



Health Watch USAsm

Member of the National Quality Forum and a designated
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by the U.S. Dept. of Health and Human Services

www.healthwatchusa.org, www.healthconference.org

RE: Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP)

Public Comment

Aug. 13, 2021

I am writing this comment to express concern over the susceptibility of our elderly to the Delta Variant. This group of patients received vaccinations first and many are more than 5 to 6 months from vaccination. The Israeli data raises significant concerns in this cohort with 8.6% of the breakthrough infections resulting in hospitalizations and 2% resulting in deaths (See slide below).

The data from the United Kingdom and Canada, studied patients who for the most part were newly vaccinated, both because of the dosage schedules being 12 weeks or longer and that the data was reported sooner than Israel. Thus, the time from full vaccination was not long enough to detect waning immunity.

There is evidence that booster dosages are needed to be given immediately to this cohort of vulnerable individuals (see slides below).

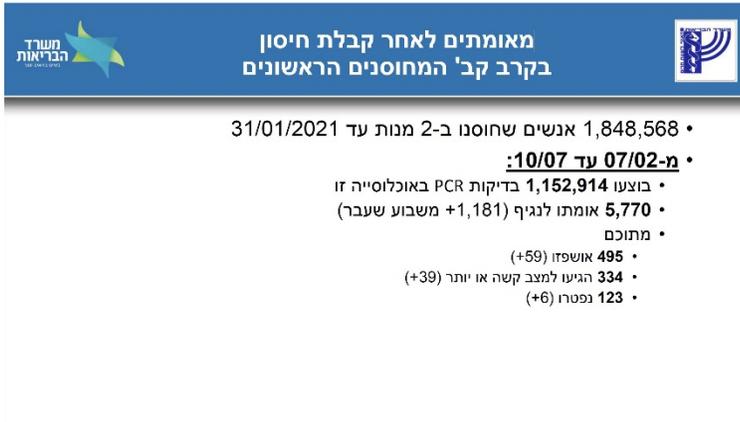
Israel, the United Kingdom and Germany have already made a decision. Israel is currently vaccinating their older individuals above the age of 60 who are 5 months or greater since vaccination. We do not have the luxury of waiting. Delta is here. In the case of Delta, inaction is also an action, and an expedited decision is needed.

Currently, the United States is discarding vaccines and these vaccines are known to be very safe. If we do not administer boosters to this high-risk population, we risk having a catastrophe on our hands.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Kevin Kavanagh', written in a cursive style.

Kevin Kavanagh, MD, MS

Title: Verified after receiving the vaccine, Among the first vaccinated group



From the 1,848,568 people that received two doses of the vaccine by Jan. 31, 2021:

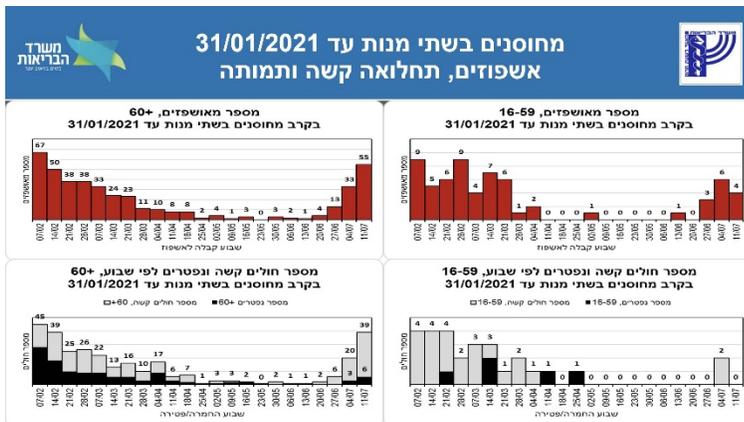
From 07/02 to 10/07 (From Feb. 7, 2021 to July 10, 2021)

1,152,194 got PCR tested
5,770 got corona since vaccination, of which:

- 495 were hospitalized
- 334 were difficult cases or worse (life threatening)
- 123 died

From the Ministry of Health of Israel.

Title: Vaccinated in two doses by 31/01/2021 (Jan. 31, 2021)



Hospitalizations, severe morbidity and mortality

Red separated by age: how many vaccinated people hospitalized
Vertical Axis Red: Number of people hospitalized

Horizontal Axis: Week of Hospitalization

Black/gray: how many life threatening situations (gray) and deaths (black).

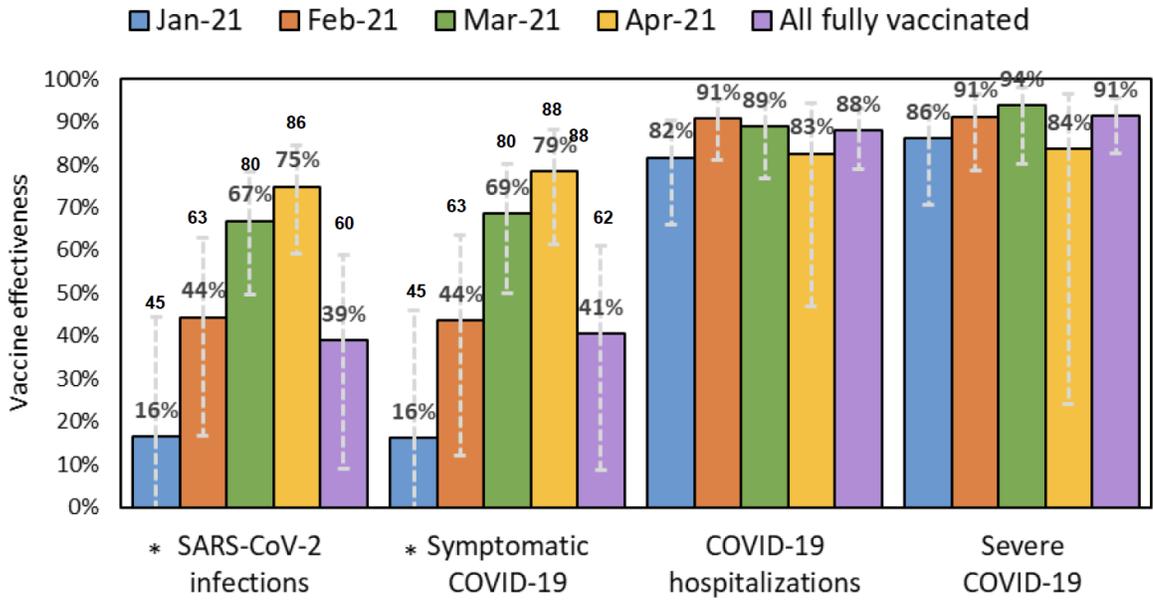
Vertical Axis: Number of People with Life threatening illness (Black is dead)

Horizontal Axis: Week of difficult cases or death

From the Ministry of Health of Israel.

Source: https://www.gov.il/BlobFolder/reports/vaccine-efficacy-safety-follow-up-committee/he/files_publications_corona_two-dose-vaccination-data.pdf

Vaccine effectiveness[^] by outcome and month vaccinated with second dose, 20/6 - 17/7/2021



[^]Adjusted for age group, sex and epi-week

* 95% confidence interval crosses 0

From the Ministry of Health of Israel.

Source: https://www.gov.il/BlobFolder/reports/vaccine-efficacy-safety-follow-up-committee/he/files_publications_corona_two-dose-vaccination-data.pdf