

More Russian Doctors Trust Coronavirus Vaccine – Poll

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Sixty-nine percent of Russian doctors trust Sputnik V as safe and effective, significantly higher than their trust levels toward foreign Covid-19 vaccines. **Moskva News Agency**

Russian doctors are more likely to trust the homegrown Sputnik V coronavirus vaccine than they were last year and trust their country's jab significantly more than they do foreign vaccines, according to an independent survey [published](#) Thursday.

Out of the nearly 2,000 Russian doctors surveyed by Levada and the professional community of medics Vrachi.rf, 69% said they trust Sputnik V to be safe and effective.

Related article: [Sputnik V Vaccine Gives Russia a Whopping Soft-Power Boost](#)

The same percentage said they have already gotten vaccinated or plan to do so, while 23% do not plan to receive the shot.

A survey from August 2020, when President Vladimir Putin announced Sputnik V's approval

before its large-scale clinical trials began, had said more than half of Russian doctors were unwilling to be vaccinated versus one-quarter who were willing.

Levada's latest poll showed Russia's two other registered vaccines — KoviVak and EpiVacCorona — each receiving a 48% and 41% trust rating among the surveyed doctors.

The results come one day after the Open Media investigative website [reported](#) that Russia has curtailed production of foreign vaccines within the country to spotlight Sputnik V's effectiveness to the outside world.

The Kremlin said Thursday that global demand for Russia's Covid-19 vaccine was so high that it was struggling to meet it.

Trust levels toward foreign vaccines developed by Pfizer/BioNTech (28%), Moderna (20%) and AstraZeneca (13%) varied widely among the surveyed Russian doctors.

"This is partly due to less awareness, since almost half of the respondents don't have a particular position," Levada said, pointing to the 41%-49% of the doctors who had no opinion on the Western-made jabs.

The survey also revealed a disparity in vaccine availability between Russia's regions and the affluent capital of Moscow, where nearly two-thirds of surveyed doctors said supply outstripped demand.

In the rest of the regions, with the exception of those immediately surrounding Moscow, more doctors said demand for Covid-19 vaccines outstripped supply.

Notably, a majority of the surveyed Russian doctors share the Russian public's [belief](#) that Covid-19 was created artificially instead of emerging naturally.

Levada said it conducted the online survey in partnership with Vrachy.ru among 1,850 Russian medical professionals between March 23-29.

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