Non-technical update on vaccines against Covid-19





EATG webinar: 16 December 2020

Simon Collins, i-Base.info Richard Jefferys, TAG

Non technical review

- Effective vaccines essential goal.
- Three main types of vaccines.
- Range of current candidates.
- Results for three leading vaccines.
- Access: plans for fair global distribution.
- Future timeline.

Vaccine basics



Vaccines trick your body to produce strong immune responses to a virus or bacteria. The body stores these so they can be rapidly produced if needed in the future.

Early vaccines often used a weaker dose of the actual virus.

Modern approaches are much safer - for example, only using inactive sections of a virus or getting the body to produce similar viral proteins.



www.i-Base.info



EATG workshop: COVID vaccines - December 2020

mRNA approach



- In research for years but none had been approved.
- Both Pfizer/BioNTech and Moderna/NIH use mRNA.
- mRNA contains instructions for muscle cells to produce spike proteins on the surface of SARS-CoV-2.
- Delivered directly to cells.
- Produces an immune response against these proteins.
- The mRNA is then broken down (transient like SnapChat).
- Produced in a lab and can easily be scaled up.

viral vectors



- Viral vectors use an inactivated harmless virus to deliver spike proteins (as a Trojan horse) so that when immune cells respond to the transporting virus they also respond to SARS-CoV-2.
- Oxford/AZ, CanSino and Janssen use different adenovirus (Chimp Ad, Ad5, Ad26 etc common cold).
- Can produce both cellular responses (T cells) and antibody responses (B cells).
- Caution: prior exposure to carrier virus can reduce immune response so a second booster dose might use different vaccine?
- Non-replicating only produce antigen.
- Replicating also produces new carrier virus.

protein based



- Protein- based vaccines also get the body to respond to recombinant versions of a viral protein for example the 'spike' for SARS-CoV-2.
- Novavax uses protein-based approach (also Sanofi/GSK).
- They also rely on a second component an adjuvant to prime the immune system to respond to the protein.
- Slower to develop but they can generate strong immune responses and have good safety record.

COVID candidates

- Many groups started early in January 2020 some switched ongoing work on Ebola, SARS or MERS to SARS-CoV-2.
- Pipeline includes hundreds of potential candidates and >40 now in human studies.
- High short-term efficacy against COVID-19 - no transmission endpoints.
- Universal global access now essential.
- Economic outcomes unclear.

Slide: COVAX Oct 2020

>330 candidate compounds



• Start of **clinical phases** is defined as first subject dosed

19

By region and funding



www.i-Base.info

EATG workshop: COVID vaccines - December 2020

Slide: COVAX Oct

2020

Summary of human studies

Approach	ph 1, 2	ph 2, 3			
Viral vectors	11	4	Gamaleya, Oxford/AZ, CanSino, Janssen		
RNA	4	2	Moderna, Pfizer **		
DNA	4	0			
Protein-based	12	1	Novavax		
Inactivated	4	3	CNBG (2), Sinovac		

** Pfizer now approved. Plus others globally - ie Sputnik in Russia

By county, phase & platform

Slide: AVAC/Barney Graham: Nov 2020



¹ U.HK programme distinct from CEPI-funded programme

² Cansino has been approved for military use in China

³ Gamaleya (rAd5, rAd26) and FBRI SRC (EpiVacCorona) has been conditionally registered in Russia

⁴ Emergency use approval in China and UAE

⁵ Under regulatory rolling review

⁶ Under study pause

Results: Pfizer/BioNTech

- mid-Nov: top-line interim phase 3 results using BNT 162b2 vs placebo in ~43,500 adults (>16 years, 44% > 55 years) in 152 sites globally (130 in the US). Data from 36,000 pts.
- Dec10: Full results in NEJM & FDA documents.
- 95% efficacy: 162 vs 8 cases
- Severe COVID: 9 vs 1 case.
- Conditional approval: UK (2 Dec), US (12 Dec).
- No US funding. Requires ultra cold chain (UCC, minus 80° to transport etc). 96% to high income countries.

Results: Moderna/NIH

- mid-Nov: top-line interim phase 3 results using mRNA-1273 vs placebo in ~30,000 adults in 100 US sites.
- 94% efficacy: 90 vs 5 cases (FDA report: now 185 vs 11 cases): but 86% in >65 yo.
- Severe COVID: 30 vs 0 cases.
- FDA hearing: 17 Dec 2020 documents online.
- Did have US funding. Requires cold chain (minus 20° to transport etc). 100% pledged to high-income countries.

Results: Oxford/Astra-Zeneca

- 18 Nov: top-line interim phase 3 results using ChAdOx1 vs placebo in ~11,500 adults in UK and Brazil (+ some data from South Africa).
- 70% overall efficacy: but 90% in 2741 UK participants who used half-dose/full dose (error) vs 62% in those using two full doses. Includes transmission as an endpoint.
- >50% doses also separated by 12 weeks.
- Some US funding. No cold chain (+ 2-8° to transport etc). Lowest price ~ \$4 a shot : 64% pledged to low income countries (mainly India).

Data gaps

- Duration of protection? Need for boosters?
- Long-term safety? Head-to-head studies?
- Sub-groups by age? HIV risk from Ad5 (STEP)
- Impact of cormorbidities? HIV? Inflammatory conditions, allergies etc.
- Pregnancy, breastfeeding, children...
- Impact with previous SARS-CoV-2/COVID-19?
- Manufacturing capacity/timeline, stability, shelf-life, price...

STANDARD VACCINES COMPARED WITH COVID-19 VACCINES Indicative timeline





Classified as public by the European Medicines Agency

Vaccine available for use

www.i-Base.info

STANDARD VACCINES COMPARED WITH COVID-19 VACCINES Indicative timeline







www.i-Base.info

EATG workshop: COVID vaccines - December 2020

Covid-19 vaccine trial protocols released

BMJ 2020;371:m4058 (21 October 2020)

Moderna TX. Protocol mRNA-1273-P301, Amendment 3. 2020. https://www.modernatx.com/sites/default/files/mRNA-1273-P301-Protocol.pdf

Pfizer. PF-07302048 (BNT162 RNA-Based COVID-19 Vaccines) Protocol C4591001. 2020. <u>https://pfe-pfizercom-d8-prod.s3.amazonaws.com/2020-</u> 09/C4591001 Clinical Protocol.pdf

Oxford/AstraZeneca. Clinical Study Protocol - Amend 2 AZD1222- D8110C00001. 2020. https://s3.amazonaws.com/ctr-med-7111/D8110C00001/52bec400-80f6-4c1b-8791-0483923d0867/c8070a4e-6a9d-46f9-8c32-cece903592b9/D8110C00001_CSP-v2.pdf

Janssen Vaccines & Prevention BV. VAC31518 (JNJ-78436735) clinical protocol VAC31518COV3001 amendment 1. 2020.

https://www.jnj.com/coronavirus/covid-19-phase-3-study-clinical-protocol

Vaccine access

- Need universal global access.
- "Vaccine nationalism" high income countries buying first stock plus next options.
- Many countries already have more stock and options (from different vaccines) to treat their population several times.
- Global access to low/middle income countries (LMIC) much lower (3-20% COVAX options are too low for herd immunity).



- Over 7.1 billion vaccine doses purchased to date
- Over 3.8 billion doses by highincome countries
- Over 1.7 billion doses by lower middle-income countries
- Over 880 million doses by upper middle-income countries
- 700 million by COVAX



Duke

GLOBA Innova

Country Income Level Classification by Confirmed Number of Doses Purchased

LAUNCH&SCALE SPEEDOMETER

EATG workshop: COVID vaccines - December 2020

The State of COVAX

- COVAX: Vaccines pillar of Access to Covid-19 Tools Accelerator (co-convened by WHO, Gavi, CEPI)
- 186 countries/jurisdictions signed up or AMC eligible
- 2021 goal: procurement of 2 billion doses
- Funding: \$2 billion raised in 2020; need additional \$5 billion in 2021
- No purchase agreements for Pfizer/BioNTech or Moderna vaccines

	1-Dose Vaccine	2-Dose Vaccine
Needed for 20% of COVAX Country Populations	1.14 billion	2.28 billion
Needed for 3% of COVAX Country Healthcare Workers (COVAX Initial Priority)	171 million	342 million
Vaccine Doses Purchased by COVAX		700 million



GLOB Innova



www.i-Base.info

Duke

The State of COVAX

- COVAX: Vaccines pillar of Access to Covid-19 Tools Accelerator (co-convened by WHO, Gavi, CEPI)
- 185 countries/jurisdictions signed up or AMC engible
 2021 goal: procurement of 2 billion doses
 Funding: \$2 billion raised in 2020; need additional \$5
 billion in 2021
- No purchase agreements for Pfizer/BioNTech or Moderna vaccines

	1-Duse vaccine	2-Dose vaccine		
COVAX COVAX Country Populations	1.14 billion	2.28 billion		
Needed for 3% of COVAX Country Healthcare Workers (COVAX Initial Priority)	171 million	342 million		
Vaccine Doses Purchased by COVAX		700 million		





Duke

GLOB Innova



Vaccine Advance Purchases by Country

COVID-19 Vaccine Advance Market Commitments by Country





Vaccine Advance Purchases Relative to Population Coverage and Covid Burden



COVID Burden (cases/million)

Funding Snapshot as of 16 November 2020

Available funds against the US\$ 38 billion ACT Accelerator budget include:

- US\$ 5 billion in donor funding commitments (download the document for details)
- US\$ 4.8 billion in COVAX Self-Financing Participant down-payments to support facility manufacturing and procurement for all COVAX participants.

The ACT Accelerator faces a:

- US\$ 4.3 billion immediate funding gap
- An additional US \$23.9 billion is required for the balance of 2021.

Key access links

- Coalition for Epidemic Preparedness
 Innovations (CEPI) 2017
- WHO Access to COVID-19 Tools (ACT) Accelerator - initiative to coordinate international response.
- COVAX Vaccine arm of ACT
- GAVI (co-sponsor COVAX)
- People's Vaccine Alliance (coalition of organisations: Oxfam, UNAIDS)

Slide: Fuaci A Dec 2020

"vaccine hesitancy"



Do you plan to get a coronavirus vaccine when one is available?

Overall







Communicating for vaccine acceptance

Context matters for vaccine rollout

- 1. Vaccine Denialism
- 2. Vaccine Hesitancy
- 3. Anti-Vaxxer Movement

It is not a given that more information will counter vaccine hesitancy or increase vaccine acceptance

We assume that the drivers for hesitancy and denialism are:

- a lack of knowledge & that more knowledge can solve the problem and that humans calculate risk rationally.
- we have scientists and doctors who are active antivaxxers who consciously spread misinformation.
- sometimes knowing more about the detail of the subject increases the individuals concern.





UK access for HIV+

- UK access includes nine priority groups.
- Higher risk by age, care home residency and front line health workers.
- Severe health conditions is group 4 and other complications (inc. HIV) group 6.
- Supported by BHIVA guidance for people living with HIV (www.bhiva.org)

Community Q's.1 (UK-CAB)

UK-CAB members had many questions when asked about this for upcoming workshop:

Why should I get a vaccine?

How do they know the vaccine is safe? How do I know the vaccine is safe?

What is in the vaccine that they are going to offer me?

Can I get COVID-19 from the vaccine?

What would be the probable symptoms/side effects from the vaccine?

Am I going to get sick with the COVID-19 vaccine like the flu jab?

Can I develop an allergic reaction to the vaccine?

Should I wait to see how my peers react?

Why should I get it if the person administering the vaccines doesn't have it yet?

Who is going to administer my vaccine? My GP or my HIV clinic? Can I choose?

Will the vaccine stop me catching COVID-19 or from getting critically ill? or both?

Could the vaccine interact with my HIV meds? Will my VL blip?

Could the vaccine interact with my estrogen/testorene treatment?

Community Q's.2 (UK-CAB)

Is the vaccine safe if I live with HIV and other comorbidities?

Can I get the vaccine if I have or have had Hepatitis C?

Is it safe fif I use 'chems' like Crystal Meth, GLB or mephedrone?

Is the vaccine going to impact me differently because I'm black/brown?

Are black and brown people more at risk of getting bad symptoms/side effects from the vaccine?

Have vaccine trials included black and brown men and women living with HIV? Or do the findings just relate to the experiences of white gay men?

Who approved these vaccines? Were the interests of my community are represented?

How do I know I'm being treated equally than my white peers in the process? How do I know this isn't another chapter of medical experimentation in Black people?

If the government didn't even try to address my vulnerabilities to the virus, why I'm expected to trust them with a preventative option?

I've experienced racism in the healthcare system and receiving my HIV care, how can you ensure me this won't be another one of those experiences?

Why did we get a COVID-19 vaccine so quickly, but there is still no vaccine for HIV?

If the vaccine is lifesaving, why is not available to everyone in the world?

Conclusion

- Unparalleled crisis and scientific response.
- High-income countries might soon return to low risk of COVID-19 (after terrible cost to life).
- Global access plan at least another year to reach 2 billion in low income countries.
- Huge volume of research and data on vaccines, treatment, access etc.
- Long-term data still needed.
- Roll of community for education and support.

Thanks

Non-original slides compiled from various webinars (for community use) – thanks to WHO, COVAX, EMEA, PATH, Anthony Fauci, AVAC/Barney Graham, ICAP, African CDC and others.

> simon.collins@i-base.org.uk www.i-base.info

Additional slides

Clinical studies – efficacy and safety

- Large number of adults expected (above 30,000)
- Ideally one quarter of all participants above 65 years of age
- Some people with underlying diseases at risk of severe COVID-19
- Some studies include adolescents above 16 years of age
 - Younger children to be studied after analysing data in adults and adolescents
- Some **minorities** represented
- Follow-up data for at least the 6 weeks after last dose of vaccine
 - Most side effects occur within 4-6 weeks of having a dose
 - Trials to last **for at least 1 year:** longer-term protection & side effects





•

٠

COVID-19	DNA / mRNA			Viral vector		Protein			
	Inovio	Moderna	CureVac	Merck / Themis	AstraZeneca / Univ. Oxford	University of Hong Kong	Novavax	Clover BioPharma	University of Queensland / CSL
Location	USA	USA	Germany	USA / Austria	UK	China	USA	China	Australia
Platform	DNA	mRNA	mRNA	Viral Vector	Viral Vector	Viral Vector	Protein	Protein	Protein
Antigen / Adjuvant	Full-length S protein	Receptor Binding Domain / AS03	Full-length S protein / saponin-based Matrix-M	Full-length S protein/AS03 or CPG1018	Full-length S protein / MF59				
Current phase	Phase I/II	Phase III	Phase II	Phase I	Phase III	Preclinical	Phase III	Phase I	Phase I

COVID-19 VACCINE DEVELOPMENT

