

## THE VACCINE: SAFETY FIRST?

January, 8, 2021

In the *Veritas Report's* last edition just before Christmas, [Questions to Answer](#), we explored the devastating and tragic effects of the lockdown on all aspects of life – all due to a virus which has roughly a 99% recovery rate. We closed the report by questioning the official narrative offered by the “experts” that only a vaccine could “save us” and return us to “normal”. *Veritas Report* continues to ask: Will it?

In this edition of the *Veritas Report*, we intend to examine the COVID-19 vaccine and some of its safety concerns.

### Why a Vaccine?

Last spring, during the height of the lockdown, the Trump administration announced a new project called “[Operation Warp Speed](#)” to help bring a COVID-19 vaccine to the public by January. That began the race by several pharmaceutical companies to develop a vaccine. By early December, as we noted in [Questions to Answer](#), the U.S. Food and Drug Administration granted emergency use authorization to two of the vaccines, one produced by Pfizer Corporation, and the other by Moderna.

However, this authorization is only temporary and [does not mean the vaccine is formally approved](#). The authorization is based on an [emergency health declaration](#) by the Secretary of Health and Human Services.

Yet, as *Veritas Report* has asked before: *With the overall [survival rate of COVID being roughly 99%](#), is a vaccine really necessary?*

### Will It Work?

Dr. Soumya Swaminathan, the Chief Scientist with the World Health Organization (WHO) in a media briefing in late December, acknowledged a key weakness in the COVID-19 vaccine is that while it could reduce symptoms, it's unclear whether it will actually prevent infections:

*“I don't believe we have the evidence on any of the vaccines to be confident that it's going to prevent people from actually getting the infection and therefore being able to pass it on,” Swaminathan said. [\[link\]](#)*

*Veritas Report asks: If the vaccine is merely preventing symptoms, would not well-tested therapeutics or prophylactics be a safer and less costly means of helping to reduce the virus' severity?*

Another stated benefit of the vaccine is to help reach ‘herd immunity’ among the population, thereby reducing the virus’ ability to spread and infect others.

However, the question remains as to how effective the vaccine will be in creating herd immunity. Dr. Anthony Fauci, director of National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID), has already moved the goalposts of how many people need to be vaccinated to achieve herd immunity from 70% to 90% of the population. [\[link\]](#)

*Veritas Report asks: Is a hastily developed and limitedly tested vaccine, the best means of achieving herd immunity?*

*Is Dr. Fauci's goal in raising the percentage of the population needing to be vaccinated to 90 percent not a move toward compulsory vaccination?*

### Is It Being Rushed?

Traditionally, when a vaccine is developed, it typically takes several years of research, testing, manufacturing, and government approvals to bring a safe vaccine to market. As the New York Times columnist Stuart Thompson, noted last April, vaccine development can take years or even decades to develop a safe vaccine:

*“[A] vaccine probably won't arrive any time soon. Clinical trials almost never succeed. **We've never released a coronavirus vaccine for humans before. Our record for developing an entirely new vaccine is at least four years...**” [\[link\]](#)*

*Veritas Report asks: If this is the first coronavirus vaccine for humans, is it wise to release it at “warp speed”?*

Also noteworthy was Dr. Emily Erbelding, an infectious disease expert at the NIAID (directed by Dr. Anthony Fauci), who, according to a report by CNN last March noted:

*“[T]he typical vaccine takes between **eight and 10 years to develop.**” ... “18 months would be about as fast as I think we can go” -- she acknowledged that the accelerated pace will involve **“not looking at all the data.”** [\[link\]](#)*

*Veritas Report asks: If, as Dr. Erbelding notes, an “accelerated pace” of vaccine development will not be “looking at all the data”, what type of data will be overlooked? Will it be missing effectiveness? Safety?*

### Is It Safe?

On the topic of safety, in the above CNN report from March, Dr. Erbelding made another important remark – that on human trial safety:

*“Volunteers in each phase need to be monitored for safety,” Erbelding said. “Usually, you want to follow their immune response for at least a year.”*

*Veritas Report asks: If the normal safety monitoring for vaccine trial participants is at “least a year”, and the COVID-19 trials were done in a matter of months, is safety not being sacrificed for speed? Is it possible that safety issues in humans could develop after a year?*

More concerning still is a statement from Dr. Kelly Moore, associate director of the Immunization Action Coalition who said people should be prepared to see elderly deaths a day or two after receiving the COVID-19 vaccine:

*“We would not at all be surprised to see, coincidentally, vaccination happening and then having someone pass away a short time after they receive a vaccine, not because it has anything to do with the vaccination but just because that's the*

*place where people at the end of their lives reside," Moore said. [\[link\]](#)*

The elderly have suffered much from the COVID-19 protocols, from being [imprisoned in nursing homes](#), [dying of loneliness](#) to being placed at risk by governors who [dumped active COVID patients into nursing homes](#), causing the virus to spread among a vulnerable population

*Veritas Report asks: If there are any elderly deaths that occur a few days after receiving the vaccine, are we merely to presume the vaccination was a coincidence in the person's death?*

*Following the past practice of the U.S. Centers for Disease Control (CDC) if someone tests positive for COVID-19 and dies, [they are classified as a COVID-related death](#), will the CDC now identify those who die shortly after being vaccinated, as a vaccine-related death?*

Yet the rush to vaccinate is occurring without the basic question being answered: *Will it stop the spread of the virus?* According to a recent report by ABC News:

*"[T]here are still several unknowns. For instance, it's unknown if the vaccines can prevent asymptomatic disease, or how effectively they stop transmission. And it's also unknown how long protection lasts -- whether it's a few months or a few years." [\[link\]](#)*

These unknowns were even admitted by Dr. Anthony Fauci himself in a recent interview in December.

*"Well that's possible...We're going to know the answer to that as we follow people out longer." [\[link\]](#)*

*Veritas Report asks: If the public health authorities are unsure of what the vaccine can do, would it be more prudent to wait for further testing? What is the rush?*

## **No Liability?**

Another safety aspect of the COVID-19 vaccine to examine is whether legal protections for pharmaceutical manufacturers remove the incentives to develop safe vaccines. At issue is the National Childhood Vaccine Injury Act of 1986, which as Barry Brownstein of the American Institute of Economic Research, notes, "[granted pharmaceutical manufacturers broad legal immunity from lawsuits for vaccine injuries.](#)"

Quoting a 2017 [article](#) written by Boston University law professor Efthimios Parasidis, it is observed:

*"[O]nce a vaccine is approved and made available to the public, a manufacturer does not have a statutory obligation to actively collect and analyze safety and efficacy data, nor are manufacturers obligated to update vaccine formulas in light of new scientific advancements."*

Additionally, as Brownstein writes, and as noted earlier in this report, the Secretary of Health and Human Services can issue an emergency public health declaration (as was done in [February 2020](#)), which provides additional liability protections to vaccine manufacturers:

*"Administer a rushed-to-market vaccine to healthy individuals at no particular risk from COVID-19 and the government will shield you from liability. Lobby to make the vaccine mandatory and government will shield you from liability. If the government indemnified us from damages from driving, risky driving would become more common..." [\[link\]](#)*

To demonstrate the harmful impact immunity can have on vaccine manufacturers, Brownstein also references New York University law professor, Richard Epstein's 2010 similar warning about eliminating liability for the oil industry:

*"A tough liability system does more than provide compensation for serious harms after the fact. It also sorts out the wheat from the chaff—so that in this case companies with weak safety profiles don't get within a mile of an oil derrick. Solid insurance underwriting is likely to do a better job in pricing risk than any program of direct government oversight. Only strong players, highly incentivized and fully bonded, need apply for a permit to operate."*

Brownstein also raises some important issues surrounding vaccine manufacturing and liability. While pharmaceutical companies have immunity from vaccine injury claims, the federal government does maintain an injury compensation program, the [National Vaccine Injury Compensation Program](#) (the "Vaccine Court"), and also operates the [Countermeasures Injury Compensation Program](#), which is specifically set up to handle COVID-19 vaccine injury claims. However, as a recent article by Reuters noted:

*"People who suffer serious injuries from an emergency vaccine in the United States are required to first seek compensation through the CICIP, and then, if they decline any award, they can bring a case in court. However, they have to prove a drugmaker acted with 'willful misconduct,' which lawyers said would make a case nearly impossible." [\[link\]](#)*

As *Veritas Report* explored in, [Can False Pandemics Happen](#), we reported on the false 2009 H1N1 Swine Flu pandemic, which [forced governments to purchase billions of dollars](#) in vaccines that went unused, causing one British MP, Paul Flynn, to [raise questions](#) about whether the pharmaceutical companies benefited from a pandemic situation. Worse, however was the fact that 1,300 people developed [narcolepsy disorder](#) from the unnecessary H1N1 vaccine.

*Veritas Report asks: With the rush of the COVID-19 vaccine and the removal of liability for vaccine manufacturers, is this not a recipe for disaster if injuries result from the COVID-19 vaccine?*

*Are pharmaceutical companies, without liability, de-incentivized from conducting the vaccine trials under strict and safe protocols?*

In concluding this report, as [ABC News](#) reported above, much remains unknown about the vaccine.

*Veritas Report asks: Does this mean even with a vaccine we won't be able to return to normal? Is the vaccine the key to our freedom or will we still be asked to wear masks?*

*The Carolina Family Coalition is a 501c3 organization dedicated to defend life, family, and culture in the Carolinas*

*To subscribe or view more issues visit: [www.prolifearchlotte.org/report](http://www.prolifearchlotte.org/report) Questions? Contact [info@carolinafamilycoalition.org](mailto:info@carolinafamilycoalition.org)*