

## Pandemic H1N1 IgG levels in healthcare workers

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Editor, the recent report on pandemic H1N1 IgG levels in healthcare workers is interesting (1). Çıfci et al. found that “the IgG antibody level was higher in the vaccinated healthcare workers than among the unvaccinated healthcare workers (1).” The implication of this important finding should be discussed. Whether this finding shows the effectiveness and usefulness of vaccination among healthcare workers or not should be further considered. First, IgG antibody might be due to natural infection or vaccination. Since there are no data for the pre-vaccination stage of vaccinated workers, this

point is still a myth. A recent report by Khaokam et al. showed that “approximately half of H1N1 infections were asymptomatic (2).” In addition, the sensitivity of the IgG detection should be discussed. In a recent report by Li et al., it was shown that “the IgG antibody response to A(H1N1)pdm09 HA was cross-reactive with HAs from H1, H3, H5, and H13 subtypes (3).” Finally, the reason for no vaccination should be further discussed. Indeed, different kinds of healthcare workers might have different chances to be exposed to influenza. This might be a possible reason why some workers might not have vaccination.

### References

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### Reply to Letter to the Editor:

I would like to thank for your important contributions to our study. We will consider your suggestions in our succeeding studies.

### Aydın ÇİFCİ

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