Vaccines: Using Natural Immunity

The best time to stop a virus or bacterium is before it can infect someone. Vaccines can give your body way to identify an infecting agent, and instructions on how to defeat it—and potentially, avoid infecting others.

Vaccine Education Information

The human body is constantly dealing with invaders. Most of the time they're detected and destroyed before they can do any harm.

But there are times when it's not a fair fight.

Throughout our history, viruses like smallpox and influenza have killed hundreds of millions of people. So when it was discovered that the body could be armed ahead of time to fight the invader by inoculation with a vaccine,it was hailed as a breakthrough.

Since then, vaccines have repeatedly confirmed their place as one of the greatest public health advancements of all time. And their widespread use has resulted in the control, elimination, or near-elimination of many infectious diseases that were once pervasive and often fatal.

At Pfizer, we have a long history in vaccine research and development, including a pivotal role in the eradication of polio and smallpox. Through the development of innovative delivery systems and technologies (the term often used is "novel vaccines"), we've created innovations for preventing deadly bacterial infections like those caused by S. pneumoniae and N. meningitidis.

Today, more than at any time in history, people are benefiting from safe and effective vaccines to prevent infections and diseases. These injections have protected people of all ages, from newborns to seniors.

However, our work is not done. Many viruses and bacteria still present a serious health risk, and so we continue to focus on research and development in new areas, with the goal of adding more approved vaccines to tackle pathogens.

Prevention is the Best Medicine

When a patient has a serious infection, they may be treated with antibiotic or antiviral drugs that aid their body in fighting the pathogen. While these medicines can be effective, fighting an infection once it's advanced and the patient is hospitalized is not as easy as as preventing it in the first place.

Vaccines work by preparing the body's immune system with a defense against the pathogen. The virus or bacterium is recognized, neutralized, and destroyed, often before it can spread.

Our Vaccine Research and Development scientists are working to extend the benefits of vaccines into new areas. They are ushering in a new era of innovation for the prevention of disease, with a special focus on researching and developing vaccines for special populations such as maternal/neonatal, and vaccines intended to address hospital-acquired infections, and cancer.

Vaccines: Protection for All Age Groups

To help protect as many people as possible from life-threatening illness, we're working to develop and distribute vaccines throughout the world. We've already seen that by channeling resources to the most promising public health opportunities, we can have an impact across all areas of life.

Focus Areas: Vaccines

Our Vaccine Research & Development program includes an ongoing focus on the prevention of pneumococcal disease.

We're also advancing vaccines for additional serious childhood,adolescent and adult infections, including meningococcal disease, influenza, Lyme disease,respiratory syncytial virus (RSV),and C difficile.

- Pneumococcal Disease →
- Meningococcal Disease →
- COVID-19 HUB →

Vaccine Resources

Recent breakthroughs in vaccine development are showing promise on many different fronts. Learn about our experience in vaccines—spanning more than a century, the latest vaccines in the development pipeline, and more.

- Pipeline & Clinical Trials →
- Partnerships →
- Grants & Contributions →
- For Healthcare Professionals →
- Patient Assistance Program →

Vaccines: Hope for the Developing World

Millions of infants and young children in resource-limited countries are being protected from pneumococcal disease through private-public partnerships.

Learn about our pledge to the developing world, how we're driving innovation, and how we're partnering with Gavi, the global vaccine alliance.

- Our Pledge to the Developing World
- Our Impact on Innovation
- Supporting Refugee Communities

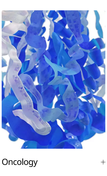
Pfizer is committed to working with the global health community to accelerate access to our vaccines in the world's poorest countries. Learn more about our pledge under Gavi's Advance Market Commitment.

How We're Helping Developing Countries

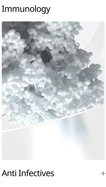
Areas of Focus

Revolutionary medicines have the power to enrich and extend life across many disease areas. Explore our latest innovations.

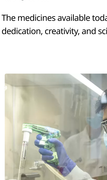
Rare Disease +



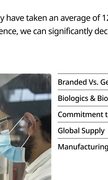
Internal Medicine +



Inflammation & Immunology +



Vaccines +

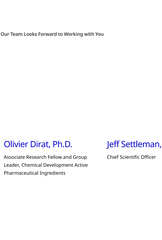


Oncology +

Anti Infectives +

How Drugs Are Made

The medicines available today have taken an average of 12 years to develop. With dedication, creativity, and science, we can significantly decrease that time.



- Branded Vs. Generics →
- Biologics & Biosimilars →
- Commitment to Quality →
- Global Supply →
- Manufacturing Sites →

Pipeline Snapshot as of October 29, 2024

Phase 1 | Phase 2 | Phase 3 | Registration | Total

Download Complete Pipeline PDF

Our Team Looks Forward to Working with You

Olivier Dirat, Ph.D.
Associate Research Fellow and Group Leader, Chemical Development Active Pharmaceutical Ingredients

Jeff Settleman, Ph.D.
Chief Scientific Officer

Kendra K. Bence, Ph.D.
Executive Director, Metabolism

Jeremy D Gale, Ph.D.
Vice President and Clinical Portfolio Leader

Alejandra Gurtman, M.D.
Senior Vice President, Head Vaccine Clinical Research and Development

Aida Habtezion, M.D., MSc, FRCPC, AGAF
Chief Medical Officer and Head of Worldwide Medical & Safety

Show More

Clinical Trials

Learn more about the process of joining a clinical trial and find a trial near you.

Go to Pfizer Clinical Trials Site