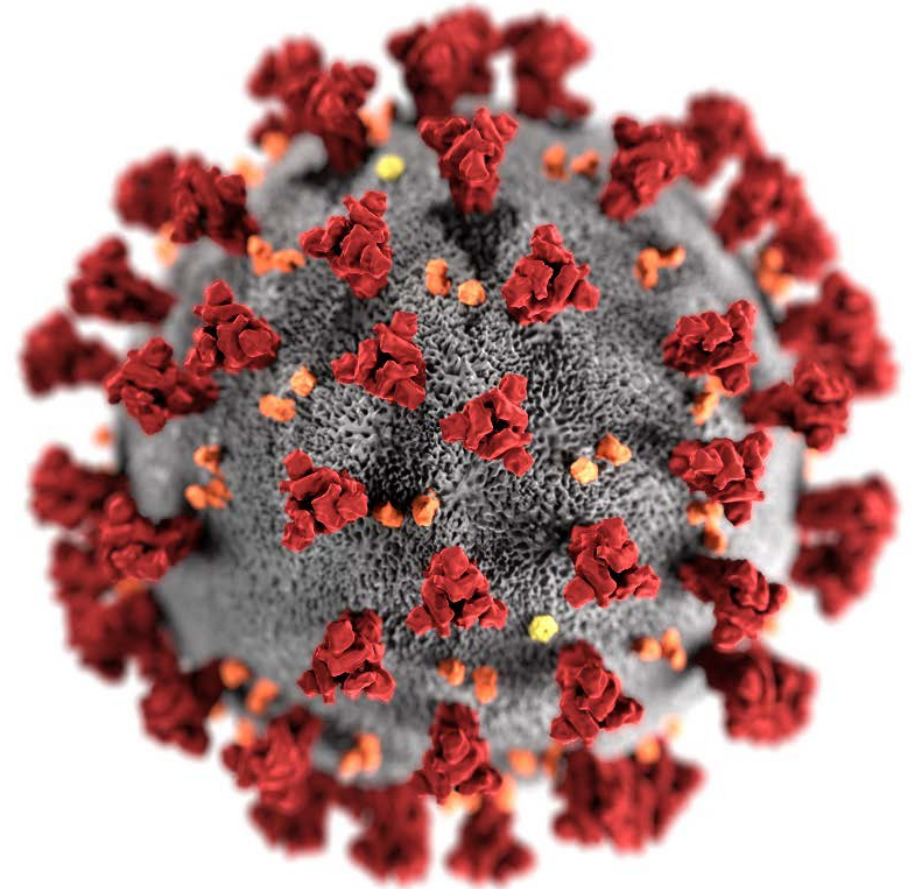


# ACIP Meeting: COVID-19 Vaccines

October 30, 2020



# Today's agenda

## Vaccine Development & Regulatory

- **Update from VRBPAC meeting:**  
Dr. Doran Fink (FDA)
- **NVX-CoV2373 Vaccine Candidate:**  
Dr. Filip Dubovsky (Novavax)
- **Janssen's SARS-CoV-2 Vaccine Program:**  
Dr. Jerry Sadoff (Janssen)

## Implementation

- **Update on vaccine implementation planning:**  
Dr. Janell Routh (CDC)
- **Vaccinate with Confidence:**  
Dr. Amanda Cohn (CDC)

## Safety

- **FDA safety surveillance systems:**  
Dr. Steven Anderson (FDA)
- **Post-authorization safety monitoring plans:**  
Dr. Tom Shimabukuro (CDC)

## Allocation and Epidemiology

- **Modeling strategies for the initial allocation of COVID-19 vaccines:** Dr. Matthew Biggerstaff (CDC)
- **Updates to immunity and epidemiology to inform COVID-19 vaccine policy:** Dr. Megan Wallace (CDC)
- **Ethical principles for early vaccine allocation:**  
Dr. Mary Chamberland (CDC)

## Work Group Interpretation

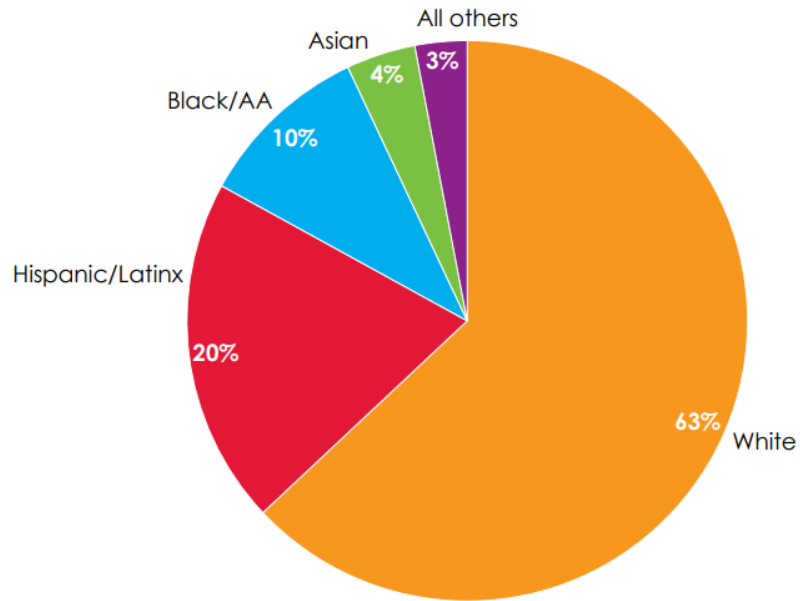
- **Work Group interpretation of data:** Dr. Sara Oliver (CDC)
- **Policy questions, Evidence to Recommendation Framework, and outcomes:** Dr. Kathleen Dooling (CDC)

# Vaccine Update: Phase III clinical trials in the U.S.

- AZD1222 vaccine (AstraZeneca) announced removal of FDA hold 10/23, resuming Phase III trials
- Ad26.COV2.S vaccine (Janssen) announced lifting of safety pause 10/23, resuming Phase III trials
- BNT162b2 vaccine (Pfizer/BioNtech)
  - **42,133** participants enrolled as of 10/26/2020
  - 35,771 participants have received their second vaccination
  - 30% of U.S. participants enrolled have “diverse backgrounds”
- mRNA-1273 vaccine (Moderna): ***Enrollment Complete***
  - **30,000** participants enrolled as of 10/22/2020
  - 25,654 participants have received their second vaccination

# Vaccine Update: Phase III clinical trials in the U.S.

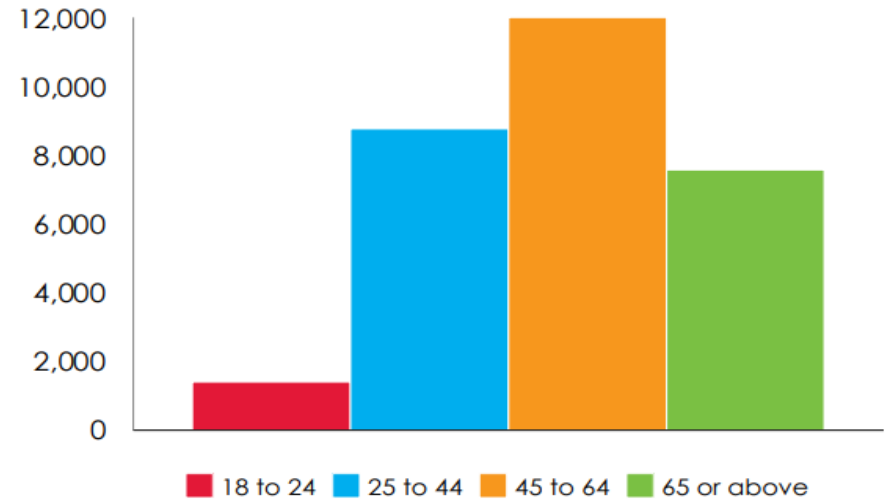
## Race and ethnicity



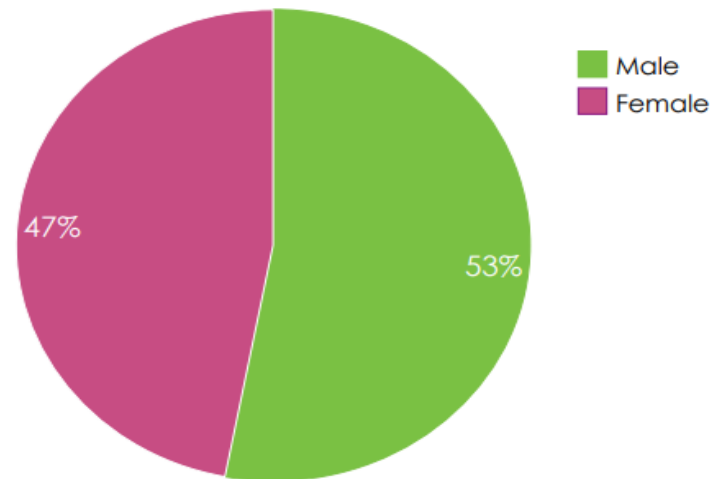
**22%** healthcare personnel

**27%** of participants living with comorbidities: including diabetes, cardiac disease, lung disease, obesity

Cove Study age breakdown



Cove Study gender distribution



## Age and gender



# Prior infection



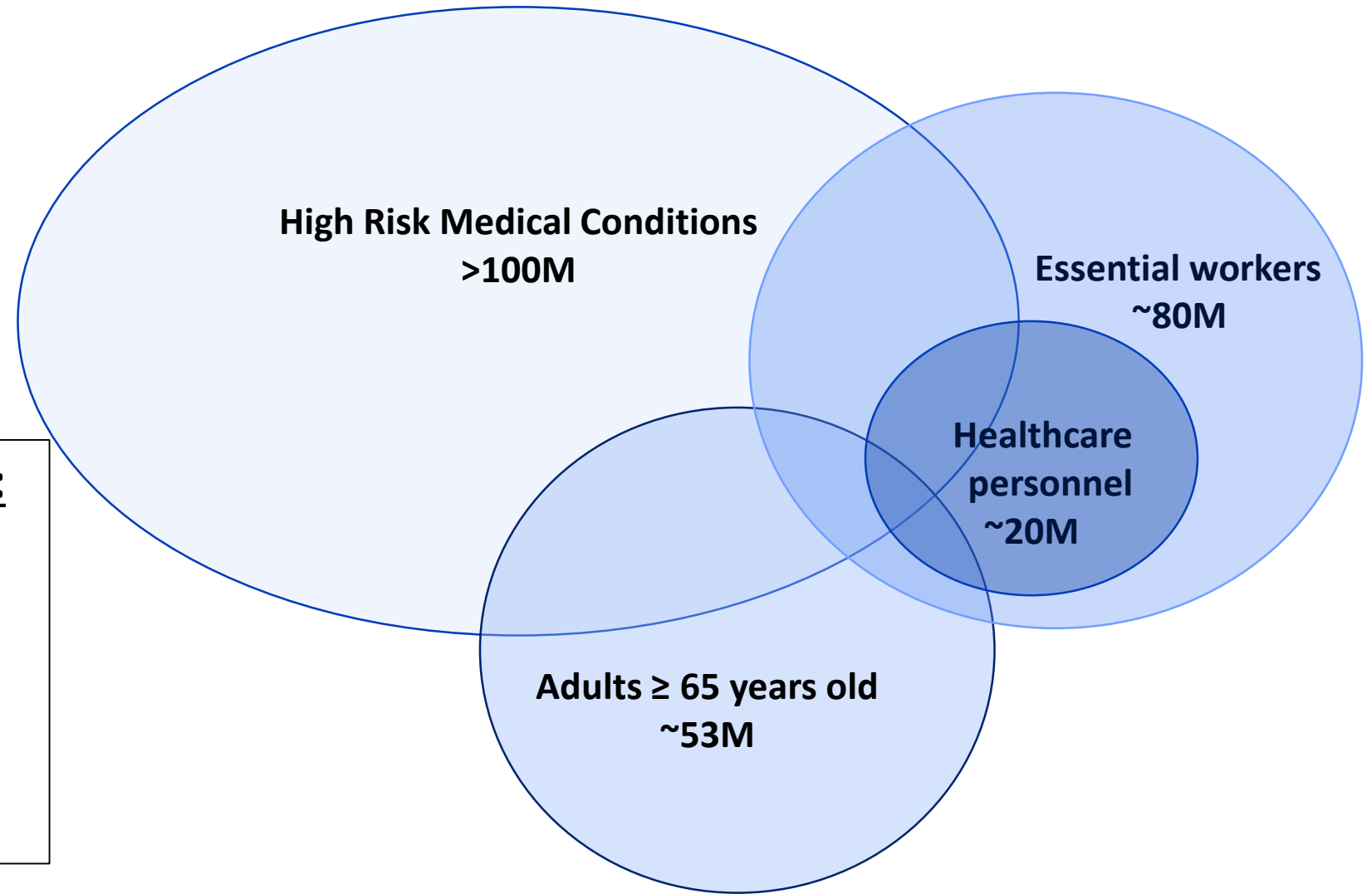
# Summary of Work Group interpretation: COVID-19 vaccine and Prior infection

- Await data from Phase III trials for any possible vaccine-associated enhanced disease or reactogenicity after prior infection
  - In the absence of concerning data from Phase III trials:
    - PCR +
    - Antigen +
    - Antibody +
- Not a contraindication  
to receive COVID19 vaccine
- Any vaccine recommendations that rely on knowledge of prior immunity/antibody testing would be difficult to implement

# Pregnant and Breastfeeding Women



# Possible groups for Phase 1 vaccination



## From prior ACIP Discussions:

### Phase 1a:

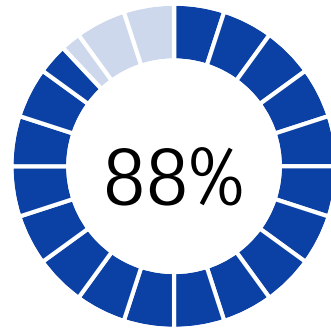
-HCP

### Phase 1b:

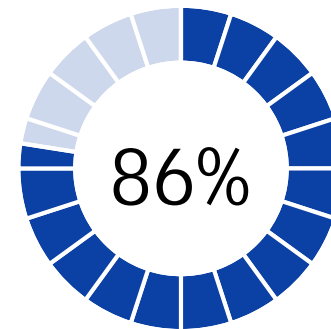
- Essential Workers
- High Risk Med Conditions
- Adults ≥ 65 years old

# 75% of the healthcare workforce are women.

## Women are a majority among the largest healthcare personnel groups



**Registered Nurses**



**Healthcare support workers:**  
Nursing, psychiatric, and  
personal and home health  
aides



# Increased risk for ICU admission, mechanical ventilation and death during pregnancy

| Outcomes of Interest          | No. (%)*                          |                                       | Crude RR<br>(95% CI) | aRR<br>(95% CI)†     | Previously<br>Published‡<br>aRR<br>(95% CI)† |
|-------------------------------|-----------------------------------|---------------------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|--|
|                               | Pregnant<br>women<br>(N = 24,558) | Nonpregnant<br>women<br>(N = 419,887) |                      |                      |  |
| <b>ICU Admission</b>          | 225 (0.9)                         | 1,551 (0.4)                           | <b>2.4 (2.2-2.9)</b> | <b>2.2 (1.9-2.5)</b> | <b>1.5 (1.2-1.8)</b>                         |
| <b>Mechanical Ventilation</b> | 79 (0.3)                          | 451 (0.1)                             | <b>3.0 (2.4-3.8)</b> | <b>2.5 (2.0-3.2)</b> | <b>1.7 (1.2-2.4)</b>                         |
| <b>ECMO‡</b>                  | 17 (0.1)                          | 121 (0.0)                             | <b>1.9 (1.1-3.4)</b> | <b>2.0 (1.2-3.4)</b> | --   |
| <b>Death</b>                  | 41 (0.2)                          | 486 (0.1)                             | <b>1.4 (1.1-2.0)</b> | <b>1.6 (1.1-2.2)</b> | 0.9 (0.5-1.5)                                |

\* Percentages calculated among total in pregnancy status group; those with missing data on outcomes were counted as not having the outcome

† Adjusted for age, race/ethnicity, and presence of underlying conditions. Nonpregnant women are the referent group.

‡ Ellington S, Strid P, Tong VT, et al. Characteristics of Women of Reproductive Age with Laboratory-Confirmed SARS-CoV-2 Infection by Pregnancy Status — United States, January 22–June 7, 2020. MMWR Morb Mortal Wkly Rep 2020;69:769–775. DOI: <http://dx.doi.org/10.15585/mmwr.mm6925a1>

‡ Extracorporeal membrane oxygenation



## Summary of Work Group interpretation: COVID-19 vaccine and Breastfeeding Women in Tier 1a

- Most Work Group members agreed that breastfeeding would not be a contraindication to receive a COVID-19 vaccine
  - Need to be evaluated for each vaccine, especially if any live virus/vector vaccines are authorized/licensed

# Summary of Work Group interpretation: COVID-19 vaccine and Pregnant Women in Tier 1a

- Limited data on pregnancy expected from Phase III trials
- Work Group did not reach a consensus
- Majority felt that if a woman is recommended to receive the vaccine in an early allocation phase, pregnancy should be a **precaution**, but not a contraindication to receive a COVID-19 vaccine
  - Emphasizing need to allow women to make an informed decision, providing all current knowledge of COVID-19 vaccines/platforms with pregnancy and risk of disease

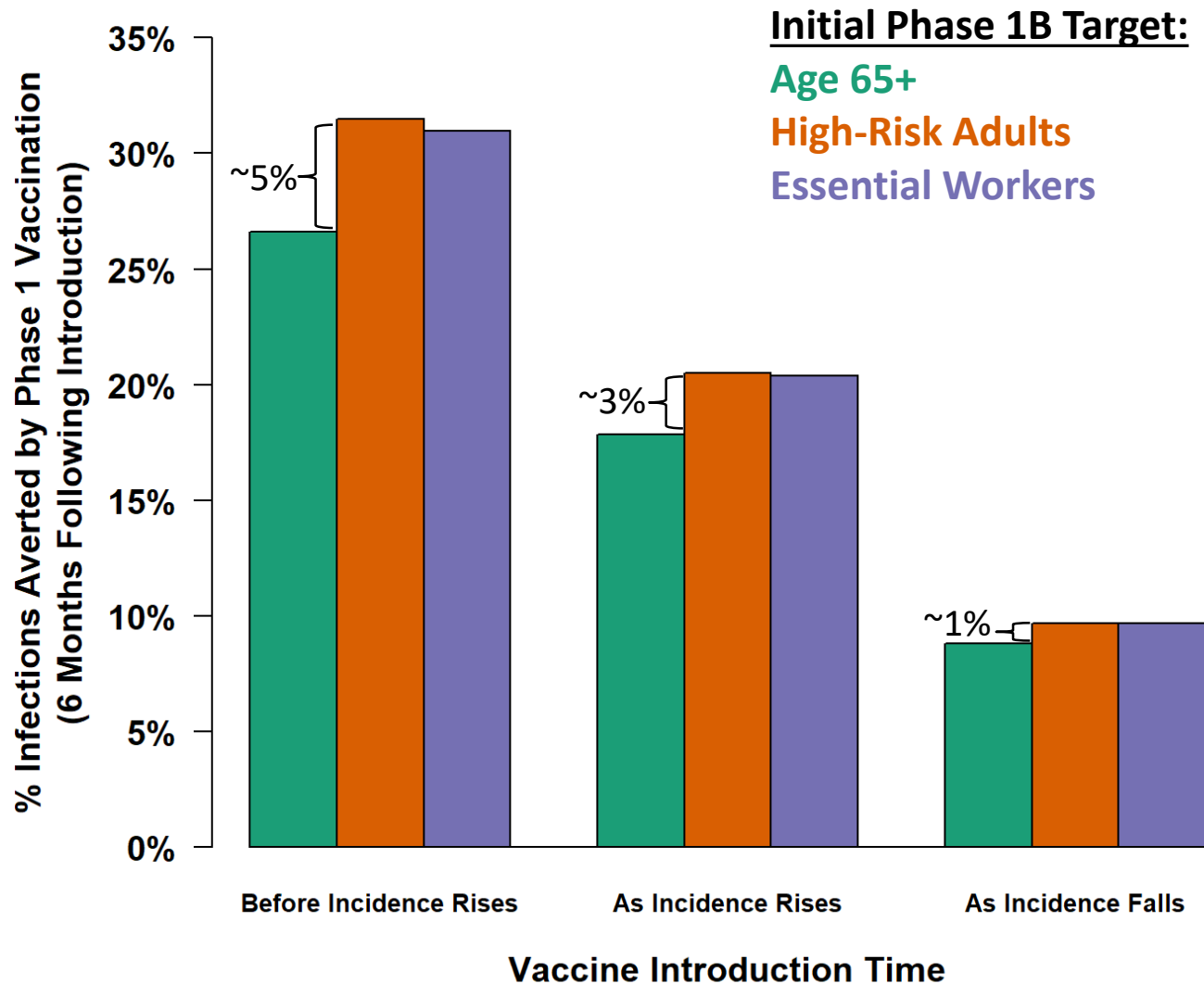
# Summary of Work Group interpretation: COVID-19 vaccine and Pregnant Women in Tier 1a

- Additional situation: Pregnancy diagnosed after receipt of first dose of COVID-19 vaccine
- Majority of Work Group felt that the second dose could be given at the recommended interval
  - Minority opinion: Postponing second dose until second trimester or until after pregnancy
  - Emphasizing need to allow women to make an informed decision

# Modeling



# Population-Wide Averted Infections: Infection-Blocking Vaccine, Older Adults Receive Full Protection



- Initially vaccinating **high-risk adults** or **essential workers** in Phase 1B averts approximately 1–5% more infections, compared to targeting **age 65+**
  - This difference is greatest in the scenario where the vaccine is introduced before incidence rises
- Findings are robust to assumptions of reduced VE in older populations

# Summary of Work Group interpretation:

## Modeling data

- Differences among 3 strategies is minimal
  - Ethical principles and implementation considerations may greatly contribute to selecting the optimal sequence in Phase Ib
- Largest impact in averted deaths and infections is the timing of vaccine introduction in relation to increases in COVID-19 cases
  - Emphasizes the need to continue non-pharmaceutical interventions (e.g. wearing a mask, social distancing) while we await available vaccine
- Many factors will inform interpretation of modeling data and allocation decisions
  - VE in older adults
  - Vaccine's ability to prevent severe disease or transmission
  - If the goal is to prevent greatest number of infections or greatest number of deaths

# Clinical Trial Data



# Immunogenicity and Safety Information Reviewed by Work Group

## NVX-CoV2373 (Novavax) N=131

### ■ Immunogenicity

- Neutralizing antibodies (wild-type neutralization assay titers) and binding antibodies (ELISA) measured 14 days post-dose 2
- Responses similar to or exceeded convalescent sera comparison
- Th1-biased CD4+ T-cell response
- **5µg** dose + Matrix-M1 selected for Phase III clinical trials

### ■ Safety

- Local and systemic symptoms followed for 7 days post-vaccination
  - Headache, fatigue and myalgia most common symptoms reported
- Reactogenicity symptoms higher after second dose
- No vaccine-related serious adverse events (SAEs) reported

# Immunogenicity and Safety Information Reviewed by Work Group

## Ad26.COVS.S (Janssen) N=775

### ■ Immunogenicity

- Neutralizing antibodies (wild-type virus neutralization antibody titers) and binding antibodies (ELISA) measured 28 days post-dose 1
- Responses similar to human convalescent sera
- CD4+ and CD8+ T cell response demonstrated
- Th1-biased CD4+ T-cell response
- **5x10<sup>10</sup>** viral particle **single** dose of Ad26.COVS.S selected for Phase III clinical trials

### ■ Safety

- Local and systemic symptoms followed after administration
  - Fatigue, headache and pain most common
- Reactogenicity symptoms lower in older population (≥65 years)

# Work Group Interpretation

- Phase I/II data from the vaccines show induction of binding and neutralizing antibodies as well as T-cell responses, favorable safety/reactogenicity profile, supporting advance to Phase III trials
- Both platforms with prior experience from other vaccines
- Safety pauses are expected with large clinical trials, indicate the process is working appropriately

# Work Group Interpretation:

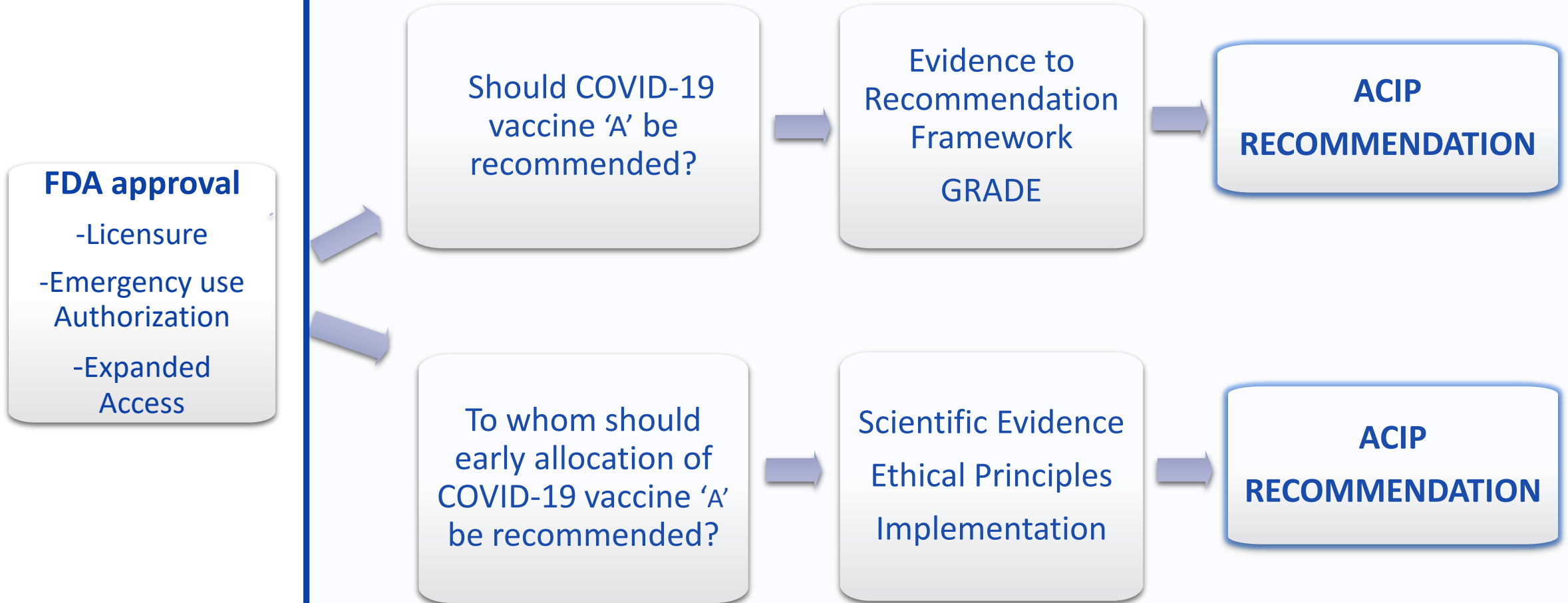
## Current Phase III Clinical Trials

- Importance of enrolling **diverse** study participants
- Importance of harmonizing safety and efficacy **endpoints** across all Phase III trials to the extent possible
- Need to report **maternal** and **fetal** outcomes for women who become pregnant during the clinical trials
- Support FDA's guidance for ensuring that Phase III trials conduct **ongoing** assessment of long-term safety and efficacy, and that issuance of an EUA is not grounds to unblind follow-up in an ongoing clinical trial

# ACIP Policy Questions



# ACIP Pathway to Recommendation



# PICO for Vaccine Policy Question #1

|                      |  |  |  |
|----------------------|--|--|--|
| <b>P</b> opulation   | Adults   |  |  |
| <b>I</b> ntervention | COVID-19 vaccine “A”   |  |  |
| <b>C</b> omparison   | No vaccine (Placebo, including saline or non-COVID-19 vaccine) |  |  |
| <b>O</b> utcomes     |  | Benefits ( <i>prevention of</i> )  | Harms ( <i>possible risks</i> )  |
|                      | Critical   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Symptomatic COVID-19 (PCR* conf)</li> <li>Hospitalization due to COVID-19</li> </ul>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Serious Adverse Events (including vaccine-associated enhanced disease)</li> </ul> |
|                      | Important  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Death (all cause)</li> <li>SARS-CoV-2 Seroconversion (non-spike)</li> <li>Serial PCRs for asymptomatic infection</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Reactogenicity</li> </ul>   |

PCR= Polymerase chain reaction

# Outcomes under study in clinical trials

| Outcome                                | In clinical Protocols? | Comments                               |
|--|------------------------|--|
| Symptomatic COVID-19 (PCR+)            | ✓                      | Primary outcome, consistent definition |
| Hospitalization due to COVID-19        | ✓                      | Exploratory aim (or as adverse event)  |
| Serious Adverse Events                 | ✓                      | Unsolicited, consistent definition     |
| Death (all cause)                      | ✓                      | Exploratory aim (or as adverse event)  |
| Reactogenicity                         | ✓                      | Solicited symptoms 7d                  |
| SARS-CoV-2 Seroconversion (non-spike)  | ✓                      | Differences in timing & assay          |
| Serial PCRs for asymptomatic infection | X                      | ? Outside U.S.                         |

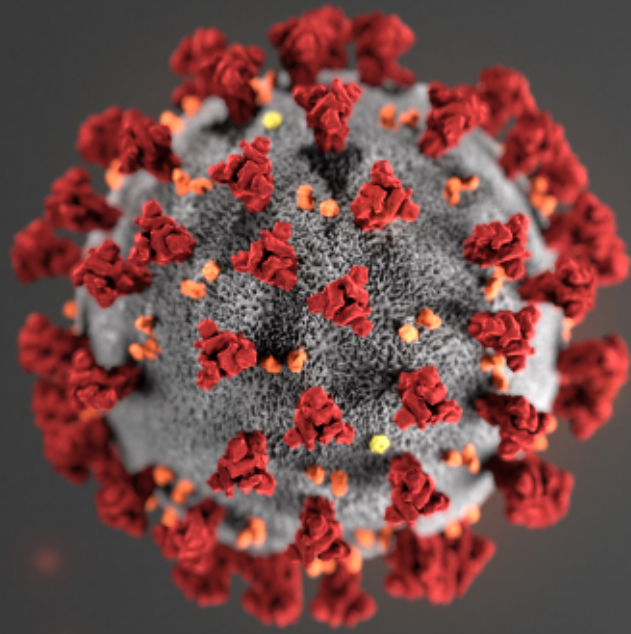
# COVID-19 Vaccine Work Group next steps

## Policy Question #1: **Vaccine Recommendations**

- Populate the Evidence to Recommendation Framework
- Start GRADEing vaccine evidence and incorporate Phase III data when available
- Discuss clinical guidance (special populations/concomitant administration/scheduling)

## Policy Question #2: **Allocation Recommendations**

- Publish ethical principles manuscript
- Incorporate latest information regarding science, implementation, and ethics to further refine Phase 1 allocation



For more information, contact CDC  
1-800-CDC-INFO (232-4636)  
TTY: 1-888-232-6348 [www.cdc.gov](http://www.cdc.gov)

# Thank you

The findings and conclusions in this report are those of the authors and do not necessarily represent the official position of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

