

## Corona 19 Vaccine. How Far We Are?

**Pradyumna Pan\****Department of Pediatric Surgery, Ashish Hospital, Jabalpur, MP, India*

**\*Corresponding Author:** Pradyumna Pan, Department of Pediatric Surgery, Ashish Hospital, Jabalpur, MP, India

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As the coronavirus pandemic continues to spread unrestrictedly, total cases in the world have crossed over 14 million, and it is still vulnerable to much of the world's population. Despite little to no evidence of the pandemic slowing down in large parts of the world, the search for new vaccine production is advancing at a pace that has not been seen before. According to the World Health Organization (WHO), in just six months since the virus came into being, 140 vaccines under development are in the pre-clinical trial stage and 23 are in the clinical evaluation stage. The production of vaccines takes years in normal times, as research is largely based on grants and funds. The widespread impact of the pandemic has prompted governments, pharmaceutical firms, and global alliances to fund vaccine research more liberally, thereby contributing in a big way to rapid development. However, there is much further work to be done for potential vaccines by several research organizations. These are basically categorized into three categories of vaccines: attenuated vaccines, inactivated vaccines and gene-based RNA vaccines to produce an immune response. According to the WHO, at the end of June 2020, five vaccines were in phase 1 trials that test vaccine safety. Seven are in Phase 1/Phase 2 combined testing, where the immune response is tested, and one vaccine is already in Phase 3, which aims to prove its effectiveness in clinical practice against the pathogen. Clinical trials would prove the vaccine to be safe and whether it triggers a sufficient immune response that will protect people. Optimists are hoping the vaccine will be on the market by year's end. Indeed, there is still no answer if and when a SARS-CoV-2 vaccine that is suitable for many people will be on the market. If a vaccine is approved, a large-scale means of making the vaccine for the trillions of possible doses would be a challenge. It is difficult to say, at this moment without understand-

ing how effective the vaccine would be. Keeping the finger crossed and hoping for the best. Till then keep distance, wear a mask and stay home.

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