

# DC CTSA Spring Regulatory Update & Hot Topics in Clinical and Translational Research

*Moving Swiftly to Combat the COVID-19 Global Health Crisis*

## Keynote Address

Dr. David Diemert, MD, FRCP(C)

Professor, Departments of Medicine and Microbiology, Immunology & Tropical Medicine  
George Washington University School of Medicine & Health Sciences

Moderator: Rebecca Eberle, MSHS, CIP

Interim Director, Office of Human Research  
George Washington University

9:45 - 10:30 AM EST

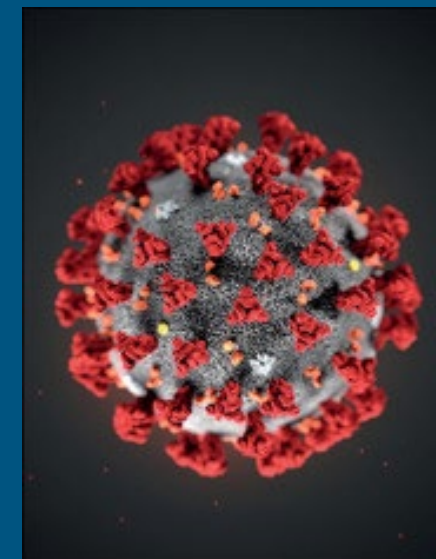


# School of Medicine & Health Sciences

THE GEORGE WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY



## COVID-19 Vaccine Development: *The GW Experience*



David Diemert, MD

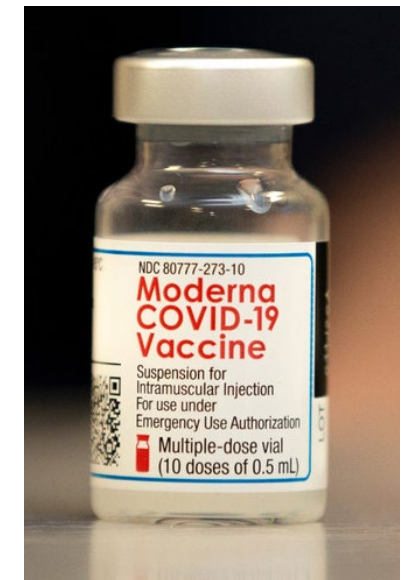
*Professor of Medicine & Microbiology, Immunology and Tropical Medicine  
GW SMHS*



23 Apr2021

[smhs.gwu.edu](https://smhs.gwu.edu)

- Exhausted, but...
- Relieved & hopeful

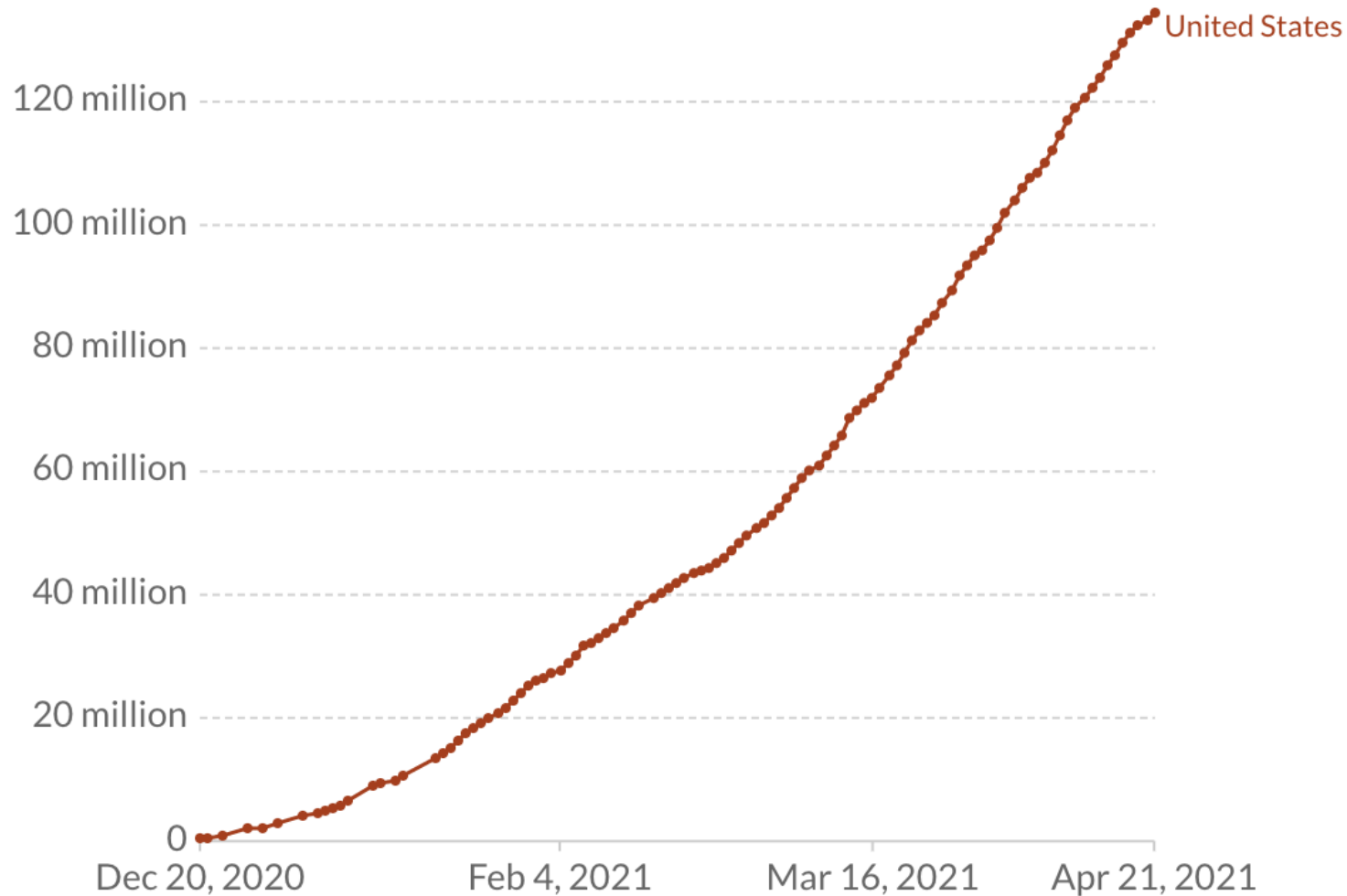


# Number of people who received at least one dose of COVID-19 vaccine

Total number of people who received at least one vaccine dose. This may not equal the number of people that are fully vaccinated if the vaccine requires two doses.

LINEAR

LOG



In US, 3 EUA vaccines:

- Pfizer
- Moderna
- Janssen/J&J

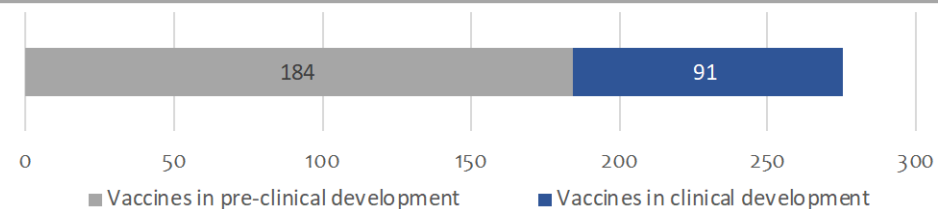
## Summary Information on Vaccine Products in Clinical Development

1. - Number of vaccines in clinical development

91

2. - Number of vaccines in pre-clinical development

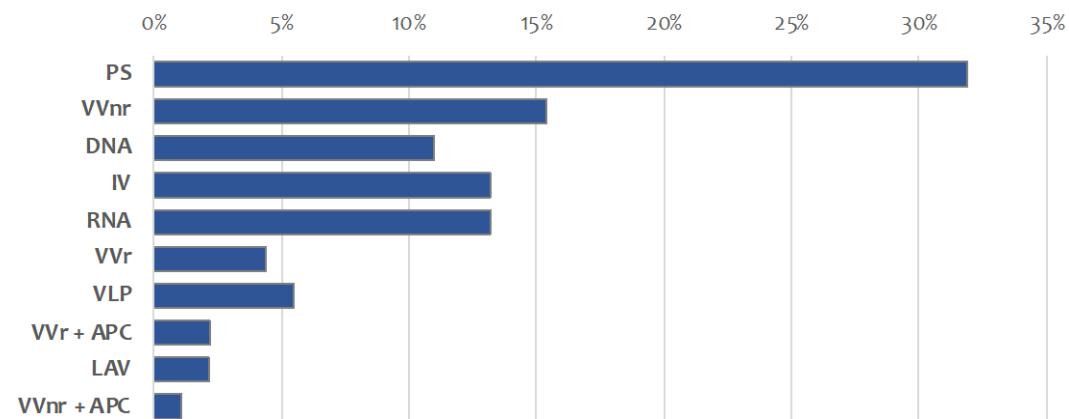
184



3. - Candidates in clinical phase

Filter [All](#) Select phase of development (default is all)

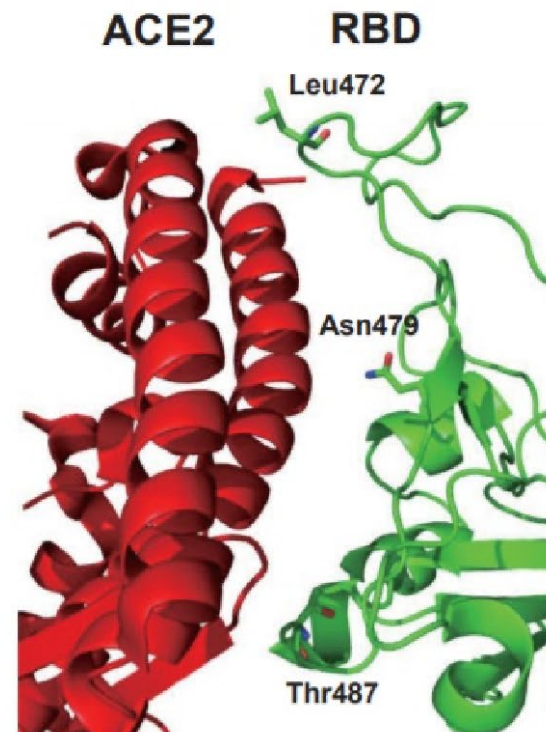
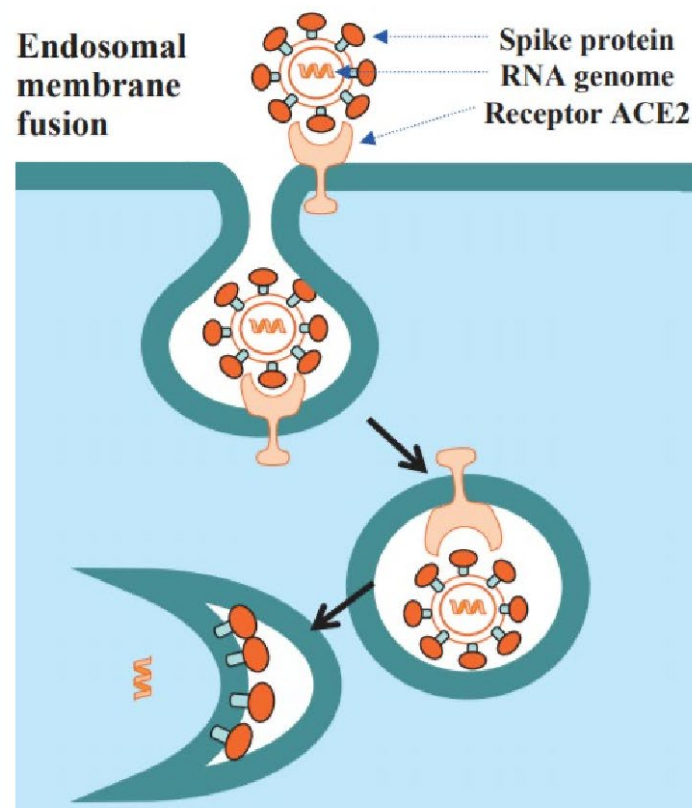
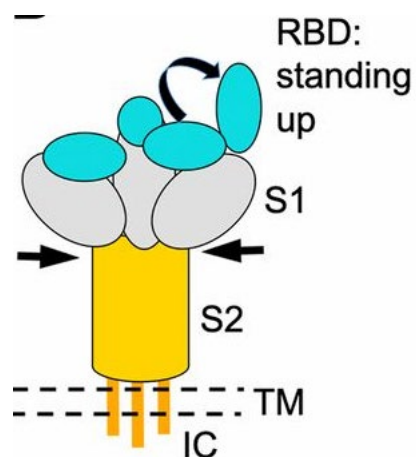
Platform		Candidate vaccines (no. and %)	
PS	Protein subunit	29	32%
VVnr	Viral Vector (non-replicating)	14	15%
DNA	DNA	10	11%
IV	Inactivated Virus	12	13%
RNA	RNA	12	13%
VVr	Viral Vector (replicating)	4	4%
VLP	Virus Like Particle	5	5%
VVr + APC	VVr + Antigen Presenting Cell	2	2%
LAV	Live Attenuated Virus	2	2%
VVnr + APC	VVnr + Antigen Presenting Cell	1	1%
		<b>91</b>	





## Mechanism of target cell entry

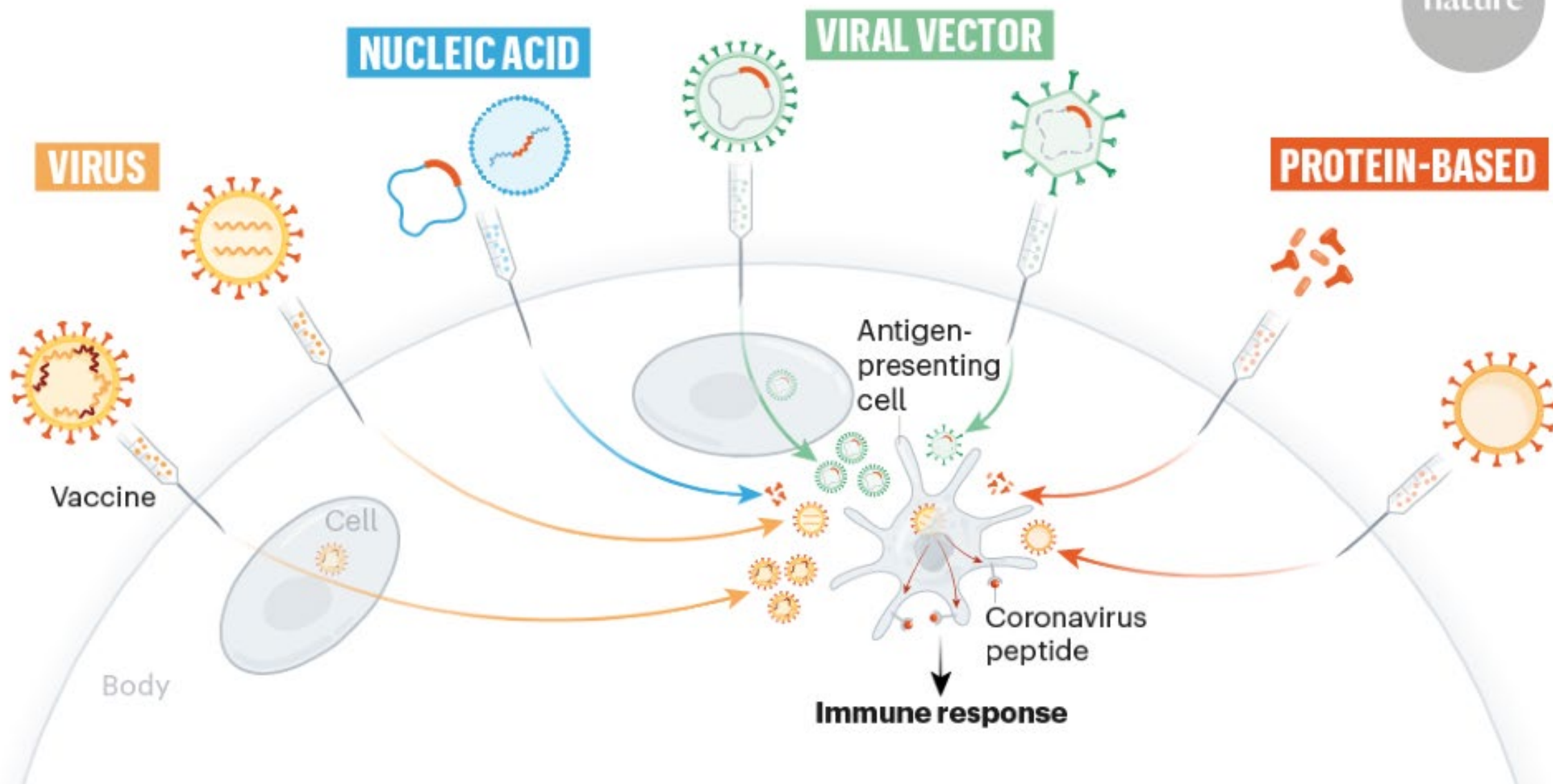
- Spike protein binds to ACE2 receptor via receptor binding domain (RBD)
- Endocytosis into vesicle
- Spike cleaved by endosomal proteases
- Fuses with endosomal membrane



Zhu X, Liu Q, Du L, et al. Receptor-binding domain as a target for developing SARS vaccines. J Thorac Dis 2013;5(S2):S142-S148

# CORONAVIRUS VACCINE CANDIDATES

nature



# US Gov't-Supported COVID-19 Vaccine Candidates



mRNA



Replication Incompetent Adenovirus (ChAdOx1)



Replication Incompetent Adenovirus (Ad26)



Adjuvanted protein subunit



Replication-competent Vesicular Stomatitis Vector (VSV)



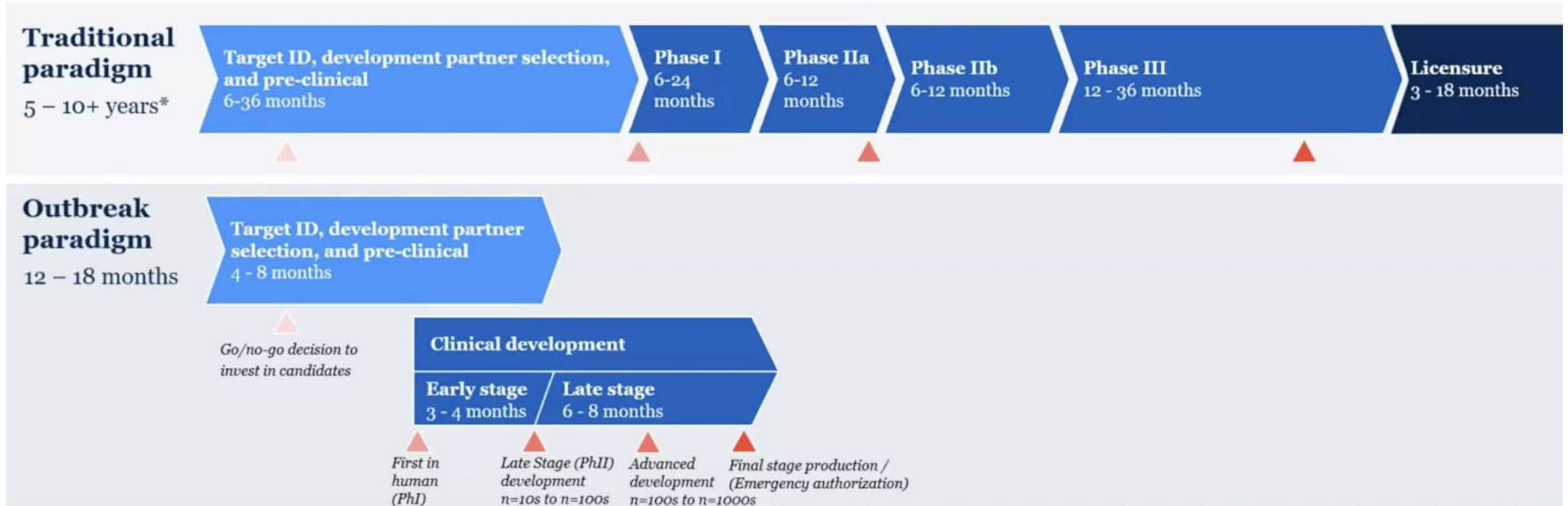
Adjuvanted protein subunit



mRNA



# Speed Requires a Paradigm Shift



Source: CEPI



March 16, 2020

## News Release

# **NIH Clinical Trial of Investigational Vaccine for COVID-19 Begins**

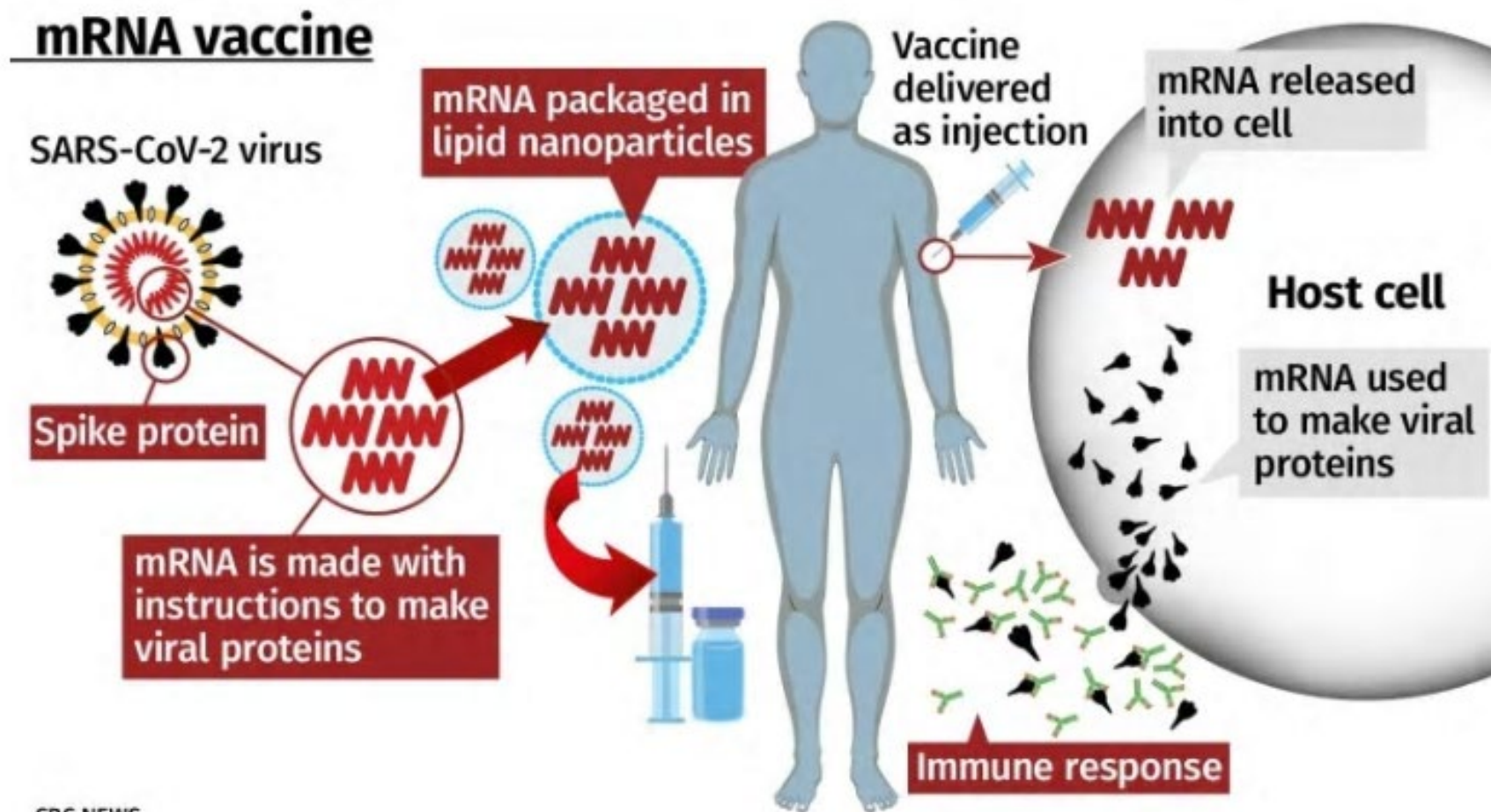
## *Study Enrolling Seattle-Based Healthy Adult Volunteers*

- Trial of vaccine candidate mRNA-1273 will enroll 45 healthy adult volunteers ages 18 to 55 years over approximately 6 weeks



Photo: AP

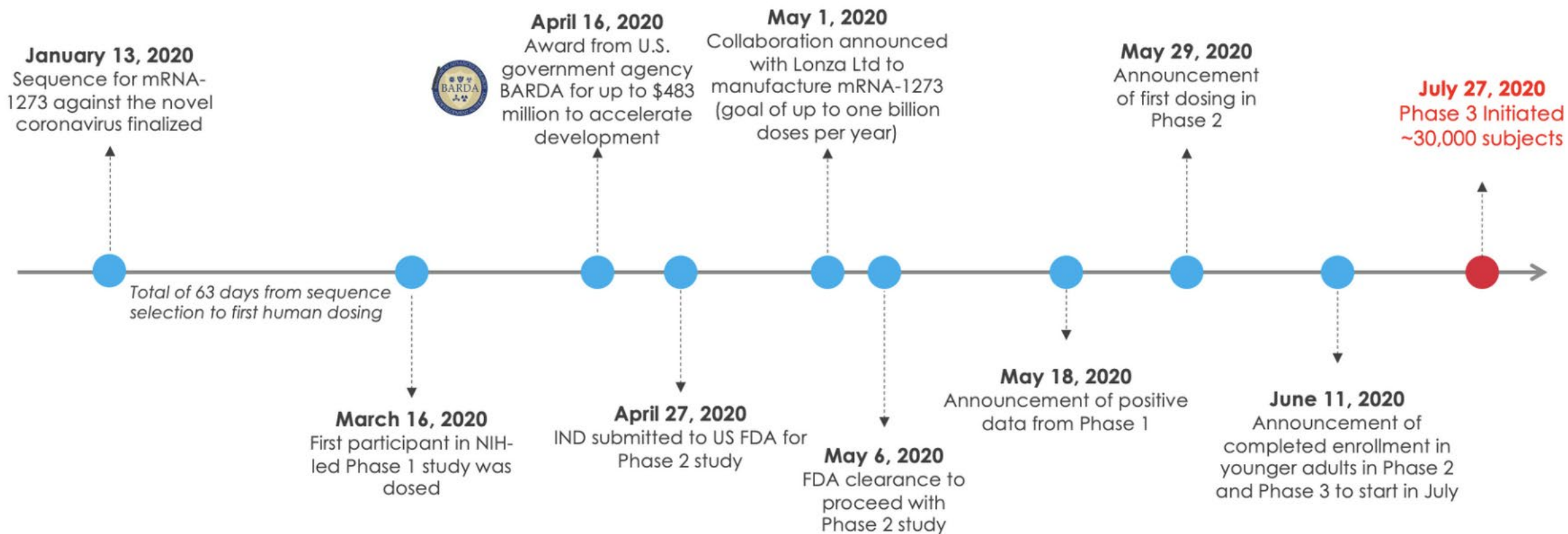
# COVID-19 mRNA Vaccine Design



CBC NEWS

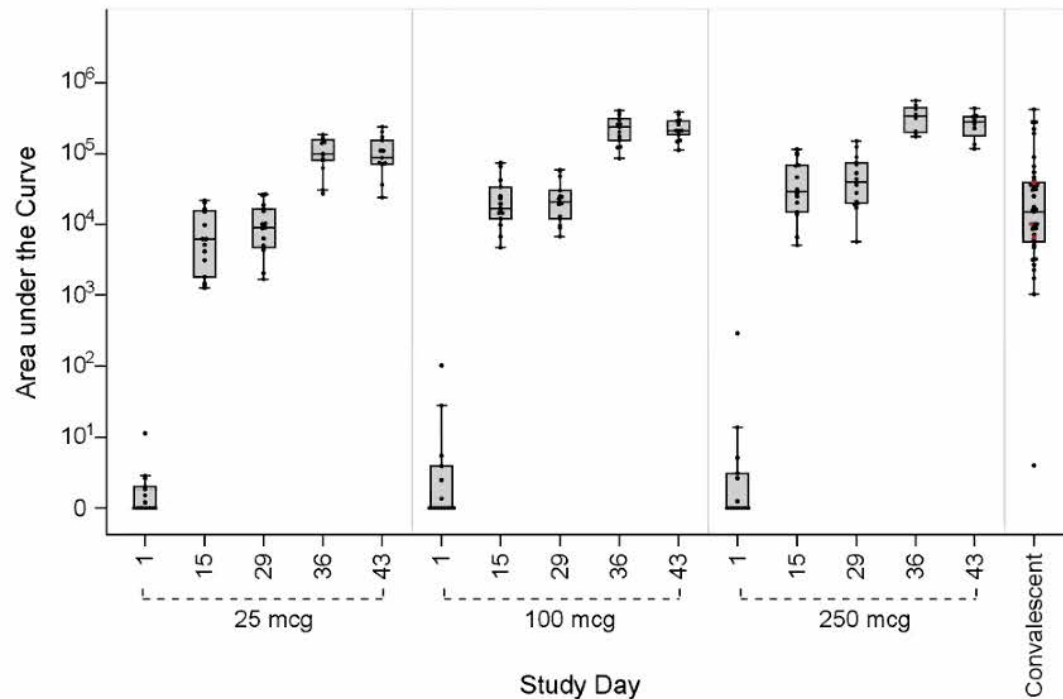
# mRNA-1273 program timeline

**mRNA-1273 timeline:** Research and development of SARS-CoV-2 vaccine

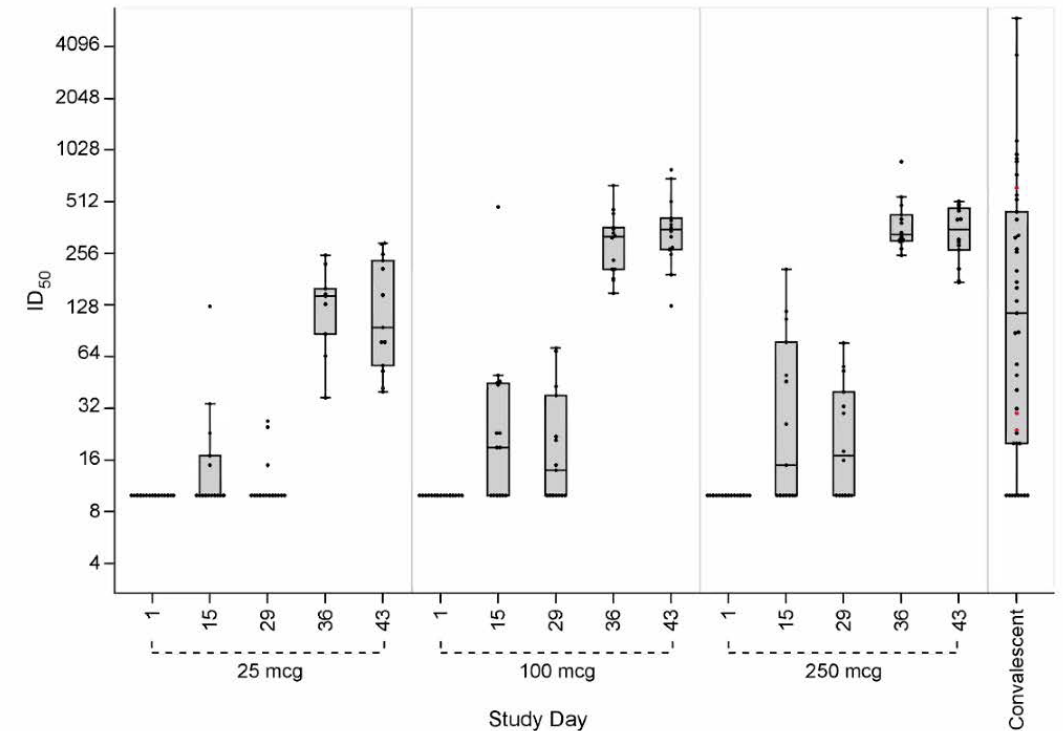




## Binding Ab (ELISA)

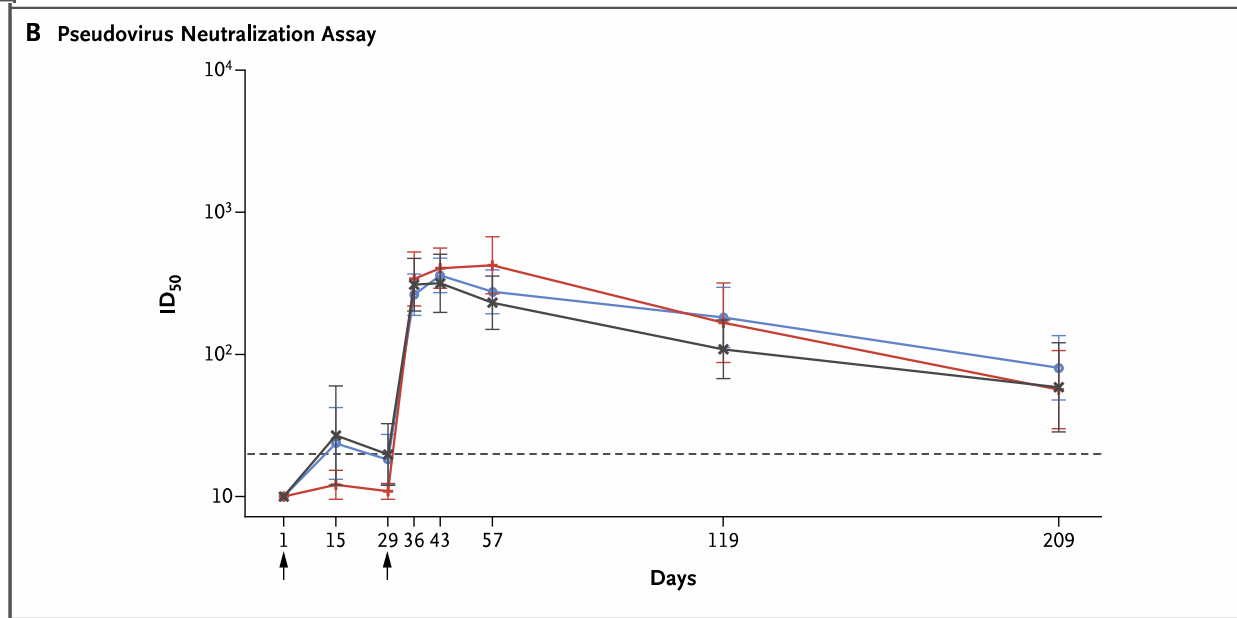
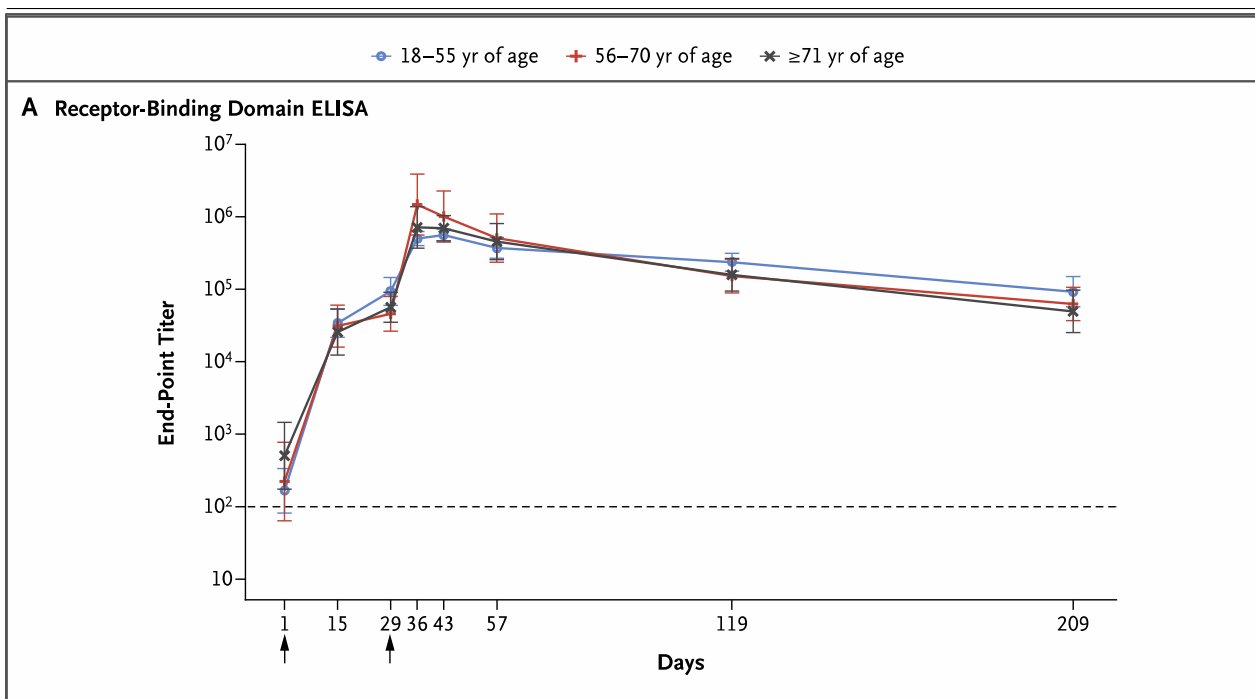


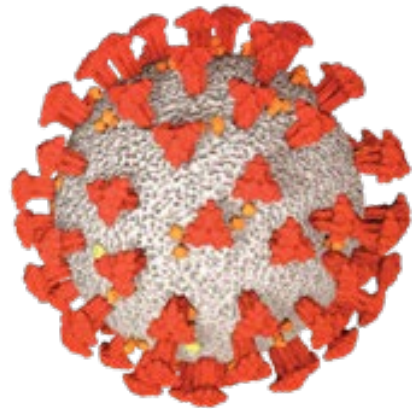
## Neutralizing Ab (Pseudovirus)



Phase 1 Trial (<55 years old)







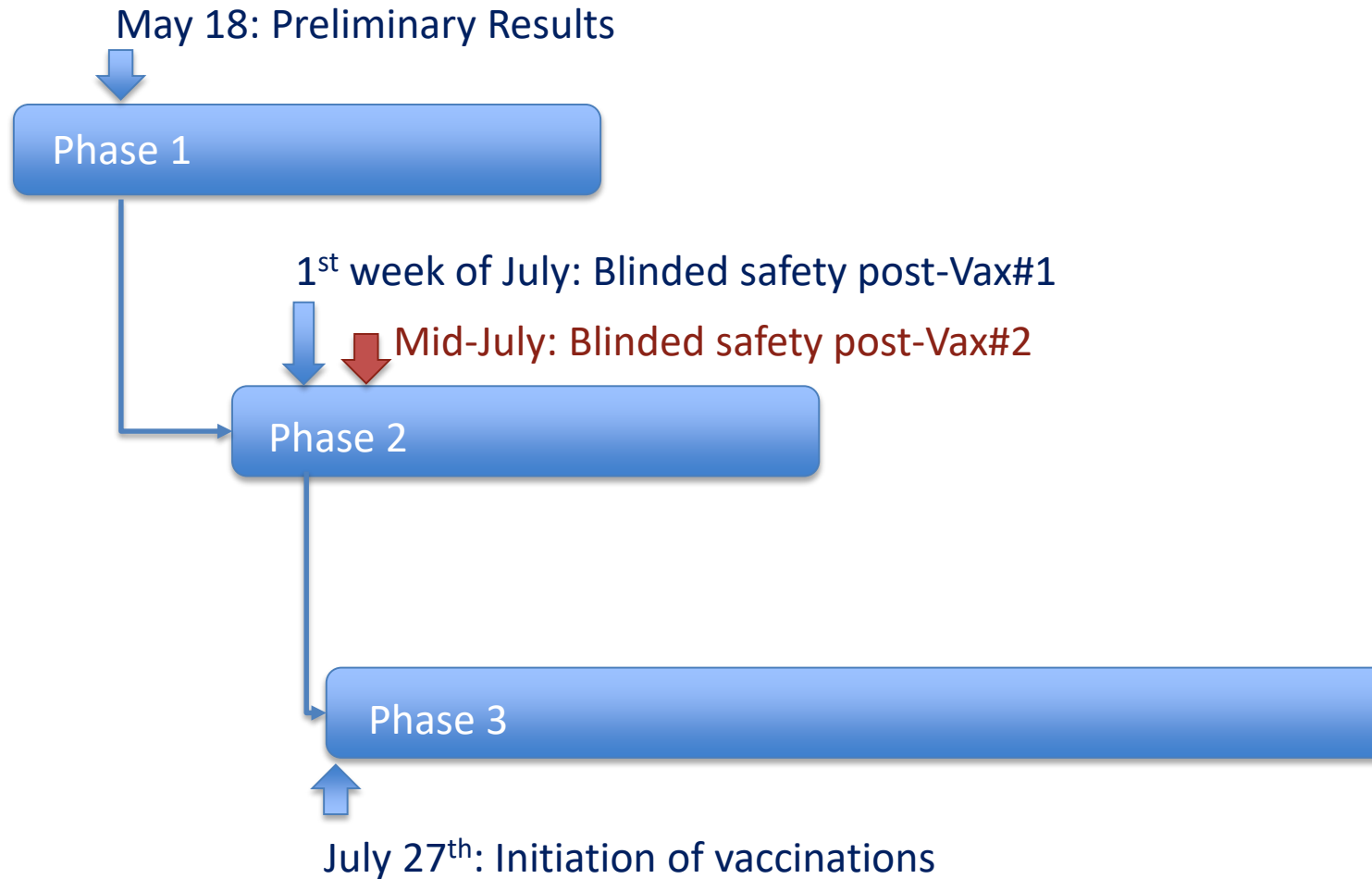
## COVID-19 Prevention Network

- NIAID-led consortium

### Goals:

- Enroll 5 Phase 3 trials by mid-2021
  - *30,000 participants/trial*
- Harmonized protocol design
  - *Similar definitions of primary and main secondary endpoints*
- Central laboratories
- Common DSMB

# Moderna mRNA vaccine Accelerated Clinical Development

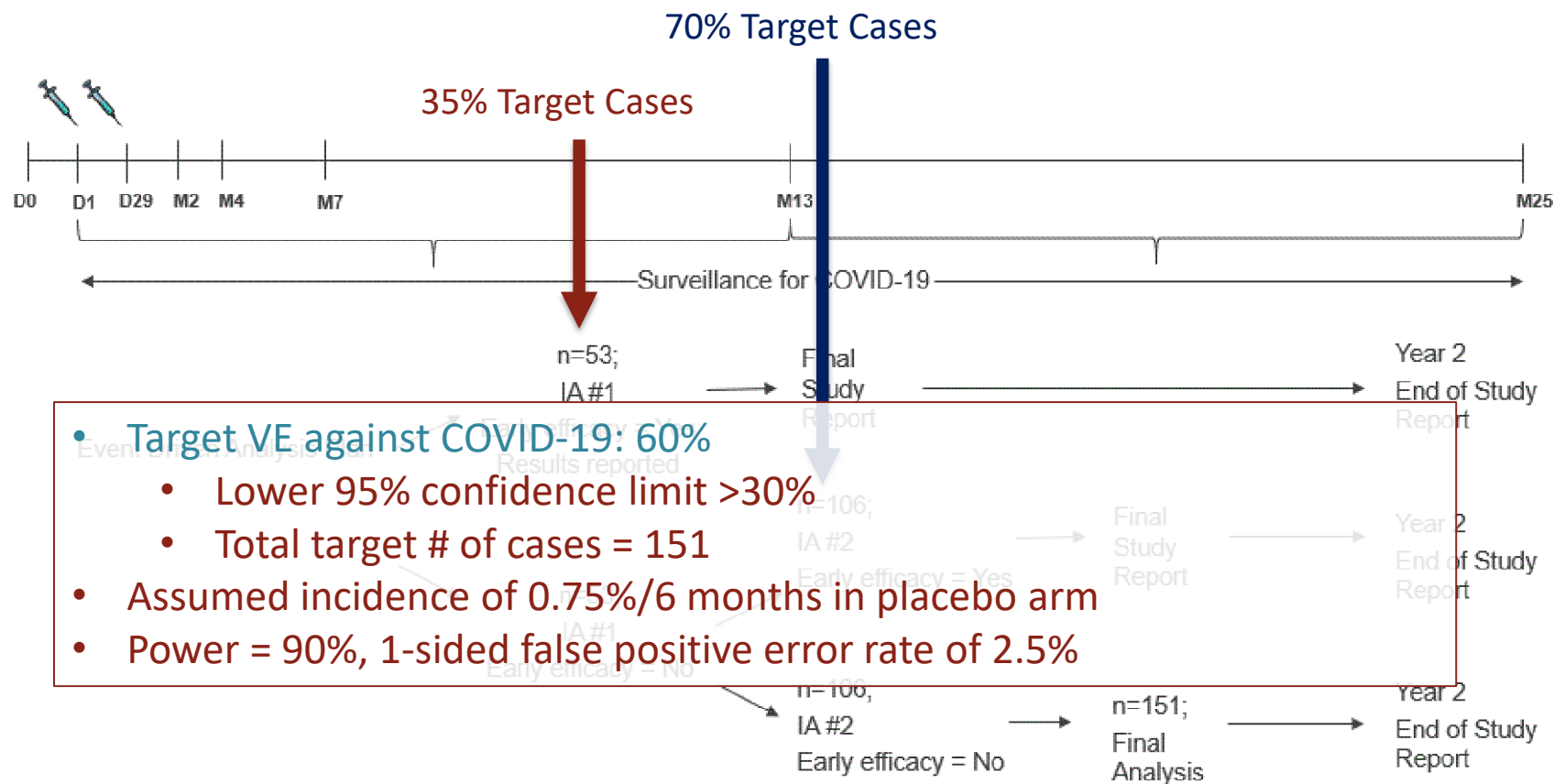


- Randomized, placebo-controlled, observer blind
- 100 µg mRNA-1273-P301 vs. saline placebo (1:1), IM

## Primary Efficacy Endpoint:

- $\geq 2$  of fever, chills, myalgia, headache, sore throat, new olfactory/taste disorder, OR
- $\geq 1$  of cough, SOB/dyspnea, OR clinical/radiologic evidence of pneumonia, AND
- NP, nasal or saliva sample + for SARS-CoV-2 by RT-PCR

# Moderna mRNA COVID-19 Phase 3 Trial Design



- Target VE against COVID-19: 60%
  - Lower 95% confidence limit >30%
  - Total target # of cases = 151
- Assumed incidence of 0.75%/6 months in placebo arm
- Power = 90%, 1-sided false positive error rate of 2.5%

FA=final analysis; IA=interim analysis; n= number of cases

Original estimate: July 2021  
Actual: Nov 2020



- Enrollment closed on Oct 23, 2020: n=30,420 (n=349 at GW)

**Table 1. Demographic and Clinical Characteristics at Baseline.\***

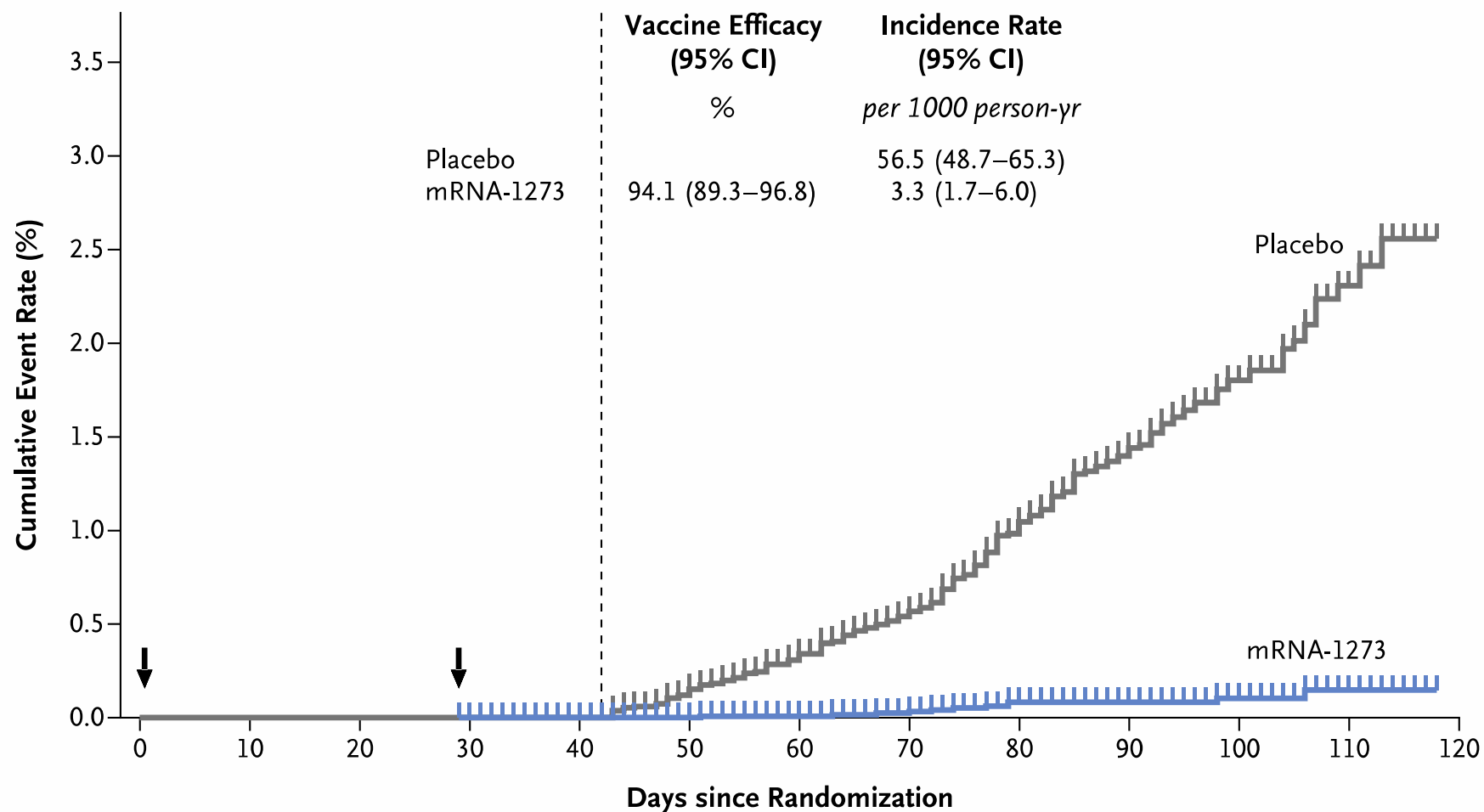
Characteristics	Placebo (N=15,170)	mRNA-1273 (N=15,181)	Total (N=30,351)
Sex — no. of participants (%)			
Male	8,062 (53.1)	7,923 (52.2)	15,985 (52.7)
Female	7,108 (46.9)	7,258 (47.8)	14,366 (47.3)
Mean age (range) — yr	51.3 (18–95)	51.4 (18–95)	51.4 (18–95)
Age category and risk for severe Covid-19 — no. of participants (%)†			
18 to <65 yr, not at risk	8,886 (58.6)	8,888 (58.5)	17,774 (58.6)
18 to <65 yr, at risk	2,535 (16.7)	2,530 (16.7)	5,065 (16.7)
≥65 yr	3,749 (24.7)	3,763 (24.8)	7,512 (24.8)
Hispanic or Latino ethnicity — no. of participants (%)‡			
Hispanic or Latino	3,114 (20.5)	3,121 (20.6)	6,235 (20.5)
Not Hispanic or Latino	11,917 (78.6)	11,918 (78.5)	23,835 (78.5)
Not reported and unknown	139 (0.9)	142 (0.9)	281 (0.9)
Race or ethnic group — no. of participants (%)‡			
White	11,995 (79.1)	12,029 (79.2)	24,024 (79.2)
Black or African American	1,527 (10.1)	1,563 (10.3)	3,090 (10.2)
Asian	731 (4.8)	651 (4.3)	1,382 (4.6)
American Indian or Alaska Native	121 (0.8)	112 (0.7)	233 (0.8)
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	32 (0.2)	35 (0.2)	67 (0.2)
Multiracial	321 (2.1)	315 (2.1)	636 (2.1)
Other	316 (2.1)	321 (2.1)	637 (2.1)
Not reported and unknown	127 (0.8)	155 (1.0)	282 (0.9)



- Final analysis: reported on Nov 30, 2020
  - 196 cases: 185 in placebo arm, 11 in vaccine arm
    - **VE = 94.1%,  $p < 0.0001$**
  - 30 severe cases (1 death): all in placebo arm
  - Similar efficacy across age groups, racial/ethnic groups, co-morbidities
- EUA application filed with FDA on Nov 30, 2020
  - FDA external advisory committee meeting: Dec 17, 2020
  - EUA issued on Dec 18, 2020

# mRNA-1273 Phase 3 Efficacy

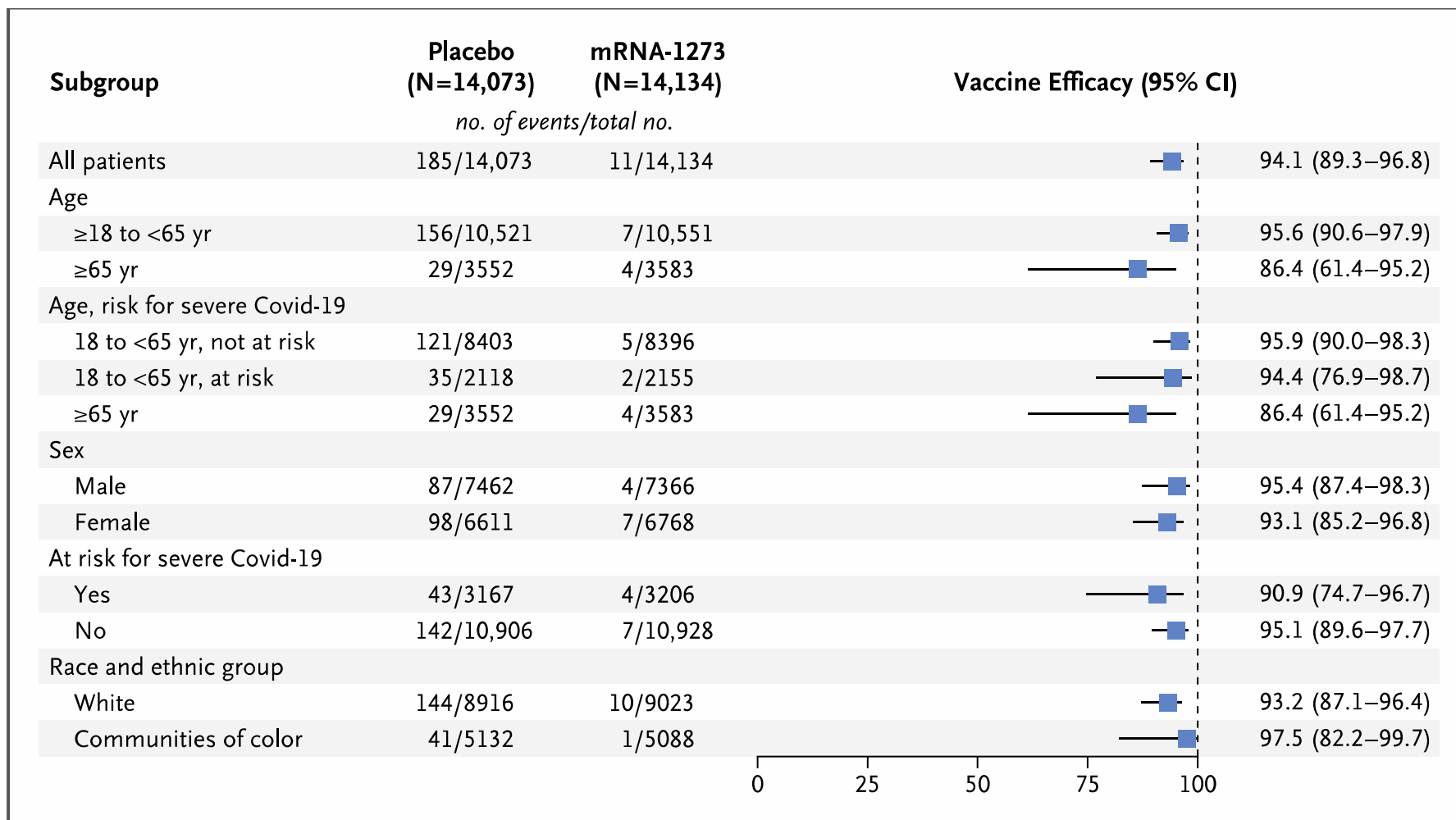
## A Per-Protocol Analysis



### No. at Risk

Placebo	14,073	14,073	14,073	14,072	13,416	12,992	12,361	11,147	9474	6563	3971	1172	0
mRNA-1273	14,134	14,134	14,134	14,133	13,483	13,073	12,508	11,315	9684	6721	4094	1209	0

# mRNA-1273 Vaccine Efficacy by Subgroup



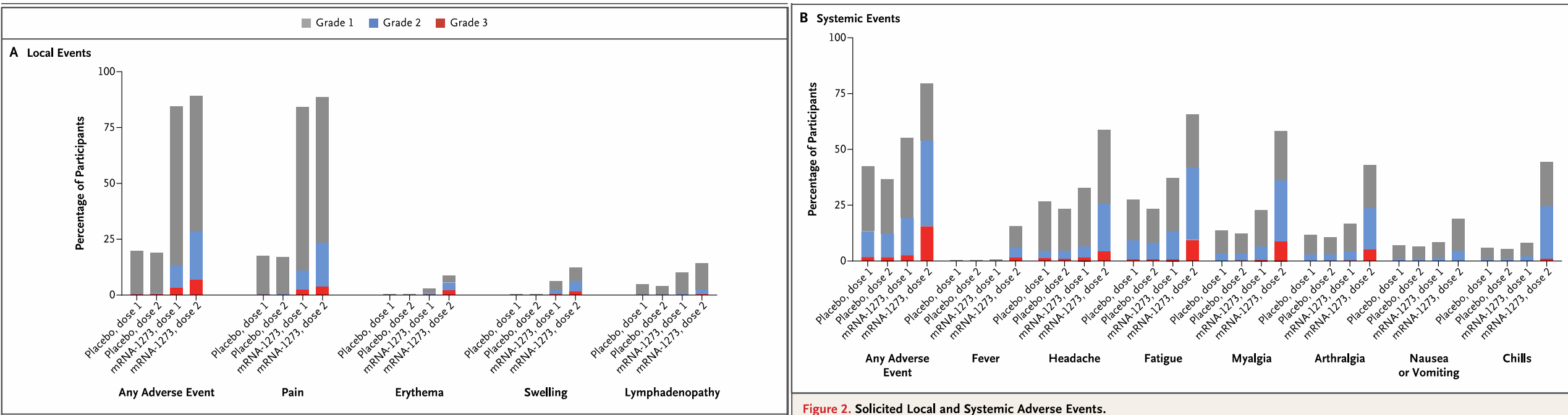


Figure 2. Solicited Local and Systemic Adverse Events.

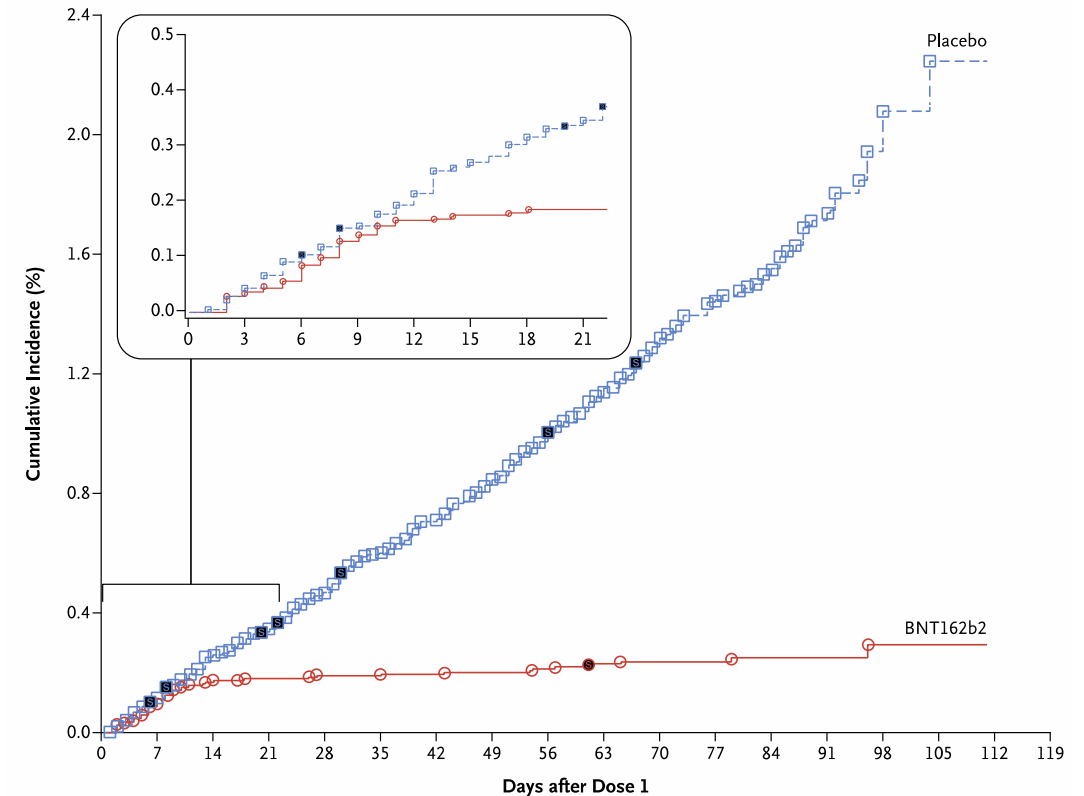


- Allergic Reactions
  - 3 anaphylaxis cases, all unrelated (>10 days post-vax)
- Bell's Palsy
  - 3 cases in mRNA-1273, 1 in placebo
  - All deemed unrelated to vaccine
  - FDA: not more than background rate
- Dermal Filler Reactions
  - 3 cases of facial/lip swelling in mRNA-1273 recipients

- Pregnancy
  - 13 pregnancies through December 2, 2020 (6 vaccine, 7 placebo). Vaccination occurred:
    - 1 spontaneous abortion, 1 elective abortion, both in the placebo
    - Pregnancy outcomes are otherwise unknown at this time
- Pediatrics
- Asymptomatic Transmission
- ½ Dose?
  - Phase 2 trial included 50µg arm: immunogenicity MAY be equivalent
- Delayed 2<sup>nd</sup> dose?

- All participants invited for “Decision Visit” to unblind
  - Started at GW on Dec 30<sup>th</sup>, 2020
  - All Decision Visits completed at GW on Mar 15<sup>th</sup>, 2021
- Placebo recipients offered vaccine

- Phase 3 Trial: 40,277 participants
- VE = 95.0% (90.3 – 97.6)
- Similar safety profile to Moderna
- EUA – Dec 12<sup>th</sup>, 2020
  - Approved for  $\geq 16$  y/o

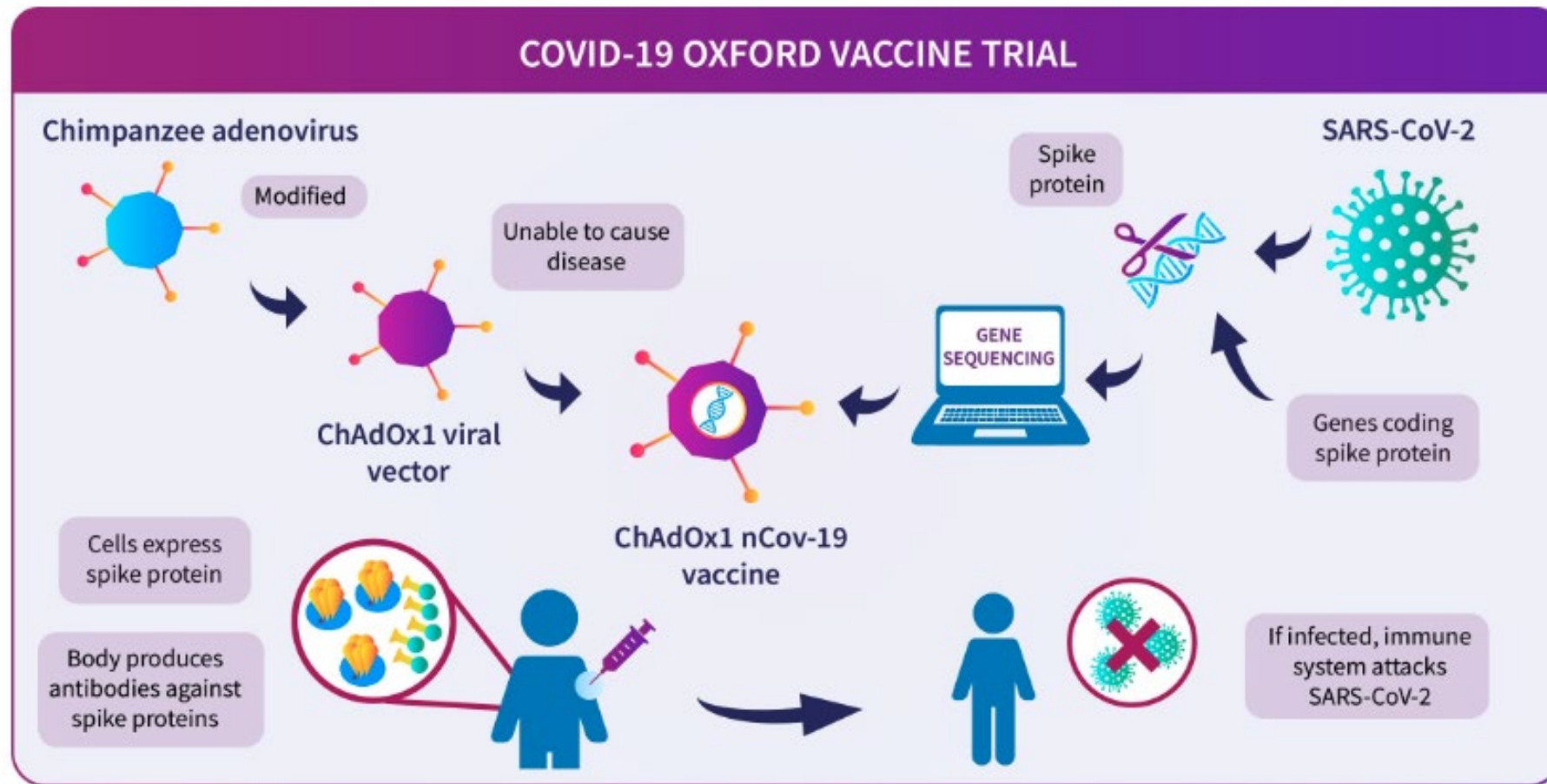


- University of Oxford/AstraZeneca
- **Replication-deficient chimpanzee adenovirus vector** expressing the full-length SARS-CoV-2 spike protein
- **ChAdOx1 vector used to develop investigational vaccines against other pathogens:**
  - Malaria, MERS, tuberculosis, influenza and chikungunya virus (Phase 1/2)
- Clinical development (Phase 1) initiated in April 2020
- Phase 2/3 in the UK
- Phase 3 in Brazil
- CoVPN Phase 3 fully enrolled (US & International)



# SARS-CoV-2 Vaccine Development:

## *Viral Vected Vaccine Construct*



**Table 2**      **COVID-19 Vaccine AstraZeneca efficacy against COVID-19**

<b>Population</b>	<b>COVID-19 Vaccine AstraZeneca</b>		<b>Control</b>		<b>Vaccine efficacy % (CI)</b>
	<b>N</b>	<b>Number of COVID-19 cases, n (%)</b>	<b>N</b>	<b>Number of COVID-19 cases, n (%)</b>	
<i>Primary (see above)</i>	<b>5,807</b>		<b>5,829</b>		
COVID-19 cases		30 (0.52)		101 (1.73)	70.42 (58.84, 80.63) <sup>a</sup>
Hospitalisations <sup>b</sup>		0		5 (0.09)	-
Severe disease <sup>c</sup>		0		1 (0.02)	-
<i>Any dose</i>	<b>10,014</b>		<b>10,000</b>		
COVID-19 cases after dose 1		108 (1.08)		227 (2.27)	52.69 (40.52, 62.37) <sup>d</sup>
Hospitalisations after dose 1 <sup>b</sup>		2 (0.02) <sup>e</sup>		16 (0.16)	-
Severe disease after dose 1 <sup>c</sup>		0		2 (0.02)	

- **Primary Analysis included 1367 LD/SD and 4440 SD/SD**
- **94% < 65 years old**

	Total number of cases	ChAdOx1 nCoV-19		Control		Vaccine efficacy (CI*)
		n/N (%)	Incidence rate per 1000 person-years (person-days of follow-up)	n/N (%)	Incidence rate per 1000 person-years (person-days of follow-up)	
All LD/SD and SD/SD recipients	131	30/5807 (0.5%)	44.1 (248 299)	101/5829 (1.7%)	149.2 (247 228)	70.4% (54.8 to 80.6)†
COV002 (UK)	86	18/3744 (0.5%)	38.6 (170 369)	68/3804 (1.8%)	145.7 (170 448)	73.5% (55.5 to 84.2)
LD/SD recipients	33	3/1367 (0.2%)	14.9 (73 313)	30/1374 (2.2%)	150.2 (72 949)	90.0% (67.4 to 97.0)‡§
SD/SD recipients	53	15/2377 (0.6%)	56.4 (97 056)	38/2430 (1.6%)	142.4 (97 499)	60.3% (28.0 to 78.2)
COV003 (Brazil; all SD/SD)	45	12/2063 (0.6%)	56.2 (77 930)	33/2025 (1.6%)	157.0 (76 780)	64.2% (30.7 to 81.5)‡
All SD/SD recipients	98	27/4440 (0.6%)	56.4 (174 986)	71/4455 (1.6%)	148.8 (174 279)	62.1% (41.0 to 75.7)

- Overall efficacy 79% at preventing symptomatic COVID-19
- 100% efficacy against severe or critical disease and hospitalisation
- Comparable efficacy result across ethnicity and age
  - 80% efficacy in participants aged  $\geq 65$  years



EUA late Feb 2021



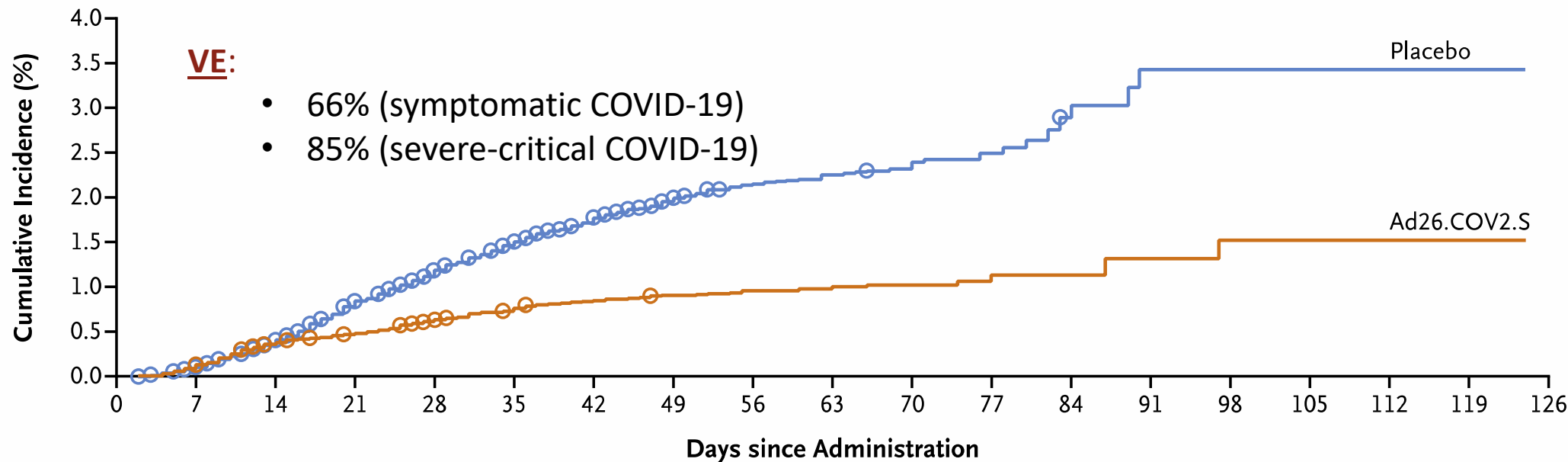
P2 Initiation Feb 2021



Development abandoned

# Janssen/J&J COVID-19 Vaccine

## A Moderate to Severe–Critical Cases of Covid-19



### No. at Risk

Placebo	19,822	19,804	19,745	19,652	19,579	19,488	18,411	14,814	10,823	7740	3876	1439	708	485	482	480	133	27	0
Ad26.COV2.S	19,744	19,725	19,669	19,642	19,612	19,578	18,541	14,909	10,930	7831	3998	1468	713	484	483	482	142	31	0

### No. of Cases

Placebo	0	22	81	168	237	299	351	387	407	416	423	425	430	432	432	432	432	432	432
Ad26.COV2.S	0	27	76	96	126	151	168	178	184	188	189	191	191	192	193	193	193	193	193

COVID-19 Vaccine Trials at GW

**FROM MODERNA TO SANOFI....**



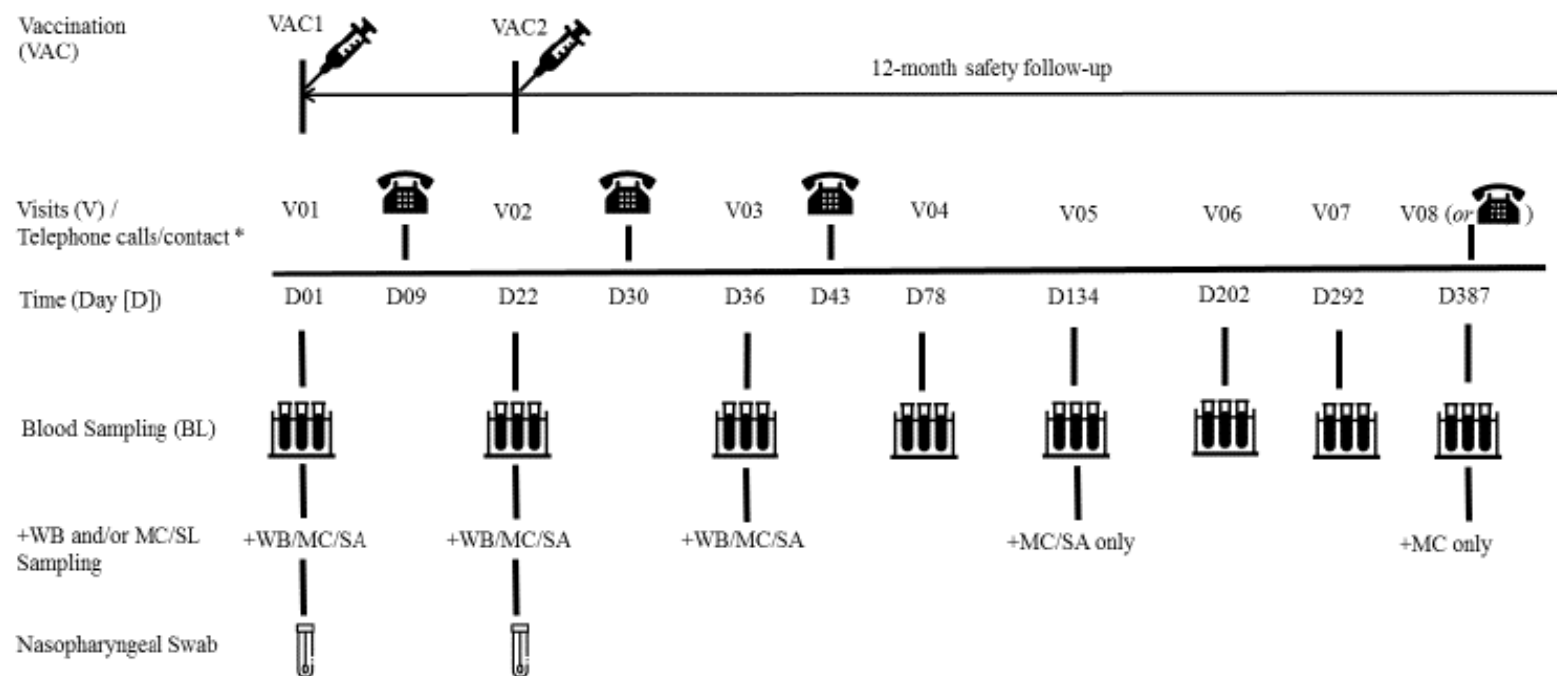


# Sanofi-Pasteur Phase I/II VAT000001 Study

- Same technology used to produce recombinant influenza vaccine
- SARS-CoV-2 Spike protein + adjuvant
- Sept 2020, US, 440 ppts
- Good antibody response in younger people but lower levels in older individuals
  - Seroconversion 85% in >50 yo, 62.5% in > 60 yo
- Led Sanofi to optimize the vaccine dose & formulation

- US Phase II: US, 720 ppts,  $\geq 18$  yo (50%  $\geq 60$  yo)
- Higher doses and greater purity of protein from VAT00001 study
- 3 different SARS-CoV-2 Spike protein doses (5, 10 and 15 mcg) with AS03 adjuvant (GSK)
- 2 injections (21 days apart), randomized 1:1:1
  - No placebo
- Participants randomized based on prior SARS-CoV-2 infection as naïve and non-naïve
- Enrollment 24FEB2021 – 09MAR2021
  - 44 enrolled at GW
  - Vaccinations completed on 26MAR2021

# VAT00002 Study at GW



# COVID-19 Vaccine Trials at GW







# GW COVID-19 Vaccine Trials Team

## GW Milken Institute School of Public Health

## GW SMHS/MFA



Milken Institute School  
of Public Health

THE GEORGE WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY

School of Medicine  
& Health Sciences

THE GEORGE WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY



[smhs.gwu.edu](https://smhs.gwu.edu)