## Additional file 1: List of all variables in the data set used in analyses, original coding and recoding

| Name                        | Description   | Original coding  | Recoding  | Comment  |
|-----------------------------|---|--|---|--|
| Socio-demographic<br>age    | age in years  | year of birth  | 2012-year of birth  |  |
| -                           | age in five-year<br>increments  | ·  | in five-year increments   |  |
| sex                         | sex   | 1=male<br>2=female   | 0=female<br>1=male  |  |
| Migration background        | Any migration<br>background of the<br>participant or his/her<br>parents   | Each question: all<br>countries<br>mentioned were<br>coded as one<br>variable, with<br>codings<br>0=no<br>1=yes  | 0=no migration<br>background<br>1=migration<br>background   | Describes whether a<br>participant was born in<br>Germany, has the<br>German nationality,<br>whether his/her<br>parents are of German<br>nationality, and<br>whether parents were<br>born in Germany. If at<br>least one of these<br>criteria was not<br>applicable, the<br>participant was<br>considered as having<br>migration background<br>(coded with 1). |
| Education                   | School education  | 1=no graduation<br>2=Certificate of<br>Secondary<br>Education (9 yrs<br>schooling)<br>3=General<br>Certificate of<br>Secondary<br>Education (10 yrs<br>schooling)<br>4=Polytechnic<br>Secondary School<br>5=Polytechnic<br>degree<br>6=general<br>qualification for<br>university entrance<br>7=Advanced<br>technical college or<br>University<br>8=other<br>9=Don't know/No<br>answer | 1 and 2→1= no<br>graduation/Certificate<br>of Secondary<br>Education<br>3 and 4→2= General<br>Certificate of<br>Secondary Education<br>5, 6 and 7→3=<br>polytechnic degree or<br>higher<br>8 and 9→ missing |  |
| Place of residence          | Describes whether the<br>participant lives in the<br>eastern (newly-<br>formed German<br>states) or western<br>part of Germany. | Community-<br>indicator,<br>continuous   | 0=Western part of<br>Germany<br>1=Eastern part of<br>Germany (incl. Berlin)   | Federal state (first two<br>digits) was extracted<br>and allocated to east<br>and west of Germany.   |
| Health related              |   |  |   |  |
| Subjective health<br>status | Rating of own health  | 1=very good<br>2=good<br>3=average<br>4=bad<br>5=very bad<br>6=Don't know/ No  | 1=(very) good<br>2= average<br>3=(very) bad   |  |

|  |   | answer   |   |
|--|---|--|---|
| Chronic condition  | Information on<br>chronic condition of<br>the participant (not<br>further specified)  | 1=yes<br>2=no<br>3=Don't know/ No<br>answer  | 0=No<br>1=Yes   |
| Recommendation by a physician  | A physician has<br>recommended to get<br>vaccinated during the<br>previous 12 months  | 1=Yes<br>2=No<br>3=Don't know/ No<br>answer  | 0=No<br>1=Yes   |
| Knowledge  |   |  |   |
| Perceived information<br>level                                       | How the participant<br>perceives his/her<br>information level<br>regarding vaccinations<br>in adulthood   | 1= Very good<br>2=Good<br>3=Less good<br>4=Bad<br>5=Don't know/ No<br>answer   | 1 and 2→0=(very)<br>good<br>3 and 4→1=(rather)<br>bad |
| Recommendations by<br>STIKO  | Knowledge on who is<br>in charge of official<br>vaccine<br>recommendations  | 1= Federal Ministry<br>of Health and its<br>technical<br>authorities<br>2=Pharmaceutical<br>industry<br>3= health<br>insurance<br>companies<br>4= committee of<br>independent<br>experts<br>5=Don't know/ No<br>answer | 0=Wrong<br>4→1=Correct                                |
| Awareness of official<br>influenza-campaign by<br>BZgA/RKI           | Awareness of the<br>official influenza<br>vaccination campaign<br>run by the BZgA/RKI:<br>Ever seen/read<br>posters,<br>advertisement in<br>magazine or<br>information brochure                     | 1=Yes, read or<br>seen<br>2=No<br>3=Don't know/ No<br>answer   | 0=No<br>1=Yes   |
| Awareness of<br>brochure by BZgA/RKI                                 | Ever seen/read the<br>brochure of the<br>BZgA/RKI about<br>immunization<br>protection for the<br>whole family   | 1=Yes, read or<br>seen<br>2=No<br>3=Don't know/ No<br>answer   | 0=No<br>1=Yes   |
| Awareness of official<br>measles-campaign by<br>BZgA                 | Awareness of the<br>official Measles-<br>Mumps-Rubella<br>vaccination campaign<br>by the BZgA: Ever<br>seen/read<br>brochures/posters   | 1=Yes, read or<br>seen<br>2=No<br>3=Don't know/ No<br>answer   | 0=No<br>1=Yes   |
| Recommendation for<br>pneumococcal<br>vaccination known, if<br>asked | Interviewer<br>mentioned the official<br>recommendation for<br>pneumococcal<br>vaccination for<br>persons > 59 years<br>and asked whether<br>the participant was<br>aware of this<br>recommendation | 1=Yes<br>2=No<br>3=Don't know/ No<br>answer  | 0=No<br>1=Yes   |
| Recommendation for<br>influenza vaccination                          | Interviewer<br>mentioned the official   | 1=Yes<br>2=No  | 0=No<br>1=Yes   |

| known, if asked  | recommendation for<br>influenza vaccination<br>for persons > 59 years<br>and asked afterwards<br>whether the<br>participant was aware<br>of this | 3=Don't know/ No<br>answer  |  |  |
|--|--|---|--|--|
| Recommendation<br>Tetanus-vaccination<br>known, spontaneous          | recommendation<br>Does the participant<br>know spontaneously<br>that the tetanus<br>vaccination is<br>recommended in                             | 0=Not mentioned<br>1=mentioned  | 0=No<br>1=Yes  | It was asked which<br>vaccinations have to be<br>repeated in adulthood,<br>every possible answer<br>was coded in a   |
| Recommendation<br>Diphtheria-vaccination<br>known, spontaneous       | adulthood<br>Does the participant<br>know spontaneously<br>that the diphtheria<br>vaccination is<br>recommended in<br>adulthood                  | 0=Not mentioned<br>1=mentioned  | 0=No<br>1=Yes  | separate variable<br>It was asked which<br>vaccinations have to be<br>repeated in adulthood,<br>every possible answer<br>was coded in a                      |
| Recommendation<br>Influenza-vaccination<br>known, spontaneous        | Does the participant<br>know spontaneously<br>that the influenza<br>vaccination is<br>recommended in<br>adulthood                                | 0=Not mentioned<br>1=mentioned  | 0=No<br>1=Yes  | separate variable<br>It was asked which<br>vaccinations have to be<br>repeated in adulthood,<br>every possible answer<br>was coded in a<br>separate variable |
| Recommendation<br>Pneumococcal-<br>vaccination known,<br>spontaneous | Does the participant<br>know spontaneously<br>that the<br>pneumococcal<br>vaccination is<br>recommended in<br>adulthood                          | 0=Not mentioned<br>1=mentioned  | 0=No<br>1=Yes  | It was asked which<br>vaccinations have to be<br>repeated in adulthood,<br>every possible answer<br>was coded in a<br>separate variable                      |
| Recommended<br>Tetanus-vaccination<br>time interval                  | In which time interval<br>the tetanus<br>vaccination has to be<br>repeated according to<br>participants opinion                                  | 1=once<br>2=every ten years<br>3=every three to<br>five years<br>4=every year<br>5=Don't know/No<br>answer    | 0=wrong (incl. not<br>mentioned)<br>1=right (every ten<br>years) | If a vaccination in the<br>question above was<br>mentioned, it was<br>asked, in which time<br>interval it has to be<br>repeated                              |
| Recommended<br>Diphtheria-vaccination<br>time interval               | In which time interval<br>the diphtheria<br>vaccination has to be<br>repeated according to<br>participants opinion                               | 1=once<br>2=every ten years<br>3=every three to<br>five years<br>4=every year<br>5=Don't know/No<br>answer    | 0=wrong (incl. not<br>mentioned)<br>1=right (every ten<br>years) | If a vaccination in the<br>question above was<br>mentioned, it was<br>asked, in which time<br>interval it has to be<br>repeated                              |
| Recommended<br>Influenza-vaccination-<br>time interval               | In which time interval<br>the influenza<br>vaccination has to be<br>repeated according to<br>participants opinion                                | 1=once<br>2=every ten years<br>3=every three to<br>five years<br>4=every year<br>5=Don't know/No<br>answer    | 0=wrong (incl. not<br>mentioned)<br>1=right (every year)         | If a vaccination in the<br>question above was<br>mentioned, it was<br>asked, in which time<br>interval it has to be<br>repeated.                             |
| Attitude<br>Attitude towards<br>vaccinations                         | Attitude towards<br>vaccinations in<br>general   | 1=negative<br>2=rather negative<br>3=neutral<br>4=rather positive<br>5=positive<br>6=Don't know/ No<br>answer | 1=(rather) negative<br>2=neutral<br>3=(rather) positive          |  |
| Trust in official vaccination  | Trust in persons who are responsible for   | 1=Yes<br>2=No   | 0=No<br>1=Yes  |  |

| recommendations   | official vaccination<br>recommendations:<br>Are their decisions<br>evidence-based? | 3=Don´t know/ No<br>answer                  |   |  |
|---|--|---|---|--|
| Appropriate source of<br>information  | Appropriate source of<br>information regarding<br>vaccinations and<br>hygiene      | 1=Yes<br>2=No<br>3=Don´t know/ No<br>answer | 0=No<br>1=Yes                           | Participant indicate<br>yes/no according t<br>source.  |
| -Internet<br>-Physician<br>-Physician's assistant<br>-Brochure<br>-Newspaper/magazine<br>-TV  |  |   |   |  |
| -Informations in<br>schools<br>-Friends<br>-Family<br>-Federal and national<br>state authorities<br>-Pharmaceutical<br>enterprises<br>-Health office<br>-Health insurance   |  |   |   |  |
| company<br>Vaccination due to   | Motivation for a<br>vaccination that was<br>given in the previous<br>five years    | 1=Yes<br>2=No<br>3=Don´t know/No<br>answer  | 0=No (incl. no<br>vaccination)<br>1=Yes | Participant indicat<br>yes/no according t<br>source.   |
| <ul> <li>Vaccination due to<br/>media information</li> <li>Vaccination to<br/>protect others</li> <li>Vaccination due to<br/>occupational exposure</li> <li>Vaccination due to<br/>travel</li> <li>Vaccination due to<br/>Recommendation</li> </ul> |  |   |   |  |
| →Recommendation by  | Source of<br>recommendation of<br>vaccination that led to<br>vaccination           | 0= No<br>1=Yes                              | 0=No<br>1=Yes                           | If answer to Motive<br>recommendation v<br>yes, it was asked b<br>whom. Multiple<br>answers were poss<br>Every possible answ<br>was coded in a<br>separate variabl.e |
| <ul> <li>Vaccination due to<br/>physician</li> <li>recommendation</li> <li>Vaccination due to</li> <li>recommendation by</li> <li>Health insurance</li> <li>company</li> <li>Vaccination due to</li> </ul>  |  |   |   |  |
| familiy member<br>recommendation<br>- Vaccination due to<br>recommendation by<br>friends<br>- Vaccination due to<br>recommendation by<br>others   |  |   |   |  |
| others<br>Barriers to vaccine   | Reasons for not  | 1=Yes                                       | 0=No (incl.no                           | If Participant refu  |

| uptake   | getting vaccinated   | 2=No<br>3=Don't know/ No<br>answer          | vaccination refused)<br>1=Yes                  | vaccination in previous<br>years, it was asked<br>why. Participant<br>indicated yes/no<br>according to reason.<br>Every possible answer<br>was coded in a |
|--|--|---|--|---|
| -Barrier to vaccine<br>uptake: disease<br>perceived as harmless<br>-Barrier to vaccine<br>uptake: fear of side<br>effects<br>-Barrier to vaccine<br>uptake: fear of needles<br>- Barrier to vaccine<br>uptake: forgotten<br>appointment<br>- Barrier to vaccine<br>uptake: belief that<br>vaccine offers no<br>protection<br>-Barrier to vaccine<br>uptake: discouraged<br>by physician opinion<br>-Barrier to vaccine<br>uptake: discouraged<br>by family/friends<br>opinion<br>-Barrier to vaccine<br>uptake: critical reports<br>in media<br>-Barrier to vaccine<br>uptake: too much<br>effort<br>-Barrier to vaccine<br>uptake: general<br>objection | general objection<br>against vaccination                   |   |  | separate variable.  |
| Barriers to influenza<br>vaccine uptake  | Reasons for not<br>getting vaccinated<br>against influenza | 1=Yes<br>2=No<br>3=Don't know/ No<br>answer | 0=No (incl.no<br>vaccination refused)<br>1=Yes | If Participant did not<br>receive influenza<br>vaccination annually,<br>reasons were asked.<br>Participant indicated<br>yes/no according to               |
| - Barrier to influenza<br>vaccine uptake:<br>disease harmless  | Disease is perceived<br>harmless                           |   |  | source. Every possible<br>answer was coded in a<br>separate variable.   |
| - Barrier to influenza<br>vaccine uptake : fear<br>of side effects<br>- Barrier to influenza<br>vaccine uptake: fear of  | Fear of side effects<br>Fear of needles                    |   |  |   |
| needles  |  |   |  |   |

| protection<br>- Barrier to influenza<br>vaccine uptake:<br>contraindication  | Participant cannot be<br>vaccinated against<br>influenza due to<br>(possible)<br>contraindication |  |  |   |
|--|---|--|--|---|
| <ul> <li>Barrier to influenza</li> <li>vaccine uptake:</li> <li>discouraged by</li> <li>physician opinion</li> <li>Barrier to influenza</li> </ul>   | Participant did not   |  |  |   |
| vaccine uptake:<br>received no   | know about the recommendation   |  |  |   |
| information<br>- Barrier to influenza<br>vaccine uptake: does<br>not belong to target<br>group   | Participant does not<br>think he is in the<br>target group  |  |  |   |
| Rating importance of particular vaccination  | How important is it to be vaccinated against:   | 1=Very important<br>2=important<br>3=Not important<br>4=Don't know/ No<br>answer                       | 0=Not important/don´t<br>know<br>1=(very) important        | Perceived importance<br>of vaccination was<br>asked according to<br>vaccination.                              |
| Perceived importance<br>of tetanus-vaccination<br>Perceived importance<br>of diphtheria-<br>vaccination<br>Perceived importance<br>of influenza-<br>vaccination<br>Perceived importance<br>of pneumococcal-<br>vaccination |   |  |  |   |
| Health consciousness   | How much attention is paid to own health  | 1=very strong<br>2=strong<br>3=mediocre<br>4=less strong<br>5=not at all<br>6=Don't know/ No<br>answer | 1= (very) strong<br>2=mediocre<br>3=less strong/not at all |   |
| Practice   |   |  |  |   |
| Consulted web page<br>"Impfen-Info.de"   |   | 1=Yes<br>2=No<br>3=Don't know/ No<br>answer  | 0=No<br>1=Yes  |   |
| Possession of a vaccination record   |   | 1=Yes<br>2=No<br>3=Don´t know/ No<br>answer  | 0=No<br>1=Yes  |   |
| Consulting advice on vaccination   | Consulted advice on<br>vaccination in<br>previous two years                                       | 1=Yes<br>2=No<br>3=Don't know/ No<br>answer  | 0=No<br>1=Yes  |   |
| Consulting advice on<br>vaccination from   | Who gave advice?  | 1=Yes<br>2=No<br>3=Don't know/ No<br>answer  | 0=No<br>1=Yes  | If Participant consulter<br>advice for vaccination<br>during the previous tw<br>years, it was asked<br>where. |
| Physician<br>Pharmacist<br>physician´s assistant   |   |  |  |   |

Travel medicine clinic

Health office

| Refusal of some                | Participant refused at | 1=Yes                      | 0=No                |  |
|--------------------------------|------------------------|----------------------------|---------------------|--|
| vaccinations                   | least one vaccination  | 2=No                       | 1=Yes               |  |
|                                | in previous years      | 3=Don't know/ No           |                     |  |
|                                |                        | answer                     |                     |  |
| Any vaccination during         | Participant received   | 1=Yes                      | 0=No                |  |
| previous five years            | any vaccination during | 2=No                       | 1=Yes               |  |
|                                | previous five years    | 3=Don´t know/ No<br>answer |                     |  |
| Specific vaccinations          |                        | 1=Yes                      | 0=No (incl. no      |  |
| during previous five           |                        | 2=No                       | vaccination at all) |  |
| years                          |                        | 3=Don´t know/ No<br>answer | 1=Yes               |  |
| Tetanus-vaccination            |                        |                            |                     |  |
| during previous five           |                        |                            |                     |  |
| years                          |                        |                            |                     |  |
| Diphtheria-vaccination         |                        |                            |                     |  |
| during previous five           |                        |                            |                     |  |
| years<br>Influenza-vaccination |                        |                            |                     |  |
| during previous five           |                        |                            |                     |  |
| years                          |                        |                            |                     |  |
| Pneumococcal-                  |                        |                            |                     |  |
| vaccination during             |                        |                            |                     |  |
| previous five years            |                        |                            |                     |  |
| Ever received                  | Participant has ever   |                            | 0=No                | Variable was                                   |
| influenza vaccination          | been vaccinated        |                            | 1=Yes               | calculated:                                    |
|                                | against influenza      |                            |                     | 0= Influenza                                   |
|                                |                        |                            |                     | vaccination during                             |
|                                |                        |                            |                     | previous five years=0 &<br>Influenza more than |
|                                |                        |                            |                     | five years ago (not used                       |
|                                |                        |                            |                     | in analysis)=0//                               |
|                                |                        |                            |                     | 1=Influenza vaccination                        |
|                                |                        |                            |                     | during previous five                           |
|                                |                        |                            |                     | years or more than five                        |
|                                |                        |                            |                     | years ago=1                                    |
| Receipt of annual              | Participant gets       | 1=Yes                      | 0=No                |  |
| influenza vaccination          | vaccinated against     | 2=No                       | 1=Yes               |  |
|                                | influenza annually     | 3=Don´t know/ No<br>answer |                     |  |
| Intention to get               | Intention to get       | 1=Yes                      | 0=No                | Only asked if                                  |
| influenza-vaccination          | vaccinated against     | 2=No                       | 1=Yes               | ,<br>participant ≥60 yrs. or                   |
|                                | influenza next season  | 3=Don't know/ No           |                     | if health care worker                          |
|                                |                        | answer                     |                     |  |