

# KNOWLEDGE AND ATTITUDES TOWARDS INFLUENZA VACCINATION AMONG ELDERLY IN EASTERN CROATIA

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## Aim

- The aim of this study was to investigate influenza vaccination coverage among elderly in Eastern Croatia and to evaluate their knowledge and attitudes towards influenza vaccination.

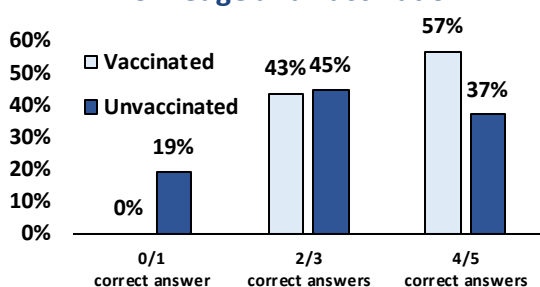
## Material & Methods

- This population cross-sectional questionnaire study was conducted in convenient sample of elderly from Eastern Croatia at the primary health care setting during 2018/2019 influenza season.

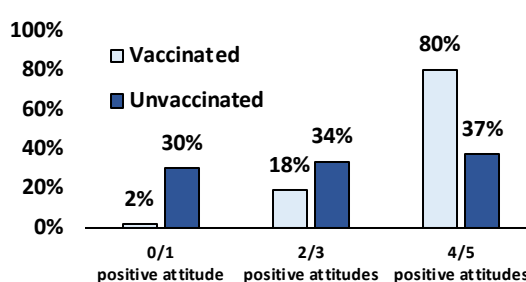
## Results

- There were 48.0% males and 52.0% females. Median age of all study subjects was 73.0 years (interquartile range 69.5-79.0 years).
- The overall prevalence of influenza vaccination was 33.3%.
- The vaccination was statistically more frequent among females, old-old subgroup and those suffering from chronic diseases (P=0.003, P=0.001 and P<0.001, respectively).
- Females and those with higher education had statistically better knowledge about influenza vaccination (P=0.044 and P=0.001, respectively).
- Females, those with higher education and those belonging to the old-old subgroup had statistically more positive attitudes towards influenza vaccination (P<0.001, P=0.023 and P=0.005, respectively).

Interconnection between knowledge and vaccination



Interconnection between attitudes and vaccination



## Conclusion

- Bearing in mind that elderly population makes up 19.4% of the Croatian population, and the fact that elderly are one of the risk group concerning the influenza severity it is essential to strive for achievement of the EU target influenza vaccination coverage.
- In order to achieve this, it is important to further improve influenza vaccination knowledge and attitudes among elderly in Croatia.
- Key words:** influenza vaccination; elderly; knowledge; attitudes; Croatia.

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