

# A Review of Covid-19 Vaccines: What needs to be known and its expected effect on the human population?

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## ABSTRACT

The COVID-19 pandemic is a devastating blow to the entire world community and changes the order of human life. All efforts and strategies are being carried out to contain and reduce the spread of the SARS-COV-2 virus, both by tightening the health protocol and using vaccines to the public. Currently, several vaccines are available and have passed phase 3 clinical trials, such as vector vaccines (Gamaleya Sputnik V Russia, University of Oxford/AstraZeneca, CanSino, and Janssen Pharmaceutical Companies), mRNA-based vaccines (Moderna/BioNTech/Fosun Pharma/Pfizer), inactivated vaccines (SinoVac and SinoPharm from China, Covaxin from Bharat Biotech India), and adjuvanted recombinant protein nanoparticles (Novavax from the USA) are expected to be able to suppress the spread of the virus and produce a minimum of 70 percent herd-immunity in a population. Each vaccine's efficacy varies from the lowest, namely the Sinovac vaccine (CoronaVac) 50% to the highest the Novavax vaccine (NVX-Cov2373) 96% effectivity value. Moreover, further rigorous research is still being carried out for the development of an effective and efficient vaccine.

*Keywords; Vaccine Development; Clinical Trial; COVID-19; SARS-COV-2*

## INTRODUCTION

Implementation of control measures and protocol health in life are crucially required, such as using masks, physical distancing, testing of persons exposed to or symptomatic, contact tracing and isolation have helped to limit the contagion that has been applied strictly, but such measures have been applied varied and proven yet sufficient in inhibiting the spread of the coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) (Baden et al., 2021).

The vaccination technique is an attractive and powerful medical approach for dominant the severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus type 2, preventing the spread, and protecting those who are at high risk of infection (Baden et al., 2021). The process of vaccination has taken place in all countries including Indonesia and Malaysia. Vaccination is anticipated to provide a herd-immunity a minimum of 70% of the population and 80 percent without used other intervention for instance physical distancing (Bartsch et al., 2020).

Based on the evaluation of patients with positive SARS-COV-2 revealed that antibody binder and main bidders targeting the receptor-binding domain subunit S1 (Spike 1) (Premkumar et al., 2020). The main challenge when making vaccines is how effectively the vaccine can generate an immune response in the human body. Characteristics response such immune is the formation of neutralizing antibodies, formation of T-cell responses, and prevention of disease

following immunization (response induced by the vaccine causes an increase in severity of disease) (Tseng et al., 2012). At present, the dominant circulating variant of spike protein mutations of the virus from Britain (B.1.1.7, deletion 69-70, deletion 144, N501Y, A570D, D614G, P681H, T716I, S982A, D1118H, and there are mutations in other genomic regions as well), South Africa (B.1.351) and Brazil (P.1) are facilitating rapid viral spread (Ecdc, 2020; Faria et al., 2021; Tegally et al., 2020) that may interfere effectivity of vaccine program.

There are enormous direct the development of the vaccine candidates to prevent transmission of COVID-19 consist of 84 trials that are still in clinical assessment (15 of them have been in phase 3 and 5 vaccines under phase 4 clinical trials) and 184 in preclinical analysis with different route of administration, doses, and schedule (**Table 1**) (WHO, 2021). Some vaccines that are currently and have passed phase 3 clinical trials are vector vaccines (Gamaleya National Research Center for Epidemiology and Microbiology, University of Oxford/AstraZeneca, CanSino Biological Inc/Beijing Institute of Biotechnology, and Janssen Pharmaceutical Companies), mRNA -based vaccines, (Moderna/National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases and BioNTech/Fosun Pharma/Pfizer), inactivated vaccines (SinoVac, Wuhan Institute of Biological Products/Sinopharm, Beijing Institute of Biological Products/Sinopharm, and Bharat Biotech), and adjuvanted recombinant protein nanoparticles (Novavax) (Baden et al., 2021; Logunov et al., 2021; Polack et al., 2020; Voysey et al., 2021).

**Table 1. Number of Doses, Intervals, and Route of Administration of Vaccine Candidates (WHO, 2021)**

<b>Doses and Interval</b>	<b>Vaccine in Development</b>
<b>1 dose;</b>	<b>13</b>
Day 0	13
<b>2 doses;</b>	<b>51</b>
Day 0 + 14	6
Day 0 + 21	19
Day 0 + 28	26
<b>3 doses;</b>	<b>1</b>
Day 0 + 28 + 56	1
<b>Administration</b>	
<b>Oral</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>Injection;</b>	<b>69</b>
SC/Sub-Cutaneous	3
ID/Intra-Dermal	3
IM/Intra-Muscular	63

Based on the preceding description, this review presents of vaccine development with different types (**Table 3**) that was provided by pharma industry to combat and eliminate spreading of SARS-COV-2 in a population. Moreover, it develops herd-immunity at least 70% in the community.

## METHOD

The review was conducted using the google engine to find the precise literature references (Scopus, PubMed, Medline, WHO Website). The key search terms ‘Vaccine Development’, ‘Clinical Trial’, ‘COVID-19’, ‘SARS-COV-2’. The range of period for searching the references for this review’s study is 4 November 2020 to 29 March 2021.

## RESULT AND DISCUSSION

### mRNA Vaccine

In clinical trials, mRNA-based vaccines were found to be more than 90% effective against SARS-COV-2 such as Moderna/BioNTech/Fosun Pharma/Pfizer. This high effectiveness of the vaccine is associated with few/rare side effects, despite the local and systemic reactogenicity to the mRNA vaccine. The advantages of mRNA vaccines are the speed of vaccine production (only a few weeks) and the ability to generate a  $T_H2$  and  $T_H1$  response (Table 2) (Creech et al., 2021).

**Table 2. Advantages and Disadvantages of Vaccine Development Methods** (Kaur & Gupta, 2020; Zhang et al., 2019)

Vaccine	Advantages	Disadvantages
Viral vector	Highly an innate immune response, induction of T cell immune responses and cell B. Widely used for MESR-COV.	Induction of anti-vector immunity: cell-based manufacturing. Integrating into the host genome that induce cancer.
DNA vaccine	Not contagious; shortly stimulation of the innate immune response; free cell and egg; stable, fast, and scalable production; clicking the induction of T cell immune response and B.	Potential for integration into the human genome; low immunogenicity in humans, induce the synthesis of anti-immunoglobulins.
RNA vaccine	Degradation is naturally in the body, not contagious, not integrate into the human genome, non- cell egg virus, fast, and scalable production; shortly stimulation of the innate immune response; clicking the induction of T cell immune responses and cell B.	Potential for instability, reactogenicity reported

### Virus Vector Vaccines

Currently, about 25 research groups are working on a viral vector vaccine. Viruses like rubeola or animal virus are genetically designed in order that they will turn out coronavirus proteins within the body. There are 2 types: people who will still replicate at in cells and people that cannot because of a key gene has been deactivated (Callaway, 2020). The use of adenovirus vaccine has been used in the USA and Europe, two vaccines have shown promising initial results, namely the Serotype 26 adenovirus vector vaccine (Ad26.CoV2. S; Johnson & Johnson) and the ChAdOx of Chimpanzee adenovirus vector vaccine (AstraZeneca) (Creech et al., 2021). Both vaccines have efficacy in preventing hospitalization and death of COVID-19 patients, but they are still not maximal in preventing diseases caused by the new variant SARS-CoV-2 (Creech et al., 2021). The Sputnik V vaccine (Gam-COVID-Vac) uses a combination of the rAd type 26 (rAd26) and rAd type 5 (rAd5), rAd26-S, and rAd5-S vaccine vectors given separately intramuscularly at 21-day intervals (table 1). Gam-COVID-Vac has a 91.6% efficacy of preventing infection COVID-19 (Logunov et al., 2021).

### The Vaccine Inactivated and Subunit Vaccine Proteins

Inactivated or killed vaccines made from cultured and then chemically inactivated viruses are one path to vaccine production, which can produce native antigenic epitopes (binding to T cell and B cell antibodies) expressed in a stable and conformational manner (Delrue et al., 2012). One approach that is used in the production of vaccines from the killed virus is UV-inactivated conducted on laboratory Biosafety Level 3 (BSL3), which includes the step of expansion, titration, inactivated, and ultracentrifuge the virus (Lundstrom, 2020). Sinopharm and Sinovac are two of the companies working on this form of vaccine, which has been tested in a phase 3 trial and received international approval for use as a COVID-19 vaccine. (Creech et al., 2021).

Bharat Biotech (BBV152/Covaxin) from the Indian vaccine industry, has succeeded in making a vaccine derived from the intact virion of the SARS-COV-2 virus that has been killed (inactivated virus). Based on phase 3 clinical trials the Covaxin vaccine showed high clinical efficacy (81%) against COVID-19, as well as high immunogenicity against some of the variants (Ella et al., 2021). The presence of the additive/adjuvant *Algel-IMDG* can increase the immune response of T cells to COVID-19, which leads to long-term protection (Li & Zhu, 2021).

Protein S as a recombinant protein subunit is another approach to vaccine development. This method may protect immunized animals in vitro, but it has the potential to produce a polarized immune response (Zimmermann & Curtis, 2019). Example of vaccines using this method is Novavax, using adjuvant Matrix-M-based saponin, which has efficacy 89.3 % of patients COVID 19 through clinical trials phase 3 in the UK (Callaway & Mallapaty, 2021). Currently, more than 60% of vaccine development uses the protein subunit approach, even though none has the status as an emergency use authorization (Creech et al., 2021).

**Table 3. Types of Vaccines Circulating in Various Countries**

Vaccine	Mechanism	Efficacy	Dose	Storage	Country of Origin
Moderna (mRNA-1273)	mRNA Vaccine Encapsulated. The mRNA encoding against the protein spike is protected in lipid nanoparticles (such as soap bubbles). Once absorbed, cells express spike protein resulting in immune response (immunogenicity)	94% (original strain)	0.5 ml divided into 2 doses, each dose for 28 days.	-20 °C = 6 months 2 - 8 °C = 30 days	USA (Baden et al., 2021)
BioNTech/Pfizer (BNT162b2)	mRNA Vaccine Encapsulated. The mRNA encoding the protein spike is	95% (original strain)	0.3 ml divided into 2 doses, each	-70 °C = 6 months 2 - 8 °C = 5 days	USA and Germany (Polack et al., 2020)

	protected in the lipid nanoparticles (such as soap bubbles). Once absorbed, cells express spike protein resulting in immune response (immunogenicity)		dose for 21 days.		
Oxford/Astra Zeneca (ChAdOx1/A ZD1222 [Covishield])	Virus Vector Vaccines. The dsDNA encoding against the spike protein that is protected in the virus. Infected cells express the spike protein resulting in immune response (immunogenicity)	82% (original strain), 10% (South African variant B1351)	2 doses, intermittent each dose 12 weeks	2 - 8 °C = 6 months	English + Swedish (Voysey et al., 2021)
Johnson & Johnson (JNJ 78436735 / Ad26.COV2.S)	Virus Vector Vaccines. The dsDNA encoding against the spike protein is protected in the virus. Infected cells express the spike protein resulting in immune response (immunogenicity)	72% (USA strain), 57% (South African variant B1351)	1 dose	2 - 8 °C = 3 months -20 °C = 2 years	USA (Sadoff et al., 2021)
Gamaleya (Sputnik V / Gam-Covid-Vac)	Virus Vector Vaccines. The dsDNA encoding against the spike protein is protected in the virus. Infected cells express the spike protein resulting in immune response (immunogenicity)	91.6% (original strain)	0.5 ml in 2 doses, each dose for 21 days	2 - 8 °C = 6 months, -20 °C = 2 years	Russia (Logunov et al., 2021)

Novavax (NVX-Cov2373)	Vaccine particles that resemble viruses The nanoparticles are covered by a synthetic material called Spike protein. Has additional ingredients called adjuvants to increase immune reactions (immunogenicity)	96% (original strain), 86% (B117 UK variant), 55% (B1351 South African variant)	2 doses, 2 - 8 °C = 6 months break each dose 21 days		USA (Callaway & Mallapaty, 2021)
Sinopharm (BBIBP-CorV)	Vaccine inactivated, SARS-COV-2 chemically inactive (with a chemical called beta-propiolactone) so it cannot replicate but all the protein remains intact.	79% (original strain)	2 doses, 2 - 8 °C break each dose 21 days		China (Xia et al., 2021)
Sinovac (CoronaVac)	Vaccine is inactivated, SARS-COV-2 chemically inactive (with a chemical called beta-propiolactone) so it cannot replicate but all the protein remains intact.	50% (original strain)	2 doses break each dose for 14 days.	2 - 8 °C	China (Gao et al., 2020)
Bharat Biotech (BBV152/Covaxin)	Vaccine is inactivated, SARS-COV-2 chemically inactive (with a chemical called beta-propiolactone) so it cannot replicate but all the protein remains intact.	81% (original strain)	2 doses break each dose 28 days.	2 - 8 °C	India (Ella et al., 2021)

## CONCLUSION

Various vaccines were produced around the world to provide better control of covid-19 pandemic. Due to differences in how the vaccines was developed, it created numerous issues especially related to efficacy and side effects. This article helps to clarify some of the questions regarding the vaccines and its sources of production, the doses and storage form.

Health workers are the last bastion in handling COVID-19 patients. The process of preventing and minimizing the spread of COVID-19 is the main goal of the current vaccination. The presence of several types of vaccines at this time is expected to be able to provide strategic solutions to overcome the pandemic situation that has hit various countries in the world. The implementation of the vaccination program is expected to produce a herd-immunity of at least 70% in a population so that they can quickly get out of the pandemic and live normally as before. One of the factors that can affect the effectiveness of vaccines is the presence of virus mutations, so that further research on the effectiveness of viral genetic mutations is still huge necessary.

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## CONFLICT OF INTEREST

There is no conflict of interest in this study.

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