

COVID-19 VACCINE

Awareness of Minority Sentiment: A Community Pharmacy Guide

Preventing racial disparities in the uptake of COVID-19 vaccines will be important to help mitigate



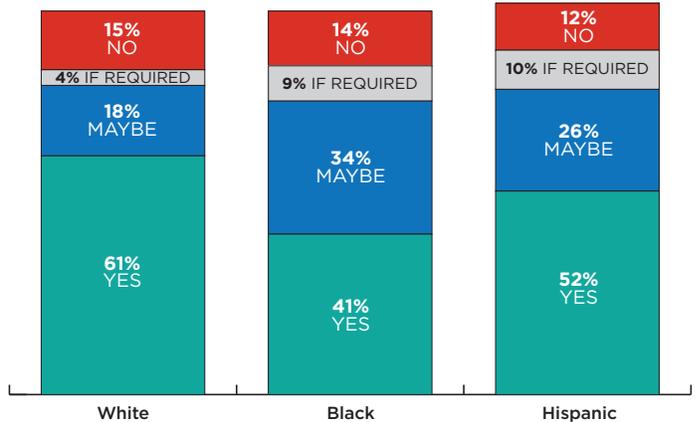
the disproportionate impacts of the virus for people of color and prevent widening racial health disparities going forward. Obtaining goal vaccination rates will entail healthcare

training in both clinical aspects of the vaccine in addition to understanding and connecting to the community.

Race/ethnicity is known for 54% of people who have received at least one dose of the vaccine. Of these:

- 64.9% were White, Non-Hispanic
- 8.5% were Hispanic/Latino
- 6.7% were Black, Non-Hispanic

Attitudes Toward Getting Vaccine



- 4.8% were Asian, Non-Hispanic
- 1.7% were American Indian/Alaska Native
- 0.3% were Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander
- 13% multiple/other race.

Note: Not all states are in the same vaccination phase.

Sources: "COVID Data Tracker." Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Accessed March 2, 2021, <https://covid.cdc.gov/covid-data-tracker/#vaccination-demographic>. "Latest Data On COVID-19 Vaccinations Race/Ethnicity." KFF, 2021, <https://www.kff.org/coronavirus-covid-19/issue-brief/latest-data-on-covid-19-vaccinations-race-ethnicity/>.

Tips to Prepare Pharmacy Staff

TIP #1

Be Familiar with Operation Warp Speed

Operation Warp Speed (OWS) was launched by the federal government to accelerate the timeline of vaccine development, which has led to some patient concern. Reassure patients that safety was not compromised. Rather than skipping steps in the development process, OWS made it possible for clinical trial phases to be run concurrently. For example, the Pfizer-BioNTech and Moderna vaccines were manufactured on a large scale prior to the completion of phase 3 trials; however, the trial still had to be completed with appropriate findings.

TIP #2

Be Informed on mRNA Vaccine History

There are misconceptions that Pfizer and Moderna are the first to create messenger RNA (mRNA) vaccines. Educate patients that researchers have studied and worked with mRNA vaccines for decades, not just the past 10 months. Be clear, the mRNA vaccines do not contain a live virus, which means a patient cannot contract COVID-19 from a vaccine.

TIP #3

Be Informed on Clinical Trial Demographics

Hispanics made up 20% of those participating in the Moderna vaccine trial and 13% of the Pfizer vaccine trial, while Blacks made up 10% of each trial's participants. The National Medical Association (NMA), the largest organization of Black physicians, found those percentages to be large enough to have confidence in the overall health outcomes of the clinical trials. An NMA COVID-19 Task Force found that efficacy and safety of the vaccines were observed and consistent across age, gender, race and ethnicity in seniors. As a result, the NMA supported the FDA's emergency-use authorization for both vaccines.

National Pharmaceutical Association: npha@npha.net
DC Metropolitan Area CPESN: dcmetro@cpesn.com

To find a CPESN pharmacist near you, go to www.cpesn.com/finder

