

INFORMED COVID-19 mRNA VACCINATION DECISIONS WITH FACT BOXES



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Fact box: How safe and effective are COVID-19 mRNA vaccines for adults under the age of 60?



This fact box compares adults under the age of 60 years who have not been vaccinated against COVID-19 (left side) with vaccinated adults (right side). It is assumed that 240 out of 1,000 unvaccinated people will get sick. This is comparable to your risk of getting sick if you have close contact with someone who is infected.

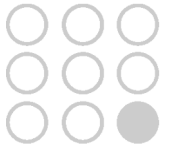
	1,000 non-vaccinated adults	1,000 vaccinated adults
Benefits of the vaccine		
How many get COVID-19 ?	240	10
... and – depending on their age or previous medical conditions – have to be treated in hospital due to severe illness?	6 to 31	0 to 1
... and experience long-term complications from COVID-19?	The numbers are still uncertain. There is clear evidence of permanent respiratory distress and memory impairment due to COVID-19 ("long COVID").	
Harms from the vaccine		
How many are unable to participate in their daily activities (due to temporary fatigue, fever, aches, or chills) on individual subsequent days due to a vaccine dose ?	0	82
How many suffer severe harm (e.g., allergic overreaction) within a month due to a vaccine dose ?	0	Close to 0
How many suffer from long-term complications due to the vaccination ?	0	There are currently no indications of long-term complications.
Note: Typical vaccine reactions, which may affect the arm or the entire body, usually subside after one to two days. The occurrence of rare vaccine reactions, such as allergic reactions, and potential relationships between the vaccine and less typical reactions (e.g., insomnia, enlarged lymph nodes, and transient facial paralysis) are currently under examination. It is not yet clear how long the vaccine provides protection.		

Sources for the vaccines Comirnaty (manufacturer BioNTech/Pfizer) and Moderna (manufacturer Moderna): Baden 2020. NEJM; BioNTech & Pfizer 2020. www.comirnatyeducation.de; CDC 2021. MMWR; EMA 2020. www.ema.europa.eu; FDA 2020. FDA Briefing Document; Polack 2020. NEJM; RKI 2020. reporting data; STIKO 2021. Epidemiological Bulletin.

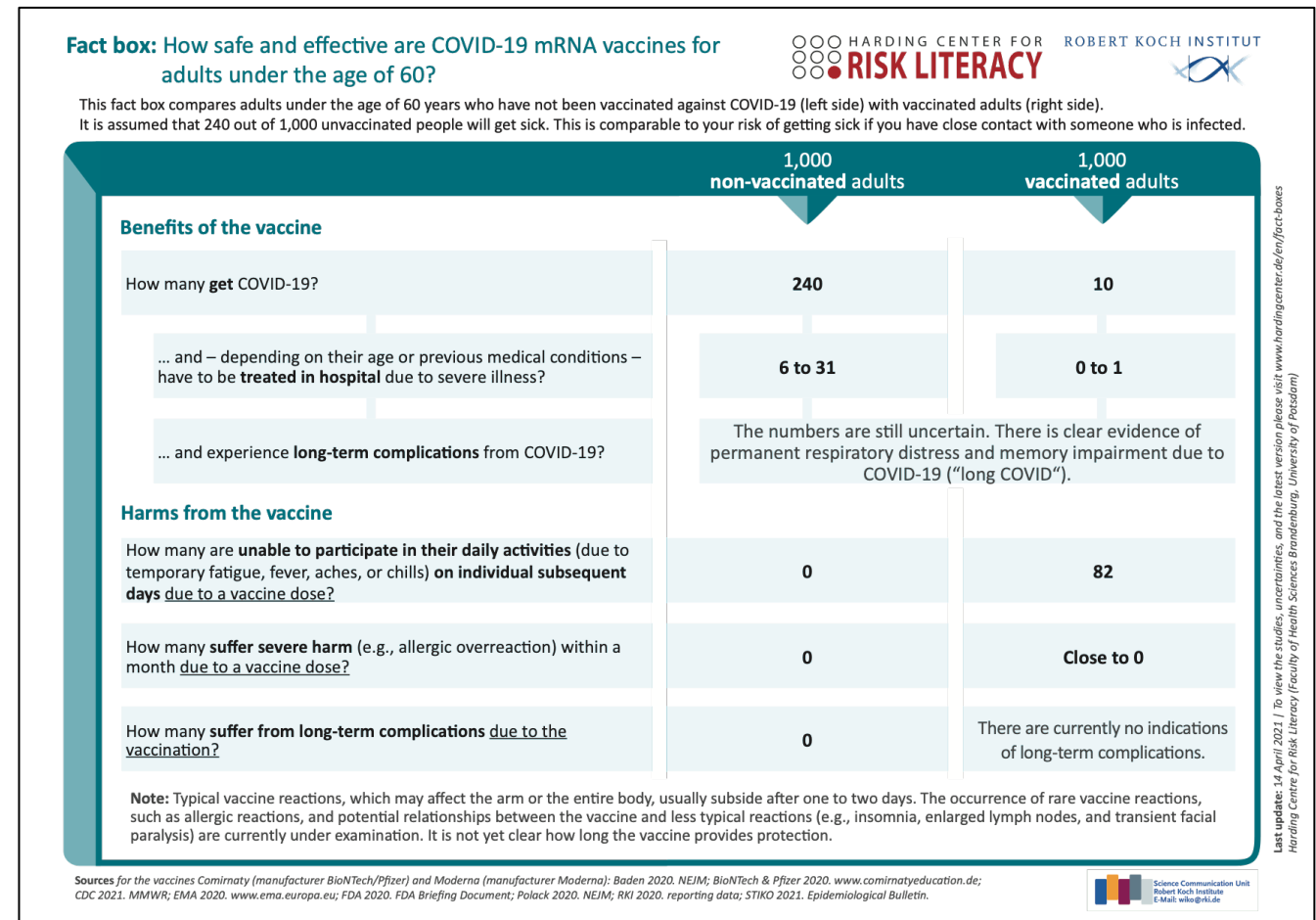


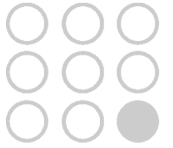
Last update: 14 April 2021 | To view the studies, uncertainties, and the latest version please visit www.hardingcenter.de/en/fact-boxes
Harding Center for Risk Literacy (Faculty of Health Sciences Brandenburg, University of Potsdam)

INFORMED COVID-19 mRNA VACCINATION DECISIONS WITH FACT BOXES



What is a fact box?



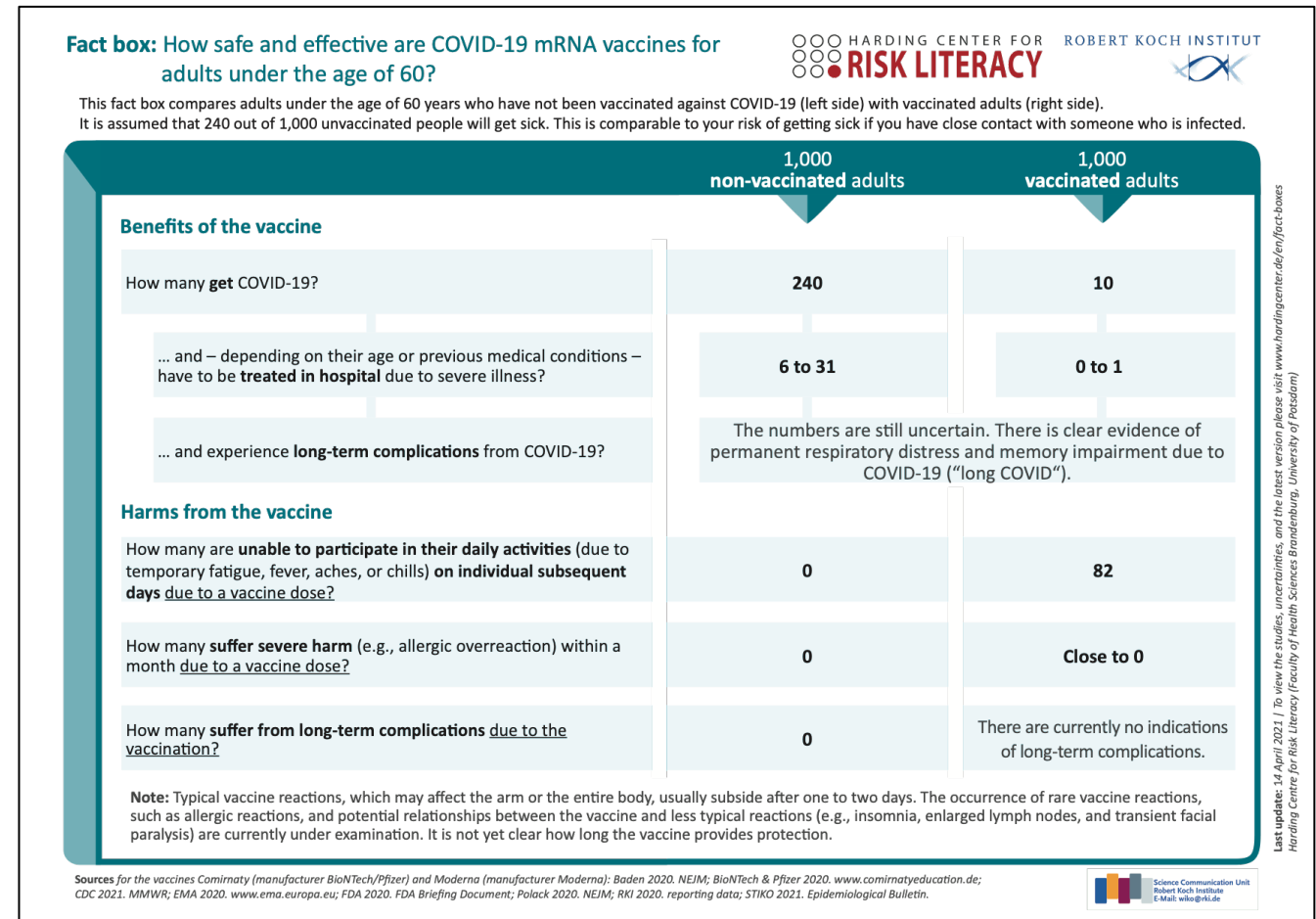


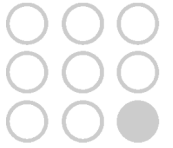
INFORMED COVID-19 mRNA VACCINATION DECISIONS WITH FACT BOXES

- ❖ Evidence based summary
- ❖ Balanced overview of benefits and harms
- ❖ Not designed to enforce directed behavioral change

Aim

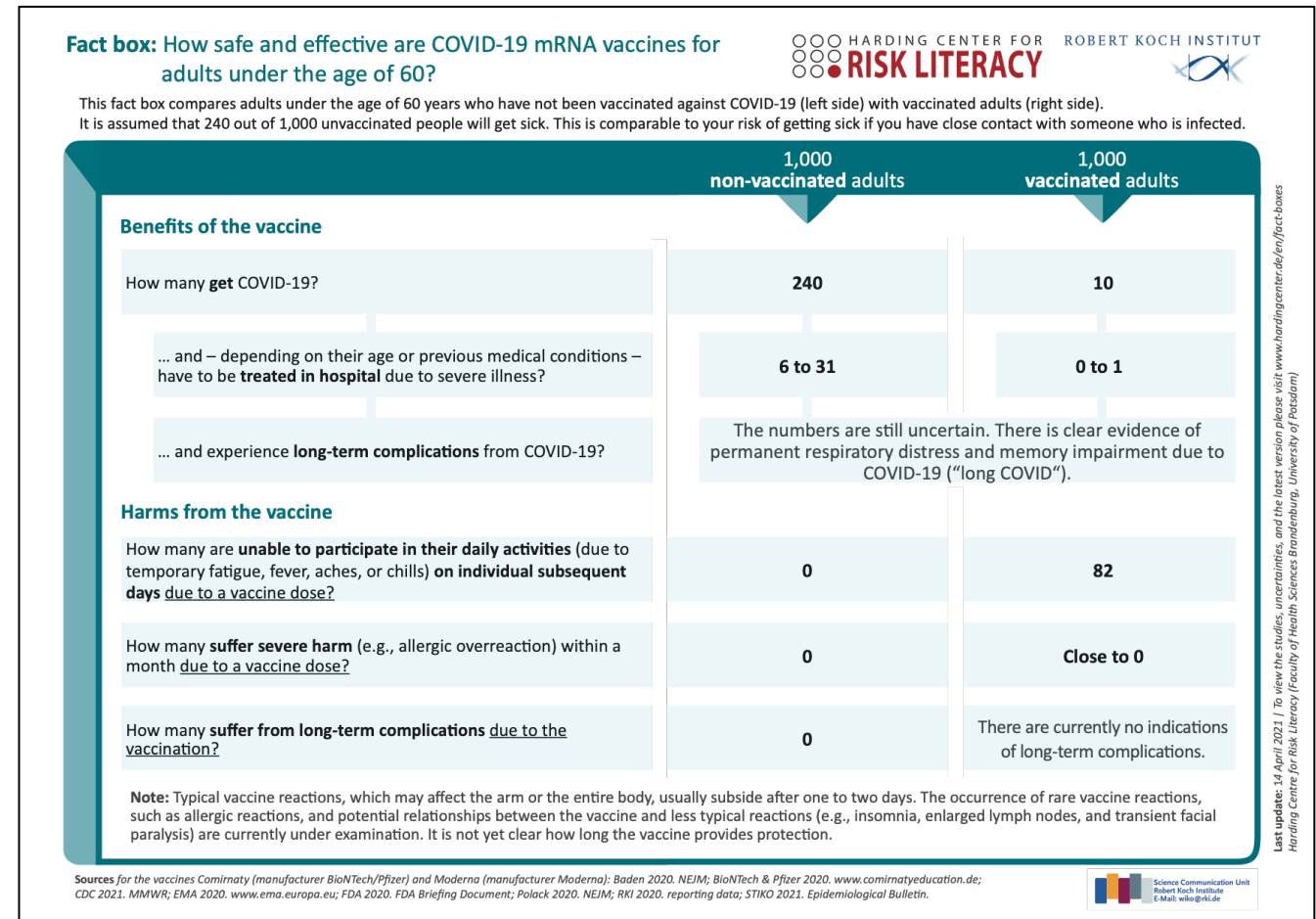
- ❖ Support informed decisions
 - Comprehensive knowledge
 - Decision is congruent with needs and preferences
- ❖ Maybe boost of vaccination uptake for people who lack information

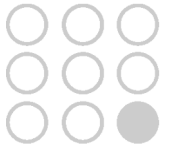




FACT BOX ON COVID-19 mRNA VACCINES – KEY ELEMENTS

*What are the key elements
of a fact box?*





FACT BOX ON COVID-19 mRNA VACCINES – KEY ELEMENTS

Description of the reference class

Most relevant endpoints for benefits and harms

Short summary/ additional note about typical and rare side effects

Sources

Fact box: How safe and effective are COVID-19 mRNA vaccines for adults under the age of 60?

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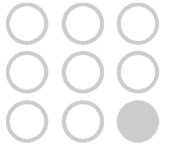
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2 groups of the same denominator with the same reference group

Numbers as absolute risks or statement

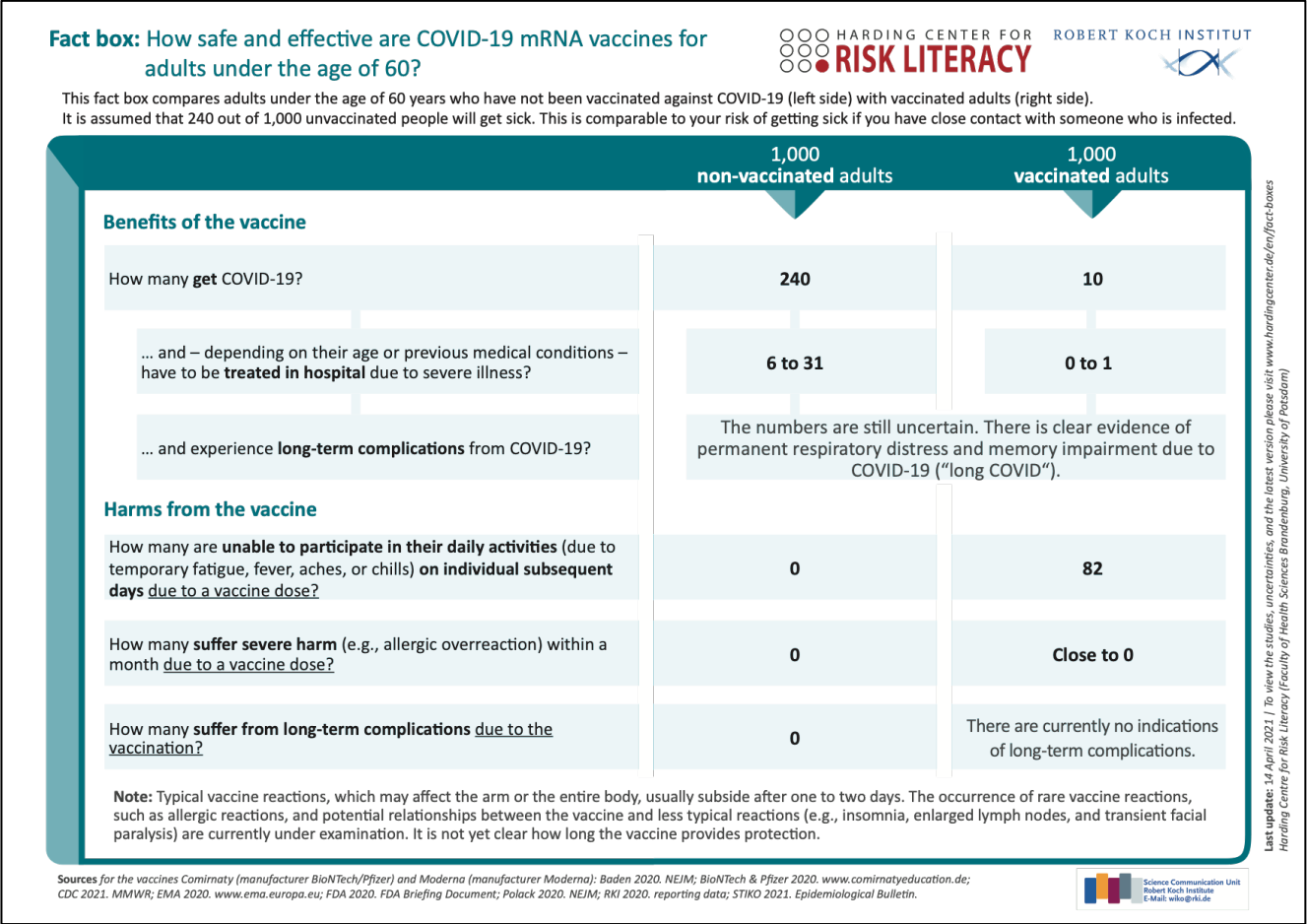
Last update

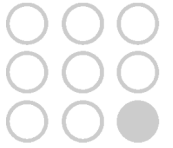
McDowell et al. 2016



FACT BOX ON COVID-19 mRNA VACCINES - IMPLEMENTATION

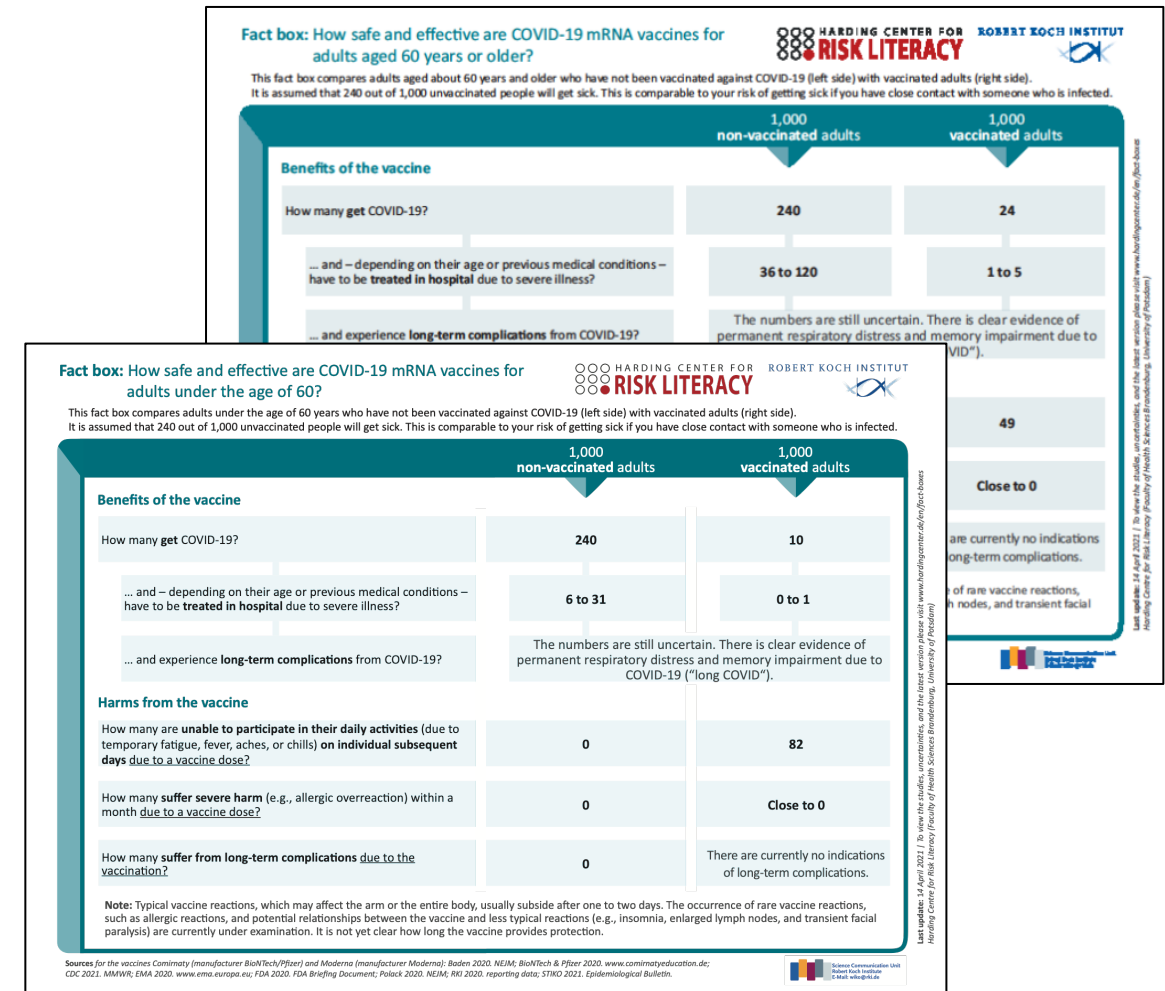
How has the fact box been implemented?



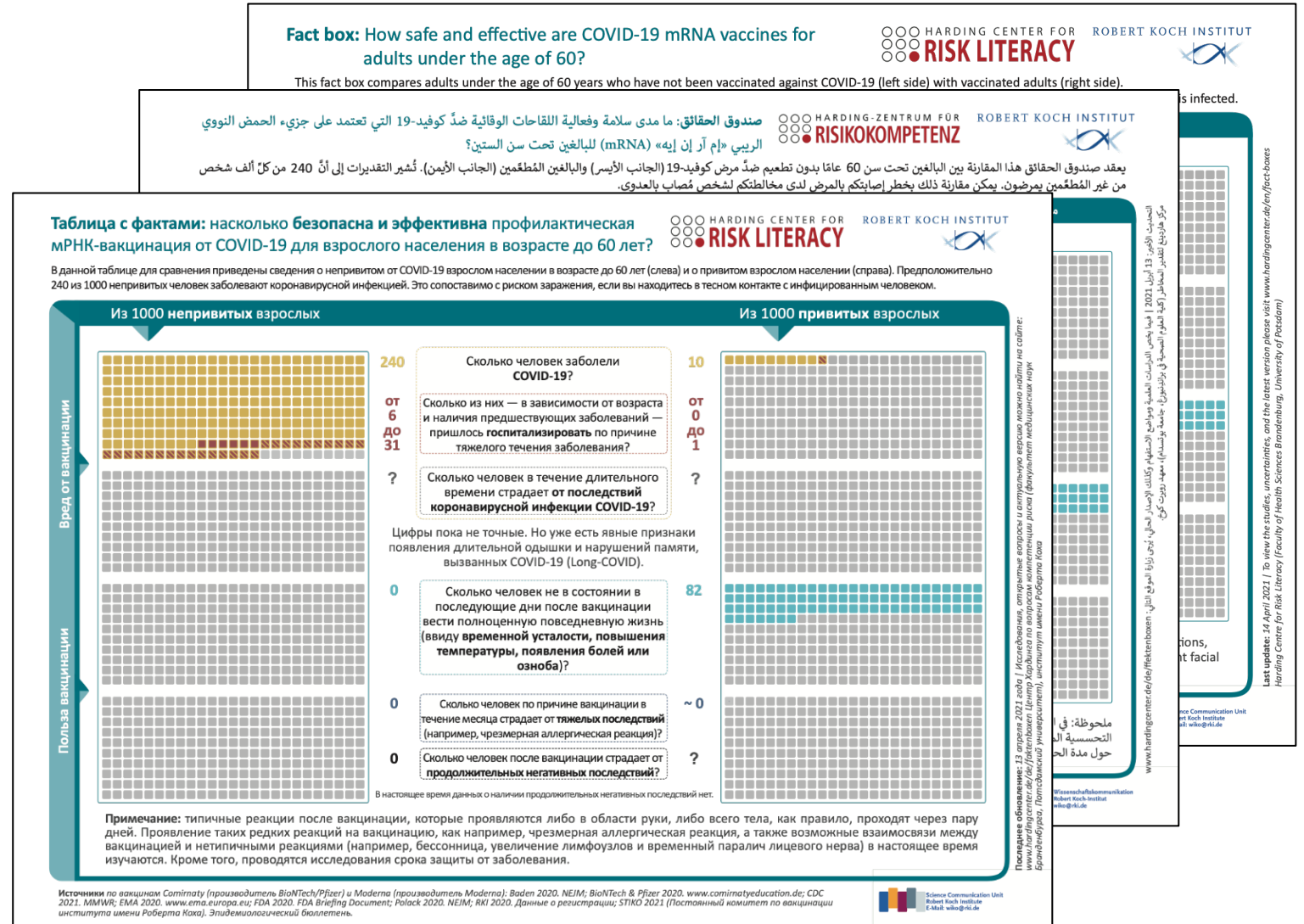


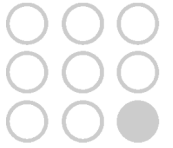
FACT BOX ON COVID-19 mRNA VACCINES - IMPLEMENTATION

- ❖ Fact boxes are embedded in an accompanying text
- ❖ Available for two risk groups: people aged 18-59 and from 60 years
- ❖ Complex version has been revised and replaced by a simple fact box
- ❖ Update and version for youth and young adults in progress



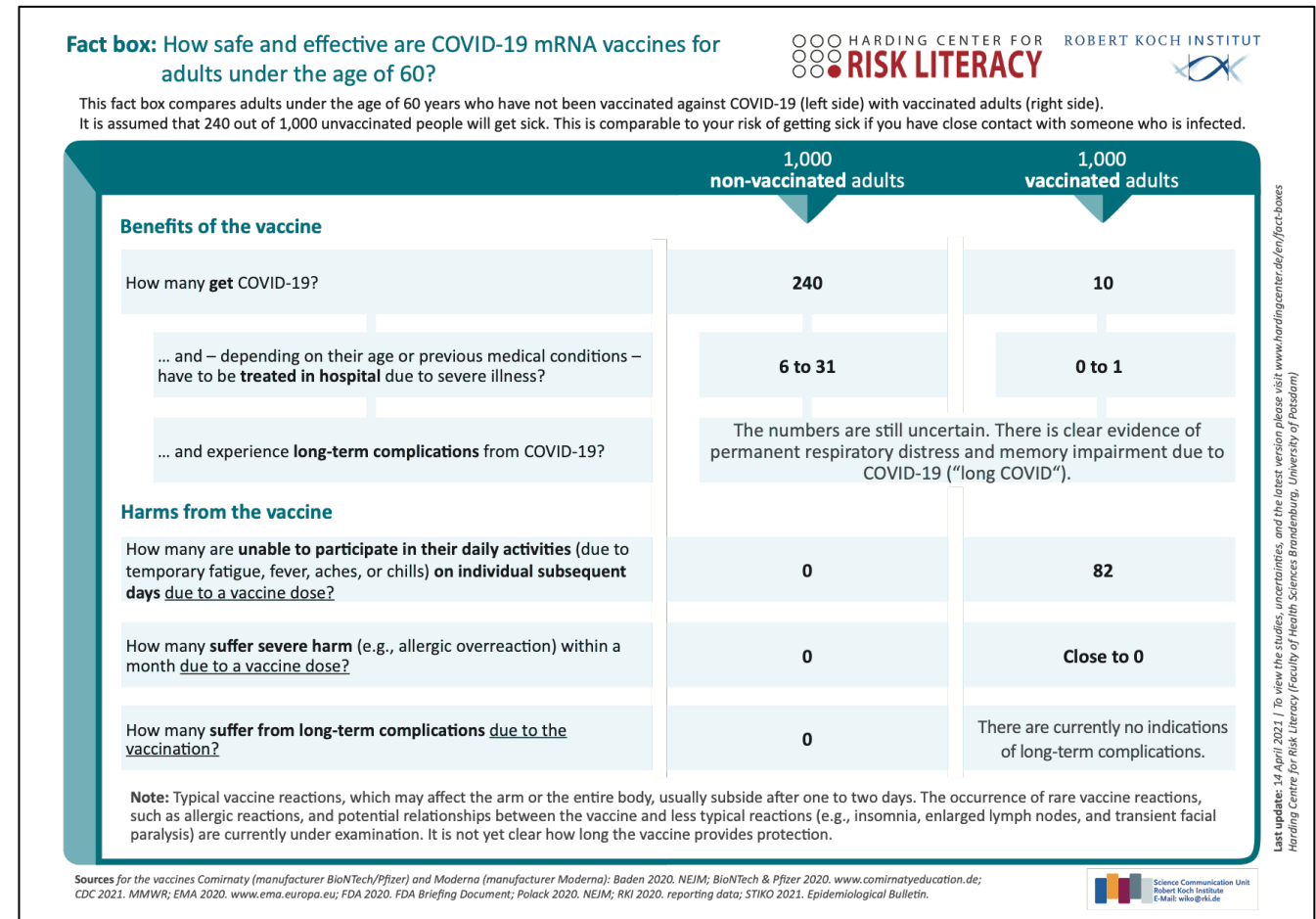
- ❖ Available in nine other languages besides English and German

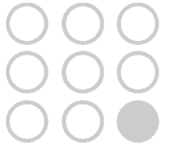




FACT BOX ON COVID-19 mRNA VACCINES - EVALUATION

Can fact boxes support informed COVID-19 vaccination decisions?



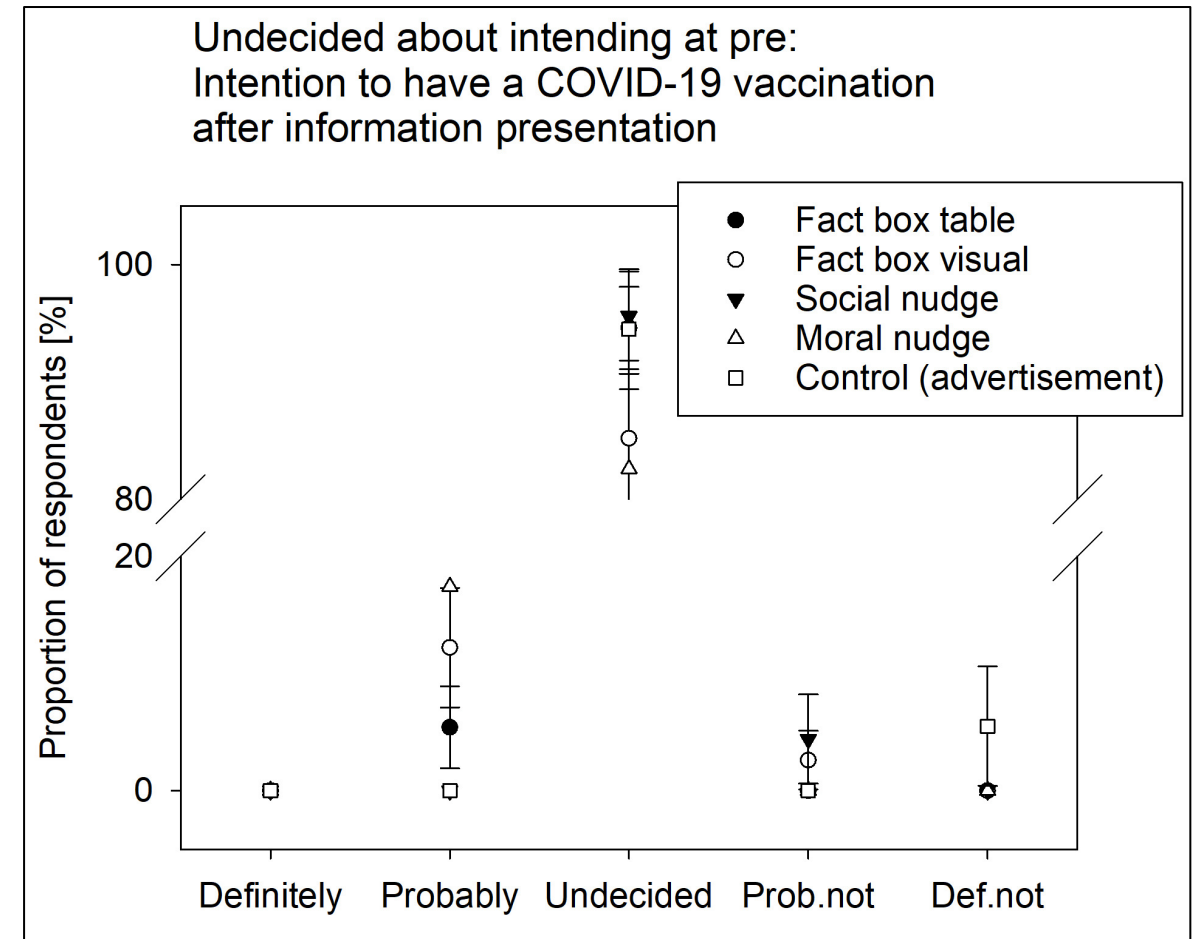


FACT BOX ON COVID-19 MRNA VACCINES - EVALUATION

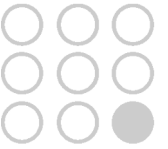
- ❖ **Knowledge improvement** (McDowell et al. 2016, 2019; Brick et al., 2020; Rebitschek et al., under review)
- ❖ Representative online survey in Germany with 14,000 invited panelists
- ❖ Preregistered study:
https://aspredicted.org/DDI_WHT
- ❖ **More likely vaccination intention** in people who were undecided before

Conclusion

- ❖ Informed decisions can also lead to vaccination decisions
- ❖ Further research on vulnerable groups



Rebitschek et al. (in prep). Evidence-based information against vaccine hesitancy before nudging.



REFERENCES

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