

Madran B, Kayı İ, Beşer A, Ergönül Ö. The COVID-19 vaccine hesitancy among healthcare workers: An exploration of hesitancy reasons and suggestions to improve vaccination rates. *Infect Dis Clin Microbiol.* 2024;2:83-92.

## SUPPLEMENTARY

### Qualitative Research Interview Script and Interview Questions

Hello, my name is ....., and I work at ..... I am conducting a research study to determine the reasons behind vaccine hesitancy among healthcare workers towards COVID-19 vaccines. Through this research, we aim to identify the factors contributing to vaccine hesitancy among healthcare personnel and uncover the underlying causes.

For this study, I am interviewing healthcare workers from Koç University Hospital and the American Hospital who have not contracted COVID-19 in the past six months and have not received any COVID-19 vaccines. The information provided during these interviews will be used solely for this research, and all personal details will be kept strictly confidential. I estimate that the interview will take approximately 30-40 minutes. With your permission, I would like to record the interview using a voice recorder to utilize our time more effectively and ensure that I can capture any information I might miss during note-taking later.

First, I would like to thank you for participating in this study. If you have any questions before we start, we can begin with those.

With your permission, I would like to start with my questions.

### Demographic Questions

Full Name:

Age:

Department:

### Interview Questions

We are here today to discuss your decision not to get vaccinated. As I mentioned earlier, this is not a persuasive conversation; during the interview, we aim to identify the reasons for your hesitancy towards COVID-19 vaccines.

1. Can you tell me how the pandemic started and continued for you?
2. What are your thoughts on the importance given to COVID-19 disease?
3. How do you evaluate the pandemic management conducted by your institution and the Ministry of Health during the pandemic?
4. As far as we know, you have experienced/are experiencing hesitancy about getting vaccinated. Are there any general health conditions or health-promoting practices you believe would protect you from the disease, and therefore think vaccination is unnecessary? Do you have any such specific situation?
5. How did you make the decision not to get vaccinated?
  - a. When exactly did you make this decision?
  - b. What events influenced your decision?
  - c. Did anyone support your decision? Who?
  - d. What role did social media play in this process?
  - e. Are there any other vaccines you feel similarly about?

6. How has your decision not to get vaccinated affected your daily life? [Note to interviewer: Ask about difficulties and benefits under the following headings.]
  - a. Social life
  - b. Work life
  - c. How did you protect yourself?
  - d. Have you ever had doubts about your decision? Why?
  
7. What are your thoughts on the effectiveness of vaccines?
  - a. What are your thoughts on the reliability of vaccines?
  - b. What do you think about the pharmaceutical companies that produce COVID-19 vaccines?
  
8. How do you find the COVID-19 vaccination service?
  - a. What are your thoughts on the operation of the cold chain rule?
  - b. How did the news about expired vaccines affect you?
  
9. What do you think about the efforts to persuade unvaccinated people to get vaccinated?
  - a. What do you think about the efforts of scientists who recommend the vaccine?
  - b. What do you think about the efforts of the Ministry of Health in this regard?
  - c. What do you think about the practices carried out by your institution in this regard?
  - d. Whose or which institutions' statements do you trust regarding vaccination?
  - e. What would have made you accept getting one of the COVID-19 vaccines?
  
10. Finally, terms like "Vaccine Hesitant" or "Anti-Vaxxer" have been used for people who think like you since the beginning of the process. What do you think about these terms?
  - a. How do you define yourself in this process, and how would you like to be addressed?