

- Vaccination / Virus

## Vaccines prevent severe infection, even from Delta, says French study

Muscat Daily · 12 Oct 2021 · 10

Paris, France - Vaccination is highly effective at preventing severe cases of COVID-19, even against the Delta variant, a vast study in France has shown.



The research published on Monday - focusing on prevention of severe COVID-19 and death, not infection - looked at 22mn people over 50 and found those who had received jabs were 90 per cent less likely to be hospitalised or die.

The results confirm observations from the US, the UK and Israel, but researchers say it is the largest study of its kind so far.

Looking at data collected starting in December 2020, when France launched its jab campaign, the researchers compared the outcomes of 11mn vaccinated people with 11mn unvaccinated subjects.

They formed pairs matching an unvaccinated individual with a vaccinated counterpart from the same region and of the same age and sex, tracking them from the date of the vaccinated person's second jab to July 20.

Starting 14 days after a second dose, a vaccinated subjects' risk of severe COVID-19 was reduced by 90 per cent, according to the research conducted by Epi-Phare, an independent medicines safety research group that works closely with the French government.

Vaccination appears to be nearly as effective against for the Delta variant, with 84 per cent protection for people 75 and older and 92 per cent for people 50-75.

That estimate, however, is only based on a month of data, since the variant became dominant in France only in June.

"The study should be followed up to include results from August and September," epidemiologist Mahmoud Zureik, the head of Epi-Phare, told AFP.

The study covers vaccination with the Pfizer/BioNtech, Moderna and AstraZeneca jabs, but not Janssen which was authorised much later and is far less widely used in France.