# **COVID-19 mRNA VACCINES**

## **mRNA VACCINE COMPONENTS**

### STABILIZED SARS-CoV-2 SPIKE ANTIGEN

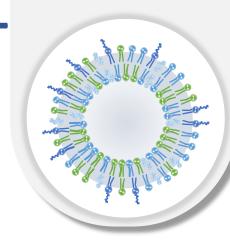
Stabilization of the spike antigen located on the outside of the SARS-CoV-2 virus induces a strong immune response in the body.



#### **mRNA**

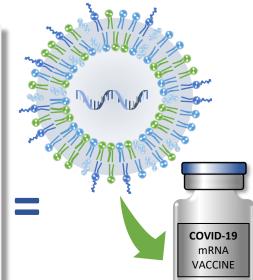
Single stranded genetic molecule.

Encodes "recipe" for the stabilized SARS-CoV-2 spike antigen.



#### LIPID NANOPARTICLE

"Bubbles of fat" used to transport mRNA molecules into human cells.



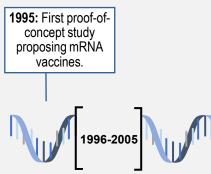
Once the mRNA vaccine is delivered, the body makes SARS-CoV-2 spike protein from the mRNA.

The immune system remembers this foreign antigen and mounts a protective response when it encounters the SARS-CoV-2 virus.



### **mrna vaccine development timeline**

NIH Indicates NIAID involvement



2012: First demonstration of a protective response by an mRNA vaccine.

**2015:** Lipid nanoparticle formulations optimized for mRNA delivery.

NIH)

2017: First-inhuman tests of mRNA vaccines. Dec 2019: Novel coronavirus identified from

Feb 2020: First clinical batch of Moderna mRNA vaccine completed.

NIH)

Dec 2020: FDA grants EUA for Moderna and Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 mRNA vaccines.

2005-2011: Initial scientific advances: improved mRNA stability, translation, and reduced immunogenicity.

2013: Stabilization of a respiratory syncytial virus antigen demonstrated increased immunogenicity.

2017: MERS-CoV vaccine designed using stabilized spike antigen.

Jan 2020: Genomic sequence of SARS-CoV-2 released.

Mar-Dec 2020: Clinical trials leading to the EUA of Moderna COVID-19 mRNA vaccine conducted.



FDA grants full approval for Pfizer-BioNTech (Aug 2021) and Moderna (Jan 2022) COVID-19 mRNA vaccines.

### COVID-19 VACCINATION: BY THE NUMBERS AS OF March 2022









<sup>1</sup>https://covid.cdc.gov/covid-data-tracker/#vaccinations\_vacc-total-admin-rate-total <sup>2</sup>https://www.commonwealthfund.org/blog/2022/impact-us-covid-19-vaccination-efforts-march-update

