Bundesinstitut für Impfstoffe und biomedizinische Arzneimittel Federal Institute for Vaccines and Biomedicines



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The views expressed in this presentation are not only personal views of the author. They may be understood or quoted as considerations of the Paul-Ehrlich-Institut.

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Press Briefing of the Paul-Ehrlich-Institut, Federal Institut for Vaccines and Biomedicines 17 June 2020



Das Paul-Ehrlich-Institut ist ein Bundesinstitut im Geschäftsbereich des Bundesministeriums für Gesundheit.

The Paul-Ehrlich-Institut is an Agency of the German Federal Ministry of Health.



- Welcome, role of the Paul-Ehrlich-Institut (PEI) in vaccine regulation
- Basic principles of clinical trial authorisation (PEI)
- Study planning (presentation CureVac)
- Prospects for the future (PEI)

PRESENTERS

- Dr Franz Werner-Haas, CEO, COO, CureVac
- Dr Mariola Fotin-Mleczek, CTO, CureVac
- Professor Dr Klaus Cichutek, president of the Paul-Ehrlich-Institut

Scientific Advice from Paul-Ehrlich-Institut accelerates Covid-19-RNA Vaccine Development



- National scientifc advice (innovation@pei.de)
 Early advice on the entire route of development
- Guide to scientific advice from EMA (European Medicines Agency)
 In a later phase of development -> preparation for an authorisation application
- Research at the Paul-Ehrlich-Institut
 Studies concerning the development of the safety and the protective effect of vaccine platforms in the laboratory
- International harmonisation: EMA, WHO, ICMRA, HMA, ...
- Policy advice, public relations, ...

The Paul-Ehrlich-Institut protects Patients and supports the Medicines Development





Scientific advice, Paul-Ehrlich-Institut (PEI)

- 15x advices by PEI on COVID-19 vaccines
- 20x advices by PEI on COVID-19 therapeutics
- 14x Emergency task force EMA/PEI participations
- 3x global telephone conferences with FDA/WHO
- including binational scientific advice (SNSA)

Authorisation of clinical trials by the Paul-Ehrlich-Institut

- 2x authorisations, human vaccine specific
- 2x authorisations, human vaccine non-specific
- 2x authorisation, reconvalescence plasma
- 5x authorisations, mAb

Regulatory Activities (up to 5 June 2020)

INTERNATIONAL NETWORKING

ICMRA – International Coaliton of Medicines Regulatory Agencies

Telephone phone conferences (TCs) every 2 weeks

WHO Organisations

- Prioritising of vaccines
- Animal studies
- Clinical trial design
- Reference material for assays
- HMA Heads of Medicines Agencies in Europe
- Business Continuity
- Supply shortages (availability)
- EMA European Medicines Agency
- Accelerated authorisation with rolling review
- Business continuity

Vaccines developments world-wide

- >130 vaccine projects
 - 10 Covid-19 vaccines in clinical trials
 - 2 Clinical trials Phase II/III authorised (USA, UK)





As per 2 June 2020

On-going Clinical Trials world-wide: Preventive SARS-CoV-2 Vaccines

Platform	Type of candidate vaccine	Developer	Current stage of clinical evaluation	Same platform for non-Coronavirus candidates
Non-Replicating Viral Vector	Adenovirus Type 5 Vector	CanSino Biological Inc./Beijing Institute of Biotechnology, China	Phase II ChiCTR2000031781 Phase I ChiCTR2000030906	Ebola
RNA	LNP-encapsulated mRNA	Moderna/NIAID, U.S.A.	Phase 1 NCT04283461	multiple candidate vaccines
Inactivated	Inactivated	Wuhan Institute of Biological Products / Sinopharm	Phase 1/2 ChiCTR2000031809	
Inactivated	Inactivated	Beijing Institut of Biological Products / Sinopharm	Phase 1/2 ChiCTR2000032459	
Inactivated	Inactivated	Sinopharm	Phase 1/2 NTC04383574 NTC04352508	SARS
Inactivated	Inactivated	Institute of Medical Biology / Chinese Academy of Medical Sciences	Phase 1	
Non-Replicating Viral Vector	ChAdOx1-5	University of Oxford / Astra Seneca / Serum Institute of India	Phase 1/2 NCT04324606	MERS, Influenza, TB, Chikungunya, Zika, MenB, Plague
Protein Subunit	Full lenght recombinant SARs CoV-2 glycoprotein nanoparticle vaccine adjuvanted with Matrix M	Novavax, U.S.A.	Phase 1/2 NCT04368988	RSV, CCHF, HPV, VZV, EBOV
RNA	LNP-encapsulated mRNA, saRNA	BioNTech, Germany	Phase 1/2 2020-001038-36 NCT04368728	multiple candidate vaccines
DNA	DNA plasmid vaccine Electroporation device	Inovio Pharmaceuticals, U.S.A.	Phase 1 NCT04336410	Lassa, Nipah , HIV, HPV, Filovirus, ZIKA, Hepatitis B,Cancer indications



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Authorisation of a Phase1/2 Clinical Trial of a Vaccine in Germany Prerequisites

- Vaccine platform
 - Unmodified RNA (not self-amplifying)
 - Clinical experience with preventive RNA vaccines
 e.g. preclinical/clinical trials with a rabies RNA vaccine



- Choice of the pathogen component conferring immune protection
 - Antigen (active substance in the vaccine)
 - Genome in the form of RNA with blue-print of the CoV-2 S-protein
 - Stabilising pre-fusion conformation of the spike protein



Authorisation of a Phase1/2 Clinical Trial of a Vaccine in Germany Manufacture (GMP), Quality

- Quality assured RNA manufacture (*In-vitro* transcription with DNA as the template)
 - Manufacture on a large scale (up-scaling) for combined Phase 1/2
- Formulation of the vaccine and filling
 - Chemically non-modified RNA
 + LNP (lipid nanoparticles, water-soluble)
- Quality and batch testing at the manufacturer
 - Identity of the RNA
 - Specifications: Portion of RNA in the vaccine, RNA integrity



Prof. Klaus Cichutek et al.

Authorisation of a Phase1/2 Clinical Trial of a Vaccine in Germany Pre-clinical Studies/Reference: Rabies-RNA Vaccine

- Pharmacology and pharmacokinetics (cell culture)
 - Formation of the required antigen (full-length spike protein)
- Immunogenicity, dose, vaccination regimen in the animal model (mouse)
 - Generation of the immune response against the spike protein of CoV-2
 - Dosing (amount of RNA per dose)
 - Vaccination regiment (vaccination: once or twice, time interval?)
- Toxicology in the case of repeated vaccine release (rat)
 - Platform data (rabies vaccine)
 - Test for organ damage, local tolerability
- Biodistribution







Authorisation of a Phase1/2 Clinical Trial of a Vaccine in Germany Special Characteristics of Clinical Trials

- Phase 1 testing:
 - Step-by-step increase of doses (3 dose stages; 144 vaccinees receiving verum, 24 vaccinees receiving placebo)
 - Two age-groups: 18-40 years and 41-60 years
 - No inclusion of elderly or vulnerable persons
 - 168 persons (seronegative and seropositive)
 - Duration: 15 months
- Aim: safety, reactogenicity (tolerability), immunogenicity
 - Neutralising antibodies, binding antibodies
 - Physiological reactions (reactogenicity, tolerability)



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Possibilities of expedited Covid-19 Vaccine Developments while maintaing the required Care



- Pivotal (essential) pre-clinical trials in cell culture and in the animal
 - Immunogenicity, first dose finding, repeated administration (mouse)
 - Referencing to comparable vaccine products of the same platform
- Non-clinical trials in parallel to the first clinical trial
 - Intolerability (toxicity) in the case of repeated administration (rat)
- Phase 1 clinical trial
 - Tolerability, first dose-finding, Vaccination twice, if required; healthy adults 18 to 60 years of age in combination with
- Phase 2 clinical trial
 - Safety, exact dose and determination of vaccine regimen
- Combined Phase 2/3 trial with > 10,000 persons

Preventive Measures to reduce theoretical Risks associated with Covid-19 Vaccine Developments



Theoretical risks

- Generation of infection-reinforcing antibodies
 - Reinforced infectious disease after the vaccination
- Th2 polarisation of the immune response with consequential organ damage
 - Cytokine profile dependent

Preventive measures

- Th1 polarising vaccine platform (RNA)
- Prefusion conformation of the spike protein antigen
- Determination of the cytokin profile and toxicology in the animal
- Determination of the cytokin profile of the vaccinee
- Targeted adverse effect analysis

Today's Paul-Ehrlich-Institut Our Focus is on Health!



