

institutions (MPI) that did not serve as temporary hospitals: HR 2,33 [95% CI 0,95; 5,70], which may be due to both insufficient anti-epidemic measures and the peculiarities of the immune response and approaches for its evaluation. The risk of COVID-19 in seronegative individuals was higher, but without statistical significance.

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### **Mortality among Brazilian doctors in Covid-19 pandemic**

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The Covid-19 pandemic can be considered the biggest global health problem and also the biggest health challenge of the present times; its repercussions and impacts directly affect the health professionals involved in dealing with it. Doctors are among the health professional categories involved in coping with it and with a high risk of infection and a higher probability of more severe clinical presentations and mortality. The objective of this study was to compare the mortality due to Covid-19 among physicians in Brazil and the general population during the pandemic. A descriptive study was carried out using secondary data related to the number of deaths from Covid-19 in the general population and among doctors in Brazil, from March 2020 to July 2021. The profile of deaths of physicians showed a higher mortality among men, between 60 and 79 years of age. The temporal analysis of the number of physicians who died from Covid-19 in Brazil in the period analyzed shows a higher number of deaths at the beginning of the pandemic, with a peak in May 2020 (N=107) and a fall after vaccination beginning. Regarding the Covid-19 crude deaths rate, it was found that physicians had a lower risk of dying than the general population, even with greater exposure to the virus. Only in the North and Northeast regions these rates were higher than the general population. The findings of the study indicate the need for interventions in the levels of protection offered to professionals, as well as confirming the negative impacts of the unequal distribution of these professionals, pointed out by medical demography studies carried out in Brazil.

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### **Acceptability of anti-covid -19 vaccination by health care workers (HCWs)**

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**Introduction:** Vaccination remains one of the most effective ways to control the pandemic of covid-19. HCWs have been given priority for vaccination. The aims of this survey were to assess the barriers and motivations of HCWs to accept this vaccination.

**Material and methods:** this cross-sectional study, carried out in 2021, involved 669 hospital staffs in Khemisset, Morocco. A self-administered questionnaire comprised socio-demographic and occupational data and items relating to knowledge about Covid-19, the barriers and motivations for vaccination.

**Results:** 83.4% were participated. 67% were in favor of vaccination, 21.9% against and 11.1% undecided. Nurses had the highest acceptance rate (68%), followed by physicians (67%) and non-nursing staff (60%). The main reason for accepting the vaccination was personal and family protection. The refusal was the lack of information and the fear of side effects. The main predictors of vaccination acceptance were age > 50 years, male sex, job tenure > 20 years, urban exercise, presence of comorbidities, level of knowledge about covid > 3/6, the perception of the severity of covid > 6/10, the confrontation with severe cases and continuing education. The most cited vaccination incentives were better information on the efficacy and safety of vaccines.

**Conclusions:** The results will help to target barriers of immunization among HCWs, allowing for tailoring and personalization of promotional interventions to achieve better immunization coverage. Acceptability of vaccination in HCWs is crucial because their attitudes are an important determinant for recommending the vaccine to their patients.

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### **Homecare personal support worker experiences working during the COVID-19 pandemic: A qualitative study**

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**Introduction:** Personal support workers (PSWs) are considered the backbone of homecare however their working conditions remain precarious and unregulated suggesting increased vulnerability in the face of a pandemic. The purpose of this study is to better understand the experiences of PSWs working in homecare during the COVID-19 pandemic.

**Methods:** This qualitative descriptive study used a social constructivist approach to understand the experiences of Toronto-based PSWs working at a local homecare agency during the COVID-19 pandemic. Semi-structured virtual interviews were conducted. All transcribed interviews were coded and analyzed using the DE-PICT framework.

**Results:** 19 interviews were completed. PSWs shared a strong belief in duty to work during a health crisis and responsibility to support their vulnerable clients despite feeling vulnerable themselves to transmission and infection; the weight of pandemic anxiety was felt daily and intensely for most. PSWs described existing system challenges exacerbated by the pandemic that tested the limits of their motivations to work, emotional wellbeing and perception of organizational support.