

EN
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Answer given by Mr Várhelyi
on behalf of the European Commission
(28.4.2026)

The Commission, together with the European Medicines Agency (EMA) and Member States, monitors the safety of COVID-19 vaccines, including data from the scientific literature, through a robust pharmacovigilance system¹.

Based on the continuous monitoring and assessment of safety data from vaccination campaigns worldwide, there is no scientific evidence of any association between COVID-19 vaccines and impaired fertility in men or women. Detailed information on the continuous safety monitoring of COVID-19 vaccines can be found on the EMA website, including the Periodic Safety Update Reports² for each vaccine and the report on pharmacovigilance activities carried out by Member States and the EMA between 2019 and 2022³.

While there have been some reports about the short-term variation of fertility trends during the pandemic, this was attributed to behavioural changes, as in most of the studied countries the fertility rates returned to pre-pandemic levels and no evidence of effect of COVID-19 vaccinations on fertility trends was found^{4,5,6}. Based on the existing scientific evidence, the Commission does not consider a specific study on this matter to be necessary.

It should be noted that EU citizens and healthcare professionals are informed in a timely manner about the latest scientific decisions taken by the EMA. Following each meeting of the EMA's safety committee (Pharmacovigilance Risk Assessment Committee - PRAC⁷), decisions are communicated through the PRAC highlights⁸. In addition, exceptional measures for COVID-19 medicines were implemented by the EMA to maximise the transparency of its regulatory activities related to COVID-19 medicinal products⁹.

¹ <https://www.ema.europa.eu/en/human-regulatory-overview/public-health-threats/coronavirus-disease-covid-19/covid-19-medicines/safety-covid-19-vaccines>.

² <https://www.ema.europa.eu/en/human-regulatory-overview/public-health-threats/coronavirus-disease-covid-19/covid-19-medicines#authorised-covid-19-vaccines-14489>.

³ <https://www.ema.europa.eu/en/human-regulatory-overview/pharmacovigilance-overview/legal-framework-pharmacovigilance/implementation-pharmacovigilance-legislation#multi-annual-reports-on-pharmacovigilance-activities-12875>.

⁴ COVID-19 vaccination carries no association with childbirth rates in Sweden:

<https://www.nature.com/articles/s43856-026-01396-x>.

⁵ Birth rate decline in the later phase of the COVID-19 pandemic: the role of policy interventions, vaccination programmes, and economic uncertainty:

https://academic.oup.com/hropen/article/2024/3/hoae052/7754492#google_vignette.

⁶ Max Planck Institute for Demographic Research - How have Covid-19 vaccinations affected birth rates?:

https://www.demogr.mpg.de/en/news_events_6123/news_press_releases_4630/news/how_have_covid_19_vaccinations_affected_birth_rates_14112/.

⁷ Pharmacovigilance Risk Assessment Committee (PRAC):

<https://www.ema.europa.eu/en/committees/pharmacovigilance-risk-assessment-committee-prac>.

⁸ <https://www.ema.europa.eu/en/news/meeting-highlights-pharmacovigilance-risk-assessment-committee-prac-9-12-march-2026>.

⁹ Transparency: exceptional measures for COVID-19 medicines: <https://www.ema.europa.eu/en/human-regulatory-overview/public-health-threats/coronavirus-disease-covid-19/covid-19-medicines/transparency-exceptional-measures-covid-19-medicines>.

