

O0681 Perception of mandatory vaccines in students of the first year of medical studies: a key-period for future healthcare workersLola Daudel¹, Jessica Mary¹, Olivier Epaulard*²¹ Université Grenoble Alpes, Grenoble, France, ² Infectious diseases, Centre Hospitalier Universitaire Grenoble Alpes / Université Grenoble Alpes, Grenoble, France

Background: Vaccine mistrust has been reported in the general population (particularly in France), but also in the population of healthcare workers. Meanwhile, studies showed that general practitioners are a highly trusted source of information for patients, including vaccine issues. We aimed to determine the attitude toward the 2018 extension of mandatory vaccines (from 3 to 11) for infants in France among the students of 1st year of medical studies (1YMS) (which is common in France for physicians, physiotherapists, midwives, dentists, and pharmacists).

Materials/methods: We asked French medicine faculty to electronically diffuse an online anonymous, non-mandatory questionnaire to the students of 1YMS between February and June 2018. Questions explored the general trust toward vaccines, and the perception of the legitimacy of this extension of mandatory vaccines.

Results: 6673 students accessed to the questionnaire, and 4326 completed it (age 18.7±1.5, female 76.1%); 16 French universities counted at least 50 participants. On a 0-100 scale, they perceived that vaccine efficiency was 86.7±17, that the level of vaccine-associated danger was 29.5±22, and that their trust in vaccine was 77.6±21. Concerning mandatory vaccines, 78.0% knew that their number had recently increased; 84.7% totally/mostly agreed that it was scientifically legitimate, and 65.7% that it was morally legitimate; 33.4% considered that it was partly/totally a freedom restriction. Only 20.9% declared the extension of mandatory vaccines would enhance their trust in vaccines, and 32.7% that it would enhance their perception that vaccines have few severe adverse effects. When considering the 5 main age classes (17, 18, 19, 20, and 21 years), the perception of vaccine efficiency and vaccine trust significantly decreased and the perception of vaccine-associated danger significantly increased with each year. A gross anti-vaccine poster was shown: 3.3% totally and 10.6% mostly agreed with its message.

Conclusions: Students in the French 1YMS perceived vaccines as efficient, but also perceived a notable level of vaccine-associated danger. Mandatory vaccines are perceived more scientifically than morally legitimate. The increase of negative perception with age suggests that objective information on vaccines should be given during this very first year.

