# UNITED STATES OF AMERICA Congress of the United States

# To Dorothy A. Fink, M.D.

Acting Secretary
United States Department of Health and Human Services
200 Independence Avenue, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20201

# Greeting:

COMMANDED to appear before the SENATE PERMANENT SUBCOMMITTEE ON INVESTIGATIONS OF THE COMMITTEE ON HOMELAND SECURITYANDGOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS of the Senate of the United States, on February 18, 2025, at 6 o'clock p.m., in Room 199, Russell Senate Office Building, then and there to testify what you may know relative to the subject matters under consideration by said Subcommittee, and produce all materials as set forth in Schedule A, attached hereto and made a part thereof.

Hereof tail not, as you will answer your default under the pains and penalties in such cases made and provided.

To Subcommittee staff or United States Marshals Service to serve and return.

Personal appearance in Washington, D.C., waived if subpoenaed materials are produced to the Subcommittee on or before the herein appointed date and time.

Diventundermy hand, by authority vested in me by the Committee, on this 28th day of January, 2025.

Chairman, Senate Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations of the Committee on Homeland Security & Governmental Affairs.





January 28, 2025

Dr. Dorothy Fink
Acting Secretary
Department of Health and Human Services
Hubert H. Humphrey Building
200 Independence Avenue, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20201

Dear Acting Secretary Fink:

For years the Department of Health and Human Services ("HHS") has ignored my requests for information regarding the origins of COVID-19 and the development and safety of the COVID-19 vaccines. Now, as chairman of the Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations ("PSI" or the "Subcommittee"), I am able to compel records and data that for far too long HHS has refused to release. Accordingly, the enclosed subpoena requires HHS to provide the Subcommittee information on:

- 1. Previously withheld or heavily redacted communications about the pandemic, including Dr. Anthony Fauci's emails, including but not limited to the approximately 50 pages of his emails that have been withheld from my office since September 2021;
- 2. Safety surveillance data on the COVID-19 vaccines including proportional reporting ratios and empirical Bayesian data mining;
- 3. Unreducted records previously released through Freedom of Information Act requests regarding the government's awareness of myocarditis and pericarditis cases in post-vaccinated individuals;
- 4. Data and records relating to COVID-19 vaccine lots associated with higher rates of adverse events;
- 5. Order forms and receipts showing government researchers purchasing DNA sequences from a biotechnology company; and
- 6. All communications relating to HHS's receipt of and response (or lack thereof) to my oversight letters between January 2021 and the present.

The subpoena is issued pursuant to PSI's authority under Senate Resolution 59 (118th Cong.), Rule XXVI of the Standing Rules of the Senate, and Rule 2 of the Rules of Procedure for the Subcommittee. You are required to provide the information detailed in the subpoena by February 18, 2025.

Sincerely,

Ron Johnson

Chairman

Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations

cc: The Honorable Richard Blumenthal

Ranking Member

Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations

Attachments

## **SCHEDULE A**

1. The following documents identified with bates numbers previously produced to Senator Johnson, including any attachments contained or referenced in the documents identified below:<sup>1</sup>

JohNIH-00000011 JohNIH-00000012 JohNIH-00000013 JohNIH-00000014 JohNIH-00000015 JohNIH-00000028 JohNIH-00000029 JohNIH-00000030 JohNIH-00000031 JohNIH-00000150 JohNIH-00000151 JohNIH-00000158 JohNIH-00000165 JohNIH-00000166 JohNIH-00000169 JohNIH-00000170 JohNIH-00000173 JohNIH-00000174 JohNIH-00000179 JohNIH-00000180 JohNIH-00000203 JohNIH-00000204 JohNIH-00000206 JohNIH-00000207 JohNIH-00000208 JohNIH-00000225 JohNIH-00000226 JohNIH-00000227 JohNIH-00000228 JohNIH-00000229 JohNIH-00000230 JohNIH-00000231 JohNIH-00000232 JohNIH-00000233

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Records identified here with a bates number between JohNIH-00000001 and JohNIH-00004079 are associated with a July 27, 2021 production from HHS; Records identified here with a bates number between JohNIH-00004080 and JohNIH-00004281 are associated with an August 17, 2021 production from HHS.

- JohNIH-00000234
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- 2. All records referring or relating to Proportional Reporting Ratios and Empirical Bayesian data mining analyses created and reviewed regarding the COVID-19 vaccines including but not limited to copies of the Proportional Reporting Ratios and Empirical Bayesian data mining analyses on the COVID-19 vaccines and any communications about those data analyses.
- 3. All records previously requested by Senator Johnson in his November 19, 2024, December 5, 2024, and December 13, 2024 letters (*letters are enclosed in Attachment A*).
- 4. All records referring or relating to the occurrence of adverse events in certain COVID-19 vaccine lots, including but not limited to, any reviews or data analyses of the rates of adverse events in certain COVID-19 vaccine lots.
- 5. All records referring or relating to HHS's receipt and discussion of and response to Senator Johnson's oversight letters including but not limited to the letters sent on the dates below to HHS and/or its subcomponents:
  - January 22, 2021
  - March 1, 2021
  - May 19, 2021
  - May 20, 2021
  - May 27, 2021
  - June 11, 2021
  - June 28, 2021
  - July 13, 2021
  - July 30, 2021
  - August 12, 2021
  - August 19, 2021
  - August 22, 2021
  - August 26, 2021
  - September 7, 2021
  - September 15, 2021
  - October 5, 2021
  - October 7, 2021
  - October 14, 2021

- November 18, 2021
- November 18, 2021
- December 29, 2021
- January 13, 2022
- February 10, 2022
- March 1, 2022 (two letters sent on this date)
- March 3, 2022
- March 23, 2022
- May 5, 2022
- June 23, 2022
- June 23, 2022
- July 25, 2022
- August 18, 2022
- September 12, 2022
- January 10, 2023
- March 31, 2023
- April 20, 2023
- April 25, 2023
- August 28, 2023
- September 5, 2023 (two letters sent on this date)
- September 21, 2023
- October 25, 2023
- November 15, 2023
- December 21, 2023
- January 12, 2024
- March 15, 2024
- June 25, 2024
- September 4, 2024
- November 19, 2024
- December 5, 2024
- December 13, 2024
- December 18, 2024

## For purposes of this subpoena:

The records subpoenaed include all those that are in the custody, control, or possession, or within the right of custody, control, or possession of the Department of Health and Human Services ("HHS") or any of its agencies, offices, agents, employees, or representatives.

Records shall be produced in their entirety, without abbreviation, modification, or redaction, including all attachments and materials affixed thereto.

All records should be produced in the same manner as they are kept or maintained in the ordinary course of business, or the records should be organized and labeled to correspond to the categories of the records requested. Each category of records subpoenaed shall be construed independently, and no category shall limit the scope of any other category.

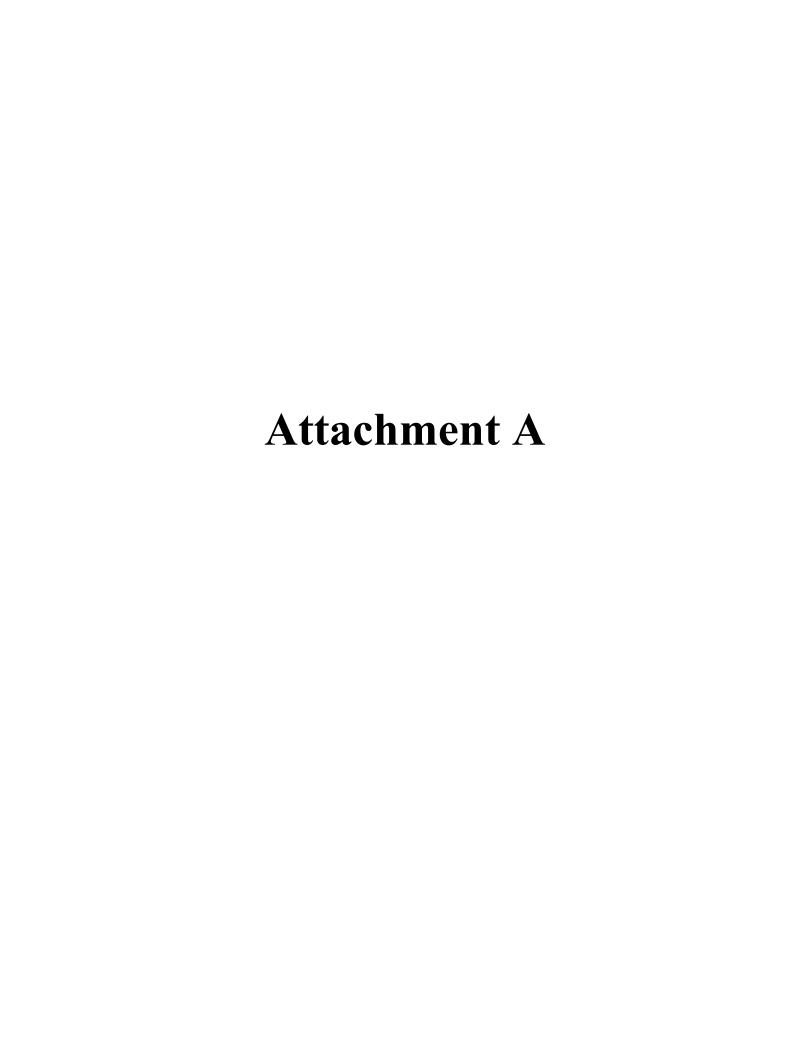
If the subpoena cannot be complied with in full, parties subject to this subpoena shall provide a written explanation of why full compliance is not possible and shall comply to the fullest extent possible. For any claim of privilege for a record, whether in whole or in part, shall be identified in a privilege log submitted in response to this subpoena. The privilege log shall identify the privilege being claimed and an explanation of the basis of said claim of privilege. Any record withheld in its entirety pursuant to a claim of privilege, in addition the to the requirements identified above, the aforementioned privilege log shall include: the nature of the record being withheld, including the title and subject matter; the author of the record; the author's title, occupation, and place of employment; and all names, titles, occupations, and places of employment of any and all recipients of the withheld record. For any record responsive to this subpoena for which HHS no longer maintains custody, control, or possession, HHS shall identify the record, explain the circumstances by which it ceased to maintain custody, control, or possession, and, where applicable, identify the entity which currently maintains custody, control or possession of said record.

Records shall be delivered in accordance with the attached Data Delivery Standards.

All attachments referenced in Schedule A of this subpoena shall be considered as part of Schedule A.

### **Definitions:**

- 1. The term "Records" includes any written, recorded, or graphic material of any nature, regardless of how recorded or created, and whether original or a copy, including, but not limited to the following: agreements; papers; letters and other correspondence; memoranda; reports; notes, whether handwritten, typed or electronically created; studies; analyses; photographs; diagrams; charts; brochures; tabulations; presentations; working papers; documentation of interviews, including notes, transcripts, and recordings; intra-office communications, including instant messages; electronic mail (e-mail) and attachments; contracts; cables; recordings; notations or logs of any type of communication or meeting, including telephone calls and video conference calls; text messages; bulletins; printed materials; teletype; data processing card or worksheets; electronically created documents; databases; machine readable files; data or documents stored on a computer, server, or other electronic storage device; social network content including posts, direct messages, or comments; diaries; questionnaires and responses; data sheets; summaries; minutes; bills; accounts; estimates; projections; comparisons; messages and similar or related materials. Any non-identical copy of a record, including but not limited to a draft, working copy, or version of the record notated in any way, shall be considered a separate and unique record.
- 2. The term "Department of Health and Human Services" includes, but is not limited to the Department of Health and Human Services, and any agency, office, subcomponent, partnership, joint venture, group, grantee, contractor, predecessors, successors, or any entity which derives funding, whether in whole or in part, through any funds appropriated to the Department of Health and Human Services.
- 3. The term "relating to" means, whether in whole or in part, involving, concerning, describing, evidencing, or otherwise connecting.
- 4. The terms "and" and "or" shall be construed broadly and either conjunctively or disjunctively to bring within the scope of this subpoena any information that might otherwise be construed to be outside its scope. The term "any" means both any and all. The singular includes the plural number, and vice versa. The masculine includes the feminine and neuter genders. The use of a verb in any tense, mood, or voice shall be construed as the use of the verb in all other tenses, moods, or voices, as necessary to bring within the scope of this subpoena any information that might otherwise be construed to be outside its scope.



THOMAS B CARPER DELAWARE THOMAS R. CARPER, DELAWARE
MAGGIE HASSAN, NEW HAMPSHIRE
KYRSTEN SINEMA, ARIZONA
JACKY ROSEN, NEWADA
ALEX PADILLA, CALIFORNIA
JON OSSOFF, GEORGIA
RICHARD BLUMENTHAL, CONNECTICUT
ROGER MARSHALL, KANSAS

BAND PAUL, KENTUCKY

DAVID M. WEINBERG, STAFF DIRECTOR WILLIAM E. HENDERSON III, MINORITY STAFF DIRECTOR LAURA W. KILBRIDE, CHIEF CLERK

# United States Senate

HOMELAND SECURITY AND GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS WASHINGTON, DC 20510-6250

November 19, 2024

The Honorable Xavier Becerra Secretary Department of Health and Human Services

The Honorable Robert Califf Commissioner Food and Drug Administration

Dr. Mandy Cohen Director Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

Dear Secretary Becerra, Commissioner Califf, and Director Cohen:

The lack of transparency from your agencies during the Biden presidency has been appalling. Your agencies' refusal to provide complete and unredacted responses and documents to my numerous oversight letters on the development and safety of the COVID-19 vaccines has hindered Congressional oversight and has jeopardized the public's health.

In addition to hiding relevant information from Congress, your agencies have applied heavy redactions to public documents released under Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) requests. These redactions have made many of these public documents hard to understand and, in countless instances, impossible to read. What is clear from these excessive redactions, however, is a concerted effort to obscure Congress' and the public's understanding of your agencies' detection of and response to COVID-19 vaccine adverse events such as myocarditis and pericarditis. The following three examples from May 2021 highlight only a small fraction of communications and documents on myocarditis and pericarditis your agencies continue to conceal.

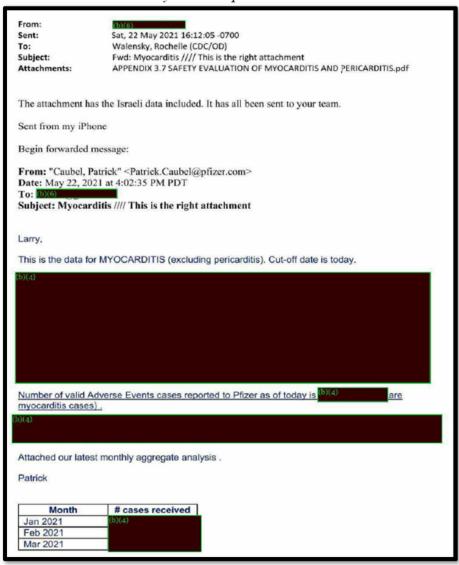
#### Ī. Heavily Redacted Pfizer Report on Myocarditis and Pericarditis

FOIA documents and public reporting indicate that in early 2021, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) received reports about post-vaccinated cases of myocarditis and pericarditis. 1 By May 22, 2021, heavily redacted documents reveal that then-CDC Director

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Zachary Stieber, Timeline: COVID-19 Vaccines and Myocarditis, Epoch Times, Apr. 22, 2024, https://www.theepochtimes.com/health/timeline-covid-19-vaccines-and-myocarditis-5317985?utm\_source=ref\_share&utm\_campaign=twitter&rs=SHRNCMMW; Ed Berkovich and Amy Kelly, FOIA'd CDC Emails Reveal Disturbing Myocarditis Timeline Warranting Investigation: Different Messaging Internally Vs. Publicly About COVID-19 Vaccines and Myocarditis, Daily Clout, Nov. 2, 2023, https://dailyclout.io/foiad-cdc-emails-reveal-disturbing-myocarditis-timeline-warranting-investigation/; FOIA production: https://childrenshealthdefense.org/wp-content/uploads/23-00056-for-2-24-2023-Close.pdf at 666-668,

Rochelle Walensky received Pfizer data regarding myocarditis cases as well as an attachment of a document with the file name, "APPENDIX 3.7 SAFETY EVALUATION OF MYOCARDITIS AND PERICARDITIS.pdf." The 14-page attachment is completely redacted except for the cover page which indicates that the document is a "Report Prepared by: BioNTech-Pfizer."

May 22, 2021: Partial email, then-CDC Director Walensky receives Pfizer report on myocarditis/pericarditis<sup>4</sup>



<sup>710-713;</sup> FOIA production: https://drive.google.com/file/d/1K6B25XjBdKmjW5yEIEpZ1cvnr6jp3RAY/view at 301-302.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> FOIA production: https://drive.google.com/file/d/1K6B25XjBdKmjW5yEIEpZ1cvnr6jp3RAY/view at 424. <sup>3</sup> *Id.* at 426-440.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> *Id.* at 424. FOIA code (b)(4) is used to protect trade secrets and other confidential business information. FOIA code (b)(6) is used to protect information involving matters of personal privacy. *What information is available under the FOIA?* Dep't of Health & Hum. Servs. https://www.hhs.gov/foia/faqs/what-information-is-available-under-the-foia/index.html (last visited Nov. 19, 2024).

Cover of 14-Page heavily redacted April 2021 Pfizer report on Myocarditis and Pericarditis<sup>5</sup>



<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> FOIA production: https://drive.google.com/file/d/1K6B25XjBdKmjW5yEIEpZ1cvnr6jp3RAY/view at 426.

As a result of the redactions contained in this Pfizer report and the CDC's May 22, 2021 email, it is unclear what information then-CDC Director Walensky received regarding cases of myocarditis and pericarditis associated with the Pfizer COVID-19 vaccine.

# II. CDC's Draft Alert on Myocarditis Risk

Shortly after receiving Pfizer's data on myocarditis and pericarditis then-CDC Director Walensky and other CDC officials, contemplated whether to issue a warning to the public about the risk of myocarditis among the vaccinated.<sup>6</sup> In May 2021, CDC officials had drafted a Health Alert Network (HAN) message that would have warned the public about the risk of myocarditis.<sup>7</sup> According to CDC's website, the HAN is "CDC's primary method of sharing cleared information about urgent public health incidents with public information officers; federal, state, territorial, tribal, and local public health practitioners; clinicians; and public health laboratories."

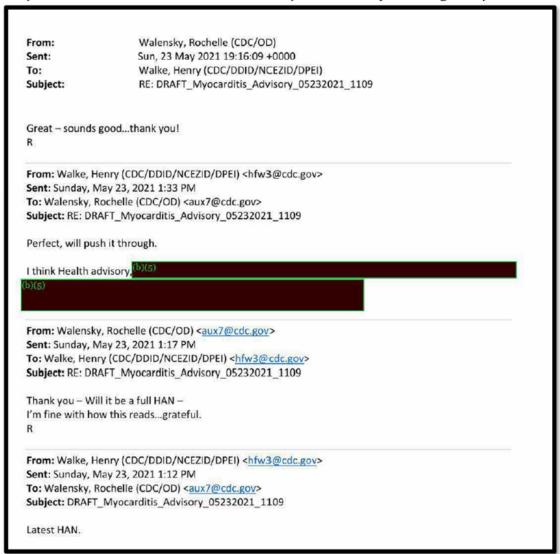
A partially redacted document shows that on May 23, 2021, then-CDC Director Rochelle Walensky received a draft of the HAN message on myocarditis. The draft HAN cited in the FOIA document was not produced. On the HAN message on myocarditis.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> Zachary Stieber, EXCLUSIVE: Email Reveals Why CDC Didn't Issue Alert on COVID Vaccines and Myocarditis, Epoch Times, Jan. 26, 2024, https://www.theepochtimes.com/article/exclusive-email-reveals-why-cdc-didnt-issue-alert-on-covid-vaccines-and-myocarditis-5571675.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> Health Alert Network (HAN), Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Last Reviewed: Mar. 7, 2022, https://emergency.cdc.gov/han/.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> FOIA production: https://drive.google.com/file/d/1K6B25XjBdKmjW5yEIEpZ1cvnr6jp3RAY/view at 315. <sup>10</sup> *Id.* (records released in connection with this FOIA request do not contain a copy of the draft HAN attached to the May 23, 2021 email).

May 23, 2023: Then-CDC Director Walensky receives draft warning on myocarditis<sup>11</sup>



In a May 25, 2021 email, a CDC official wrote to a redacted individual—reportedly a Pfizer or Moderna employee—and shared that there are ongoing discussions about the "pros" and "cons" of issuing a HAN and that "people don't want to appear alarmist[.]"<sup>12</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>11</sup> *Id.* FOIA code (b)(5) is used to protect inter-agency or intra-agency communications that are protected by legal privileges. *What information is available under the FOIA?* Dep't of Health & Hum. Servs. https://www.hhs.gov/foia/faqs/what-information-is-available-under-the-foia/index.html (last visited Nov. 19, 2024). <sup>12</sup> Zachary Stieber, EXCLUSIVE: Email Reveals Why CDC Didn't Issue Alert on COVID Vaccines and Myocarditis, Epoch Times, Jan. 26, 2024, https://www.theepochtimes.com/article/exclusive-email-reveals-why-cdc-didnt-issue-alert-on-covid-vaccines-and-myocarditis-5571675. FOIA production included in article at 824.

May 25, 2021: CDC official tells Pfizer or Moderna employee about HAN discussions<sup>13</sup>

From: Oliver, Sara Elizabeth (CDC/DDID/NCIRD/DVD) <yxo4@cdc.gov></yxo4@cdc.gov>					
Sent: Tuesday, May 25, 2021 10:29 AM					
To: (b)(4) (b)(4) (x)					
Subject: RE: Publication - Myocarditis					
EXTERNAL					
I haven't heard plans for an MMWR yet. There's just not enough data yet so an MMWR					
wouldn't make sense at this point. I would anticipate as we have additional data and more					
formal analyses, there may be an MMWR, but not right now.					
The pros and cons of an official HAN are what the main discussions are right now. I think it's likely to be a HAN since that is CDC's primary method of communications to clinicians and public health departments, but people don't want to appear alarmist either.					
I am not trying to be vague on purpose-I really don't know. If I had to guess, I would think it's likely to be a HAN, but can't say for sure yet. I anticipate there will be firm decisions within the next 24 hours so I'll let you know.					
Thanks-					
Sara					

CDC never issued the HAN alert and, according to public reports, that decision may have been influenced by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA). <sup>14</sup> Instead, on May 28, 2021, CDC published "clinical considerations" on its website regarding myocarditis, stating "increased cases of myocarditis and pericarditis have been reported in the United States after mRNA COVID-19 vaccination (Pfizer-BioNTech and Moderna)," but CDC still "continues to recommend COVID-19 vaccination for everyone 12 years of age and older." <sup>15</sup>

Starting in January 2024, following public reporting on the CDC's draft HAN alert, my office requested CDC provide all versions of the draft alert, all communications regarding the decision to not issue the HAN and instead publish the clinical consideration, and briefings with the CDC officials involved in the drafting of the HAN. To date, CDC has refused to cooperate with any of these requests.

<sup>13</sup> Id.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>14</sup> Zachary Stieber, FDA Influenced Decision Not to Send Alert on Post vaccination Heart Inflammation: Emails, Epoch Times, Jan. 21, 2024, https://www.theepochtimes.com/health/fda-influenced-decision-not-to-send-alert-on-postvaccination-heart-inflammation-emails-

<sup>5570033?</sup>utm\_medium=social&utm\_source=twitter&utm\_campaign=digitalsub.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>15</sup> *Id*; Clinical Considerations: Myocarditis and Pericarditis after Receipt of mRNA COVID-19 Vaccines Among Adolescents and Young Adults, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, May 28, 2021, archived: https://archive.is/AnF6y#selection-507.0-507.128. Other FOIA documents indicate that the clinical considerations on myocarditis were posted on May 27, 2021 and then were "pulled down" after ten minutes. Email from Abbigail Tumpey, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, to Rochelle Walensky, Dir., Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, May 27, 2021 (on file with Subcomm.).

# III. The White House's Talking Points to Rochelle Walensky, Anthony Fauci, and Francis Collins

In late May 2021, as CDC officials reviewed Pfizer data on post-vaccinated cases of myocarditis and pericarditis and as CDC and FDA officials hesitated to issue a public alert about these risks, the Biden White House sent the U.S.'s top public health officials 17 pages of apparent talking points for "tough QA" on COVID.<sup>16</sup> On May 25, 2021, Benjamin Wakana, the White House's Deputy Director for Strategic Communications and Engagement, emailed then-CDC Director Walensky, then-National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases Director Anthony Fauci, and then-National Institutes of Health Director Francis Collins, among others, a document writing, "attached please find the latest tough QA. New topics include:"<sup>17</sup> The "new topics" listed in the email as well as the 17-page attachment are completely redacted.

May 25, 2021 email from White House to Walensky, Fauci, Collins with completely redacted 17-page attachment<sup>18</sup>

From:	Wakana, Benjamin L. EOP/WHO				
Sent:	Tue, 25 May 2021 03:21:11 +0000				
То:	Walensky, Rochelle (CDC/OD); Fauci, Anthony (NIH/NIAID) [E]; Slavitt, Andrew				
M. EOP/WHO; Collins, Francis (NIH/OD) [E]; Murthy, Vivek (HHS/OASH); Smith, Marcella N. EOP/OSTP					
Cc:	Rowe, Courtney M. EOP/WHO; Berner, Kate EOP/WHO; Munoz, Kevin				
EOP/WHO; Sams, Ian (HHS/ASPA); Billet, Courtney (NIH/NIAID) [E]; Tumpey, Abbigail					
	(CDC/DDPHSS/CSELS/OD); Hall, Bill (HHS/ASPA); Burklow, John (NIH/OD) [E]; Myles, Renate (NIH/OD)				
	HS/OASH); Cheema, Subhan N. EOP/WHO; Saez, Mariel S. EOP/WHO; Webb, Cameron				
	man, Adam (HHS/OASH); Sanchez-Velasco, Marissa EOP/WHO; Beckman, Adam				
(HHS/OASH); McDonald, Jason (CDC/OD/OADC); Allen, Kirsten (HHS/ASPA); Perry, Sherice (OS/IEA)					
Subject:	RE: COVID Tough QA				
Attachments:	Tough QA 5.24.21 11PM.docx				
	e find the latest tough QA. New topics include:				
Hi, attached please					
Hi, attached please (b)(5)  Hope this helps,					
Hi, attached please (b)(5)  Hope this helps,					
Hi, attached please (b)(5)  Hope this helps,					
Hi, attached please (b)(5)					
Hi, attached please (b)(5)  Hope this helps, Ben  HHHHHHHHHHHHHHHHHHHHHHHHHHHHHHHHHH	e find the latest tough QA. New topics include:				
Hi, attached please (b)(5)  Hope this helps, Ben  +++ Ben Wakana	e find the latest tough QA. New topics include:				

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>16</sup> Ed Berkovich and Amy Kelly, FOIA'd CDC Emails Reveal Disturbing Myocarditis Timeline Warranting Investigation: Different Messaging Internally Vs. Publicly About COVID-19 Vaccines and Myocarditis, Daily Clout, Nov. 2, 2023, https://dailyclout.io/foiad-cdc-emails-reveal-disturbing-myocarditis-timeline-warranting-investigation/; FOIA production: https://drive.google.com/file/d/1wgr-jdUTvvc8MgPnnghjcYLX1uC3L\_tJ/view at 28-45.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>17</sup> FOIA production: https://drive.google.com/file/d/1wgr-jdUTvvc8MgPnnghjcYLX1uC3L\_tJ/view at 28. <sup>18</sup> *Id*.

The redactions in this email and the attachment make it impossible to know what "tough QA" the Biden White House wanted Walensky, Fauci, and Collins to have on hand. Ultimately, despite your agencies' awareness of the risks associated with the COVID-19 vaccines, the main talking point from these and other public health officials was uniform and entirely deceptive: the vaccines are safe and effective.

####

For the last several years, I have sent over 60 public letters to federal agencies on COVID-19 regarding the virus' origins, early treatment, and the development and safety of the vaccines. While your agencies have largely ignored or failed to fully cooperate with my oversight efforts, I can assure you that your obstruction will soon come to an end. In the next Congress, when I become chairman of the Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations, any attempt by your agencies to withhold documents will be met with a subpoena.

Until then, my oversight work must continue and I, once again, call on you to provide full and complete responses to the following requests:

- 1. An unredacted version of Enclosure 1.
- 2. All versions of the draft 2021 HAN on myocarditis and communications referring or relating to the drafting of the HAN, the drafting of the clinical considerations on myocarditis, the decision to not release the HAN, and an unredacted version of Enclosure 2.
- 3. An unredacted version of Enclosure 3.

I also call on your agencies to immediately preserve all records<sup>19</sup> referring or relating to the development, safety, and efficacy of the COVID-19 vaccines. Please provide the requested information no later than December 3, 2024. Thank you for your attention.

Sincerely,

Ron Johnson Ranking Member

Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations

Enclosures

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>19</sup> "Records" include any written, recorded, or graphic material of any kind, including letters, memoranda, reports, notes, electronic data (emails, email attachments, and any other electronically-created or stored information), calendar entries, inter-office communications, meeting minutes, phone/voice mail or recordings/records of verbal communications, and drafts (whether or not they resulted in final documents).

November 19, 2024 Page 9

cc: The Honorable Richard Blumenthal

Chairman

Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations

The Honorable Christi Grimm

Inspector General

Department of Health and Human Services

# **Enclosure 1**

From: (b)(6)

**Sent:** Sat, 22 May 2021 16:12:05 -0700 **To:** Walensky, Rochelle (CDC/OD)

**Subject:** Fwd: Myocarditis //// This is the right attachment

Attachments: APPENDIX 3.7 SAFETY EVALUATION OF MYOCARDITIS AND PERICARDITIS.pdf

The attachment has the Israeli data included. It has all been sent to your team.

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Caubel, Patrick" < Patrick. Caubel@pfizer.com>

Date: May 22, 2021 at 4:02:35 PM PDT

To: (b)(6)

Subject: Myocarditis //// This is the right attachment

Larry,

This is the data for MYOCARDITIS (excluding pericarditis). Cut-off date is today.



Number of valid Adverse Events cases reported to Pfizer as of today is myocarditis cases).

(b)(4)

Attached our latest monthly aggregate analysis.

Patrick

Month	# cases received
Jan 2021	(b)(4)
Feb 2021	
Mar 2021	

Apr 2021	(b)(4)	2
 May 2021		

Country	# cases
Austria	(b)(4)
Belgium	
Canada	
Czech Republic	
Denmark	
Finland	
France	
Germany	
Greece	
Ireland	
Israel	
Italy	
Japan	
Poland	
Portugal	
Serbia	
Spain	
Sweden	
Switzerland	
UK	
US	

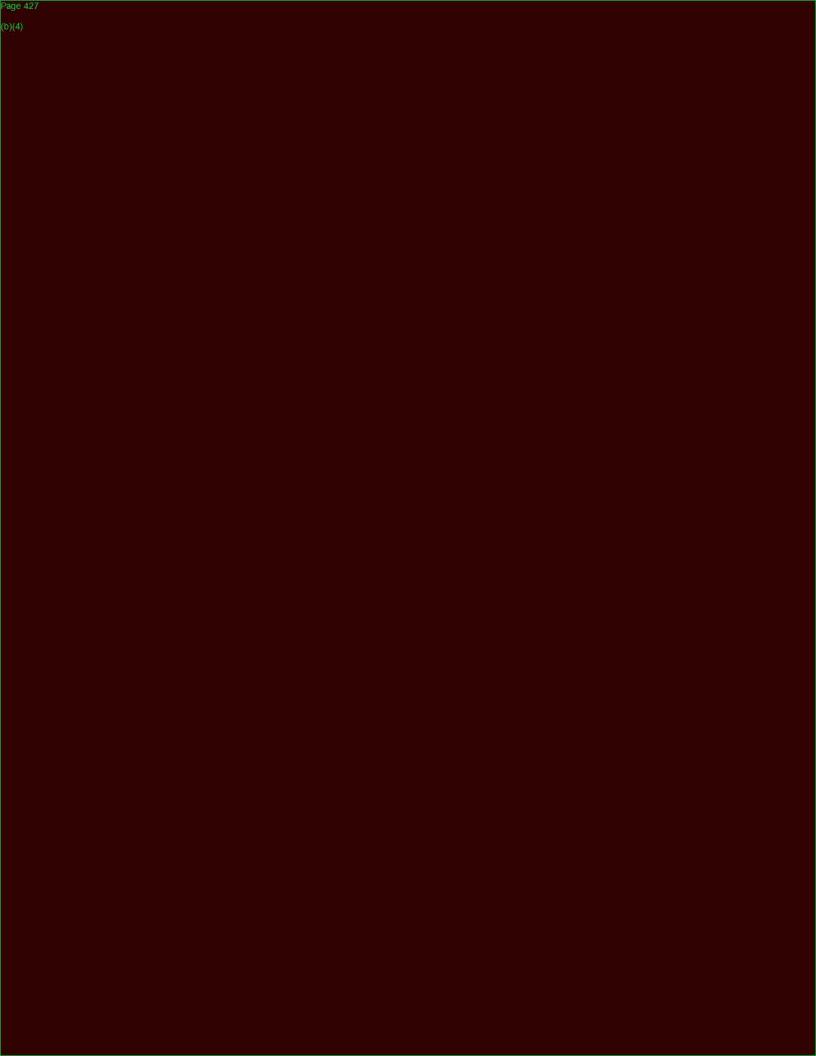
### Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 Vaccine

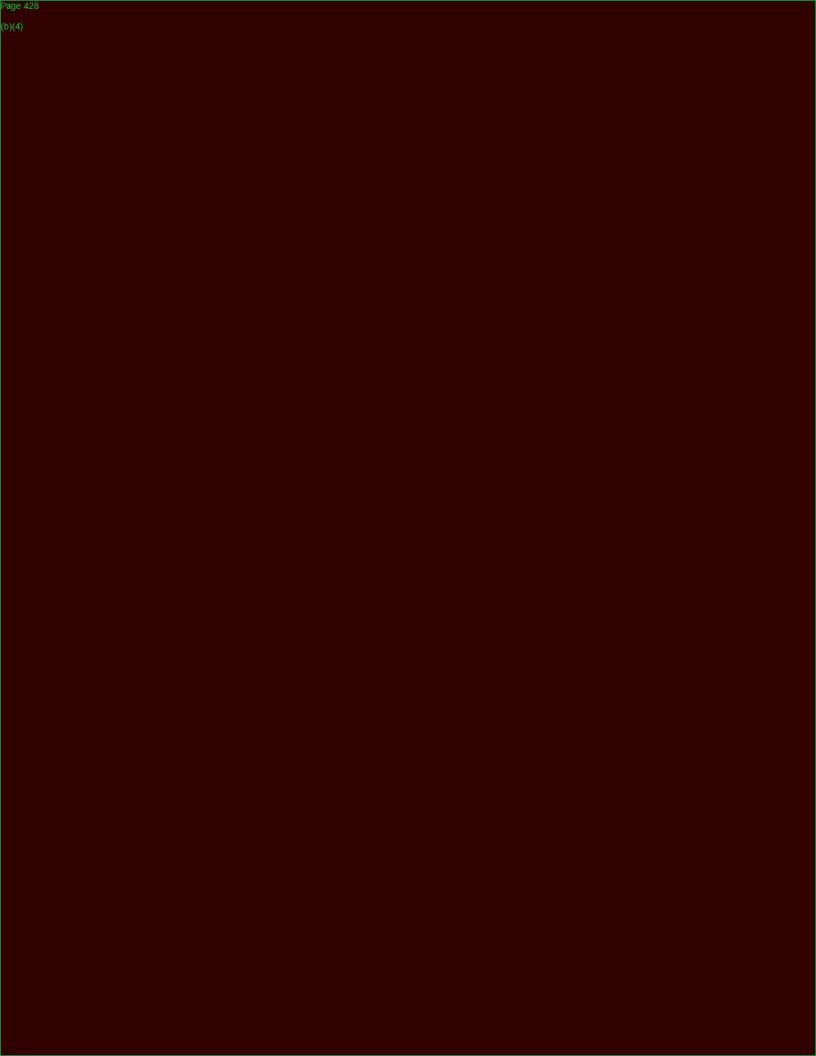
**Myocarditis and Pericarditis** 

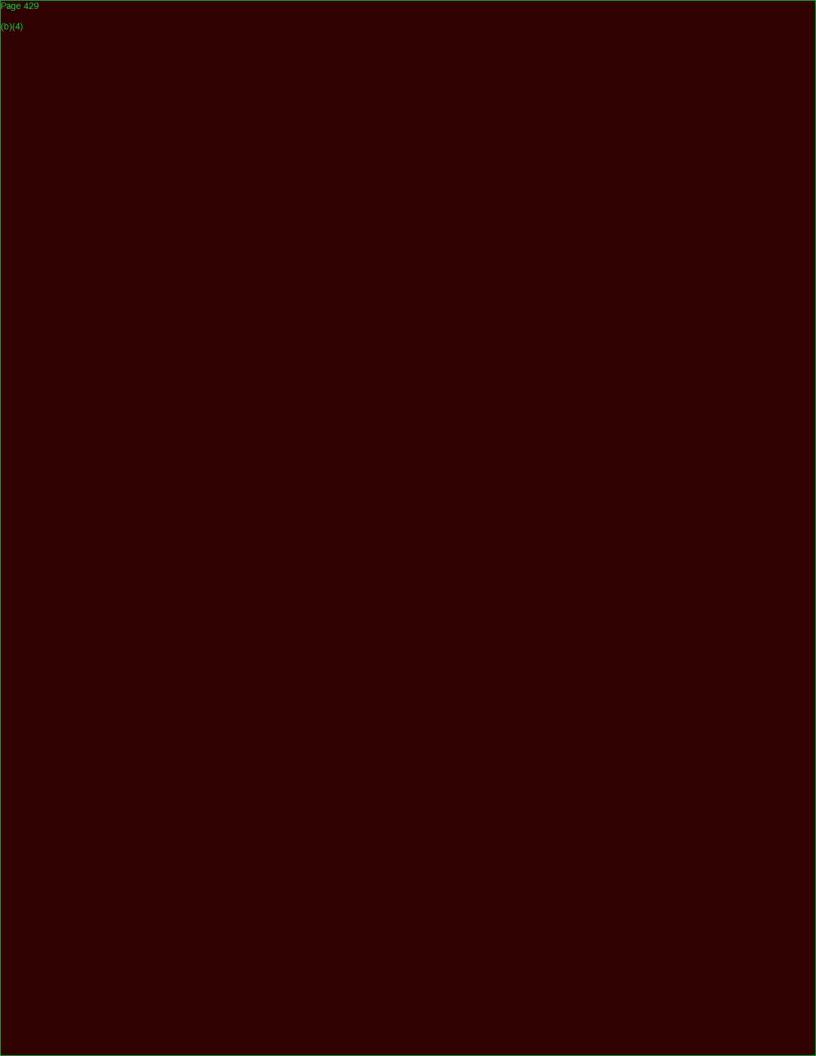
# Report Prepared by:

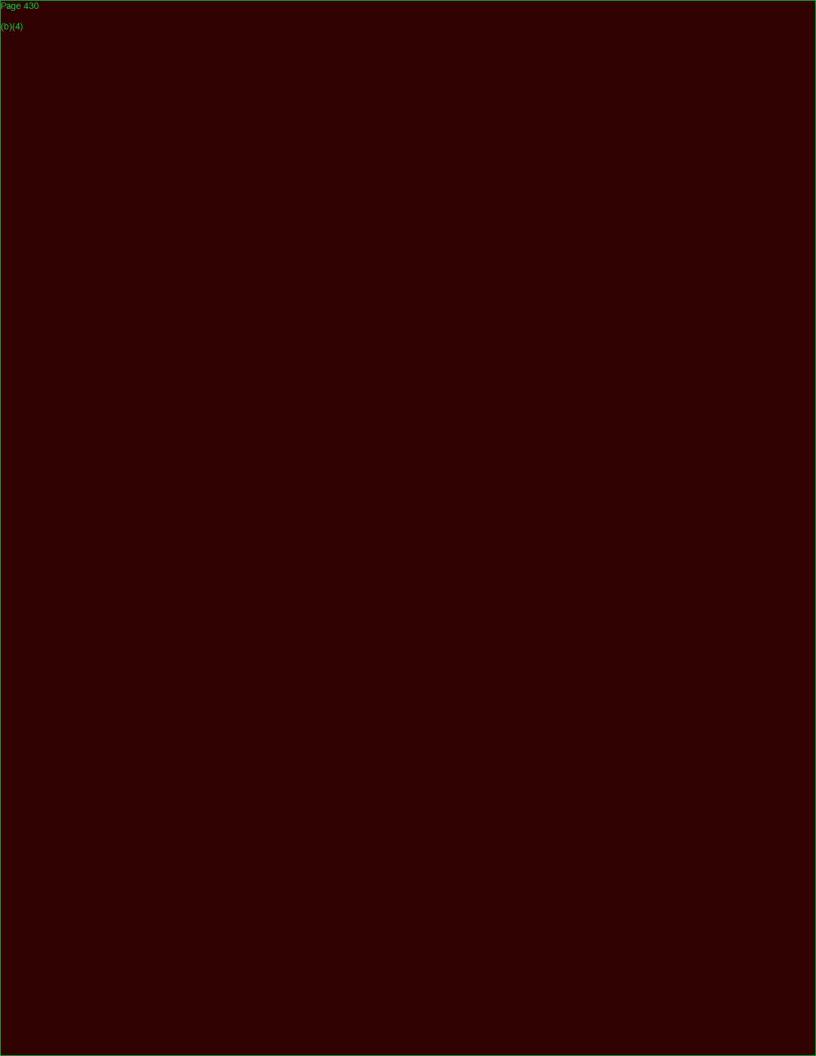
### **BioNTech-Pfizer**

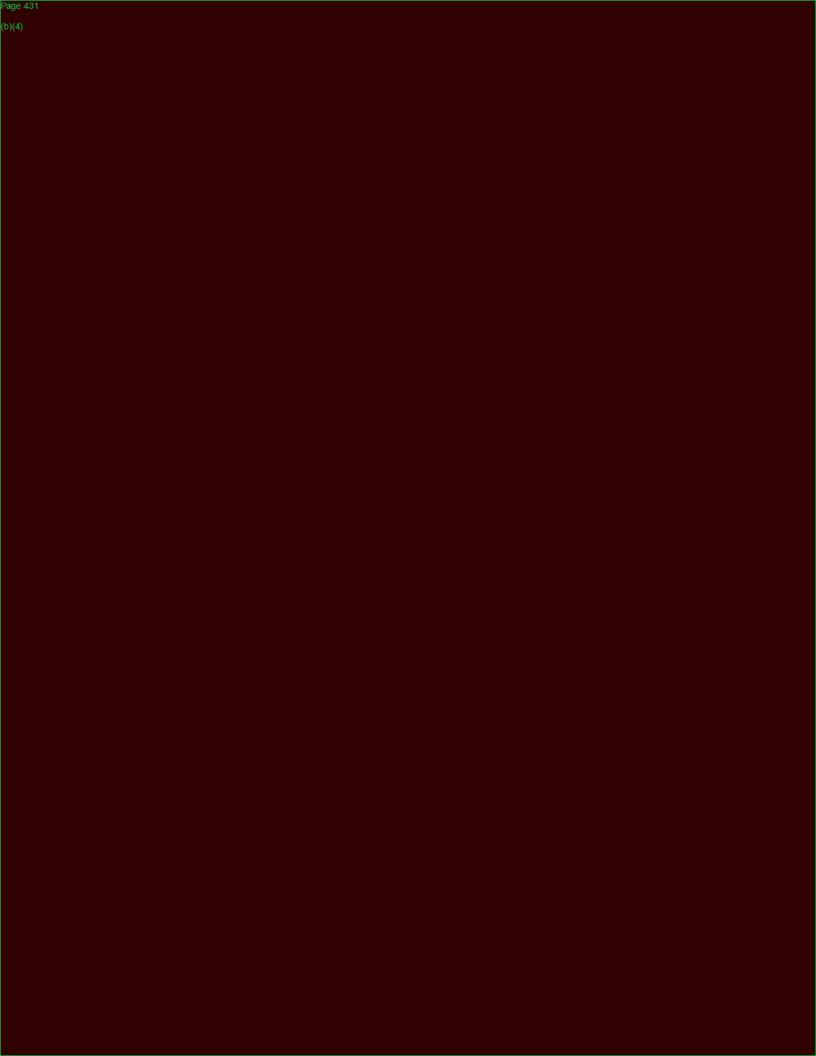
The information contained in this document is proprietary and confidential. Any disclosure, reproduction, distribution, or other dissemination of this information outside of BioNTech and Pfizer, its Affiliates, its Licensees, or Regulatory Agencies is strictly prohibited. Except as may be otherwise agreed to in writing, by accepting or reviewing these materials, you agree to hold such information in confidence and not to disclose it to others (except where required by applicable law), nor to use it for unauthorized purposes.

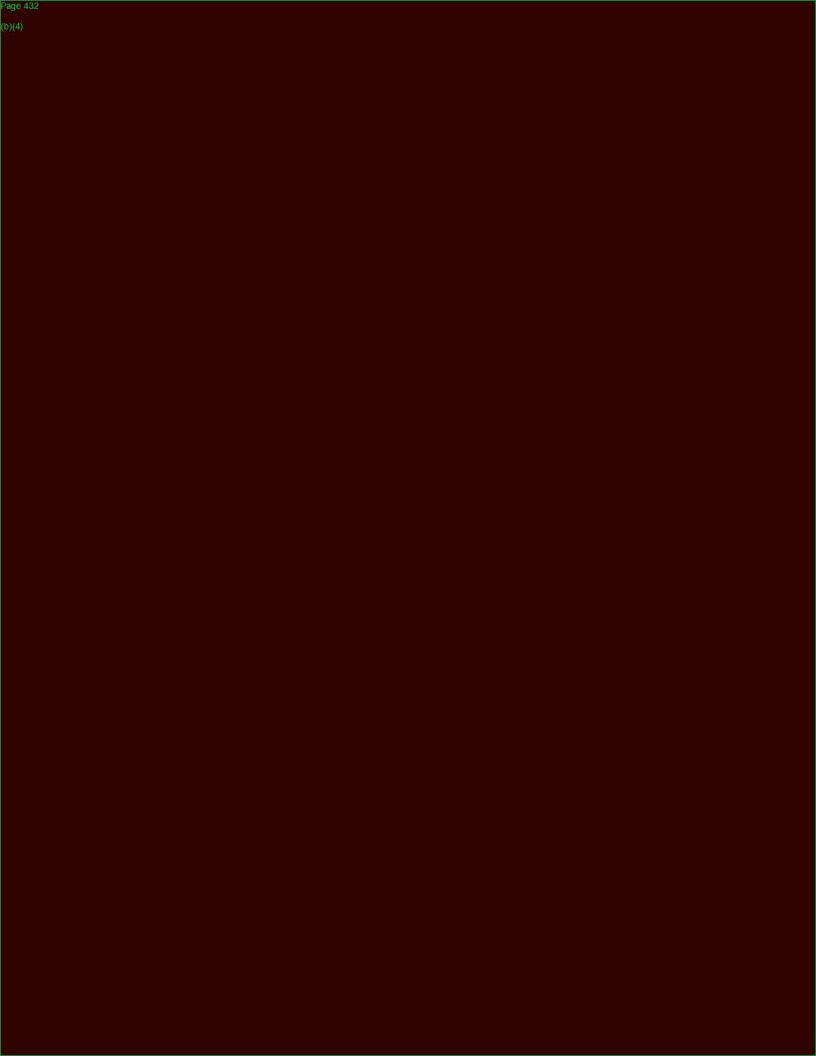


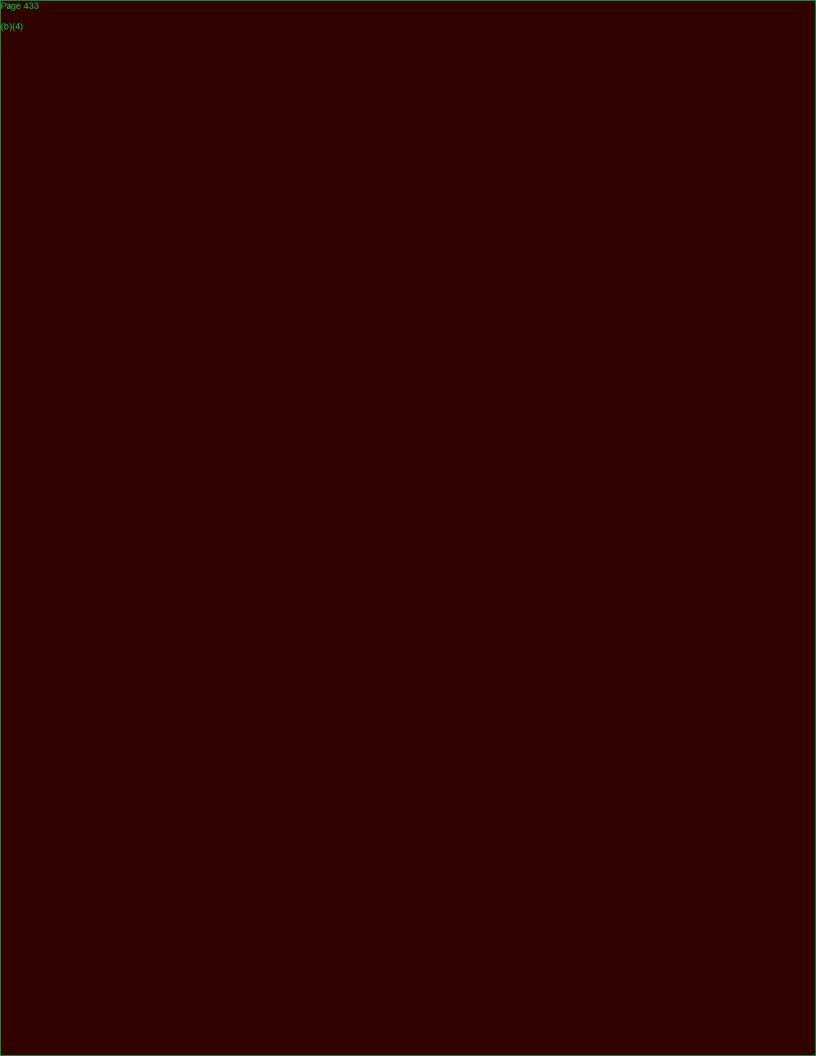


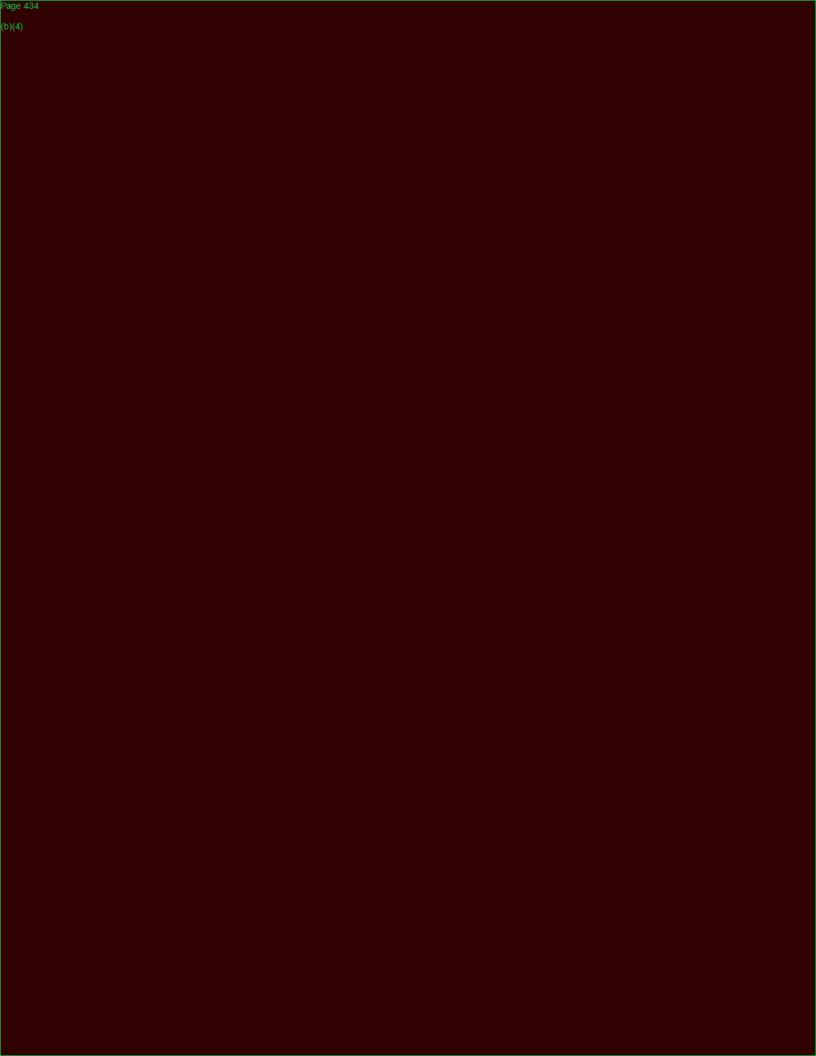


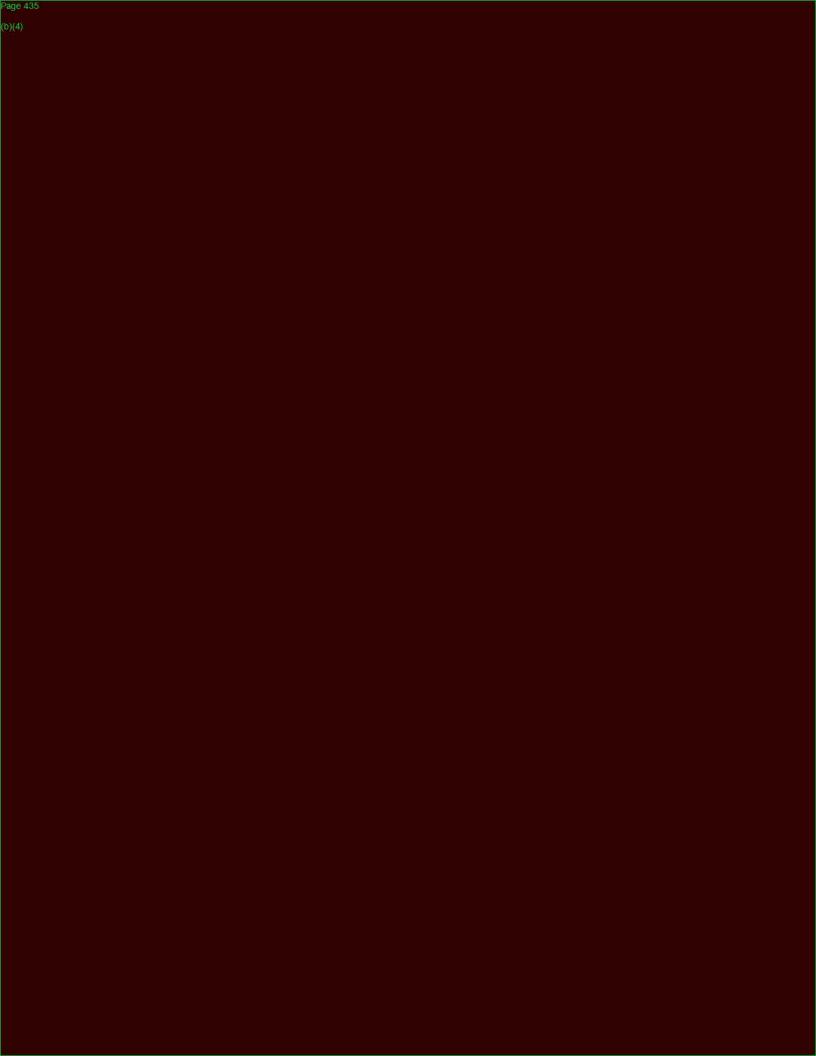


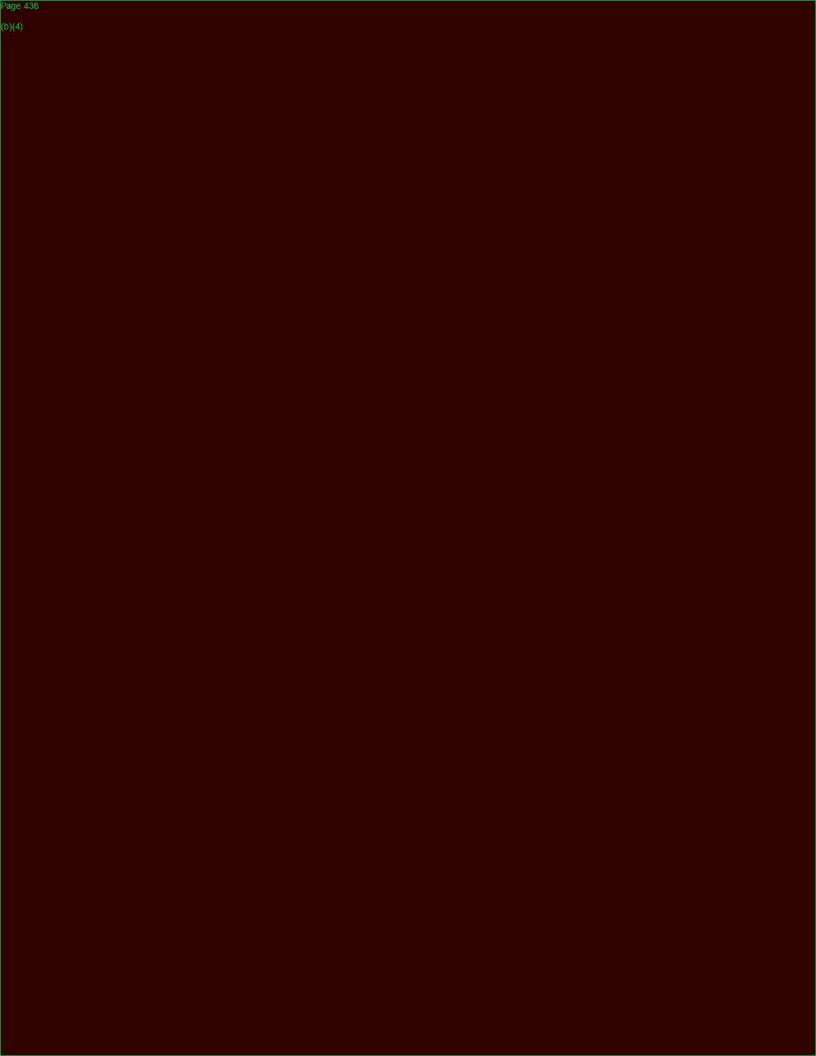


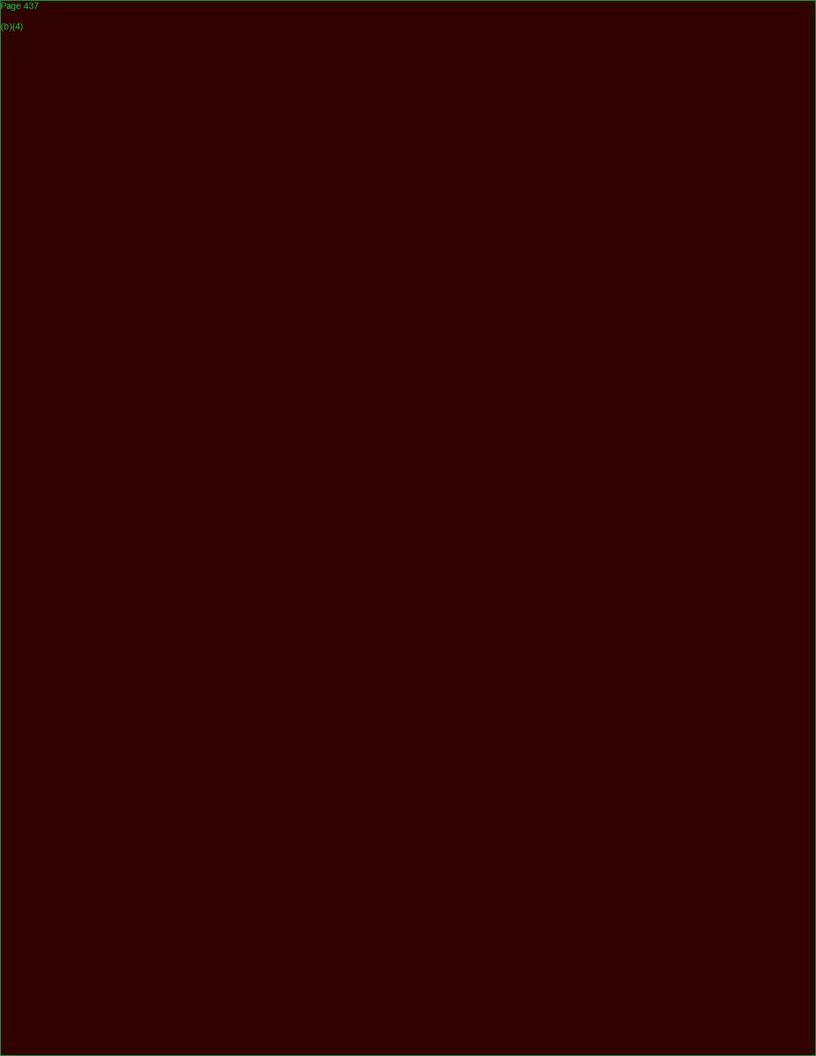


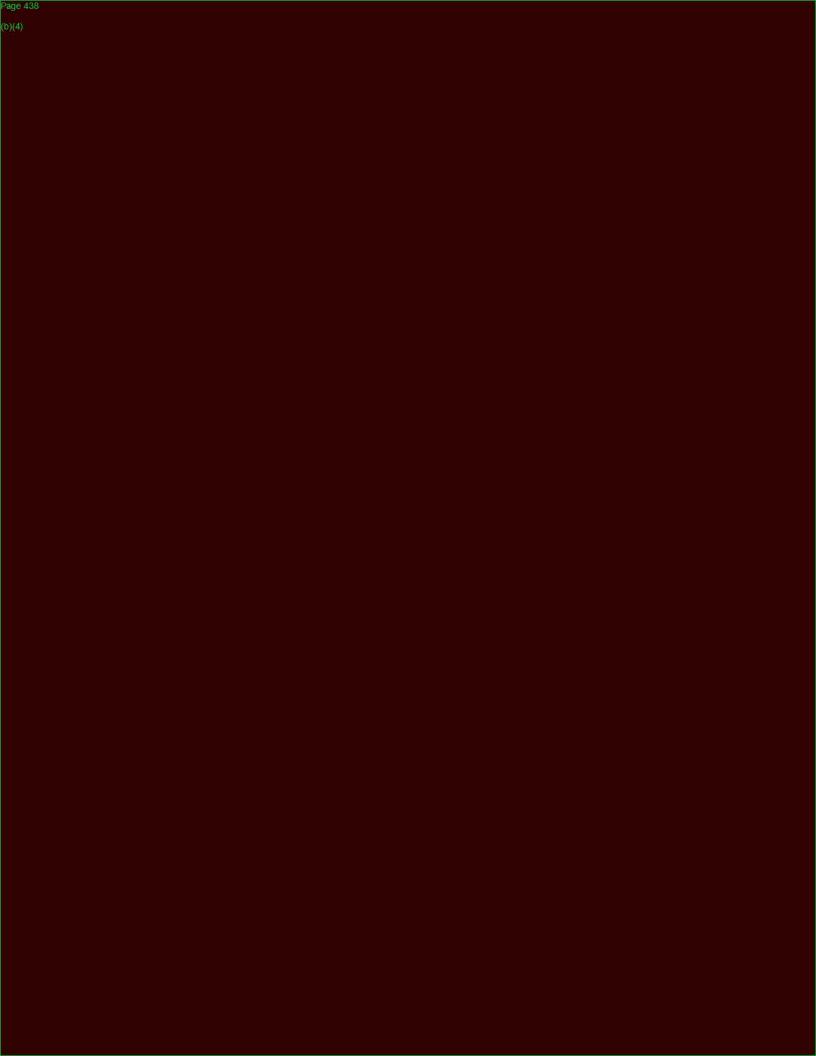


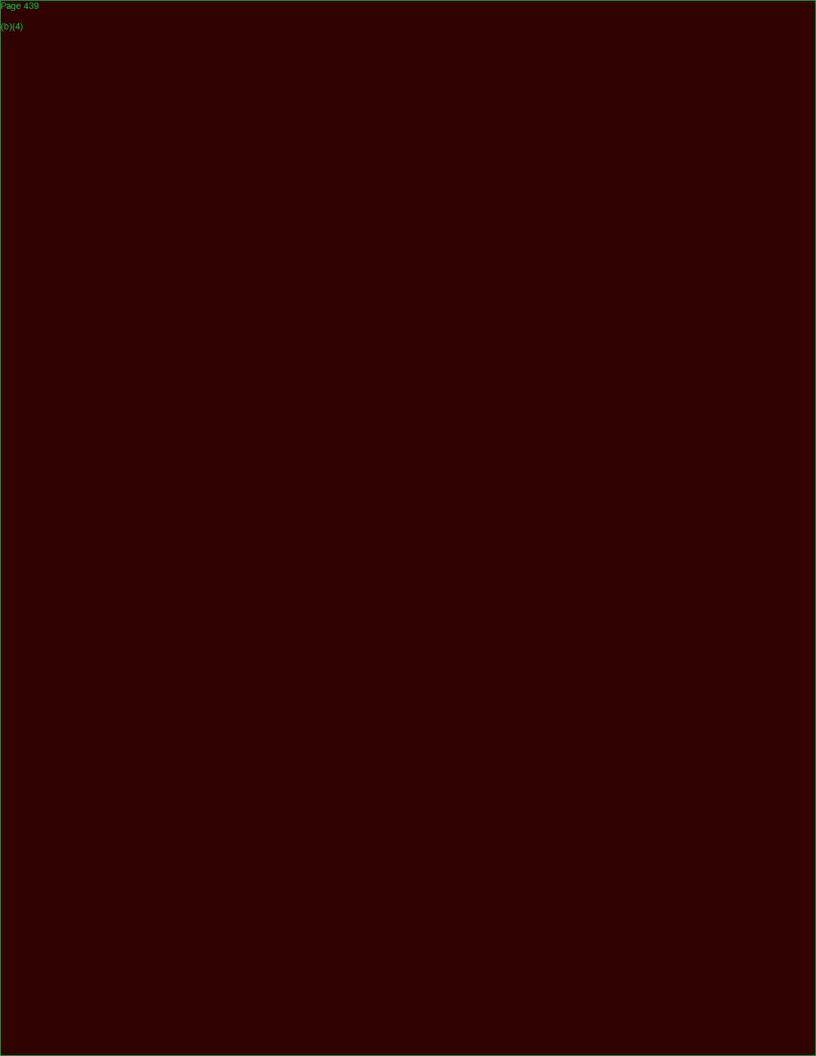


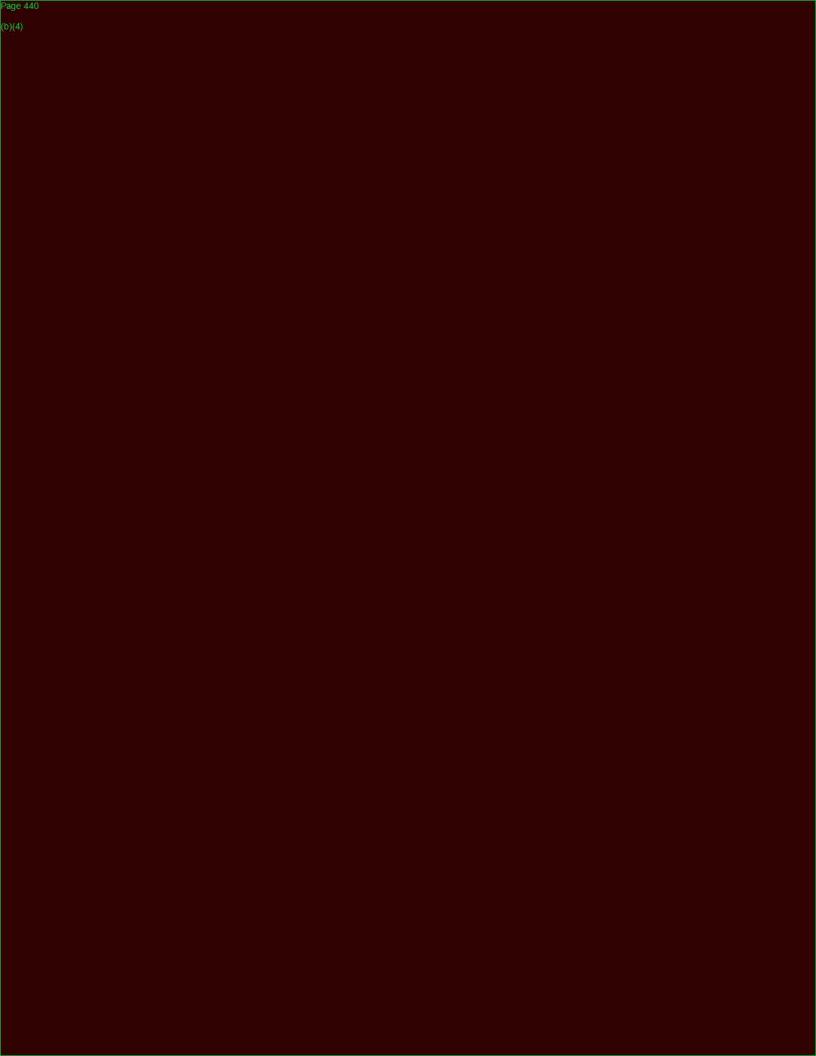












# **Enclosure 2**

 From:
 Walensky, Rochelle (CDC/OD)

 Sent:
 Sun, 23 May 2021 19:16:09 +0000

To: Walke, Henry (CDC/DDID/NCEZID/DPEI)

Subject: RE: DRAFT\_Myocarditis\_Advisory\_05232021\_1109

Great - sounds good...thank you!

R

From: Walke, Henry (CDC/DDID/NCEZID/DPEI) < hfw3@cdc.gov>

Sent: Sunday, May 23, 2021 1:33 PM

To: Walensky, Rochelle (CDC/OD) <aux7@cdc.gov>

Subject: RE: DRAFT\_Myocarditis\_Advisory\_05232021\_1109

Perfect, will push it through.

I think Health advisory,

(b)(5

(b)(5)

From: Walensky, Rochelle (CDC/OD) <a href="mailto:aux7@cdc.gov">aux7@cdc.gov</a>>

Sent: Sunday, May 23, 2021 1:17 PM

**To:** Walke, Henry (CDC/DDID/NCEZID/DPEI) < <a href="https://nfw3@cdc.gov">hfw3@cdc.gov</a>> **Subject:** RE: DRAFT\_Myocarditis\_Advisory\_05232021\_1109

Thank you – Will it be a full HAN – I'm fine with how this reads...grateful.

R

From: Walke, Henry (CDC/DDID/NCEZID/DPEI) < hfw3@cdc.gov>

Sent: Sunday, May 23, 2021 1:12 PM

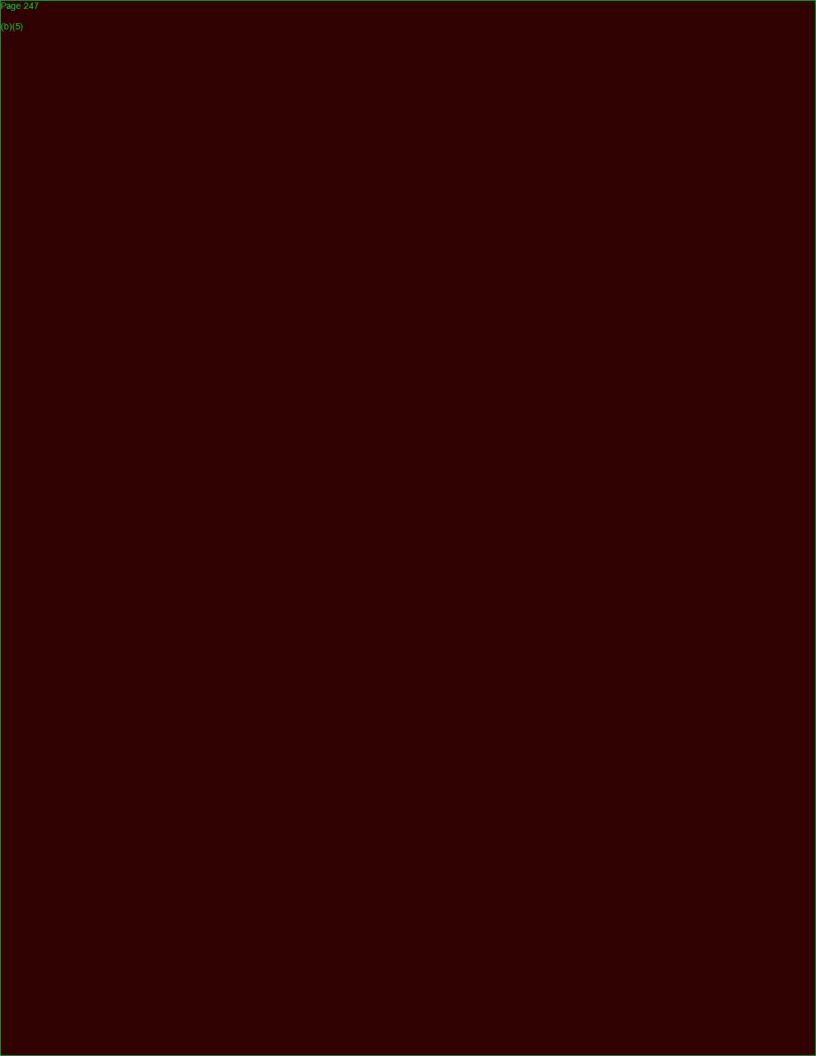
To: Walensky, Rochelle (CDC/OD) <aux7@cdc.gov>
Subject: DRAFT\_Myocarditis\_Advisory\_05232021\_1109

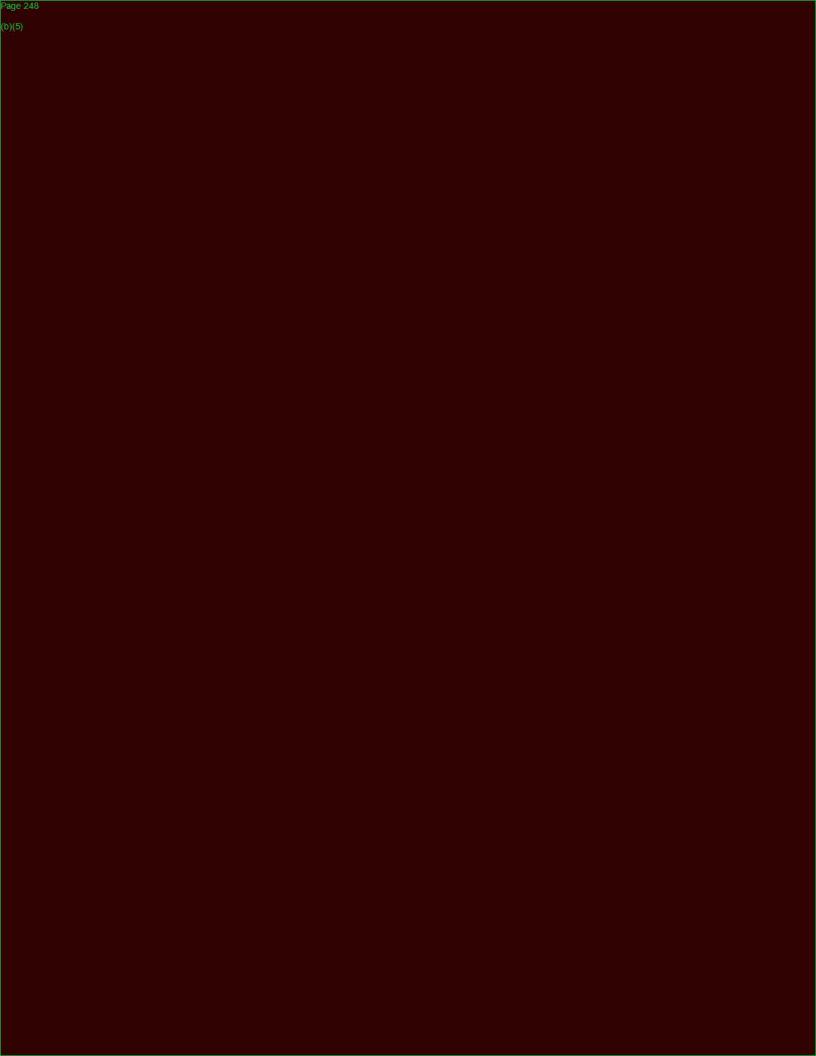
Latest HAN.

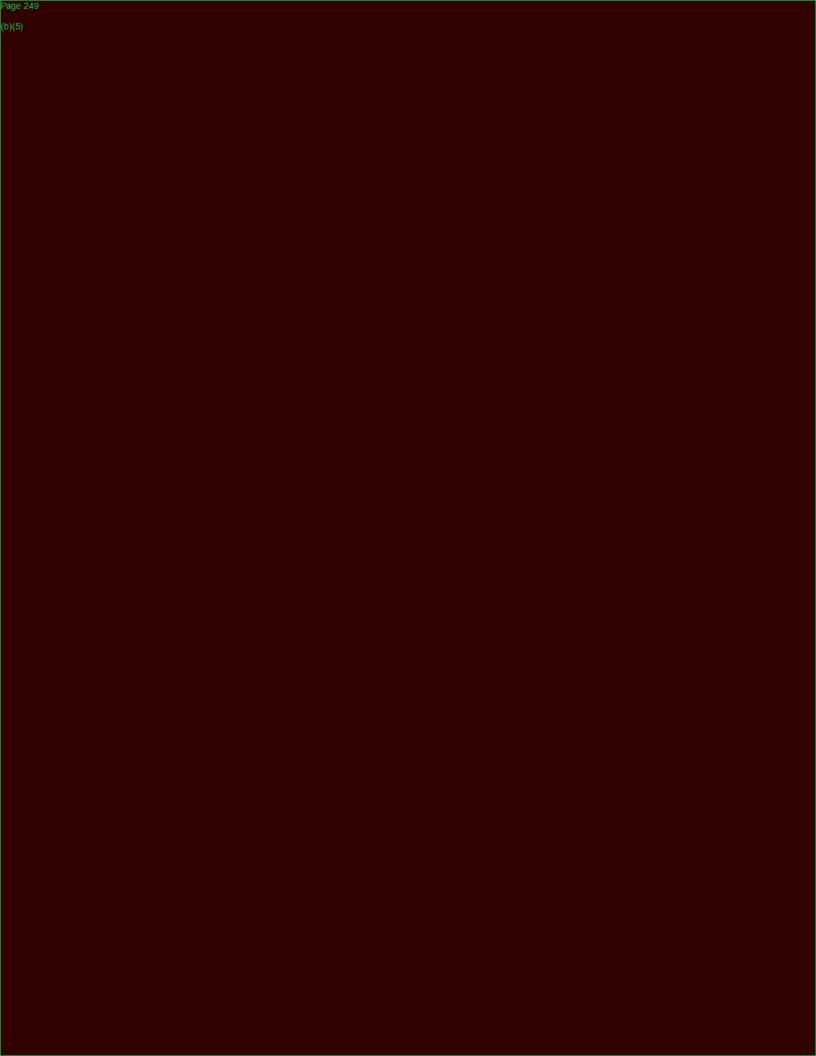
From: Walke, Henry (CDC/DDID/NCEZID/DPEI)
Sent: Sun, 23 May 2021 17:12:18 +0000
To: Walensky, Rochelle (CDC/OD)

Subject:DRAFT\_Myocarditis\_Advisory\_05232021\_1109Attachments:DRAFT\_Myocarditis\_Advisory\_05232021\_1109.docx

Latest HAN.







From: (b)(4) (b)(4) (x)

**Sent:** Tue, 25 May 2021 15:03:08 +0000

To: Oliver, Sara Elizabeth (CDC/DDID/NCIRD/DVD)

Subject: Re: Publication - Myocarditis

Thanks, Sara. That is very helpful.

(b)(4)

From: Oliver, Sara Elizabeth (CDC/DDID/NCIRD/DVD) <yxo4@cdc.gov>

Sent: Tuesday, May 25, 2021 10:29 AM

To: (b)(4) (x) (b)(4)

Subject: RE: Publication - Myocarditis

#### EXTERNAL

I haven't heard plans for an MMWR yet. There's just not enough data yet so an MMWR wouldn't make sense at this point. I would anticipate as we have additional data and more formal analyses, there may be an MMWR, but not right now.

The pros and cons of an official HAN are what the main discussions are right now. I think it's likely to be a HAN since that is CDC's primary method of communications to clinicians and public health departments, but people don't want to appear alarmist either.

I am not trying to be vague on purpose-I really don't know. If I had to guess, I would think it's likely to be a HAN, but can't say for sure yet. I anticipate there will be firm decisions within the next 24 hours so I'll let you know.

Thanks-

Sara

From: (b)(4) (b)(4) (x) (b)(4)

Sent: Tuesday, May 25, 2021 10:24 AM

To: Oliver, Sara Elizabeth (CDC/DDID/NCIRD/DVD) <yxo4@cdc.gov>

Subject: Re: Publication - Myocarditis

Hi Sara,

Thanks for your note. Can I just ask what are the possible options where this might be published?

(b)(4)

From: Oliver, Sara Elizabeth (CDC/DDID/NCIRD/DVD) <yxo4@cdc.gov>

Sent: Tuesday, May 25, 2021 10:20 AM

To: (b)(4) (b)(4) (x) (b)(4)

Subject: RE: Publication - Myocarditis

### **EXTERNAL**

(b)(4)

Apologies that there hasn't been more solid communication on this. Unfortunately, I still don't have a firm update to share. Things have been changing rapidly here. As we know more, I will share.

Thanks-Sara

From: (b)(4) (b)(4) (x) (b)(4)

Sent: Tuesday, May 25, 2021 9:45 AM

To: Oliver, Sara Elizabeth (CDC/DDID/NCIRD/DVD) <yxo4@cdc.gov>

Subject: Publication - Myocarditis

Hi Sara,

I am just checking in to see if you have decided where you will publish your statement on myocarditis. Will it be the MMWR or somewhere else please? And if you have any update on timing, that would be a big help.

We hope to send CDC the report that we are submitting to PRAC sometime this week.

Many thanks.

(b)(4)



### A Please consider the environment before printing this email

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From: Tumpey, Abbigail (CDC/DDPHSS/CSELS/OD)

**Sent:** Wed, 26 May 2021 17:49:23 +0000

To: Walensky, Rochelle (CDC/OD); Schuchat, Anne MD (CDC/OD)

Cc: Goldstein, Robert (CDC/OD/OADPS); Berger, Sherri (CDC/OCOO/OD); McDonald,

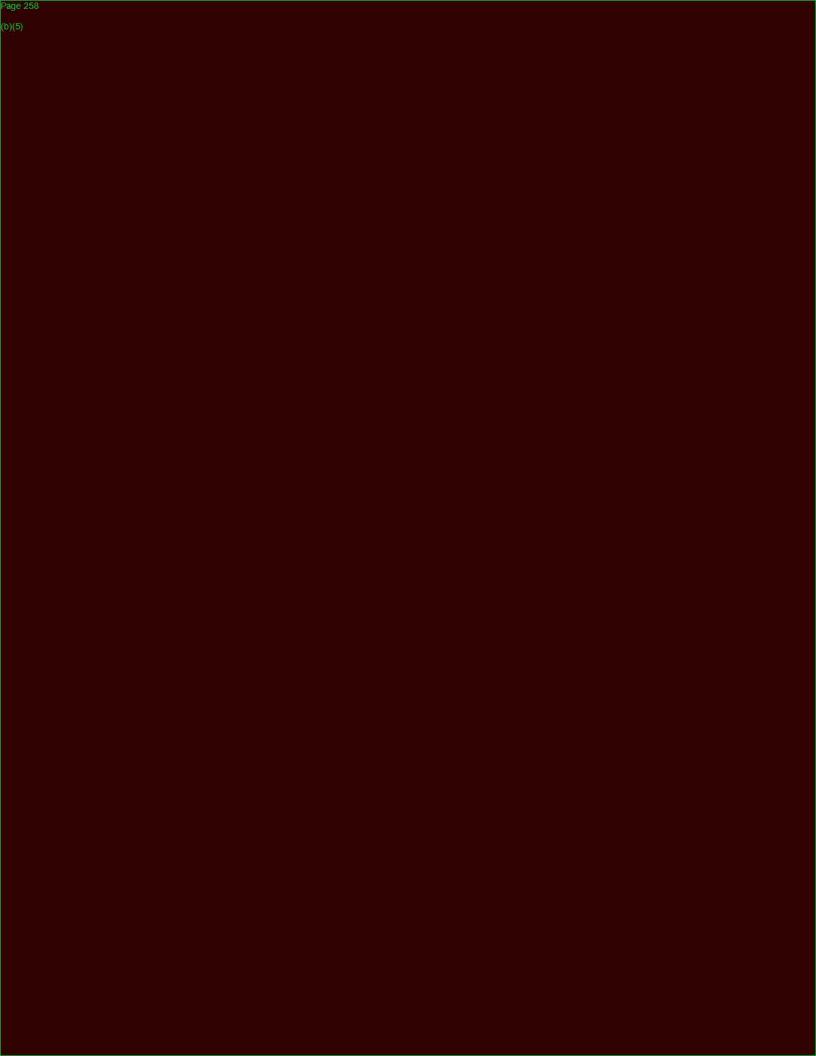
Jason (CDC/OD/OADC)

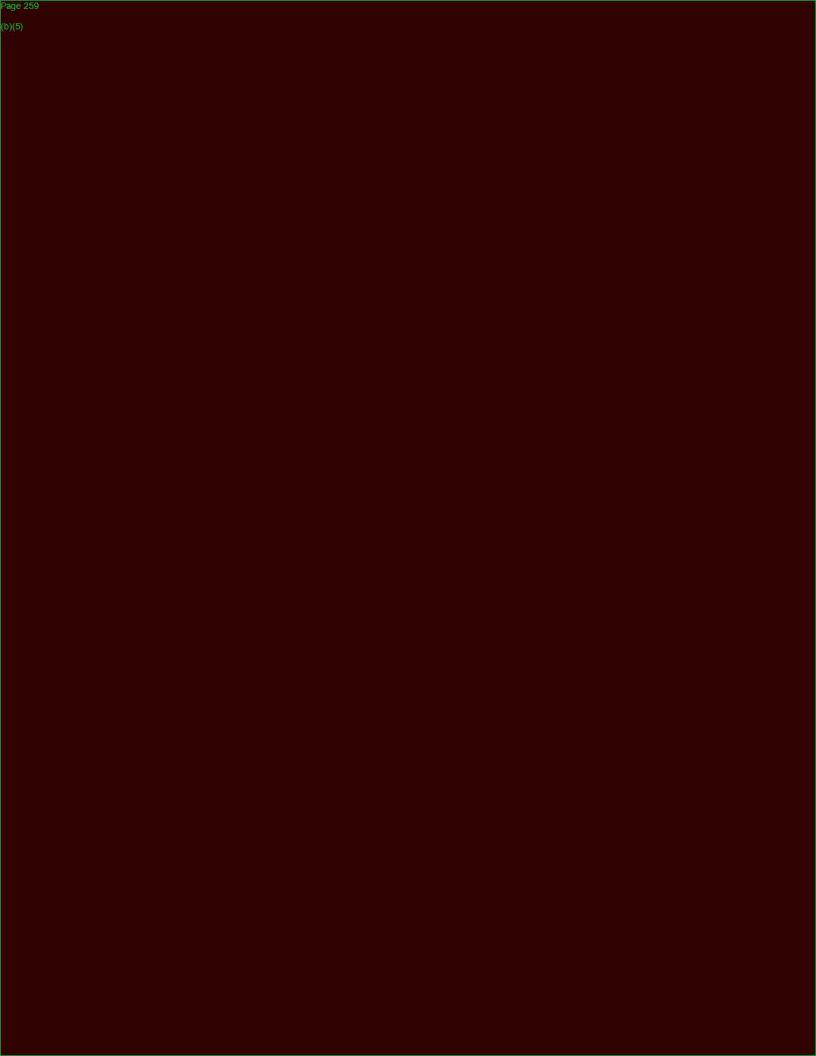
Subject: Draft HAN - still in clearance

Attachments: DRAFT Brief Myocarditis HAN 5.25.2021 to JIC - clean.docx

Draft attached. This is still in clearance.

Sharing as preview.





# **Enclosure 3**

From:	Wakana, Benjamin L. EOP/WHO
Sent:	Tue, 25 May 2021 03:21:11 +0000
To:	Walensky, Rochelle (CDC/OD); Fauci, Anthony (NIH/NIAID) [E]; Slavitt, Andrew
M. EOP/WHO: Collins. F	rancis (NIH/OD) [E]; Murthy, Vivek (HHS/OASH); Smith, Marcella N. EOP/OSTP
Cc:	Rowe, Courtney M. EOP/WHO; Berner, Kate EOP/WHO; Munoz, Kevin
= = -	HS/ASPA); Billet, Courtney (NIH/NIAID) [E]; Tumpey, Abbigail
	D); Hall, Bill (HHS/ASPA); Burklow, John (NIH/OD) [E]; Myles, Renate (NIH/OD)
	ASH); Cheema, Subhan N. EOP/WHO; Saez, Mariel S. EOP/WHO; Webb, Cameron
: , , .	Adam (HHS/OASH); Sanchez-Velasco, Marissa EOP/WHO; Beckman, Adam
	, Jason (CDC/OD/OADC); Allen, Kirsten (HHS/ASPA); Perry, Sherice (OS/IEA)
Subject:	RE: COVID Tough QA
Attachments:	Tough QA 5.24.21 11PM.docx
Hi, attached please find the latest tough QA. New topics include:	
(b)(5)	
Hope this helps,	
Ben	
+++	

Ben Wakana

(b)(6)

White House COVID Response Team

Deputy Director for Strategic Communications and Engagement

Page 37 (b)(5) Page 42 (b)(5) THOMAS R. CARPER, DELAWARE THOMAS R. CARPER, DELAWARE MAGGIE HASSAN, NEW HAMPSHIRE KYRSTEN SINEMA, ARIZONA JACKY ROSEN, NEVADA ALEX PADILLA, CALIFORNIA JON OSSOFF, GEORGIA RICHARD BLUMENTHAL, CONNECTICUT ROGER MARSHALL, KANSAS

RAND PAUL, KENTUCKY RON JOHNSON, WISCONSIN JAMES LANKFORD, OKLAHOMA MITT ROMNEY, UTAH RICK SCOTT, FLORIDA JOSH HAWLEY, MISSOURI

DAVID M. WEINBERG, STAFF DIRECTOR WILLIAM E. HENDERSON III, MINORITY STAFF DIRECTOR LAURA W. KILBRIDE, CHIEF CLERK

#### United States Senate

HOMELAND SECURITY AND GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS WASHINGTON, DC 20510-6250

December 5, 2024

The Honorable Xavier Becerra Secretary Department of Health and Human Services

The Honorable Robert Califf Commissioner Food and Drug Administration

Dr. Mandy Cohen Director Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

Dear Secretary Becerra, Commissioner Califf, and Director Cohen:

You have, once again, failed to respond to my oversight requests for documents and information relating to COVID-19 vaccine adverse events. Most recently, on November 19, 2024, I wrote to you requesting unredacted records, previously released through Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) requests, regarding your agencies' detection of and response to myocarditis and pericarditis in post-vaccinated individuals. The response deadline for that letter was December 3, 2024 and, to date, my office has not received any of the requested information. It appears that even in the waning days of the Biden administration, your agencies will remain defiant in providing the public with complete information about the COVID-19 vaccines.

Nevertheless, as I made clear in my November 19 letter, my oversight work must continue. If it becomes necessary to subpoen these and other requested records in the next Congress when I become chairman of the Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations, I will do so.

As a follow-up to my November 19 letter requesting unredacted FOIA records relating to COVID-19 vaccine adverse events, I write today to highlight another example of your agencies' response to concerning reports of myocarditis and pericarditis in post-vaccinated individuals. The timeline below details how, in early 2021, officials at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) were made aware of "a large number of reports" based on Israeli health data that showed "myocarditis, particularly in young people, following the administration of the Pfizer vaccine."<sup>2</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Letter from Ron Johnson, Ranking Member, Permanent Subcomm. on Investigations, to Xavier Becerra, Secretary, Dep't of Health and Human Services, et. al, Nov. 19, 2024,

https://www.ronjohnson.senate.gov/services/files/00AAFB3D-72EE-475F-94D5-66708B4AA86D.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> FOIA production: https://childrenshealthdefense.org/wp-content/uploads/23-00056-for-2-24-2023-Close.pdf at 712.

#### February 28, 2021

CDC, and eventually FDA officials, were notified about an apparent request from an Israeli Ministry of Health official to obtain a CDC and FDA point of contact to discuss reports of myocarditis in young people after receiving the Pfizer COVID-19 vaccine.<sup>3</sup>

#### Snapshot of Feb. 28, 2021 email<sup>4</sup>

From: CDC IMS Task Tracker (CDC) <eoctasktracker@cdc.gov> Sent: Sunday, February 28, 2021 1:13 PM To: CDC IMS 2019 NCOV Response VTF Vaccine Safety <eocevent416@cdc.gov>; CDC IMS 2019 NCOV Response VTF Policy <eocevent417@cdc.gov>; CDC IMS 2019 NCOV Response VTF Chief Medical Officer <eocevent516@cdc.gov>; CDC IMS 2019 NCOV Response VTF Operations <eocvtftask@cdc.gov> Cc: CDC IMS Task Tracker (CDC) <eoctasktracker@cdc.gov>; Fox, Kimberley (CDC/DDID/NCIRD/DBD) <kaf6@cdc.gov>; Fitter, David L. (CDC/DDPHSIS/CGH/GID) <vid3@cdc.gov>; Lubar, Debra (CDC/DDID/NCEZID/OD) <dp>dpl9@cdc.gov&gt; Subject: Task ID: 42633 - HHS SOC RFI: Provide a Point of Contact to the Israeli National Focal Point to discuss Pfizer vaccine Importance: High</dp></vid3@cdc.gov></kaf6@cdc.gov></eoctasktracker@cdc.gov></eocvtftask@cdc.gov></eocevent516@cdc.gov></eocevent417@cdc.gov></eocevent416@cdc.gov></eoctasktracker@cdc.gov>
Task ID: 42633
Suspense: 3/2/2021 17:00:00
Assigned To: CDC IMS 2019 NCOV Response VTF Chief Medical Officer, CDC IMS 2019 NCOV Response VTF Operations, CDC IMS 2019 NCOV Response VTF Policy, CDC IMS 2019 NCOV Response VTF Vaccine Safety
Requestor's Name: Dr. Roce Singer MD, MPH (6)(6)
Phone #: (3)(6)
Subject: HHS SOC RFI: Provide a Point of Contact to the Israeli National Focal Point to discuss Pfizer vaccine
Description: The Israeli National Focal Point is noticing a large number of reports of myocarditis, particularly in young people, following the administration of the Pfizer vaccine. The
Israeli National Focal Point is requesting a Point of Contact from the CDC and FDA to discuss the issue

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> FOIA production: https://childrenshealthdefense.org/wp-content/uploads/23-00056-for-2-24-2023-Close.pdf at 710-713; Ed Berkovich and Amy Kelly, FOIA'd CDC Emails Reveal Disturbing Myocarditis Timeline Warranting Investigation: Different Messaging Internally Vs. Publicly About COVID-19 Vaccines and Myocarditis, Daily Clout, Nov. 2, 2023, https://dailyclout.io/foiad-cdc-emails-reveal-disturbing-myocarditis-timeline-warranting-investigation/.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> *Id.* at 712-713; FOIA code (b)(6) is used to protect information involving matters of personal privacy. *What information is available under the FOIA?* Dep't of Health & Hum. Servs., https://www.hhs.gov/foia/faqs/what-information-is-available-under-the-foia/index.html (last visited Nov. 19, 2024).

#### March 3, 2021

CDC was notified once again about the Israeli Ministry of Health's request to discuss reports of "a large number of myocarditis and pericarditis cases in young individuals soon after Pfizer COVID-19 vaccination."<sup>5</sup>

Snapshot of March 3, 2021 request from Israeli Ministry of Health to CDC to discuss adverse events associated with Pfizer COVID-19 vaccine<sup>6</sup>

OO/PR#14312/17771/11109
The privacy of the inquirer should be protected in any transmission or storage of this e-mail.
Original Message
Sent: 3/3/2021
From: Clinician
Subject: COVID-19 vaccine adverse events
Email Address: (b)(6)
Question: From the Israel vaccine adverse event monitoring team:
We are seeing a large number of myocarditis and pericarditis cases in young individuals soon
after Pfizer COVID-19 vaccine. We would like to discuss the issue with a relevant expert at
CDC.
Optional Information
Name: Dr. Boog Singer
Name: Dr. Roee Singer Title: Deputy Director, Division of Epidemiology, MoH Israel
Organization: SLHD - Israel Ministry of Health
Phone: (b)(6)
Other Email: (b)(6)
Address:
Jerusalem, Israel
PII Extraction:

#### March 4, 2021

The Israeli Ministry of Health's request to speak with a CDC expert about cases of myocarditis and pericarditis in post-vaccinated individuals was eventually forwarded to CDC's vaccine safety team lead in the COVID-19 Vaccine Task Force, Dr. Tom Shimabukuro. However, due to heavy redactions in the FOIA documents, it is unclear what Dr. Shimabukuro communicated to his colleagues regarding the ministry's "Priority HIGH" request.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> FOIA production: https://childrenshealthdefense.org/wp-content/uploads/23-00056-for-2-24-2023-Close.pdf at 668; Ed Berkovich and Amy Kelly, FOIA'd CDC Emails Reveal Disturbing Myocarditis Timeline Warranting Investigation: Different Messaging Internally Vs. Publicly About COVID-19 Vaccines and Myocarditis, Daily Clout, Nov. 2, 2023, https://dailyclout.io/foiad-cdc-emails-reveal-disturbing-myocarditis-timeline-warranting-investigation/.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> *Id*.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> Biography, Tom Shimabukuro, M.D., Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, https://blogs.cdc.gov/safehealthcare/bios/tom-shimabukuro/.

#### Snapshot of March 4, 2021 heavily-redacted email8

From: Sent: To: Cc:	Shimabukuro, Tom (CDC/DDID/NCEZID/DHQP) Thu, 4 Mar 2021 14:33:09 +0000 Miller, Elaine R. (CDC/DDID/NCEZID/DHQP) Gallego, Ruth (CDC/DDID/NCEZID/DHQP); Su, John (CDC/DDID/NCEZID/DHQP)
Subject: vaccine adverse	RE: RESPONSE REQUIRED: Priority HIGH; Mode WebForm; Topic COVID-19 events; [CDC-1460726-X0X9M8] CRM:09092401
Yes	
Sent: Thursday, To: Shimabukur Cc: Gallego, Ruti <ezu2@cdc.gov: Subject: RE: RES events; [CDC-14</ezu2@cdc.gov: 	hine R. (CDC/DDID/NCEZID/DHQP) <erm4@cdc.gov> March 4, 2021 9:29 AM b, Tom (CDC/DDID/NCEZID/DHQP) <ayv6@cdc.gov> h (CDC/DDID/NCEZID/DHQP) <itd><ayv6@cdc.gov> h (CDC/DDID/NCEZID/DHQP) &lt; ayv6@cdc.gov&gt; h (CDC/DDID/NCEZID/DHQP) <ayv6@cdc.gov> h (CDC/DDID/NCEZID/DHQP) <a>v6@cdc.gov&gt; h (CDC/DDID/NCEZID/DHQP) <ayv6@cdc.gov> h (CDC/DDID/NCEZID/DHQP) <a>v6@cdc.gov&gt; h (CDC/DDID/NCEZID/DHQP) <a>v6@cdc.gov&gt; h (CDC/DDID/NCEZID/DHQP) &lt; ayv6@cdc.gov&gt; h (CDC/DDID/NCEZID/DHQP) <a>v6@cdc.gov&gt; h (CDC/DDID/NCEZID/DHQP) &lt; ayv6@cdc.gov&gt; ayv6@</a></a></a></ayv6@cdc.gov></a></ayv6@cdc.gov></ayv6@cdc.gov></itd></ayv6@cdc.gov></itd></ayv6@cdc.gov></itd></ayv6@cdc.gov></itd></ayv6@cdc.gov></itd></ayv6@cdc.gov></itd></ayv6@cdc.gov></erm4@cdc.gov>
Tom.	(b)(5)
	(b)(5)
(CDC/DDID/NCE <a href="krb2@cdc.gov">krb2@cdc.gov</a> (CDC/DDID/NCE Cc: Gallego, Ruti Subject: RE: RES	o, Tom (CDC/DDID/NCEZID/DHQP) <a href="mailto:squeez">ayv6@cdc.gov"&gt;ayv6@cdc.gov"&gt;ayv6@cdc.gov"&gt;ayv6@cdc.gov"&gt;ayv6@cdc.gov"&gt;ayv6@cdc.gov</a> ; Su, John ZID/DHQP) <a href="mailto:seez">azv6@cdc.gov</a> ; Broder, Karen (CDC/DDID/NCEZID/DHQP) <a href="mailto:seez">atsh3@cdc.gov</a> ; Dua, Anamika ZID/DHQP) <a href="mailto:&lt;/th&gt;&lt;/tr&gt;&lt;tr&gt;&lt;th&gt;Sent: Thursday,&lt;br&gt;To: Miller, Elaine&lt;br&gt;&lt;ezu2@cdc.gov&lt;br&gt;(CDC/DDID/NCE&lt;br&gt;Cc: Gallego, Rutl&lt;br&gt;Subject: RE: RES&lt;/th&gt;&lt;th&gt;curo, Tom (CDC/DDID/NCEZID/DHQP) &lt;a href=" mailto:ayv6@cdc.gov"="">ayv6@cdc.gov"&gt;ayv6@cdc.gov"&gt;ayv6@cdc.gov</a> March 4, 2021 9:17 AM  e. R. (CDC/DDID/NCEZID/DHQP) <e rm4@cdc.gov"="">; Su, John (CDC/DDID/NCEZID/DHQP)  e; Broder, Karen (CDC/DDID/NCEZID/DHQP) <k rb2@cdc.gov"="">; Harrington, Theresa  ZID/DHQP) <t sh3@cdc.gov"="">; Dua, Anamika (CDC/DDID/NCEZID/DHQP) <a href="mailto:queeqcd.gov">queeqc.gov</a>  f (CDC/DDID/NCEZID/DHQP) <a href="mailto:td8@cdc.gov">td8@cdc.gov</a>  PONSE REQUIRED: Priority HIGH; Mode WebForm; Topic COVID-19 vaccine adverse  60726-X0X9M8] CRM:09092401</t></k></e>
	(6)(5)

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> FOIA production: https://childrenshealthdefense.org/wp-content/uploads/23-00056-for-2-24-2023-Close.pdf at 668; FOIA code (b)(5) is used to protect inter-agency or intra-agency communications that are protected by legal privileges. *What information is available under the FOIA?* Dep't of Health & Hum. Servs., https://www.hhs.gov/foia/faqs/what-information-is-available-under-the-foia/index.html (last visited Nov. 19, 2024).

#### March 9, 2021 - March 10, 2021

Documents show that FDA and CDC officials began drafting "responses to the Israeli Ministry of Health's inquiry." On March 9, 2021, an FDA official emailed his "draft responses" to Dr. Shimabukuro, however, the email itself is almost completely redacted.

Snapshot of March 9, 2021 heavily-redacted email<sup>10</sup>

From: Nair, Narayan < Narayan.Nair@fda.hhs.gov>	
Sent: Tuesday, March 9, 2021 9:10 AM	
To: Shimabukuro, Tom (CDC/DDID/NCEZID/DHQP) <ayv6@cdc.gov></ayv6@cdc.gov>	
Subject: RE: [EXTERNAL] FW: Task ID: 42633 - HHS SOC RFI: Provide a Point of C	ontact to the Israeli
National Focal Point to discuss Pfizer vaccine	
W.T.	
Hi Tom,	
Here are some draft responses to the Israeli Ministry of Health's inquiry.	(b)(5)
Narayan	

The next day, Dr. Shimabukuro emailed his CDC colleagues a document with the file name, "Myocarditis Response," and wrote, "This is for that joint FDA-CDC to the Israeli [Ministry of Health]. Please let me know if you have any thoughts." Based on FOIA records, it appears that the document Dr. Shimabukuro shared with his colleagues was titled, "Summary of VAERS Reports of myocarditis, pericarditis and myopericarditis following vaccination with mRNA COVID-19 vaccines." The background section of the two-page document stated that it:

[R]esponds to questions posed from the Israeli Ministry of Health to the FDA and CDC. They are investigating a safety signal of myocarditis/myopericarditis in a younger population (16-30 years old) following administration of Pfizer-BioNTech Covid-19 vaccine. The Ministry of Health stated they received reports of around 40 cases of this adverse event. They did not provide additional details about these cases.<sup>13</sup>

The document included responses to four questions posed by the Israeli Ministry of Health and appears to be based on data obtained from "a search of the U.S. Vaccine Adverse Event Reporting System (VAERS) conducted on February 23, 2021[.]"<sup>14</sup> That search apparently

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> *Id*. at 710.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> *Id*.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>11</sup> Id; Ed Berkovich and Amy Kelly, FOIA'd CDC Emails Reveal Disturbing Myocarditis Timeline Warranting Investigation: Different Messaging Internally Vs. Publicly About COVID-19 Vaccines and Myocarditis, Daily Clout, Nov. 2, 2023, https://dailyclout.io/foiad-cdc-emails-reveal-disturbing-myocarditis-timeline-warranting-investigation/.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>12</sup> FOIA production: https://childrenshealthdefense.org/wp-content/uploads/23-00056-for-2-24-2023-Close.pdf at 714.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>13</sup> *Id*.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>14</sup> *Id*.

revealed six cases of myocarditis, seven cases of myopericarditis, and 14 cases of pericarditis."<sup>15</sup> The document noted:

During this analysis period the reporting rate of myopericarditis following administration of the mRNA COVID-19 vaccines was low and estimated to be 0.7 per million doses of vaccine administered. However, the limitations of passive surveillance such as under-reporting, lack of a control group, missing and incomplete data make it challenging to assess causation. Thus, FDA has not made a final determination regarding the causality between myopericarditis and the mRNA COVID-19 vaccines. We will continue to monitor this outcome in active and passive surveillance.<sup>16</sup>

The document itself can be viewed in Enclosure 1. It remains unclear whether this document or another version of it was shared with the Israeli Ministry of Health. It is also unclear which FDA and CDC officials contributed to the document and when Israeli health officials shared that "they received reports of around 40 cases" of myocarditis/myopericarditis.<sup>17</sup>

#### March 15, 2021 - March 31, 2021

A collection of heavily-redacted FOIA records shows that on March 15, 2021, a CDC official who co-lead the Vaccine Safety Technical (VaST) Work Group began corresponding with an Israeli Ministry of Health official regarding "Covid-19 vaccine safety data." On March 16, 2021, the Ministry official wrote, "[w]e will be happy to share our data" and later that day, the CDC official responded "[t]hank you for this note and for your willingness to present to VaST. We were hoping you could present on Monday, April 5." Documents indicate that the Ministry official confirmed availability to present on April 5 and, on March 31, 2021, the CDC official requested that the Ministry official "send slides" ahead of the presentation. On the confirmed availability official "send slides" ahead of the presentation.

According to a public report, the slides that the Israeli Ministry of Health provided to the CDC showed that "by the end of March 2021, 5.2 million Israelis received the first dose of the vaccine and 4.8 million received the second dose. The incidence of myocarditis following dose 1 was 1.1 per million, and 11.7 per million following dose 2 — a 964% increase in incidence between the two."<sup>21</sup> The slide deck can be viewed in Enclosure 4.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>15</sup> *Id*.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>16</sup> *Id.* at 715.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>17</sup> *Id.* at 714.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>18</sup> *Id.* at 726; Ed Berkovich and Amy Kelly, FOIA'd CDC Emails Reveal Disturbing Myocarditis Timeline Warranting Investigation: Different Messaging Internally Vs. Publicly About COVID-19 Vaccines and Myocarditis, Daily Clout, Nov. 2, 2023, https://dailyclout.io/foiad-cdc-emails-reveal-disturbing-myocarditis-timeline-warranting-investigation/.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>19</sup> FOIA production: https://childrenshealthdefense.org/wp-content/uploads/23-00056-for-2-24-2023-Close.pdf at 725.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>20</sup> *Id.* at 721-722.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>21</sup> Brenda Baletti, Mounting Evidence Suggests CDC Hid Data on COVID Vaccines and Myocarditis, The Defender, Nov. 27, 2024, https://childrenshealthdefense.org/defender/mounting-evidence-cdc-hid-data-covid-vaccines-myocarditis/.

Snapshot of cover page of March 31, 2021 slide deck by Israeli Ministry of Health<sup>22</sup>



**April 5, 2021** 

Public reporting asserts that the slide deck from the Israeli Ministry of Health was included as an attachment in the CDC's April 5, 2021 agenda for the VaST meeting.<sup>23</sup> As shown below, the attachments and agenda for the meeting are heavily redacted:

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>22</sup> FOIA production: https://drive.google.com/file/d/1ywgzcxpfQI86lqslZPpYxylPuVnlgKfw/view at 1.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>23</sup> Brenda Baletti, Mounting Evidence Suggests CDC Hid Data on COVID Vaccines and Myocarditis, The Defender, Nov. 27, 2024, https://childrenshealthdefense.org/defender/mounting-evidence-cdc-hid-data-covid-vaccines-myocarditis/.

#### Snapshot of CDC's April 5, 2021 VaST meeting agenda

From: Markowitz, Lauri (CDC/DDID/NCIRD/DVD)  Sent: Mon, 5 Apr 2021 16:08:26 +0000  To: Anderson, Steven (FDA/CBER); Beresnev, Tatiana (NIH) [C]; Broder, Karen (CDC/DDID/NCEZID/DHQP); Calvert, Geoffrey M. (CDC/NIOSH/WTCHP); Clark, Matthew (IHS/ALB); Clark, Thomas A. (CDC/DDID/NCIRD/DVD); Cohn, Amanda (CDC/DDID/NCIRD/OD); Collins, Limone;  Daley, Matt; Destefano, Frank (CDC/DDID/NCEZID/DHQP); Dooling, Kathleen L. (CDC/DDID/NCIRD/DVD); Edwards, Kathy; Farizo, Karen (FDA/CBER); Forshee, Richard (FDA/CBER); Gee, Julianne (CDC/DDID/NCEZID/DHQP); Helfand, Rita (CDC/DDID/NCEZID/DO); Hiers, Susan G. (CDC/DDID/NCIRD/DD); Hopkins, Bob; Jackson, Lisa; Kelman, Jeffrey A. (CMS/CM); Kulldorf, Martin; LaPorte, Kathleen (CDC/DDID/NCIRD/DVD); Marquez, Paige L. (CDC/DDID/NCIRD/DD); Markowitz, Lauri (CDC/DDID/NCIRD/DVD); Marquez, Paige L. (CDC/DDID/NCEZID/DHQP); Mbaeyi, Sarah (CDC/DDID/NCIRD/DVD); Marquez, Paige L. (CDC/DDID/NCEZID/DHQP); Mbaeyi, Sarah (CDC/DDID/NCEZID/DHQP); Nair, Narayan (FDA/CBER); Oliver, Sara Elizabeth (CDC/DDID/NCIRD/DVD); Patricia Whitley-Williams (whitlepn@rwjms.rutgers.edu); Riley, Laura; Rubin, Mary (HRSA); Schechter, Robert; Shanley, Edwin (CDC/DDID/NCIRD/DVD); Shay, David (CDC/DDID/NCIRD/ID); Shimabukuro, Tom (CDC/DDID/NCEZID/DHQP); Sotir, Mark (CDC/DDID/NCIRD/DVD); Steinberg, Judith (HHS/OASH); Su, John (CDC/DDID/NCEZID/DHQP); Talbot, Keipp; Wasley, Annemarie (CDC/DDID/NCEZID/DHQP); Weintraub, Eric (CDC/DDID/NCEZID/DHQP); Wharton, Melinda (CDC/DDID/NCEZID/DHQP) (CTR)			
Subject: CONFIDENTIAL Attachments:	[EXTERNAL] VaST - Agenda for April 5 (1:30 - 3 pm ET) and presentations -  (b)(5)		
Attachments:	(b)(5)		
	VaST agenda for today (below and attached) as well as 4 slide sets. The agenda ormation regarding approximate times for talks and discussion.		
	(b)(5); (b)(6)		
the same and the same same same same same same same sam	mation should be on your calendars. cuments and communications are confidential.		
Lauri Markowitz and M	lelinda Wharton		
Lauri Markowitz, MD VaST Co-Lead Division of Viral Diseases National Center for Immunit	ration and Respiratory Diseases		

####

As a result of your agencies' excessive redactions and incomplete productions, the complete account of how your agencies reviewed and analyzed the concerning health information from the Israeli Ministry of Health remains unclear. Furthermore, my office has been informed that CDC completely redacted the March 31, 2021 slide deck in its FOIA production and that the slides were made available to the public through a State Department FOIA response.<sup>24</sup> Your agencies' lack of transparency is completely unacceptable. The public

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>24</sup> Brenda Baletti, Mounting Evidence Suggests CDC Hid Data on COVID Vaccines and Myocarditis, The Defender, Nov. 27, 2024, https://childrenshealthdefense.org/defender/mounting-evidence-cdc-hid-data-covid-vaccines-

deserves the complete truth about your agencies' awareness of and lack of response to the glaring health risks associated with the COVID-19 vaccines. Accordingly, I request you provide the following information by no later than December 19, 2024:

- 1. An unredacted version of Enclosure 1.
  - a. All records<sup>25</sup> referring or relating to the drafting, review, and distribution of the attached document included and referenced in Enclosure 1.
- 2. An unredacted version of Enclosure 2.
- 3. An unredacted version of Enclosure 3.
- 4. All records referring or relating to Enclosure 4 including communications between and among agency employees regarding data from the Israeli Ministry of Health on adverse events following COVID-19 vaccination.
- 5. An unredacted version of Enclosure 5.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

Ron Johnson

Ranking Member

Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations

#### **Enclosures**

cc: The Honorable Richard Blumenthal

Chairman

Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations

The Honorable Christi Grimm Inspector General Department of Health and Human Services

myocarditis/; Letter from Brian Hooker, Chief Scientific Officer, Children's Health Defense, to Sen. Ron Johnson, Dec. 2, 2024 (on file with Subcomm.).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>25</sup> "Records" include any written, recorded, or graphic material of any kind, including letters, memoranda, reports, notes, electronic data (emails, email attachments, and any other electronically-created or stored information), calendar entries, inter-office communications, meeting minutes, phone/voice mail or recordings/records of verbal communications, and drafts (whether or not they resulted in final documents).

## **Enclosure 1**

From: Shimabukuro, Tom (CDC/DDID/NCEZID/DHQP)

**Sent:** Wed, 10 Mar 2021 12:38:12 +0000

To: Su, John (CDC/DDID/NCEZID/DHQP); Broder, Karen (CDC/DDID/NCEZID/DHQP);

Destefano, Frank (CDC/DDID/NCEZID/DHQP)

Subject: FW: [EXTERNAL] FW: Task ID: 42633 - HHS SOC RFI: Provide a Point of Contact to

the Israeli National Focal Point to discuss Pfizer vaccine **Attachments:** Myocarditis Response.docx

This is for that joint FDA-CDC to the Israeli MOH. Please let me know if you have any thoughts. Thanks. Tom

From: Nair, Narayan < Narayan. Nair@fda.hhs.gov>

Sent: Tuesday, March 9, 2021 9:10 AM

To: Shimabukuro, Tom (CDC/DDID/NCEZID/DHQP) <ayv6@cdc.gov>

Subject: RE: [EXTERNAL] FW: Task ID: 42633 - HHS SOC RFI: Provide a Point of Contact to the Israeli

National Focal Point to discuss Pfizer vaccine

Hi Tom,

Here are some draft responses to the Israeli Ministry of Health's inquiry.

(b)(5)

(b)(5)

Narayan

From: Shimabukuro, Tom (CDC/DDID/NCEZID/DHQP) <ayv6@cdc.gov>

Sent: Sunday, February 28, 2021 3:06 PM

**To:** Anderson, Steven < Steven.Anderson@fda.hhs.gov>; Forshee, Richard < Richard.Forshee@fda.hhs.gov>; Nair, Narayan < Narayan.Nair@fda.hhs.gov>

Subject: [EXTERNAL] FW: Task ID: 42633 - HHS SOC RFI: Provide a Point of Contact to the Israeli National

Focal Point to discuss Pfizer vaccine

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

FYI.

From: Fitter, David L. (CDC/DDPHSIS/CGH/GID) < vid3@cdc.gov>

Sent: Sunday, February 28, 2021 2:28 PM

To: Martin, Stacey (CDC/DDID/NCEZID/DVBD) <zmt0@cdc.gov>; Shimabukuro, Tom

(CDC/DDID/NCEZID/DHQP) <ayv6@cdc.gov>

Cc: Lubar, Debra (CDC/DDID/NCEZID/OD) < <a href="mailto:dpl9@cdc.gov">dpl9@cdc.gov">dpl9@cdc.gov</a>; Fox, Kimberley (CDC/DDID/NCIRD/DBD) < <a href="mailto:dealer:decdc.gov">dealer:decdc.gov</a>; Beauvais, Denise (CDC/DDID/NCIRD/OD) < <a href="mailto:decdc.gov">cry2@cdc.gov</a>; CDC IMS 2019 NCOV Response VTF Policy < <a href="mailto:decdc.gov">decdc.gov</a>; McClure, Susan (CDC/DDPHSIS/CGH/OD)

<zur1@cdc.gov>

**Subject:** RE: Task ID: 42633 - HHS SOC RFI: Provide a Point of Contact to the Israeli National Focal Point to discuss Pfizer vaccine

Seeing that Denise is out. + Susan

Susan – can you please help coordinate?

Thanks,

-d

From: Fitter, David L. (CDC/DDPHSIS/CGH/GID)
Sent: Sunday, February 28, 2021 2:26 PM

To: Martin, Stacey (CDC/DDID/NCEZID/DVBD) < zmt0@cdc.gov>; Shimabukuro, Tom

(CDC/DDID/NCEZID/DHQP) <ayv6@cdc.gov>

Cc: Lubar, Debra (CDC/DDID/NCEZID/OD) < <a href="mailto:dpl9@cdc.gov">dpl9@cdc.gov">dpl9@cdc.gov</a>; Fox, Kimberley (CDC/DDID/NCIRD/DBD) < <a href="mailto:dealer:debrace;">kaf6@cdc.gov</a>; Beauvais, Denise (CDC/DDID/NCIRD/OD) < <a href="mailto:cry2@cdc.gov">cry2@cdc.gov</a>; CDC IMS 2019 NCOV Response VTF Policy < <a href="mailto:coceent417@cdc.gov">ccry2@cdc.gov</a>; CDC IMS 2019 NCOV

**Subject:** RE: Task ID: 42633 - HHS SOC RFI: Provide a Point of Contact to the Israeli National Focal Point to discuss Pfizer vaccine

Thanks, Stacey.

(b)(5)

Best, David

From: Martin, Stacey (CDC/DDID/NCEZID/DVBD) < zmt0@cdc.gov>

Sent: Sunday, February 28, 2021 1:35 PM

To: Fitter, David L. (CDC/DDPHSIS/CGH/GID) < vid3@cdc.gov >; Shimabukuro, Tom

(CDC/DDID/NCEZID/DHQP) <ayv6@cdc.gov>

Cc: Lubar, Debra (CDC/DDID/NCEZID/OD) < <a href="mailto:dpl9@cdc.gov">dpl9@cdc.gov</a>; Fox, Kimberley (CDC/DDID/NCIRD/DBD)

<kaf6@cdc.gov>

Subject: RE: Task ID: 42633 - HHS SOC RFI: Provide a Point of Contact to the Israeli National Focal Point

to discuss Pfizer vaccine

Thanks David (b)(5) ? 1 (b)(5)

From: Fitter, David L. (CDC/DDPHSIS/CGH/GID) < vid3@cdc.gov>

Sent: Sunday, February 28, 2021 11:15 AM

To: Martin, Stacey (CDC/DDID/NCEZID/DVBD) < zmt0@cdc.gov>; Shimabukuro, Tom

(CDC/DDID/NCEZID/DHQP) <ayv6@cdc.gov>

Cc: Lubar, Debra (CDC/DDID/NCEZID/OD) < <a href="mailto:dpl9@cdc.gov">dpl9@cdc.gov">dpl9@cdc.gov</a>; Fox, Kimberley (CDC/DDID/NCIRD/DBD) < <a href="mailto:kaf6@cdc.gov">kaf6@cdc.gov</a>>

Subject: FW: Task ID: 42633 - HHS SOC RFI: Provide a Point of Contact to the Israeli National Focal Point

to discuss Pfizer vaccine

Importance: High

Stacey and Tom,

Please see below re discussing with Israeli Vaccine FP re myocarditis in people receiving Pfizer vaccine.

Thanks, David

From: CDC IMS Task Tracker (CDC) <eoctasktracker@cdc.gov>

Sent: Sunday, February 28, 2021 1:13 PM

To: CDC IMS 2019 NCOV Response VTF Vaccine Safety <<u>eocevent416@cdc.gov</u>>; CDC IMS 2019 NCOV Response VTF Policy <<u>eocevent417@cdc.gov</u>>; CDC IMS 2019 NCOV Response VTF Chief Medical Officer <<u>eocevent516@cdc.gov</u>>; CDC IMS 2019 NCOV Response VTF Operations <<u>eocvtftask@cdc.gov</u>>
Cc: CDC IMS Task Tracker (CDC) <<u>eoctasktracker@cdc.gov</u>>; Fox, Kimberley (CDC/DDID/NCIRD/DBD) <<u>kaf6@cdc.gov</u>>; Fitter, David L. (CDC/DDPHSIS/CGH/GID) <<u>vid3@cdc.gov</u>>; Lubar, Debra (CDC/DDID/NCEZID/OD) <<u>dpl9@cdc.gov</u>>

Subject: Task ID: 42633 - HHS SOC RFI: Provide a Point of Contact to the Israeli National Focal Point to

discuss Pfizer vaccine Importance: High

Task ID: 42633

Suspense: 3/2/2021 17:00:00

Assigned To: CDC IMS 2019 NCOV Response VTF Chief Medical Officer, CDC IMS 2019 NCOV Response VTF Operations, CDC IMS 2019 NCOV Response VTF Policy, CDC IMS 2019 NCOV Response VTF Vaccine Safety

Requestor's Name: Dr. Roee Singer MD, MPH (b)(6)

Phone #:

**Subject:** HHS SOC RFI: Provide a Point of Contact to the Israeli National Focal Point to discuss Pfizer vaccine

**Description:** The Israeli National Focal Point is noticing a large number of reports of myocarditis, particularly in young people, following the administration of the Pfizer vaccine. The

Israeli National	Focal Point is	requesting a	Point of	Contact from	the CDC a	nd FDA to	discuss
the issue							

Please coordinate with the appropriate IMS Desk(s) and provide coordinated response to the requestor by the suspense. If clarification on the task is required, please contact the requestor. Reply back to this email noting that you have completed this task.

Please include the original task ID number in the email. The subject line should include Event Name, Task #, Team Name and "Open Task" or "Close Task".

## Summary of VAERS Reports of myocarditis, pericarditis and myopericarditis following vaccination with mRNA COVID-19 vaccines

#### **Background:**

This memo responds to questions posed from the Israeli Ministry of Health to the FDA and CDC. They are investigating a safety signal of myocarditis /myopericarditis in a younger population (16 -30 years old) following administration of Pfizer-BioNTech Covid-19 vaccine. The Ministry of Health stated they received reports of around 40 cases of this adverse event. They did not provide additional details about these cases.

#### Questions Posed by Israeli Ministry of Health:

- 1. How many doses of the vaccine were administered to this age group? CDC to provide this data
- 2. How many cases of myocarditis / peri-myocarditis were reported in your country?

  A search of the U.S. Vaccine Adverse Event Reporting System (VAERS) conducted on February 23, 2021 revealed 27 cases (6 cases of myocarditis, 7 cases of myopericarditis, 14 cases pericarditis).

The following Medical Dictionary for Regulatory Activities (MedDRA) preferred terms were used to conduct the search: myocarditis; eosinophilic myocarditis; hypersensitivity myocarditis; pericarditis; pericarditis; pericarditis adhesive; pericarditis constrictive; pleuropericarditis; pericardial disease; pericardial effusion; pericardial rub; myopericarditis. Reports with sufficient information were reviewed and categorized based on case definitions previously used for surveillance of myopericarditis after smallpox vaccine (https://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/PDF/wk/mm5221.pdf).

Reports were included if they contained a diagnosis by of myocarditis, pericarditis or

myopericarditis. Reports with pericardial effusion and no other signs of myopericarditis were excluded. If the diagnosis in the narrative was pericarditis but the patient also had elevated troponin they were categorized as myopericarditis.

### 3. Could you elaborate details on these AE cases (time of diagnosis from the vaccine, first/second dose, risk factors, etc.)?

Twelve cases occurred after dose 1, 7 cases after dose 2, and the dose was not reported for 8 cases. Four patients had comorbid conditions that could suggest alternate etiologies for the adverse event. These included:

- One patient with subacute pericarditis noted on cardiac MRI. The clinical impression was this pre-dated vaccination
- One patient had a history of recurrent pericarditis
- One patient had recent SARS CoV-2 infection
- One patient had psoriatic arthritis and was on Adalimumab

None of the cases reported other risk factors or causes such as preceding viral infections or other vaccines administered concurrently. However, due to the nature of passive surveillance reports, it is not possible to completely exclude these due to potential incompleteness of reports.

The following table displays additional information about the cases of myopericarditis.

Characteristics	Reports of Myopericarditis/Myocarditis/Pericarditis (N = 27)		
Median age, years (range)*	36 (21–84)		
Female (%)	10(37)		
Male (%)	16 (59)		
Gender not reported (%)	1(4)		
Median Time to Onset in Days (range)	3 (0-20)		

## **4.** Have you assessed the causality between the AE and the vaccine for each of the cases? During this analysis period the reporting rate of myopericarditis following administration of the mRNA COVID-19 vaccines was low and estimated to be 0.7 per million doses of vaccine administered. However, the limitations of passive surveillance such as under-reporting, lack of a control group, missing and incomplete data make it challenging to assess causation. Thus, FDA has not made a final determination regarding the causality between myopericarditis and the mRNA COVID-19 vaccines. We will continue to monitor this outcome in active and passive surveillance.

## **Enclosure 2**

From: Shimabukuro, Tom (CDC/DDID/NCEZID/DHQP)

**Sent:** Thu, 4 Mar 2021 14:33:09 +0000

To: Miller, Elaine R. (CDC/DDID/NCEZID/DHQP)

Cc: Gallego, Ruth (CDC/DDID/NCEZID/DHQP); Su, John (CDC/DDID/NCEZID/DHQP)

Subject: RE: RESPONSE REQUIRED: Priority HIGH; Mode WebForm; Topic COVID-19

vaccine adverse events; [CDC-1460726-X0X9M8] CRM:09092401

Yes

From: Miller, Elaine R. (CDC/DDID/NCEZID/DHQP) <erm4@cdc.gov>

Sent: Thursday, March 4, 2021 9:29 AM

To: Shimabukuro, Tom (CDC/DDID/NCEZID/DHQP) <ayv6@cdc.gov>

Cc: Gallego, Ruth (CDC/DDID/NCEZID/DHQP) <a href="mailto:check-accessor-color: blue-color: blue-color:

<ezu2@cdc.gov>

Subject: RE: RESPONSE REQUIRED: Priority HIGH; Mode WebForm; Topic COVID-19 vaccine adverse

events; [CDC-1460726-X0X9M8] CRM:09092401



From: Miller, Elaine R. (CDC/DDID/NCEZID/DHQP)

Sent: Thursday, March 4, 2021 9:24 AM

To: Shimabukuro, Tom (CDC/DDID/NCEZID/DHQP) <ayv6@cdc.gov>; Su, John

(CDC/DDID/NCEZID/DHQP) <ezu2@cdc.gov>; Broder, Karen (CDC/DDID/NCEZID/DHQP)

< krb2@cdc.gov>; Harrington, Theresa (CDC/DDID/NCEZID/DHQP) < tsh3@cdc.gov>; Dua, Anamika

(CDC/DDID/NCEZID/DHQP) < atv2@cdc.gov>

Cc: Gallego, Ruth (CDC/DDID/NCEZID/DHQP) < <a href="td8@cdc.gov">!td8@cdc.gov">!td8@cdc.gov</a>

Subject: RE: RESPONSE REQUIRED: Priority HIGH; Mode WebForm; Topic COVID-19 vaccine adverse

events; [CDC-1460726-X0X9M8] CRM:09092401

Thanks Tom

From: Shimabukuro, Tom (CDC/DDID/NCEZID/DHQP) <ayv6@cdc.gov>

Sent: Thursday, March 4, 2021 9:17 AM

**To:** Miller, Elaine R. (CDC/DDID/NCEZID/DHQP) < <a href="mailto:erm4@cdc.gov">erm4@cdc.gov"> ; Su, John (CDC/DDID/NCEZID/DHQP)</a> < <a href="mailto:ezu2@cdc.gov">ezu2@cdc.gov"> ; Broder, Karen (CDC/DDID/NCEZID/DHQP) < <a href="mailto:krb2@cdc.gov">krb2@cdc.gov"> ; Harrington, Theresa (CDC/DDID/NCEZID/DHQP) < <a href="mailto:qtv2@cdc.gov">qtv2@cdc.gov</a> > ; Dua, Anamika (CDC/DDID/NCEZID/DHQP) < <a href="mailto:qtv2@cdc.gov">qtv2@cdc.gov</a> >

Cc: Gallego, Ruth (CDC/DDID/NCEZID/DHQP) < Itd8@cdc.gov>

Subject: RE: RESPONSE REQUIRED: Priority HIGH; Mode WebForm; Topic COVID-19 vaccine adverse

events; [CDC-1460726-X0X9M8] CRM:09092401

From: Miller, Elaine R. (CDC/DDID/NCEZID/DHQP) < erm4@cdc.gov>

Sent: Thursday, March 4, 2021 8:52 AM

To: Su, John (CDC/DDID/NCEZID/DHQP) < <a href="mailto:ezu2@cdc.gov">ezu2@cdc.gov</a>; Broder, Karen (CDC/DDID/NCEZID/DHQP) < <a href="mailto:krb2@cdc.gov">krb2@cdc.gov</a>; Harrington, Theresa (CDC/DDID/NCEZID/DHQP) < <a href="mailto:kstarto:ksta

Cc: Gallego, Ruth (CDC/DDID/NCEZID/DHQP) < <a href="mailto:ltd8@cdc.gov">ltd8@cdc.gov</a>>

Subject: RE: RESPONSE REQUIRED: Priority HIGH; Mode WebForm; Topic COVID-19 vaccine adverse

events; [CDC-1460726-X0X9M8] CRM:09092401

Hi all,

(b)(5)

Is anyone able to talk to this MD from the Israel Ministry of Health? Thanks,

Elaine

From: CDC IMS 2019 NCOV COVID Vaccine Inquiry Management

Sent: Wednesday, March 3, 2021 8:31:15 PM (UTC-05:00) Eastern Time (US & Canada)

To: CDC IMS 2019 NCOV Response VTF Global

Cc: COVID19VaxSafety; CISA Response (CDC); CDC IMS 2019 NCOV Response VTF Communications;

CDC IMS 2019 NCOV Response International Task Force

Subject: Fw: RESPONSE REQUIRED: Priority HIGH; Mode WebForm; Topic COVID-19 vaccine adverse

events; [CDC-1460726-X0X9M8] CRM:09092401

Hello VTF Global colleagues,

Please see the inquiry from the Deputy Director, Division of Epidemiology, MoH Israel below. Could you please respond?

Thank you,

Kate

(b)(5)

COVID-19 Vaccine Clinical Inquiries Management Team | Vaccine Task Force CDC Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) Response | eocevent168@cdc.gov

#### **Further CDC Resources:**

COVID-19 What's New CDC Health Alert Network (HAN)

#### **CDC Vaccines**

#### CDC Clinician Outreach and Communication Activity (COCA)

From: CDCInfoResponse < cdcinforesponse@cdcinquiry.onmicrosoft.com>

Sent: Wednesday, March 3, 2021 1:50 PM

To: CDC IMS 2019 NCOV COVID Vaccine Inquiry Management < eocevent168@cdc.gov>

Subject: RESPONSE REQUIRED: Priority HIGH; Mode WebForm; Topic COVID-19 vaccine adverse events;

[CDC-1460726-X0X9M8] CRM:09092401

Please let us know if you are able to respond to this inquiry or if you would like us to forward the inquiry to another program. This inquiry is being escalated because the answer could not be found in CDC resources.

To close the case, you may reply directly to this e-mail, keeping the original subject line and historical e-mail thread in your reply. Please let us know if your group will provide the answer directly to the inquirer below, or provide a reply for us to send back.

To better serve the inquirer, please reply within 3 business days of receipt of this escalation. A reminder will be sent in 8 days; the inquiry will be closed after 10 days.

Thank you for your assistance.

#### OO/PR#14312/17771/11109

The privacy of the inquirer should be protected in any transmission or storage of this e-mail.

----- Original Message-----

Sent: 3/3/2021 From: Clinician

Subject: COVID-19 vaccine adverse events
Email Address: (b)(6)

Question: From the Israel vaccine adverse event monitoring team:

We are seeing a large number of myocarditis and pericarditis cases in young individuals soon after Pfizer COVID-19 vaccine. We would like to discuss the issue with a relevant expert at CDC.

#### **Optional Information**

Name: Dr. Roee Singer

Title: Deputy Director, Division of Epidemiology, MoH Israel

Organization: SLHD - Israel Ministry of Health

Phone: (b)(6)

Other Email: (b)(6)

Address:

Jerusalem, Israel PII Extraction:

## **Enclosure 3**

From: Wharton, Melinda (CDC/DDID/NCIRD/ISD)

**Sent:** Thu, 1 Apr 2021 13:32:47 +0000

To: Markowitz, Lauri (CDC/DDID/NCIRD/DVD)

**Subject:** RE: Covid-19 vaccine safety data

#### (b)(5)

From: Markowitz, Lauri (CDC/DDID/NCIRD/DVD) < lem2@cdc.gov>

Sent: Thursday, April 1, 2021 9:04 AM

To: Wharton, Melinda (CDC/DDID/NCIRD/ISD) <mew2@cdc.gov>

Subject: RE: Covid-19 vaccine safety data

#### (b)(5)

From: Wharton, Melinda (CDC/DDID/NCIRD/ISD) < mew2@cdc.gov>

Sent: Thursday, April 1, 2021 9:00 AM

To: Markowitz, Lauri (CDC/DDID/NCIRD/DVD) < <a href="mailto:lem2@cdc.gov">lem2@cdc.gov</a>>

Subject: RE: Covid-19 vaccine safety data

#### (b)(5)

#### (b)(5)

From: Markowitz, Lauri (CDC/DDID/NCIRD/DVD) < lem2@cdc.gov>

Sent: Thursday, April 1, 2021 8:57 AM

To: Wharton, Melinda (CDC/DDID/NCIRD/ISD) < mew2@cdc.gov>

Subject: FW: Covid-19 vaccine safety data

# Melinda, (b)(5)

This is the schedule -

(b)(5)

From: 2'2 2222 222222 < EMILIA. ANIS@MOH. GOV. IL>

Sent: Thursday, April 1, 2021 4:24 AM

To: Markowitz, Lauri (CDC/DDID/NCIRD/DVD) < <a href="mailto:lem2@cdc.gov">lem2@cdc.gov</a>>

Cc: 2727 P27 <hadas.rotem@MOH.GOV.IL>; 272 P27 <BOAZ.LEV@MOH.GOV.IL>; 272 P272

<dana.arad@MOH.GOV.IL>; ?????? ????? <sharon.alroy@MOH.GOV.IL>

Subject: RE: Covid-19 vaccine safety data

Dear Laurie,

I think we will need another 5-10 minutes for our presentation.

We prefer to have these discussions by zoom. Will your invitation be by zoom or would you prefer us to send?

Regards,



Emilia Anis, MD, MPH
Director
Division of Epidemiology
Ministry of Health, Israel

Tel. 972-2-5080521 Fax: 972-2-5655950 Mobile: 972-50-6242145

E-mail: emilia.anis@moh.health.gov.il

From: Markowitz, Lauri (CDC/DDID/NCIRD/DVD) < lem2@cdc.gov>

Sent: Wednesday, March 31, 2021 7:20 PM

To: 2'2 2222 222222 < EMILIA.ANIS@MOH.GOV.IL>

Cc: 2727 ?77 <hadas.rotem@MOH.GOV.IL>; 27 ?77 <BOAZ.LEV@MOH.GOV.IL>; 777 272

<dana.arad@MOH.GOV.IL>; ?????? ????? <sharon.alroy@MOH.GOV.IL>

Subject: RE: Covid-19 vaccine safety data

Dear Emilia,

For the VaST call next Monday, April 5, you will receive a calendar invitation from the VaST call scheduler either on Friday this week or on Monday morning.

We have several items on the agenda and would like the presentation from Israel to be first. We have scheduled 15 minutes for the presentation and 10 minutes for discussion. Will 15 minutes be enough time? It would be great if you can send slides to me before Monday, but if not, Monday morning is OK.

Regards, Lauri

#### Lauri Markowitz, MD

VaST Co-Lead
Division of Viral Diseases
National Center for Immunization and Respiratory Diseases
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

From: Markowitz, Lauri (CDC/DDID/NCIRD/DVD)

Sent: Wednesday, March 24, 2021 12:17 PM

To: '2'2 2222 222222' < EMILIA.ANIS@MOH.GOV.IL>

Cc: Wharton, Melinda (CDC/DDID/NCIRD/ISD) <mew2@cdc.gov>; 2222 222

<a href="https://www.ncbc/ld.scotter-general-color: blue-section-color: blue-section-c

<ayv6@cdc.gov>

Subject: RE: Covid-19 vaccine safety data

Dear Emilia,



I'm also Cc'ing Dr. Tom Shimabukuro who is the vaccine safety team lead on the CDC COVID-19 Vaccine Task Force who can provide additional information, if needed.

#### Lauri Markowitz, MD

VaST Co-Lead

Division of Viral Diseases

National Center for Immunization and Respiratory Diseases

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

From: 2'? ???? ??????<EMILIA.ANIS@MOH.GOV.IL>

Sent: Monday, March 22, 2021 12:51 PM

To: Markowitz, Lauri (CDC/DDID/NCIRD/DVD) < <a href="mailto:lem2@cdc.gov">lem2@cdc.gov</a>>

Cc: Wharton, Melinda (CDC/DDID/NCIRD/ISD) < mew2@cdc.gov >; ????? ???

<hadas.rotem@MOH.GOV.IL>; ??? ???
BOAZ.LEV@MOH.GOV.IL>; ??? ???
dana.arad@MOH.GOV.IL>;

22222 2222 2222<sharon.alroy@MOH.GOV.IL>

Subject: RE: Covid-19 vaccine safety data

Dear Lauri,

(b)(5)

Best regards,



Emilia Anis, MD, MPH
Director
Division of Epidemiology
Ministry of Health, Israel

Tel. 972-2-5080521 Fax: 972-2-5655950 Mobile: 972-50-6242145

E-mail: emilia.anis@moh.health.gov.il

From: 2'? ???? ??????

Sent: Saturday, March 20, 2021 4:18 PM

To: 'Markowitz, Lauri (CDC/DDID/NCIRD/DVD)' < <a href="mailto:lem2@cdc.gov">lem2@cdc.gov</a>>

Cc: Wharton, Melinda (CDC/DDID/NCIRD/ISD) <mew2@cdc.gov>; 2222 222

<a href="mailto:</a><a href="mailto://www.ncov.il">hadas.rotem@MOH.GOV.IL</a>; 22 222<a href="mailto://www.ncov.il">22 222

????? ????? ????? sharon.alroy@MOH.GOV.IL>

Subject: RE: Covid-19 vaccine safety data

Dear Lauri,

I will check with my colleagues and get back to you tomorrow.

Best regards,



Emilia Anis, MD, MPH
Director
Division of Epidemiology
Ministry of Health, Israel
Tel. 972-2-5080521

Fax: 972-2-5655950 Mobile: 972-50-6242145

E-mail: emilia.anis@moh.health.gov.il

From: Markowitz, Lauri (CDC/DDID/NCIRD/DVD) < lem2@cdc.gov>

Sent: Tuesday, March 16, 2021 11:48 PM

To: 2'2 2222 222222< EMILIA. ANIS@MOH.GOV.IL>

Cc: Wharton, Melinda (CDC/DDID/NCIRD/ISD) < mew2@cdc.gov >; 2222 222

<hadas.rotem@MOH.GOV.IL>; 22 222<BOAZ.LEV@MOH.GOV.IL>; 222 222<dana.arad@MOH.GOV.IL>;

????? ????? ????<sharon.alroy@MOH.GOV.IL>

Subject: RE: Covid-19 vaccine safety data

Dear Dr. Anis,

Thank you for this note and for your willingness to present to VaST. We were hoping you could present on Monday, April 5. Our calls are at 1:30 PM EDT. I know this is the early evening in Jerusalem, so let me know if this will work of you.

Warm regards, Lauri

#### Lauri Markowitz, MD

VaST Co-Lead
Division of Viral Diseases
National Center for Immunization and Respiratory Diseases
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

From: 2'? ???? ?????< EMILIA.ANIS@MOH.GOV.IL>

Sent: Tuesday, March 16, 2021 9:28 AM

To: Markowitz, Lauri (CDC/DDID/NCIRD/DVD) < lem2@cdc.gov>

Cc: Wharton, Melinda (CDC/DDID/NCIRD/ISD) < mew2@cdc.gov>; 2222 222

<a href="mailto:specification-color: blue-specification-color: blue-sp

?????? ?????? ????? < sharon.alroy@MOH.GOV.IL>

Subject: RE: Covid-19 vaccine safety data

Dear Dr. Markowitz,

Thank you for the invitation.

We will be happy to share our data. Please let us know enough time in advance and note that there are Passover holidays from 27.3 until 3.4.

Best regards from Jerusalem,



Emilia Anis, MD, MPH Director Division of Epidemiology Ministry of Health, Israel

Tel. 972-2-5080521 Fax: 972-2-5655950 Mobile: 972-50-6242145

E-mail: emilia.anis@moh.health.gov.il

From: Markowitz, Lauri (CDC/DDID/NCIRD/DVD) < <a href="mailto:lem2@cdc.gov">lem2@cdc.gov</a>>

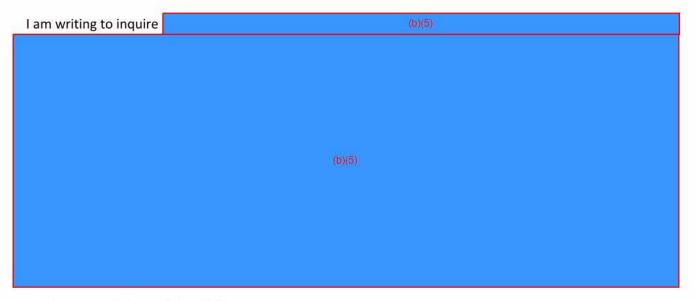
Sent: Monday, March 15, 2021 4:06 PM

To: 2'? ???? ??????<EMILIA.ANIS@MOH.GOV.IL>

Cc: Wharton, Melinda (CDC/DDID/NCIRD/ISD) < <a href="mew2@cdc.gov">mew2@cdc.gov">mew2@cdc.gov</a>

Subject: Covid-19 vaccine safety data

Dear Dr. Emilia Anis,



Thank you and I hope all is well there, Lauri

#### Lauri Markowitz, MD

VaST Co-Lead

Division of Viral Diseases

National Center for Immunization and Respiratory Diseases

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

1600 Clifton Rd MS H24-5

Atlanta, GA 30329-4027 Phone: 404-639-8359 Cell: 404-384-3767 Email: lem2@cdc.gov

## **Enclosure 4**



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# Adverse events following vaccination COVID-19

Data updated March 31st 2021



Division of Epidemiology
Public health services
Ministry of Health Israel



## Sources of adverse events reports



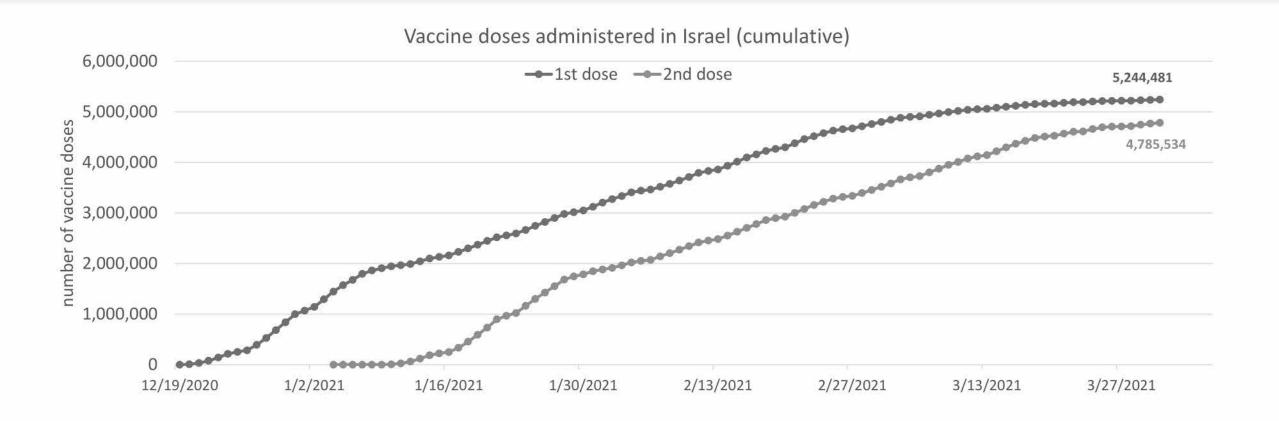
### Sources of adverse events reports include:

- Hospitals
- HMOs
- Emergency Medical Services MDA (for individuals who are vaccinated in nursing homes)
- The Medical Department and the Patient Safety Unit at the MoH
- Israeli Defense Forces (IDF)



## Vaccine doses administered in Israel



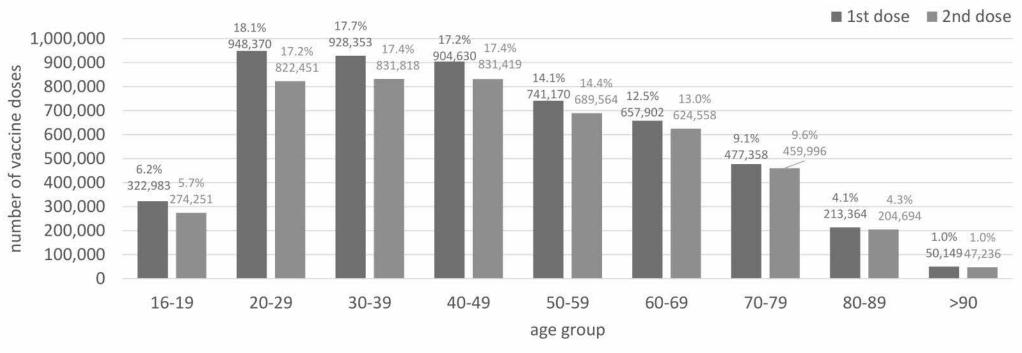




## Distribution of vaccine recipients according to age



#### Distribution of vaccine recipients in Israel according to age

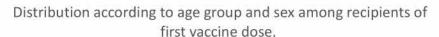


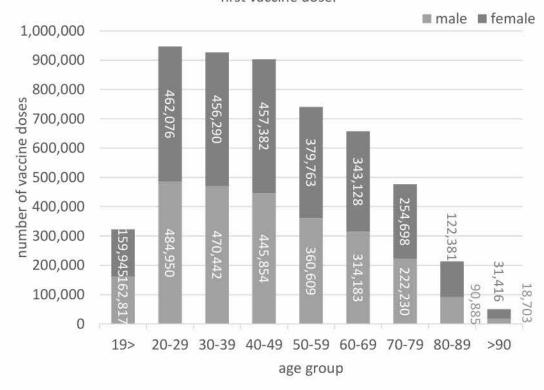
AgeGroup	16-19	20-29	30-39	40-49	50-59	60-69	70-79	80-89	90<
Vaccine coverage by				f		2			
age group 1st dose	55.3%	72.9%	77.6%	82.3%	87.2%	88.7%	97.3%	94.6%	97.4%
Vaccine coverage by								2.3	
age group 2nd dose	47.0%	63.2%	69.5%	75.7%	81.1%	84.2%	93.7%	90.8%	91.7%



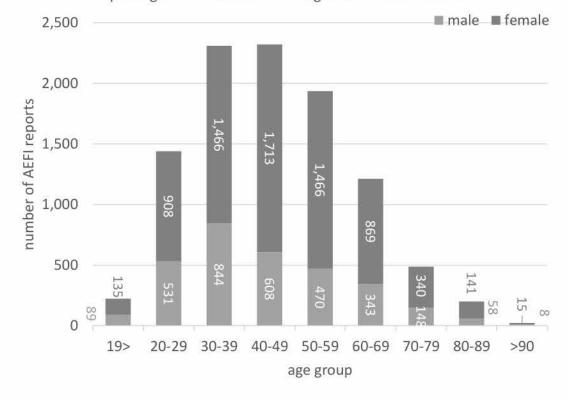
## Age and sex distribution among vaccine recipients and those who reported adverse events - FIRST DOSE







### Distribution according to age group and sex among individuals reporting adverse events following first dose vaccination.

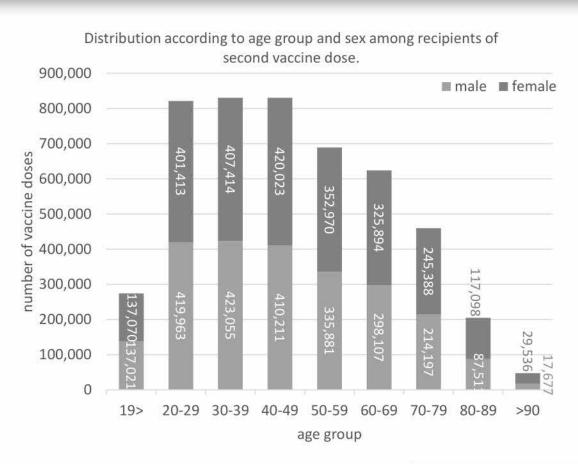


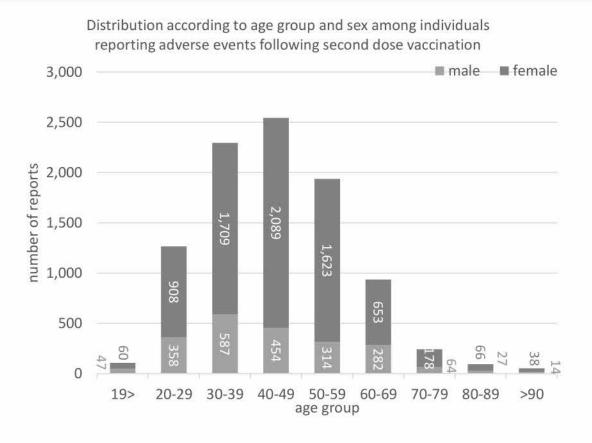
Women and younger individuals are more likely to report adverse reactions following vaccination relative to their proportion among the vaccine recipient population



# Age and sex distribution among vaccine recipients and those who reported adverse events - SECOND DOSE







Women and younger individuals are more likely to report adverse reactions following vaccination relative to their proportion among the vaccine recipient population



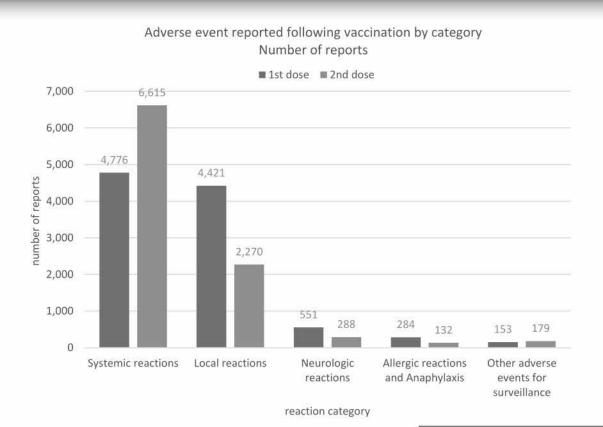
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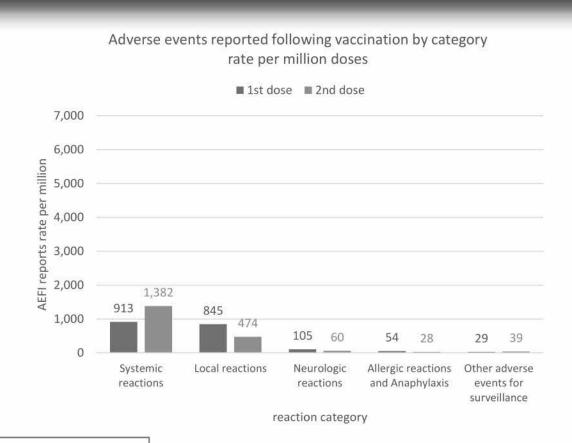
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## Adverse events following vaccination by category



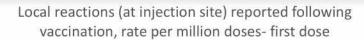


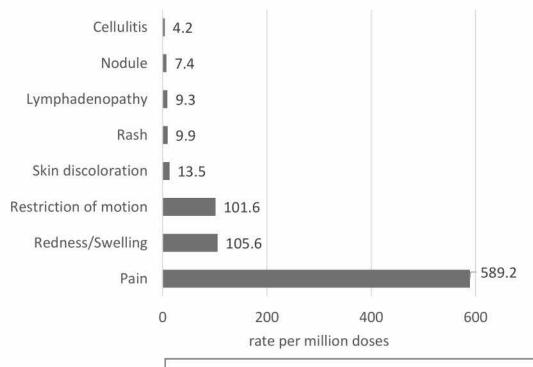
Reports among vaccine recipients 1st dose: 5,244,481 2nd dose: 4,785,534



## Local reactions

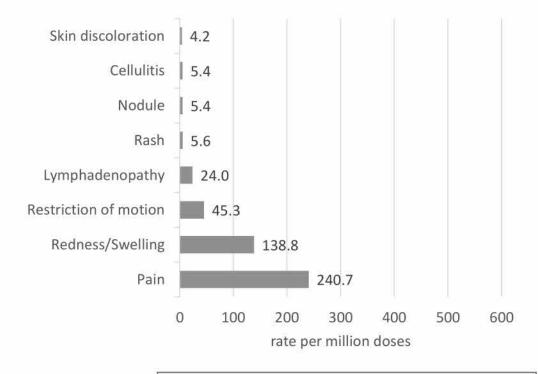






Rate per million vaccine doses out of 5,244,481 vaccine 1st dose recipients





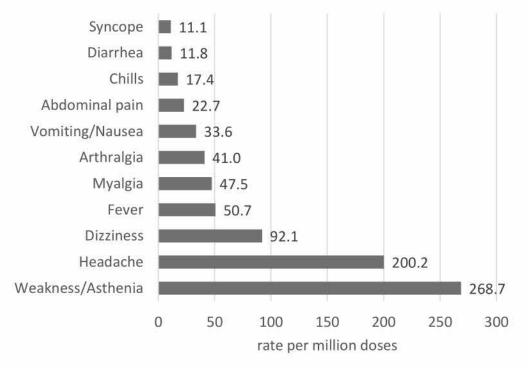
Rate per million vaccine doses out of 4,785,534 vaccine 2<sup>nd</sup> dose recipients



## Systemic reactions

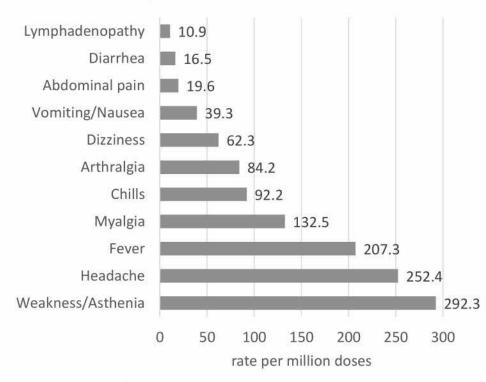






Rate per million vaccine doses out of 5,244,481 vaccine 1<sup>st</sup> dose recipients



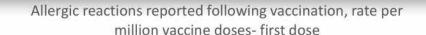


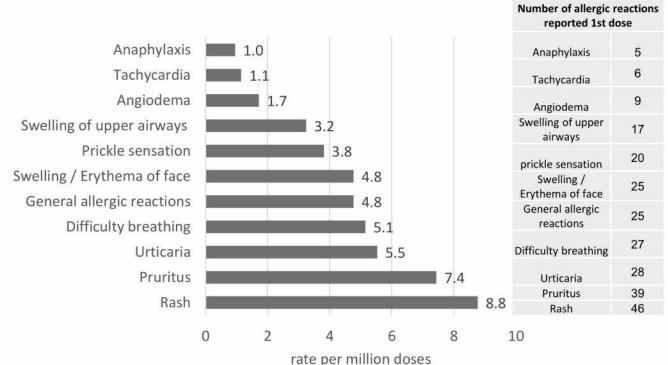
Rate per million vaccine doses out of 4,785,534 vaccine 2<sup>nd</sup> dose recipients



## Allergic reactions

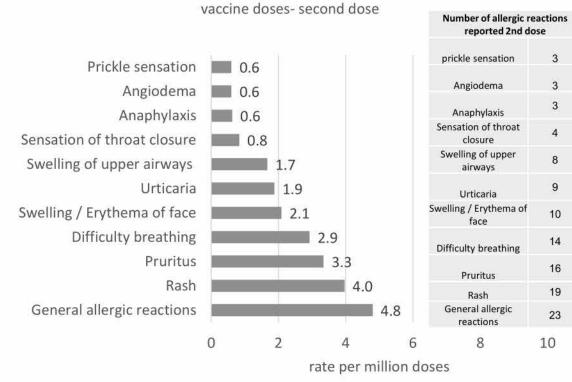






Rate per million vaccine doses out of 5,244,481 vaccine 1st dose recipients

Allergic reactions reported following vaccination, rate per million



Rate per million vaccine doses out of 4,785,534 vaccine 2<sup>nd</sup> dose recipients



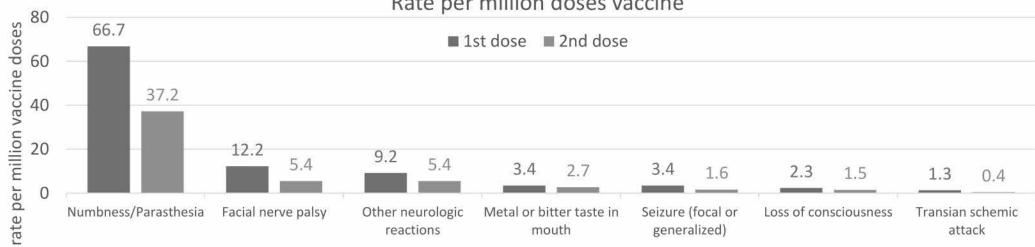
## Neurologic reactions



#### Number of neurologic reactions reported

	Numbness/ Parasthesia	Facial nerve palsy	Other neurologic reactions	Metal or bitter taste in mouth	Seizure (focal or generalized)	Loss of consciousness	Transian ischemic attack
1 <sup>st</sup> dose	350	64	48	18	18	12	7
2 <sup>nd</sup> dose	178	26	25	13	8	7	2

#### Rate of neurological reactions reported following vaccination Rate per million doses vaccine





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## Neurologic reactions



		Bell' palsy (1 case pregnar	<b>/</b> e nt)		rred ion	senso	aring ss	Abdı nerve	icens palsy	Ver		Occulo nerve		Trige neur	minal algia	Seiz	ures	Tran Ische Atta	emic ack	Guil Bar syndi (1 ca exacert	rome ase	Mult scler (1 c exacerb new c	ase ation, 1	plex	chial kitis
		1 <sup>st</sup>	2 <sup>nd</sup>	1 <sup>st</sup>	2 <sup>nd</sup>	1 <sup>st</sup>	2 <sup>nd</sup>	1 <sup>st</sup>	2 <sup>nd</sup>	1 <sup>st</sup>	2 <sup>nd</sup>	1 <sup>st</sup>	2 <sup>nd</sup>	1 <sup>st</sup>	2 <sup>nd</sup>	1 <sup>st</sup>	2 <sup>nd</sup>	1 <sup>st</sup>	2 <sup>nd</sup>	1 <sup>st</sup>	2 <sup>nd</sup>	1 <sup>st</sup>	2 <sup>nd</sup>	1 <sup>st</sup>	2 <sup>nd</sup>
		dose	dose	dose	dose	dose	dose	dose	dose	dose	dose	dose	dose	dose	dose	dose	dose	dose	dose	dose	dose	dose	dose	dose	dose
	<20	1	1													2	1					j			
10	20-29	3	2		1	1								1		2	1	1		1					
A <sub>G</sub>	30-39	7	2	3		1	1									2	1								
ē	40-49	13	5	2	3		2			1						1	5	1				1			
gr	50-59	11	10	6	1	2	1				1					2			·	1				-	
Age group	60-69	16	4	2		1	1	1	1	1	2	1				1		1		1	1			1	
	70-79	9	2			1			1							4		1	1	1		1			
	80-89	4				1	2		1							4		3							
	>90																		1						
	Total	64	26	13	5	7	7	1	3	2	3	1		1		18	8	7	2	4	1	2		1	
Follow-up s	econd dose	38	Not relevant	10	Not relevant	5	Not relevant	1	Not relevant	0	Not releva nt	1	Not relevant	1	Not relevant	12	Not relevant	6	Not relevant	1	Not relevant	2	Not relevant	1	Not relevant
Expected I cases in pop 16 and olde time period o project al populatio	oulation age er, for same of vaccination nd same	168	128	51	39	180	135	41	30	465	341	17	12	41	31	1372	1018	1258	920	139	110	334	260	13	9

The observed numbers are compared to the morbidity data in hospitalized patients from 2017-2019 which includes morbidity data reported among all individuals 16 years and older from the corresponding periods – *i.e* morbidity cases following the first and second dose is compared to morbidity cases in hospitalized patients from December - March and January - March respectively.

NOTE: In addition to the data presented in the table, the MoH monitors other reactions for which expected numbers cannot be presented.



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### Other adverse events of interest

Other AEs of interest following vaccination (rate per million vaccine doses) compared to expected rates in the general population according to morbidity data from the corresponding periods of years 2017-2019

Other adverse events of interest	Medical diagnosis	AE rates following first dose (Dec-Mar)	Expected rates (hospitalization data Dec-Mar 2017-2019)	AE rates following second dose (Jan- Mar)	Expected rates (hospitalization data Jan-Mar 2017-2019)	
Hematological	Thrombocytopenia	0.6	26.9	0.4	21.0	
405	Purpura	0.2	21.2	Not reported	15.2	
Infections	Sepsis	0.2	71.1	Not reported	53.5	
iniections	Herpes zoster	3.4	44.2	3.6	33.4	
	Herpes simplex	1.3	15.2	1.3	10.5	
	Necrotizing Fasciitis	0.2	6.5	Not reported	4.8	
	Transiant Ischemic Attack	1.3	201.8	0.4	147.6	
	Encephalitis	0.2	1.4	Not reported	1.1	
201 101 10 10	Diplopia (double vision)	0.4	9.3	0.6	6.8	
Neurological	Acute hearing loss	1.3	28.9	1.5	21.6	
	Shoulder weakness and severe pain	0.2	2.1	Not reported	1.5	
	Facial weakness and severe pain	0.2	6.6	Not reported	5.0	
	Blurred vision	2.5	8.2	1.0	6.3	
	Vertigo	0.4	59.7	0.6	43.3	
	Guillian barre syndrome	0.8	22.3	0.2	17.7	

Note: Despite normalization to the number of vaccinees, observed and expected rates cannot be directly compared, because the observed cases are counted differently than the expected ones. The observed cases count morbidity within a time window of a defined event (vaccine administration). The expected cases are calculated by the cumulative incidence over several calendar months. However, the expected cases do give a general order of magnitude for comparison of morbidity following vaccine administration.

The observed rates are compared to the morbidity data in hospitalized patients from 2017-2019 which includes morbidity data reported among all individuals 16 years and older from the corresponding periods i.e morbidity rates following the first and second dose is compared to morbidity rates in hospitalized patients from December - March and January - March respectively. NOTE: In addition to the data presented in the table, the MoH monitors other reactions for which expected rates cannot be presented.



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### Other adverse events of interest

Other AEs of interest following vaccination (rate per million vaccine doses) compared to expected rates in the general population according to morbidity data from the corresponding periods of years 2017-2019

Other adverse events of interest	Medical diagnosis	AE rates following first dose (Dec-Mar)	Expected rates (hospitalization data Dec-Mar 2017-2019)	AE rates following second dose (Jan- Mar)	Expected rates (hospitalization data Jan-Mar 2017-2019)
	Myocardial infarction	0.6	746.1	0.2	554.1
	Heart failure	0.4	859.2	Not reported	648.6
Cardiovascular	Subarachnoid hemorrhage	0.2	19.9	Not reported	14.2
Garaiovassaiai	Vasculitis	Not reported	7.3	0.2	4.5
	Pericarditis	1.0	48.7	2.1	36.6
	Myocarditis (including Perimyocarditis)	1.1	21.3	11.7	15.6
	Cardiac tamponade	0.2	3.8	Not reported	2.5
	Venous thrombosis (DVT)	Not reported	65.2	0.6	48.1
	Superficial venous thrombosis	Not reported	3.6	0.2	2.7
	Atrial Fibrillation	0.4	560.4	0.6	414.3
	Stroke	1.0	649.1	0.2	475.6
	Pulmonary embolism	0.2	78.0	0.2	56.4
	Pericardial effusion	0.4	33.9	0.2	26.8
Ophthalmological	Retinopathy	0.2	0.8	Not reported	0.5
Rheumatology	Arthritis	Not reported	252.7	0.2	191.6

Note: Despite normalization to the number of vaccinees, observed and expected rates cannot be directly compared, because the observed cases are counted differently than the expected ones. The observed cases count morbidity within a time window of a defined event (vaccine administration). The expected cases are calculated by the cumulative incidence over several calendar months. However, the expected cases do give a general order of magnitude for comparison of morbidity following vaccine administration.

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### Other adverse events of interest



Other AEs of interest following vaccination (rate per million vaccine doses) compared to expected rates in the general population according to morbidity data from the corresponding periods of years 2017-2019

Other adverse events of interest	Medical diagnosis	AE rates following first dose (Dec-Mar)	Expected rates (hospitalization data Dec-Mar 2017-2019)	AE rates following second dose (Jan-Mar)	Expected rates (hospitalization data Jan-Mar 2017-2019)
Pregnant (rate calculated out of women ages 16-49	Missed abortion	1.3	1909.4	Not reported	1473.1
whom received the vaccine)	IUFD	1.3	71.6	Not reported	53.8
	сму	Not reported	3.8	0.7	3.2
Respiratory	Pleuritis	0.2	2.4	Not reported	1.7
nespiratory	Pulmonary edema	Not reported	259.8	0.2	196.0
	Severe acute respiratory syndrome	Not reported	177.5	0.2	132.9
0	Acute liver damage	0.2	3.9	Not reported	2.8
Organ damage	Acute kidney damage	0.2	227.4	Not reported	168.7
	Erythema Multiforme	0.2	3.4	Not reported	2.6
Other	Loss of smell (anosmia)/loss of taste (ageusia)	1.3	1.8	1.0	1.2
	Appendicitis	Not reported	315.9	0.2	235.3
	Acute thyroiditis	Not reported	2.4	0.2	1.9
	Multiple sclerosis (1 relapse and 1 new diagnosis)	0.4	53.6	Not reported	41.8
	Hemorrhagic cystitis	0.2	4.9	Not reported	3.9
	rhabdomyolysis	Not reported	20.6	0.2	16.0

Note: Despite normalization to the number of vaccinees, observed and expected rates cannot be directly compared, because the observed cases are counted differently than the expected ones. The observed cases count morbidity within a time window of a defined event (vaccine administration). The expected cases are calculated by the cumulative incidence over several calendar months. However, the expected cases do give a general order of magnitude for comparison of morbidity following vaccine administration.

The observed rates are compared to the morbidity data in hospitalized patients from 2017-2019 which includes morbidity data reported among all individuals 16 years and older from the corresponding periods – *i.e* morbidity rates following the first and second dose is compared to morbidity rates in hospitalized patients from December - March and January - March respectively.

NOTE: In addition to the data presented in the table, the MoH monitors other reactions for which expected rates cannot be presented.



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## Myocarditis following vaccination



#### To date, 62 cases of myocarditis following vaccination have been reported

#### Myocarditis after first dose (N=6)

- 4 males, 2 females
- 1 case myocarditis, 5 cases of Perimyocarditis
- 4 events occurred within 10 days of receiving the vaccine,1 event occurred within 2 weeks and 1 event occurred within 3 weeks following vaccination.
- 3 cases with comorbidities (HTN, dyslipidemia)
- All cases were discharged from the hospital and are under observation in the community
- 2 cases received a second dose with no adverse reactions reported

#### Myocarditis after second dose (N=56)

- 50 males and 6 females
- 37 cases of Myocarditis, 19 cases of Perimyocarditis
- 23 events occurred within 10 days of receiving the vaccine, 2 events occurred within 2 weeks, 1 events occurred within 3 weeks, 2 events occurred within 4 weeks following vaccination.
- 28 cases with comorbidities (HTN, smoking, asthma, dyslipidemia, DM, hypercholesterolemia)
- 53 cases were discharged from the hospital and are under observation at community level. 1 case is under investigation, 2 cases died (1 case fulminant myocarditis, 1 case is still under investigation)
- None of the cases reported adverse reactions after receipt of the first dose



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## Pericarditis following vaccination



#### To date, 15 cases of Pericarditis following vaccination have been reported

#### Pericarditis after first dose (N=5)

- 3 males, 2 females
- All events occurred within 4 days of receiving the vaccine.
- 2 cases with comorbidities (history of Pericarditis, heart valve)
- All cases were discharged from the hospital and are under observation in the community
- 3 cases received a second dose with no adverse reactions reported

#### Pericarditis after second dose (N=10)

- 6 males and 4 females
- 8 events occurred within 7 days of receiving the vaccine, 1 events occurred within 3 weeks, 1 events occurred within 5 weeks following vaccination.
- 8 cases with comorbidities (HTN, obesity, hypercholesterolemia, dyslipidemia, renal disease)
- 9 cases were discharged from the hospital and are under observation at community level. 1 is under investigation.
- None of the cases reported adverse reactions after receipt of the first dose

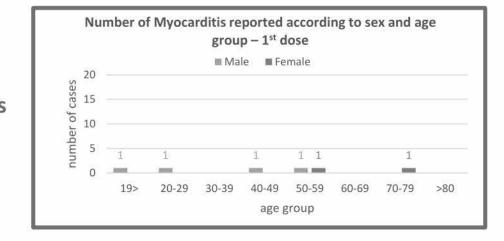


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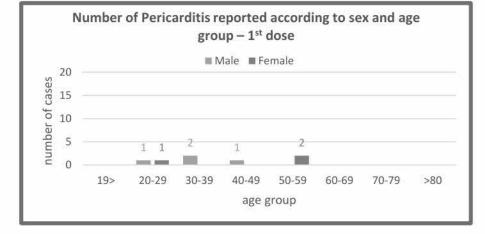
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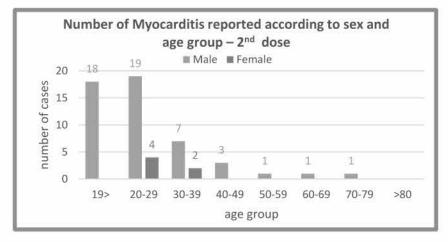
## Myocarditis / Pericarditis following vaccination

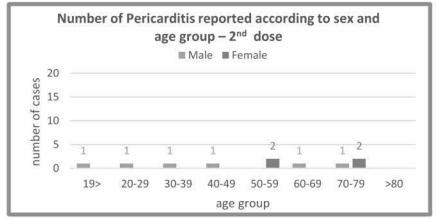
## Myocarditis / Perimyocarditis



#### **Pericarditis**







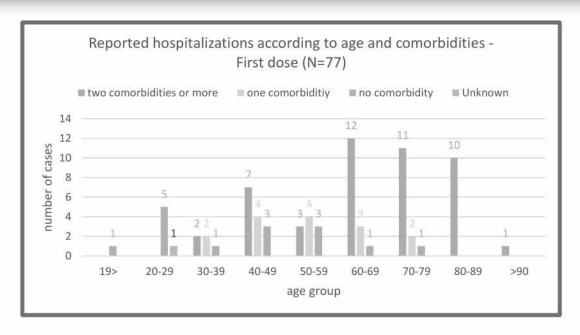


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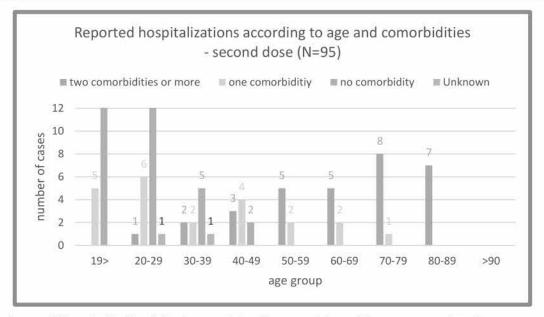
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## Hospitalizations reported following vaccination



Among 77 hospitalizations following receiving the first dose, 34 cases were related to neurological diseases out of which 30 cases had comorbidities, 25 hospitalization were related to underlying cardiovascular diseases out of which 18 had comorbidities, 6 hospitalizations were related to allergic reactions, 2 infectious and 7 hospitalizations were related to other underlying diseases. 3 hospitalizations were related to pregnancy complications.



Among 95 hospitalization following receiving the second dose, 75 cases were related to cardiovascular diseases and of those 38 were with significant underlying diseases. 10 hospitalizations were related to underlying neurological diseases and of those 8 were with significant underlying diseases and 4 hospitalizations were related to underlying respiratory diseases, and 8 hospitalizations were related to other underlying diseases.

Reports among vaccine recipients 1<sup>st</sup> dose: 5.244,481 2<sup>nd</sup> dose: 4.785,534



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## Deaths reported following vaccination

- 48 persons were reported to die in proximity to vaccination (up to 30 days following vaccination).
- 42 deaths occurred within 10 days following vaccination
- Out of 48 reported cases, 14 are <60 y old:</li>
  - 2 were diagnosed in ER with myocarditis (1 case fulminant myocarditis, 1 case still under investigation)
  - 2 PM in cases of sudden death excluded myocarditis in one and showed blocked LAD.
  - 10 cases are under investigation: relatively young persons with sudden death.

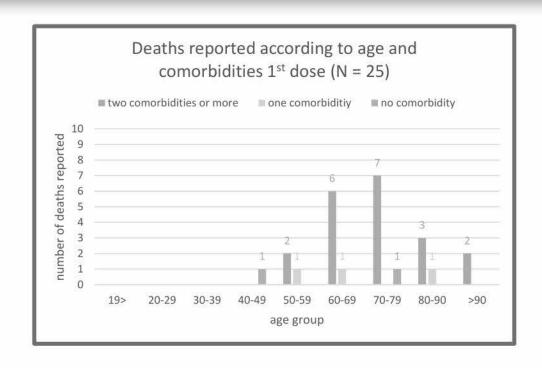
Reports among vaccine recipients 1<sup>st</sup> dose: 5,244,481 2<sup>nd</sup> dose: 4,785,534

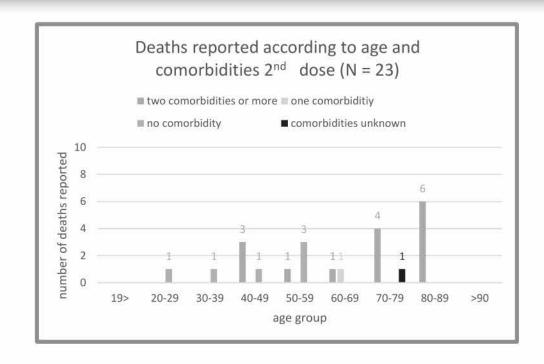


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## Deaths reported following vaccination





Reports among vaccine recipients 1st dose: 5,244,481 2nd dose: 4,785,534



# Deaths reported following vaccination observed and expected



Age group	Mortality cases reported following 1 <sup>st</sup> dose	Mortality cases expected all causes (Dec-Mar)	Sudden death reported following 1st dose	Sudden death expected (Dec-Mar)	Mortality cases reported following 2 <sup>nd</sup> dose	Mortality cases expected all causes (Jan-Mar)	Sudden death reported following 2 <sup>nd</sup> dose	Sudden death expected (Jan-Mar)	Total cases reported
Male	,								
20-29	0	74	0	0	0	48	0	0	0
30-39	0	108	0	0	1	72	1	0	1
40-49	0	235	0	1	4	165	4	1	4
50-59	2	564	2	5	3	392	2	4	5
60-69	4	1220	1	5	2	865	0	3	6
70-79	6	2353	0	6	1	1727	0	3	7
80<	3	4349	0	9	3	3153	0	6	6
Female									
20-29	0	30	0	0	1	20	0	0	1
30-39	0	59	0	0	0	41	0	0	0
40-49	1	139	1	0	0	95	0	0	1
50-59	1	336	1	1	1	235	1	1	2
60-69	3	773	0	1	0	561	0	1	3
70-79	2	1714	1	4	4	1252	0	3	6
80<	3	5398	0	13	3	3889	0	10	6
Total	25	17,352	6	45	23	12,515	8	32	48

Note: Despite normalization to the number of vaccinees, observed and expected rates cannot be directly compared, because the observed cases are counted differently than the expected ones. The observed cases count deaths within a time window of a defined event (vaccine administration). The expected cases are calculated by the cumulative incidence over several calendar months. However, the expected cases do give a general order of magnitude for comparison of deaths following vaccine administration.

causes of death and specifically sudden death

No specific signal associated with all

The overall mean of expected total deaths in the population of Israel 2015-2018, for December-March for the first dose, and January-March for the second dose, normalized for the number of vaccinated persons.



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## COVID-19 vaccination Israel "BACK TO LIFE"

## **Enclosure 5**

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Thomas A. (CDC/DDID/  CDC/DDID/NCIRD/DVD  Julianne (CDC/DDID/NCI  (CDC/DDID/NCIRD/OD)  LaPorte, Kathleen (CDC/  Markowitz, Lauri (CDC/  (CDC/DDID/NCIRD/OD)  (CDC/DDID/NCEZID/DH  Patricia Whitley-Williar  Robert; Shanley, Edwin  (CDC/DDID/NCEZID/DH  John (CDC/DDID/NCEZID/DH  John (CDC/DDID/NCEZI  Weintraub, Eric (CDC/D  (FDA/CBER); Woo, Jare  Subject:  CONFIDENTIAL	Markowitz, Lauri (CDC/DDID/NCIRD/DVD)  Mon, 5 Apr 2021 16:08:26 +0000  Anderson, Steven (FDA/CBER); Beresnev, Tatiana (NIH) [C]; Broder, Karen IQP); Calvert, Geoffrey M. (CDC/NIOSH/WTCHP); Clark, Matthew (IHS/ALB); Clark NCIRD/DVD); Cohn, Amanda (CDC/DDID/NCIRD/OD); Collins, Limone; ey, Matt; Destefano, Frank (CDC/DDID/NCEZID/DHQP); Dooling, Kathleen L. D); Edwards, Kathy; Farizo, Karen (FDA/CBER); Forshee, Richard (FDA/CBER); Gee, CEZID/DHQP); Helfand, Rita (CDC/DDID/NCEZID/OD); Hiers, Susan G. ; Hopkins, Bob; Jackson, Lisa; Kelman, Jeffrey A. (CMS/CM); Kulldorf, Martin; CDDID/NCIRD/ID); Lee, Grace; MacNeil, Jessica R. (CDC/DDID/NCIRD/OD); Moliphy Marquez, Paige L. (CDC/DDID/NCEZID/DHQP); Mbaeyi, Sarah ; Mullen, Jennifer (CDC/DDID/NCEZID/DHQP); Myers, Tanya R. IQP); Nair, Narayan (FDA/CBER); Oliver, Sara Elizabeth (CDC/DDID/NCIRD/DVD); ms (whitlepn@rwjms.rutgers.edu); Riley, Laura; Rubin, Mary (HRSA); Schechter, (CDC/DDID/NCIRD/OD); Shay, David (CDC/DDID/NCIRD/ID); Shimabukuro, Tom IQP); Sotir, Mark (CDC/DDID/NCIRD/DVD); Steinberg, Judith (HHS/OASH); Su, D/DHQP); Talbot, Keipp; Wasley, Annemarie (CDC/DDID/NCIRD/ISD); Wong, Hui-Lee d (CDC/DDID/NCEZID/DHQP); Wharton, Melinda (CDC/DDID/NCIRD/ISD); Wong, Hui-Lee d (CDC/DDID/NCEZID/DHQP); Young, Mardia (CDC/DDID/NCEZID/DHQP) (CTR) [EXTERNAL] VaST - Agenda for April 5 (1:30 - 3 pm ET) and presentations -					
Attachments:	(b)(5)					
2024 04 05 1/ 67 14	(b)(5)					
	VaST agenda for today (below and attached) as well as 4 slide sets. The agenda rmation regarding approximate times for talks and discussion.					
	(b)(5); (b)(6)					
	mation should be on your calendars. cuments and communications are confidential.					
Lauri Markowitz and M	Lauri Markowitz and Melinda Wharton					

Lauri Markowitz, MD

VaST Co-Lead

Division of Viral Diseases

National Center for Immunization and Respiratory Diseases

THOMAS R. CARPER, DELAWARE
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#### United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON HOMELAND SECURITY AND GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS WASHINGTON, DC 20510-6250

December 13, 2024

The Honorable Xavier Becerra Secretary Department of Health and Human Services

Dear Secretary Becerra:

In February 2020, Nature Microbiology published a paper by Drs. Michael Letko and Vincent Munster, two researchers at the National Institutes of Health's research facility, Rocky Mountain Laboratories (RML), entitled "Functional assessment of cell entry and receptor usage for SARS-CoV-2 and other lineage B betacoronaviruses." According to that paper, Drs. Letko and Munster purchased DNA sequences from Integrated DNA Technologies, Inc. (IDT).<sup>2</sup> In October 2024, my office requested the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) authorize IDT to release the order forms to my office relating to Drs. Letko and Munster's research. To date, HHS has failed to comply with my office's requests. As a result of HHS's failure to respond to my office's requests, I am now sending this formal letter and putting HHS on notice—if HHS does not fully comply with the following requests by December 30, 2024, I will plan to subpoena this information when I become chairman of the Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations. Please provide:

- 1. All order forms for DNA sequences from or sent on behalf of employees at Rocky Mountain Laboratories, including Drs. Michael Letko and Vincent Munster, to Integrated DNA Technologies, Inc. from January 1, 2019 to December 31, 2020.
- 2. All purchase receipts for orders of DNA sequences from or sent on behalf of employees at Rocky Mountain Laboratories, including Drs. Michael Letko and Vincent Munster, to Integrated DNA Technologies, Inc. from January 1, 2019 to December 31, 2020.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Michael Letko, Andrea Marzi, and Vincent Munster, Functional assessment of cell entry and receptor usage for SARS-CoV-2 and other lineage B betacoronaviruses, Nature Microbiology, Feb. 24, 2020, https://www.nature.com/articles/s41564-020-0688-y. The preprint was published on Jan. 22, 2020. See https://www.biorxiv.org/content/10.1101/2020.01.22.915660v1.full.pdf; @quay\_dr, Dr. Steven Quay, X, Apr. 17, 2024, https://x.com/quay\_dr/status/1780789005996666933.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Michael Letko, Andrea Marzi, and Vincent Munster, Functional assessment of cell entry and receptor usage for SARS-CoV-2 and other lineage B betacoronaviruses, Nature Microbiology, Feb. 24, 2020, https://www.nature.com/articles/s41564-020-0688-y at 568.

The Honorable Xavier Becerra Dec. 13, 2024

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Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

Ron Johnson

Ranking Member

Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations

cc: The Honorable Richard Blumenthal

Chairman

Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations

The Honorable Christi Grimm

Inspector General

Department of Health and Human Services