

# **Immune Response after 2 doses of Vaccine against Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome Corona Virus 2 (SARS Cov-2) Infection among Patients of Renal Transplantation**

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***Background:*** Renal transplant (RTx) recipients have been identified as a high-risk group who are at increased risk of morbidity and mortality from Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome Corona Virus 2 (SARS Cov-2) or COVID-19infection

There are mixed reports on vaccine response against COVID-19 in RRT

***Aim:*** Hence, this study was conducted to observe the immune response after two doses of vaccine against COVID-19 in a resource poor situation among a group of RTx recipients.

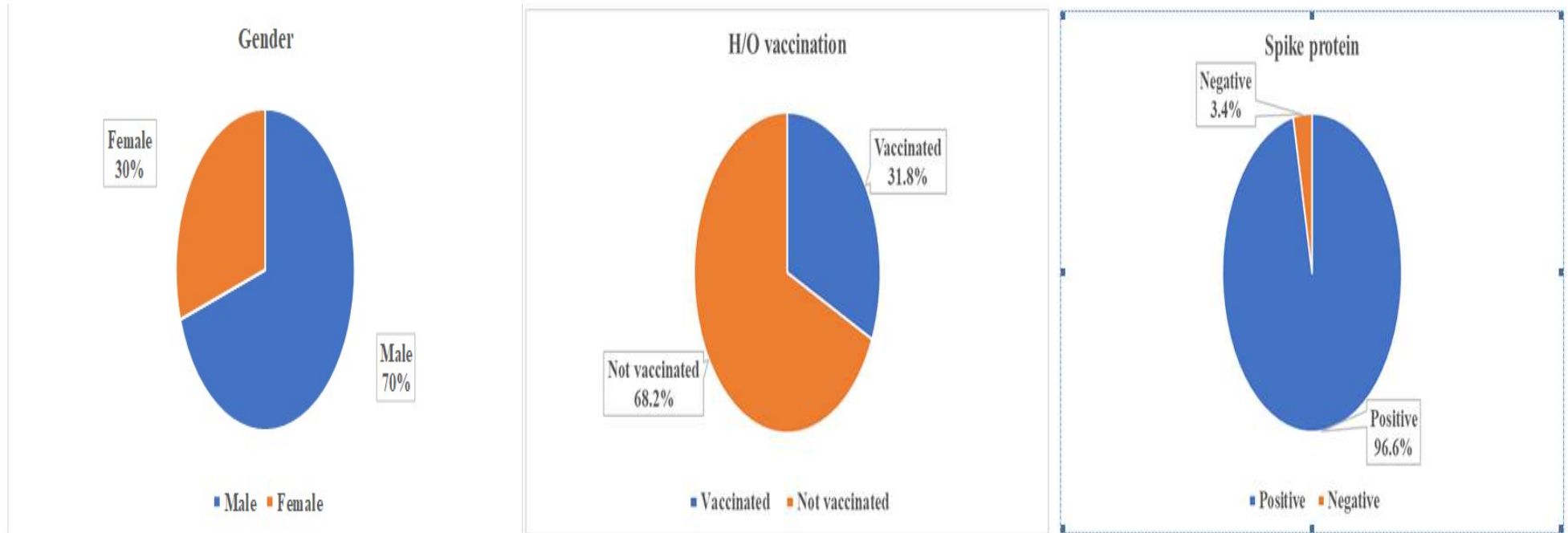
## **Methodology**

- Data is presented from 2 transplant centres at early 2022.
- Total 73 renal transplant recipients (RTX) were included
- The RTX patients were from non-profit hospitals
- COVID-19 infection was based on WHO criterion
- Quantitative measurement of IgG antibody against (S) protein of SARS-Cov-2
- Test done by CMIA developed by Abbott
- **A value of IgG against S protein  $\geq 50$  AIU/L considered as positive response**

## **Results:**

- **The proportion of vaccinated recipients was 32%**
- The mean age was  $35 \pm 8$  years
- CKD duration  $10 \pm 3$  years & dialysis duration  $12 \pm 8$  months
- BMI  $24 \pm 4$  kg/m<sup>2</sup>; Hgb  $13 \pm 2$  g%; S Albumin  $3.2 \pm 0.4$  g% & S Cr  $1.3 \pm 0.9$  mg%
- IgG against S protein, was  $2836 \pm 4227$  AIU/L (irrespective of vaccination)
- **A positive immune response in vaccinated RTx subjects was 100%**
- **On the other hand, a positive titer was also present in non-vaccinated 94%**

**Figure: Distribution of Gender, Vaccination status and Positive IgG titer**



**Table: Comparing between Vaccinated vs. Non-vaccinated RTx groups**

|                          | Vaccinated | Non-vaccinated | <i>p</i> |
|--------------------------|------------|----------------|----------|
| Age                      | 35±8       | 34±8           | NS       |
| RTX Duration (months)    | 15±14      | 18±25          | NS       |
| BMI (kg/m <sup>2</sup> ) | 25±4       | 24±4           | NS       |
| Hgb (g%)                 | 13±2       | 13±1           | NS       |
| S Cr (mg%)               | 1.3±0.9    | 1.3±0.9        | NS       |
| IgG (Anti-S) AIU/L       | 4818±8533  | 3122±6713      | NS       |

## **Conclusion:**

- **In this study positive immune response with high titre was seen in most transplant subjects after two dose vaccination against CODID-19**
- **At the same time the non-vaccinated subjects also showed a positive titre in nearly 95% indicating acquired passive immunity in them**
- **Renal transplant patients most likely were exposed to high infection environment evident from a raised titer in all**
- **The better renal function in both groups could be related to the strong anti-covid titter prevailing in them**