

SARS-CoV-2-positive household members up infection risk for health care workers

September 9 2021



(HealthDay)—For vaccinated health care workers (HCWs), exposure to

severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus (SARS-CoV-2)-positive household members is a risk factor associated with infection, according to a research letter published online Sept. 1 in *JAMA Network Open*.

Yonatan Oster, M.D., from the Hebrew University of Jerusalem in Israel, and colleagues compared all vaccinated HCWs who had positive test results for SARS-CoV-2 at least two weeks after receiving the second BNT162b2 vaccine dose to nonvaccinated workers who had positive test results and a sample of vaccinated workers who were tested for SARS-CoV-2 but had negative results (vaccinated-positive versus nonvaccinated-positive and vaccinated-negative [27, 63, and 81 HCWs, respectively]).

The researchers found that exposure to a positive household member was significantly more common among HCWs in the vaccinated-positive group versus the nonvaccinated-positive group and vaccinated-negative group (56 percent versus 38 and 9 percent, respectively). Among vaccinated-positive HCWs, the odds ratio for exposure to positive household members was 2.03 (95 percent confidence interval, 0.74 to 5.62) compared with nonvaccinated-positive HCWs and 12.5 (95 percent confidence interval, 3.70 to 43.23) compared with vaccinated-negative HCWs.

"The findings of this case-control study suggest reconsideration of quarantining vaccinated people who have had significant exposure to [household members](#) who are positive for SARS-CoV-2 infection," the authors write.

One author disclosed financial ties to the biopharmaceutical industry.

More information: [Abstract/Full Text](#)

Citation: SARS-CoV-2-positive household members up infection risk for health care workers (2021, September 9) retrieved 25 April 2024 from <https://medicalxpress.com/news/2021-09-sars-cov-positive-household-members-infection-health.html>

This document is subject to copyright. Apart from any fair dealing for the purpose of private study or research, no part may be reproduced without the written permission. The content is provided for information purposes only.