

# Vaccines and COVID-19

How Mayors Can Respond to COVID-19

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# COVID-19 Vaccine: Bottom Line

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We don't yet know whether there will be a safe and effective vaccine, but there are grounds for being guardedly optimistic that vaccination may be possible

## But right now, we can:

- 1 Engage with communities to share information
- 2 Listen to perceptions and concerns
- 3 Develop linkages

Even with a vaccine, **the pandemic will continue** and comprehensive measures will be needed

# When Will There Be a **Safe and Effective** COVID-19 Vaccine?



## **Vaccine Candidates**

One or more effective vaccine candidates may be identified within the next few months



## **Measuring Effectiveness**

Different vaccines will likely have different levels of effectiveness



## **Measuring Safety**

Safety is a big question and is not easy to answer



## **Logistics and Demand**

Manufacturing and distribution logistics may result in demand for the vaccine outstripping supply

# Safety First!

Proving efficacy is much easier than proving safety

There is limited or no prior experience giving some types of vaccines being developed



TWO  
SPECIFIC  
CONCERNS

1

Excessive immune reactions, similar to the Kawasaki-like syndrome that COVID-19 causes in children may be possible

2

“Antibody-dependent enhancement”, which is the risk that some vaccinated people who subsequently get infected could get very ill

If there are rare adverse events, this may only become known after hundreds of thousands of people have been vaccinated

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## WHAT HAPPENS WHEN A VACCINE IS READY?

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### Distribution of Vaccine

- National health authorities will most likely maintain control of vaccine supplies and distribution
- Cities are likely to be allocated insufficient vaccine for demand at first, with supplies increasing as manufacturing scales up

### What Mayors Can Do

- There will likely be guidelines for who gets vaccine first, like healthcare workers, other first responders, elderly, others at increased risk
- Mayors may need to implement transparent policy mechanisms to ensure that people don't "jump the line" – and ensure that all have equal access

# Countries With Strong Public Health Infrastructure Have an Advantage

- ▶ Countries can use existing public health and vaccination infrastructure to manage vaccine delivery
  - \* Activate Emergency Operations Centers
  - \* Use *microplanning*
  - \* Logistic planning, including transportation a vaccine in a temperature-controlled way
  - \* Use resources that the Pan-American Health Organization and Africa CDC provides



*Emergency Operation Center  
in Conakry, Guinea*

# What Can Mayors Do to Prepare?

1 ✓

## Health Systems

Involve both public and private health systems

2 ✓

## Teams

Create and train vaccination teams

3 ✓

## Sites

Develop high-volume and high-throughput vaccination sites

4 ✓

## Record Keeping

Establish good record-keeping to know who has been vaccinated with which vaccines, noting more than one dose may be needed



*In 1947, NYC vaccinated 6.3 million people against smallpox in just 3 weeks*

# No One Thing Will Make COVID-19 Go Away!

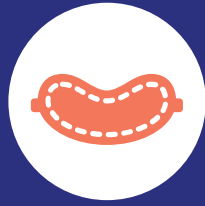
NOT



TRAVEL BANS



LOCKDOWNS



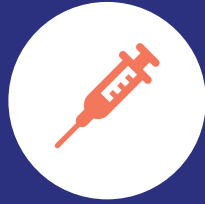
MASKS



TESTING



CONTACT  
TRACING



VACCINATION

BUT...

...all of these things,  
and continuous learning  
and improvement, will  
be essential

# To Counter Misinformation About Vaccines – Mayors Can:

1

Assist with efforts to counter misinformation, often on social media, by presenting the facts and amplifying public health messaging

2

Avoid interacting directly with those spreading misinformation, as engagement amplifies their voice

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They are a very vocal, but a very small group

3

Be a trusted and credible source of accurate information

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Calmly present facts and remain consistent with established messaging



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