

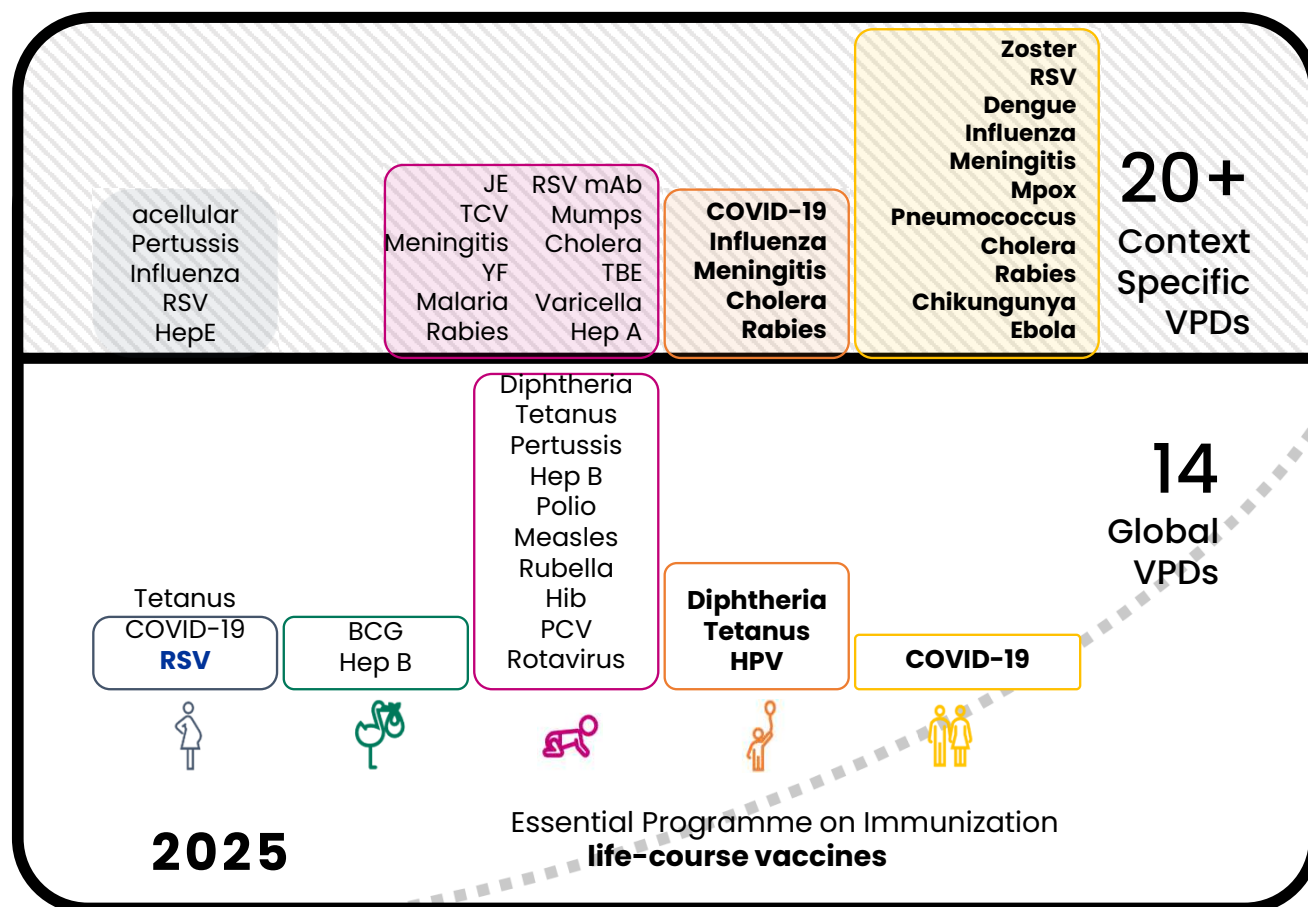
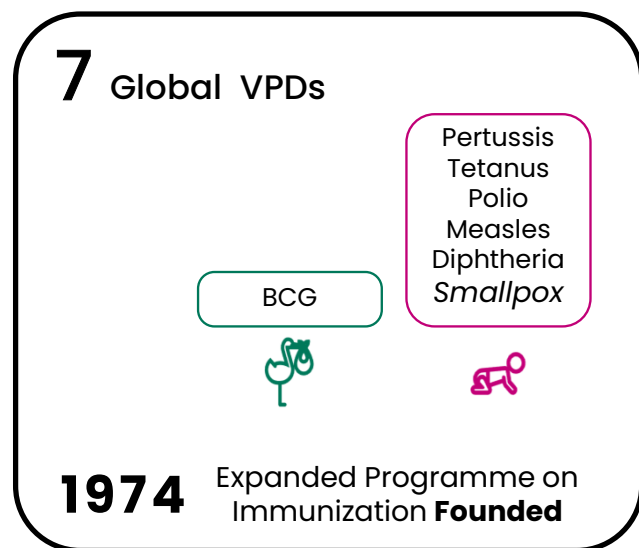
# **Vaccine Confidence in Adolescents and Young Adults**



Professor Charles Shey Wiysonge  
**Consultant, Immunization Directorate**  
**Africa CDC**

NISH Vaccinology webinar series for NITAGs in Africa, 15 July 2026

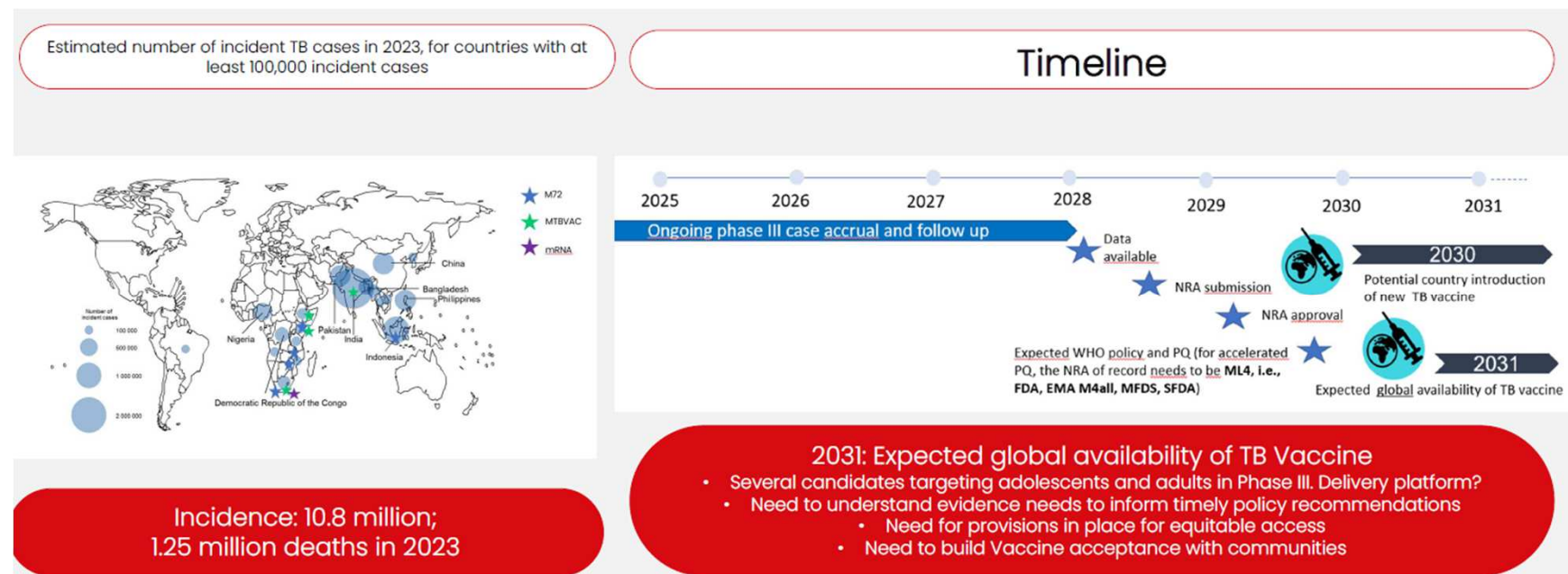
# From Childhood to Life-Course Immunisation



WHO 2026. Summary of WHO Position Papers



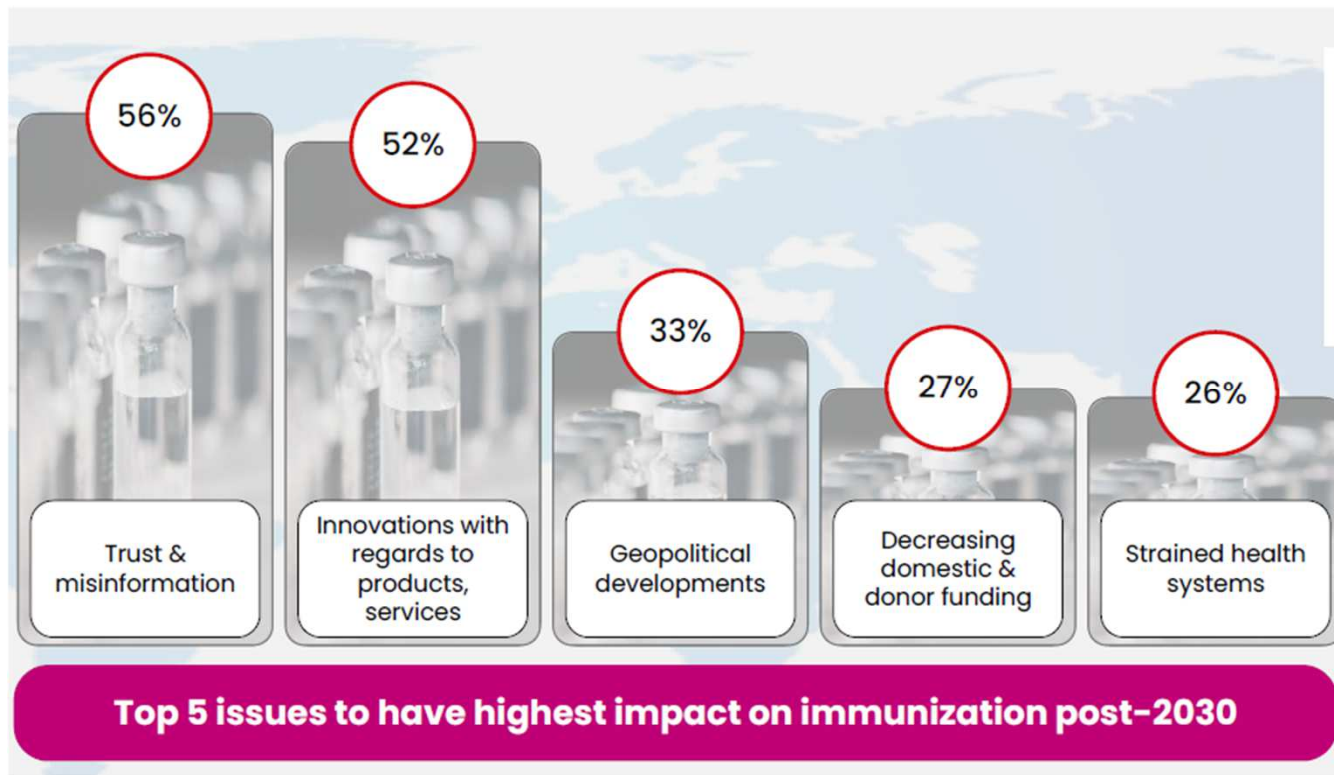
# Tuberculosis Vaccine Pipeline



**Adolescents and adults**, in whom 90% of TB disease occurs, **are a major focus** in reducing transmission to all ages

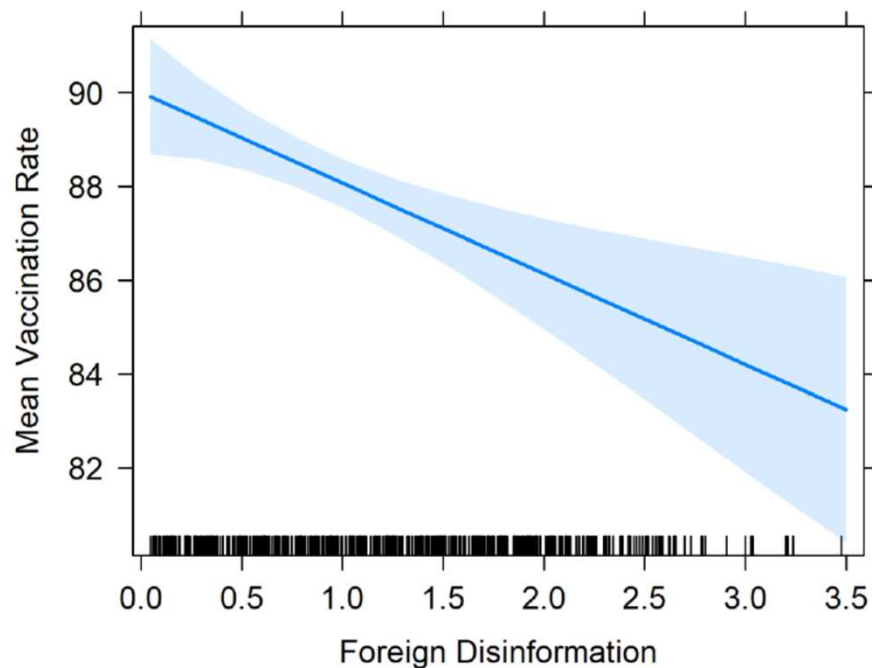
TB vaccine pipeline has **several candidates in late-stage clinical trials**; some may be licensed in **the next 4 years**

# The Future of Immunization



WHO, UNICEF and Gavi Secretariat; Online Survey 14 Jan - 7 Feb 2025

# Misinformation

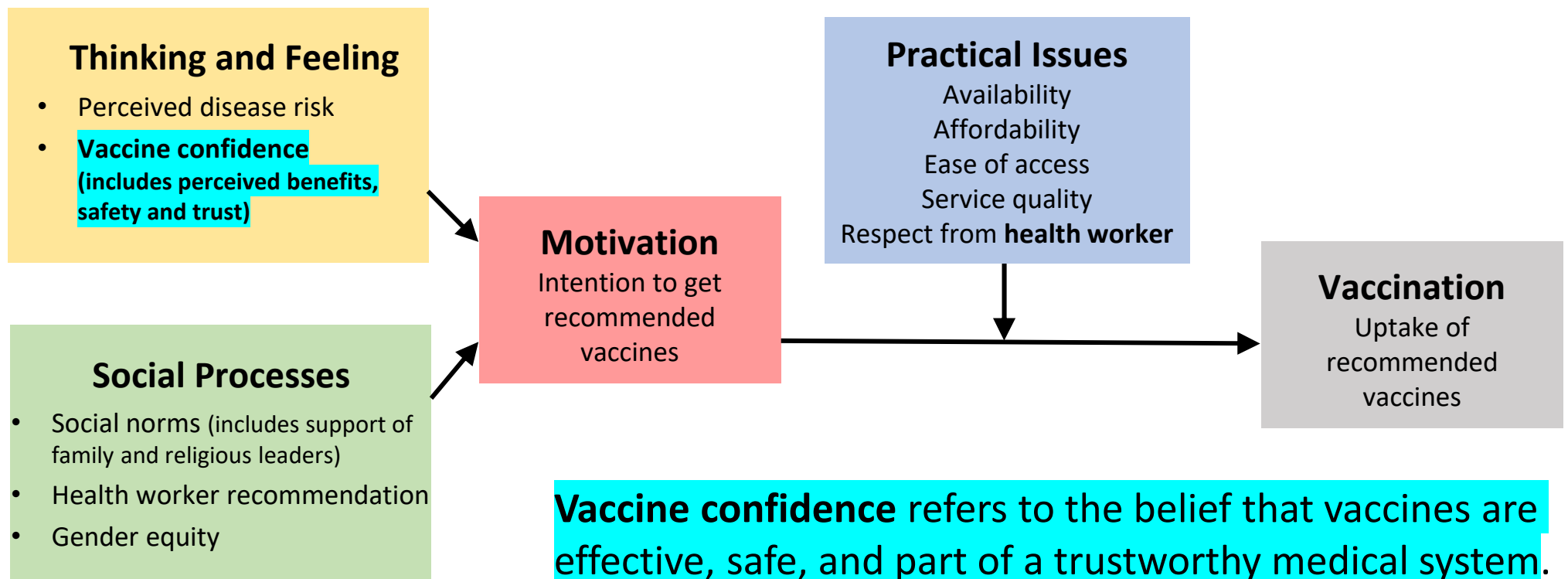


|                        | Dependent variable:       |                                     |                         |                     |
|------------------------|---------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------|
|                        | Mean Vaccination Rate (%) | Belief that Vaccines are Unsafe (%) | Negative Vaccine Tweets |                     |
|                        | OLS                       |                                     | OLS                     | negative binomial   |
|                        | (1)                       | (2)                                 | (3)                     | (4)                 |
| Foreign Disinformation | -0.793***<br>(0.215)      | -1.932***<br>(0.578)                | -0.091<br>(0.831)       | 0.293***<br>(0.112) |

Misinformation on social media is associated with declining vaccine confidence and, over time, declining vaccination coverage.

Wilson SL & Wiysonge C, BMJ Global Health 2020

# WHO Behavioural and social drivers of vaccination (BeSD)

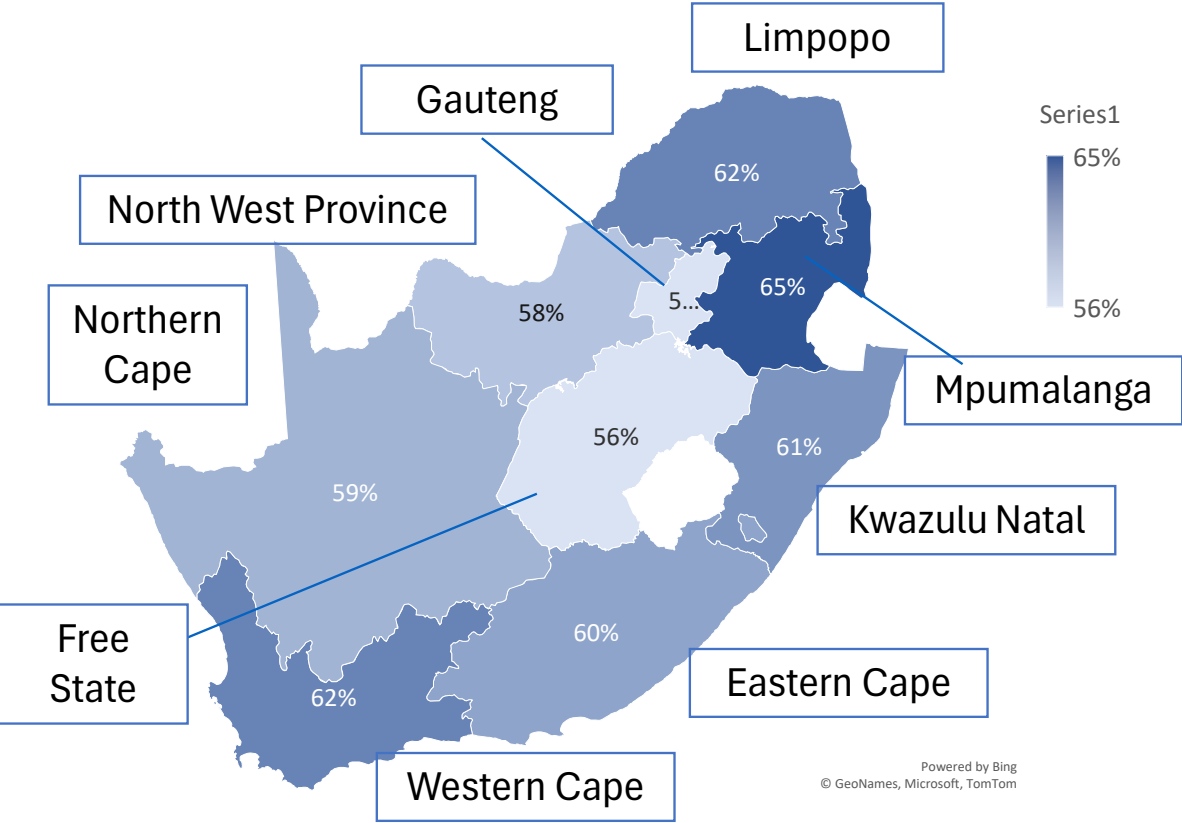


# **Tuberculosis Vaccine Confidence Survey in South Africa**

**Courtesy Prof Heidi Larson, LSHTM; May 2024**

# Adult TB Vaccine Confidence in South Africa

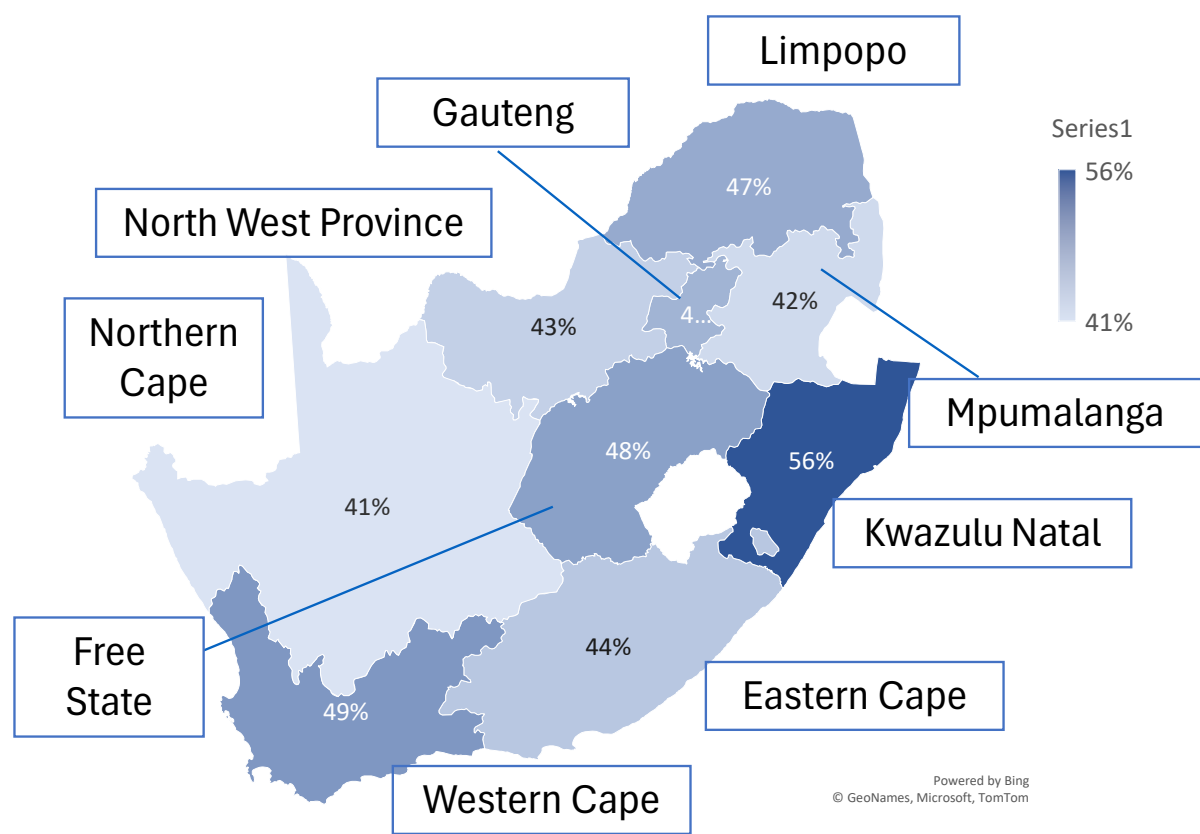
C1a. ...how willing would you be to accept the vaccine?



| Stratum | Country             | Definitely yes | Unsure, leaning towards yes | Unsure leaning towards no | Definitely no | Don't know | NET (Yes) |
|---------|---------------------|----------------|-----------------------------|---------------------------|---------------|------------|-----------|
| 1       | Gauteng             | 32%            | 24%                         | 21%                       | 21%           | 3%         | 56%       |
| 3       | North West Province | 22%            | 36%                         | 18%                       | 22%           | 2%         | 58%       |
| 3       | Eastern Cape        | 29%            | 31%                         | 23%                       | 16%           | 1%         | 60%       |
| 3       | Western Cape        | 26%            | 37%                         | 18%                       | 18%           | 2%         | 62%       |
| 3       | Northern Cape       | 23%            | 36%                         | 22%                       | 17%           | 2%         | 59%       |
| 2       | Kwazulu Natal       | 26%            | 35%                         | 12%                       | 23%           | 4%         | 61%       |
| 2       | Free State          | 30%            | 26%                         | 25%                       | 13%           | 5%         | 56%       |
| 2       | Mpumalanga          | 22%            | 43%                         | 16%                       | 16%           | 4%         | 65%       |
| 1       | Limpopo             | 24%            | 38%                         | 17%                       | 16%           | 4%         | 62%       |

# TB Vaccine Confidence for Children

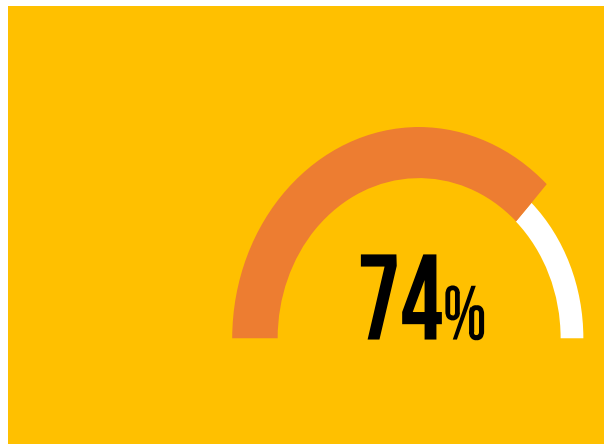
C1b....would you be willing to have your child vaccinated?



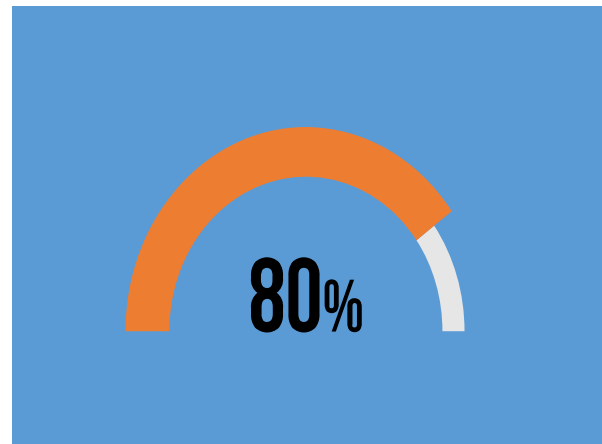
| Stratum | Country             | Definitely yes | Unsure, leaning towards yes | Unsure leaning towards no | Definitely no | Don't know | NET (Yes) |
|---------|---------------------|----------------|-----------------------------|---------------------------|---------------|------------|-----------|
| 1       | Gauteng             | 26%            | 19%                         | 13%                       | 27%           | 14%        | 46%       |
| 3       | North West Province | 22%            | 21%                         | 14%                       | 29%           | 14%        | 43%       |
| 3       | Eastern Cape        | 22%            | 21%                         | 9%                        | 34%           | 14%        | 44%       |
| 3       | Western Cape        | 21%            | 28%                         | 9%                        | 28%           | 13%        | 49%       |
| 3       | Northern Cape       | 16%            | 25%                         | 26%                       | 26%           | 7%         | 41%       |
| 2       | Kwazulu Natal       | 24%            | 31%                         | 9%                        | 24%           | 12%        | 56%       |
| 2       | Free State          | 25%            | 23%                         | 9%                        | 33%           | 11%        | 48%       |
| 2       | Mpumalanga          | 20%            | 23%                         | 15%                       | 33%           | 11%        | 42%       |
| 1       | Limpopo             | 19%            | 27%                         | 13%                       | 30%           | 11%        | 47%       |

# TB Vaccine Confidence Index in SA

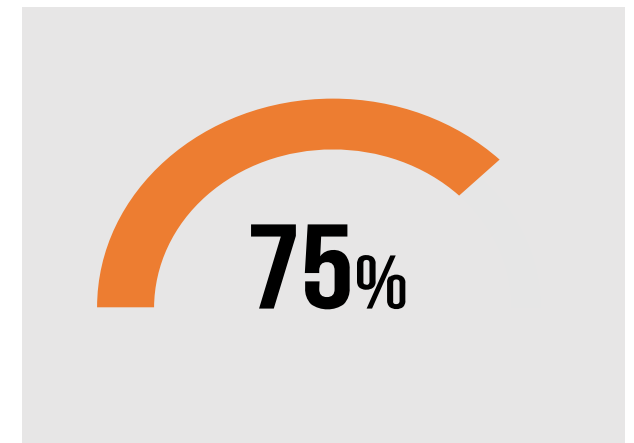
I think a new tuberculosis (TB) vaccine would be...



**Safe**



**Important**

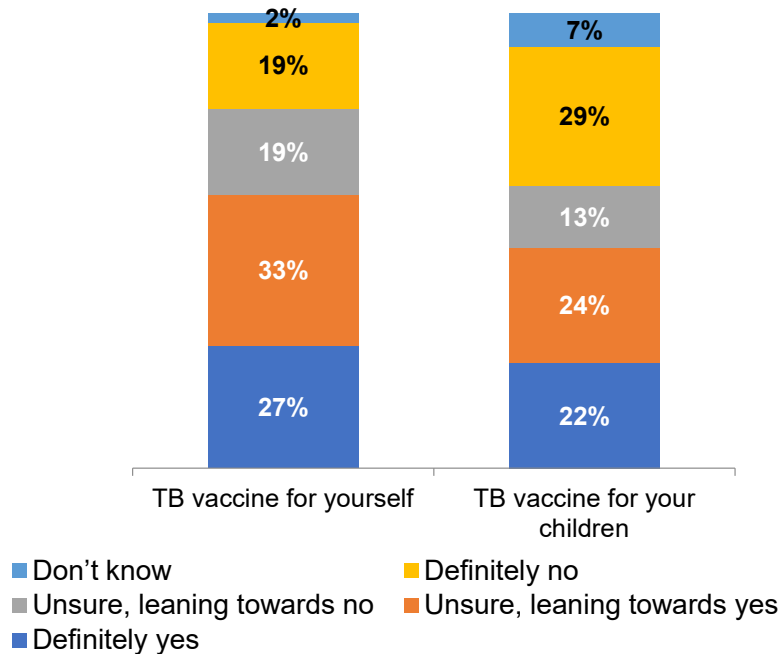


**Effective**

**C4. If TB vaccine is approved and released in the next 6-12 months, how strongly would you agree or disagree with the following statements?**

# Timing of TB Vaccine Uptake in SA

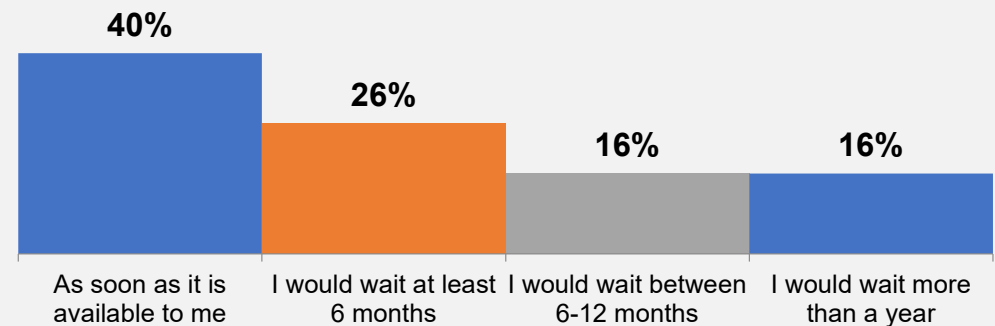
## TB vaccine acceptance:



C1a. ...how willing would you be to accept the vaccine?

C1b....would you be willing to have your child vaccinated?

## Timeline for taking a new TB vaccine once approved and available:

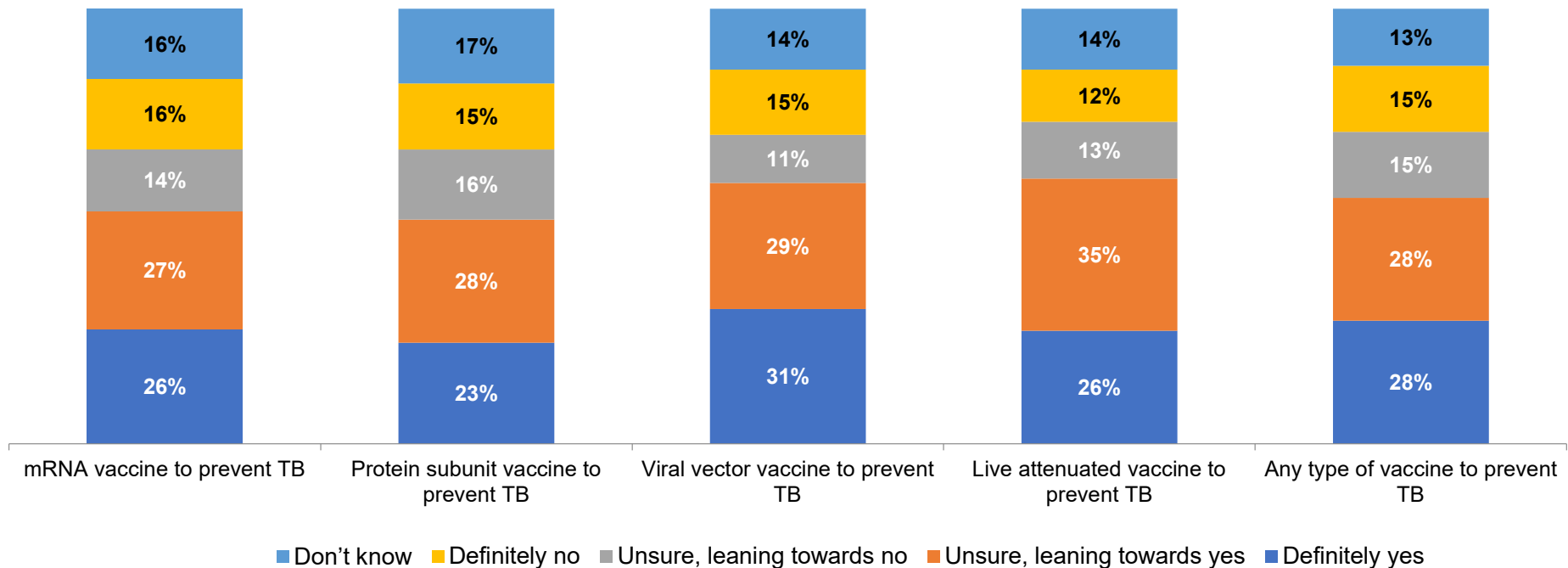


C2. How soon would you receive a tuberculosis (TB) vaccine that is approved for use in South Africa and available to you personally when offered?

All respondents (n=2113); those willing to be vaccinated (n=1315)

# Vaccine platforms

D1. There are several different types of vaccines\*currently being tested to prevent tuberculosis disease. How willing would you be to take the following...

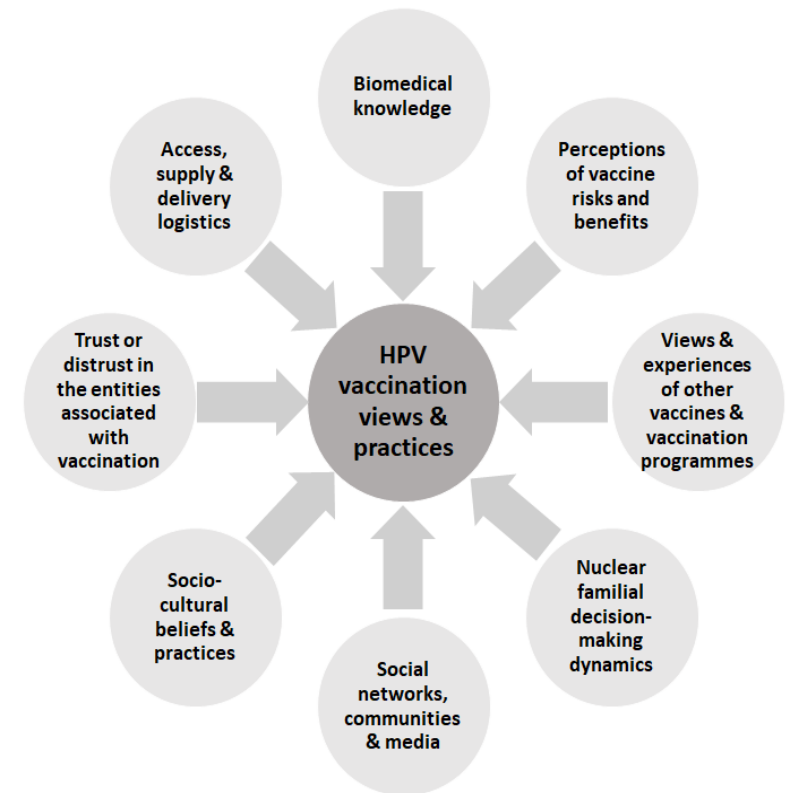


# Adolescent Vaccine Confidence in Context

## - HPV Vaccine Confidence

- Many complex and interrelated factors were found to influence caregivers' and adolescents' HPV vaccination views and practices
- Eight overarching themes

1. A lack of biomedical knowledge
2. Perceptions of HPV vaccination risks and benefits
3. Views & experiences of other vaccines
4. Nuclear familial decision-making dynamics
5. Extended social networks, communities & the media
6. Trust or distrust entities associated with vaccination
7. Socio-cultural beliefs and practices
8. Access, supply and delivery logistics



Cooper et al., 2025

## **Cooper's two-pathway theory of vaccination decision making**

Cooper and colleagues have proposed a theory of two potential pathways through which different factors might interact to influence vaccine confidence and hesitancy, namely, neoliberal logic and social exclusion.

**Wiysonge et al., 2021**

**Cooper et al., 2021**

# Conclusion

- New TB vaccines have enormous potential to transform tuberculosis control
- Current evidence from South Africa is encouraging, but substantial uncertainty remains.
- Vaccine confidence cannot be built at the time of vaccine introduction alone.

**Thank You**