



FAQs on Vaccine Attributes



1

What technology has been used in the development of the currently available two vaccines in India?

Covishield®

vaccine, manufactured by the Serum Institute of India, is a Viral Vector based Technology which is also used to manufacture the Ebola vaccine.

Covaxin®

vaccine, manufactured by the Bharat Biotech Limited, is a whole-Virion Inactivated Corona Virus Vaccine which is also used to manufacture vaccines like Influenza, Rabies and Hepatitis- A.



2

What is the composition of both the vaccines?

The composition of includes

Covishield

inactivated adenovirus with segments of Corona Virus, Aluminium Hydroxide Gel, L-Histidine, L-Histidine hydrochloride monohydrate, Magnesium chloride hexahydrate, Polysorbate 80, Ethanol, Sucrose, Sodium chloride, and Disodium edetate dihydrate.

The composition of includes

Covaxin

includes inactivated Corona Virus, Aluminum Hydroxide Gel, TLR 7/8 agonist, 2-Phenoxyethanol, and Phosphate Buffered Saline.



3

Both vaccines require cold chain temperature. How is the cold chain maintained during the storage and transportation of the vaccines?



Both vaccines need to be stored and transported at +2 0 to +8 0 Celsius temperature. The cold chain for both vaccines is maintained through active and passive cold chain equipment available at approximately 29,000 cold chain points across India.

4

If I have received the vaccine as a health worker, how will my family members receive the vaccine (as they are exposed as well)?



The people at the highest risk of exposure such as health care and frontline workers will receive the vaccine on priority. These personnel are also likely the source of infection for their family members. Other family members will be vaccinated according to the age-specific prioritization by the Government of India.

5

Is COVISHIELD® the same as the vaccine given in the UK by Astra Zeneca?



Yes, the Covishield® vaccine, manufactured by the Serum Institute of India, is based on the same patent technology as the Astra Zeneca vaccine.

6

What is the dose schedule of both vaccines?



As per the permission granted by the Drug Controller General (India), for Covisheild, the second dose is to be administered 4-6 weeks after the first dose; Covaxin is to be administered in two doses at an interval of day 0 & day 28.

7

Do I have a choice of vaccine I will receive?



The vaccine will be supplied to various parts of India as per availability and distribution plan, beneficiaries load and so at present the option of choice of vaccine is not available.