



**STUDY TITLE: “EFFECTS OF VACCINATION AGAINST
COVID-19 ON THE AFFECTIVE MENTAL HEALTH OF
PERUVIAN OLDERS ADULTS”**

REPORT OF RESEARCH RESULTS 15-2021

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Conflict of interest

Autors declare that they have no financial or non-financial conflict of interest in relation to the topics described in this document.

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Ethics approval

This study was approved for execution by the Institutional Review Board of the Instituto Nacional Cardiovascular - EsSalud (Certificate of approval 25/2021-CEI).

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ABSTRACT

Background: COVID-19 vaccination may reduce anxiety and depression. However, the pandemic significantly impacted on elderly from low-middle-income countries. Therefore, we aimed to estimate the effect of vaccination against COVID-19 on the emotional health of older adults.

Methods: We selected a nationally stratified sample of non-hospitalized adults aged 60 to 79 years, who intended to receive or had already received the COVID-19 vaccine during recruitment. Assessed outcomes were the fear, anxiety, and worry about COVID-19, general anxiety, and depression at baseline and after a month. We estimated the adjusted odds ratios (aOR) and 95% confidence intervals (95% CI) for each altered emotional health outcomes in those who had one and two doses, compared with those who were not vaccinated using multilevel logistic regression with mixed effects.

Results: We recruited 861 older adults with 20.8% of loss to follow-up. At baseline, 43.9% had received only one dose of the vaccine, and 49.1% had two doses. In the analysis during follow-up, those who had two doses had less fear (ORa: 0.19; CI95%: 0.07 to 0.51) and anxiety to COVID-19 (ORa: 0.45; CI95%: 0.22 to 0.89), compared to non-vaccinated. We observed no effects in those with only one dose.

Conclusions: COVID-19 vaccination with two doses in elders improves the perception of COVID-19 infection consequences. This information could be integrated into the vaccination campaign as its beneficial effect.

Keywords: Aged; COVID-19; Mental Health; Anxiety; Depression; Peru.