

## Emergency Use Authorization (EUA) for an Unapproved Product Clinical Review Memorandum

### Identifying Information

Application Type	EUA (Event-driven EUA request)
Application Number	27034
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Review Completion Date	December 14, 2020
Established Name/Other names used during development	Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 Vaccine/ BNT162b2
Dosage Forms/Strengths and Route of Administration	A 0.3 mL Suspension for intramuscular injection
Intended Use for EUA	Active immunization to prevent coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) caused by Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome Coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2)
Intended Population	Individuals 16 years of age and older

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## Glossary

AE	adverse event
AESI	adverse event of special interest
AIDS	acquired immunodeficiency syndrome
ARDS	acute respiratory distress syndrome
BNT162b2	Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 Vaccine
CBRN	chemical, biological, radiological, or nuclear
CDC	Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
CMC	Chemistry, Manufacturing, and Control
EUA	Emergency Use Authorization
FDA	Food and Drug Administration
hACE2	human angiotensin converting enzyme 2
HHS	Health and Human Services
HIV	human immunodeficiency virus
IM	intramuscular
LNP	lipid nanoparticle
MERS-CoV	Middle Eastern respiratory syndrome
modRNA	nucleoside-modified messenger RNA
NAAT	nucleic acid amplification-based test
PVP	Pharmacovigilance Plan
RBD	receptor binding domain
RT-PCR	reverse transcription-polymerase chain reaction
SAE	serious adverse event
SARS-CoV-2	severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2
VE	vaccine efficacy
VRBPAC	Vaccines and Related Biological Products Advisory Committee

## 1 Executive Summary

The SARS-CoV-2 pandemic presents an extraordinary challenge to global health and, as of November 30, 2020, has caused more than 60 million cases of COVID-19 and claimed the lives of 1.5 million people worldwide. In the United States, over 13 million cases have been reported to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), with over 260,000 deaths. Based on a declaration by the Secretary of Health and Human Services (HHS) that the COVID-19 pandemic constitutes a public health emergency with a significant potential to affect national security or the health and security of United States citizens living abroad, FDA may issue an EUA for a COVID-19 vaccine after determining that certain statutory requirements are met.

On November 20, 2020, the Sponsor (Pfizer, on behalf of Pfizer and BioNTech) submitted an Emergency Use Authorization (EUA) request to FDA for an investigational COVID-19 vaccine (BNT162b2) intended to prevent COVID-19 caused by severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2). The vaccine is based on the SARS-CoV-2 spike glycoprotein (S) antigen encoded by RNA and formulated in lipid nanoparticles (LNPs). The proposed use under an EUA is “for active immunization for the prevention of COVID-19 caused by SARS-CoV-2 in individuals 16 years of age and older.” The proposed dosing regimen is 2 doses, 30 µg each, administered 21 days apart.

The EUA request includes safety and efficacy data from an ongoing Phase 3 randomized, double-blinded and placebo-controlled trial of BNT162b2 in approximately 44,000 participants. The primary efficacy endpoint is incidence of COVID-19 among participants without evidence of SARS-CoV-2 infection before or during the 2-dose vaccination regimen. In a mid-November analysis of 36,621 participants randomized 1:1 to vaccine or placebo who were included in the per-protocol efficacy analysis population of participants without evidence of SARS-CoV-2 infection prior to 7 days after completion of the vaccination regimen, efficacy in preventing confirmed COVID-19 occurring at least 7 days after the second dose of vaccine was 95.0%, with 8 COVID-19 cases in the vaccine group and 162 COVID-19 cases in the placebo group. Subgroup analyses of the primary efficacy endpoint showed similar efficacy point estimates across age groups, genders, racial and ethnic groups, and participants with medical comorbidities associated with high risk of severe COVID-19. Secondary efficacy analyses suggested benefit of the vaccine in preventing severe COVID-19 and in preventing COVID-19 following the first dose, although available data for these outcomes did not allow for firm conclusions.

Safety data from approximately 38,000 participants ≥16 years of age randomized 1:1 to vaccine or placebo with a median of 2 months of follow up after the second dose suggest a favorable safety profile, with no specific safety concerns identified that would preclude issuance of an EUA. Available safety data from all participants enrolled through the November 14, 2020, data cut-off (N=43,252, which includes late enrollment of additional adolescent and adult participants), was consistent with the safety profile for the approximately 38,000 participants with median follow-up of 2 months and also did not raise specific safety concerns. The most common solicited adverse reactions were injection site reactions (84.1%), fatigue (62.9%), headache (55.1%), muscle pain (38.3%), chills (31.9%), joint pain (23.6%), fever (14.2%); severe adverse reactions occurred in 0.0% to 4.6% of participants, were more frequent after Dose 2 than after Dose 1, and were generally less frequent in participants ≥55 years of age (≤2.8%) as compared to younger participants (≤4.6%). The frequency of serious adverse events was low (<0.5%), without meaningful imbalances between study arms. Among non-serious unsolicited adverse events, there was a numerical imbalance of four cases of Bell's palsy in the

vaccine group compared with no cases in the placebo group, though the four cases in the vaccine group do not represent a frequency above that expected in the general population. Otherwise, there were no notable patterns or numerical imbalances between treatment groups for specific categories of non-serious adverse events (including other neurologic, neuro-inflammatory, and thrombotic events) that would suggest a causal relationship to BNT162b2 vaccine. With the exception of more frequent, generally mild to moderate reactogenicity in participants <55 years of age, the safety profile of BNT162b2 was generally similar across age groups, genders, ethnic and racial groups, participants with or without medical comorbidities, and participants with or without evidence of prior SARS-CoV-2 infection at enrollment.

While not observed in the clinical trials, two severe/anaphylactoid reactions in the immediate post-vaccination period have occurred with use of the vaccine in the United Kingdom, in individuals reported to have prior history of severe allergic reactions. The component(s) of the vaccine that may have triggered these anaphylactoid reactions are unknown at this time, and the two individuals were not reported to have known history of allergy to specific components of the vaccine. Risk of allergic reactions, including the potential for severe allergic reactions and the need for vaccine providers to be able to manage them should they occur and a contraindication for use in individuals with known allergy to any component of the vaccine, are described in the vaccine Fact Sheets and Prescribing Information. Additionally, risk of anaphylaxis/severe allergic reactions will be further evaluated as part of the pharmacovigilance plan for the vaccine.

A meeting of the Vaccines and Related Biological Products Advisory Committee (VRBPAC) was convened on December 10, 2020. Following a discussion of the data presented, the VRBPAC voted 17-4 (with one abstention) in favor of the determination that based on the totality of scientific evidence available, the benefits of the Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 Vaccine outweigh its risks for use in individuals 16 years of age and older.

The information submitted in the EUA request, in addition to VRBPAC recommendations from the December 10, 2020, meeting, support that

- The chemical, biological, radiological, or nuclear (CBRN) agent referred to in the March 27, 2020, EUA declaration by the Secretary of HHS (SARS-CoV-2) can cause a serious or life-threatening disease or condition.
- Based on the totality of scientific evidence available, including data from adequate and well-controlled trials, it is reasonable to believe that the Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine (BNT162b) may be effective to prevent such serious or life-threatening disease or condition that can be caused by SARS-CoV-2.
- The known and potential benefits of the vaccine outweigh the known and potential risks of the vaccine when used for active immunization to prevent COVID-19 caused by SARS-CoV-2 in individuals 16 years of age and older.
- There is no adequate, approved, and available alternative to the product for preventing COVID-19 caused by SARS-CoV-2.

Therefore, from a clinical perspective, we recommend issuance of an EUA for use of the Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 Vaccine for active immunization to prevent COVID-19 caused by SARS-CoV-2 in individuals 16 years of age and older.



## **2 Background**

### **2.1 SARS-CoV-2 Pandemic**

The SARS-CoV-2 pandemic presents an extraordinary challenge to global health and, as of November 30, 2020, has caused more than 60 million cases of COVID-19 and claimed the lives of 1.5 million people worldwide. In the United States, over 13 million cases have been reported to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), with over 260,000 deaths. Confirmed cases and mortality continue to rise globally. On January 31, 2020, the U.S. Secretary of HHS declared a public health emergency related to COVID-19 and mobilized the Operating Divisions of HHS. Following the World Health Organization's declaration of the novel coronavirus pandemic on March 11, 2020, the U.S. President declared a national emergency in response to COVID-19 on March 13, 2020. Vaccines to protect against COVID-19 are critical to mitigate the current SARS-CoV-2 pandemic and to prevent future disease outbreaks.

SARS-CoV-2 is a novel, zoonotic coronavirus that emerged in late 2019 in patients with pneumonia of unknown cause.<sup>1</sup> The virus was named SARS-CoV-2 because of its similarity to the coronavirus responsible for severe acute respiratory syndrome (SARS-CoV, a lineage B betacoronavirus).<sup>2</sup> SARS-CoV-2 is an enveloped, positive sense, single stranded RNA virus sharing more than 70% of its sequence with SARS-CoV, and ~50% with the coronavirus responsible for Middle Eastern respiratory syndrome (MERS-CoV).<sup>3</sup> The SARS-CoV-2 spike glycoprotein (S), which is a main target for neutralizing antibody, binds to its receptor human angiotensin converting enzyme 2 (hACE2) to initiate infection.<sup>4</sup> SARS-CoV-2 is the cause of COVID-19, an infectious disease with respiratory and systemic manifestations. Disease symptoms vary, with many persons presenting with asymptomatic or mild disease and some progressing to severe respiratory tract disease including pneumonia and acute respiratory distress syndrome (ARDS), leading to multiorgan failure and death.

In an attempt to prevent the spread of disease and to control the pandemic, numerous COVID-19 vaccine candidates are in development. These vaccines are based on different platforms including mRNA and DNA technologies and include viral vectored, subunit, inactivated, and live attenuated vaccines. Most COVID-19 candidate vaccines express the spike protein or parts of the spike protein, i.e., the receptor binding domain (RBD), as the immunogenic determinant.

### **2.2 Available Therapies for COVID-19**

No vaccine or other medical product is FDA approved for prevention of COVID-19. On October 22, 2020, FDA approved remdesivir for use in adult and pediatric patients 12 years of age and older and weighing at least 40 kilograms (about 88 pounds) for the treatment of COVID-19 requiring hospitalization. Several other therapies are currently available under emergency use authorization, but not FDA approved, for treatment of COVID-19. Thus, there is currently no adequate, approved, and available alternative for prevention of COVID-19.

### **2.3 EUA Request for the Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 Vaccine (BNT162b2)**

Pfizer, in partnership with BioNTech Manufacturing GmbH, developed a vaccine to prevent COVID-19 which is based on the SARS-CoV-2 spike glycoprotein (S) antigen encoded by RNA and formulated in lipid nanoparticles (LNP). The Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 Vaccine (also referred to as BNT162b2) is administered intramuscularly as a 2-dose series spaced 21 days apart at a dose of 30 µg each. The vaccine is supplied as a multi-dose vial (5 doses) containing



a frozen suspension (-80°C to -60°C) of BNT162b2 that must be thawed and diluted with 1.8 mL of sterile 0.9% sodium chloride, allowing for five 0.3 mL doses. The vaccine is preservative free.

A Phase 3 randomized and placebo-controlled trial using BNT162b2 in approximately 44,000 participants is currently ongoing to evaluate the vaccine's safety and efficacy. Vaccine efficacy for the primary endpoint against confirmed COVID-19 occurring at least 7 days after the second dose was 95.0% with 8 COVID-19 cases in the vaccine group compared to 162 COVID-19 cases in the placebo group. Data from about 38,000 participants randomized 1:1 with a median of 2 months of follow-up after the second dose of vaccine showed a favorable safety profile at a dose of 30 µg in participants 16 years of age and older. On November 20, 2020, Pfizer and BioNTech submitted an EUA request to FDA for its investigational COVID-19 vaccine (BNT162b2) intended to prevent COVID-19 caused by SARS-CoV-2.

## **2.4 U.S. Requirements to Support Issuance of an EUA for a Biological Product**

Based on the declaration by the Secretary of HHS that the COVID-19 pandemic constitutes a public health emergency with a significant potential to affect national security or the health and security of United States citizens living abroad, FDA may issue an EUA after determining that certain statutory requirements are met (section 564 of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (the FD&C Act) (21 U.S.C. 360bbb-3)).<sup>5</sup>

- The chemical, biological, radiological, or nuclear (CBRN) agent referred to in the March 27, 2020, EUA declaration by the Secretary of HHS (SARS-CoV-2) can cause a serious or life-threatening disease or condition.
- Based on the totality of scientific evidence available, including data from adequate and well-controlled trials, if available, it is reasonable to believe that the product may be effective in preventing, diagnosing, or treating such serious or life-threatening disease or condition that can be caused by SARS-CoV-2.
- The known and potential benefits of the product, when used to diagnose, prevent, or treat the identified serious or life-threatening disease or condition, outweigh the known and potential risks of the product.
- There is no adequate, approved, and available alternative to the product for diagnosing, preventing, or treating the disease or condition.

If these criteria are met, under an EUA, FDA can allow unapproved medical products (or unapproved uses of approved medical products) to be used in an emergency to diagnose, treat, or prevent serious or life-threatening diseases or conditions caused by threat agents. FDA has been providing regulatory advice to COVID-19 vaccine manufacturers regarding the data needed to determine that a vaccine's benefit outweigh its risks. This includes demonstrating that manufacturing information ensures product quality and consistency along with data from at least one Phase 3 clinical trial demonstrating a vaccine's safety and efficacy in a clear and compelling manner.

## **2.5 Applicable Guidance for Industry**

Risk and benefit considerations are unique for COVID-19 vaccines, given that an EUA may be requested to allow for a vaccine's rapid and widespread deployment for administration to millions of individuals, including healthy people. FDA published in October 2020 guidance for industry entitled "[Emergency Use Authorization for Vaccines to Prevent COVID-19](#)" describing FDA's current recommendations regarding the manufacturing, nonclinical, and clinical data and information needed under section 564 of the FD&C Act to support the issuance of an EUA for an investigational vaccine to prevent COVID-19, including a discussion of FDA's current thinking

regarding the circumstances under which an EUA for a COVID-19 vaccine would be appropriate.<sup>6</sup> These considerations are summarized below.

## **Safety and Effectiveness Information Needed to Support an EUA**

### Effectiveness data

Issuance of an EUA requires a determination that the known and potential benefits of the vaccine outweigh the known and potential risks. For a preventive COVID-19 vaccine to be potentially administered to millions of individuals, including healthy individuals, data adequate to inform an assessment of the vaccine's benefits and risks and support issuance of an EUA would include meeting the prespecified success criteria for the study's primary efficacy endpoint, as described in the guidance for industry entitled "[Development and Licensure of Vaccines to Prevent COVID-19](#)" (i.e., a point estimate for a placebo-controlled efficacy trial of at least 50%, with a lower bound of the appropriately alpha-adjusted confidence interval around the primary efficacy endpoint point estimate of >30%).<sup>7</sup>

### Safety data

An EUA request for a COVID-19 vaccine should include all safety data accumulated from studies conducted with the vaccine, with data from Phase 1 and 2 focused on serious adverse events, adverse events of special interest, and cases of severe COVID-19 among study participants. Phase 3 safety data should include characterization of reactogenicity (common and expected adverse reactions shortly following vaccination) in a sufficient number of participants from relevant age groups and should include a high proportion of enrolled participants (numbering well over 3,000) followed for serious adverse events and adverse events of special interest for at least one month after completion of the full vaccination regimen. The Phase 1 and 2 safety data likely will be of a longer duration than the available safety data from the Phase 3 trial at the time of submission of an EUA request and thus, are intended to complement the available data from safety follow-up from ongoing Phase 3 studies.

### Phase 3 follow-up

Data from Phase 3 studies should include a median follow-up duration of at least 2 months after completion of the full vaccination regimen to help provide adequate information to assess a vaccine's benefit-risk profile. From a safety perspective, a 2-month median follow-up following completion of the full vaccination regimen will allow identification of potential adverse events that were not apparent in the immediate postvaccination period. Adverse events considered plausibly linked to vaccination generally start within 6 weeks of vaccine receipt.<sup>8</sup> Therefore, a 2-month follow-up period may allow for identification of potential immune-mediated adverse events that began within 6 weeks of vaccination. From the perspective of vaccine efficacy, it is important to assess whether protection mediated by early responses has not started to wane. A 2-month median follow-up is the shortest follow-up period to achieve some confidence that any protection against COVID-19 is likely to be more than short-lived. The EUA request should include a plan for active follow-up for safety (including deaths, hospitalizations, and other serious or clinically significant adverse events) among individuals administered the vaccine under an EUA in order to inform ongoing benefit-risk review and assessment to support continuation of the EUA.

## **Continuation of Clinical Trials Following Issuance of an EUA for a COVID-19 Vaccine**

FDA does not consider availability of a COVID-19 vaccine under EUA, in and of itself, as grounds for immediately stopping blinded follow-up in an ongoing clinical trial or grounds for offering vaccine to all placebo recipients. To minimize the risk that use of an unapproved vaccine under EUA will interfere with long-term assessment of safety and efficacy in ongoing trials, it is critical to continue to gather data about the vaccine even after it is made available under EUA. An EUA request should therefore include strategies that will be implemented to ensure that ongoing clinical trials of the vaccine are able to assess long-term safety and efficacy (including evaluating for vaccine-associated enhanced respiratory disease and decreased effectiveness as immunity wanes over time) in sufficient numbers of participants to support vaccine licensure. These strategies should address how ongoing trial(s) will handle loss of follow-up information for study participants who choose to withdraw from the study in order to receive the vaccine under an EUA.

FDA is aware that some COVID-19 vaccine developers may wish to immediately unblind their trials upon issuance of an EUA in order to rapidly provide vaccine to trial participants who received placebo. Some developers have proposed maintaining blinding in a crossover design that provides vaccine to previous placebo recipients and placebo to previous vaccine recipients. Such strategies would impact collection of longer-term placebo-controlled safety data and evaluation of the duration of vaccine efficacy. Ethical and scientific issues associated with offering vaccination to placebo recipients have been discussed in recent statements and articles.<sup>9-11</sup>

### **3 Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 Vaccine (BNT162b2)**

#### **3.1 Vaccine Composition, Dosing Regimen**

The Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 Vaccine is a white to off-white, sterile, preservative-free, frozen suspension for intramuscular injection. The vaccine contains a nucleoside-modified messenger RNA (modRNA) encoding the viral spike glycoprotein (S) of SARS-CoV-2. The vaccine also includes the following ingredients: lipids ((4-hydroxybutyl)azanediyl)bis(hexane-6,1-diyl)bis(2-hexyldecanoate), 2-[(polyethylene glycol)-2000]-N,N-ditetradecylacetamide, 1,2-distearoyl-sn-glycero-3-phosphocholine, and cholesterol), potassium chloride, monobasic potassium phosphate, sodium chloride, dibasic sodium phosphate dihydrate, and sucrose.

The Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 Vaccine is supplied as a frozen [between -80°C to -60°C (-112°F to -76°F)] multi-dose (5-dose) vial. The vaccine must be thawed and diluted in its original vial with 1.8 mL of sterile 0.9% Sodium Chloride Injection, USP prior to administration. After dilution, the vial contains 5 doses of 0.3 mL per dose. After dilution, the multiple-dose vials must be stored between 2°C to 25°C (35°F to 77°F) and used within 6 hours from the time of dilution.

The Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 Vaccine, BNT162b2 (30 µg), is administered intramuscularly (IM) as a series of two 30 µg doses (0.3 mL each) 21 days apart.

#### **3.2 Proposed Use Under EUA**

The proposed indication and use of the vaccine under an EUA is “for active immunization for the prevention of COVID-19 caused by SARS-CoV-2 in individuals 16 years of age and older.”

## 4 FDA Review of Clinical Safety and Effectiveness Data

### 4.1 Overview of Clinical Studies

Data from two ongoing clinical studies were included in the EUA request, which are summarized in [Table 1](#) below. Study C4591001 is a multi-center, multi-national Phase 1,2,3 randomized, blinded, placebo-controlled safety, immunogenicity, and efficacy study that is the focus of the EUA review. Study BNT162-01 is a Phase 1 study that explored various vaccine candidates and dose levels and will not be discussed in detail.

**Table 1: Clinical Trials Submitted in Support of Efficacy and Safety Determinations of the Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 Vaccine**

Study Number/ Country	Description	BNT162b2 (30 µg)* participants (N)	Placebo participants (N)	Study Status
<b>C4591001</b> USA, Argentina, Brazil, Germany, S. Africa, Turkey	Phase 1,2,3 randomized, placebo-controlled, observer- blind; to evaluate safety, immunogenicity and efficacy of COVID-19 vaccine	Phase 1: 24 Phase 2/3: 21823	Phase 1: 6 Phase 2/3: 21828	Ongoing
<b>BNT162-01</b> Germany	Phase 1/2 randomized, open- label; to evaluate safety and immunogenicity, dose escalation	12	0	Ongoing

N= total number of randomized participants as of November 14, 2020. Placebo: saline.

\*Phase 1 studies included additional participants vaccinated with other dose levels and other mRNA vaccine candidates.

Studies C4591001 and BNT162-01 started in April 2020 (first participant, first visit).

### 4.2 Study C4591001

#### 4.2.1 Design

Study C4591001 is an ongoing, randomized, placebo-controlled, Phase 1/2/3 study being conducted in the US, Argentina, Brazil, Germany, South Africa and Turkey. Initially the study was designed as a Phase 1/2 study in healthy adults in the US for vaccine candidate and dosage selection, immunogenicity and preliminary efficacy, but the protocol was revised to expand the study design for inclusion of a Phase 2/3 portion to evaluate clinical disease endpoint efficacy in individuals 12 years of age and older in the US and additional sites outside of the US.

In Phase 1, two age groups were evaluated in separate cohorts, younger participants 18 through 55 years of age (N=45) and older participants 65 through 85 years of age (N=45). The study population included healthy men and women and excluded participants at high risk of SARS-CoV-2 infection or with serological evidence of prior or current SARS-CoV-2 infection. Two different vaccine candidates were evaluated, and younger participants received escalating dose levels with progression to subsequent dose levels and evaluation of escalating dose levels in the older age group (65 through 85 years), based on recommendations from an internal review committee that reviewed safety and immunogenicity data. For each vaccine candidate and dose level, participants were randomized 4:1, such that 12 participants received the vaccine candidate and 3 participants received placebo. Review of the safety and immunogenicity from Phase 1, in combination with data from Study BNT162-01 (See Section [10](#)), supported the final vaccine candidate and dose level (BNT162b2 at 30 µg, given 21 days apart) to proceed into Phase 2/3.

In Phase 2/3, participants were enrolled with stratification by age (younger adults: 18 through 55 years of age; older adults: over 55 years of age) and a goal of 40% enrollment in the older adult age group. Adolescents were added to the protocol, based on review of safety data in younger adults enrolled in the ongoing study, so the age strata were revised as follows: 12 through 15 years of age, 16 through 54 years of age, and 55 years of age and older. The study population for Phase 2/3 includes participants at higher risk for acquiring COVID-19 and at higher risk of severe COVID-19 disease, such as participants working in the healthcare field, participants with autoimmune disease, and participants with chronic but stable medical conditions such as hypertension, asthma, diabetes, and infection with HIV, hepatitis B or hepatitis C. Participants were randomized 1:1 to receive 2 doses of either BNT162b2 or placebo, 21 days apart. The Phase 2 portion of the study evaluated reactogenicity and immunogenicity for 360 participants enrolled early-on, and these participants also contribute to the overall efficacy and safety data in the Phase 3 portion. The ongoing Phase 3 portion of the study is evaluating the safety and efficacy of BNT162b2 for the prevention of COVID-19 disease occurring at least 7 days after the second dose of vaccine. Efficacy is being assessed throughout a participant's follow-up in the study through surveillance for potential cases of COVID-19. If, at any time, a participant develops acute respiratory illness, an illness visit occurs. Assessments for illness visits include a nasal (midturbinate) swab, which is tested at a central laboratory using a reverse transcription-polymerase chain reaction (RT-PCR) test (e.g., Cepheid; FDA authorized under EUA), or other sufficiently validated nucleic acid amplification-based test (NAAT), to detect SARS-CoV-2. The central laboratory NAAT result is used for the case definition, unless it is not possible to test the sample at the central laboratory. In that case, the following NAAT results are acceptable: Cepheid Xpert Xpress SARS-CoV-2 Roche cobas SARS-CoV-2 real-time RT-PCR test (EUA200009/A001) Abbott Molecular/RealTime SARS-CoV-2 assay (EUA200023/A001).

The study design includes planned interim analyses of the first primary efficacy endpoint at pre-specified numbers of COVID-19 cases (at least 62, 92, and 120 cases), and all primary and secondary efficacy endpoints were analyzed in the final efficacy analysis after at least 164 COVID-19 cases were accrued (see Statistical Analysis section, below). Participants are expected to participate for a maximum of approximately 26 months.

### Primary efficacy endpoints

Study C4591001 has two primary endpoints:

**First primary endpoint:** COVID-19 incidence per 1000 person-years of follow-up in participants without serological or virological evidence of past SARS-CoV-2 infection before and during vaccination regimen – cases confirmed  $\geq 7$  days after Dose 2

**Second primary endpoint:** COVID-19 incidence per 1000 person-years of follow-up in participants with and without evidence of past SARS-CoV-2 infection before and during vaccination regimen – cases confirmed  $\geq 7$  days after Dose 2

### Secondary Efficacy Endpoints

Study C4591001 has secondary endpoints based on different approaches to COVID-19 case evaluation criteria as follows:

**COVID-19 confirmed at least 14 days after Dose 2:** COVID-19 incidence per 1000 person-years of follow up in participants either (1) without or (2) with and without serological or virological evidence of past SARS-CoV-2 infection before and during vaccination regimen – cases confirmed  $\geq 14$  days after Dose 2



**Severe COVID-19:** incidence per 1000 person-years of follow-up in participants either (1) without or (2) with and without evidence of past SARS-CoV-2 infection before and during vaccination regimen – cases confirmed either (1)  $\geq 7$  days after Dose 2 or (2)  $\geq 14$  days after Dose 2

**CDC-defined COVID-19:** incidence per 1000 person-years of follow-up in participants either (1) without or (2) with and without evidence of past SARS-CoV-2 infection before and during vaccination regimen – cases confirmed either (1)  $\geq 7$  days after Dose 2 or (2)  $\geq 14$  days after Dose 2.

For the primary efficacy endpoint, the case definition for a confirmed COVID-19 case was the presence of at least one of the following symptoms and a positive SARS-CoV-2 NAAT within 4 days of the symptomatic period:

- Fever;
- New or increased cough;
- New or increased shortness of breath;
- Chills;
- New or increased muscle pain;
- New loss of taste or smell;
- Sore throat;
- Diarrhea;
- Vomiting.

For a secondary efficacy endpoint, a second definition, which may be updated as more is learned about COVID-19, included the following additional symptoms defined by CDC (listed at <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/symptoms-testing/symptoms.html>):

- Fatigue;
- Headache;
- Nasal congestion or runny nose;
- Nausea.

For another secondary endpoint, the case definition for a severe COVID-19 case was a confirmed COVID-19 case with at least one of the following:

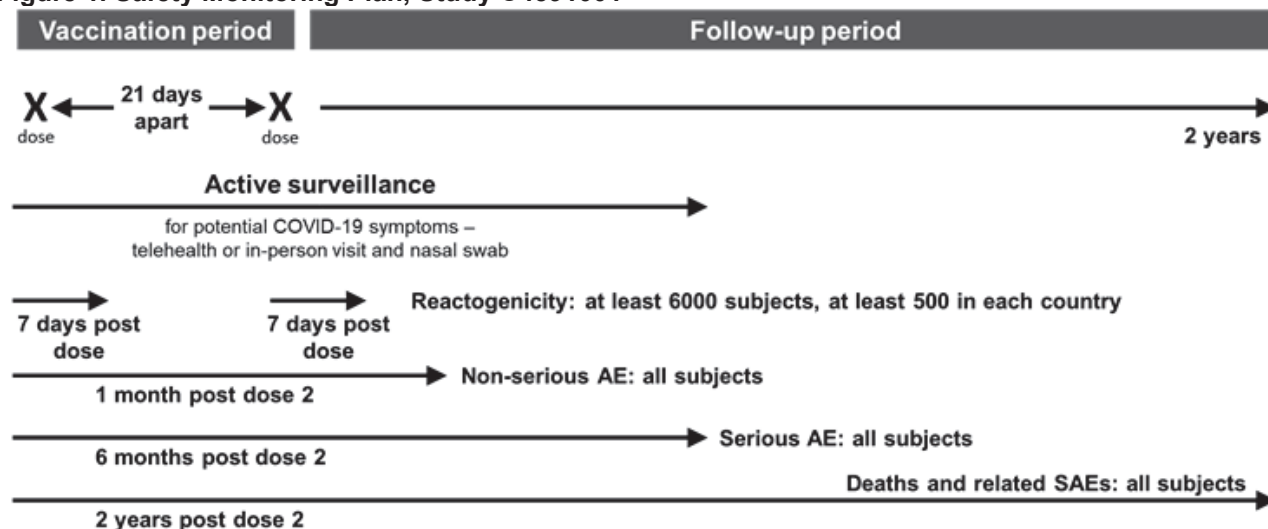
- Clinical signs at rest indicative of severe systemic illness (RR  $\geq 30$  breaths per minute, HR  $\geq 125$  beats per minute, SpO<sub>2</sub>  $\leq 93\%$  on room air at sea level, or PaO<sub>2</sub>/FiO<sub>2</sub>  $< 300$  mm Hg);
- Respiratory failure (defined as needing high-flow oxygen, noninvasive ventilation, mechanical ventilation, or ECMO);
- Evidence of shock (SBP  $< 90$  mm Hg, DBP  $< 60$  mm Hg, or requiring vasopressors)
- Significant acute renal, hepatic, or neurologic dysfunction;
- Admission to an ICU;
- Death.

## Evaluation of safety

The primary safety objective for all phases was to describe the safety of BNT162 vaccine(s) in healthy adults after 1 or 2 doses. All Phase 1 participants (n=30), and then 6653 U.S. participants (360 Phase 2, 6293 Phase 3) and the first ~500 Phase 3 participants/per country

with enrollment by October 9, 2020 (Argentina, Brazil and South Africa) recorded local reactions, systemic events, and antipyretic/pain medication usage from Day 1 through Day 7 after each dose. For all participants, unsolicited adverse events (AEs) were collected from Dose 1 to 1 month after the last dose and serious AEs (SAEs) from Dose 1 to 6 months after the last dose. [Figure 1](#) below shows the study safety monitoring plan.

**Figure 1. Safety Monitoring Plan, Study C4591001**



Reactogenicity assessments included solicited injection site reactions (pain, redness, swelling) and systemic AEs (fever, fatigue, headache, chills, vomiting, diarrhea, new or worsened muscle pain, and new or worsened joint pain), and antipyretic/pain medication use were recorded in an e-diary. As of the data cutoff date, reactogenicity assessed as solicited reactions and events are available from a limited number of adolescents 16 and 17 years of age, since enrollment for this age group began with implementation of Protocol Amendment 6 (finalized September 8, 2020) and the Phase 2/3 safety population only participants 16 and 17 years of age enrolled by October 9, 2020. Adolescents enrolled after implementation of Protocol Amendment 9 (finalized 29 October 2020) were included in the reactogenicity subset. For any Phase 3 participants who were not in the reactogenicity subset, local reactions and systemic events consistent with reactogenicity were detected and reported as unsolicited AEs. HIV-positive participants and adolescents 12 through 15 years of age were included in the reactogenicity subset with implementation of protocol amendment 6 (finalized on September 8, 2020) and amendment 7 (finalized on October 6, 2020), respectively. Solicited reactogenicity data in adolescents 16-17 years of age are not available for the reporting period. Reactogenicity data from a total of 100 adolescents 12 through 15 years of age enrolled in C4591001 Phase 2/3 were provided in the EUA submission. However, the Sponsor did not request inclusion of this age group in the EUA because the available data, including number of participants and follow-up duration, were insufficient to support favorable a benefit-risk determination at this time. Therefore, the reactogenicity data for participants 12 through 15 years of age are not presented in this document.

Clinical laboratory tests were assessed in Phase 1 at 1-week postvaccination. The planned safety follow-up for currently enrolled adolescents and adults is through 24 months after vaccination #2.



Potential COVID-19 illnesses and their sequelae were not to be reported as AEs, with the exception of illnesses that met regulatory criteria for seriousness and were not confirmed to be COVID-19. These illnesses were evaluated and reported as SAEs.

In Phase 2/3, monitoring for risk of vaccine-enhanced disease was performed by an unblinded team supporting the Data Monitoring Committee that reviewed cases of severe COVID-19 as they were received and reviewed AEs at least weekly for additional potential cases of severe COVID-19. The stopping rule was triggered when the 1-sided probability of observing the same or a more extreme case split was 5% or less when the true incidence of severe disease was the same for vaccine and placebo participants, and alert criteria were triggered when this probability was less than 11%.

### Analysis populations

For the purposes of analysis, the following populations are defined:

Population	Description
Enrolled	All participants who have a signed informed consent document.
Randomized	All participants who are assigned a randomization number.
Evaluable efficacy	All eligible randomized participants who receive all vaccination(s) as randomized within the predefined window and have no other important protocol deviations as determined by the clinician.
All-available efficacy	1. All randomized participants who receive at least 1 vaccination. 2. All randomized participants who complete 2 vaccination doses.

Phase 2/3 safety analysis populations were as follows:

- Phase 2/3 all-enrolled population: composed of a total of 43,448 (21720 vaccine, 21728 placebo) participants  $\geq 16$  years of age, regardless of duration of follow-up, for whom written informed consent was obtained. Initial enrollment included individuals 18 years and older, then included individuals as young as 16 years of age and individuals with known HIV (protocol amendment 6; finalized on September 8, 2020). As of November 14, 2020, 43.9% and 79.5% of vaccine recipients completed at least 2 months ( $\geq 8$  weeks) and at least 1 month ( $\geq 4$  weeks), respectively, of safety follow-up after Dose 2. The percentages of placebo recipients completing at least 2 months ( $\geq 8$  weeks) and at least 1 month ( $\geq 4$  weeks) were similar to the vaccine group.
- Phase 2/3 safety population (median follow-up time of 2 months after vaccination #2): comprised of a total of 37586 (18801 vaccine, 18785 placebo) participants  $\geq 16$  years of age enrolled by October 9, 2020 and received at least 1 dose of study vaccine or placebo; overall, 98.1% of participants completed the 2-dose series. As of November 14, 2020, 50.6% and 91.6% of vaccine recipients completed at least 2 months ( $\geq 8$  weeks) and at least 1 month ( $\geq 4$  weeks), respectively, of safety follow-up after Dose 2. The percentages of placebo recipients completing at least 2 months ( $\geq 8$  weeks) and at least 1 month ( $\geq 4$  weeks) were similar to the vaccine group. A total of 283 (138 vaccine, 145 placebo) individuals were 16 to <18 years of age. HIV-positive individuals were included in the all-enrolled population, but not the Phase 2/3 safety population because the number of participants enrolled by October 9, 2020 was small (n=120) and the median duration of safety follow-up was short.

#### 4.2.2 FDA Assessment of Phase 2/3 Follow-Up Duration

Study C4591001 initially enrolled approximately 30,000 participants and then several months later began enrollment of approximately 14,000 additional participants, including adolescents and participants with chronic, stable HIV, hepatitis B, or hepatitis C infections. Because of the gap in enrollment, the entire enrolled study population had a median follow-up of less than 2 months as of the EUA submission data cut-off date of November 14, 2020. However, the analyses submitted to support this EUA request meet the expectation for median duration of follow-up time, as follows:

- Submitted safety analyses for participants enrolled through October 9, 2020, and followed through November 14, 2020 (referred to by Pfizer and in this document as the Phase 2/3 safety population and including a total of 37,586 participants), represent a median follow-up of 2 months. Additionally, this safety database is larger than for the initial planned enrollment of approximately 30,000 participants.
- The date for data cut-off for the first interim analysis for efficacy was November 4, 2020, when a total of 94 confirmed COVID-19 cases were accrued. All of the participants included in the first interim efficacy analysis had at least 7 days of follow-up after Dose 2, and thus were enrolled no later than October 7, 2020. All participants in the first interim efficacy analysis were therefore included in the Phase 2/3 safety population defined above. Although the median follow-up duration for participants included in the first interim efficacy analysis was slightly less than 2 months as of November 4, 2020, these participants were also included in the final efficacy analyses with data cut-off of November 14, 2020, which extended the median follow-up for these participants to greater than 2 months. The results of the final efficacy analysis on data to November 14, 2020, indicate that the conclusions from the first interim efficacy analysis would not change when including additional follow-up to November 14, 2020.

The date for data cut-off for the final efficacy analysis was November 14, 2020, when a total of 170 confirmed COVID-19 cases were accrued. As noted above, the median follow-up duration after completion of the full vaccination regimen for all participants enrolled at that time was less than 2 months for both safety and efficacy populations, due to a gap in enrollment. Because the data for the final efficacy analysis could be submitted in support of the EUA request and could provide data from a greater number of participants than from the interim analysis, FDA has focused its review on the efficacy data from the final efficacy analyses. Additional safety analyses from this larger database of all enrolled participants were also reviewed to evaluate for differences compared with the smaller Phase 2/3 safety population.

#### 4.2.3 Subject Disposition and Inclusion in Analysis Populations

Disposition tables are presented below in [Table 2](#) (efficacy analysis populations) and [Table 3](#) (Phase 2/3 safety population). Overall, few participants were discontinued or lost to follow-up, and these and other analysis population exclusions were generally balanced between treatment groups. Of 43,448 participants in the Phase 2/3 all-enrolled population, 94.2% of vaccine recipients and 94.1% of placebo recipients completed 2 doses (data not shown).

**Table 2. Efficacy Populations, Treatment Groups as Randomized**

	<b>BNT162b2 n<sup>a</sup> (%)</b>	<b>Placebo n<sup>a</sup> (%)</b>	<b>Total n<sup>a</sup> (%)</b>
Randomized <sup>b</sup>	21823 (100.0)	21828 (100.0)	43651 (100.0)
Dose 1 all-available efficacy population	21768 (99.7)	21783 (99.8)	43551 (99.8)
Participants without evidence of infection before Dose 1	20314 (93.1)	20296 (93.0)	40610 (93.0)
Participants excluded from Dose 1 all-available efficacy population	55 (0.3)	45 (0.2)	100 (0.2)
Reason for exclusion <sup>c</sup>			
Did not receive at least 1 vaccination	54 (0.2)	45 (0.2)	99 (0.2)
Did not provide informed consent	1 (0.0)	0	1 (0.0)
Dose 2 all-available efficacy population	20566 (94.2)	20536 (94.1)	41102 (94.2)
Participants without evidence of infection prior to 7 days after Dose 2	18701 (85.7)	18627 (85.3)	37328 (85.5)
Participants without evidence of infection prior to 14 days after Dose 2	18678 (85.6)	18563 (85.0)	37241 (85.3)
Participants excluded from Dose 2 all-available efficacy population	1257 (5.8)	1292 (5.9)	2549 (5.8)
Reason for exclusion <sup>c</sup>			
Did not receive 2 vaccinations	1256 (5.8)	1292 (5.9)	2548 (5.8)
Did not provide informed consent	1 (0.0)	0	1 (0.0)
Evaluable efficacy (7 days) population	20033 (91.8)	20244 (92.7)	40277 (92.3)
Evaluable efficacy (14 days) population	20033 (91.8)	20243 (92.7)	40276 (92.3)
Participants excluded from evaluable efficacy (7 days) population	1790 (8.2)	1584 (7.3)	3374 (7.7)
Participants excluded from evaluable efficacy (14 days) population	1790 (8.2)	1585 (7.3)	3375 (7.7)
Reason for exclusion <sup>c</sup>			
Randomized but did not meet all eligibility criteria	36 (0.2)	26 (0.1)	62 (0.1)
Did not provide informed consent	1 (0.0)	0	1 (0.0)
Did not receive all vaccinations as randomized or did not receive Dose 2 within the predefined window (19-42 days after Dose 1)	1550 (7.1)	1561 (7.2)	3111 (7.1)
Had other important protocol deviations on or prior to 7 days after Dose 2	311 (1.4)	60 (0.3)	371 (0.8)
Had other important protocol deviations on or prior to 14 days after Dose 2	311 (1.4)	61 (0.3)	372 (0.9)

Source: EUA 27034, amendment 4, Table 4; c4591001-508-compliant-tables.doc, page 2.

<sup>a</sup> n = Number of participants with the specified characteristic.<sup>b</sup> These values are the denominators for the percentage calculations.<sup>c</sup> Participants may have been excluded for more than 1 reason.

Note: 100 participants 12 through 15 years of age with limited follow-up are included in the randomized population (49 in the vaccine group and 51 in the placebo group). Some of these subjects were included in the denominators of efficacy analyses, depending on the population analyzed, but did not contribute primary endpoint cases and do not affect efficacy conclusions for ages 16 years and above.

The reasons for exclusion from the primary efficacy analysis population (evaluable efficacy population) were primarily because subjects did not receive both vaccination within the predefined windows and the number of subjects affected by this protocol deviation was balanced between treatment groups (1550 in the vaccine group and 1561 in the placebo group). There were more protocol deviations noted in the vaccine group than the placebo group and most of them were medication errors, such as product storage errors, incorrect dosage administered, or the wrong product being administered.

Table 3. Disposition of All Randomized Participants, Phase 2/3 Safety Population

<b>Treatment Group</b>	<b>BNT162b2 N=18904 n (%)</b>	<b>Placebo N=18892 n (%)</b>	<b>Total N=37796 n (%)</b>
Randomized	18904 (100.0)	18892 (100.0)	37796 (100.0)
Vaccinated			
Completed 1 dose	18858 (99.8)	18849 (99.8)	37707 (99.8)
Completed 2 doses	18555 (98.2)	18533 (98.1)	37088 (98.1)
Withdrawn from Study	180 (1.0)	259 (1.4)	439 (1.2)
Reason for Withdrawal			
Adverse Event	8 (0.0)	5 (0.0)	13 (0.0)
Death	2 (0.0)	4 (0.0)	6 (0.0)
Withdrawal by Subject	84 (0.4)	157 (0.8)	241 (0.6)
Lost to Follow-up	80 (0.4)	86 (0.5)	166 (0.4)
No longer meets eligibility criteria	1 (0.0)	2 (0.0)	3 (0.0)
Refused further study procedures	0	1 (0.0)	1 (0.0)

Source: EUA 27034, amendment 3, Table 2; c4591001-safety-tables-cos-reacto.pdf, page 43.

Note: One participant was randomized but did not sign informed consent and therefore not included in any analysis population.

Note: 120 HIV-positive participants included in this table. HIV population analyses were summarized separately from analyses based on the Phase 2/3 safety population, but included in the all-enrolled population analyses presented in this briefing document.

%:n/N. n = number of subjects with the specified characteristic. N = number of participants  $\geq 16$  years of age enrolled by October 9, 2020, including 120 HIV-positive participants, and received at least 1 dose of study vaccine or placebo. N is the denominator used for the percentage calculations.

Data analysis cutoff date: November 14, 2020

The numbers of randomized participants contributing to efficacy analyses presented in this document include 100 participants 12 through 15 years of age (49 in the vaccine group and 51 in the placebo group) who had limited follow-up at the time of the November 14, 2020, data cut-off. However, the sponsor did not include this age group in the EUA request. The numbers of participants presented and used as denominators for efficacy calculations were not adjusted to remove participants 12 through 15 years of age. Because the number of participants 12 through 15 years of age is very small relative to the overall efficacy analysis populations, and no primary endpoint COVID-19 cases occurred in this age group, the vaccine efficacy conclusions are not impacted. No participants 12 through 15 years of age are included in the safety analyses. However, the safety disposition table includes 120 HIV-positive participants who were not included in the Phase 2/3 safety population analyses.

#### 4.2.4 Demographics and Other Baseline Characteristics

Overall, the Phase 2/3 evaluable efficacy population included 49.4% females, 81.9% White, 9.8% African American, 4.4% Asian participants, and <3% from other racial groups; 26.2% of participants were Hispanic/Latino; 21.4% of participants were  $\geq 65$  years of age. The median age was 51 years. The most frequently reported comorbidities were obesity (35.1%), diabetes (with and without chronic complications, 8.4%) and pulmonary disease (7.8%). Geographically, 76.7% of participants were from the US, 15.3% from Argentina, 6.1% from Brazil, and 2% from South Africa.

The population for the analysis of the primary efficacy endpoint (evaluable efficacy population) included, 36,621 participants 12 years of age and older (18,242 in the Pfizer BioNTech COVID-19 Vaccine group and 18,379 in the placebo group) who did not have evidence of prior infection with SARS-CoV-2 through 7 days after the second dose. The demographic characteristics among vaccine and placebo participants in the each of the efficacy populations were similar.

The demographics of the evaluable efficacy population used for the second primary endpoint is displayed in [Table 4](#).

**Table 4. Demographic Characteristics, Participants With or Without Evidence of Infection Prior to 7 Days After Dose 2, Evaluable Efficacy (7 Days) Population**

<b>Characteristic</b>	<b>BNT162b2 N<sup>a</sup>=20033 n<sup>b</sup> (%)</b>	<b>Placebo N<sup>a</sup>=20244 n<sup>b</sup> (%)</b>	<b>Total N<sup>a</sup>=40277 n<sup>b</sup> (%)</b>
Sex: Female	9794 (48.9)	10107 (49.9)	19901 (49.4)
Sex: Male	10239 (51.1)	10137 (50.1)	20376 (50.6)
Age at Vaccination: Mean years (SD)	50.3 (15.73)	50.1 (15.78)	50.2 (15.76)
Age at Vaccination: Median (years)	51.0	51.0	51.0
Age at Vaccination: Min, max (years)	(12, 89)	(12, 91)	(12, 91)
Age Group: 16 to <18 years	77 (0.4)	76 (0.4)	153 (0.4)
Age Group: 16 to 55 years	11589 (57.8)	11743 (58.0)	23332 (57.9)
Age Group: >55 years	8396 (41.9)	8454 (41.8)	16850 (41.8)
Age Group: ≥65 years	4294 (21.4)	4319 (21.3)	8613 (21.38)
Age Group: ≥75 years	860 (4.3)	852 (4.2)	1712 (4.3)
Race: American Indian or Alaska Native	131 (0.7)	122 (0.6)	253 (0.6)
Race: Asian	880 (4.4)	883 (4.4)	1763 (4.4)
Race: Black or African American	1957 (9.8)	1972 (9.7)	3929 (9.8)
Race: Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	54 (0.3)	29 (0.1)	83 (0.2)
Race: White	16387 (81.8)	16619 (82.1)	33006 (81.9)
Race: Multiracial	523 (2.6)	493 (2.4)	1016 (2.5)
Race: Not reported	101 (0.5)	126 (0.6)	227 (0.6)
Ethnicity: Hispanic or Latino	5272 (26.3)	5281 (26.1)	10553 (26.2)
Ethnicity: Not Hispanic or Latino	14652 (73.1)	14847 (73.3)	29499 (73.2)
Ethnicity: Not reported	109 (0.5)	116 (0.6)	225 (0.6)
Comorbidities <sup>c</sup> : Yes	9278 (46.3)	9314 (46.0)	18592 (46.2)
Comorbidities: No	10755 (53.7)	10930 (54.0)	21685 (53.8)
Comorbidity: Obesity	6934 (34.6)	7093 (35.0)	14027 (34.8)

Source: EUA 27034, amendment 4, Table 5; c4591001-508-compliant-tables.doc, page 3.

<sup>a</sup> N = number of participants in the specified group, or the total sample. This value is the denominator for the percentage calculations.

<sup>b</sup> n = number of participants with the specified characteristic.

<sup>c</sup> Number of participants who have 1 or more comorbidities that increase the risk of severe COVID-19 disease: defined as patients who had at least one of the Charlson comorbidity index (Appendix A, page 58) category or obesity only (BMI ≥30 kg/m<sup>2</sup>).

Overall, the Phase 2/3 safety population included 83.1% White, 9.1% African American, 4.3% Asian participants, and <3% from other racial groups; 28.0% of participants were Hispanic/Latino; 21.6% of participants were >65 years of age. The median age was 52 years, and safety data from a total of 103 participants 16 and 17 years of age were included in this submission. The most frequently reported comorbidities were obesity (35.1%), diabetes (without chronic complications, 7.8%) and chronic pulmonary disease (7.8%). Geographically, 76.7% of participants were from the US, 15.3% from Argentina, 6.1% from Brazil, and 2.0% from South Africa.

The demographic characteristics among vaccine and placebo participants in the all-enrolled population were similar and were also enrolled from sites in Germany (1%) and Turkey (1%). There were no significant imbalances in demographic and other baseline characteristics between the all-enrolled population and Phase 2/3 safety population with median 2-month follow-up.



**Table 5. Demographics and Other Baseline Characteristics, Phase 2/3 Safety Population**

Characteristic	BNT162b2 N=18801		BNT162b2 N=18785		Placebo N=18785		Placebo N=37586	
	n (%)		n (%)		n (%)		n (%)	
<b>Age (years)</b>	<b>16 to &lt;18</b>	<b>18 to &lt;65</b>	<b>65 to &lt;75</b>	<b>&gt;75</b>	<b>16 to &lt;18</b>	<b>18 to &lt;65</b>	<b>65 to &lt;75</b>	<b>&gt;75</b>
Age (years)								
Mean	16.40	44.99	68.84	78.07	16.36	44.78	68.84	78.10
[SD]	[0.49]	[12.66]	[2.80]	[2.78]	[0.48]	[12.72]	[2.78]	[2.81]
Median	16	46	68	77	16	46	69	77
Min, max	16-17	18-64	65-74	75-89	16-17	18-64	65-74	75-91
Sex								
Male	33 (0.2)	7385 (39.3)	1714 (9.1)	470 (2.5)	24 (0.1)	7153 (38.1)	1724 (9.2)	498 (2.7)
Female	20 (0.1)	7305 (38.9)	1513 (8.0)	361 (1.9)	26 (0.1)	7539 (40.1)	1511 (8.0)	310 (1.7)
Race								
White	37 (0.2)	11895 (63.3)	2908 (15.5)	775 (4.1)	38 (0.2)	11891 (63.3)	2930 (15.6)	756 (4.0)
African American	11 (0.1)	1477 (7.9)	186 (1.0)	20 (0.1)	7 (0.0)	1505 (8.0)	189 (1.0)	21 (0.1)
Asian	0 (0.0)	693 (3.7)	81 (0.4)	26 (0.1)	0 (0.0)	715 (3.8)	72 (0.4)	19 (0.1)
Multiracial	3 (0.0)	417 (2.2)	21 (0.1)	7 (0.0)	3 (0.0)	379 (2.0)	18 (0.1)	5 (0.0)
Not reported	0 (0.0)	82 (0.4)	11 (0.1)	0 (0.0)	1 (0.0)	98 (0.5)	10 (0.1)	5 (0.0)
American Indian or Alaska native	0 (0.0)	84 (0.4)	15 (0.1)	2 (0.0)	1 (0.0)	83 (0.4)	11 (0.1)	2 (0.0)
Nat. HI or other Pac. Isl.	2 (0.0)	42 (0.2)	5 (0.0)	1 (0.0)	0 (0.0)	21 (0.1)	5 (0.0)	0 (0.0)
Ethnicity								
Hispanic or Latino	6 (0.0)	4595 (24.4)	549 (2.9)	103 (0.5)	5 (0.0)	4616 (24.6)	558 (3.0)	90 (0.5)
Non-Hispanic/non-Latino	47 (0.2)	10009 (53.2)	2658 (14.1)	722 (3.8)	44 (0.2)	10004 (53.3)	2652 (14.1)	707 (3.8)
Not reported	0 (0.0)	86 (0.5)	20 (0.1)	6 (0.0)	1 (0.0)	72 (0.4)	25 (0.1)	11 (0.1)
Baseline Body Mass Index (BMI)								
Obese	3 (0.0)	5200 (27.7)	1079 (5.7)	248 (1.3)	14 (0.1)	5242 (27.9)	1147 (6.1)	235 (1.3)
Overweight	14 (0.1)	4901 (26.1)	1278 (6.8)	368 (2.0)	9 (0.0)	4857 (25.9)	1255 (6.7)	340 (1.8)
Baseline Evidence of Prior SARS-CoV-2 Infection								
Negative	48 (0.3)	13879 (73.8%)	3109 (16.5)	805 (4.3)	47 (0.3%)	13858 (73.8%)	3115 (16.6%)	788 (4.2%)
Positive	3 (0.0)	473 (2.5%)	53 (0.3)	16 (0.1)	3 (0.0%)	520 (2.8%)	52 (0.3%)	5 (0.0%)

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Characteristic	BNT162b2 N=18801		BNT162b2		BNT162b2		BNT162b2		Placebo N=18785		Placebo		Placebo		Total N=37586	
	n (%)		n (%)		n (%)		n (%)		n (%)		n (%)		n (%)		n (%)	
Age (years)	16 to <18	18 to <65	65 to <75	75 to >75	16 to <18	18 to <65	65 to <75	75 to >75	16 to <18	18 to <65	65 to <75	75 to >75	16 to <18	18 to <65	65 to <75	75 to >75
Missing	2 (0.0)	338 (1.8%)	65 (0.3)	10 (0.1)	0 (0.0%)	314 (1.7%)	68 (0.4%)	15 (0.1%)	0 (0.0%)	314 (1.7%)	68 (0.4%)	15 (0.1%)	0 (0.0%)	314 (1.7%)	68 (0.4%)	15 (0.1%)
Comorbidities																
No	48 (0.3)	12353 (65.7%)	2081 (11.1)	444 (2.4)	37 (0.2%)	12412 (66.1%)	2118 (11.3%)	470 (2.5%)	37 (0.2%)	12412 (66.1%)	2118 (11.3%)	470 (2.5%)	37 (0.2%)	12412 (66.1%)	2118 (11.3%)	470 (2.5%)
Yes	5 (0.0)	2337 (12.4%)	1146 (6.1)	387 (2.1)	13 (0.1%)	2280 (12.1%)	1117 (5.9%)	338 (1.8%)	13 (0.1%)	2280 (12.1%)	1117 (5.9%)	338 (1.8%)	13 (0.1%)	2280 (12.1%)	1117 (5.9%)	338 (1.8%)
Diabetes Without Chronic Complication	0 (0.0)	814 (4.3%)	497 (2.6)	156 (0.8)	1 (0.0%)	849 (4.5%)	491 (2.6%)	132 (0.7%)	1 (0.0%)	849 (4.5%)	491 (2.6%)	132 (0.7%)	1 (0.0%)	849 (4.5%)	491 (2.6%)	132 (0.7%)
Chronic Pulmonary Disease	5 (0.0)	1093 (5.8%)	286 (1.5)	89 (0.5)	12 (0.1%)	1060 (5.6%)	309 (1.6%)	66 (0.4%)	12 (0.1%)	1060 (5.6%)	309 (1.6%)	66 (0.4%)	12 (0.1%)	1060 (5.6%)	309 (1.6%)	66 (0.4%)
Myocardial Infarction	0 (0.0)	82 (0.4%)	71 (0.4)	41 (0.2)	0 (0.0%)	73 (0.4%)	83 (0.4%)	31 (0.2%)	0 (0.0%)	73 (0.4%)	83 (0.4%)	31 (0.2%)	0 (0.0%)	73 (0.4%)	83 (0.4%)	31 (0.2%)
Peripheral Vascular Disease	0 (0.0)	26 (0.1%)	67 (0.4)	31 (0.2)	0 (0.0%)	29 (0.2%)	52 (0.3%)	238 (0.6%)	0 (0.0%)	29 (0.2%)	52 (0.3%)	238 (0.6%)	0 (0.0%)	29 (0.2%)	52 (0.3%)	238 (0.6%)
Liver Disease (mild, moderate or severe)	0 (0.0)	83 (0.4%)	34 (0.2)	7 (0.0)	0 (0.0%)	67 (0.4%)	17 (0.1%)	6 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	67 (0.4%)	17 (0.1%)	6 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	67 (0.4%)	17 (0.1%)	6 (0.0%)
Diabetes With Chronic Complication	0 (0.0)	47 (0.2%)	36 (0.2)	15 (0.1)	0 (0.0%)	47 (0.3%)	47 (0.3%)	18 (0.1%)	0 (0.0%)	47 (0.3%)	47 (0.3%)	18 (0.1%)	0 (0.0%)	47 (0.3%)	47 (0.3%)	18 (0.1%)
Congestive Heart Failure	0 (0.0)	44 (0.2%)	26 (0.1)	17 (0.1)	0 (0.0%)	36 (0.2%)	30 (0.2%)	16 (0.1%)	0 (0.0%)	36 (0.2%)	30 (0.2%)	16 (0.1%)	0 (0.0%)	36 (0.2%)	30 (0.2%)	16 (0.1%)
AIDS/HIV	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0%)	1 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	1 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	1 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)
Hypertension only	0 (0.0)	2569 (13.7%)	1528 (8.1)	488 (2.6)	1 (0.0%)	2621 (14.0%)	1569 (8.4%)	9208 (24.5%)	1 (0.0%)	2621 (14.0%)	1569 (8.4%)	9208 (24.5%)	1 (0.0%)	2621 (14.0%)	1569 (8.4%)	9208 (24.5%)

Source: FDA-generated table.

Abbreviations: n = number of participants with the specified characteristic; N = number of participants ≥16 years of age enrolled by October 9, 2020 and received at least 1 dose of vaccine or placebo, N is denominator for the percentage calculations; SD = standard deviation; min, max = minimum, maximum; Nat. HI = Native Hawaiian; Pac. Isl. = Pacific Islander  
Data analysis cutoff date: November 14, 2020.



## 4.2.5 Vaccine Efficacy

### Primary efficacy analyses

#### Efficacy Results – Primary Endpoint (Evaluable Efficacy Population)

For the first primary efficacy endpoint, vaccine efficacy (VE) for BNT162b2 against confirmed COVID-19 was evaluated in participants without evidence of prior SARS-CoV-2 infection prior to 7 days after Dose 2. For the second primary efficacy endpoint, VE for BNT162b2 against confirmed COVID-19 was evaluated in participants with and without evidence of prior SARS-CoV-2 infection prior to 7 days after Dose 2. Cases were counted from 7 days after Dose 2 for both endpoints. The criterion for success was met if the posterior probability that true vaccine efficacy >30% conditioning on the available data was >99.5% at the final analysis.

The population in the primary efficacy analysis included all participants 12 years of age and older who had been enrolled from July 27, 2020, and followed for the development of COVID-19 through November 14, 2020. Participants 18 to 55 years of age and 56 years of age and older began enrollment from July 27, 2020, 16 to 17 years of age began enrollment from September 16, 2020 and 12 to 15 years of age began enrollment from October 15, 2020.

For participants without evidence of SARS-CoV-2 infection prior to 7 days after Dose 2, VE against confirmed COVID-19 occurring at least 7 days after Dose 2 was 95.0%. The case split was 8 COVID-19 cases in the BNT162b2 group compared to 162 COVID-19 cases in the placebo group ([Table 6](#)). The 95% credible interval for the vaccine efficacy was 90.3% to 97.6%, indicating that the true VE is at least 90.3% with a 97.5% probability, which met the pre-specified success criterion.

**Table 6. Final Analysis of Efficacy of BNT162b2 Against Confirmed COVID-19 From 7 Days After Dose 2 in Participants Without Evidence of Prior SARS-CoV-2 Infection - Evaluable Efficacy Population**

Pre-specified Age Group	BNT162b2 N <sup>a</sup> = 18198 Cases n1 <sup>b</sup> Surveillance Time <sup>c</sup> (n2 <sup>d</sup> )	Placebo N <sup>a</sup> = 18325 Cases n1 <sup>b</sup> Surveillance Time <sup>c</sup> (n2 <sup>d</sup> )	Vaccine Efficacy % (95% CI)	Met Predefined Success Criterion*
All participants	8 2.214 (17411)	162 2.222 (17511)	95.0 (90.3, 97.6) <sup>e</sup>	Yes
16 to 55 years	5 1.234 (9897)	114 1.239 (9955)	95.6 (89.4, 98.6) <sup>f</sup>	NA
> 55 years and older	3 0.980 (7500)	48 0.983 (7543)	93.7 (80.6, 98.8) <sup>f</sup>	NA

Source: EUA summary.pdf, page 183, Table 38; subgroup analyses by age: FDA-generated table.

\*Success criterion: the posterior probability that true vaccine efficacy > 30% conditioning on the available data is >99.5% at the final analysis

<sup>a</sup> N = number of participants in the specified group.

<sup>b</sup> n1 = Number of participants meeting the endpoint definition.

<sup>c</sup> Total surveillance time in 1000 person-years for the given endpoint across all participants within each group at risk for the endpoint. Time period for COVID-19 case accrual is from 7 days after Dose 2 to the end of the surveillance period.

<sup>d</sup> n2 = Number of participants at risk for the endpoint.

<sup>e</sup> Credible interval for VE was calculated using a beta-binomial model with prior beta (0.700102, 1) adjusted for surveillance time.

<sup>f</sup> Confidence interval (CI) for VE is derived based on the Clopper and Pearson method adjusted to the surveillance time.

Additional post-hoc analyses of the primary efficacy analysis, excluding subjects 12 through 15 years of age, 42 participants with medication errors (2 vaccine, 40 placebo), and including 77 participants with chronic, stable HIV infection were conducted and showed a comparable VE of 94.6% (95% CI: 90.3, 97.6).

For participants with and without evidence of SARS-CoV-2 infection before and during vaccination regimen, VE against confirmed COVID-19 occurring at least 7 days after Dose 2 was 94.6%, with 9 and 169 cases in the BNT162b2 and placebo groups respectively ([Table 7](#)). The posterior probability was >99.99% for the true VE being greater than 30%. The 95% credible interval for the vaccine efficacy was 89.9% to 97.3%, indicating that the true VE is at least 89.9% with a 97.5% probability given the available data.

**Table 7. Efficacy of BNT162b2 Against Confirmed COVID-19 From 7 Days After Dose 2 in Participants With And Without Evidence of Prior SARS-CoV-2 Infection, Evaluable Efficacy Population**

<b>Pre-specified Age Group</b>	<b>BNT162b2 N<sup>a</sup> = 19965 Cases n1<sup>b</sup> Surveillance Time<sup>c</sup> (n2<sup>d</sup>)</b>	<b>Placebo N<sup>a</sup> = 20172 Cases n1<sup>b</sup> Surveillance Time<sup>c</sup> (n2<sup>d</sup>)</b>	<b>Vaccine Efficacy % (95% CI)</b>	<b>Met Predefined Success Criterion*</b>
All participants	9 2.332 (18559)	169 2.345 (18708)	94.6 (89.9, 97.3) <sup>e</sup>	Yes
16 to 55 years	6 1.309 (10653)	120 1.317 (10738)	95.0 (88.7, 98.2) <sup>f</sup>	NA
>55 years and older	3 1.022 (7892)	49 1.028 (7956)	93.8 (80.9, 98.8) <sup>f</sup>	NA

Source: EUA summary, page 185, Stable 40; subgroup analyses by age: FDA-generated table.

\*Success criterion: the posterior probability that true vaccine efficacy >30% conditioning on the available data is >99.5% at the final analysis

<sup>a</sup> N = number of participants in the specified group.

<sup>b</sup> n1 = Number of participants meeting the endpoint definition.

<sup>c</sup> Total surveillance time in 1000 person-years for the given endpoint across all participants within each group at risk for the endpoint. Time period for COVID-19 case accrual is from 7 days after Dose 2 to the end of the surveillance period.

<sup>d</sup> n2 = Number of participants at risk for the endpoint.

<sup>e</sup> Credible interval for VE was calculated using a beta-binomial model with prior beta (0.700102, 1) adjusted for surveillance time.

<sup>f</sup> Confidence interval (CI) for VE is derived based on the Clopper and Pearson method adjusted to the surveillance time.

### Subgroup analyses of vaccine efficacy

Subgroup analyses of the second primary efficacy endpoint provide additional information about the VE for participants with and without evidence of infection prior to vaccination in specific populations enrolled, which is the endpoint considered to represent the general population who may receive the vaccine, as baseline evidence of prior infection may not be known by all people who might receive the vaccine. The results are displayed below in [Table 8](#). The VE point estimates for the subgroup analyses were comparable to results for the first primary efficacy endpoint.

VE point estimates were uniformly high across the subgroups examined with the exception of participants identifying as multiracial and participants with evidence of prior SARS-CoV-2 infection at enrollment, for which too few COVID-19 cases occurred to interpret efficacy data for these subgroups. Additionally, the numbers of participants and cases in some other specific subgroups, such as the adolescent age group and racial subgroups, limits the interpretability of the VE results because of the wide credible intervals, but are displayed for completeness.

**Table 8: Subgroup Analyses of Second Primary Endpoint: First COVID-19 Occurrence From 7 Days After Dose 2, by Subgroup, Participants With and Without Evidence of Infection Prior to 7 Days After Dose 2, Evaluable Efficacy (7 Days) Population**

<b>Efficacy Endpoint Subgroup</b>	<b>BNT162b2 N<sup>a</sup>=19965 Cases n<sup>1b</sup> Surveillance Time<sup>c</sup> (n<sup>2d</sup>)</b>	<b>Placebo N<sup>a</sup>=20172 Cases n<sup>1b</sup> Surveillance Time<sup>c</sup> (n<sup>2d</sup>)</b>	<b>Vaccine Efficacy % (95% CI)<sup>e</sup></b>
Overall	9 2.332 (18559)	169 2.345 (18708)	94.6 (89.6, 97.6)
Age group (years)			
16 to 17	0 0.003 (58)	1 0.003 (61)	100.0 (-3969.9, 100.0)
18 to 64	8 1.799 (14443)	149 1.811 (14566)	94.6 (89.1, 97.7)
65 to 74	1 0.424 (3239)	14 0.423 (3255)	92.9 (53.2, 99.8)
≥75	0 0.106 (805)	5 0.109 (812)	100.0 (-12.1, 100.0)
At risk <sup>f</sup>			
Yes	4 1.083 (8584)	87 1.084 (8609)	95.4 (87.8, 98.8)
No	5 1.250 (9975)	82 1.261 (10099)	93.8 (85.0, 98.1)
Age group (years) and at risk			
16-64 and not at risk	5 1.012 (8172)	75 1.019 (8239)	93.3 (83.6, 97.9)
16-64 and at risk	3 0.790 (6329)	75 0.794 (6388)	96.0 (87.8, 99.2)
≥65 and not at risk	0 0.238 (1794)	7 0.241 (1849)	100.0 (29.5, 100.0)
≥65 and at risk	1 0.293 (2250)	12 0.290 (2218)	91.7 (44.2, 99.8)
Obese <sup>g</sup>			
Yes	3 0.810 (6445)	68 0.832 (6582)	95.5 (86.2, 99.1)
No	6 1.522 (12108)	101 1.513 (12120)	94.1 (86.7, 97.9)
Age group (years) and obese			
16-64 and not obese	5 1.163 (9380)	89 1.162 (9422)	94.4 (86.4, 98.2)
16-64 and obese	3 0.637 (5116)	61 0.651 (5199)	95.0 (84.6, 99.0)
≥65 and not obese	1 0.358 (2715)	12 0.351 (2685)	91.8 (44.7, 99.8)
≥65 and obese	0 0.172 (1328)	7 0.180 (1382)	100.0 (27.4, 100.0)
Sex			
Female	5 1.149 (9102)	84 1.176 (9366)	93.9 (85.2, 98.1)
Male	4 1.183 (9457)	85 1.170 (9342)	95.3 (87.6, 98.8)
Ethnicity			

<b>Efficacy Endpoint Subgroup</b>	<b>BNT162b2 N<sup>a</sup>=19965 Cases n1<sup>b</sup> Surveillance Time<sup>c</sup> (n2<sup>d</sup>)</b>	<b>Placebo N<sup>a</sup>=20172 Cases n1<sup>b</sup> Surveillance Time<sup>c</sup> (n2<sup>d</sup>)</b>	<b>Vaccine Efficacy % (95% CI)<sup>e</sup></b>
Hispanic or Latino	3 0.637 (5074)	55 0.638 (5090)	94.5 (83.2, 98.9)
Not Hispanic or Latino	6 1.681 (13380)	114 1.693 (13509)	94.7 (88.1, 98.1)
<b>Race</b>			
American Indian or Alaska native	0 0.011 (104)	1 0.010 (104)	100.0 (-3511.0, 100.0)
Asian	1 0.095 (796)	4 0.097 (808)	74.4 (-158.7, 99.5)
Black or African American	0 0.187 (1758)	7 0.188 (1758)	100.0 (30.4, 100.0)
Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander	0 0.006 (50)	1 0.003 (29)	100.0 (-2112.1, 100.0)
White	7 1.975 (15294)	153 1.990 (15473)	95.4 (90.3, 98.2)
Multiracial	1 0.047 (467)	1 0.042 (424)	10.4 (-6934.9, 98.9)
Not reported	0 0.010 (90)	2 0.013 (112)	100.0 (-581.6, 100.0)
<b>Baseline SARS-CoV-2 Status</b>			
Positive <sup>h</sup>	1 0.056 (526)	1 0.060 (567)	-7.1 (-8309.9, 98.6)
Negative <sup>i</sup>	8 2.237 (17637)	164 2.242 (17720)	95.1 (90.1, 97.9)
Unknown	0 0.039 (396)	4 0.043 (421)	100.0 (-68.9, 100.0)

Source: EUA 27034, amendment 4, Table 11; c4591001-508-compliant-tables.doc, page 13.

<sup>a</sup> N = number of participants in the specified group.

<sup>b</sup> n1 = Number of participants meeting the endpoint definition.

<sup>c</sup> Total surveillance time in 1000 person-years for the given endpoint across all participants within each group at risk for the endpoint. Time period for COVID-19 case accrual is from 7 days after Dose 2 to the end of the surveillance period.

<sup>d</sup> n2 = Number of participants at risk for the endpoint.

<sup>e</sup> Confidence interval (CI) for VE is derived based on the Clopper and Pearson method adjusted to the surveillance time.

<sup>f</sup> At risk is defined as having at least one of the Charlson comorbidity index (Appendix A, page 58) category or obesity (BMI ≥30 kg/m<sup>2</sup>).

<sup>g</sup> Obese is defined as BMI ≥30 kg/m<sup>2</sup>.

<sup>h</sup> Positive N-binding antibody result at Visit 1, positive NAAT result at Visit 1, or medical history of COVID-19.

<sup>i</sup> Negative N-binding antibody result at Visit 1, negative NAAT result at Visit 1, and no medical history of COVID-19.

The demographics of the participants with confirmed COVID-19 cases contributing to the primary efficacy analysis are displayed below in [Table 9](#).

**Table 9. Demographic Characteristics, Participants With Protocol Defined Case (Without Evidence of Infection Prior to 7 Days After Dose 2)**

<b>Characteristic</b>	<b>BNT162b2 N<sup>a</sup>=8 n<sup>b</sup> (%)</b>	<b>Placebo N<sup>a</sup>=162 n<sup>b</sup> (%)</b>	<b>Total N<sup>a</sup>=170 n<sup>b</sup> (%)</b>
Sex: Female	5 (62.5)	81 (50.0)	86 (50.6)
Sex: Male	3 (37.5)	81 (50.0)	84 (49.4)
Age at Vaccination: Mean years (SD)	51.4 (12.47)	47.4 (15.21)	47.6 (15.09)
Age at Vaccination: Median (years)	51	48	48
Age at Vaccination: Min, max (years)	(30, 69)	(18, 79)	(18, 79)
Age Group: 16 to < 18 years	0	0	0
Age Group: 18 to < 65 years	7 (87.5)	143 (88.3)	150 (88.2)
Age Group: ≥ 65 to < 75 years	1 (12.5)	14 (8.6)	15 (8.8)
Age Group: ≥ 75 years	0	5 (3.1)	5 (2.9)
Race: American Indian or Alaska Native	0	1 (0.6)	1 (0.6)
Race: Asian	1 (12.5)	4 (2.5)	5 (2.9)
Race: Black or African American	0	7 (4.3)	7 (4.1)
Race: Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	0	1 (0.6)	1 (0.6)
Race: White	7 (87.5)	146 (90.1)	153 (90.0)
Race: Multiracial	0	1 (0.6)	1 (0.6)
Race: Not reported	0	2 (1.2)	2 (1.2)
Ethnicity: Hispanic or Latino	3 (37.5)	53 (32.7)	56 (32.9)
Ethnicity: Not Hispanic or Latino	5 (62.5)	109 (67.3)	114 (67.1)
Ethnicity: Not reported	0	0	0
Comorbidities <sup>c</sup> : Yes	4 (50.0)	86 (53.1)	90 (52.9)
Comorbidities: No	4 (50.0)	76 (46.9)	80 (47.1)
Comorbidity: Obesity	3 (37.5)	67 (41.4)	70 (41.2)

Source: FDA-generated table.

<sup>a</sup> N = number of participants in the specified group, or the total sample. This value is the denominator for the percentage calculations.<sup>b</sup> n = Number of participants with the specified characteristic.<sup>c</sup> Number of participants who have 1 or more comorbidities that increase the risk of severe COVID-19 disease: defined as patients who had at least one of the Charlson comorbidity index (Appendix A, page 58) category or obesity only (BMI ≥30 kg/m<sup>2</sup>).

Only 3% of participants had evidence of prior infection at study enrollment, and additional analyses showed that very few COVID-19 cases occurred in these participants over the course of the entire study (9 in the placebo group and 10 in the BNT162b2 group, only 1 of which occurred 7 days or more after completion of the vaccination regimen – data not shown). The placebo group attack rate from enrollment to the November 14, 2020, data cut-off date was 1.3% both for participants without evidence of prior infection at enrollment (259 cases in 19,818 participants) and for participants with evidence of prior infection at enrollment (9 cases in 670 participants). While limited, these data do suggest that previously infected individuals can be at risk of COVID-19 (i.e., reinfection). However, available data are insufficient to determine whether such individuals could benefit from vaccination.

Additional analyses of the first primary efficacy endpoint were conducted to evaluate the vaccine efficacy, by comorbidity status. VE point estimates were uniformly high across the comorbidities examined, though for some interpretation of the results is limited by small numbers of participants and/or cases.

**Table 10. Vaccine Efficacy: First COVID-19 Occurrence From 7 Days After Dose 2, by Comorbidity Status, Among Participants Without Evidence of Infection Prior to 7 Days After Dose 2, Evaluable Efficacy (7 Days) Population**

Efficacy Endpoint Subgroup	BNT162b2 N <sup>a</sup> =18198 Cases n1 <sup>b</sup> Surveillance Time <sup>c</sup> (n2 <sup>d</sup> )	Placebo N <sup>a</sup> =18325 Cases n1 <sup>b</sup> Surveillance Time <sup>c</sup> (n2 <sup>d</sup> )	Vaccine Efficacy % (95% CI <sup>e</sup> )
Overall	8 2.214 (17411)	162 2.222 (17511)	95.0 (90.0, 97.9)
Comorbidity			
No comorbidity	4 1.189 (9381)	76 1.197 (9482)	94.7 (85.9, 98.6)
Any comorbidity <sup>f</sup>	4 1.025 (8030)	86 1.025 (8029)	95.3 (87.7, 98.8)
Any malignancy	1 0.092 (704)	4 0.090 (681)	75.7 (-145.8, 99.5)
Cardiovascular	0 0.067 (534)	5 0.062 (492)	100.0 (-0.8, 100.0)
Chronic pulmonary disease	1 0.175 (1374)	14 0.171 (1358)	93.0 (54.1, 99.8)
Diabetes	1 0.176 (1372)	19 0.176 (1374)	94.7 (66.8, 99.9)
Obese (BMI ≥ 30.0 kg/m <sup>2</sup> )	3 0.763 (6000)	67 0.782 (6103)	95.4 (86.0, 99.1)
Hypertension	2 0.567 (4413)	44 0.567 (4437)	95.4 (82.6, 99.5)
Diabetes (including gestational diabetes)	1 0.177 (1381)	20 0.178 (1384)	95.0 (68.7, 99.9)

Source: EUA 27034, amendment 8, Table 4; Response to FDA 27 November Information Request, page 7.

Abbreviations: N-binding = SARS-CoV-2 nucleoprotein-binding; NAAT = nucleic acid amplification test; SARS-CoV-2 = severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2; VE = vaccine efficacy.

Note: Participants who had no serological or virological evidence (prior to 7 days after receipt of the last dose) of past SARS-CoV-2 infection (i.e., N-binding antibody [serum] negative at Visit 1 and SARS-CoV-2 not detected by NAAT [nasal swab] at Visits 1 and 2), and had negative NAAT (nasal swab) at any unscheduled visit prior to 7 days after Dose 2 were included in the analysis.

<sup>a</sup> N = number of participants in the specified group.

<sup>b</sup> n1 = Number of participants meeting the endpoint definition.

<sup>c</sup> Total surveillance time in 1000 person-years for the given endpoint across all participants within each group at risk for the endpoint. Time period for COVID-19 case accrual is from 7 days after Dose 2 to the end of the surveillance period.

<sup>d</sup> n2 = Number of participants at risk for the endpoint.

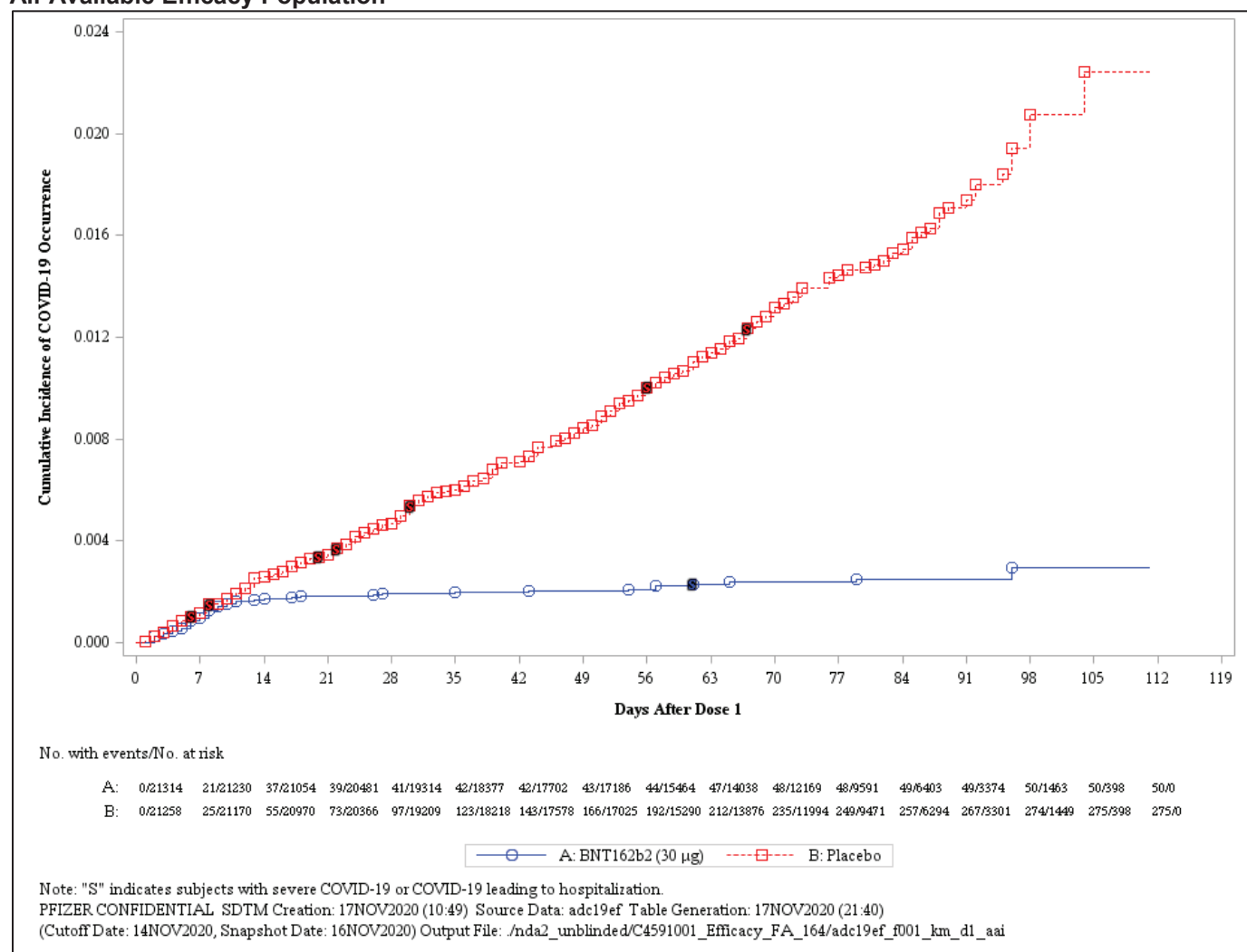
<sup>e</sup> Confidence interval (CI) for VE is derived based on the Clopper and Pearson method adjusted for surveillance time.

<sup>f</sup> Subject who had 1 or more comorbidities that increase the risk of severe COVID-19 disease: defined as participants who had at least one of the Charlson comorbidity index (Appendix A, page 58) category or BMI ≥ 30 kg/m<sup>2</sup>.

## Cumulative incidence curves

Based on the cumulative incidence curve for the all-available efficacy population after Dose 1, (Figure 2), COVID-19 disease onset appears to occur similarly for both BNT162b2 and placebo groups until approximately 14 days after Dose 1, at which time point, the curves diverge, with more cases accumulating in the placebo group than in the BNT162b2 group, and there does not appear to be evidence of waning protection during the follow-up time of approximately 2 months following the second dose that is being evaluated at this point in time.



**Figure 2. Cumulative Incidence Curves for the First COVID-19 Occurrence After Dose 1, Dose 1 All-Available Efficacy Population**

Source: EUA 27034, amendment 4, Figure 1; c4591001-508-compliant-tables.doc, page 7.

## Secondary efficacy analyses

The secondary efficacy endpoints evaluate the VE of BNT162b2 for the prevention of COVID-19 disease from 14 days after Dose 2 and based on the CDC's definition of COVID-19 disease from 7 and 14 days after Dose 2. The case splits and VE for each of these secondary efficacy endpoints were each similar to the primary efficacy endpoints described above.

### Severe COVID-19 Cases

In the final analysis of the evaluable efficacy population (7 days), four participants had severe COVID-19 disease at least 7 days after Dose 2 (one subject who received BNT162b2 and three participants who received placebo). The vaccine recipient who had severe COVID-19 disease met the severe case definition because oxygen saturation at the COVID-19 illness visit was 93% on room air. The subject was not hospitalized, did not seek further medical care, and did not have risk factors for severe disease. The three placebo recipients who had severe COVID-



19 disease met the severe case definition for the following reasons: one subject had an oxygen saturation of 92% on room air without other severe disease criteria, one subject was hospitalized for noninvasive positive pressure ventilation with bilateral pneumonia, and one subject had an oxygen saturation of 92% and ICU admission for heart block. One of these placebo recipients with severe disease also had a body mass index > 30 kg/m<sup>2</sup> as a risk factor, while the other two participants did not have any risk factors for severe disease. The vaccine efficacy of this secondary efficacy endpoint is shown in [Table 11](#).

**Table 11. First Severe COVID-19 Occurrence from 7 Days after Dose 2 - Evaluable Efficacy Population**

<b>Secondary Efficacy Endpoint</b>	<b>BNT162b2 N<sup>a</sup>=18198 Cases n1<sup>b</sup> Surveillance Time<sup>c</sup> (n2<sup>d</sup>)</b>	<b>Placebo N<sup>a</sup>=18325 Cases n1<sup>b</sup> Surveillance Time<sup>c</sup> (n2<sup>d</sup>)</b>	<b>Vaccine Efficacy % (95% CI)</b>	<b>Met Predefined Success Criterion*</b>
First severe COVID-19 occurrence from 7 days after Dose 2 in participants without evidence of prior SARS-CoV-2 infection	1 2.215 (17411)	3 2.232 (17511)	66.4 (-124.8, 96.3) <sup>e</sup>	No

Source: FDA-generated table.

\*Success criterion: the posterior probability that true vaccine efficacy > 30% conditioning on the available data is >98.6% at the final analysis.

<sup>a</sup> N = number of participants in the specified group.

<sup>b</sup> n1 = Number of participants meeting the endpoint definition.

<sup>c</sup> Total surveillance time in 1000 person-years for the given endpoint across all participants within each group at risk for the endpoint. Time period for COVID-19 case accrual is from 7 or 14 days after Dose 2 to the end of the surveillance period depending on specified endpoint.

<sup>d</sup> n2 = Number of participants at risk for the endpoint.

<sup>e</sup> Credible interval for VE was calculated using a beta-binomial model with prior beta (0.700102, 1) adjusted for surveillance time.

<sup>f</sup> Confidence interval (CI) for VE is derived based on the Clopper and Pearson method adjusted to the surveillance time.

In the all-available efficacy population, ten participants had severe COVID-19 disease after Dose 1 (one subject who received BNT162b2 and nine participants who received placebo). Five of the remaining six placebo recipients who had severe COVID-19 disease were hospitalized, two of whom were admitted to an intensive care unit. Five of these remaining six placebo recipients who had severe disease had at least one risk factor for severe disease. The total number of severe cases is small, which limits the overall conclusions that can be drawn; however, the case split does suggest protection from severe COVID-19 disease.

**Table 12. First Severe COVID-19 Occurrence After Dose 1 – Dose 1 All-Available Efficacy Population**

<b>Secondary Efficacy Endpoint</b>	<b>BNT162b2 N<sup>a</sup>=21669 Cases n1<sup>b</sup> Surveillance Time<sup>c</sup> (n2<sup>d</sup>)</b>	<b>Placebo N<sup>a</sup>=21686 Cases n1<sup>b</sup> Surveillance Time<sup>c</sup> (n2<sup>d</sup>)</b>	<b>Vaccine Efficacy % (95% CI)</b>
First severe case occurrence after Dose 1	1 4.021 (21314)	9 4.006 (21259)	88.9 (20.1, 99.7) <sup>f</sup>
After Dose 1 to before Dose 2	0	4	100.0 (-51.5, 100.0)
Dose 2 to 7 days after Dose 2	0	1	100.0 (-3800.0, 100.0)
≥7 Days after Dose 2	1	4	75.0 (-152.6, 99.5)

Source: EUA 27034, amendment 0, c4591001-efficacy-tables.pdf, page 56.

<sup>a</sup> N = number of participants in the specified group.<sup>b</sup> n1 = Number of participants meeting the endpoint definition.<sup>c</sup> Total surveillance time in 1000 person-years for the given endpoint across all participants within each group at risk for the endpoint. Time period for COVID-19 case accrual is from 7 or 14 days after Dose 2 to the end of the surveillance period depending on specified endpoint.<sup>d</sup> n2 = Number of participants at risk for the endpoint.<sup>e</sup> Credible interval for VE was calculated using a beta-binomial model with prior beta (0.700102, 1) adjusted for surveillance time.<sup>f</sup> Confidence interval (CI) for VE is derived based on the Clopper and Pearson method adjusted to the surveillance time.**Additional efficacy analyses**

Additional analyses of the first primary efficacy endpoint were conducted to evaluate the all-available efficacy population, for all participants regardless of evidence of prior infection through 7 days after Dose 2 ([Table 13](#)).

**Table 13. Primary Efficacy Endpoint –All-Available Efficacy Population**

<b>Efficacy Endpoint</b>	<b>BNT162b2 N<sup>a</sup>=21669 Cases n1<sup>b</sup> Surveillance Time<sup>c</sup> (n2<sup>d</sup>)</b>	<b>Placebo N<sup>a</sup>=21686 Cases n1<sup>b</sup> Surveillance Time<sup>c</sup> (n2<sup>d</sup>)</b>	<b>Vaccine Efficacy % (95% CI)</b>
First COVID-19 occurrence after Dose 1 – Dose 1	50 4.015 (21314)	275 3.982 (21258)	82.0 (75.6, 86.9) <sup>f</sup>
After Dose 1 to before Dose 2	39	82	52.4 (29.5, 68.4)
Dose 2 to 7 days after Dose 2	2	21	90.5 (61, 98.9)
≥7 Days after Dose 2	9	172	94.8 (89.8, 97.6)

Source: EUA 27034, amendment 0, c4591001-efficacy-tables.pdf, page 13.

<sup>a</sup> N = number of participants in the specified group.<sup>b</sup> n1 = Number of participants meeting the endpoint definition.<sup>c</sup> Total surveillance time in 1000 person-years for the given endpoint across all participants within each group at risk for the endpoint. Time period for COVID-19 case accrual is from 7 or 14 days after Dose 2 to the end of the surveillance period depending on specified endpoint.<sup>d</sup> n2 = Number of participants at risk for the endpoint.<sup>e</sup> Credible interval for VE was calculated using a beta-binomial model with prior beta (0.700102, 1) adjusted for surveillance time.<sup>f</sup> Confidence interval (CI) for VE is derived based on the Clopper and Pearson method adjusted to the surveillance time.

VE in participants in the all-available efficacy population was similar to results in the evaluable efficacy population. The VE for the prevention of COVID-19 disease after Dose 1 is 82%, in the all-available efficacy population. Based on the number of cases accumulated after Dose 1 and before Dose 2, there does seem to be some protection against COVID-19 disease following one dose; however, these data do not provide information about longer term protection beyond 21 days after a single dose.

## Efficacy summary

The data submitted in this EUA request were consistent with the recommendations set forth in the FDA Guidance on Emergency Use Authorization for Vaccines to Prevent COVID-19 and met the prespecified success criteria established in the protocol. In the planned final primary efficacy analysis, vaccine efficacy after 7 days post Dose 2 was 95%, (95% CI 90.3; 97.6) in participants without prior evidence of SARS-CoV-2 infection and >94% in the group of participants with or without prior infection. Efficacy outcomes were consistently robust ( $\geq 93\%$ ) across demographic subgroups.

Efficacy against severe COVID-19 occurring after the first dose was 88.9% (95% CI 20.1, 99.7), with an estimated VE of 75.0% (95% CI -152.6, 99.5) (1 case in BNT162b2 group and 4 cases in placebo group) against severe COVID-19 occurring at least 7 days after Dose 2.

Among all participants (regardless of evidence of infection before or during the vaccination regimen), 50 cases of COVID-19 occurred after Dose 1 in the BNT162b2 group compared with 275 cases in the placebo group, indicating an estimated VE of 82% (95% CI: 75.6%, 86.9%) against confirmed COVID-19 occurring after Dose 1, with VE of 52.4% (95% CI: 29.5%, 68.4%) between Dose 1 and Dose 2. The efficacy observed after Dose 1 and before Dose 2, from a post-hoc analysis, cannot support a conclusion on the efficacy of a single dose of the vaccine, because the time of observation is limited by the fact that most of the participants received a second dose after three weeks. The trial did not have a single-dose arm to make an adequate comparison.

## 4.2.6 Safety

### Overview of adverse events

[Table 14](#) below presents an overview of all adverse events in the Phase 2/3 safety population. A higher proportion of vaccine recipients reported adverse events compared with placebo recipients, and this imbalance was driven by reactogenicity (solicited adverse events) reported in the 7 days following vaccination and unsolicited adverse events corresponding to reactogenicity symptoms among participants not in the reactogenicity subset (see presentation of unsolicited adverse events in a later section). Proportions of participants with serious adverse events, deaths, and withdrawals due to adverse events were balanced between treatment groups.

**Table 14. Study C4591001 Safety Overview- Ages 16 years and older**

<b>Participants Experiencing at Least One:</b>	<b>BNT162b2 n/N (%)</b>	<b>Placebo n/N (%)</b>
Immediate unsolicited AE Within 30 minutes after vaccination <sup>a</sup>		
Dose #1	78/18801 (0.4)	66/18785 (0.4)
Dose #2	52/18494 (0.3)	39/18470 (0.2)
Solicited injection site reaction within 7 days <sup>b</sup>		
Dose #1	3216/4093 (78.6)	525/4090 (12.8)
Dose #2	2748/3758 (73.1)	396/3749 (10.6)
Solicited systemic AE within 7 days <sup>b</sup>		
Dose #1	2421/4093 (59.1)	1922/4090 (47.0)
Dose #2	2627/3758 (69.9)	1267/3749 (33.8)
From Dose 1 through 1 month after Dose 2 <sup>a</sup>		
Unsolicited non-serious AE	5071/18801 (27.0)	2356/18785 (12.5)
SAE	103/18801 (0.5)	81/18785 (0.4)

<b>Participants Experiencing at Least One:</b>	<b>BNT162b2 n/N (%)</b>	<b>Placebo n/N (%)</b>
From Dose 1 through cutoff date (safety population)		
SAE	124/18801 (0.7)	101/18785 (0.5)
From Dose 1 through cutoff date (all-enrolled) <sup>c</sup>		
Withdrawal due AEs	37/21621 (0.6)	30/21631 (0.5)
SAE	126/21621 (0.6)	111/21631 (0.5)
Deaths	2/21621 (0.0)	4/21631 (0.0)

Source: c4591001-safety-tables-ae3.pdf pages 216,446,459,463; c4591001-safety-tables-cos-reacto.pdf, pages 113-114.

n= number of participants with the specified reaction or AE.

<sup>a</sup> N: number of participants in the Phase 2/3 safety population.

<sup>b</sup> N: number of participants in the reactogenicity subset of the Phase 2/3 safety population.

<sup>c</sup> N: number of participants in the all-enrolled population.

Data analysis cutoff date: November 14, 2020.

### Solicited local reactions and systemic adverse events

As of the cutoff date, solicited reactogenicity data in participants 16 and 17 years of age were not collected by e-diary and are not available. Symptoms consistent with solicited reactogenicity that were reported by these participants were collected and analyzed as unsolicited adverse events and are discussed with review of those data.

#### Solicited Local Reactions

For each age group in the reactogenicity subset (younger: 18 to 55 years, older: >55 years) and overall (18 years and older), the median onset of local reactions in the vaccine group was 0 (day of vaccination) to 2 days after either dose and lasted a median duration between 1 and 2 days.

For both age groups, injection site pain was the most frequent solicited local adverse reaction. After dose 2, the younger age group reported any pain more frequently than the older age group (77.8% vs 66.1%) and pain characterized as moderate (27.1% vs. 18.0%); a similar pattern was observed after Dose 1. Injection site redness and swelling after each dose were generally similar for both age groups.

#### *Subgroup analyses by age*

**Table 15. Frequency of Solicited Local Reactions Within 7 Days After Each Vaccination, Reactogenicity Subset of the Phase 2/3 Safety Population, 18 to <55 Years of Age\***

<b>Local Reaction</b>	<b>BNT162b2 Dose 1 N=2291 n (%)</b>	<b>Placebo Dose 1 N=2298 n (%)</b>	<b>BNT162b2 Dose 2 N=2098 n (%)</b>	<b>Placebo Dose 2 N=2103 n (%)</b>
<b>Pain<sup>a</sup></b>				
Any	1904 (83.1)	322 (14.0)	1632 (77.8)	245 (11.7)
Mild	1170 (51.1)	308 (13.4)	1039 (49.5)	225 (10.7)
Moderate	710 (31.0)	12 (0.5)	568 (27.1)	20 (1.0)
Severe	24 (1.0)	2 (0.1)	25 (1.2)	0 (0.0)
<b>Redness<sup>b</sup></b>				
Any	104 (4.5)	26 (1.1)	123 (5.9)	14 (0.7)
Mild	70 (3.1)	16 (0.7)	73 (3.5)	8 (0.4)
Moderate	28 (1.2)	6 (0.3)	40 (1.9)	6 (0.3)
Severe	6 (0.3)	4 (0.2)	10 (0.5)	0 (0.0)

	<b>BNT162b2 Dose 1 N=2291 n (%)</b>	<b>Placebo Dose 1 N=2298 n (%)</b>	<b>BNT162b2 Dose 2 N=2098 n (%)</b>	<b>Placebo Dose 2 N=2103 n (%)</b>
<b>Local Reaction</b>				
Swelling <sup>b</sup>				
Any	132 (5.8)	11 (0.5)	132 (6.3)	5 (0.2)
Mild	88 (3.8)	3 (0.1)	80 (3.8)	3 (0.1)
Moderate	39 (1.7)	5 (0.2)	45 (2.1)	2 (0.1)
Severe	5 (0.2)	3 (0.1)	7 (0.3)	0 (0.0)

Source: adapted from EUA 27034, amendment 3, Table 17.

n = number of participants with the specified reaction.

N = number of participants reporting at least 1 yes or no response for the specified reaction after the specified dose.

<sup>a</sup> Mild: does not interfere with activity; moderate: interferes with activity; severe: prevents daily activity.

<sup>b</sup> Mild: 2.0 to ≤5.0 cm; moderate: 5.0 to ≤10.0 cm; severe: >10.0 cm.

\*Eight participants were between 16 and 17 years of age.

Data analysis cutoff date: November 14, 2020.

**Table 16. Frequency of Solicited Local Reactions Within 7 Days After Each Vaccination, Reactogenicity Subset of the Phase 2/3 Safety Population, 56 Years of Age and Older**

	<b>BNT162b2 Dose 1 N=1802 n (%)</b>	<b>Placebo Dose 1 N=1792 n (%)</b>	<b>BNT162b2 Dose 2 N=1660 n (%)</b>	<b>Placebo Dose 2 N=1646 n (%)</b>
<b>Local Reaction</b>				
Pain <sup>a</sup>				
Any	1282 (71.1)	166 (9.3)	1098 (66.1)	127 (7.7)
Mild	1008 (55.9)	160 (8.9)	792 (47.7)	125 (7.6)
Moderate	270 (15.0)	6 (0.3)	298 (18.0)	2 (0.1)
Severe	4 (0.2)	0 (0.0)	8 (0.5)	0 (0.0)
Redness <sup>b</sup>				
Any	85 (4.7)	19 (1.1)	120 (7.2)	12 (0.7)
Mild	55 (3.1)	12 (0.7)	59 (3.6)	8 (0.5)
Moderate	27 (1.5)	5 (0.3)	53 (3.2)	3 (0.2)
Severe	3 (0.2)	2 (0.1)	8 (0.5)	1 (0.1)
Swelling <sup>b</sup>				
Any	118 (6.5)	21 (1.2)	124 (7.5)	11 (0.7)
Mild	71 (3.9)	10 (0.6)	68 (4.1)	5 (0.3)
Moderate	45 (2.5)	11 (0.6)	53 (3.2)	5 (0.3)
Severe	2 (0.1)	0 (0.0)	3 (0.2)	1 (0.1)

Source: EUA 27034, amendment 3, Table 21.

n = number of participants with the specified reaction.

N = number of participants reporting at least 1 yes or no response for the specified reaction after the specified dose.

<sup>a</sup> Mild: does not interfere with activity; moderate: interferes with activity; severe: prevents daily activity.

<sup>b</sup> Mild: 2.0 to ≤5.0 cm; moderate: 5.0 to ≤10.0 cm; severe: >10.0 cm.

Data analysis cutoff date: November 14, 2020.

### Solicited Systemic AEs

For each age group in the reactogenicity subset (younger: 18 to ≤55 years, older: ≥56 years) and overall (18 years and older), the median onset of systemic AEs in the vaccine group in general was 1 to 2 days after either dose and lasted a median duration of 1 day.

The frequency and severity of systemic AEs were higher in the younger than the older age groups. Within each age group, the frequency and severity of systemic AEs was higher after Dose 2 than Dose 1, except for vomiting and diarrhea, which was generally similar regardless of dose. For both age groups, fatigue, headache and new/worsened muscle pain were most common.

*Subgroup analyses by age***Table 17. Frequency of Solicited Systemic Adverse Events Within 7 Days After Each Vaccination-Reactogenicity Subset of the Phase 2/3 Safety Population, 18 to ≤55 Years of Age\***

<b>Adverse Event</b>	<b>BNT162b2 Dose 1 N=2291 n (%)</b>	<b>Placebo Dose 1 N=2298 n (%)</b>	<b>BNT162b2 Dose 2 N=2098 n (%)</b>	<b>Placebo Dose 2 N=2103 n (%)</b>
<b>Fever</b>				
≥38.0°C	85 (3.7)	20 (0.9)	331 (15.8)	10 (0.5)
>38.0°C to ≤38.4°C	64 (2.8)	10 (0.4)	194 (9.2)	5 (0.2)
>38.4°C to ≤38.9°C	15 (0.7)	5 (0.2)	110 (5.2)	3 (0.1)
>38.9°C to ≤40.0°C	6 (0.3)	3 (0.1)	26 (1.2)	2 (0.1)
>40.0°C	0 (0.0)	2 (0.1)	1 (0.0)	0 (0.0)
<b>Fatigue<sup>a</sup></b>				
Any	1085 (47.4)	767 (33.4)	1247 (59.4)	479 (22.8)
Mild	597 (26.1)	46 (20.3)	442 (21.1)	248 (11.8)
Moderate	455 (19.9)	289 (12.6)	708 (33.7)	217 (10.3)
Severe	33 (1.4)	11 (0.5)	97 (4.6)	14 (0.7)
<b>Headache<sup>a</sup></b>				
Any	959 (41.9)	775 (33.7)	1085 (51.7)	506 (24.1)
Mild	628 (27.4)	505 (22.0)	538 (25.6)	321 (15.3)
Moderate	308 (13.4)	251 (10.9)	480 (22.9)	170 (8.1)
Severe	23 (1.0)	19 (0.8)	67 (3.2)	15 (0.7)
<b>Chills<sup>a</sup></b>				
Any	321 (14.0)	146 (6.4)	737 (35.1)	79 (3.8)
Mild	230 (10.0)	111 (4.8)	359 (17.1)	65 (3.1)
Moderate	82 (3.6)	33 (1.4)	333 (15.9)	14 (0.7)
Severe	9 (0.4)	2 (0.1)	45 (2.1)	0 (0.0)
<b>Vomiting<sup>b</sup></b>				
Any	28 (1.2)	28 (1.2)	40 (1.9)	25 (1.2)
Mild	24 (1.0)	22 (1.0)	28 (1.3)	16 (0.8)
Moderate	4 (0.2)	5 (0.2)	8 (0.4)	9 (0.4)
Severe	0 (0.0)	1 (0.0)	4 (0.2)	0 (0.0)
<b>Diarrhea<sup>c</sup></b>				
Any	255 (11.1)	270 (11.7)	219 (10.4)	177 (8.4)
Mild	206 (9.0)	217 (9.4)	179 (8.5)	144 (6.8)
Moderate	46 (2.0)	52 (2.3)	36 (1.7)	32 (1.5)
Severe	3 (0.1)	1 (0.0)	4 (0.2)	1 (0.0)
<b>New or worsened muscle pain<sup>a</sup></b>				
Any	487 (21.3)	249 (10.8)	783 (37.3)	173 (8.2)
Mild	256 (11.2)	175 (7.6)	326 (15.5)	111 (5.3)
Moderate	218 (9.5)	72 (3.1)	410 (19.5)	59 (2.8)
Severe	13 (0.6)	2 (0.1)	47 (2.2)	3 (0.1)



<b>Adverse Event</b>	<b>BNT162b2 Dose 1 N=2291 n (%)</b>	<b>Placebo Dose 1 N=2298 n (%)</b>	<b>BNT162b2 Dose 2 N=2098 n (%)</b>	<b>Placebo Dose 2 N=2103 n (%)</b>
New or worsened joint pain <sup>a</sup>				
Any	251 (11.0)	138 (6.0)	459 (21.9)	109 (5.2)
Mild	147 (6.4)	95 (4.1)	205 (9.8)	54 (2.6)
Moderate	99 (4.3)	43 (1.9)	234 (11.2)	51 (2.4)
Severe	5 (0.2)	0 (0.0)	20 (1.0)	4 (0.2)
Use of antipyretic or pain medication	638 (27.8)	332 (14.4)	945 (45.0)	266 (12.6)

Source: adapted from EUA 27034, amendment 3, Table 19.

n = number of participants with the specified reaction.

N = number of participants in the reactogenicity subset reporting at least 1 yes or no response for the specified reaction after the specified dose.

<sup>a</sup> Mild: does not interfere with activity; moderate: some interference with activity; severe: prevents daily activity.

<sup>b</sup> Mild: 1 to 2 times in 24 hours; moderate: >2 times in 24 hours; severe: requires intravenous hydration.

<sup>c</sup> Mild: 2 to 3 loose stools in 24 hours; moderate: 4 to 5 loose stools in 24 hours; severe: 6 or more loose stools in 24 hours.

\*Eight participants were between 16 and 17 years of age.

Data analysis cutoff date: November 14, 2020.

**Table 18. Frequency of Solicited Systemic Adverse Events Within 7 Days After Each Vaccination-Reactogenicity Subset of the Phase 2/3 Safety Population, 56 Years of Age and Older**

<b>Adverse Event</b>	<b>BNT162b2 Dose 1 N=1802 n (%)</b>	<b>Placebo Dose 1 N=1792 n (%)</b>	<b>BNT162b2 Dose 2 N=1660 n (%)</b>	<b>Placebo Dose 2 N=1646 n (%)</b>
Fever				
≥38.0°C	26 (1.4)	7 (0.4)	181 (10.9)	4 (0.2)
>38.0°C to ≤38.4°C	23 (1.3)	2 (0.1)	131 (7.9)	2 (0.1)
>38.4°C to ≤38.9°C	1 (0.1)	3 (0.2)	45 (2.7)	1 (0.1)
>38.9°C to ≤40.0°C	1 (0.1)	2 (0.1)	5 (0.3)	1 (0.1)
>40.0°C	1 (0.1)	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)
Fatigue <sup>a</sup>				
Any	615 (34.1)	405 (22.6)	839 (50.5)	277 (16.8)
Mild	373 (20.7)	252 (14.1)	351 (21.1)	161 (9.8)
Moderate	240 (13.3)	150 (8.4)	442 (26.6)	114 (6.9)
Severe	2 (0.1)	3 (0.2)	46 (2.8)	2 (0.1)
Headache <sup>a</sup>				
Any	454 (25.2)	325 (18.1)	647 (39.0)	229 (13.9)
Mild	348 (19.3)	242 (13.5)	422 (25.4)	165 (10.0)
Moderate	104 (5.8)	80 (4.5)	216 (13.0)	60 (3.6)
Severe	2 (0.1)	3 (0.2)	9 (0.5)	4 (0.2)
Chills <sup>a</sup>				
Any	113 (6.3)	57 (3.2)	377 (22.7)	46 (2.8)
Mild	87 (4.8)	40 (2.2)	199 (12.0)	35 (2.1)
Moderate	26 (1.4)	16 (0.9)	161 (9.7)	11 (0.7)
Severe	0 (0.0)	1 (0.1)	17 (1.0)	0 (0.0)
Vomiting <sup>b</sup>				
Any	9 (0.5)	9 (0.5)	11 (0.7)	5 (0.3)
Mild	8 (0.4)	9 (0.5)	9 (0.5)	5 (0.3)
Moderate	1 (0.1)	0 (0.0)	1 (0.1)	0 (0.0)
Severe	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)	1 (0.1)	0 (0.0)



<b>Adverse Event</b>	<b>BNT162b2 Dose 1 N=1802 n (%)</b>	<b>Placebo Dose 1 N=1792 n (%)</b>	<b>BNT162b2 Dose 2 N=1660 n (%)</b>	<b>Placebo Dose 2 N=1646 n (%)</b>
Diarrhea <sup>c</sup>				
Any	147 (8.2)	118 (6.6)	137 (8.3)	99 (6.0)
Mild	118 (6.5)	100 (5.6)	114 (6.9)	73 (4.4)
Moderate	26 (1.4)	17 (0.9)	21 (1.3)	22 (1.3)
Severe	3 (0.2)	1 (0.1)	2 (0.1)	4 (0.2)
New or worsened muscle pain <sup>a</sup>				
Any	251 (13.9)	149 (8.3)	477 (28.7)	87 (5.3)
Mild	168 (9.3)	100 (5.6)	202 (12.2)	57 (3.5)
Moderate	82 (4.6)	46 (2.6)	259 (15.6)	29 (1.8)
Severe	1 (0.1)	3 (0.2)	16 (1.0)	1 (0.1)
New or worsened joint pain <sup>a</sup>				
Any	155 (8.6)	109 (6.1)	313 (18.9)	61 (3.7)
Mild	101 (5.6)	68 (3.8)	161 (9.7)	35 (2.1)
Moderate	52 (2.9)	40 (2.2)	145 (8.7)	25 (1.5)
Severe	2 (0.1)	1 (0.1)	7 (0.4)	1 (0.1)
Use of antipyretic or pain medication	358 (19.9)	213 (11.9)	625 (37.7)	161 (9.8)

Source: EUA 27034, amendment 3, Table 23.

n = number of participants with the specified reaction.

N = number of participants in the reactogenicity subset reporting at least 1 yes or no response for the specified reaction after the specified dose.

<sup>a</sup> Mild: does not interfere with activity; moderate: some interference with activity; severe: prevents daily activity.

<sup>b</sup> Mild: 1 to 2 times in 24 hours; moderate: >2 times in 24 hours; severe: requires intravenous hydration.

<sup>c</sup> Mild: 2 to 3 loose stools in 24 hours; moderate: 4 to 5 loose stools in 24 hours; severe: 6 or more loose stools in 24 hours.

Data analysis cutoff date: November 14, 2020.

### Unsolicited (non-serious) AEs

A higher frequency of unsolicited, non-serious adverse events was reported in the vaccine group compared to placebo group and was primarily attributed to local reactions and systemic adverse events in subjects not in the reactogenicity subset and are consistent with solicited reactions/events reported by reactogenicity subset participants during the first 7 days following vaccination. [Table 19](#) below presents unsolicited adverse events reported by at least 1% of participants in any treatment group for the Phase 2/3 safety population.

Reports of lymphadenopathy were imbalanced with notably more cases in the vaccine group (64) vs. the placebo group (6), which is plausibly related to vaccination. The frequency of lymphadenopathy in vaccine participants older than 65 years of age was 0.1% [5/4058], compared to 0% [0/4043] in the placebo group. Throughout the safety follow-up period to date, Bell's palsy (facial paralysis) was reported by four participants in the Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 Vaccine group. Onset of facial paralysis was Day 37 after Dose 1 (participant did not receive Dose 2) and Days 3, 9, and 48 after Dose 2. No cases of Bell's palsy were reported in the placebo group. One case (onset at 3 days postvaccination) was reported as resolved with sequelae within three days after onset, and the other three were reported as continuing or resolving as of the November 14, 2020, data cut-off with ongoing durations of 10, 15, and 21 days, respectively. The observed frequency of reported Bell's palsy in the vaccine group is consistent with the expected background rate in the general population; however, since currently available information is insufficient to determine a causal relationship with the vaccine, further signal detection is warranted with more widespread use of the vaccine. There were no

other notable patterns or numerical imbalances between treatment groups for specific categories of non-serious adverse events (including other neurologic or neuro-inflammatory, and thrombotic events) that would suggest a causal relationship to Pfizer BioNTech COVID-19 Vaccine

**Table 19. Frequency of Unsolicited AEs with Occurrence in  $\geq 1\%$  of Participants in any Treatment Group from Dose 1 to 1-month After Dose 2, Phase 2/3 Safety Population, 16 Years of Age and Older**

<b>System Organ Class Preferred Term</b>	<b>BNT162b2 N=18801 n (%)</b>	<b>Placebo N=18785 n (%)</b>	<b>Total N=37586 n (%)</b>
General disorders and administration site conditions	3521 (18.7)	737 (3.9)	4258 (11.3)
Injection site pain	2125 (11.3)	286 (1.5)	2411 (6.4)
Fatigue	1029 (5.5)	260 (1.4)	1289 (3.4)
Pyrexia	1146 (6.1)	61 (0.3)	1207 (3.2)
Chills	999 (5.3)	87 (0.5)	1086 (2.9)
Pain	455 (2.4)	36 (0.2)	491 (1.3)
Musculoskeletal and connective tissue disorders	1387 (7.4)	401 (2.1)	1788 (4.8)
Myalgia	909 (4.8)	126 (0.7)	1035 (2.8)
Arthralgia	212 (1.1)	82 (0.4)	294 (0.8)
Nervous system disorders	1158 (6.2)	460 (2.4)	1618 (4.3)
Headache	973 (5.2)	304 (1.6)	1277 (3.4)
Gastrointestinal disorders	565 (3.0)	368 (2.0)	933 (2.5)
Diarrhoea	194 (1.0)	149 (0.8)	343 (0.9)
Nausea	216 (1.1)	63 (0.3)	279 (0.7)

Source: FDA-generated table.

Adverse events in any PT = at least one adverse event experienced (regardless of the MedDRA Preferred Term)

%, n/N. n = number of participants reporting at least 1 occurrence of the specified event.

of any event. N = number of participants in the specified group. This value is the denominator for the percentage calculations.

Data analysis cutoff date: November 14, 2020.

### *Subgroup analyses by age*

16 and 17 years of age: the table below represents an FDA-generated summary of unsolicited AEs consistent with reactogenicity, reported by study group and dose, and classified by MedDRA System Organ Class (SOC) and Preferred Term.

**Table 20. Frequency of Unsolicited Local Reactions and Systemic Adverse Events Reported Within 7 Days After Each Dose, Phase 2/3 Safety Population, 16 and 17 Years of Age**

<b>System Organ Class Preferred Term</b>	<b>BNT162b2 Dose 1 N=53 n (%)</b>	<b>Placebo Dose 1 N=50 n (%)</b>	<b>BNT162b2 Dose 2 N=53 n (%)</b>	<b>Placebo Dose 2 N=50 n (%)</b>
General disorders and administration site conditions	4 (7.5%)	4 (8.0%)	5 (9.4%)	2 (4.0%)
Injection site pain	3 (5.7)	2 (4.0)	3 (5.7)	0 (0.0)
Fatigue	1 (1.9)	1 (2.0)	1 (1.9)	1 (2.0)
Pyrexia	1 (1.9)	0 (0.0)	4 (7.5)	0 (0.0)
Chills	1 (1.9)	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)
Nervous system disorders	0 (0.0)	1 (2.0)	1 (1.9)	0 (0.0)
Headache	0 (0.0)	1 (2.0)	1 (1.9)	0 (0.0)
Gastrointestinal disorders	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)	1 (2.0)
Diarrhea	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)	1 (2.0)

Source: FDA-generated table.

Adverse events in any PT = at least one adverse event experienced (regardless of the MedDRA Preferred Term)

%, n/N. n = number of participants reporting at least 1 occurrence of the specified event.

N = number of participants in the specified group. This value is the denominator for the percentage calculations.

Data analysis cutoff date: November 14, 2020.

**Table 21. Frequency of Unsolicited AEs with Occurrence in ≥1% of Participants in any Treatment Group from Dose 1 to 1 Month After Dose 2, Phase 2/3 Safety Population\*, 65 Years and Older**

<b>System Organ Class Preferred Term</b>	<b>BNT162b2 N=4058 n (%)</b>	<b>Placebo N=4043 n (%)</b>	<b>Total N=8101 n (%)</b>
General disorders and administration site conditions	577 (14.2)	118 (2.9)	695 (8.6)
Injection site pain	361 (8.9)	39 (1.0)	400 (4.9)
Fatigue	175 (4.3)	44 (1.1)	219 (2.7)
Chills	143 (3.5)	19 (0.5)	162 (2.0)
Pyrexia	148 (3.6)	10 (0.2)	158 (2.0)
Pain	60 (1.5)	7 (0.2)	67 (0.8)
Musculoskeletal and connective tissue disorders	231 (5.7)	83 (2.1)	314 (3.9)
Myalgia	125 (3.1)	23 (0.6)	148 (1.8)
Arthralgia	42 (1.0)	21 (0.5)	63 (0.8)
Pain in extremity	33 (0.8)	10 (0.2)	43 (0.5)
Nervous system disorders	179 (4.4)	87 (2.2)	266 (3.3)
Headache	127 (3.1)	45 (1.1)	172 (2.1)
Gastrointestinal disorders	127 (3.1)	72 (1.8)	199 (2.5)
Diarrhea	49 (1.2)	26 (0.6)	75 (0.9)
Nausea	40 (1.0)	13 (0.3)	53 (0.7)

Source: FDA-generated table.

Adverse events in any PT = at least one adverse event experienced (regardless of the MedDRA Preferred Term)

%, n/N. n = number of participants reporting at least 1 occurrence of the specified event.

of any event. N = number of participants in the specified group. This value is the denominator for the percentage calculations.

\* Participants ≥16 years of age enrolled by October 9, 2020 and received at least 1 dose of vaccine or placebo.

Data analysis cutoff date: November 14, 2020.

FDA independently conducted standard MedDRA queries (SMQs) using FDA-developed software (MAED) to evaluate for constellations of unsolicited adverse event preferred terms that could represent various diseases and conditions, including but not limited to allergic, neurologic, inflammatory, and autoimmune conditions. The SMQs, conducted on the Phase 2/3 all-enrolled safety population, revealed a slight numerical imbalance of adverse events potentially representing allergic reactions, with more participants reporting hypersensitivity-related adverse events in the vaccine group (137 [0.63%]) compared with the placebo group (111 [0.51%]). No imbalances between treatment groups were evident for any of the other SMQs evaluated.

During review of the EUA request, FDA became aware of two cases of severe/anaphylactoid reactions in vaccine recipients during the start of the vaccination campaign in the United Kingdom following authorization of the vaccine in that country (approximately 15,000 individuals vaccinated). These reactions were reported to have occurred in the immediate post-vaccination period in individuals with medical history of severe allergic reactions and required treatment with epinephrine. The component(s) of the vaccine that may have triggered these anaphylactoid reactions are unknown at this time, and the two individuals were not reported to have known history of allergy to specific components of the vaccine. On further review of hypersensitivity-related adverse events in the BNT162b development program, none occurred during the immediate post-vaccination period, none required epinephrine treatment, and none were

otherwise classified as serious (i.e., no reported events of anaphylactoid reactions in the clinical trials). Participants in clinical trials were excluded if they had a history of significant allergic reaction to any vaccine or component of BNT162b but were not excluded for history of other significant allergic reactions.

#### Immediate AEs (Phase 2/3 safety population)

The frequency of immediate AEs reported in the vaccine group was 0.4% after Dose 1 and <0.3% after Dose 2 and were mainly consistent with solicited reactogenicity events. In both study groups, the most frequently reported immediate AE was injection site pain (BNT162b2 vaccine 0.3%, placebo 0.2%). For both study groups, no participant reported an immediate allergic reaction related to vaccination or to the saline placebo.

#### Study Withdrawals due to an AE (all-enrolled population)

Of 43,448 enrolled participants, 37 (0.2%) vaccine recipients and 30 (0.1%) placebo recipients (0.1%), and no adolescents 16 to <18 years of age, withdrew from the study due to an AE. AEs in the SOC of General Disorders and Administration Site Conditions (7 vaccine, 3 placebo) was common, with injection site pain the most frequent (2 vaccine, 0 placebo).

### **Serious adverse events**

#### Deaths

A total of six (2 vaccine, 4 placebo) of 43,448 enrolled participants (0.01%) died during the reporting period from April 29, 2020 (first participant, first visit) to November 14, 2020 (cutoff date). Both vaccine recipients were  $\geq 56$  years of age; one experienced a cardiac arrest 62 days after vaccination #2 and died 3 days later, and the other participant had pre-existing atherosclerotic disease and baseline obesity and died 3 days after vaccination #1. The placebo recipients died from myocardial infarction (n=1), hemorrhagic stroke (n=1) or unknown causes (n=2); three of the four deaths occurred in the older group ( $\geq 56$  years of age). All deaths represent events that occur in the general population of the age groups where they occurred, at a similar rate.

#### Non-fatal SAEs

In the all-enrolled population of (total N=43,448), the proportions of participants who reported at least 1 SAE during the time period from Dose 1 to the data cutoff date (November 14, 2020) were 0.6% in the BNT162b2 vaccine group and 0.5% in the placebo group. The most common SAEs in the vaccine group which were numerically higher than in the placebo group were appendicitis (0.04%), acute myocardial infarction (0.02%), and cerebrovascular accident (0.02%), and in the placebo arm numerically higher than in the vaccine arm were pneumonia (0.03%), atrial fibrillation (0.02%), and syncope (0.02%). Occurrence of SAEs involving system organ classes and specific preferred terms were otherwise balanced between treatment groups, including no imbalance overall in cardiovascular serious adverse events.

Appendicitis was reported as a SAE for 12 participants, and numerically higher in the vaccine group: 8 vaccine participants (appendicitis [n=7], appendicitis perforated [n=1]) and 4 placebo participants (appendicitis [n=2], appendicitis perforated [n=1], complicated appendicitis [n=1]). All of the vaccine participants (n=8) and 2 placebo participants were younger than 65 years of age. The cases were considered unrelated to vaccination by the study investigators and occurred no more frequently than expected in the given age groups. FDA agrees that there is no clear basis upon which to suspect that this imbalance represents a vaccine-related risk.

Three SAEs reported in the BNT162 group were considered by the investigator as related to vaccine or vaccine administration: shoulder injury, ventricular arrhythmia, and lymphadenopathy. The investigator and the Sponsor thought that the shoulder injury was related to vaccine administration. Two SAEs in the BNT162b2 group and none in the placebo group were considered by the investigator, but not the Sponsor, as related to study vaccination: ventricular arrhythmia in a participant with known cardiac conditions (n=1), and lymphadenopathy temporally following vaccination (n=1). In the clinical reviewers' opinion following review of the adverse event narratives, two of these events were considered as possibly related to vaccine: shoulder injury could be related to vaccine administration or to the vaccine itself, and lymphadenopathy involving the axilla contralateral to the vaccine injection site. For lymphadenopathy, the event was temporally associated and biologically plausible.

Among participants 16 to 17 years of age, there was 1 participant in the vaccine group who experienced an SAE of facial bones fracture, which was not considered related to study intervention by the investigator.

#### Suspected COVID-19 Cases

As specified in the protocol, suspected cases of symptomatic COVID-19 that were not PCR-confirmed were not recorded as adverse events unless they met regulatory criteria for seriousness. Two serious cases of suspected but unconfirmed COVID-19 were reported, both in the vaccine group, and narratives were reviewed. In one case, a 36-year-old male with no medical comorbidities experienced fever, malaise, nausea, headache and myalgias beginning on the day of Dose 2 and was hospitalized 3 days later for further evaluation of apparent infiltrates on chest radiograph and treatment of dehydration. A nasopharyngeal PCR test for SARS-CoV-2 was negative on the day of admission, and a chest CT was reported as normal. The participant was discharged from the hospital 2 days after admission. With chest imaging findings that are difficult to reconcile, it is possible that this event represented reactogenicity following the second vaccination, a COVID-19 case with false negative test that occurred less than 7 days after completion of the vaccination series, or an unrelated infectious process. In the other case, a 66-year-old male with no medical comorbidities experienced fever, myalgias, and shortness of breath beginning 28 days post-Dose 2 and was hospitalized one day later with abnormal chest CT showing a small left-sided consolidation. He was discharged from the hospital 2 days later, and multiple nasopharyngeal PCR tests collected over a 10-day period beginning 2 days after symptom onset were negative. It is possible, though highly unlikely, that this event represents a COVID-19 case with multiple false negative tests that occurred more than 7 days after completion of the vaccination regimen, and more likely that it represents an unrelated infectious process.

Among 3,410 total cases of suspected but unconfirmed COVID-19 in the overall study population, 1,594 occurred in the vaccine group vs. 1816 in the placebo group. Suspected COVID-19 cases that occurred within 7 days after any vaccination were 409 in the vaccine group vs. 287 in the placebo group. It is possible that the imbalance in suspected COVID-19 cases occurring in the 7 days postvaccination represents vaccine reactogenicity with symptoms that overlap with those of COVID-19. Overall though, these data do not raise a concern that protocol-specified reporting of suspected, but unconfirmed COVID-19 cases could have masked clinically significant adverse events that would not have otherwise been detected.



### Subgroup Analyses

There were no specific safety concerns identified in subgroup analyses by age, race, ethnicity, medical comorbidities, or prior SARS-CoV-2 infection, and occurrence of solicited, unsolicited, and serious adverse events in these subgroups were generally consistent with the overall study population.

### **Pregnancies**

Female study participants of childbearing potential were screened for pregnancy prior to each vaccination, with a positive test resulting in exclusion or discontinuation from study vaccination. The study is collecting outcomes for all reported pregnancies that occur after vaccination, or before vaccination and not detected by pre-vaccination screening tests. Twenty-three pregnancies were reported through the data cut-off date of November 14, 2020, (12 vaccine, 11 placebo). Study vaccination occurred prior to the last menstrual period (LMP) in 6 participants (4 vaccine, 2 placebo), within 30 days after LMP in 10 participants (4 vaccine, 6 placebo), >30 days after LMP in 2 participants (0 vaccine, 2 placebo), and date of LMP not known in 5 participants (4 vaccine, 1 placebo). Unsolicited AEs related to pregnancy include spontaneous abortion and retained products of conception, both in the placebo group. Pregnancy outcomes are otherwise unknown at this time.

### **Clinical laboratory evaluations**

Clinical laboratory tests (hematology, chemistries) were assessed in study BNT162-01 and C4591001 Phase 1. The only common laboratory abnormality reported throughout the studies was transient decreases in lymphocytes 1-3 days after Dose 1, which increased in frequency with increasing dose, were mostly Grade 1-2, generally normalized at the next laboratory assessment 6-8 days after Dose 1 and did not occur after Dose 2. Among C4591001 Phase 1 participants who received the 30 µg dose of BNT162b2, transient decreases in lymphocytes post-Dose 1 occurred in 5 of 12 participants 18-55 years of age and in 4 of 12 participants 65-85 years of age. These transient hematological changes were not associated with clinical symptoms.

### **Safety summary**

The information provided by the Sponsor was adequate for review and to make conclusions about the safety of BNT162b2 in the context of the proposed indication and population for intended use under EUA. The number of participants in the Phase 2/3 safety population (N=37,586; 18,801 vaccine, 18,785 placebo) meets the expectations described in FDA's Guidance on Development and Licensure of Vaccines to Prevent COVID-19 for efficacy, and the median duration of at least 2 months follow-up after completion of the 2-dose primary vaccination series meets the agency's expectations described in FDA's Guidance on its Emergency Use Authorization for Vaccines to Prevent COVID-19. The all-enrolled population contained more participants  $\geq 16$  years of age, regardless of duration of follow-up (43,448; 21,720 vaccine, 21,728 placebo). The demographic and baseline characteristics of the all-enrolled population and the safety population were similar. Although the overall median duration of follow-up in the all-enrolled population was less than 2 months, because the protocol was amended to include subpopulations such as individuals with HIV and adolescents, the data from both populations altogether provide a comprehensive summary of safety.

Local site reactions and systemic solicited events after vaccination were frequent and mostly mild to moderate. The most common solicited adverse reactions were injection site reactions



(84.1%), fatigue (62.9%), headache (55.1%), muscle pain (38.3%), chills (31.9%), joint pain (23.6%), fever (14.2%); severe adverse reactions occurred in 0.0% to 4.6% of participants, were more frequent after Dose 2 than after Dose 1, and were generally less frequent in adults  $\geq 56$  years of age ( $\leq 2.8\%$ ) as compared to younger participants ( $\leq 4.6\%$ ). Among adverse events of special interest, which could be possibly related to vaccine, lymphadenopathy was reported in 64 participants (0.3%): 54 (0.5%) in the younger (16 to  $\leq 55$  years) age group; 10 (0.1%) in the older ( $\geq 56$  years) age group; and 6 in the placebo group. The average duration of these events was approximately 10 days, with 11 events ongoing at the time of the data cutoff. Throughout the safety follow-up period to date, Bell's palsy (facial paralysis) was reported by four participants in the Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 Vaccine group. Onset of facial paralysis was Day 37 after Dose 1 (participant did not receive Dose 2) and Days 3, 9, and 48 after Dose 2. This observed frequency of reported Bell's palsy is consistent with the expected background rate in the general population. There were no other notable patterns or numerical imbalances between treatment groups for specific categories of non-serious adverse events (including other neurologic, neuro-inflammatory, and thrombotic events) that would suggest a causal relationship to BNT162b2 vaccine.

A total of six deaths occurred in the reporting period (2 deaths in the vaccine group, 4 in placebo). In the vaccine group, one participant with baseline obesity and pre-existing atherosclerosis died 3 days after Dose 1, and the other participant experienced cardiac arrest 60 days after Dose 2 and died 3 days later. Of the four deaths in the placebo arm, the cause was unknown for two of them, and the other two participants died from hemorrhagic stroke ( $n=1$ ) and myocardial infarction ( $n=1$ ), respectively; three deaths occurred in the older group ( $\geq 56$  years of age). All deaths represent events that occur in the general population of the age groups where they occurred, at a similar rate.

The frequency of non-fatal serious adverse events was low ( $<0.5\%$ ), without meaningful imbalances between study arms. The most common SAEs in the vaccine arm which were numerically higher than in the placebo arm were appendicitis (0.04%), acute myocardial infarction (0.02%), and cerebrovascular accident (0.02%), and in the placebo arm numerically higher than in the vaccine arm were pneumonia (0.03%), atrial fibrillation (0.02%), atrial fibrillation (0.02%) and syncope (0.02%). Appendicitis was the most common SAE in the vaccine arm. There were 12 participants with SAEs of appendicitis; 8 in the BNT162b2 group. Of the 8 total appendicitis cases in the BNT162b2 group, 6 occurred in the younger (16 to  $\leq 55$  years) age group and 2 occurred in the older ( $\geq 56$  years) age group (one of the cases in the older age group was perforated). One of the 6 participants with appendicitis in the younger age group also had a peritoneal abscess. Cases of appendicitis in the vaccine group were not more frequent than expected in the general population.

While not observed in the clinical trials, two severe/anaphylactoid reactions in the immediate post-vaccination period have occurred with use of the vaccine in the United Kingdom, in individuals reported to have prior history of severe allergic reactions. The component(s) of the vaccine that may have triggered these anaphylactoid reactions are unknown at this time, and the two individuals were not reported to have known history of allergy to specific components of the vaccine.

### 4.3 Study BNT162-01

#### Design

Study BNT162-01 is an ongoing, first-in-human, Phase 1 dose-level finding study conducted in

Germany to evaluate the safety and immunogenicity of several different candidate vaccines, including BNT162b2. Twelve adults 18 to 55 years of age received 30ug BNT162b2.

Secondary and exploratory objectives were specified to describe the immune response, measured by functional antibody titer, antibody binding assay, and cell-mediated immune responses (cytokines associated with Th1 and Th2 responses to assess for the induction of a balanced versus Th1 or Th2 dominant immune response) at baseline and various time points after vaccination, specifically 7 days post Dose 2. Adverse event monitoring was the same as in study C4591001.

## **Results**

No SAEs were reported in the BNT162-01 safety database included in the EUA submission, and the safety profile for BNT162b2 in this study was similar to that in the much larger study, C4591001.

Evaluable ELISPOT data were available from 39 participants across dose levels of BNT162b2 (data cutoff date was September 17, 2020). Evaluable intracellular cytokine staining and FACS data were available from 36 participants across dose levels of BNT162b2 (cutoff date was 04 September 2020). Data for serology results for serum neutralizing titers were available for 45 participants across dose levels of BNT162b2 (data cutoff date was September 18, 2020). Most participants who received both doses of BNT162b2 had evidence of SARS-CoV-2 S protein-specific CD4+ (39/39, 100%) and CD8+ (35/39, 89.7%) T cell responses. These T cell responses were directed against different parts of the antigen, including epitopes in the RBD, indicating the induction of multi-epitope responses by BNT162b2. Functionality and polarization of S-specific BNT162b2-induced SARS-CoV-2 T cells were assessed by intracellular accumulation of cytokines IFN $\gamma$ , IL-2, and IL-4 measured after stimulation with overlapping peptide pools representing the full-length sequence of the whole SARS-CoV-2 S protein. For benchmarking, PBMC fractions from 15 convalescent patients with virologically confirmed COVID-19 were used. The Th1 polarization of the T helper response was characterized by the IFN $\gamma$  and IL-2 production, and only minor IL-4, production upon antigen-specific (SARS-CoV-2 S protein peptide pools) re-stimulation. The SARS-CoV-2 neutralizing geometric mean titer (GMTs) increased over baseline after Dose 1, with a boost effect after Dose 2 that was most pronounced at the 30  $\mu$ g dose level.

Thus, the immunogenicity results from Study BNT162-01 showed evidence of antibody-mediated SARS-CoV-2 neutralization and a Th1 polarization in the cell-mediated cellular immune responses in healthy adults 18 to 55 years of age, which supports the final dose selection and prospect of benefit for the enrollment of larger numbers of participants in Study C4591001.

## **5 FDA Review of Other Information Submitted in Support of the EUA**

### **5.1 Sponsor's Plans for Continuing Blinded, Placebo-Controlled Follow-Up**

The Sponsor plans to offer vaccination to participants  $\geq 16$  years of age who originally received placebo and who become eligible for receipt of BNT162b2 according to local or national recommendations. The Sponsor proposes that these participants will be unblinded upon request and will have the opportunity to receive BNT162b2 as part of the study. The Sponsor also proposes that all placebo recipients  $\geq 16$  years of age will be offered BNT162b2 after completing 6 months of follow-up after Dose 2, if they did not request and receive vaccine

previously. The participants will provide consent to receive vaccination and to continue follow-up. For these participants, the Sponsor plans a total follow up period of 18 months, with one visit 1-month postvaccination and subsequent phone contacts at 1, 6, and 18 months postvaccination. Safety and efficacy monitoring during this period will include collection of AEs, SAEs, and screening and diagnosing COVID-19 cases.

## 5.2 Pharmacovigilance Activities

The Sponsor submitted a Pharmacovigilance Plan (PVP) to monitor safety concerns that could be associated with Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 Vaccine. The Sponsor identified vaccine-associated enhanced disease including vaccine-associated enhanced respiratory disease as an important potential risk. Use in pregnancy and lactation and vaccine effectiveness are areas the Sponsor identified as missing information. In addition to the safety concerns specified by the Sponsor, FDA requested that the Sponsor update their PVP to include anaphylaxis (including anaphylactic reactions) as an important potential risk and missing information in pediatric participants less than 16 years of age. CBER Division of Epidemiology reviewers' recommendations are as follows:

1. Mandatory reporting by the Sponsor of the following events to Vaccine Adverse Event Reporting System (VAERS) within 15 days:
  - Vaccine administration errors whether or not associated with an adverse event
  - Serious adverse events (irrespective of attribution to vaccination)
  - Cases of Multisystem Inflammatory Syndrome in children and adults
  - Cases of COVID-19 that result in hospitalization or death
2. The Sponsor will conduct periodic aggregate review of safety data and submit periodic safety reports at monthly intervals. Each periodic safety report is required to contain descriptive information which includes:
  - A narrative summary and analysis of adverse events submitted during the reporting interval, including interval and cumulative counts by age groups, special populations (e.g., pregnant women), and adverse events of special interest (AESIs)
  - Newly identified safety concerns in the interval
  - Actions taken since the last report because of adverse experiences (for example, changes made to Vaccination Provider fact sheets, changes made to studies or studies initiated)
3. Pfizer, Inc. will conduct post-authorization observational studies to evaluate the association between Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 Vaccine and a pre-specified list of AESIs, along with deaths and hospitalizations, and severe COVID-19. The study population should include individuals administered the authorized Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 Vaccine under this EUA in the general US population (16 years of age and older), populations of interest such as healthcare workers, pregnant women, immunocompromised individuals, and subpopulations with specific comorbidities. The study should be conducted in large scale databases with an active comparator. Pfizer, Inc. will provide protocols and status update reports to the IND 19736 with agreed-upon study designs and milestone dates. The Sponsor has proposed the following three planned active surveillance studies:

- Study Protocol Number C4591008. The Sponsor proposes to survey 20,000 U.S. health care workers enrolled in the COVID-19 HERO registry about AESI, and other clinically significant events of interest after vaccination with the Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 Vaccine. Incidence rates of these events in this cohort will be compared to expected rates. The respondents will receive follow-up surveys for a 30-month period.
- Study Protocol Number C4591011. This study is an active safety surveillance evaluation conducted within the Department of Defense Health System Databases using data derived from electronic health records and medical service claims among covered U.S. military and their families. Rates of safety events of interest in vaccinated subjects will be compared to unvaccinated comparators. The study will be conducted for 30 months.
- Study Protocol Number C4591012. This study is an active surveillance study for AESIs and other clinically significant events associated with the Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 Vaccine using the Veteran's Health Administration electronic medical record database. Vaccinated subjects will be compared to unvaccinated subjects or to recipients of seasonal influenza vaccine. The study will be conducted for 30 months.

Of note, the Sponsor will submit plans for a clinical study to assess safety and immunogenicity in pregnant women and has proposed active surveillance studies designed to monitor vaccination during pregnancy within populations expected to receive the vaccine under EUA.

4. Mandatory reporting by vaccination providers to VAERS for the following events:
  - Vaccine administration errors whether or not associated with an adverse event
  - Serious adverse events (irrespective of attribution to vaccination)
  - Cases of Multisystem Inflammatory Syndrome in children and adults
  - Cases of COVID-19 that result in hospitalization or death
5. Active surveillance of vaccine recipients via the V-safe program. V-safe is a new smartphone-based opt-in program that uses text messaging and web surveys from CDC to check in with vaccine recipients for health problems following COVID-19 vaccination. The system also will provide telephone follow-up to anyone who reports medically significant (important) adverse events. Responses indicating missed work, inability to do normal daily activities, or that the recipient received care from a doctor or other healthcare professional will trigger the VAERS Call Center to reach out to the participant and collect information for a VAERS report, if appropriate.

### **5.3 Non-Clinical Studies**

#### **Toxicology studies**

FDA toxicology reviewers concluded that non-clinical toxicology studies with BNT162b did not raise specific safety concerns, and other non-clinical studies support the vaccine's immunogenicity, reduction of SARS-CoV-2 pulmonary viral load in animal challenge models, and absence of findings suggesting risk of vaccine-enhanced disease.

To support their EUA request, Pfizer submitted the following general toxicology studies:

1. Repeat-dose toxicity study of three LNP-formulated RNA platforms encoding for viral proteins by repeated intramuscular administration to Wistar Han rats. Study number: 38166. For additional details, please see FDA toxicology review memo for IND 19736 amendments 0 and 32.
2. 17-day intramuscular toxicity study of BNT162B2 (V9) and BNT162B3C In Wistar Han rats with a 3-week recovery. Study number: 20GR142. For additional details, please see FDA toxicology review memo IND 19736 amendment 141.

Based on nonclinical toxicity assessments, there are no significant safety issues to report. The following DART study is still in progress and will be reviewed when submitted: Combined Fertility and Developmental Study (Including Teratogenicity and Postnatal Investigations) of BNT162b1, BNT162b2 and BNT162b3 by the Intramuscular Route in the Wistar Rat.

### **Other non-clinical studies**

Several nonclinical studies in mice and rhesus macaques were conducted to support the safety and efficacy of BNT162b2. BNT162b2 was highly immunogenic in mice with strong antigen-binding IgG and high titer neutralizing antibody responses together with a Th1-phenotype CD4+ response, as well as an IFN $\gamma$ +, IL-2+, CD8+ T-cell response, after a single immunization. BNT162b2 was also assessed for immunogenicity and for protection against an infectious SARS-CoV-2 challenge in rhesus macaques. Rhesus macaques immunized intramuscularly had readily detectable S1-binding IgG and SARS-CoV-2 neutralizing titers (NT<sub>50</sub>) as early as 14 days after a single immunization, with substantial increases following the second immunization. Animals were challenged with  $1.05 \times 10^6$  plaque forming units of SARS-CoV-2 (strain USA-WA1/2020) and there was a significant decrease in viral RNA detection in bronchoalveolar lavage fluid in the BNT162b2-immunized macaques as compared with the control-immunized rhesus macaques. Further, there was no radiographic evidence of vaccine-elicited enhanced disease in immunized animals. Based on current hypotheses regarding the etiology of vaccine-associated enhanced disease, the provided data are reassuring due to: (1) the robust induction of functional (i.e., neutralizing) antibodies in mice and rhesus macaques; (2) the Th1 bias in T cell responses; and (3) the lack of disease in vaccinated rhesus macaques challenged with SARS-CoV-2.

### **5.4 Chemistry, Manufacturing, and Control (CMC) Information**

FDA CMC reviewers concluded that the CMC information was consistent with the recommendations set forth in FDA's Guidance on Emergency Use Authorization for Vaccines to Prevent COVID-19, and that the Sponsor provided adequate information to ensure the vaccine's quality and consistency for authorization of the product under an EUA.

The manufacturing process for the BNT162b2 drug substance (DS) consists of two major steps: *in vitro* transcription and purification of the modRNA. The BNT162b2 drug product (DP) is manufactured by mixing the modRNA DS with lipids during lipid particle (LNP) formulation followed by fill/finish. To support the EUA request, in-process, release, and characterization data for a minimum of three process performance qualification (PPQ) DS batches for each DS manufacturing facility were provided. Certificates of Analysis (CoAs) for a minimum of three GMP commercial-scale DP lots from each DP manufacturing node were requested from the Sponsor to demonstrate DP process performance and consistency. DP data from four manufacturing nodes were available during the EUA review. In addition, to support vaccine



supply and availability, data from two additional nodes will be submitted to the EUA between December 17 and December 23, 2020. Once authorized, the Sponsor will submit the CoAs of DP lots to be distributed under EUA for review at least 48 hours prior to lot distribution.

The DS manufacturing process underwent changes during vaccine development. (b) (4)

A comprehensive analytical comparability assessment has been performed and the submitted data support the comparability of (b) (4) with (b) (4) for the manufacture of BNT162b2 DS. (b) (4)

For DP, the manufacturing process was changed from a Classical process to an Upscale process involving an increase in batch size (capable of accommodating larger RNA input) to meet commercial need. A comparison of available DP batch release data and an in-depth analytical comparability assessment between six representative Classical process DP batches and one Upscale process DP batch support the use of the Upscale process for DP manufacture under emergency use. A more comprehensive comparability assessment encompassing additional lots from multiple DP manufacturing nodes is ongoing and the results will be provided to the EUA upon completion of the study.

Stability studies have been designed to support the use of vaccine under the EUA. All available stability data generated using the BNT162b2 DS and DP lots support the emergency deployment of the Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 Vaccine. All stability studies of the DS and DP lots are ongoing and will continue to be monitored. Data will be submitted to the EUA as they become available.

The analytical procedures developed and used for the release and stability monitoring of BNT162b2 DS and DP include tests to ensure their identity, purity, quality, and potency. The assays are appropriate and acceptable to be used for the control of DS/DP quality. All analytical procedures used for the release of emergency supply DS and DP have been adequately qualified. The summaries of the qualification results demonstrate precision, accuracy, sensitivity, specificity, and reproducibility for each evaluated analytical assay, indicating that they are suitable for the intended use.

The manufacture of the Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 Vaccine is performed at a number of facilities. For each of these facilities, FDA requested and reviewed information on equipment, facilities, quality systems and controls, container closure systems as well as other information as per the guidance, "Emergency Use Authorization for Vaccines to Prevent COVID-19, October 2020", to ensure that there is adequate control of the manufacturing processes and facilities.

In particular, the following information was assessed:

- Facilities appear to be adequately designed and maintained and manufacturing process, personnel, air direction and waste flow are suitable for manufacturing.
- Multiple product manufacturing areas and equipment used to manufacture the COVID-19 vaccine were assessed and cleaning and changeover procedures were evaluated and appear adequate. Cross-contamination controls appear suitable to mitigate risk of cross contamination.
- The successful qualification of critical equipment for drug substance and drug product manufacturing was verified.



- Aseptic process information and validation studies were assessed and appear acceptable.
- Drug product solution sterilization by filtration was reviewed and appears acceptable.
- Sterilization and depyrogenation of pertinent equipment and materials, including container/closure components, description and validation studies appear acceptable.
- Utilities qualification studies including HVAC systems, appear adequate. Air cleanliness of the manufacturing cleanrooms were adequately controlled and maintained.
- Container/closure integrity studies to ensure sterility of drug product in the final container were conducted and appear adequate.

FDA DMPQ reviewers concluded that all the facilities were adequate to support the use of the Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 Vaccine under an Emergency Use Authorization.

## **5.5 Clinical Assay Information**

Two clinical diagnostic assays (Cepheid Xpert Xpress RT-PCR assay for the detection of SARS-CoV-2 in clinical specimens and Roche Elecsys Anti-SARS-CoV-2 assay for the evaluation of serostatus to SARS-CoV-2) were used to assess clinical endpoints. Both assays have received FDA authorization under EUA. The Cepheid Xpert Xpress RT-PCR assay is used to assess viral infection of the subjects before vaccination and to confirm COVID-19 cases during study follow-up. The Roche Elecsys Anti-SARS-CoV-2 assay is used to assess serostatus of the subjects before vaccination. Data were submitted to support the suitability of both the Cepheid Xpert Xpress assay and the Roche Elecsys Anti-SARS-CoV-2 assay for their intended use in Phase 2/3 clinical studies when performed at Pfizer's testing facility (Pfizer Vaccine Research and Development; Pearl River, NY).

## **5.6 Inspections of Clinical Study Sites**

Bioresearch Monitoring (BIMO) inspections were conducted at six domestic clinical investigator sites participating in the conduct of study protocol C4591001. Based on the preliminary review of the inspection reports, the FDA reviewers concluded the inspections did not reveal problems impacting the data submitted in support of this EUA.

## **5.7 EUA Prescribing Information and Fact Sheets**

The Prescribing Information, Fact Sheet for Health Care Providers, Fact Sheet for Recipients were reviewed, and suggested revisions sent to the sponsor. The revised Fact Sheets are accurate, not misleading, and appropriate for the proposed use of the product under EUA.

# **6 Benefit/Risk Assessment in the Context of Proposed Indication and Use Under EUA**

## **6.1 Known Benefits**

The known benefits among recipients of the proposed vaccine relative to placebo are:

- Reduction in the risk of confirmed COVID-19 occurring at least 7 days after Dose 2
- Reduction in the risk of confirmed COVID-19 after Dose 1 and before Dose 2
- Reduction in the risk of confirmed severe COVID-19 any time after Dose 1

The protocol-specified 2-dose vaccination regimen was highly effective in preventing PCR-confirmed COVID-19 occurring at least 7 days after completion of the vaccination regimen.

Additional primary efficacy analyses in the all-available efficacy population, including participants who had protocol violations, showed consistency with outcomes in the primary analysis population. Efficacy findings were also consistent across various subgroups, including racial and ethnic minorities, participants aged 65 years and older, and those with one or more of the following conditions: obesity, diabetes, hypertension, and chronic cardiopulmonary diseases.

Among participants with no evidence of COVID-19 prior to vaccination, the vaccine was effective in reducing the risk of COVID-19 and severe COVID-19 after Dose 1. Fewer severe cases were also observed in the vaccine recipients relative to recipients of placebo during the follow up period after Dose 1. The findings post Dose 1, from a post-hoc analysis, cannot be the basis to assess the potential efficacy of the vaccine when administered as a single dose because the period of observation is limited by the fact that most participants received a second dose three weeks after the first one.

## **6.2 Unknown Benefits/Data Gaps**

### **Duration of protection**

As the interim and final analyses have a limited length of follow-up, it is not possible to assess sustained efficacy over a period longer than 2 months.

### **Effectiveness in certain populations at high-risk of severe COVID-19**

Although the proportion of participants at high risk of severe COVID-19 is adequate for the overall evaluation of safety in the available follow-up period, the subset of certain groups such as immunocompromised individuals (e.g., those with HIV/AIDS) was too small to evaluate efficacy outcomes.

### **Effectiveness in individuals previously infected with SARS-CoV-2**

The primary endpoint was evaluated in individuals without prior evidence of COVID-19 disease, and very few cases of confirmed COVID-19 occurred among participants with evidence of infection prior to vaccination. Therefore, available data were insufficient to make conclusions about benefit in individuals with prior SARS-CoV-2 infection. However, available data, while limited, do suggest that previously infected individuals can be at risk of COVID-19 (i.e., reinfection).

### **Effectiveness in pediatric populations**

The representation of pediatric participants in the study population was too small to adequately evaluate efficacy in pediatric age groups younger than 16 years. No efficacy data are available from participants ages 15 years and younger. Although adolescents 16 to 17 years of age were included in the overall efficacy analysis, only one confirmed COVID-19 case was reported in this age group. However, it is biologically reasonable to extrapolate that effectiveness in ages 16 to 17 years would be similar to effectiveness in younger adults. Efficacy surveillance continued beyond November 14, 2020, and the Sponsor has represented that additional data will be provided in a BLA.

### **Future vaccine effectiveness as influenced by characteristics of the pandemic, changes in the virus, and/or potential effects of co-infections**

The study enrollment and follow-up occurred during the period of July 27 to November 14, 2020, in various geographical locations. The evolution of the pandemic characteristics, such as increased attack rates, increased exposure of subpopulations, as well as potential changes in the virus infectivity, antigenically significant mutations to the S protein, and/or the effect of co-infections may potentially limit the generalizability of the efficacy conclusions over time. Continued evaluation of vaccine effectiveness following issuance of an EUA and/or licensure will be critical to address these uncertainties.

### **Vaccine effectiveness against asymptomatic infection**

Data are limited to assess the effect of the vaccine against asymptomatic infection as measured by detection of the virus and/or detection of antibodies against non-vaccine antigens that would indicate infection rather than an immune response induced by the vaccine. Additional evaluations will be needed to assess the effect of the vaccine in preventing asymptomatic infection, including data from clinical trials and from the vaccine's use post-authorization.

### **Vaccine effectiveness against long-term effects of COVID-19 disease**

COVID-19 disease may have long-term effects on certain organs, and at present it is not possible to assess whether the vaccine will have an impact on specific long-term sequelae of COVID-19 disease in individuals who are infected despite vaccination. Demonstrated high efficacy against symptomatic COVID-19 should translate to overall prevention of COVID-19-related sequelae in vaccinated populations, though it is possible that asymptomatic infections may not be prevented as effectively as symptomatic infections and may be associated with sequelae that are either late-onset or undetected at the time of infection (e.g., myocarditis). Additional evaluations will be needed to assess the effect of the vaccine in preventing long-term effects of COVID-19, including data from clinical trials and from the vaccine's use post-authorization.

### **Vaccine effectiveness against mortality**

A larger number of individuals at high risk of COVID-19 and higher attack rates would be needed to confirm efficacy of the vaccine against mortality. However, non-COVID vaccines (e.g., influenza) that are efficacious against disease have also been shown to prevent disease-associated death.<sup>12-15</sup> Benefits in preventing death should be evaluated in large observational studies following authorization.

### **Vaccine effectiveness against transmission of SARS-CoV-2**

Data are limited to assess the effect of the vaccine against transmission of SARS-CoV-2 from individuals who are infected despite vaccination. Demonstrated high efficacy against symptomatic COVID-19 may translate to overall prevention of transmission in populations with high enough vaccine uptake, though it is possible that if efficacy against asymptomatic infection were lower than efficacy against symptomatic infection, asymptomatic cases in combination with reduced mask-wearing and social distancing could result in significant continued transmission. Additional evaluations including data from clinical trials and from vaccine use post-authorization will be needed to assess the effect of the vaccine in preventing virus shedding and transmission, in particular in individuals with asymptomatic infection.

### 6.3 Known Risks

The vaccine has been shown to elicit increased local and systemic adverse reactions as compared to those in the placebo arm, usually lasting a few days. The most common solicited adverse reactions were injection site reactions (84.1%), fatigue (62.9%), headache (55.1%), muscle pain (38.3%), chills (31.9%), joint pain (23.6%), fever (14.2%). Adverse reactions characterized as reactogenicity were generally mild to moderate. The number of subjects reporting hypersensitivity-related adverse events was numerically higher in the vaccine group compared with the placebo group (137 [0.63%] vs. 111 [0.51%]). Severe adverse reactions occurred in 0.0–4.6% of participants, were more frequent after Dose 2 than after Dose 1 and were generally less frequent in older adults ( $\geq 56$  years of age) ( $\leq 2.8\%$ ) as compared to younger participants ( $\leq 4.6\%$ ). Among reported unsolicited adverse events, lymphadenopathy occurred more frequently in the vaccine group than the placebo group and a relationship to vaccination is biologically plausible.

Serious adverse events, while uncommon ( $<1.0\%$ ), represented medical events that occur in the general population at similar frequency as observed in the study. Three SAEs in the BNT162b2 group were considered related by the investigator, but not the Sponsor, as related to study vaccination: shoulder injury ( $n=1$ ), ventricular arrhythmia in a participant with known cardiac conditions ( $n=1$ ), and lymphadenopathy temporally related following vaccination ( $n=1$ ). We considered two of the events as possibly related to vaccine: the shoulder injury possibly due to vaccine administration or the vaccine itself and lymphadenopathy. Lymphadenopathy was temporally associated and biologically plausible.

No specific safety concerns were identified in subgroup analyses by age, race, ethnicity, medical comorbidities, or prior SARS-CoV-2 infection. Although participants 16 to 17 years of age were enrolled in the Phase 3 trial, safety data for this age group are limited. However, available data are consistent with the safety profile in the adult population, and it is biologically reasonable to extrapolate the greater safety experience in adults, in particular younger adults, to the oldest pediatric age group of 16 to 17 years.

While not observed in the clinical trials, two severe/anaphylactoid reactions in the immediate post-vaccination period have occurred with use of the vaccine in the United Kingdom, in individuals reported to have prior history of severe allergic reactions. The component(s) of the vaccine that may have triggered these anaphylactic reactions are unknown at this time, and the two individuals were not reported to have known history of allergy to specific components of the vaccine. Risk of allergic reactions, including the potential for severe allergic reactions and the need for vaccine providers to be able to manage them should they occur and a contraindication for use in individuals with known allergy to any component of the vaccine, are described in the vaccine Fact Sheets and Prescribing Information. Additionally, risk of anaphylaxis/severe allergic reactions will be further evaluated as part of the pharmacovigilance plan for the vaccine.

### 6.4 Unknown Risks/Data Gaps

#### Safety in certain subpopulations

There are currently insufficient data to make conclusions about the safety of the vaccine in subpopulations such as children less than 16 years of age, pregnant and lactating individuals, and immunocompromised individuals.

### **Adverse reactions that are very uncommon or that require longer follow-up to be detected**

Following authorization of the vaccine, use in large numbers of individuals may reveal additional, potentially less frequent and/or more serious adverse events not detected in the trial safety population of nearly 44,000 participants over the period of follow up at this time. Active and passive safety surveillance will continue during the post authorization period to detect new safety signals.

A numerically greater number of appendicitis cases occurred in the vaccine group but occurred no more frequently than expected in the given age groups and do not raise a clear concern at this time for a causal relationship to study vaccination. Although the safety database revealed an imbalance of cases of Bell's palsy (4 in the vaccine group and none in the placebo group), causal relationship is less certain because the number of cases was small and not more frequent than expected in the general population. Further signal detection efforts for these adverse events will be informative with more widespread use of the vaccine.

### **Vaccine-enhanced disease**

Available data do not indicate a risk of vaccine-enhanced disease, and conversely suggest effectiveness against severe disease within the available follow-up period. However, risk of vaccine-enhanced disease over time, potentially associated with waning immunity, remains unknown and needs to be evaluated further in ongoing clinical trials and in observational studies that could be conducted following authorization and/or licensure.

## **7 VRBPAC Meeting Summary**

The Vaccines and Related Biological Products Advisory Committee (VRBPAC) convened on December 10, 2020, to discuss Pfizer's EUA request. The meeting agenda included: an overview by FDA on EUA and considerations specific to COVID-19 vaccines; updates from CDC on COVID-19 epidemiology, plans for further evaluation of vaccine safety and effectiveness monitoring during use under an EUA, and operational distribution plans; a presentation on conduct of placebo-controlled studies in the event that a vaccine becomes available under EUA; a public comment period; presentations of data from studies of the Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 Vaccine by representatives of Pfizer, an FDA presentation of its independent review of the data submitted in support of the EUA request, and a discussion and vote by the VRBPAC.

The VRBPAC was asked to discuss the following points, with no vote:

- Pfizer has proposed a plan for continuation of blinded, placebo-controlled follow-up in ongoing trials if the vaccine were made available under EUA. Please discuss Pfizer's plan, including how loss of blinded, placebo-controlled follow-up in ongoing trials should be addressed.
- Please discuss any gaps in plans described today and in the briefing documents for further evaluation of vaccine safety and effectiveness in populations who receive the Pfizer-BioNTech Vaccine under an EUA.

The committee discussed potential implications of loss of blinded, placebo-controlled follow-up in ongoing trials including how this may impact availability of safety data to support a biologics license application. Some pointed out the importance of long-term safety data for the Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 Vaccine as it is made using a technology not used in previously licensed



vaccines. In response to the question whether the ongoing Phase 3 study would still be sufficiently powered if eligible placebo recipients would be vaccinated, Pfizer asserted that even with an anticipated loss of placebo-controlled follow-up of 20%, the study would maintain adequate statistical power and would be positioned to accrue additional data on vaccine efficacy, including efficacy against severe disease, as well as safety, although unblinding of the study would reduce interpretability of results. It was pointed out that non-random loss of placebo recipients from the study, as would be expected when unblinded placebo recipients would receive vaccination based on Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) recommendations, would further reduce interpretability of results. There was also discussion of a blinded trial design proposed by Dean Follman, Ph.D. of NIH in which duration of efficacy would be compared in clinical trial participants originally vaccinated with the vaccine to those later administered the vaccine as part of a planned cross-over. Pfizer stated that this design was considered but would present logistical challenges including the need for reconsenting subjects and additional study visits.

The lack of data on how the vaccine impacts asymptomatic infection and viral shedding was also pointed out and that this should be addressed prior to study unblinding. Other committee members were concerned about limited data available in certain subpopulations such as HIV-infected individuals, individuals with prior exposure to SARS-CoV-2 and certain demographic groups.

The committee inquired about information regarding anaphylactoid reactions occurring in 2 individuals vaccinated with the Pfizer/BioNTech vaccine in the UK. Pfizer briefly summarized the available information, i.e., the two cases of anaphylactoid reactions were in individuals with a strong past history of allergic reactions both of whom carried an epinephrine auto injector. These individuals developed symptoms of anaphylactoid reaction shortly after receiving the vaccine. Both recovered after appropriate treatment. FDA referred to its analysis of safety data derived from the ongoing pivotal trial that excluded subjects with allergic reactions to previous vaccine administrations but did not exclude subjects with non-vaccine related allergies. A slight numerical imbalance of adverse events potentially representing allergic reactions, with more participants reporting hypersensitivity-related adverse events in the vaccine group compared with the placebo group (137 vs. 111). None of these were considered to be serious, and none of these events occurred in the immediate post-vaccination period. FDA noted that the fact sheet and prescribing information for Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine will include information under the contraindications section that the vaccine should not be administered to individuals with known history of a severe allergic reaction to any component of the vaccine. Under the warning section, there will be a statement that appropriate medical treatment used to manage immediate allergic reactions must be immediately available in the event an acute anaphylactic reaction occurs following administration of Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 Vaccine.

Following this discussion, the VRBPAC was asked to vote on whether, based on the totality of scientific evidence available, the benefits of the Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 Vaccine outweigh its risks for use in individuals 16 years of age and older.

In reference to the voting question, and prior to the committee members casting their votes committee members asked FDA's perspective on use of the vaccine in pregnancy. FDA explained that data from the preclinical developmental and reproductive toxicity study for this product are expected soon. Even though there are insufficient data to inform vaccine-associated risks in pregnancy, there are also no data warranting a contraindication. Some committee members expressed concerns about including adolescents 16 and 17 years of age in the indication for the vaccine because of the limited amount of safety and efficacy data available in



this population. Other committee members encouraged authorization of the vaccine under EUA in adolescents because this would support initiating pediatric clinical trials and because benefits would be expected to outweigh any theoretical risks in this population. Inclusion of vaccines against COVID-19 in the pediatric vaccination schedule will ultimately likely be needed to increase the uptake of the vaccine and to reach herd immunity. Pfizer is planning studies in pediatric subjects using an age-stratified step-down approach. Some committee members raised concerns about the small number of severe COVID-19 cases and limited conclusions about the prevention of severe disease based on the study endpoints. FDA pointed out that vaccine development has a long history and that FDA is not aware of an example of any vaccine that is effective against mild disease that is not also effective against severe disease and that even though limited, data for Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 Vaccine suggest efficacy against severe disease.

The results of the vote were as follows: Yes = 17, No = 4, Abstain = 1. Thus, the committee voted in favor of a determination that based on the totality of scientific evidence available, the benefits of the Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 Vaccine outweigh its risks for use in individuals 16 years of age and older.

## **8 Overall Summary and Recommendation**

Following review of information submitted in support of the EUA request and considering VRBPAC recommendations from the December 10, 2020 meeting, the clinical reviewers conclude that:

- As summarized in Section 2 of this review, the chemical, biological, radiological, or nuclear (CBRN) agent referred to in the March 27, 2020 EUA declaration by the Secretary of HHS (SARS-CoV-2) can cause a serious or life-threatening disease or condition.
- Based on the totality of scientific evidence available, including data from adequate and well-controlled trials described in Section 4 of this review, it is reasonable to believe that the Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine (BNT162b2) may be effective in preventing such serious or life-threatening disease or condition that can be caused by SARS-CoV-2. In the planned final primary efficacy analysis of an ongoing randomized, blinded, placebo-controlled Phase 1/2/3 clinical trial, vaccine efficacy after 7 days post Dose 2 was 95%, (95% CI 90.3; 97.6) in participants without prior evidence of SARS-CoV-2 infection and >94% in the larger group of participants with or without prior infection. Efficacy outcomes were consistently robust ( $\geq 93\%$ ) across demographic subgroups. Secondary and post-hoc efficacy analyses also suggested efficacy against severe COVID-19, efficacy against COVID-19 in the time period between Dose 1 and Dose 2, and against COVID-19 in subjects with evidence of SARS-CoV-2 vaccination prior to vaccination.
- Based on the data summarized in Sections 4 and 5 of this review and assessment of benefits and risks in Section 6 of this review, the known and potential benefits of the vaccine outweigh the known and potential risks of the vaccine when used for active immunization to prevent COVID-19 caused by SARS-CoV-2 in individuals 16 years of age and older. Known benefits include reduction in the risk of confirmed COVID-19 occurring at least 7 days after Dose 2, reduction in the risk of confirmed COVID-19 after Dose 1 and before Dose 2, and reduction in the risk of confirmed severe COVID-19 any time after Dose 1. Potential benefits that could be further evaluated but are not necessary to support an EUA include prevention of COVID-19 in individuals with previous SARS-CoV-2 infection, prevention of mortality and long-term complications of COVID-19, reduction in asymptomatic SARS-CoV-2 infection and reduction of SARS-

CoV-2 transmission. Known risks include common local and systemic adverse reactions (notably injection site reactions, headache, fever, chills, myalgia, and fatigue, all of which are usually mild to moderate and lasting a few days, with higher frequency in younger vaccine recipients compared with older vaccine recipients) and less commonly lymphadenopathy and allergic reactions. Potential risks that should be further evaluated include uncommon to rare clinically significant adverse reactions that may become apparent with more widespread use of the vaccine and with longer duration of follow-up (including further evaluation of risk of Bell's palsy and allergic reactions following vaccination), risks associated with vaccination of specific populations such as children younger than 16 years of age and pregnant and breastfeeding women, and whether vaccine-enhanced disease could occur with waning of immunity.

- As summarized in Section 2 of this review, there is no adequate, approved, and available alternative to the product to prevent COVID-19 caused by SARS-CoV-2 in individuals 16 years of age and older.

The clinical reviewers therefore recommend issuance of an EUA for use of the Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 Vaccine for active immunization to prevent COVID-19 caused by SARS-CoV-2 in individuals 16 years of age and older.

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## Appendix A. Charlson Comorbidity Index

This index is based on a list of 19 conditions identified from diagnoses in hospital and physician data. Each condition is assigned a weight from 1 to 6. The index score is the sum of the weights for all identified conditions (Charlson et al., 1987). An index score of 0 indicates no comorbid conditions, while higher scores indicate a greater level of comorbidity.

Charlson Index Diagnoses: Cancer, Chronic Pulmonary Disease, Diabetes without Complications, Congestive Heart Failure, Cerebrovascular Disease, Dementia, Renal Disease, Peripheral Vascular Disease, Myocardial Infarction, Diabetes with Complications, Paraplegia and Hemiplegia, Connective Tissue Disease-Rheumatic Disease, Peptic Ulcer Disease, Mild Liver Disease, Metastatic Carcinoma, Moderate or Severe Liver Disease, HIV/AIDS.

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