Societal Preferences for Meningococcal B Vaccination in Children: A Discrete-Choice Experiment in Spain

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Neisseria meningitidis serogroup B (MenB) is the most common cause of bacterial meningitis in many industrialized countries.

Most cases occur in children, with infants less than 1 year of age being the most frequently affected.

It can be effectively prevented by vaccination.

In absence of a National Immunization Program in Spain, the risk-benefit and financial impact of immunizing children against MenB needs to be weighted.

THE STUDY explored societal preferences (represented by parents and paediatricians) regarding six attributes of a MenB vaccine through a Discrete Choice Experiment*.

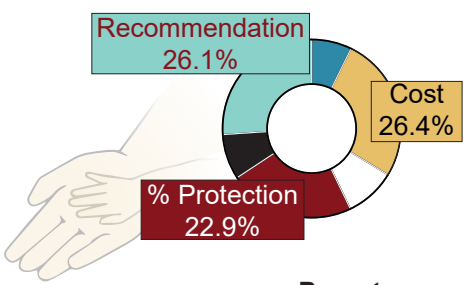
1 **Attributes selection based on:**
(i) literature review
(ii) experts to validate attributes

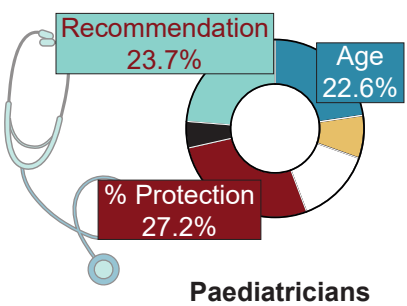
2 **Survey**

SIX ATTRIBUTES

- Age of protection
- Cost
- Duration of protection
- Percentage of protection
- Adverse events
- Expert/Authority recommendations

WHAT PARENTS AND PAEDIATRICIANS VALUE MOST





	Parents	Paediatricians
Cost	26.4%	7.8%
Expert/authority recommendation	26.1%	23.7%
% Protection	22.9%	27.2%
Age of protection	7.3%	22.6%

Expert recommendation and percentage of protection were essential attributes for both groups.

Considering the preferences of key social segments is critical when including new vaccines in National Immunization Programs.

*This methodology, aimed here at assessing individual preferences for MenB vaccine, is based on the premise that medical interventions can be described as combinations of different attributes