

## Correspondence

To the Editors

## Breastfeeding and COVID-19 vaccination

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Dear Editors,

COVID-19 vaccine is the new hope for successful COVID-19 containment. The vaccine is recommended and the benchmark is reaching herd immunity level. The interesting group that might receive vaccination is breastfeeding women. The present consideration is on the interrelationship between breastfeeding and COVID-19 vaccination.

Basically, COVID-19 transmission via breastfeeding is not confirmed and there is no contraindication to breastfeeding. Regarding COVID-19 vaccination, usefulness is expected for breastfeeding mothers. Focusing on neonate receiving breastfeeding, antibody is detected in mother receiving mRNA based COVID-19 vaccine and it can confirm the advantage to the neonate<sup>1-3</sup>.

We should also discuss on reported adverse effects of vaccination among lactating mothers and their children. There is no report on adverse effects among breastfed children but adverse effects in lactating mothers are already reported. Rare cases of subacute thyroiditis in lactating mothers are reported and it is necessary to recognize this complication<sup>4</sup>. Finally, an important topic which should be discussed is vaccine hesitancy among lactating mothers. In a recent report, a considerable number of lactating mothers rejected vaccination<sup>5</sup>. It is necessary to prepare an urgent plan for managing COVID-19 vaccine among lactating mothers.

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