HISTORY OF mRNA COVID-19 VACCINES





mRNA is a molecule that carries instructions for cells to make proteins.1

Research on coronaviruses and mRNA started long before the COVID-19 pandemic.^{2,3}

1961 1 RRMP

mRNA discovered.² 1965

Human

coronaviruses

discovered 4



Studies conducted using mRNA as a treatment or vaccine.²

2008



First human mRNA vaccination trial conducted.⁵ JANUARY 2020



Scientists identified the virus, SARS-CoV-2.6

MARCH **2020**



COVID-19 declared a new global pandemic.⁶ DECEMBER 2020



FDA authorized emergency use of two mRNA COVID-19 vaccines.⁶ AUGUST **2021**



First mRNA COVID-19 vaccine FDA approved.⁷

mRNA COVID-19 Vaccine Development Process: Approximately 12 months⁸



INITIAL DEVELOPMENT

Using knowledge gained from previous mRNA research, scientists developed potential vaccines for COVID-19.8

Scientists must submit an application for an Investigational New Drug to the FDA. This includes information on⁹:

- Results from lab research and animal testing
- How the vaccine is made
- Quality of the vaccine

Human trials cannot start without FDA's authorization.⁹



HUMAN TRIALS

Phase 1:

Evaluates safety and immune response within healthy people¹⁰

Phase 2:

Includes people of different states of health and backgrounds to continue safety and immune response evaluation¹⁰

Phase 3:

Evaluates efficacy and safety in people who received the vaccine compared to those in a control group who received a placebo¹⁰



FDA EMERGENCY USE AUTHORIZATION

The FDA determined that the known and potential benefits outweighed the known and potential risks of the vaccines, and granted Emergency Use Authorization (EUA).^{10,11}



FACT:

mRNA COVID-19 vaccines were developed using mRNA research dating back to the 1960s.²

COVID-19 vaccines were developed quickly for many reasons including⁸:

- Improved regulatory review process
- Increased funding
- New vaccine technology
- Shortened production times
- Expanded manufacturing capabilities

Overlapping Initial Development and Human Trials helped accelerate the timeline. During vaccine development, all FDA required steps were taken in the clinical development process.^{8,11}



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