

# RECENTLY RELEASED CORONAVIRUS RELATED ARTICLES AND BLOGS ACCORDING DISEASE APPROACH. October 2020

**Warning:** Disseminating results by press release — instead of via peer-reviewed publication — can be misused to manipulate public reaction, generate funding or hide critical information.

### **BASED ON PFG October Newsletter**

### DIAGNOSTIC

WHO enlists more COVAX participants, clears 2nd rapid test. CIDRAP Nigerian scientists develop cheaper and faster Covid-19 test kits. CNN

India's new paper Covid-19 test could be a 'game changer'. BBC

Optum Global Solutions pledges INR 2.20 crores to strengthen COVID-19 testing capacity in India

Combining Rapid PCR and Antibody Tests Improved COVID-19 Diagnosis. JAMA

Scientists develop extremely rapid diagnostic test for COVID-19.

MedicalXpress

FIND and BIOASTER collaborate on clinical research to assess duration of immune response in patients with COVID-19

Millions more virus rapid tests, but are results reported?. AP

'Killer' cells in Ebola immunity study could help Covid research. The Guardian

LabCorp launches COVID-19 antibody test for measuring vaccine effectiveness. Fierce Biotech

GeneXpert for the diagnosis of COVID-19 in LMICs. The Lancet Correspondance

New COVID-19 rapid tests a game changer for Africa. WHO Afro

Few COVID-19 Rapid Diagnostic Tests Meet WHO Standards For Accuracy – FIND Study. Health Policy Watch

Celltrion nabs emergency use for rapid COVID-19 test from FDA. Fierce Biotech

Singapore firm invents coronavirus breathalyser with results in seconds. Reuters

#### TREATMENT

Warp Speed's focus on vaccines may have shortchanged antibody treatments. Politico

Lilly Seeks Emergency Use of Its Antibody Drug for COVID-19. Medscape EU buys more Remdesivir to treat 3,400 patients amid shortages. Reuters



Regeneron asks FDA for emergency authorization of its Covid-19 antibody therapy given to Trump last week. CNN

Regeneron REGN-COV2 monoclonal antibody reported better in (non-hospitalized) patients who lack their own antibodies to SARS-CoV-2.

## Science Speaks

Solidarity Therapeutics Trial produces conclusive evidence on the effectiveness of repurposed drugs for COVID-19 in record time. WHO

Gloomy COVID drug data shows why big, randomised trials matter.

### Reuters

NIH launches COVID-19 test of J&J, Bristol Myers and AbbVie antiinflammatory drugs. Fierce Pharma

Blood plasma showed no benefit in Covid-19 patients in trial — a finding that could re-energize debate. **STAT** 

Peer-Reviewed Remdesivir for the Treatment of Covid-19 — Final Report. Beigal, et al. NEJM, DOI: 10.1056/NEJMoa2007764, Oct 8 2020.

The race to make COVID antibody therapies cheaper and more potent. Nature

Gilead Sciences Ignored WHO Evidence That Remdesivir Fails To Reduce COVID19 Mortality – In US FDA Submission For Drug's Approval. Health Policy Watch

Lilly antibody drug fails in a COVID-19 study; others go on. AP
The 'very, very bad look' of remdesivir, the first FDA-approved COVID-19 drug. Science

Gilead's Covid-19 Drug Is Mediocre. It Will Be a Blockbuster Anyway. The New York Times

### **RACE FOR VACCINE**

Race for Covid-19 vaccine slows as regulators, top Warp Speed official tap the brakes. STAT

COVID-19 vaccine may be ready by year-end, says WHO's Tedros. Reuters

China in talks with WHO over assessing its COVID-19 vaccines for global use. Reuters

China joins WHO-backed vaccine programme COVAX rejected by Trump. Thomson Reuters

China, Republic of Korea Join COVAX Global Vaccine Pool – WHO Urges Countries To Jumpstart Vaccine Campaigns. Health Policy Watch

Coronavirus: what China's decision to join the WHO's vaccine scheme means. South China Morning Post



The future of vaccine development: 5 legacies from COVID-19. Bio Pharma Reporter

Johnson & Johnson pauses Covid vaccine trial over participant's 'unexplained illness'. The Guardian

Eli Lilly and Johnson & Johnson have paused COVID-19 vaccine trials. Why experts say that's reassuring, not frightening. USA Today

Putin Announces Approval Of A 2nd Unproven Coronavirus Vaccine. NPR

Early approval of a COVID-19 vaccine could stymie the hunt for better ones. Science

Pfizer won't apply for Covid-19 vaccine authorization before mid-November, CEO confirms. STAT

China's Inactivated COVID-19 Vaccine Candidate Is Safe and Provokes Immune Response, Say Preliminary Clinical Trial Results. Health Policy Watch

The vaccine itself is not the silver bullet,' says International Vaccine Institute. CGTN

Could certain COVID-19 vaccines leave people more vulnerable to the AIDS virus?. Science

Coronavirus Vaccine Tracker. The New York Times

Two more laboratories join CEPI's centralised network to standardise assessment of COVID-19 vaccines. CEPI

Leading US Expert Anthony Fauci: 'Cautiously Optimistic' About COVID-19 Vaccine Approval This Month Or Next . Health Policy Watch

CEPI expands global manufacturing network, reserving manufacturing capacity for more than 1 billion doses of COVID-19 vaccines. CEPI

Unprecedented vaccine trials on track to begin delivering results.

# Washington Post

Covid-19 vaccine trials from AstraZeneca, Johnson & Johnson to restart. STAT

Rush for results could lead to inferior Covid vaccine, say scientists. The Guardian

A Chinese Vaccine Could Save American Lives. Bloomberg

Vaccine hopes rise as Oxford jab prompts immune response among old as well as young adults. Reuters

Historic vaccine race meets harsh reality. Politico

Russia applies for WHO emergency use tag for its COVID-19 vaccine.

### Reuters

No news on Pfizer's Covid-19 vaccine is good news — and bad news. **STAT** 



Manufacturing delays push Novavax's COVID-19 vax trial to end of November. Fierce Biotech

Sanofi, GSK sign agreement to make vaccine candidate available to COVAX. Homeland Preparedness News

J&J plans to test its COVID-19 vaccine in ages 12-18 soon. Reuters

### **VACCINE ACCES**

Effort to bring coronavirus vaccines to poor countries faces obstacles. LA Times

Coronavirus vaccine 'for all' unlikely before 2022, says leading figure. The Telegraph

COVID-19 Vaccines A Global Common Good. The Lancet Comment

Expert panel recommends U.S. join international vaccine pool, contribute vaccine to low-income nations. STAT

What is COVAX and why does it matter for getting vaccines to developing nations?. The Conversation

South Africa and India urge WTO to waive IP rights, widen access to Covid-19 drugs and vaccines. **STAT** 

Covid-19: how to prioritize worse-off populations in allocating safe and effective vaccines. BMJ

WHO boss: Vaccine allocation is political. Politico

COVID-19 vaccines: how to ensure Africa has access. Nature

IAVI, Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany, and Serum Institute of India Join Forces to Develop Monoclonal Antibodies for COVID-19 and Ensure Prompt and Equitable Global Access

What China's speedy COVID vaccine deployment means for the pandemic. Nature

Eli Lilly in deal to supply COVID-19 drugs to low-income countries.

# Reuters

COVID-19 Crisis and WTO: Why India and South Africa's Proposal on Intellectual Property is Important. The Wire

Unitaid supports call for intellectual property waivers and action for access to COVID-19 products. UNITAID

Vaccine initiative now covers almost entire world, but not U.S. or Russia. Axios

The Indian/South African Proposal For a WTO Waiver On IP For COVID-19 Related Health Products – What It Means?. Health Policy Watch



Hundreds of advocacy groups urge WTO to waive IP rights to Covid-19 drugs and vaccines. STAT

Protecting the profits of a few could prevent vaccine access for all. The Hill

Global Covid report: young and healthy may not get vaccine until 2022, WHO says. The Guardian

Africa needs to go beyond COVAX to secure vaccine doses, experts say. Devex

What will it take to make COVID-19 vaccines globally available?. Brandeis University

Vaccine storage issues could leave 3B people without access. AP

UNICEF to stockpile over half a billion syringes by year end, as part of efforts to prepare for eventual COVID-19 vaccinations. UNICEF

WHO backs Indian proposal to ensure universal access to Covid vaccine. The Independent

Very large portion of COVID-19 vaccines likely to be manufactured in India: Gates Foundation CEO. The Hindu

Planes, trucks and ultracold boxes: Pfizer preps massive COVID-19 vaccine distribution effort. Fierce Pharma

**PEER-REVIEWED ARTICLES** Facilitating Access to a COVID-19 Vaccine through Global Health Law. Gostin, L et al. Sage Journal, DOI:

 $https://doi.org/10.1177/1073110520958892, Oct\ 6\ 2020$ 

Gavi signs statement of intent to procure 200 million doses of Sanofi-GSK COVID-19 vaccine candidate for the COVAX Facility. **GAVI** 

Skoll Foundation Funds Sabin Vaccine Institute, Dalberg and JSI Research & Training Institute, Inc. to Establish COVID-19 Vaccine Equity Project. Biospace

Under pressure, WHO plans COVID-19 vaccine insurance scheme for poor nations. Reuters

#### **FUNDING and PRICES**

World leaders pledge \$1B for ACT-Accelerator. Devex

GAVI providing \$150 million to poorer countries to prepare for COVID-19 vaccines. Reuters

Gavi Covax facility misses Covid-19 vaccine project funding targets, eyes cost-sharing. IB Times

COVAX Vaccine Plan Not Transparent: WHO Board Member. Code Blue



Countries pledge nearly US\$ 1 billion to support equitable access to COVID-19 vaccines. GAVI

Japan pledges US\$ 130 million to support global access to COVID-19 vaccines.

World Bank Approves \$12 Billion for COVID-19 Vaccines. World Bank

AstraZeneca says its Oxford vaccine deal allows it to add up to 20% of manufacturing costs. Reuters

GSK And Sanofi Pledge 200 Million Vaccine Doses To Covid-19 Alliance. Forbes

MSF response to Gavi's intent to purchase Sanofi-GSK COVID-19 vaccine candidate for the COVAX Facility. MSF

Italy pledges first EUR 5 million funding to CEPI to advance COVID-19 vaccine development efforts. CEPI

Rights, Transparency Central for Covid-19 Vaccines. Human Rights Watch

Activists urge 'Big Pharma' to be transparent on COVID-19 vaccine costs. Reuters

Vaccine bond sale raises \$500m to fund immunisation programmes. Financial Times

## OTHERS COVID19 ISSUES: ETHICAL, POLICY DILEMAS, ACCOUNTABILITY

CEPI establishes global network of laboratories to centralise assessment of COVID-19 vaccine candidates. CEPI

Why and how do we harmonise assessment of COVID-19 vaccine trials?. CEPI

COVID-19 poised to push global response to HIV/AIDS to the fringes. The Guardian Nigeria

Moderna vaccine trial contractors fail to enroll enough minorities, prompting slowdown - sources. Reuters

Vaccine allocation and WHO reform take center stage as WHO executive board meets. **Devex** 

In landmark move, India and South Africa propose no patents on COVID-19 medicines, tools during pandemic. MSF

He's a recruiter for a Covid-19 vaccine trial. Can he overcome communities' distrust — and his own mother's?. STAT

Moderna Makes Milestone Pledge To "Not Enforce Our Patents" On COVID-19 Vaccine Technologies During Pandemic & Issue Open Licenses Afterward. Health Policy Watch

7 looming questions about the rollout of a Covid-19 vaccine. STAT



Will Africa's best shot at a Covid-19 vaccine be enough?. Mail & Guardian Paused: Eli Lilly monoclonal antibody study and J&J COVID-19 vaccine trials. Science Speaks

Everything You Need to Know About the ACT-Accelerator. Global Citizen Coronavirus threatens to reverse gains in global fight against tuberculosis,

WHO warns. The Telegraph

Is It Lawful and Ethical to Prioritize Racial Minorities for COVID-19 Vaccines?. JAMA

WHO vaccine drive bedevilled by familiar question: who pays if things go wrong?. Reuters

The Vaccine News That Really Matters. The Atlantic

Covid: firm secures £10m to infect young volunteers to hasten vaccine.

The Guardian

U.K. to infect healthy volunteers in Covid-19 vaccine research trial. STAT

Covid-19 vaccine trial protocols released. BMJ Editorial

Will covid-19 vaccines save lives? Current trials aren't designed to tell us. BMJ

Understanding COVID-19 vaccine efficacy. Science

Opinion: COVAX and the case for multilateralism. Devex

USA joins CEPI to support the development of epidemic vaccines. CEPI

Harnessing COVID-19 Innovations Could Revolutionize TB Care. Health Policy Watch

Watch: mRNA vaccines face their first test in the fight against Covid-19. How do they work?. STAT

Virtual World Health Summit Opens In Shadow Of Virus Spread Across Europe & Debate Over Vaccine Access. Health Policy Watch

Maintaining confidentiality of emerging results in COVID-19 vaccine trials is essential. Lancet Commentary

UN agency chiefs appeal for 'open science' beyond COVID-19, citing dangers of secrecy and denial. UN News

Nigerian researchers seek funding to move Africa-centric COVID-19 vaccine to human trials. Cornell Alliance for Science

Regeneron hit by 'safety signal' for COVID-19 cocktail as data board tells pharma to stop enrolling sicker patients. Fierce Biotech

'Patient friction coefficient' can gauge the burden of participating in a clinical trial. STAT

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