HISTORY OF mRNA COVID-19 VACCINES





Research on coronaviruses and mRNA started long before the COVID-19 pandemic.^{2,3}



mRNA COVID-19 Vaccine Development Process: Approximately 12 months⁸



Using knowledge gained from previous mRNA research, scientists developed potential vaccines for COVID-19.⁸

Scientists must submit an application for an Investigational New Drug to the FDA. This includes information on⁹:

- Results from lab research and animal testing
- How the vaccine is made
- Quality of the vaccine

Human trials cannot start without FDA's authorization.⁹





Phase 2:

Includes people of different states of health and backgrounds to continue safety and immune response evaluation¹⁰

Phase 3:

Evaluates efficacy and safety in people who received the vaccine compared to those in a control group who received a placebo¹⁰



The FDA determined that the known and potential benefits outweighed the known and potential risks of the vaccines, and granted Emergency Use Authorization (EUA).^{10,11}



FACT:

mRNA COVID-19 vaccines were developed using mRNA research dating back to the 1960s.²

COVID-19 vaccines were developed quickly for many reasons including⁸:

- Improved regulatory review process
- Increased funding
- New vaccine technology
- Shortened production times
- Expanded manufacturing capabilities

Overlapping Initial Development and Human Trials helped accelerate the timeline. During vaccine development, all FDA required steps were taken in the clinical development process.^{8,11}



References: 1. https://www.genome.gov/genetics-glossary/messenger-rna (Accessed July 2023); 2. Dolgin E. Nature 2021;597:318-324; 3. https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/types.html (Accessed July 2023); 4. Kahn JS and McIntosh K. Pediatr Infect Dist J 2005;24(11):S223-S227; 5. Weide B, Carralot JP, Reese A, et al. Results of the first phase I/II clinical vaccination trial with direct injection of mRNA. J Immunother: 2008;31(2):180-188; 6. https://www.cdc.gov/museum/timelne/covid19.html (Accessed July 2023); 7. https://www.fda.gov/news-events/pressannouncements/fda-approves-first-covid-19-vaccine (Accessed July 2023); 8. Kalinke U, Barouch DH, Rizzi R, et al. Clinical development and approval of COVID-19 vaccines. *Expert Rev Vaccines*. 2022 May;2(5):609-619; 9. fda.gov/mused_July 2023); 10. https://www.fda.gov/accines-bload-biologics/vaccines/emergency-use-authorization-vaccines-explained (Accessed July 2023); 11. https://www.fdc.gov/acconoxirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/first-covid-19-nov-khtml (Accessed July 2023); 0.