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Main expertise (1-2 lines): Sociology, vaccine hesitancy and contestations around health topics.



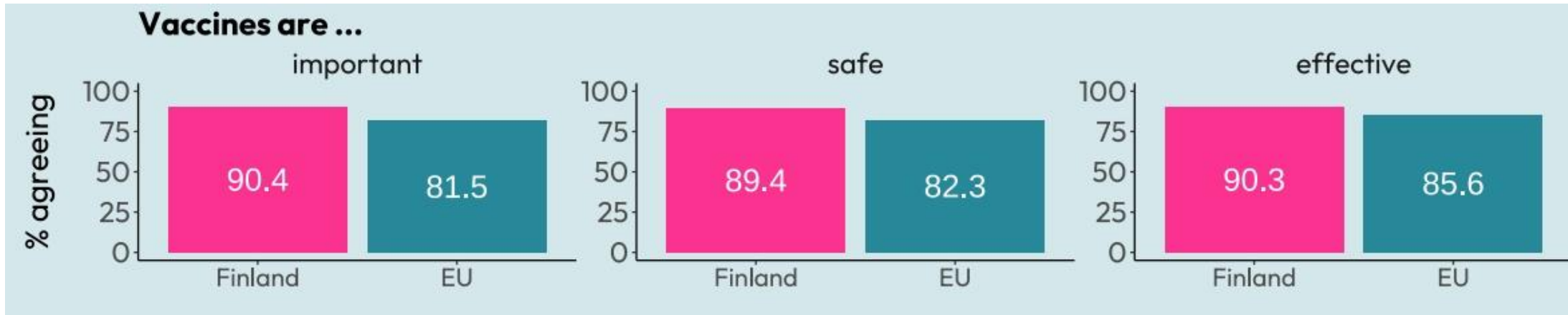


Finns' relationship to vaccinations

Terveyden ja
hyvinvoinnin laitos

3.12.2024

Vaccine confidence in Finland



- A large variety of factors affect vaccine confidence
 - Belief in the safety, efficacy, and importance of vaccines
 - Trust in health authorities and high generalised trust
- Some specific events influencing attitudes towards vaccines:
 - Cases of narcolepsy associated with the swine-flu vaccine Pandemrix
 - COVID-19

Recent trends

- A recent trend of declining vaccine confidence in Finland (and elsewhere)

- Vaccine confidence project: change from 2020 to 2022

Vaccines are safe: 89.4% (-4.1pp change)
Vaccines are important: 90.4% (-8.2pp change)

- Finnish science barometer:



- Causes and lasting effects unclear

Vaccine confidence in Finnish HCPs

- Finnish HCPs have high confidence in vaccines
 - Higher education, older age, and senior roles -> higher confidence
 - Within nursing, HCPs for whom vaccinations are an integral part of day-to-day work exhibit higher confidence
 - Public health nurses -> Nurses
- Reported likelihood of recommending vaccines to patients generally high, but somewhat lower for pregnant patients
- Fears about adverse effects the most pronounced reason to hesitate

Variation in confidence

- Between vaccines
 - Generally, vaccines with the longest history of use tend to be the most trusted
 - Exceptions, like influenza vaccinations
- Regionally
 - There is some regional variation in vaccine confidence, and there are several pockets with lower VCRs
 - Reasons are not well documented
- Socio-demographically
 - Higher education, income and good perceived health correlate with vaccine confidence
 - Somewhat contradictory evidence esp. regarding education

Relevance to public health strategies

- Knowledge-deficit model of vaccine hesitancy has faced criticisms, but a recent study found (Lasander et al. 2024):
 - 20% and 14% felt they did not have enough information about vaccines and vaccine-preventable diseases (VPDs), respectively.



Thank you!

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