

# COVID-19 VACCINE

## FACTS & RECOMMENDATIONS

Last updated: 28<sup>th</sup> December 2020

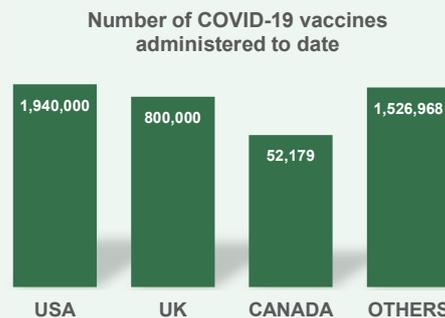
The World Federation COVID-19 Vaccine Panel **recommend** that based on the facts and research gathered to date, the Pfizer/BioNTech, Moderna, and the upcoming AstraZeneca vaccines\* **should be taken if:**

- **Your local jurisdiction has signed these off**
- **You have consulted your physician and given your personal consent**



\*There are other vaccines also en-route to market and/or available (e.g. CoronaVac, Sputnik V), please consult your local medical advice & authorities

Producer Countries	Name	Doses	Storage Temperature	Effectiveness	Approved in
	Pfizer-BioNTech	x2	-70 Degrees	95%	USA, UK, Europe, Canada
	Moderna	x2	-20 Degrees	95%	USA, Canada
	AstraZeneca	x2	Regular fridge temp.	62% - 90%	Phase III. Approval Imminent
	Gamaleya (Sputnik V)	x2	Regular fridge temp.	92%	Early use in Russia. Approved Belarus and Argentina
	CoronaVac (Sinovac & Sinopharm)	x2	Regular fridge temp.	50% - 91.25% (Early trials, awaiting more data)	Limited use in China. Approved in UAE & other countries



Over 4 million COVID-19 vaccines administered. To date, no major concerns reported

### Vaccine Side Effects (known today)

- Tenderness, swelling and/or redness at the injection site
- Headache
- Muscle ache & joint pain
- Feeling tired
- Fever/high temperature (37.8°C or greater)



### Consequences of COVID-19

- Most people with COVID-19 only experience a mild illness, however many get severe illness
- More people die compared to the normal flu. So far about **1.8million** people have died globally
- High risk of spread to family and society

The evidence so far shows that the side effects are minor compared to the major complications of COVID-19

## General Questions



**Question:** Are there any vaccines for COVID-19?

**Answer:** Yes, there are 2 vaccines approved in the US, Canada and Europe; Pfizer/ BioNTech and Moderna. There are more expected to be authorised in the near future, with more than 50 other vaccines that are at a Phase 1-3 trial stage.

**Question:** When will the vaccines be ready for distribution?

**Answer:** There are already vaccines in use in some countries. Medical authorities in individual countries decide whether to approve vaccines for national usage. Distribution and production in large quantities are expected to create delays.

**Question:** Is it safe for humans to take the vaccine?

**Answer:** Although the vaccines have only been in use for a few months in certain countries, the evidence from the millions of vaccines administered, as well as the Phase III trials (testing in thousands of humans), suggest that it is safe for humans, and the benefits outweigh the side effects.

**Question:** Is it religiously permissible to take the vaccine?

**Answer:** Yes, it is. The WF Islamic Education Team has consulted His Eminence Sayyid al Sistani (DZ) regarding various aspects on the vaccine. See our Q&A document here: <http://lnk.worldfed.org/VaccineReligiousGuidance>



We emphasize that these are guidelines (not rules and regulations) and are based on our current understanding of the research available. These guidelines may change when new information is received. The decision-making process is personal, and local authorities and physicians' guidance should be sought.

If you have any questions for our expert panel, please email: [covid19vaccine@world-federation.org](mailto:covid19vaccine@world-federation.org)