



Kentucky Hospital Research & Education Foundation Update #1 to Emergency Preparedness Update for December 10, 2020

FDA advisers vote to recommend that the agency authorize Pfizer's coronavirus vaccine

(CNN) The US Food and Drug Administration's Vaccines and Related Biological Products Advisory Committee voted Thursday to recommend the agency grant emergency use authorization to Pfizer's coronavirus vaccine. Seventeen members voted yes, four voted no and one abstained.

The Question they voted on: Base on the totality of scientific evidence available, do the benefits of the Pfizer –BioNTech COVID-19 Vaccine outweigh its risks for use in individuals 16 years of age or older?

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CDC advisory committee will vote Sunday on Pfizer's coronavirus vaccine

(From CNN's Elizabeth Cohen) An advisory committee to the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention expects to vote Sunday whether to recommend Pfizer's coronavirus vaccine, according to an agenda posted on the agency's website. If the panel votes in favor of the vaccine, that's the last step needed before shots can go into arms.

If the FDA does follow the advice of its Vaccines and Related Biological Products Advisory Committee – and it usually does – then it's the CDC's turn to review the data.

The CDC's Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices will meet virtually Friday to discuss Pfizer's data, according to the agenda. Dr. William Gruber, Pfizer's senior vice president of vaccine clinical research and development, will make a presentation to the group.

The company's clinical trials have shown the vaccine to be 95% effective with no severe side effects.

Once the FDA issues an EUA, then ACIP – a panel of independent experts – can vote on whether to recommend it.

"We anticipate being able to vote on the use of this vaccine on Sunday," CDC spokesperson Kristen Nordlund told CNN.

CDC Director Dr. Robert Redfield has to sign off on ACIP's recommendation before it's an official recommendation.

ACIP will also vote on whether any groups should not receive the vaccine. The vaccine has not yet been studied in several groups, including children under age 16, pregnant and breastfeeding women, and people who are immunocompromised.

On Dec. 1, the panel voted that the first two groups to receive the vaccine should be health care workers, and residents of nursing home and assisted living facilities.

Source: <https://www.cnn.com/world/live-news/coronavirus-pandemic-12-10-20-intl/index.html>

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