Role of Influenza Vaccine in Preventing Covid-19 Complications

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Abstract

Current research has insinuated that prior immunization to pathogens like influenza and tuberculosis may bestow some armor against COVID-19. Conlon and his colleagues (2021) go further to state that an assessment of over 19000 COVID-19 patients in non-cohort research from Brazil got a 17\% diminished odds of death, 8\% reduced odds of demand for intensive care medicine, and 18\% decreased odds of aggressive respiratory assistance in individuals who obtained an influenza inoculation. Stańczak-Mrozek and his colleagues (2021) stated that even though their research did not permit them to assume the beneficial effects of influenza inoculation on the incidence and brutality of the COVID-19 virus. So in this article, we aim to explore the possible influence of influenza vaccine in order to prevent covid 19 complications.

Keywords: influenza; vaccine; COVID 19; complications.

As stated by Conlon and his colleagues [1], current research has insinuated that prior immunization to pathogens like influenza and tuberculosis may bestow some armor against COVID-19. Conlon and his colleagues [1] go further to state that an assessment of over 19000 COVID-19 patients in non-cohort research from Brazil got a 17\% diminished odds of death, 8\% reduced odds of demand for intensive care medicine, and 18\% decreased odds of aggressive respiratory assistance in individuals who obtained an influenza inoculation.

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Discrete epidemiological research in the United States and Italy discovered a link between elevated immunization rates of those older than 65 and reduced COVID-19 mortality rates between different regions [1]. Influenza outbreaks were limited in the 2020 to 2022 periods due to increased COVID-19 preventive measures such as yearly vaccination against influenza, social distancing, and the use of a mask, according to CDC [2]. Six months and older individuals are advised to get an annual flu vaccine. This incentive could reduce the dangers of influenza-linked sicknesses, hospitalization, and fatality. Since COVID-19 and influenza share similar symptoms, combating influenza means fewer people will need to look for medical assistance and testing for influenza and COVID-19 at once, saving stress, time, and resources. CDC [2] suggests that the influenza vaccine may be administered at the same duration as the COVID-19 inoculation.

Stańczak-Mrozek and his colleagues [3] stated that even though their research did not permit them to assume the beneficial effects of influenza inoculation on the incidence and brutality of the COVID-19 virus, they issued proof for the link between immunization against the flu and a decline in COVID-19 death among the elderly in Poland. In this research, Stańczak-Mrozek and his colleagues [3] stated that in the reflective study founded on the electronic health proceedings, no evidence showing that flu vaccination would adversely affect the elderly populace through COVID-19-associated fatalities. The dispensation of flu inoculation before the Flu season would minimize the burden of the escalated influenza scenarios and the danger of the flu and COVID-19 virus infection and make the vital medical reserves able to deal with another episode of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Reference [4] stated that with the continuance of the COVID-19 pandemic and fears that flu infections might escalate the burden on healthcare systems, which advises that healthcare practitioners and the elderly be granted priority for the flu vaccine. Healthcare practitioners are exposed to the dangers of contracting the virus based on their working environment. Additionally, the elderly are at greater risk of contracting the virus than younger adults [5]. Similarly, as stated by Conlon and his colleagues [1], with the current scope of research, not until COVID-19 inoculations are made available to everybody in need the influenza inoculations should be made available to minimize the burden of illnesses during the pandemic.

Reference [6] stated that patients are advised to protect themselves with the flu vaccine due to the increased dangers of COVID-19 infections. In a similar study, McCauley and his colleagues [7] stated that the COVID-19 pandemic and its actions to alleviate its spread positively impact the spreading designs of other respiratory diseases, such as flu viruses. As illustrated by [8,9], a quadrivalent incapacitated flu vaccine can stimulate trained insusceptibility and the plausible mechanism by which a boosted antiviral state is assimilated after inoculation.

Pawlowski and his colleagues [10] stated that their research found that influenza vaccines given in the past 5, 2, and 1 year are linked with reduced COVID-19 virus infection rates. In a similar study, Reference [11] states that in nations with reduced influenza LRI cases, the flu vaccine will be defending against COVID-19 brutality. Reference [11] suggests that this approach will be more helpful in areas with a smaller population density. Additionally, toting pneumococcal inoculations would further reduce COVID-19 cruelty in regions with fewer incidences of influenza LRI and reduced respiratory contagions. Marin-Hernández and his colleagues [12] state that as an inoculation against the flu is advised to help moderate hospitalization and to assist in the differential
analysis of viral-arbitrated adult respiratory agony, there are previously known advantages of flu vaccination in regions undergoing COVID-19 infections.

Reference [13] stated that flu vaccination among all age groups might help decrease the stretching of flu and decrease the severe burden of the flu virus on healthcare departments which are now overwhelmed by the COVID-19 pandemic. In a similar study, Paget and his colleagues [14] suggested that flu vaccination continue to be endorsed as a vital public measure as the evidence shown indicates that flu inoculation is highly beneficial in the management of the COVID-19 pandemic such as expediting differential analysis and evading overwork of healthcare institutions and hospitals connected with flu infections. Similarly, as argued by [6], universal inoculation has a high chance of reducing the long hospital admissions as a result of complications hence relieving the hospital and various health schemes from the considerable pressure of handling both influenza and COVID-19 at once.

According to Marín-Hernández and his colleagues [12], there might be various independent or connected explanations for such associations, such as a likely protective impact of influenza inoculation against COVID-19 infection. Marín-Hernández and his colleagues [12] state that such a happening can be a result of the vaccine stimulating sufficient trained instinctive immune reminiscence in that when another respirational pathogen such as SARS-CoV-2 pathogen transpired, the lung defensive system would be triggered for a quick response, and such an occurrence would affect the acquisition of the COVID-19 illness course. Although, Marín-Hernández and his colleagues [12] state that this instance would be more prospective to transpire with the live, weakened flu vaccine.

Peyote and his colleagues [15] stated that their research found no link between flu vaccination and fatality or illness severity in COVID-19 patients. However, the flu vaccination was associated with a reduced probability of a COVID-19 diagnosis. Similarly, as mentioned in [13], influenza immunization can assist as a supportive precaution in managing the virus and moderate the inconveniencies of patients and healthcare structures. In a similar research, Reference [4], the organization mentioned in their article that any inoculation determines to direct the body’s immune system on how to react if it encounters an illness in the future. Reference [4] further elaborates that the training the body’s immune system undergoes in preparation to confront an illness does not impact it in any way. Still, rather it energizes it against the anticipated disease. The immunity induced in the system may last for a short time or numerous years, contingent on the type of illness and nature of the vaccine. As stated by WHO, influenza inoculation is thought to be fully functional for the utmost one year, after which the power of the vaccine over the targeted illness deteriorates.

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I dedicated this article to my colleagues and my family.

References


[5]. WHO, 2022


[7]. McCauley et al. (2021)


