



COVID-19 IFPMA Policy Principles on COVID-19 Vaccines Initiative

Our global community today faces an unprecedented health emergency, one that will overcome through science and by working together towards a common purpose: ending the COVID-19 pandemic.

IFPMA members, which include the leading innovative biopharmaceutical companies in the vaccine field, feel an important responsibility to be at the forefront in the development of treatments and vaccines to help maintain and restore the health and well-being of people around the world, as well as the global economy. We are already working, sparing no resources to develop safe and effective COVID-19 vaccines. The decades-long investments we have made in new vaccine technologies enable us to respond swiftly to this crisis while, at the same time, ensuring the uninterrupted global supply of much needed existing vaccines.

We believe that the COVID-19 pandemic calls for a highly coordinated and collaborative global effort, bringing industry, public agencies, multilateral organizations, financial institutions, governments, and philanthropic foundations together into an equal partnership - that harnesses each of our unique capabilities to develop, produce, and deploy novel COVID-19 vaccines.

These end-to-end public-private partnerships should be supported by the following principles and priorities for all stakeholders involved, which we believe will ensure an effective global approach to addressing the COVID-19 pandemic.

Research, development, and manufacturing:

- Ensure continued disease surveillance, open and rapid sharing of virus information to inform vaccine development programs, national vaccination policies, and allocation priorities
- Ensure timely and evidence-based prioritization of vaccine development programs and coordination that supports full development through to manufacturing scale-up
- Facilitate rapid development of robust forecasting models (including prioritized target sub-populations) and clear, coordinated demand planning to inform decisions on clinical development, scale-up, and right-sizing of manufacturing assets for vaccines
- Support collaboration to rapidly scale up manufacturing and fill & packaging capacity for high volume production, while preserving existing manufacturing capacity to ensure continuity of the global supply of routine vaccines
- Establish risk-sharing models, including funding for manufacturing investments and advance purchase agreements, that recognize the uncertainty of the pandemic, as the actual demand, geography, and epidemiology of the disease evolve over time
- Ensure development of appropriate infrastructure to support required manufacturing process and capital investment in work force

Availability, access, and use:

- Support the rigorous and objective scientific review for the approval of COVID-19 vaccines and commit to transparency in clinical trial results, whether positive or negative
- Encourage national regulatory agency collaboration and use of reliance approaches and regulatory agility
- Support and expedite effective, and voluntary product licensing approaches, recognizing that intellectual property has not been an impediment to pandemic response thus far, instead it has enabled multiple development efforts for treatments and vaccines, and can accelerate manufacturing scale-up
- Work with governments, manufacturers, and payers to ensure that when new vaccines are approved, they will be available and affordable
- Ensure equitable access for COVID-19 vaccines at global and national levels by supporting multilateral organizations and country leaders to align on allocation principles
- Support program resilience through (a) evidence-based, adequately resourced, development and implementation of vaccination strategies, (b) deployment programs including readiness of immunization providers and infrastructure, and (c) assurance of post-licensure safety monitoring and information sharing
- Collaborate with global and national authorities, as well as stakeholders, to develop and implement effective community engagement strategies, especially to communicate the value of vaccination to public health and economic recovery, drive acceptance of COVID-19 vaccination, and mitigate the impact of misinformation related to the virus and the vaccines
- Ensure comprehensive system of protection for public and all parties working to deliver and administer COVID-19 vaccines exist to reassure the public and maintain confidence in immunization programs by addressing the potential risks associated with the large-scale deployment of government-approved pandemic vaccines, particularly the provision of no-fault, no-delay vaccine injury compensation programs and legislative protections from unwarranted and costly litigation
- Ensure uninterrupted supply to existing vaccination programs to protect public health and avoid additional burden on healthcare systems

The unique circumstances brought about by this pandemic call for a time limited and exceptional response - a new type of partnership, one that is rapidly functional in the short term and that unites the essential multisectoral competencies on equal footing.

As a Founding partner of the Access to COVID-19 Tools (ACT) Accelerator, we have stepped up with our unique knowledge and expertise in the discovery and development of vaccines and the build-out of manufacturing capacity and distribution networks to enable production and deployment of global vaccines supply. We partner with national regulatory agencies and the scientific community to accelerate the assessment of quality, safety, and effectiveness of new vaccines. We work with multi-lateral organizations like the WHO and Gavi to identify the global need and, along with donor governments and philanthropic foundations, to address the unique challenges faced by low-income and middle-income countries.

Such a partnership lays the foundation for the world to be better prepared for future outbreaks of infectious diseases.

IFPMA represents research-based pharmaceutical companies and associations across the globe. The research-based pharmaceutical industry's 2 million employees discover, develop, and deliver medicines and vaccines that improve the life of patients worldwide. Based in Geneva, IFPMA has official relations with the United Nations and contributes industry expertise to help the global health community find solutions that improve global health.