



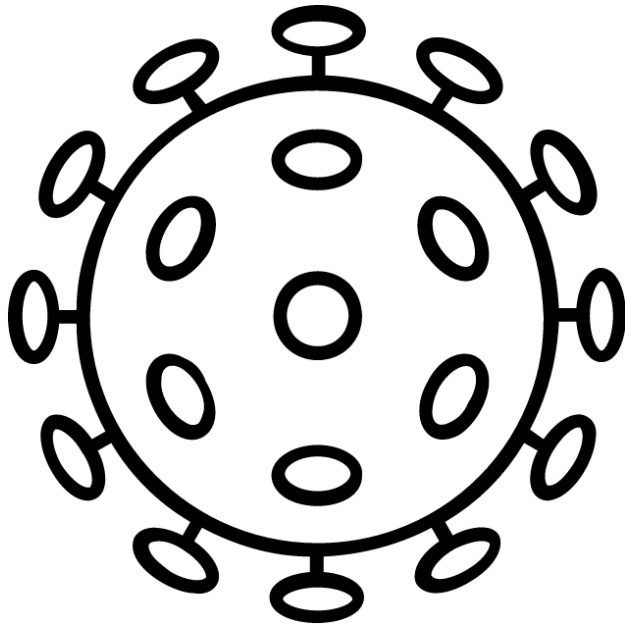
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COVID-19 vaccine acceptability among people who inject drugs in Melbourne, Australia

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Background



People who inject drug are at increased risk of adverse COVID-19 outcomes^{1,2}

Vaccination coverage critical to reducing illness

People who inject drugs may have greater vaccine hesitancy^{3,4}

Methods



Clients of needle and syringe programs

Feb 22 – Mar 7 2021

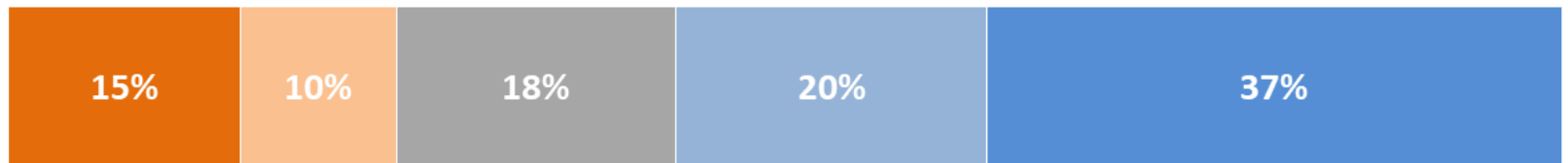
Cross-sectional survey

Vaccine acceptability

Reasons for declining vaccination

Results

Vaccine acceptability (n= 1252)

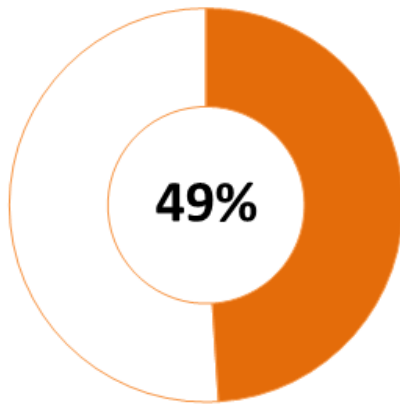


DEFINITELY NOT **PROBABLY NOT** **UNSURE** **PROBABLY YES** **DEFINITELY YES**

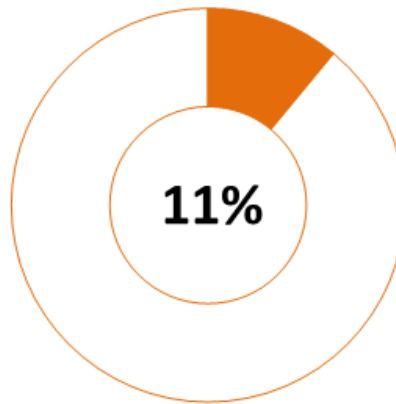
Results

Reasons for declining vaccination (n=317)

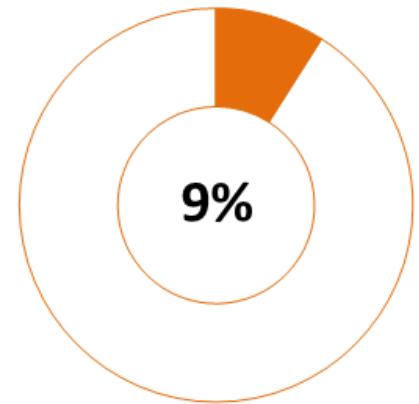
**Worried it is not
safe**



**COVID-19 is not
serious**



**COVID-19 is not
real**



Discussion



Higher vaccine hesitancy⁴

Education may reduce
hesitancy

AOD services are trusted
sources of health information

Acknowledgements

Survey participants

NSP staff

NSP Snapshot Study sites:



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Professor Dietze has received funding from Gilead Sciences and Indivior for work unrelated to this study. He has also served as an unpaid member of an Advisory Board for an intranasal naloxone product. The authors declare that they have no competing interests.

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2. Dietze P, Peacock A. Illicit drug use and harms in Australia in the context of COVID-19 and associated restrictions: anticipated consequences and initial responses *Drug Alcohol Rev*. 2020;39(4):297-300.
3. Paul Dietze, Cristal Hall, Lisa Maher, Ashleigh Stewart, Olivia Price, Sione Crawford, Amy Peacock. Please cite as Dietze, P., Hall, C., Maher, L., Stewart, A., Price, O., Crawford, S. & Peacock, A. COVID-19 vaccine acceptability among people who inject drugs in Melbourne. *COVID-19 impacts Bulletin* No.3 Jan 2021.
4. <https://melbourneinstitute.unimelb.edu.au/publications/research-insights/ttqn/vaccination-report>

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