

September 25, 2020

Albert Bourla, DVM, Ph.D.  
Chairman and Chief Executive Officer  
Pfizer Inc.  
235 East 42<sup>nd</sup> Street, NY 10017

Dear Dr. Bourla:

As public health experts, we commend you for your leadership in accelerating the timeline for development of a COVID-19 vaccine. This progress is unprecedented and your workforce should be proud that they are leading development of a tool in the public health arsenal that could help end this pandemic.

If your vaccine is 75 percent effective, an estimated two thirds of the population would need to be vaccinated to achieve herd immunity. This vaccination rate would far exceed that of the annual influenza vaccine. To be successful, the public needs to have the utmost trust in the vaccine and the science behind it.

This is why a rigorous safety standard based on science is so essential. Under this standard, trial participants should be monitored for a minimum of two months following administration of the second dose. Given that many trial participants have not yet received their second dose, monitoring should occur through at least late November before an application for an Emergency Use Authorization should be considered by the FDA.

We respectfully urge you to abide by this rigorous safety standard. There is too much at stake. Submission of an application for an EUA before this standard is met would severely erode public trust and set back efforts to achieve widespread vaccination. In short, a premature application would prolong the pandemic, with disastrous consequences. The reputation of Pfizer and the pharmaceutical industry would be severely damaged.

We stand ready to publicly verify the safety and efficacy of a vaccine if the science and scientific process support such a determination. In that case, we look forward to working with you and other stakeholders to promote vaccination that will help bring this pandemic to an end.

Respectfully,

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