



Parental knowledge, opinions and beliefs to Enhanced Program of Immunization vaccines in a reference vaccination center in Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire

Dr ATTOH TOURE Harvey, MD, MPH

*Assistant Professor in Public Health Department, Félix Houphouët Boigny
University*

National Institute of Public Hygiene, Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire

Introduction 1/2

- Côte d'Ivoire : huge lack of communication on Enhanced Program of Immunization (EPI) vaccines [Nangui, 2009]
- Campaign of communication concern only poliomyelitis eradication
- Information is an important factor of immunization attendance [Baonga, 2012]
- EPI unit is the most attended immunization center in Abidjan area

Introduction 2/2

- **Research question** : what are the knowledge, opinions and beliefs of mothers or accompanying relatives who attend immunization services in EPI Unit ?
- ➡ few data on knowledge, opinions and beliefs of mothers and accompanying relatives who accept immunization activities are available

Main objective : « Identify parental knowledge, opinions and beliefs on EPI vaccines »

Methods 1/4

- **Study type** : cross-sectional, descriptive
- **Study period** : from June, 20 to July, 31 2016
- **Study site** : EPI Unit located at National Institute of Public Hygiene (NIPH), Abidjan.

Methods 2/4

- **Study site** : National Institute of Public Hygiene (NIPH) is a reference center of immunization in Côte d'Ivoire with four immunization services in 28 regions through the country :
 - **International Center of Immunization (ISO 9001 V 2008 certification)**
 - **EPI Unit+++**
 - **Anti-Rabic Center**
 - **Collectivity Immunization Unit**

Methods 3/4

- **Target population:** mothers or accompanying relatives of infants aged from 9 to 11 months who come to the EPI Unit for their children immunization and accept to participate (N= 197)
- **Data collect :** we use a questionnaire to interview mothers or accompanying relatives. Interviews were conducted by two nurses of the EPI unit

Methods 4/4

- **Data collected :**
 - Sociodemographic characteristics
 - Vaccinal status
 - Knowledge of diseases targeted by EPI vaccines
 - Opinions and beliefs on immunization
- **Statistical analyzes:** Epi Info version 3.5.4, Chi 2 test ($p < 0.05$)

Results 1/8

- **Sociodemographic characteristics :**

- Mothers (78.7%) aged from 30 to 39 years (54.3%) in an occupation (73%)
- High level of education : 51%
- Christian : 58 %

- **Vaccinal status of children :**

- Completely immunized : 99% (VS 45% in Côte d'Ivoire)
- Correctly immunized : 81% (VS 20% in Côte d'Ivoire)

Results 2/8

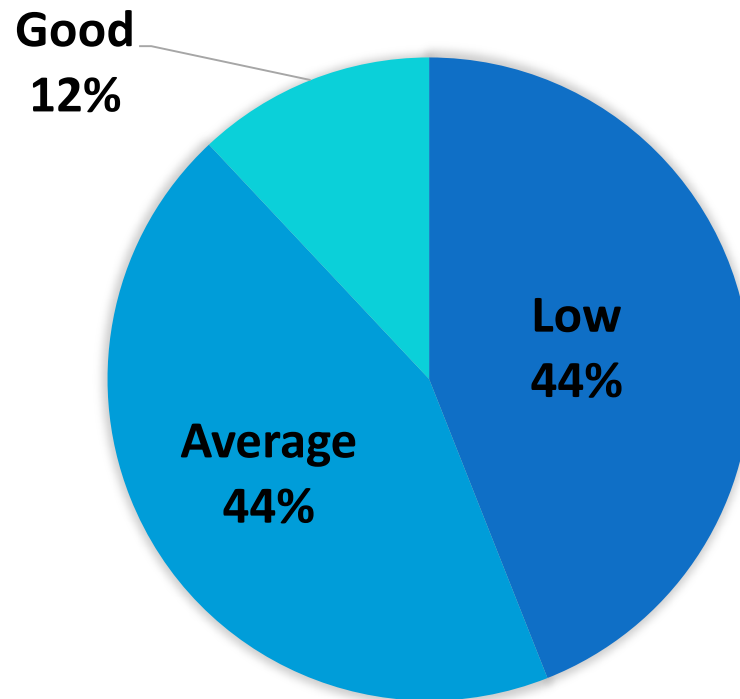


Figure 1 : Knowledge of diseases targeted by EPI vaccines

Results 3/8

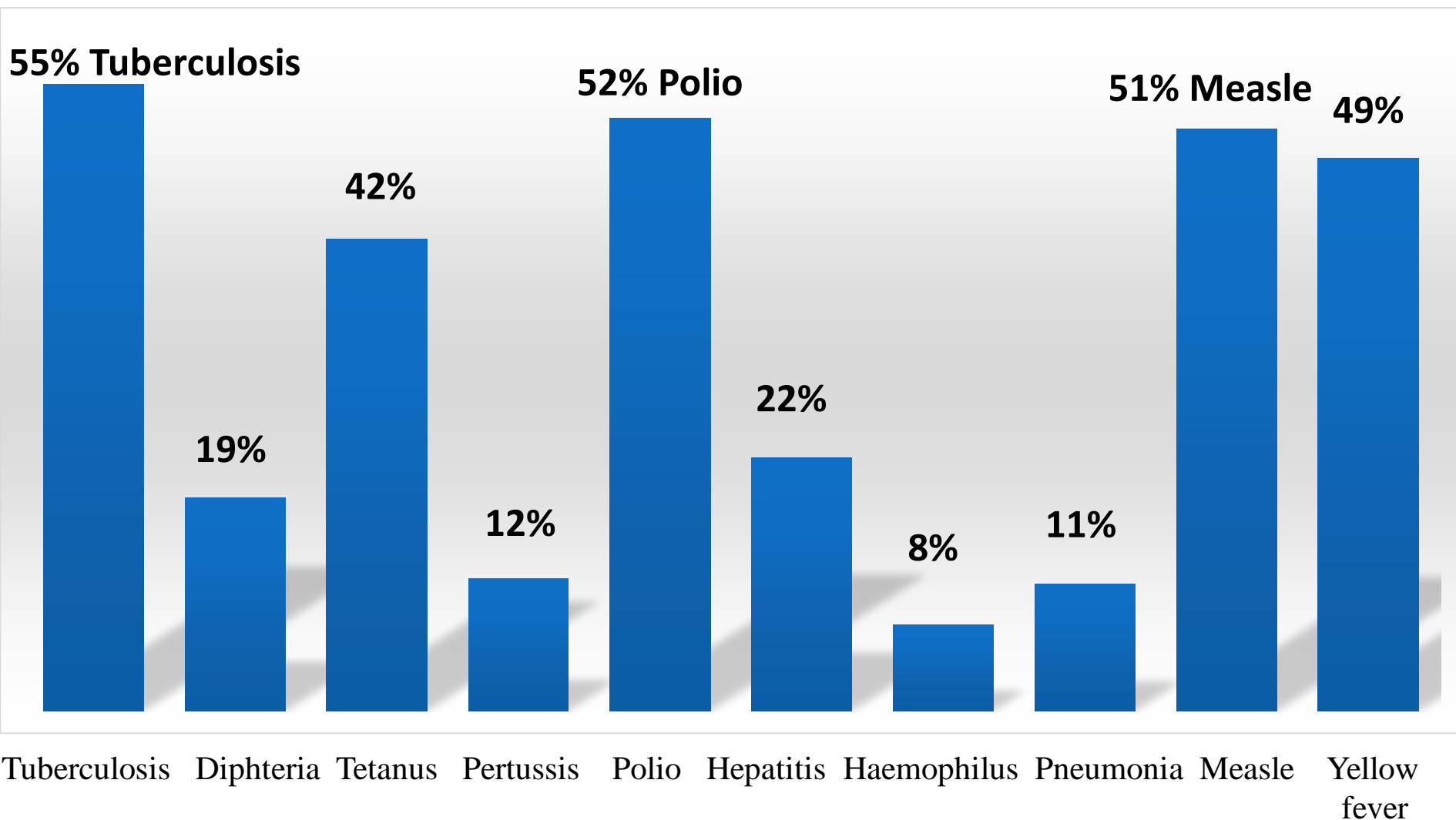


Figure 2 : Knowledge of diseases targeted by EPI vaccines

Results 4/8

Variables	Knowledge of EPI target diseases		
	Weak N (%)	Average et Good N (%)	p
Level of education			0,0000
No/primary	34 (39,1)	6 (5,4)	
Secondary	26 (29,9)	30 (27,3)	
Superior	27 (31,0)	74 (67,3)	
Profession			0,0000
Without profession	36 (41,4)	17 (15,5)	
With profession	51 (58,6)	93 (84,5)	
Marital status			0,0290
Single	34 (39,0)	26 (23,6)	
In couple	53(61,0)	84 (76,4)	
Religion			0,001
Muslim	47 (54,0)	35 (31,8)	
Christian	40 (46,0)	75 (68,2)	

Results 5/8

Opinions and beliefs :

- About 80% knew the preventive aim of vaccines
- Immunization acceptance : 97%
- Advice for immunization acceptance : 56% ➡ essentially administrative authority (34%) and medical doctor (38.5%)

Results 6/8

Opinions and beliefs :

- For 69% of mothers immunization causes adverse effects : fever, convulsions, allergies, autism and insomnia
- Concern by simultaneous administration of several vaccines (66.5%) : diseases, allergies and reduce efficacy of vaccines

Results 7/8

Opinions and beliefs :

- Fear about additional doses of oral poliomyelitis vaccine (19%) :
 - doubts about the provenance of the vaccine,
 - not administered by health workers,
 - not reported in the health records,
 - too many immunization campaigns,
 - vaccines exposed to heat and sunlight.

Results 8/8

Nearly 40% of mothers or accompanying relatives believed in various rumors

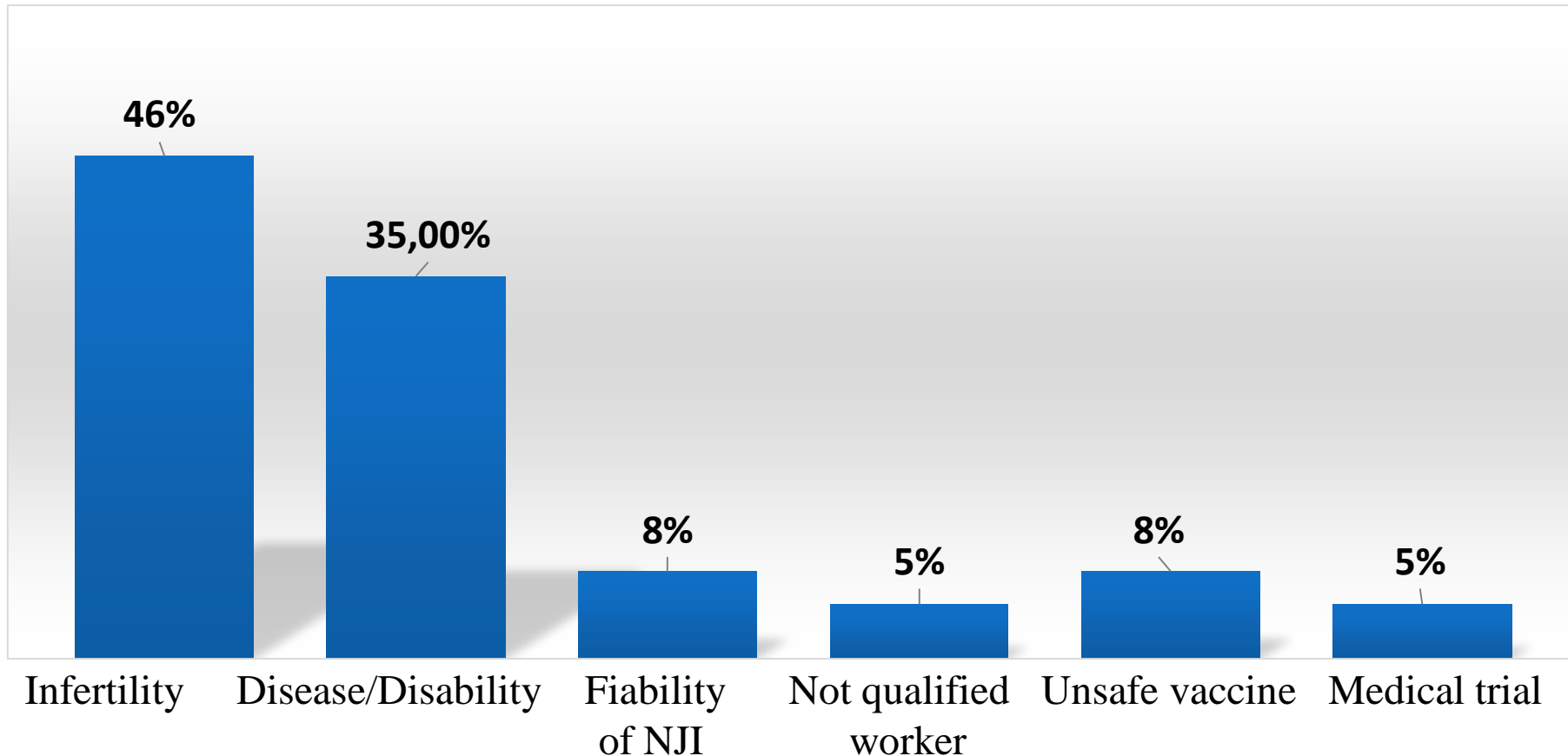


Figure 3 : rumors conveyed

Conclusion

- Mothers 'children were completely immunized
- However, the level of knowledge of parents remains insufficient and was associated with erroneous beliefs
- The information, the education and the counseling are essentials to strengthen parents' confidence and develop the vaccinal activities
- Messages should reassure mothers and focus on the quality and safety of vaccination and vaccines.

EPI UNIT



EPI UNIT



THANK YOU VERY
MUCH