




A Meta-synthesis of Factors that Influence Parental Decisions Regarding Mandatory Vaccinations for Children in the U.S.

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BACKGROUND	METHODOLOGY	FINDINGS
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Since the 19<sup>th</sup> century, <b>vaccines have significantly reduced incidences of vaccine-preventable diseases.</b></li> <li>Despite this, <b>rates of parents who refuse vaccines for their children are rising.</b></li> <li>The CDC reported that from 2001 to 2015, the <b>percentage of children with no vaccinations by age 2 quadrupled</b> (Hill et al., 2018).</li> <li>In 2019, CDC confirmed 1,282 cases of measles across 31 states- most occurring in pockets of the community where many people are unvaccinated (CDC, 2020).</li> </ul>	<div> <div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Meta-synthesis</b> has been defined as an “intentional and coherent approach to <b>analyzing data across qualitative studies</b>” (Erwin et al., 2011).</li> <li>The process allows researchers to understand the state of qualitative research, identify a research question, and search for, analyze, and synthesize existing qualitative research.</li> <li>The purpose is not to summarize or condense findings but is meant to allow “for an enlarged interpretation”(Sandelowski et al., 1997), which may be able to improve knowledge and practices.</li> </ul> </div> <div> <div>Project Steps:</div> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Literature search (CINAHL, PubMed, Google Scholar)</li> <li>Annotated bibliography</li> <li>Evidence tables</li> <li>Synthesis of findings across studies</li> <li>Recognize common themes and patterns in the literature</li> </ol> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Key Words:</b> Vaccine hesitancy, Qualitative, Anti-vaccination, Vaccination, Parent, Non-vaccination, Vaccine refusal</li> </ul> </div> </div> <div>  </div>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Three themes emerged from the synthesis of findings that represent questions that parents contemplate</li> </ul> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>What do I believe?</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>How to discern what is valid/misinformation</li> <li>Too many sources of information “oversaturation”</li> <li>Mistrust</li> </ul> </li> <li><b>Why so much pressure to vaccinate?</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Parents desire to be part of the decision-making process</li> <li>Decision-making process is not respected by providers</li> <li>Lots of vaccines early in life, tight schedule</li> </ul> </li> <li><b>Who will support me and who impacts my decision-making?</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Physical communities/online communities</li> <li>Narratives of stories of bad health outcomes from friends and media</li> </ul> </li> </ol>
PURPOSE		DISCUSSION
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To understand the state of qualitative research and better <b>understand the perspectives, beliefs, and concerns of parents who hesitate to or refuse to vaccinate their children.</b></li> <li>With this improved understanding, healthcare professionals will be able to <b>improve communication when assisting parents with making fully informed decisions</b> related to their children's’ healthcare and vaccinations.</li> <li>This meta-synthesis also intends to <b>highlight areas where there are gaps in the literature</b> and where future research is needed.</li> </ul>	<div>   </div> <div> <div>Excluded non-research and quantitative research = 477</div> <div>Excluded studies completed outside of the United States = 175</div> <div>Excluded studies about non-mandatory vaccines, and studies that did not have parents as participants = 40</div> <div>Narrowed studies to be evaluated for quality = 15</div> </div> <div> <div>REFERENCES</div> <div> <div>CDC (2020, Feb 3). Measles cases and outbreaks Retrieved from <a href="https://www.cdc.gov/measles/cases-outbreaks.html">https://www.cdc.gov/measles/cases-outbreaks.html</a></div> <div>Erwin, E. J., Brotherson, M. J., &amp; Summers, J. A. (2011). Understanding qualitative metasynthesis: Issues and opportunities in early childhood intervention research. <i>Journal of Early Intervention</i>, 33(3), 186-200.</div> <div>Hill, H. A., Elam-Evans, L. D., Yankey, D., Singleton, J. A., &amp; Kang, Y. (2018). Vaccination coverage among children aged 19–35 months—United States, 2017. <i>Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report</i>, 67(40), 1123.</div> <div>Sandelowski, M., Docherty, S., &amp; Emden, C. (1997). Qualitative metasynthesis: Issues and techniques. <i>Research in Nursing &amp; Health</i>, 20(4), 365-371.</div> </div> </div>	<div>Future research should explore:</div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>*Appropriate <b>timing of vaccine education</b></li> <li>*Communication strategies for healthcare providers that <b>prioritize and value parent/caregiver concerns</b></li> <li>*<b>Social media as a tool</b> for promoting vaccine education and combating misinformation</li> </ul> <div>Implications for Nursing Practice:</div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>*Begin <b>vaccine education at prenatal visits.</b></li> <li>*<b>Ask parents about their concerns</b> related to vaccines and provide appropriate guidance and evidence specific to the concerns expressed.</li> <li>*Importance of a <b>non-judgmental approach</b> and valuing parents in the decision-making process</li> <li>*Use of communication strategies that focus on <b>building trust with parents as partners</b> in promotion of health.</li> </ul>
RESEARCH QUESTION		
<p>What have researchers discovered about factors that impact parental decisions regarding non-vaccination or vaccine hesitancy of mandatory vaccines in children in the U.S.?</p>		