

Attitudes of Belgian hospital staff towards COVID-19 vaccination: Associated factors and decision process among staff members

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Background

In December 2020:

- >18 000 deaths due to COVID-19
- First vaccines (Pfizer-BioNTech and Moderna) about to be authorized by the European Medicines Agency.

Federal vaccination strategy → Phase Ia in January 2021 in Belgium: hospital staff members

Vaccine hesitancy could jeopardize the success of the campaign.

Objective

To evaluate vaccine hesitancy and its associated factors to further adapt vaccination campaign.

Methods

Online survey between 6 and 19 January 2021 among clinical and non-clinical staff members of CHU UCL Namur (Belgium)

Theoretical framework: Health Belief Model

Statistical analysis: multivariable ordinal logistic regression

Results (1) – Attitudes regarding COVID-19 vaccination and associated factors

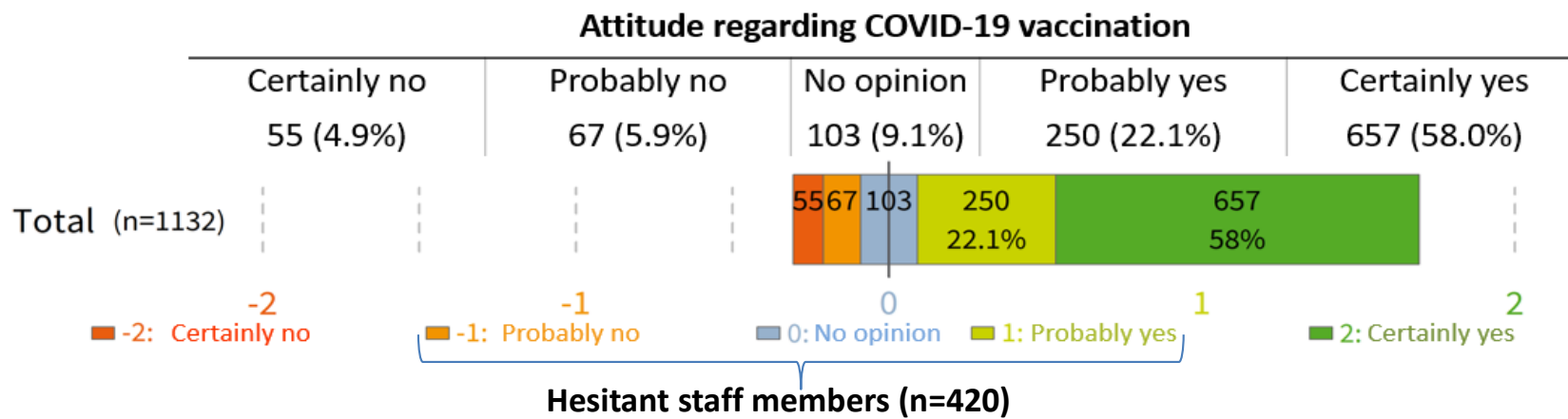
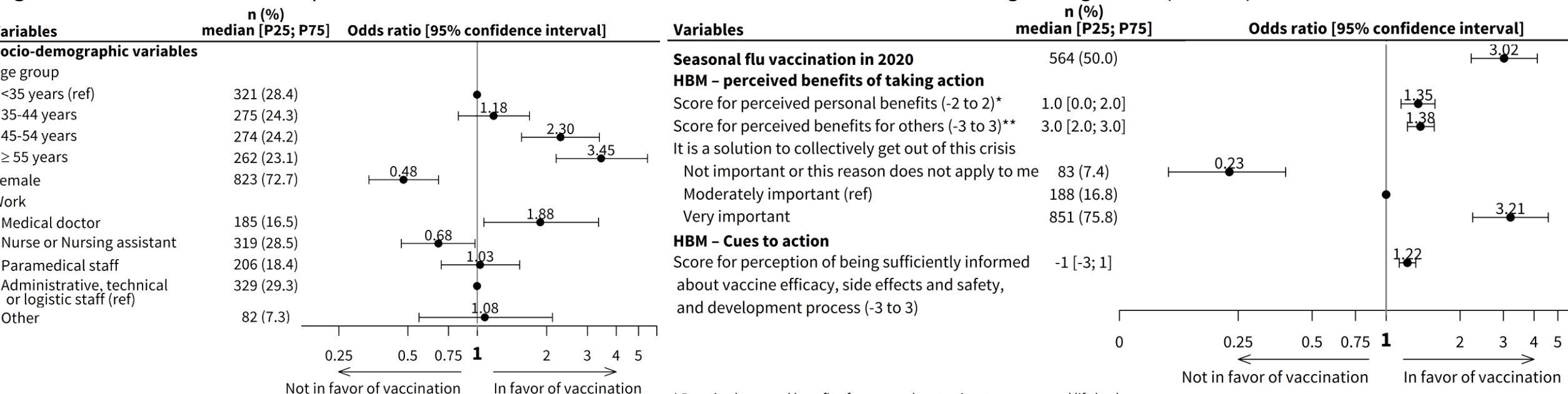
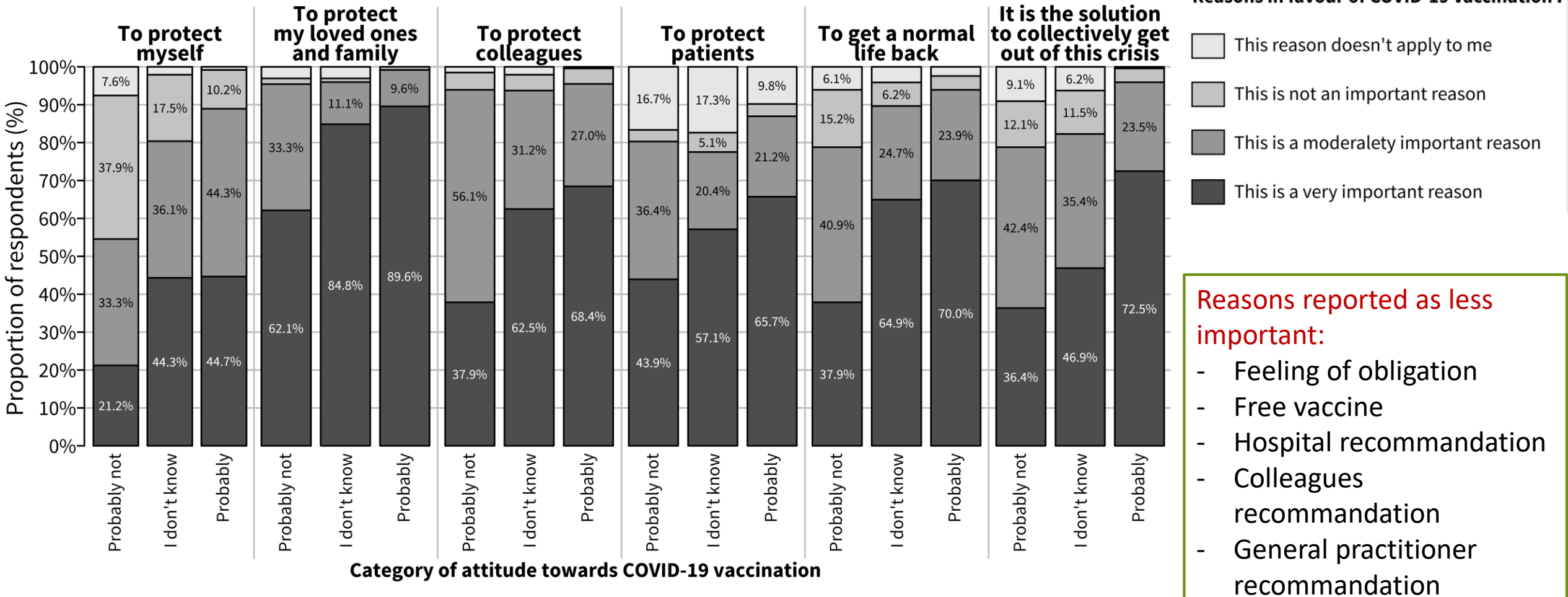


Figure 1. Factors associated with positive attitude towards COVID-19 vaccination in multivariable ordinal logistic regression (N=1089)

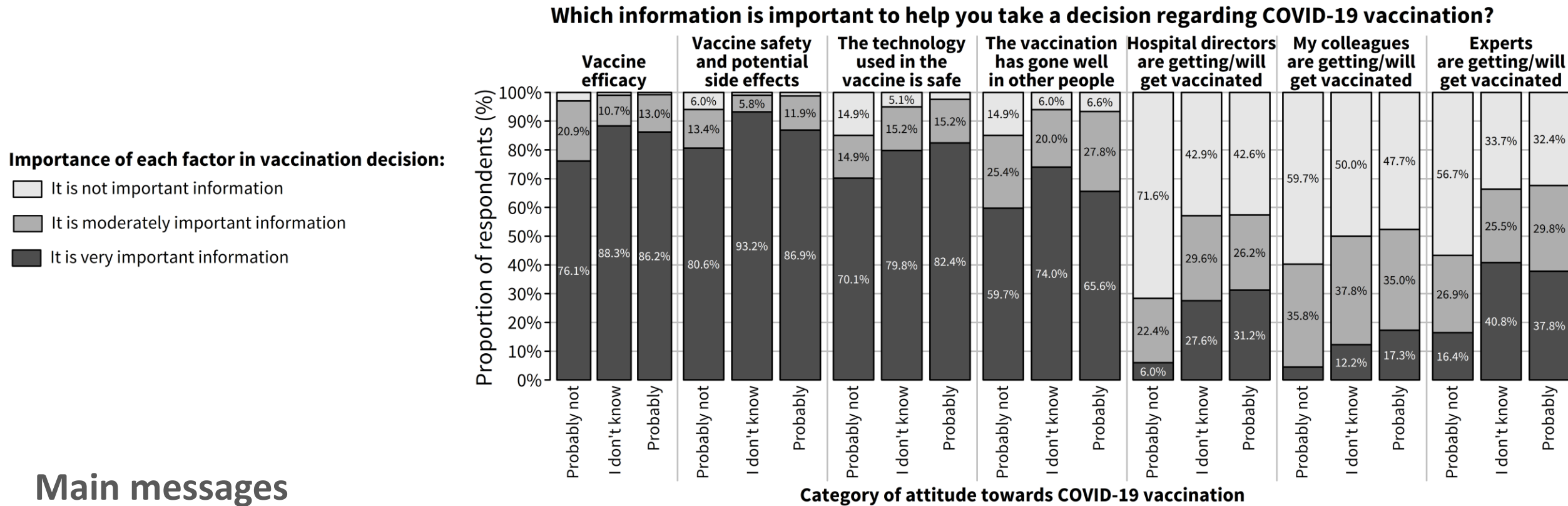


Results (2) – Main reasons why hesitant staff members would get vaccinated against COVID-19 (n=420)

What would be the main reasons why you would get vaccinated against COVID-19?



Results (3) – Which information is important to help hesitant staff members take a decision regarding COVID-19 vaccination ? (n=417)



Main messages

- > 58% of respondents were willing to get vaccinated and 37% were hesitant.
- > Communication campaigns should focus on staff members younger than 45, female, nurses or nurse assistants.
- > Key factors in the **decision process for hesitant staff members**:
 - > Data on vaccine efficacy and safety
 - > Knowing that the vaccination went well in others