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A Virtual Nursing Journal Club: Influencing Perceptions of the COVID-19 Vaccine



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Background

Nursing Journal Clubs are designed to expose and engage the direct care nurse in evidence-based practice (EBP) & research (Aiello-Laws et al., 2021). Currently, the hospital has a platform for virtual nursing journal clubs (VNJC).

VNJC STRUCTURE

- Scheduled 4 times/year for 30 minutes
- Virtual
- 0.5 contact hours
- Article recommended by direct care nurses
- Presented by the Professional Development Specialist (PDS) in EBP and Research.

VNJC PURPOSE

To create an environment where the nurse can learn:

- how EBP can improve quality patient care
- application of research to support evidencebased practice
- implications of using evidence to guide nursing practice.

VNJC OBJECTIVES

- 1. Promote awareness of current research
- 2. Provide a means of maintaining and updating knowledge of current practice and patient care issues.
- 3. Increase participants' use of research as a basis for practice.
- 4. Encourage participants to learn and apply research to improve practice and patient care.
- 5. Translate research studies into understandable language
- 6. Help participants critically analyze research so poor research is not applied to practice.

Problem

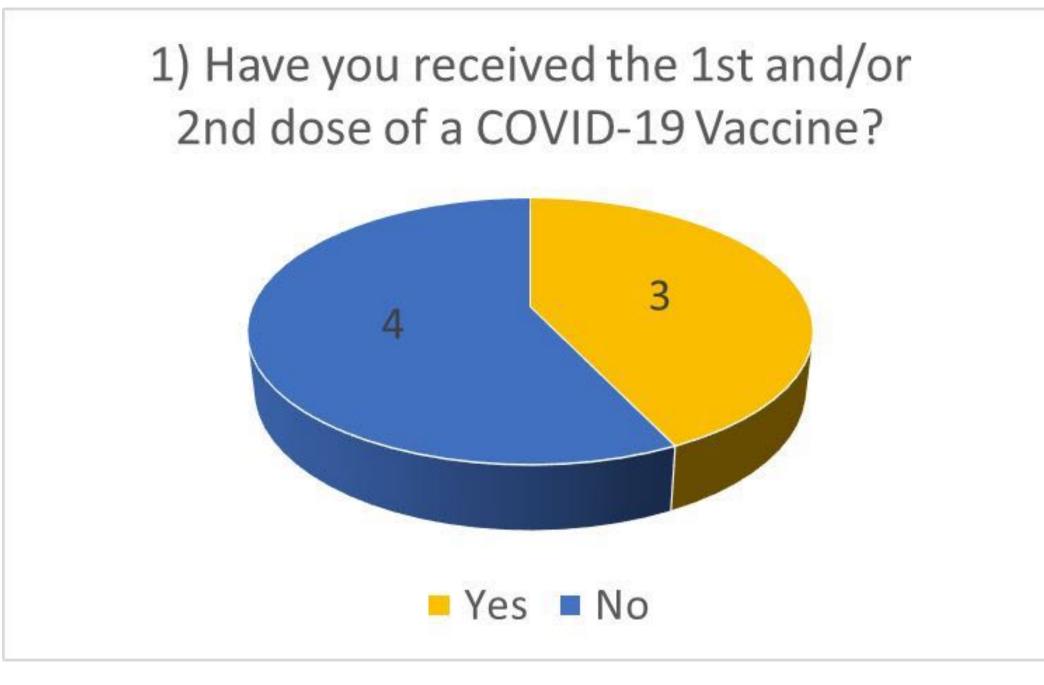
Nursing leadership recognized a lack of comfort around nursing staff receiving the offered Pfizer COVID-19 vaccine.

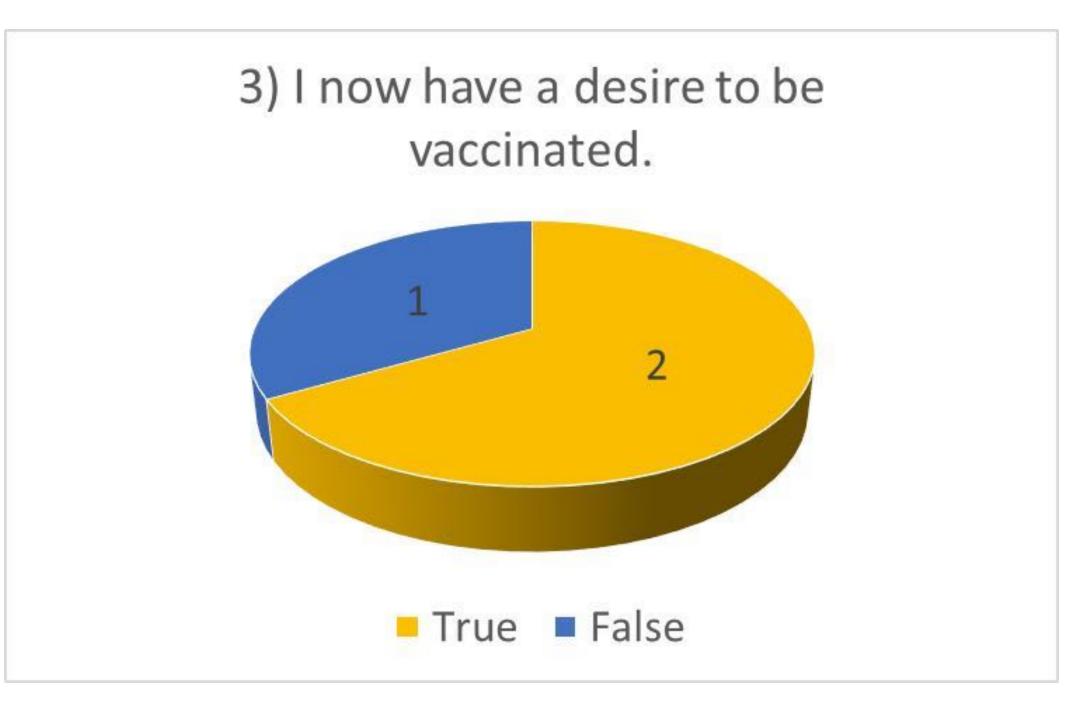
Intervention/ Methods

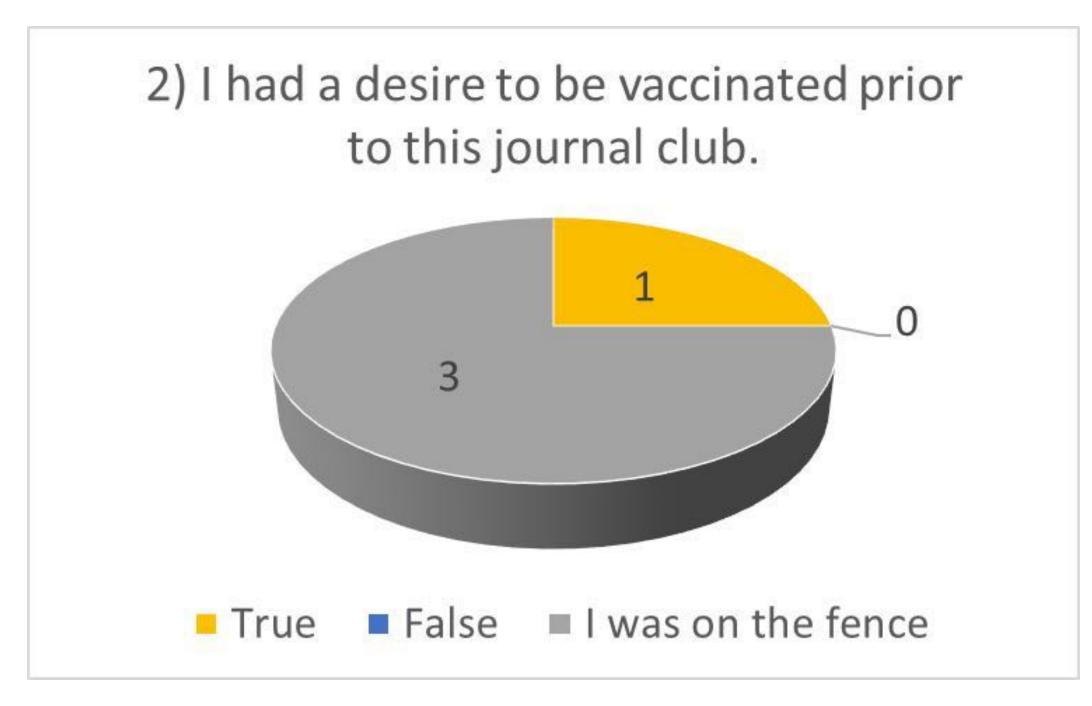
- A VNJC of the article titled "Safety and efficacy of the BNT162b2 mRNA Covid-19 Vaccine" (Polack et al., 2020) was held on March 2021.
- Invite sent by PDS to all nurses in-house with link to article and associated materials to review.
- Purpose and objectives reviewed by PDS at beginning, including what the purpose was NOT.
- Then a review of the article was presented including:
 - Study purpose/Aims/ Design/ Sample
 - Methods/ Outcome Measures/ Findings
 - Discussions (Limitations, Implications) & Conclusions
- Participants were given an opportunity to ask questions and reflect on how the information presented might change their practice/ view.
- An anonymous survey was administered to evaluate the effect of the VNJC on their perceptions of the vaccine.

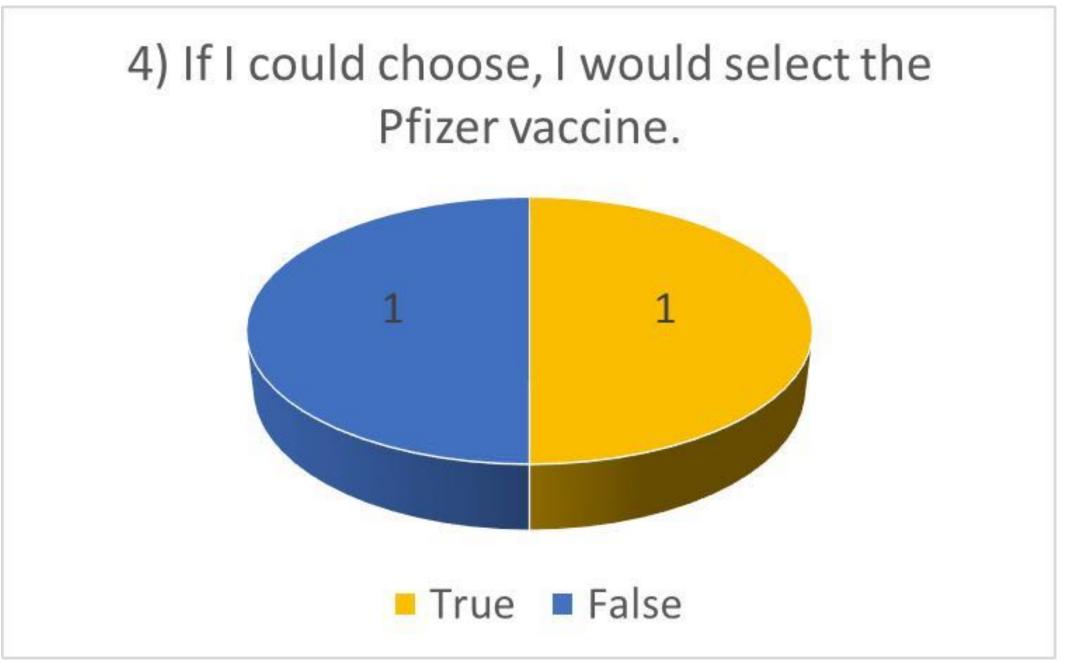
Results

Seven nurses participated in the session and survey.









Limitations

- Thirty minutes didn't leave adequate time for discussion
- Sample size
- Only nurses in attendance

Next Steps

- Repeat the session for 1 hour in length & 1 full contact hour
- Promote VNJC through additional communication vehicles
- Invite additional disciplines

Conclusion

These results provide support for a creative solution to helping staff overcome fear and anxiety around COVID-19 vaccination. Holding a Journal Club where research evidence is presented in a clear understandable way and there is opportunity to ask questions and have discussion could be one strategy among many to increasing the vaccination rates among hospital staff.

Acknowledgements

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References

- 1. Aiello-Laws, L. B, Clark, J., Steele-Moses, S., Jardine, S. & McGee, L. (2021). A how-to guide: Designing and creating a journal club for Oncology Nurses. Retrieved from https://www.ons.org/clinical-practice-resources/how-guide-designing-and-creating-journal-club-oncology-nurses
- 2. Polack, F. P., Thomas, S. J., Kitchin, N., Absalon, J., Gurtman, A...Gruber, W.C. (2020). Safety and efficacy of the BNT162b2 mRNA Covid-19 Vaccine. The New England Journal of Medicine, 383(27), 2603-2615. doi: 10.1056/NEJMoa2034577