delegation done anything to prevent this scepticism about vaccination programs?
- Which delegations are affected the most?

VII. Participation List

1. Islamic Republic of Afghanistan
2. The Commonwealth of Australia
3. People's Republic of Bangladesh
4. People's Republic of China
5. Dominion of Canada
6. Republic of Croatia
7. Republic of Ecuador
8. Arab Republic of Egypt
9. Republic of Fiji
10. French Republic
11. Federal Republic of Germany
12. Hungary
13. Republic of India
14. Republic of Indonesia
15. Jamaica
16. Democratic People's Republic of Korea
17. United Mexican States
18. Federal Republic of Nigeria
19. Kingdom of Saudi Arabia
20. Republic of Turkey
21. Russian Federation
22. United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland
23. United States of America
24. Republic of Zambia



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