

COVID-19 TOOLBOX

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Issue Brief

The MEDBOX team publishes issue briefs on different topics around COVID-19. We would be pleased to receive feedback on this issue brief or topics you would like to see covered in future issues. Registered MEDBOX users can see the latest documents in the 'My News' section by selecting their personal preferences under 'My Profile'.

COVID-19 & Vaccination

Vaccination against the spread of the SARS-CoV-2 virus represents a milestone in the fight against the pandemic. Good communication and education of the population is essential for the success of the vaccination. Below is some information on vaccination strategies, implementation of the vaccination, ethical considerations, as well as educational materials in English and other languages. Additional documents and information are available in the [Covid-19 Toolbox](#) under the '[Vaccination & Strategy](#)' section.

Useful resources in MEDBOX

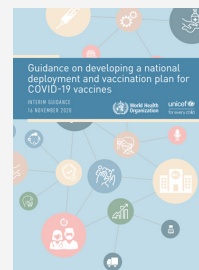
Access & Strategy Plans

Guidance on developing a national deployment and vaccination Planning for COVID-19 vaccines

World Health Organization (2020)

The Guidance on National Deployment and Vaccination Planning is intended to help countries develop their plan for COVID-19 vaccine introduction.

<https://medbox.org/document/guidance-on-developing-a-national-deployment-and-vaccination-planning-for-covid-19-vaccines>



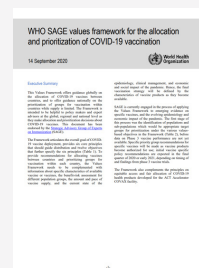
WHO SAGE values framework for the allocation and prioritization of COVID-19 vaccination

World Health Organization WHO (2020)

The WHO SAGE values framework for the allocation and prioritization of COVID-19 vaccination is intended to offer guidance on the prioritization of groups for vaccination when vaccine supply is limited. It provides a values foundation for the objectives of COVID-19 vaccination programmes and links those to target groups for vaccination. This information is valuable to countries and globally while specific policies will be developed once vaccines become available.

This document is available in Arabic, Chinese, English and Russian

<https://medbox.org/document/who-sage-values-framework-for-the-allocation-and-prioritization-of-covid-19-vaccination>



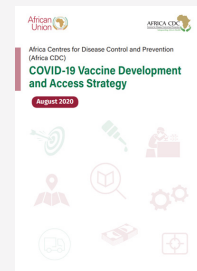
COVID-19 Vaccine Development and Access Strategy

African Union; Africa CDC Centres for Disease Control and Prevention (2020)

Successful immunization of a critical mass of the African population with one or several safe and efficacious COVID-19 vaccines. Key objectives: 1. Accelerate African involvement in the clinical development of a vaccine. 2. Ensure African countries can access a sufficient share of the global vaccine supply. 3. Remove barriers to widespread delivery and uptake of effective vaccines across Africa.

This document is available in Arabic, English, French and Portuguese

<https://medbox.org/document/covid-19-vaccine-development-and-access-strategy>



COVAX Initiative

Gavi, the Coalition for Epidemic Preparedness Innovations (CEPI) and WHO (2021)

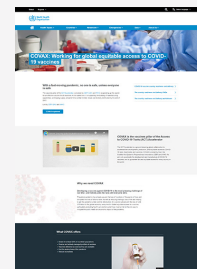
WHO, UNICEF, Gavi and partners are working together to help prepare countries to be ready to introduce a COVID-19 vaccine.

<https://medbox.org/document/covax-initiative>

Adaptable guidance, tools, trainings, and advocacy materials are being developed to support countries in preparing for COVID-19 vaccination.

Please visit this page regularly for updates.

<https://www.who.int/initiatives/act-accelerator/covax>



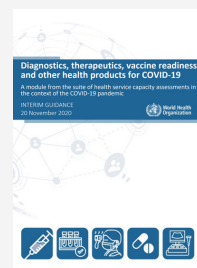
Readiness

Diagnostics, therapeutics, vaccine readiness, and other health products for COVID-19

World Health Organization WHO (2020)

A module from the suite of health service capacity assessments in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic, Interim Guidance 20 November 2020. This tool was developed to ensure the provision of health products for COVID-19 patients in designated COVID-19 facilities. It allows health facilities to assess the availability and status of stockout of critical COVID-19 medicines, equipment and supplies on site and to identify areas that need further attention to enable the facility to respond effectively to the pandemic.

<https://medbox.org/document/diagnostics-therapeutics-vaccine-readiness-and-other-health-products-for-covid-19>



COVID-19 Vaccine Country Readiness Assessment Tool (VIRAT)

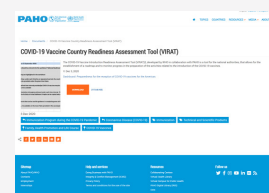
World Health Organization WHO, UNICEF and World Bank (2020)

The COVID-19 Vaccine Introduction Readiness Assessment Tool (VIRAT)², developed by WHO in collaboration with PAHO is a tool for the national authorities, that allows for the establishment of a roadmap and to monitor progress in the preparation of the activities related to the introduction of the COVID-19 vaccines.

<https://medbox.org/document/covid-19-vaccine-country-readiness-assessment-tool-virat>

Download the xls-file here:

<https://www.paho.org/en/file/79357/download?token=f-tAWyKc>

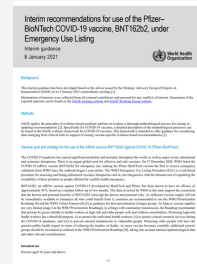


Immunization Guidelines

Interim recommendations for use of the Pfizer–BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine, BNT162b2, under Emergency Use Listing
World Health Organization (WHO) 2021

Interim guidance, 8 January 2021

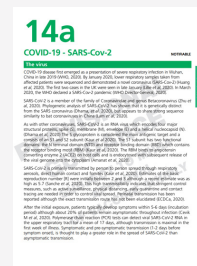
<https://medbox.org/document/interim-recommendations-for-use-of-the-pfizerbio-tech-covid-19-vaccine-bnt162b2-under-emergency-use-listing>



COVID-19: the green book, chapter 14a (Provisional guidance subject to MHRA approval of vaccine supply)
Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency (MHRA) UK (2020)

This chapter includes information on: the coronavirus (COVID-19) vaccines the dosage and schedule for the UK recommendations for the use of the vaccine.

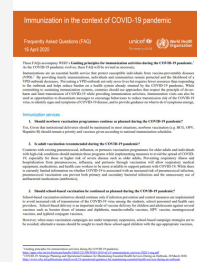
<https://medbox.org/document/covid-19-the-green-book-chapter-14a-provisional-guidance-subject-to-mhra-approval-of-vaccine-supply>



Immunization in the context of COVID-19 pandemic
World Health Organisation (2020)

Immunizations are an essential health service that protect susceptible individuals from vaccine-preventable diseases (VPD).² By providing timely immunizations, individuals and communities remain protected and the likelihood of a VPD outbreak decreases. This publication is available in Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian and Spanish

<https://medbox.org/document/immunization-in-the-context-of-covid-19-pandemic>

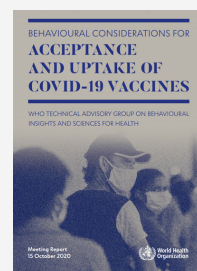


Communication & Information

Behavioural considerations for acceptance and uptake of COVID-19 vaccines
World Health Organization

WHO technical advisory group on behavioural insights and sciences for health, meeting report, 15 October 2020

<https://medbox.org/document/behavioural-considerations-for-acceptance-and-up-take-of-covid-19-vaccines>



Corona Crash Course Unit 5: Vaccine
Jesuit Worldwide Learning (2020)

In this unit we will learn about vaccines and what is the progress made for developing a vaccine for COVID-19 Jesuit Worldwide Learning invites you to learn facts and test your knowledge on the ongoing pandemic caused by Coronavirus (COVID 19) through a fun-interactive crash course! Access is free! You have only to sign up.

<https://medbox.org/document/corona-crash-course-unit-5-vaccine>

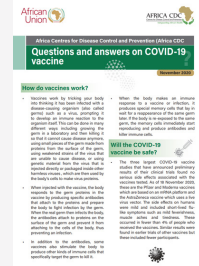


Questions and answers on COVID-19 vaccine

African Union; Africa CDC Centres for Disease Control and Prevention (2020)

How do vaccines work? Fact sheet

<https://medbox.org/document/questions-and-answers-on-covid-19-vaccine>



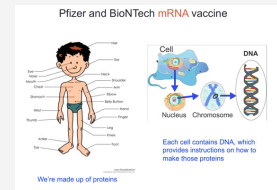
Videos

The Pfizer Coronavirus Vaccine: How Does It Work?

Shinar, S. (2020)

Learn about the science behind the new coronavirus vaccine made by Pfizer. This video goes over how vaccines work, and how the Pfizer vaccine is a bit different from most other virus vaccines.

<https://medbox.org/document/the-pfizer-coronavirus-vaccine-how-does-it-work>



WHO Video Series: Science in 5

World Health Organization

WHO Science in 5: Episode #5 – Vaccines

<https://medbox.org/document/who-science-in-5-episode-5-vaccines>

WHO Science in 5: Episode #15 - COVID-19 - Vaccine distribution

<https://medbox.org/document/whos-science-in-5-episode-15-covid-19-vaccine-distribution>

WHO Science in 5: Episode #16 - COVID-19 - How do vaccines work?

<https://medbox.org/document/who-science-in-5-episode-16-covid-19-how-do-vaccines-work>

WHO Science in 5: Episode #17 - COVID-19 - Vaccine approval

<https://medbox.org/document/whos-science-in-5-episode-17-covid-19-vaccine-approval>

WHO Science in 5: Episode #20 - COVID-19 - Variants & Vaccines

<https://medbox.org/document/who-science-in-5-episode-20-covid-19-variants-vaccines>

There are more interesting videos to discover in “Science in 5”

<https://www.who.int/emergencies/diseases/novel-coronavirus-2019/media-resources/science-in-5>



Resource Platforms

COVID-19 vaccines

World Health Organization (WHO)

<https://www.who.int/emergencies/diseases/novel-coronavirus-2019/covid-19-vaccines>

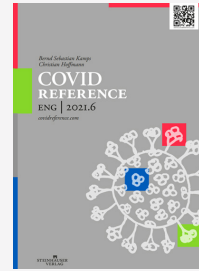


Vaccines

Kamradt, T., and B.S. Kamps (2021)

As of 8 January, three vaccines had been approved in Europe and in the US: tozinameran (Comirnaty™) by BioNTech/Pfizer (formerly known as BNT162b2), mRNA-1273 by Moderna and ChAdOx1 nCoV-19 by University of Oxford/AstraZeneca. Adverse events such as pain at injection site, fatigue, headache, myalgia and fever were common, but serious adverse events were rare. All three vaccines seem to have a favorable safety profile.

<https://medbox.org/document/vaccines>



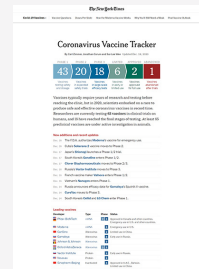
Vaccine Candidates

Coronavirus Vaccine Tracker

Zimmer, C, J. Corum and S. Wee (2020)

New York Times. Vaccines typically require years of research and testing before reaching the clinic, but in 2020, scientists embarked on a race to produce safe and effective coronavirus vaccines in record time. Researchers are currently testing 61 vaccines in clinical trials on humans, and 17 have reached the final stages of testing.

<https://medbox.org/document/coronavirus-vaccine-tracker>



Draft landscape of COVID-19 candidate vaccines

World Health Organization WHO (2020)

These landscape documents have been prepared by the World Health Organization (WHO) for information purposes only concerning the 2019-2020 global of the novel coronavirus. Inclusion of any particular product or entity in any of these landscape documents does not constitute, and shall not be deemed or construed as, any approval or endorsement by WHO of such product or entity (or any of its businesses or activities).

<https://medbox.org/document/draft-landscape-of-covid-19-candidate-vaccines>

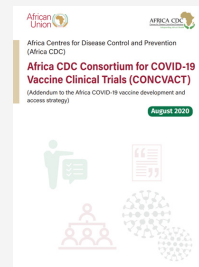
The image is a screenshot of a table titled 'DRAFT landscape of COVID-19 candidate vaccines - (30 December 2020)'. The table has columns for 'Candidate', 'Phase', 'Status', and 'Notes'. It lists various vaccine candidates from different organizations and their current development stages.

Africa CDC Consortium for COVID-19 Vaccine Clinical Trials (CONCRACT)

African Union; Africa CDC Centres for Disease Control and Prevention (2020)

The Africa Joint Continental Strategy for COVID-19 is underpinned by the need to limit transmission, prevent deaths and reduce associated harms. Participation by African nations in clinical trials is an essential step to ensure that sufficient data is generated on the safety and efficacy of the most promising vaccine candidates among the region's populations. Also available in [French](#) & [Portuguese](#).

<https://medbox.org/document/africa-cdc-consortium-for-covid-19-vaccine-clinical-trials-concRACT>



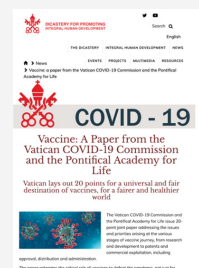
Moral Aspects

Vaccine: A Paper from the Vatican COVID-19 Commission and the Pontifical Academy for Life

Vatican (2021)

Vatican lays out 20 points for a universal and fair destination of vaccines, for a fairer and healthier world.

<https://medbox.org/document/vaccine-a-paper-from-the-vatican-covid-19-commission-and-the-pontifical-academy-for-life>



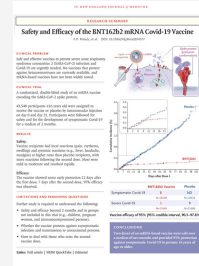
Scientific Paper

Safety and Efficacy of the BNT162b2 mRNA Covid-19 Vaccine

Polack, F.P. et al. (2020)

This article was published on December 10, 2020, and updated on December 16, 2020, at NEJM.org. DOI: 10.1056/NEJMoa2034577

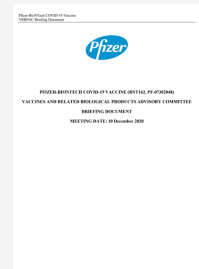
https://www.nejm.org/doi/full/10.1056/NEJMoa2034577?query=featured_home



PFIZER-BIONTECH COVID-19 Vaccine (BNT162, PF-07302048). Vaccines and related biological products Advisory Committee Briefing Document MEETING DATE: 10 December 2020

PFIZER-BIONTECH

<https://www.fda.gov/media/144246/download>



The UK has approved a COVID vaccine — here's what scientists now want to know

The Nature

<https://www.nature.com/articles/d41586-020-03441-8>



Safety and efficacy of the ChAdOx1 nCoV-19 vaccine (AZD1222) against SARS-CoV-2: an interim analysis of four randomised controlled trials in Brazil, South Africa, and the UK

Voysey, M., et al.

The Lancet 2020 Dec 8;S0140-6736(20)32661-1. doi: 10.1016/S0140-6736(20)32661-1. Online ahead of print.

[https://www.thelancet.com/journals/lancet/article/PIIS0140-6736\(20\)32661-1/fulltext](https://www.thelancet.com/journals/lancet/article/PIIS0140-6736(20)32661-1/fulltext)



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