Evaluating Texts

Directions: Review the two passages and then discuss the connection questions that follow.

Passage 1: **Influenza vaccine coverage and predictors of vaccination among aged care workers in Sydney Australia.**

Aged care facilities (ACFs) are residential communities with a concentration of vulnerable individuals with increased risk of severe influenza infection and complications such as outbreaks, hospitalisations and deaths. Aged care workers (ACW) are potential sources of influenza introduction and transmission in ACFs. Little is known about vaccine uptake among ACW. This study aimed to measure the vaccine uptake rate among Australian ACW and evaluate the demographic determinants of uptake during the influenza season of 2018.

146 ACWs were recruited from 7 facilities of a multisite aged care provider in Sydney. ACWs completed a questionnaire regarding their demographic, occupational and vaccination status. Vaccine coverage was calculated and variables were examined against their 2018 influenza vaccination status in statistical analysis.

Lai E, Tan HY, Kunasekaran M, Chughtai AA, Trent M, Poulos C, MacIntyre CR. Influenza vaccine coverage and predictors of vaccination among aged care workers in Sydney Australia. Vaccine. 2020 Feb 18;38(8):1968-1974. doi: 10.1016/j.vaccine.2020.01.004. Epub 2020 Jan 23. PMID: 31983582.

Passage 2: Influenza vaccination coverage among residents of aged care facilities in Australia, 2018: a national cohort study

The objective of this study was to investigate the spread of influenza in elderly populations in Australia. A retrospective cohort design was employed, using data collected from electronic medical records of patients aged 65 years and over who had been diagnosed with influenza during the period of January 2016 to December 2018. The study population comprised a total of 14,527 patients from 12 hospitals across three states of Australia. Data on demographic characteristics, vaccination status, comorbidities, clinical presentation, and outcomes were collected and analyzed using descriptive and inferential statistics.

The results of the study indicated that the incidence of influenza was highest among elderly individuals who had not received the influenza vaccine. Additionally, patients with underlying chronic medical conditions were found to have a higher risk of severe illness and hospitalization. Spatial analysis showed that there were regional differences in the incidence of influenza, with higher rates observed in certain areas.

Sullivan SG, et al. Influenza vaccination coverage among residents of aged care facilities in Australia, 2018: a national cohort study. BMJ Open. 2020;10(1):e033180. doi:10.1136/bmjopen-2019-033180.

Connection Questions

1. Which text do you think comes from a genuine published article? Why?
2. Which aspects of the content make it seem trustworthy? Assess this for each passage.
3. What steps could you take to verify these articles?
   - What content would you research?
   - How would you go about doing this?