

Shared Decision Making



Patient's Values and Goals



Data/Evidence/Theory

VACCINATE OR NOT VACCINATE?

Identify a clear decision point

Provide information about the clinical problem and options at the decision point

Elicit patient values and goals

Support the patient towards a decision

Assess how comfortable the patient is with their decision

SURE Test:

Sure of myself: Do you feel sure about the best choice for you?

Understand information: Do you know the benefits and risks of each option?

Risk-benefit ratio: Are you clear about which benefits and risks matter most to you?

Encouragement: Do you have enough support and advice to make a choice?

Individual Risk Threshold:

Concerns about contracting SARS-CoV-2 vaccination

Personal Benefits— Value of SARS-CoV-2 Immunity:

- High occupational exposure risk
- Household members at high risk of exposure
- Household member's health risk factors
- Caregiving responsibilities

Personal Desire for Vaccination (including trust in the healthcare system):
High, Medium, Low

Individual Considerations:

Mental health

- Will you experience more anxiety with the idea of taking the vaccine itself or about potentially contracting SARS-CoV-2?

Pregnant:

- Balancing concerns for individual safety versus theoretical adverse effects on fetus
- If trying to conceive, how immediate is your desire to get pregnant and will this influence your decision?

Breastfeeding: Desire and planned duration to breastfeed

Medical Risks of Vaccinations:

Vaccine side effects & lack of safety data in this population

Pregnant: theoretical risk to fetus (although early animal studies reassuring) & adverse pregnancy outcomes

Breastfeeding: Theoretical passage of lipid nanoparticle mRNA into breastmilk

Risk of Morbidity and Mortality from COVID-19:

- Medical risks and comorbidities
- Occupational risk (patient with high risk of exposure, e.g. HCW, essential worker)
- Household risk
- Population and community SARS-CoV-2 transmission rates

Medical Benefits of Vaccination:

- Protection against SARS-CoV-2
- Protection for individuals with severe risk factors and/or high risk of exposure
- Potential indirect protection of close contacts (e.g. vulnerable relatives)

Pregnant: More likely to have severe illness with COVID-19, and adverse pregnancy outcomes; vaccine may provide theoretical protection for the fetus/neonate

Breastfeeding: Possible passive SARS-CoV-2 immunity to infant

Deliberation: Patient weighs options to vaccinate or not vaccinate

Patient makes decision based upon their values

FROM: Appendix to: Zipursky JS, Greenberg RA, Maxwell C, et al. Pregnancy, breastfeeding and the SARS-CoV-2 vaccine: an ethics-based framework for shared decision-making. CMAJ 2021. doi: 10.1503/cmaj.202833. Copyright © 2021 / 2021-01-27 CMAJ 2021. doi: 10.1503/cmaj.202833; early-