

EN

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Answer given by Mr Várhelyi
on behalf of the European Commission
(26.2.2026)

The Commission's foremost priority has always been the safety and efficacy of any COVID-19 vaccine authorised for use in the EU, including during the post-authorisation stage. The European Medicines Agency (EMA)'s Pharmacovigilance Risk Assessment Committee (PRAC) responsible for assessing and monitoring the safety of human medicines, continuously monitors all potential risks associated with COVID-19 vaccines, including new data from medical literature as well as reports from patients and healthcare professionals. As part of this monitoring, potential safety signals are routinely evaluated.

The EMA has confirmed that this ongoing assessment has found no evidence that COVID-19 vaccination increases the risk of cancer. Additionally, it has informed the Commission that there is no scientific evidence indicating that any trace amounts of residual DNA¹, including SV40 sequences, potentially present in vaccines, could integrate into the DNA of vaccinated individuals.

It is also important to note that the manufacturing processes for mRNA² COVID-19 vaccines are meticulously designed and strictly controlled to ensure that any residual DNA remains well below established safety thresholds. The quality of each batch is independently verified by a national Official Medicines Control Laboratory before it is released for use in the EU. Only batches that meet EMA-approved quality specifications are permitted for use.

Lastly, extensive data collected from millions of people vaccinated over the past five years have consistently confirmed the safety of mRNA COVID-19 vaccines.

¹ Deoxyribonucleic acid.

² Messenger Ribonucleic acid.