

From the Lab to the Job: A series of advocate guides to the latest in vaccine R&D



Ensuring equitable access to safe, effective and affordable vaccines involves advocacy across multiple areas. To facilitate this, AVAC is launching a series of four issue briefs on vaccines that draw from recent COVID-19 experiences and contribute to HIV vaccine advocacy going forward:

- The overall research and development (R&D) process;
- The mRNA technology platform;
- Local production; and
- Global access.

The briefs serve as a primer for advocates, providing a roadmap for advocacy to advance the development of essential vaccines for HIV, COVID-19, TB and other global public health threats, including approaches to ensure equitable access to these life-saving vaccines.

Effectiveness of the current COVID-19 vaccines could be improved, and they could become easier to administer. **The R&D brief** describes gaps in development of COVID-19 vaccines, suggestions for addressing them, and how trials and regulatory processes have evolved since the first vaccines were developed.

mRNA technology enables rapid production of vaccines. **The mRNA brief** describes what it is, how it works, current knowledge gaps and ideas for advocacy to harness its potential.

Local production has emerged as an essential part of the solution for ensuring sustainable and equitable supplies of vaccines in low- and middle-income countries. **The local production brief** describes what is needed to achieve local production of vaccines, enabling initiatives, and necessary advocacy actions.

Inaccessible medical products will not impact public or individual health. Equitable access to vaccines involves work in many areas to overcome a web of barriers. **The access brief** describes current barriers to access and necessary advocacy to improve access to affordable vaccines.

About AVAC

AVAC is an international non-profit organization that leverages its independent voice and global partnerships to accelerate ethical development and equitable delivery of effective HIV prevention options, as part of a comprehensive and integrated pathway to global health equity. Follow AVAC on Twitter [@HIVpxresearch](https://twitter.com/HIVpxresearch); find more at www.avac.org, www.prepwatch.org and www.stiwatch.org.