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Threat to Global Health: Childhood Vaccine Rejection

Esra GÜNEY

İnönü University, Faculty of Health Sciences, Turkey

Vaccine studies are one of the most important public health practices carried out for the maintenance of health and the prevention of infectious diseases. Vaccination is one of the most effective public health tools for preventing infectious diseases, reducing mortality and morbidity rates, improving the health, and eliminating infectious diseases such as smallpox. Nowadays, vaccination service is a health service that should be provided to every baby born. In recent years, families have expressed concerns about vaccine applications and their effects due to different reasons, and public opinion surveys on this have come to the fore. The decision for the child's vaccination is also a social decision that affects other people although it primarily appears to be an individual decision to be made by the parent. The vaccination decision, that the parent should make by considering the benefit of the child, also affects other people in the society in various ways. According to the studies, the factors affecting parents' decision for vaccine rejection are complex and variable. These factors include one or more of a variety of reasons such as lack of information, side effects, religion, politics, social media. The gradual increase in this situation revealed a very risky picture around the world, and therefore, the World Health Organization included anti-vaccination in the top 10 health threats faced by the world in 2019. Although the rate of general immunization is high in our country, it is inevitable that vaccine rejections will become a growing health threat. In the studies, it was emphasized that accurate, reliable and effective transfer is very important in the communication of physicians and health care workers with patients about drugs and vaccines. In this case, midwifery and nursing students, who will take an active role in the future, will play a key role in important issues such as vaccination and will have a very significant role in this field.

Biography

Esra GÜNEY has a PhD in midwifery from Inonu University. She is working as a fulltime Assistant Professor at midwifery department in İnönü University Faculty of Health Sciences.

esra.guney@inonu.edu.tr