

Willingness to receive a future TB vaccine among pregnant women living in Brazil, Ghana, Kenya, and Pakistan

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Background: Pregnant women are at higher risk for developing tuberculosis (TB), and experiencing negative outcomes, including harm to the baby. While there are several promising TB vaccines in development, no trials are explicitly enrolling pregnant women. We sought to explore willingness to receive a vaccine among pregnant women across 4 countries.

Methods: We administered surveys to pregnant women seeking care in two maternity hospitals in Sao Paulo, Brazil; one maternity hospital and one clinic in Nairobi, Kenya; two clinics in Accra, Ghana; and one maternity hospital and one clinic in Karachi, Pakistan.

Results: We surveyed 777 women total: Brazil (n=470), Kenya (n=449), Ghana (n=437), and Pakistan (n=328). When asked about their intentions to receive a future TB vaccine, the majority of women in each country indicated that they would “definitely intend to receive a TB vaccine”: 67% in Brazil, 60% in Ghana, 55% in Kenya, and 66% in Pakistan. Participants were asked which one vaccine of four vaccines (TB, malaria, group b streptococcus, and respiratory syncytial virus) they would be most interested in receiving during pregnancy. In Pakistan, the largest proportion of participants ranked the tuberculosis vaccine as 1st, with the TB vaccine ranking 3rd in Brazil and 4th in both Ghana and Kenya.

Discussion and Conclusion: New adult TB vaccines are on the horizon. Understanding the attitudes of potential vaccine beneficiaries at high risk for TB prior to introduction can help inform clinical trial study design, and in the long-term, demand generation strategies for successful uptake.

Funding Sources

Not applicable

Conflicts of Interest

None

