



EUROPEAN COMMISSION
DIRECTORATE-GENERAL FOR HEALTH AND FOOD SAFETY

Public health
Health security and Vaccination

Luxembourg
SANTE.DDG1.C.3/MI/ms (2021) 310776

Mr François CHARLES
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Email transmission only

Dear Mr Charles,

Thank you very much for your message and for the article forwarded to the Commission.

Via its EU Strategy for COVID-19 vaccines¹, the Commission has secured access for such vaccines to Member States as soon as they become available. When the Strategy was set up, nobody knew which of the many COVID-19 vaccines being developed would be successful.

One of the guiding principles for the Strategy was therefore to ensure a broad portfolio of promising vaccine candidates, developed with different techniques, e.g. the mRNA technique for the two vaccines so far authorized for the EU market, the ones from BioNTech/Pfizer and Moderna. This means that several types of vaccines could be available in Member States at the same time.

However, vaccination policies, programmes and services are a national competence, and the Commission is therefore not in a position to tell whether citizens in individual countries will be able to choose between different vaccines.

Thank you once again for your message.

Yours sincerely,

Wolfgang Philipp
Head of Unit

¹ <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?qid=1597339415327&uri=CELEX%3A52020DC0245>