

## EU Risk Management Plan

### **BIMERVAX, BIMERVAX XBB.1.16 emulsion for injection (COVID-19 Vaccine (recombinant, adjuvanted))**

#### **RMP version to be assessed as part of this application:**

RMP Version number: 2.0

Data lock point for this RMP: 12 December 2024

Date of final sign-off: See e-signature page

Rationale for submitting an updated RMP: Type II variation (C.I.11.b) to

- Remove one (1) category 3 study (Post-authorisation safety study of the COVID-19 Vaccines International Pregnancy Exposure Registry (C-VIPER))
- Include changes to the due date for the provision of the final study report for:
  - o One (1) category 3 study (Post-authorisation safety study of BIMERVAX emulsion for injection in Europe in VAC4EU)
  - o One (1) post-authorisation effectiveness study (Post-authorisation effectiveness study of BIMERVAX emulsion for injection in Europe in VAC4EU)
- Add BIMERVAX XBB.1.16 (Omicron XBB.1.16-adapted BIMERVAX)

Summary of significant changes in this RMP:

<b>RMP Part/Module</b>	<b>RMP v2.0</b>
PART I PRODUCT(S) OVERVIEW	Products overview table updated to include BIMERVAX XBB.1.16 according to the current SmPC.
<b>PART II SAFETY SPECIFICATION</b>	
PART II Module SI Epidemiology of the Indication(s) and Target Populations	Inclusion of BIMERVAX XBB.1.16 indication.
PART II Module SII Non-Clinical Part of the Safety Specification	Updated to include non-clinical data for BIMERVAX XBB.1.16.
PART II Module SIII Clinical Trial Exposure	No changes.

PART II Module SIV Populations Not Studied in Clinical Trials	Updated to include that a modification of an agreed paediatric investigation plan has been agreed with the EMA PDCO.
PART II Module SV Post-Authorisation Experience	Updated with an estimation for post-authorisation exposure data up to 12 December 2024.
PART II Module SVI Additional EU Requirements for the Safety Specification	No changes.
PART II Module SVII Identified and Potential Risks	Module SVII.2 updated to remove previously reclassified safety concerns.  Module SVII.3 updated to include BIMERVAX XBB.1.16.
PART II Module SVIII Summary of Safety Concerns	No changes.
<b>PART III PHARMACOVIGILANCE PLAN (INCLUDING POST-AUTHORISATION SAFETY STUDIES)</b>	
PART III.1 Routine Pharmacovigilance Activities	No changes.
PART III.2 Additional Pharmacovigilance Activities	Update of the information on the "Post-authorisation safety study of BIMERVAX emulsion for injection in Europe in VAC4EU", as per updated study protocol (v2.0) submitted along with this new RMP version.  Removed post-authorisation safety study "COVID-19 Vaccines International Pregnancy Exposure Registry (C-VIPER)".  Update of the information on the "Post-authorisation effectiveness study of BIMERVAX emulsion for injection in Europe in VAC4EU", as per updated study protocol (v2.0) submitted along with this new RMP version.
PART III.3 Summary Table of Additional Pharmacovigilance Activities	Changes to the due dates for the provision of the Final study report for the following studies: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Post-authorisation safety study of BIMERVAX emulsion for injection in Europe in VAC4EU, changed from 31 July 2026 to 30 September 2029.</li> <li>- Post-authorisation effectiveness study of BIMERVAX emulsion for injection in Europe in VAC4EU, changed from 31 August 2025 / 31 August 2026 to 30 September 2029.</li> </ul> Removed post-authorisation safety study "COVID-19 Vaccines International Pregnancy Exposure Registry (C-VIPER)".

PART IV PLANS FOR POST-AUTHORISATION EFFICACY STUDIES	No changes.
PART V RISK MINIMISATION MEASURES (INCLUDING EVALUATION OF THE EFFECTIVENESS OF RISK MINIMISATION ACTIVITIES)	
PART V.1 Routine Risk Minimisation Measures	No changes.
PART V.2 Additional Risk Minimisation Measures	No changes.
PART V.3 Summary of Risk Minimisation Measures	<p>Changes to the due date for the provision of the Final study report for the "Post-authorisation safety study of BIMERVAX emulsion for injection in Europe in VAC4EU"; changed from 31 July 2026 to 30 September 2029.</p> <p>Removed post-authorisation safety study "COVID-19 Vaccines International Pregnancy Exposure Registry (C-VIPER)".</p>
PART VI SUMMARY OF THE RISK MANAGEMENT PLAN	
I. The medicine and what it is used for	Updated to include BIMERVAX XBB.1.16
II. Risks associated with the medicine and activities to minimise or further characterise the risks	<p>II.A - Updated to include BIMERVAX XBB.1.16.</p> <p>II.B – Changes to the due date for the provision of the Final study report for the Post-authorisation safety study of BIMERVAX emulsion for injection in Europe in VAC4EU; changed from 31 July 2026 to 30 September 2029.</p> <p>Removed post-authorisation safety study "COVID-19 Vaccines International Pregnancy Exposure Registry (C-VIPER)".</p> <p>II.C – Removed post-authorisation safety study "COVID-19 Vaccines International Pregnancy Exposure Registry (C-VIPER)".</p>
PART VII ANNEXES TO THE RISK MANAGEMENT PLAN	
Annex 1 – Eudravigilance interface	No changes.
Annex 2 – Tabulated summary of planned, ongoing, and completed pharmacovigilance study programme	<p>Changes to the due date for the provision of the Final study report for the "Post-authorisation safety study of BIMERVAX emulsion for injection in Europe in VAC4EU"; changed from 31 July 2026 to 30 September 2029.</p> <p>Changes to the due date for the provision of the Final study report for the "Post-authorisation effectiveness study of BIMERVAX emulsion for injection in Europe in VAC4EU"; changed from 31 August 2025 / 31 August 2026 to 30 September 2029.</p>

	Removed post-authorisation safety study "COVID-19 Vaccines International Pregnancy Exposure Registry (C-VIPER)".
Annex 3 – Protocols for proposed, on-going and completed studies in the pharmacovigilance plan	Updated PASS and PAES protocols (v2.0) submitted along with this new RMP version included in "Final protocols not reviewed or not approved" section.
Annex 4 – Specific adverse drug reaction follow-up forms	No changes.
Annex 5 – Protocols for proposed and on-going studies in RMP part IV	No changes.
Annex 6 – Details of proposed additional risk minimisation measures (if applicable)	No changes.
Annex 7 – Other supporting data (including referenced material)	Updated references.
Annex 8 – Summary of changes to the risk management plan over time	Updated to reflect the changes made to the RMP.

**Other RMP versions under evaluation:**

Not applicable

**Details of the currently approved RMP:**

RMP Version number: 1.5

Approved with procedure: EMEA/H/C/006058/II/0017

Date of approval (opinion date): 13/03/2025

QPPV name<sup>1</sup>: Irina Güell

QPPV signature: The content of this RMP has been reviewed and approved by the marketing authorisation HIPRA's QPPV. The electronic signature is available on file.

**13/03/2025**

<sup>1</sup> QPPV name will not be redacted in case of an access to documents request; see HMA/EMA Guidance document on the identification of commercially confidential information and personal data within the structure of the marketing-authorisation application; available on EMA website <http://www.ema.europa.eu>

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## List of Abbreviations

AE	Adverse event
AESI	Adverse events of special interest
ECDC	European Centre for Disease Control
EMA	European Medicines Agency
FIH	First-in-human
FOB	Functional Observation Battery
GLP	Good Laboratory Practice
HED	Human equivalent dose
ID50	50% inhibition dose
i.m.	Intramuscular
mRNA	messenger RNA
MPLA	Monophosphoryl lipid A
NHP	Non-human primate
PBS	Phosphate-buffered saline
RBD	Receptor binding domain
PDCO	Paediatric Committee
PHEIC	Public Health Emergency of International Concern
PSMF	Pharmacovigilance System Master File
SAE	Serious adverse event
S protein	Spike protein
VOC	Variant of concern
VOI	Variant of interest
WHO	World Health Organization

## Part I: Product(s) Overview

**Table Part I.1 – Product(s) Overview**

<b>Active substance(s) (INN or common name)</b>	<p>Selvacovatein is a SARS-CoV-2 virus recombinant spike (S) protein receptor binding domain (RBD) fusion heterodimer – B.1.351-B.1.1.7 strains.</p> <p>Damlecovatein is a SARS-CoV-2 virus recombinant spike (S) protein receptor binding domain (RBD) fusion homodimer – Omicron XBB.1.16-XBB.1.16 strain.</p>
<b>Pharmacotherapeutic group(s) (ATC Code)</b>	Covid-19, protein subunit (J07BN04)
<b>Marketing Authorisation Applicant</b>	Hipra Human Health, S.L.U.
<b>Medicinal products to which this RMP refers</b>	1
<b>Invented name(s) in the European Economic Area (EEA)</b>	BIMERVAX, BIMERVAX XBB.1.16 emulsion for injection
<b>Marketing authorisation procedure</b>	Centralised
<b>Brief description of the product</b>	<p>Chemical class: Recombinant Protein Vaccine</p> <p>Summary of mode of action: BIMERVAX is a recombinant protein vaccine whose active substance (antigen) is SARS-CoV-2 virus recombinant spike (S) protein receptor binding domain (RBD) fusion dimer. Following administration, an immune response is generated, both at a humoral and cellular level, against the SARS-CoV-2 RBD antigen. Neutralising antibodies against the RBD domain of SARS-CoV-2 prevent RBD binding to its cellular target ACE2, thus blocking membrane fusion and viral infection. Moreover, BIMERVAX induces antigen-specific T-cell immune response, which may contribute to protection to COVID-19.</p> <p>Important information about its composition BIMERVAX: One dose (0.5 mL) contains 40 µg of selvacovatein (manufactured using a Chinese hamster ovary (CHO) suspension cell line stably transfected with a plasmid expressing the active substance antigen) in a phosphate-buffered (PBS) solution adjuvanted with 0.25 mL of SQBA. The SQBA adjuvant contains squalene as the internal oil phase, sodium citrate-citric acid buffer as the external aqueous phase and polysorbate 80 and sorbitan trioleate as emulsifiers.</p>



	<p><b>BIMERVAX XBB.1.16:</b></p> <p>One dose (0.5 mL) contains 40 µg of damlecovatein (manufactured using a Chinese hamster ovary (CHO) suspension cell line stably transfected with a plasmid expressing the active substance antigen) in a phosphate-buffered (PBS) solution adjuvanted with 0.25 mL of SQBA. The SQBA adjuvant contains squalene as the internal oil phase, sodium citrate-citric acid buffer as the external aqueous phase and polysorbate 80 and sorbitan trioleate as emulsifiers.</p>
<b>Hyperlink to the Product Information</b>	<b><a href="#">BIMERVAX emulsion for injection Summary of Product Characteristics (SmPC)</a></b>
<b>Indication(s) in the EEA</b>	<p>Current for BIMERVAX:</p> <p>BIMERVAX is indicated as a booster for active immunisation to prevent COVID-19 in individuals 16 years of age and older who have previously received a mRNA COVID-19 vaccine.</p> <p>Current for BIMERVAX XBB.1.16:</p> <p>BIMERVAX XBB.1.16 is indicated for active immunisation to prevent COVID-19 caused by SARS-CoV-2 in individuals 16 years of age and older.</p>
	<p>Proposed (if applicable):</p> <p>Not applicable.</p>
<b>Dosage in the EEA</b>	<p>Current for <b>BIMERVAX:</b></p> <p><i>Individuals 16 years of age and older</i></p> <p>A single intramuscular dose (0.5 mL) of BIMERVAX should be administered at least 6 months after previous mRNA COVID-19 vaccine. BIMERVAX may also be given at least 6 months after a previous booster with BIMERVAX.</p> <p><i>Immunocompromised individuals</i></p> <p>Additional doses may be administered to individuals who are severely immunocompromised in accordance with official recommendations.</p> <p><i>Elderly</i></p> <p>No dose adjustment is required in elderly individuals ≥ 65 years of age.</p> <p><i>Paediatric population</i></p> <p>The safety and efficacy of BIMERVAX in children and adolescents less than 16 years of age have not been established yet. No data are available.</p> <p>Current for <b>BIMERVAX XBB.1.16:</b></p>

	<p><i>Individuals 16 years of age and older</i></p> <p>A single intramuscular dose (0.5 mL) of BIMERVAX XBB.1.16 should be administered regardless of prior COVID-19 vaccination status. For individuals who have previously been vaccinated with a COVID-19 vaccine, BIMERVAX XBB.1.16 should be administered at least 6 months after the most recent dose of a COVID-19 vaccine.</p> <p><i>Immunocompromised individuals</i></p> <p>Additional doses may be administered to individuals who are severely immunocompromised in accordance with official recommendations.</p> <p><i>Elderly</i></p> <p>No dose adjustment is required in elderly individuals <math>\geq 65</math> years of age.</p> <p><i>Paediatric population</i></p> <p>The safety and efficacy of BIMERVAX XBB.1.16 in children and adolescents less than 16 years of age have not been established yet. No data are available.</p> <p>Proposed (if applicable): Not applicable.</p>
<p><b>Pharmaceutical form(s) and strengths</b></p>	<p>Current for BIMERVAX:</p> <p>Emulsion for injection. White homogeneous emulsion.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Multidose vial: each vial contains 10 doses of 0.5 mL</li> <li>- Single dose: each vial contains 1 dose of 0.5 mL</li> </ul> <p>Each dose consists of 0.5 mL of selvacovatein adjuvanted with SQBA. Selvacovatein is a SARS-CoV-2 virus recombinant spike (S) protein receptor binding domain (RBD) fusion heterodimer (B.1.351 and B.1.1.7 strains).</p> <p>Current for BIMERVAX XBB.1.16:</p> <p>Emulsion for injection. White homogeneous emulsion.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Single dose: each vial contains 1 dose of 0.5 mL</li> </ul> <p>Each dose consists of 0.5 mL of damlecovatein adjuvanted with SQBA. Damlecovatein is a SARS-CoV-2 virus recombinant spike (S) protein receptor binding domain (RBD) fusion homodimer (Omicron XBB.1.16-XBB.1.16 strain).</p> <p>Proposed (if applicable): Not applicable.</p>

<b>Is/will the product be subject to additional monitoring in the EU?</b>	Yes
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## Part II: Safety specification

### Part II: Module SI - Epidemiology of the indication(s) and target population(s)

#### Indication

Active immunisation to prevent COVID-19 in:

- Individuals 16 years of age and older who have previously received a mRNA COVID-19 vaccine or BIMERVAX booster (BIMERVAX)
- Individuals 16 years of age and older (BIMERVAX XBB.1.16)

#### Incidence and prevalence

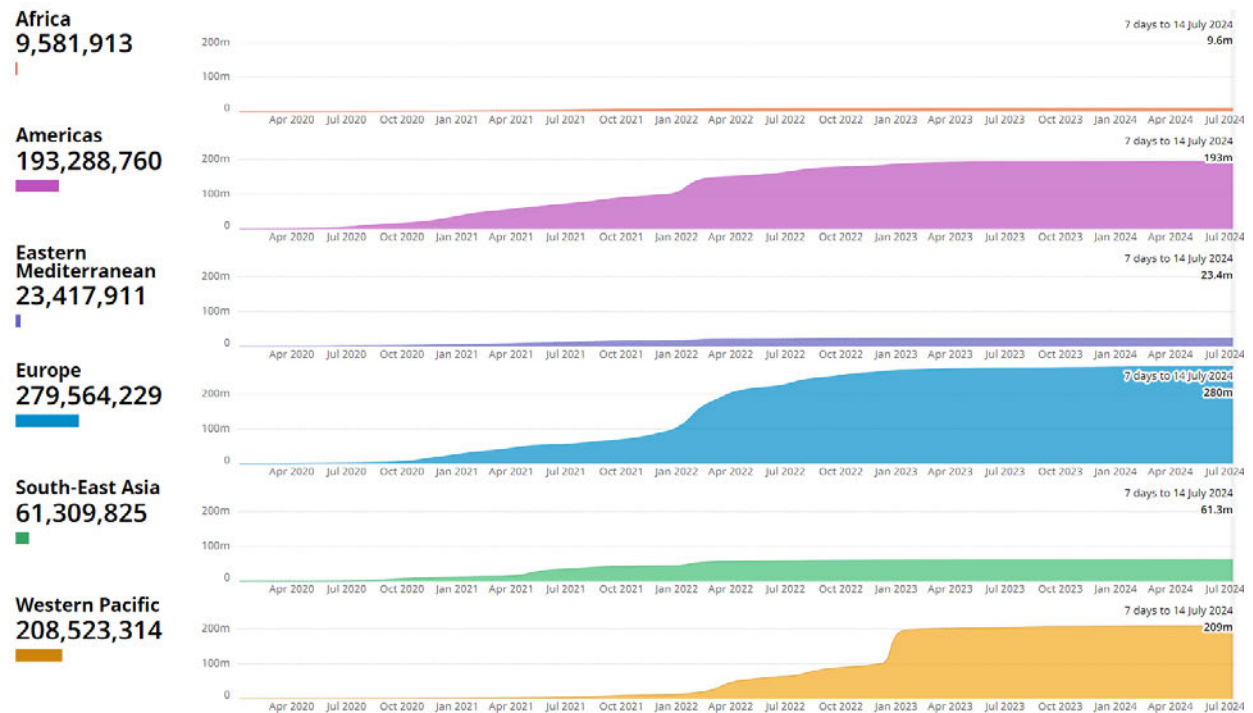
Coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) was first identified in patients with severe respiratory disease in Wuhan, China in December 2019. Afterwards, the COVID-19 epidemic has spread all over the world (Sun *et al.*, 2020). The causative agent was a novel betacoronavirus scientifically named severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2). CoVs members belong to the subfamily *Coronavirinae* within the family *Coronaviridae* and the order *Nidovirales*. Based on their protein sequences and phylogenetic relationships, members of the *Coronavirinae* subfamily can be classified into four groups, *Alphacoronaviruses*, *Betacoronaviruses*, *Gammacoronaviruses*, and *Deltacoronaviruses*. The CoVs genome is a single-stranded positive-sense RNA (+ssRNA) molecule. The genome size ranges between 27–32 kbp, one of the largest known RNA viruses (Alanagreh *et al.*, 2020; Tegally *et al.*, 2020). Angiotensin-converting enzyme 2 (ACE2) is the receptor for SARS-CoV-2. In the normal human lung, ACE2 is expressed on type I and II alveolar epithelial cells. Among them, 83% of the type II alveolar cells have ACE2 expression. The binding of SARS-CoV-2 on ACE2 causes an elevated expression of ACE2, which can lead to damages on alveolar cells. Damages to alveolar cells can, in turn, trigger a series of systemic reactions and even death (Zhao *et al.*, 2020).

COVID-19 was declared a Public Health Emergency of International Concern (PHEIC) by the World Health Organization (WHO) on the 30 January 2020 (World Health Organization (WHO), 2020), and an end to this PHEIC was declared on 05 May 2023. However, COVID-19 remains an established and ongoing health issue, particularly in vulnerable populations (e.g., > 65 years of age, immunocompromised, pregnant women, and people with pre-existing medical conditions), as the virus is widely circulating and new variants are emerging (World Health Organization (WHO), 2023c).

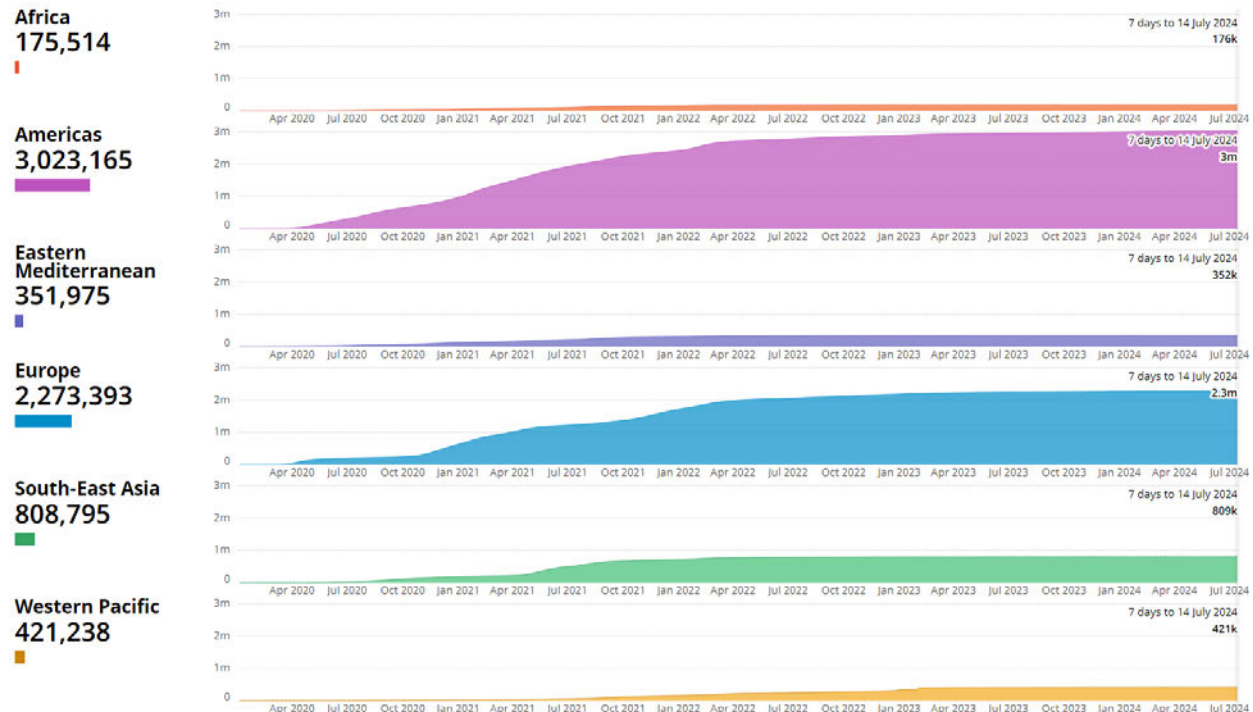
The incidence and prevalence of COVID-19 is difficult to estimate as definitions of cases may have changed since the onset of the pandemic, testing availability and technology has changed, as have vaccination rates. In addition, there is the variable impact of different variants of concern (VOCs). As of 23 July 2024, more than 775 million confirmed cases and over 7 million deaths have been reported globally (World Health Organization (WHO), 2024). In Europe, there have been more than 279 million confirmed cases of COVID-19 with more than 2 million deaths reported to WHO (Figure 1). During these years, several vaccines against SARS-CoV-2 have been developed and vaccination strategies have also changed, from mass vaccination campaigns at the beginning of the pandemic to the current season vaccination campaigns following vaccination recommendations issued by Health Authorities. As of April 2024, during the 2023-24 season in the EU/EEA, for the age group 60 years and above, approximately

28.1 million people received a dose of a COVID-19 vaccine. For the age group 80 years and above, approximately 7 million people received a dose of a COVID-19 vaccine (ECDC, 2024).

## A



## B

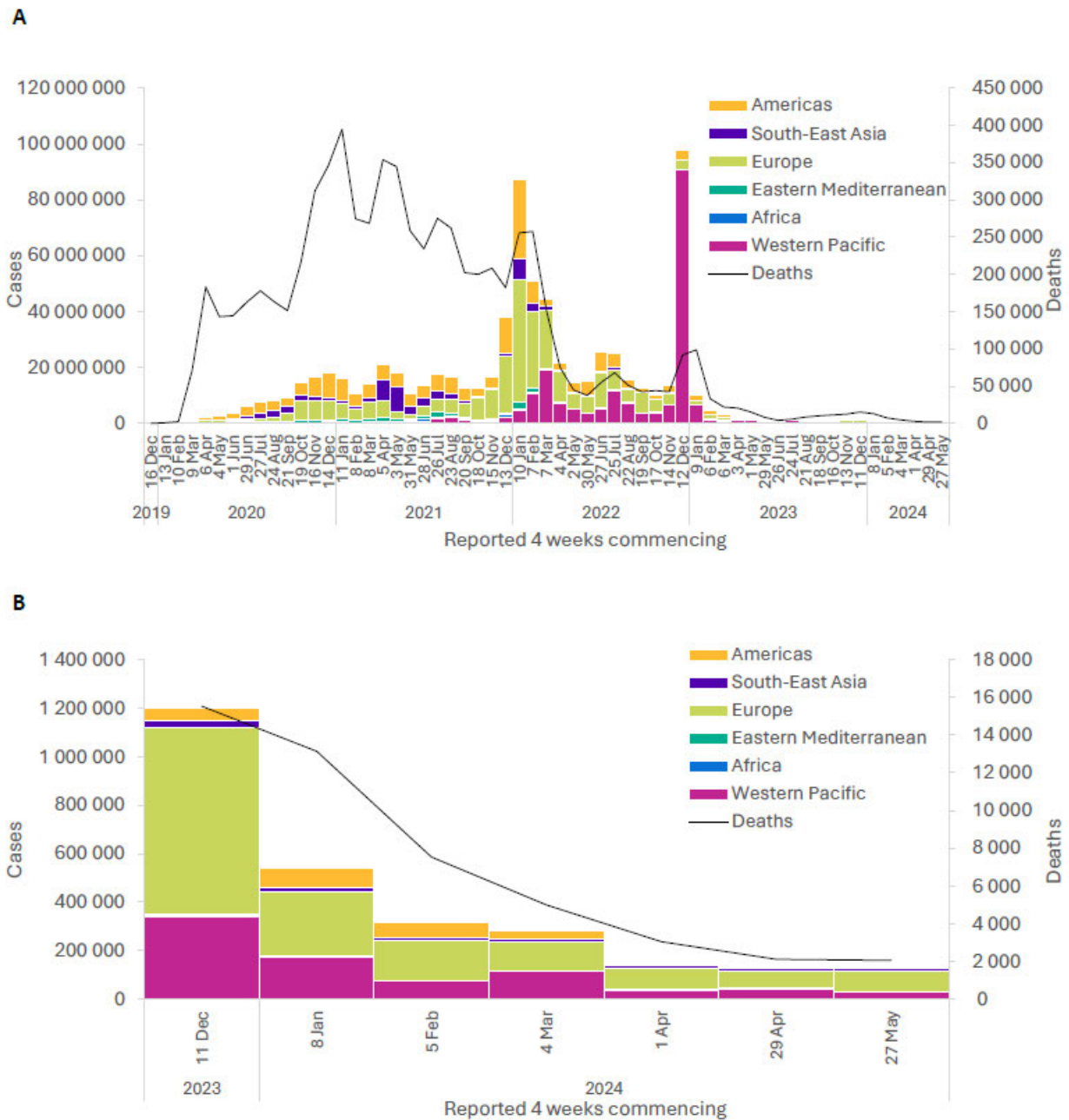


**Figure 1. COVID-19 Cases reported to WHO (A), and COVID-19 Deaths reported to WHO (B), as of 23 July 2024 (World Health Organization (WHO), 2024a)**

Currently, reported cases do not accurately represent infection rates due to the reduction in testing and reporting globally. During the period from 27 May to 23 June 2024, only 41% (95 of 234) of countries reported at least one case to WHO – a proportion that has been declining since mid-2022 (Figure 2). It is important to note that this statistic does not reflect the actual number of countries where cases exist. Additionally, data from previous weeks are continuously being updated to incorporate retrospective changes in reported COVID-19 cases and deaths made by countries.

At the regional level, the number of newly reported cases within a 28-day period decreased in the Western Pacific Region (-29%) and the Region of the Americas (-21%), remained stable in the South-East Asia Region (+3%); while case numbers increased in the European Region (+21%), and the African Region (+39%). No country from the Eastern Mediterranean Region submitted data on cases during the period. The number of newly reported deaths within a 28-day period decreased across four regions: the South-East Asia Region (-37%), the Western Pacific Region (-22%), the Region of the Americas (-12%), and the African Region (0%); while death numbers increased in the European Region (+65%). There was no reporting of deaths from the Eastern Mediterranean Region.

At the country level, the highest numbers of new cases reported within the 28-day period were from the Russian Federation (38 978 new cases; -15%), New Zealand (19 993 new cases; +51%), the United Kingdom (13 845 new cases; +30%), Thailand (9329 new cases; +27%), and Greece (8444 new cases; +198%). The highest numbers of new 28-day deaths were reported from the United States of America (1284 new deaths; -8%), Portugal (223 new deaths; +758%), the Russian Federation (146 new deaths; -4%), New Zealand (93 new deaths; +50%), Greece (34 new deaths; +143%), and China (32 new deaths; -35%) (World Health Organization (WHO), 2024b).



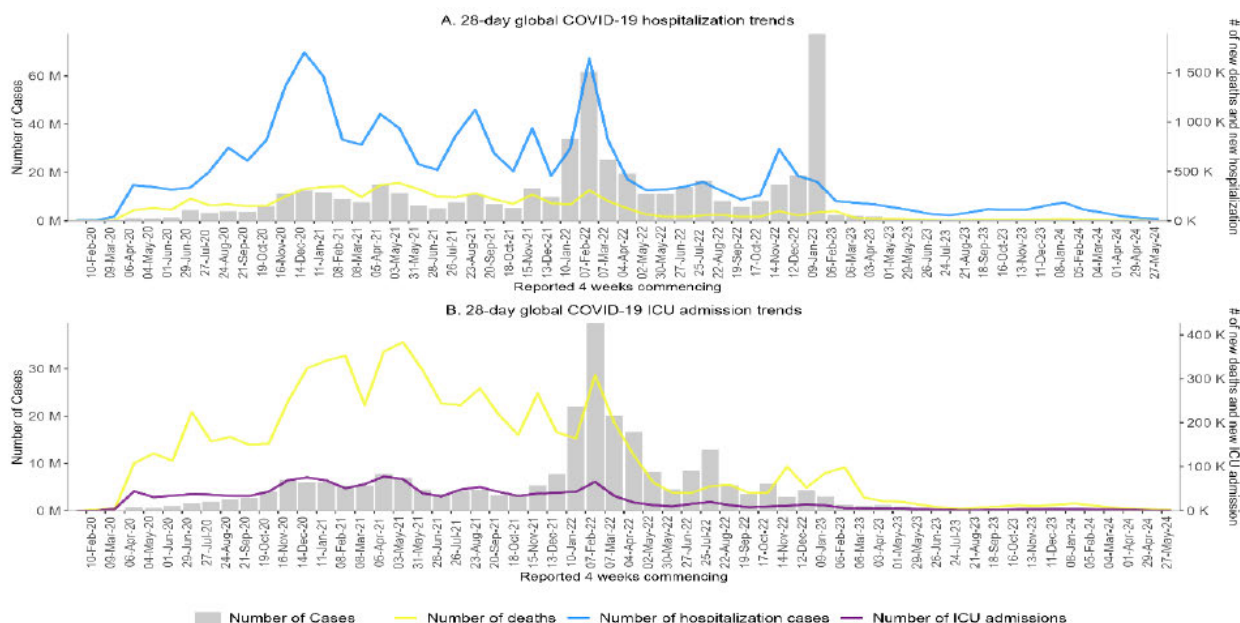
**Figure 2. COVID-19 cases reported by WHO Region, and global deaths by 28-day intervals, as of 23 June 2024 (A); 11 December 2023 to 23 June 2024 (B) (World Health Organization (WHO), 2024b).**

As of 19 July 2024, following a period of very low SARS-CoV-2 circulation, there has been evidence of increased SARS-CoV-2 activity in primary and secondary care since May in several EU/EEA countries. For weeks 23-24 2024 (from 03 to 16 June 2024), BA.2.86 + F456L was circulating in the EU/EEA at a median of 90.4% (range: 82.7%-96.3%, IQR: 83.4%-93.8%), BA.2.86 + R346T was circulating at a median of 44.4% (range: 28.8%-56.6%, IQR: 30.3%-50.0%) and BA.2.86 + R346T + F456L was circulating at a median of 43.7% (range: 27.3%-55.4%, IQR: 28.8%-43.8%). The currently circulating and largely dominating SARS-CoV-2 variant BA.2.86 (including subvariants carrying R346T and/or F456L



mutations, often referred to in the media as FLiRT variants and including lineages KP.2 and KP.3) is not expected to be associated with increased infection severity or to significantly reduce vaccine effectiveness. The EU/EEA population overall has a significant level of hybrid immunity (prior infection + vaccination/boosters), conferring protection against severe disease. BA.2.86 + F456L, BA.2.86 + R346T and BA.2.86 + R346T + F456L variants are unlikely to be associated with any increase in infection severity compared to previously circulating BA.2.86 variants, or a reduction in vaccine effectiveness against severe disease. However, older individuals, those with underlying conditions, and previously uninfected individuals could develop severe symptoms if infected. Vaccination continues to be protective, with stronger protection against more severe disease, although this protective effect wanes over time. Vaccine protection of individuals at high risk of severe outcomes (such as older people) remains important (ECDC, 2024a and 2024b).

At the global level, during the period from 27 May to 23 June 2024, a total of 20.542 new hospitalizations, and 524 new intensive care unit (ICU) admissions were reported from 47 and 36 countries, respectively (Figure 3). This represents an overall increase of 31% and 12% in new hospitalizations and new ICU admissions, respectively, compared to the previous 28 days (29 April to 26 May 2024). The increasing trend is mainly driven by countries from the Region of the Americas and the European Region. It is worth noting that the absence of reported data from other countries to the WHO does not imply that there are no COVID-19-related hospitalizations in those countries. The hospitalization data are preliminary and might change as new data become available. Furthermore, hospitalization data are subject to reporting delays. These data also likely include both hospitalizations with incidental cases of SARS-CoV-2 infection and those due to COVID-19 disease.

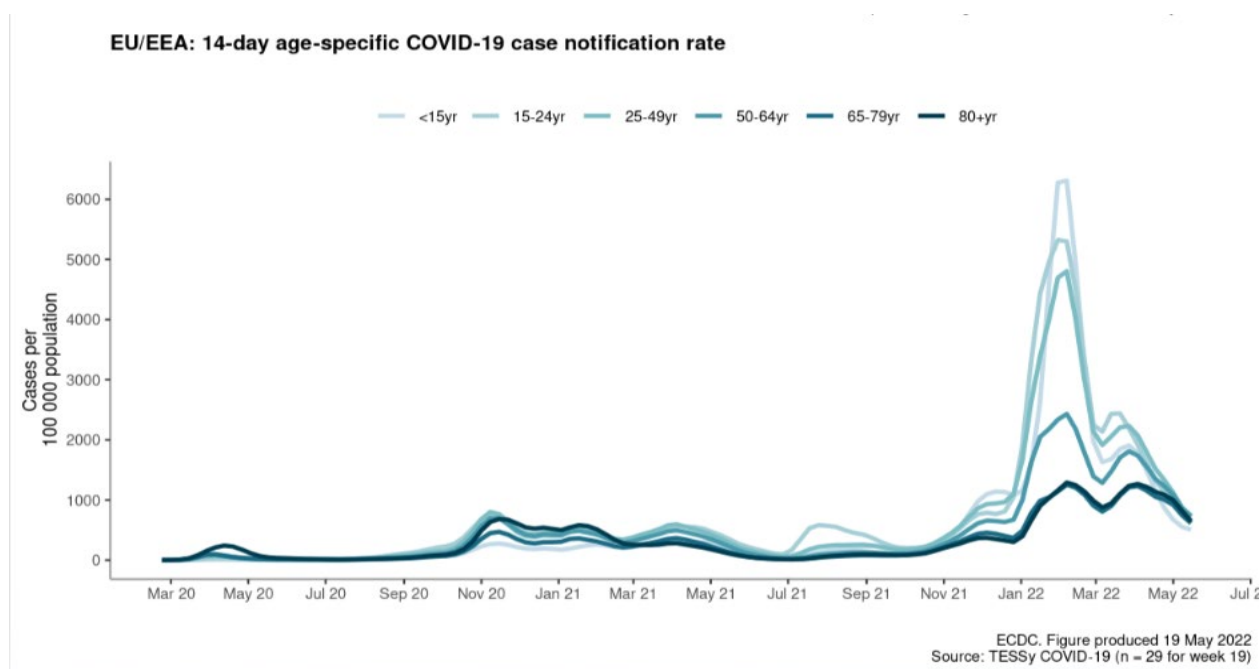


**Figure 3. 28-day global COVID-19 cases, deaths, hospitalizations, and ICU admissions trends, from 03 February 2020 to 23 June 2024 (World Health Organization (WHO), 2024b)**



## Demographics of the population in the proposed indication and risk factors for COVID-19 in Europe

All age groups can acquire SARS-CoV-2 infection. During the first 3 months of the pandemic, the case notification rate was significantly higher among elderly populations however, currently the age distribution of the epidemic curve has begun to change because of vaccination programmes, with younger age groups (15-24 years old) now having the highest case notification rate, although cases of COVID-19 among individuals  $\geq 65$  years and older remain high. Figure 3 shows the case notification rates per 100,000 persons stratified by different age groups in the EU/EEA.



**Figure 3. EU/EEA 14-Day Age-Specific COVID-19 Case Notification Rates (ECDC, 2022b)**

Age is a very important predictor of severe COVID-19. The risk of severe outcomes increases sharply with increasing age, even after controlling for other potential confounding factors, including sex and underlying conditions (Bundle et al., 2021). Older adults are at highest risk of getting severe COVID-19. More than 81% of COVID-19 deaths occur in people aged 65 and older. The number of deaths among people over age 65 is 97 times higher than among people aged 18-29 years (Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), 2024).

Individuals of both genders can acquire SARS-CoV-2 infection. Further sex-disaggregated data for COVID-19 in several European countries show a similar number of cases between the sexes, but more severe outcomes in aged men. Case fatality is highest in men with pre-existing cardiovascular conditions. The mechanisms accounting for the reduced case fatality rate in women are currently unclear (Gebhard et al., 2020).

### Important co-morbidities

Data pooled from 31 European countries and reported to The European Surveillance System (TESSy) have identified several underlying conditions that have a significant independent effect on severe COVID-19 outcomes. Severe disease is defined as admission to a hospital/intensive care unit (ICU), mechanical ventilation, or death. Severity of COVID-19 is associated with increased age, pre-existing medical conditions and the male sex. Underlying health conditions reported among adult patients with severe

COVID-19 disease include diabetes, obesity, hypertension, history of heart failure, ischaemic heart disease, solid organ tumours, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD), chronic respiratory disease, chronic kidney disease, immune compromised status, cancer, neurological conditions, smoking, and pregnancy (ECDC, 2022c).

With regards to mortality among hospitalised COVID-19 cases, high-certainty evidence in age- and sex-adjusted analyses identified diabetes mellitus, renal disease and dementia as significant risk factors for mortality. Furthermore, there is moderate certainty evidence that ischaemic heart disease, stroke, solid organ tumours and obesity are also risk factors. Mortality among cases detected in the community setting is associated with a history of heart failure, stroke, diabetes, and end-stage renal disease. There is moderate to high certainty evidence of an association between hospitalisation for COVID-19 and diabetes, heart failure, COPD, renal disease, obesity, and ischaemic heart disease in the community setting (ECDC, 2022c).

Additionally, age is also an important effect modifier in the associations between certain underlying conditions and severe COVID-19 outcomes. While some pre-existing medical conditions are known risk factors for severe disease and ICU admission in all age groups, including children and adolescents, it is still not fully understood how these pre-existing conditions influence the course of COVID-19. The absolute probability of being hospitalised or dying increases with age, but findings indicate that a younger person with certain underlying conditions may have the same or even a higher probability of severe outcome than an older person without these conditions. Based on the analysis of 820,404 symptomatic paediatric cases reported by 10 EU Member States between August 2020 and October 2021, there is an increased risk of severe outcomes in cases with comorbidities such as cancer, diabetes, cardiac or lung disease. However, most (83.7%) hospitalised children had no reported comorbidity (Bundle *et al.*, 2021). This is relevant for age and risk-factor based prioritisation of vaccination, particularly among young people (ECDC, 2022c).

### **Vulnerable Groups**

Residents of long-term care facilities are a medically and socially vulnerable group because of their increased age and the prevalence of underlying health conditions. Their social vulnerability can be exacerbated by non-pharmaceutical interventions against COVID-19 that limit physical personal interactions or affect access to health services, with consequences including feelings of abandonment and loneliness. All EU/EEA countries have experienced rapid increases in the incidence of outbreaks and fatal cases of COVID-19 in long-term care facilities. Outbreaks of COVID-19 among long-term care facilities residents have commonly spread rapidly, with high attack rates and high case fatality rates. This has been fuelled by the transmission dynamics of COVID-19, including the potential for asymptomatic transmission among and between staff and residents. Factors that have hampered the response to COVID-19 in long-term care facilities have included insufficient availability of personal protective equipment and of human resources; insufficient training in IPC, including use of personal protective equipment and case management, and reduced access to essential healthcare services (ECDC, 2022c).

## The main existing treatment options

Approaches to dealing with the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic can be divided into two main approaches: (i) preventative measures designed to reduce transmission and/or severity by providing active immunity to infection and (ii) direct treatment measures to address the symptomatology.

### ***Preventative measures designed to reduce transmission and/or severity by providing active immunity to infection***

During the 2021 European summer season, the incidence of SARS-CoV-2 declined in almost all EU/EEA countries and was at the lowest rate since September 2020. Some of the decline in SARS-CoV-2 incidence that has occurred since January 2021, combined with reductions in hospitalisations and deaths, particularly in older age groups, is attributed to COVID-19 vaccines.

At the data lock point (DLP) of this risk management plan (RMP), apart from BIMERVAX and its adapted vaccine, three other vaccines are approved by EMA (Table 1) for use in the EU, including originally authorised and adapted vaccines: Comirnaty (mRNA), Spikevax (mRNA), and Nuvaxovid (recombinant protein, adjuvanted). No further vaccines are currently under review by the EMA.

**Table 1. Approved COVID-19 vaccines**

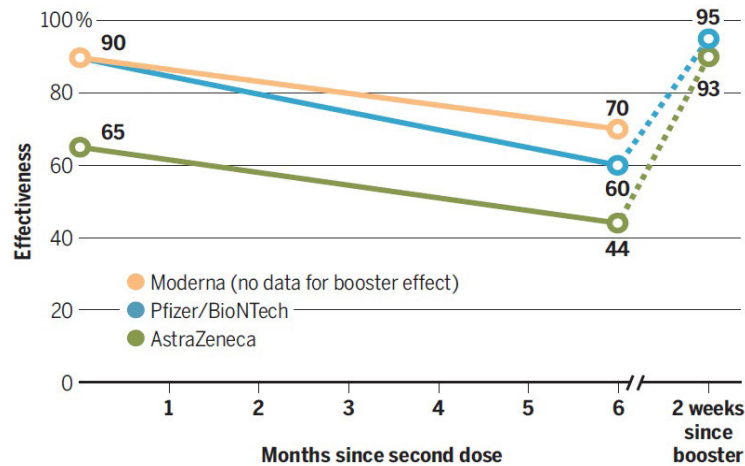
Vaccine	Description
<b>Approved</b>	
Comirnaty (developed by BioNTech and Pfizer) <sup>1</sup>	Single-stranded, 5'-capped messenger RNA (mRNA) produced using a cell-free in vitro transcription from the corresponding DNA templates, encoding the viral spike (S) protein of SARS-CoV-2.
Spikevax (previously COVID-19 Vaccine Moderna) <sup>2</sup>	Single-stranded, 5'-capped messenger RNA (mRNA) produced using a cell-free in vitro transcription from the corresponding DNA templates, encoding the viral spike (S) protein of SARS-CoV-2.
Nuvaxovid (Novavax) <sup>3</sup>	SARS-CoV-2 spike protein (produced by recombinant DNA technology using a baculovirus expression system) adjuvanted with Matrix-M.

<sup>1</sup> [https://www.ema.europa.eu/en/documents/product-information/comirnaty-epar-product-information\\_en.pdf](https://www.ema.europa.eu/en/documents/product-information/comirnaty-epar-product-information_en.pdf)

<sup>2</sup> [https://www.ema.europa.eu/en/documents/product-information/covid-19-vaccine-moderna-epar-product-information\\_en.pdf](https://www.ema.europa.eu/en/documents/product-information/covid-19-vaccine-moderna-epar-product-information_en.pdf)

<sup>3</sup> [https://www.ema.europa.eu/en/documents/product-information/nuvaxovid-epar-product-information\\_en.pdf](https://www.ema.europa.eu/en/documents/product-information/nuvaxovid-epar-product-information_en.pdf)

Importantly, evidence suggests that vaccine efficacy may wane over time (Gupta *et al.*, 2021; Keehner *et al.*, 2021; Naaber *et al.*, 2021; Thomas *et al.*, 2021) which may lead to a decline in immunity, which may occur at the level of the individual or at the population level, increasing the risk of serious disease, especially in vulnerable populations, as well as favouring the rise of breakthrough infections and the emergence of new VOCs (Dolgin, 2021; Juno *et al.*, 2021). This led to the proposal for a third “booster” dose for several of the approved vaccines as several studies supported the safety and immunogenicity of booster doses (Albach *et al.*, 2021; Bar-On *et al.*, 2021; Barda *et al.*, 2021; Mahase, 2021) (Figure 4). Initially a third dose was approved for the most vulnerable populations, but then was expanded to include all eligible adult individuals. In addition to this, several additional clinical studies have assessed heterologous vaccine approaches (i.e., mixing different vaccine brands or technology platforms in the primary sequence and/or as a booster to a different primary sequence) (Atmar *et al.*, 2021; Liu *et al.*, 2021; Nordstrom *et al.*, 2021; Sablerolles *et al.*, 2021).



**Figure 4. Vaccine effectiveness over time (Gupta *et al.*, 2021)**

Two doses of messenger RNA (mRNA) or adenovirus vectored COVID-19 vaccines elicit high levels of protection from symptomatic disease, but this wanes over time. Emerging studies show that a third dose (booster) of the same type can restore effectiveness to >90%. Data are averages for Delta variant from multiple studies.

As of 23 July 2024, a total of 5.47 billion COVID-19 vaccine doses have been administered all over the world, with a 56% of the total population being vaccinated with a complete primary series and a 28% of the total population having received at least one booster dose (WHO, 2024a).

Countries continue to adapt vaccination strategies and policies based primarily on the changing epidemiological situation at country and sub-national level, new information regarding the efficacy of the various COVID-19 vaccines, safety, effectiveness (including the duration of protection from the vaccines against different outcomes), and new evidence about the virus and its impact on human health. National policies often prioritize vulnerable groups such as the elderly, healthcare workers, and individuals with underlying health conditions. Strategies include targeted outreach and dedicated vaccination campaigns to increase coverage among these groups (ECDC, 2024c).

As of April 2024, during the 2023-24 season in the EU/EEA, for the age group 60 years and above, approximately 28.1 million people received a dose of a COVID-19 vaccine. The median coverage among people in this age group was 12.0% (range: 0.01–66.1%), with high variation across countries. Among the 27 countries reporting data for this target group, none reported a coverage  $\geq 80\%$ . For the age group 80 years and above, approximately 7 million people received a dose of a COVID-19 vaccine. The median coverage among people in this age group was 17.1% (range: 0.01–89.3%), with high variation across countries. Among the 26 countries reporting data for this target group, two countries reported a coverage  $\geq 80\%$  (Denmark: 88.6%; and Sweden: 89.3%) (ECDC, 2024).

*Non-pharmaceutical interventions (NPI)* are actions that people and communities take to help slowing down the spread of SARS-COV-2 (Flaxman *et al.*, 2020; Perra, 2021). Such community mitigation strategies range from individual actions such as good hand hygiene, appropriate use of face masks or physical distancing to more restrictive measures like limiting the size of gatherings or closure of schools and work offices. Contact tracing is a key tool for breaking transmission chains. Most NPI can have a negative impact on the general well-being of people, the functioning of society, and the economy (Muller *et al.*, 2021).



**Direct treatment measures to address the symptomology**

Treatment of confirmed SARS-CoV-2-positive individuals is based on severity of symptoms (Table 2). Coagulopathy is common in patients with severe COVID-19, and both venous and arterial thromboembolism have been reported (World Health Organization (WHO), 2023a).

Table 2. Recommended treatments for individuals with COVID-19 based on severity (World Health Organization (WHO), 2023a).

Severity	Treatment
Mild COVID-19	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Isolation to contain virus transmission.</li> <li>Symptomatic treatment such as antipyretics for fever and pain, adequate nutrition and appropriate rehydration.</li> <li>Counselling of patients with mild COVID-19 about signs and symptoms of complications that should prompt urgent care.</li> <li>Antibiotic therapy or prophylaxis should not be used</li> </ul>
Moderate COVID-19	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Isolation to contain virus transmission. For patients at high risk for deterioration, isolation in hospital is preferred.</li> <li>Use of pulse oximetry monitoring at home for symptomatic patients with COVID-19 and risk factors for progression to severe disease who are not hospitalised.</li> <li>Antibiotics should not be prescribed unless there is clinical suspicion of a bacterial infection in patients with suspected or confirmed moderate COVID-19.</li> <li>Close monitoring of patients with moderate COVID-19 for signs or symptoms of disease progression.</li> </ul>
Severe COVID-19	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Immediate administration of supplemental oxygen therapy to any patient with emergency signs during resuscitation to target <math>\text{SpO}_2 \geq 94\%</math> and to any patient without emergency signs and hypoxaemia (i.e., stable hypoxaemic patient) to target <math>\text{SpO}_2 &gt; 90\%</math> or <math>\geq 92\text{--}95\%</math> in pregnant women. In adults, techniques such as positioning, e.g., high supported sitting, may help to optimize oxygenation, ease breathlessness and reduce energy expenditure.</li> <li>Closely monitor patients for signs of clinical deterioration, such as rapidly progressive respiratory failure and shock.</li> <li>Awake prone positioning of severely ill patients hospitalized with COVID-19 requiring supplemental oxygen (includes high flow nasal oxygen) or non-invasive ventilation.</li> <li>Cautious fluid management in patients without tissue hypoperfusion and fluid responsiveness.</li> </ul>

Severity	Treatment
Critical COVID-19: acute respiratory distress syndrome (ARDS)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Prompt recognition of progressive acute hypoxemic respiratory failure when a patient with respiratory distress is failing to respond to standard oxygen therapy.</li> <li>Equipment of health facilities with pulse oximeters, functioning oxygen systems and disposable, single-use, oxygen-delivering interfaces.</li> <li>Endotracheal intubation performed by a trained and experienced provider using airborne precautions.</li> <li>Implementation of mechanical ventilation using lower tidal volumes (4–8 mL/kg predicted body weight [PBW]) and lower inspiratory pressures (plateau pressure &lt; 30 cmH<sub>2</sub>O). In children, a lower level of plateau pressure (&lt; 28 cmH<sub>2</sub>O) is targeted, and a lower target of pH is permitted (7.15–7.30). Tidal volumes should be adapted to disease severity: 3–6 mL/kg PBW in the case of poor respiratory system compliance, and 5–8 mL/kg PBW with better preserved compliance.</li> <li>Prone ventilation for 12–16 hours per day in adult patients with severe ARDS (<math>\text{PaO}_2/\text{FiO}_2 &lt; 150</math> mmHg).</li> <li>Conservative fluid management strategy for ARDS patients without tissue hypoperfusion and fluid responsiveness.</li> <li>In patients with moderate or severe ARDS, a trial of higher positive end-expiratory pressure (PEEP) instead of lower PEEP is suggested and requires consideration of benefits versus risks.</li> <li>In patients with moderate-severe ARDS (<math>\text{PaO}_2/\text{FiO}_2 &lt; 150</math>), neuromuscular blockade by continuous infusion should not be routinely used.</li> </ul>
Critical COVID-19: septic shock	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Septic shock in adults when infection is suspected or confirmed AND vasopressors are needed to maintain mean arterial pressure (MAP) <math>\geq 65</math> mmHg AND lactate is <math>\geq 2</math> mmol/L, in the absence of hypovolaemia.</li> <li>Septic shock in children with any hypotension (SBP &lt; 5th centile or &gt; 2 SD below normal for age) or two or more of the following: altered mental status; bradycardia or tachycardia (HR &lt; 90 bpm or &gt; 160 bpm in infants and HR &lt; 70 bpm or &gt; 150 bpm in children); prolonged capillary refill (&gt; 2 sec) or feeble pulses; tachypnoea; mottled or cold skin or petechial or purpuric rash; increased lactate; oliguria; hyperthermia or hypothermia.</li> <li>Resuscitation for septic shock in adults with 250–500 mL crystalloid fluid (including normal saline and Ringer's lactate) as rapid bolus in first 15–30 minutes.</li> <li>Resuscitation for septic shock in children with 10–20 mL/kg crystalloid fluid as a bolus in the first 30–60 minutes.</li> <li>Hypotonic crystalloids, starches or gelatins should not be used for resuscitation.</li> </ul>



Severity	Treatment
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Vasopressors are administered when shock persists during or after fluid resuscitation. The initial blood pressure target is MAP <math>\geq</math> 65 mmHg in adults and improvement of markers of perfusion.</li> <li>In children, vasopressors are administered if signs of fluid overload are apparent or certain signs persist.</li> </ul>

## Natural history of the indicated condition in the population, including mortality and morbidity

The transmission characteristics of SARS-CoV-2 are very similar to those of SARS-CoV and pandemic influenza (Viner *et al.*, 2020; Rahman *et al.*, 2021). SARS-CoV-2 presents a moderate to severe infectious threat with a mean R0 range of 2.24 to 3.58 (Rahman *et al.*, 2021). As a respiratory infectious disease, the virus is transmitted primarily by droplets, respiratory secretions, and direct contact although viral particles have been isolated from faecal swabs and blood. The incubation period on average is 1–14 days, however, is generally 3–7 days.

Presenting signs and symptoms of COVID-19 vary. Important factors for consideration include overall age of patient, comorbidities, vaccination status (including time after vaccination and waning immunity) and also the VOC responsible for the infection. Preliminary evidence suggests that infections with the Omicron VOC have a less severe clinical presentation than Delta VOC, for example, but more data are needed<sup>2</sup>. It is important to highlight that lower age, prior immunity from natural infection, vaccination including booster dose, and improved treatment options may contribute to observations of less severe outcomes and thus, the true risk of severe infection for the Omicron VOC may be underestimated.

According to a WHO summary (World Health Organization (WHO), 2023a), most adult persons experience fever (83–99%), cough (59–82%), fatigue (44–70%), anorexia (40–84%), shortness of breath (31–40%), myalgias (11–35%). Other non-specific symptoms, such as sore throat, nasal congestion, headache, diarrhoea, nausea and vomiting, have also been reported. Loss of smell (anosmia) or loss of taste (ageusia) preceding the onset of respiratory symptoms has also been reported. Additional neurological manifestations reported include dizziness, agitation, weakness, seizures, or findings suggestive of stroke including trouble with speech or vision, sensory loss, or problems with balance in standing or walking. Older people and immunosuppressed patients in particular may present with atypical symptoms such as fatigue, reduced alertness, reduced mobility, diarrhoea, loss of appetite, confusion, and absence of fever.

In another European study published in September 2020, 1,420 patients with positive diagnosis of Covid-19 were recruited from 18 European hospitals. The most common symptoms were headache (70.3%), loss of smell (70.2%), nasal obstruction (67.8%), cough (63.2%), asthenia (63.3%), myalgia (62.5%), rhinorrhoea (60.1%), gustatory dysfunction (54.2%) and sore throat (52.9%) and fever (45.4%) (Lechien *et al.*, 2020).

Patients with COVID-19 experience varying degrees of severity. Severity of COVID-19 based on WHO definitions is shown in Table 2. Some individuals may be asymptomatic, whereas around 80% of infected individuals have only mild infection (Viner *et al.*, 2020; Rahman *et al.*, 2021). In those patients that do become symptomatic, most people with COVID-19 develop only mild (40%) or moderate (40%) disease,

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LINK <https://www.ecdc.europa.eu/en/news-events/weekly-epidemiological-update-omicron-variant-concern-voc-week-2-data-20-january-2022> (Data as of January 20, 2022)

approximately 15% develop severe disease that requires oxygen support, and 5% have critical disease with complications such as respiratory failure, ARDS, sepsis and septic shock, thromboembolism, and/or multi-organ failure, including acute kidney injury and cardiac injury (World Health Organization (WHO), 2023a). Importantly, asymptomatic subjects may have viral loads similar to those of symptomatic patients and are thus possible sources of infection. Of the remaining cases, approximately 15% develop severe disease characterised by dyspnoea, hypoxia, and lung changes on imaging, and 5% are critically ill. The critical ill often include elderly and those with underlying disorders who may experience acute respiratory distress syndrome (ARDS), septic shock, metabolic acidosis, and coagulation dysfunction, which may ultimately lead to multiple organ failure and even death. A small percentage of patients also manifest gastrointestinal symptoms, such as diarrhoea and vomiting. Overall, poor clinical outcomes among adult COVID-19 patients are associated with a higher comorbidity burden.

Based on early studies with the Wuhan strain, mild disease (no or mild pneumonia) was reported in 81% of cases, severe disease in 14%, critical disease in 5% with an overall case fatality rate of 2.3% with no deaths reported among noncritical cases (McKintosh, 2022). Among Omicron cases with known outcomes, 884 (1.14%) were hospitalised, 120 (0.16%) required ICU admission/respiratory support, and 48 (0.06%) died. The pattern of higher rates of hospitalisation, ICU admission, and death with increased age is apparent for Omicron cases, as it has been for Delta and previous variants<sup>2</sup>. Similarly, low hospital admission rates and case fatality for Omicron cases have been observed in some reports, whereas a shorter median length of hospital stay and/or significantly reduced need for respiratory support were also reported for Omicron, but more data are needed.

### **Post COVID-19 condition**

In addition to the more “traditional” infection and symptom cycle described above, SARS-CoV-2 is also known to cause so-called “long COVID” or “post-COVID condition” which is generally defined as individuals with ongoing symptoms of COVID-19 that persist beyond four weeks from initial infection, last for at least 2 months and cannot be explained by an alternative diagnosis (Crook *et al.*, 2021; Davis *et al.*, 2021; World Health Organization (WHO), 2023a). Post-COVID-19 condition, has manifestations from multiple organ systems and its pathophysiology remains unclear and is most likely multifactorial. Fatigue, muscle or joint pain, breathlessness, and impaired sleep are common symptoms in adults and in children. Others include mental health effects including depression and anxiety, and neurological symptoms such as loss of smell and taste, headache, and difficulty in thinking or concentrating (also described as “brain fog”). These have considerable impact on patients’ quality of life and well-being. Meta-analysis of 1.2 million records from 22 countries estimated that 6.2% of people with symptomatic SARS-CoV-2 infection developed post-COVID condition. Older age, female sex, being overweight or obese, smoking, pre-existing comorbidities, and severe COVID-19 including hospitalization or ICU admission are associated with increased risk of developing post-COVID condition, as per a systematic review and meta-analysis (World Health Organization (WHO), 2023a). SARS-CoV-2 vaccination was associated with a lower risk of post-COVID condition. The spectrum of presentation, pathophysiology, clinical course, diagnosis, and management of these conditions is under investigation. The following symptoms are considered to be the most common for long COVID: fatigue, dyspnoea, cough, sleep disturbances, anxiety, depression, cognitive impairment, and difficulty concentrating. Fatigue and concentration problems were noted to last beyond 12 weeks. The presence of post COVID-19 condition has been also reported in cohorts of children from several countries (ECDC, 2022a).

The prevalence of post-acute COVID-19 decreases over time since the acute presentation but it is not yet possible to determine how long the symptoms may persist (ECDC, 2022a).



### SARS-CoV-2 Variants

Since the emergence of the pandemic situation, there are serious concerns about the emergence of new variants of the SARS-CoV-2 virus. Variants of concern (VOCs) were defined as those variants for which clear evidence is available indicating a significant impact on transmissibility, severity and/or immunity that is likely to have an impact on the epidemiological situation. Some of these variants have already been associated with higher transmissibility and decreased susceptibility to neutralisation by vaccine-induced antibodies compared to the parent strain, although the overall impact on vaccine effectiveness in preventing severe disease remains uncertain (Weisblum *et al.*, 2020; Gupta, 2021; Harvey *et al.*, 2021; Planas *et al.*, 2021).

As of March 2023, ECDC de-escalated BA.2, BA.4 and BA.5 from its list of SARS-CoV-2 variants of concern (VOC), as these parental lineages are no longer circulating. At the DLP of this RMP, there are no SARS-CoV-2 variants meeting the VOC criteria.

Variants of interest (VOI) are defined as those variants for which evidence is available on genomic properties, epidemiological evidence or in-vitro evidence that could imply a significant impact on transmissibility, severity and/or immunity, realistically having an impact on the epidemiological situation in the EU/EEA. However, the evidence is still preliminary or is associated with major uncertainty (Table 3). As of 28 June 2024, ECDC de-escalated XBB.1.5-like lineages as variants of interest (VOI) since they are no longer circulating or are circulating in very low numbers in EU/EEA countries.

**Table 3. SARS-CoV2 variants of interest according to the European Centre for Disease Control (ECDC).**

WHO label	Lineage + additional mutations	Country first detected	Spike mutations of interest	Year and month first detected	Impact on transmissibility	Impact on immunity	Impact on severity	Transmissibility in EU/EEA
Omicron	BA.2.86	n/a	(y)	n/a	Baseline	Baseline	Baseline	Community
Omicron	KP.3	n/a	Q493E, F456L	n/a	No evidence	No evidence	No evidence	Dominant

y: I332V, D339H, R403K, V445H, G446S, N450D, L452W, N481K, 483del, E484K, F486P

Based on <https://www.ecdc.europa.eu/en/covid-19/variants-concern> (access date 12/12/2024)

## Part II: Module SII - Non-clinical part of the safety specification

No risks have been identified in the non-clinical testing programme, and safety and toxicology data further support high tolerability and an excellent safety profile of the proposed dose and regimen for human use (i.e., 40 µg recombinant protein RBD fusion dimer / 0.5 mL dose).

At an initial stage of development, the antigen was a SARS-CoV-2 virus recombinant S protein RBD dimer with the sequence of the Wuhan strain. This antigen was also referred to as "RBD dimer". The vaccine containing the antigen **RBD dimer**-Wuhan strain, together with SQBA adjuvant was referred to as **PHH-1**. However, due to the quick spread of new variants around the world, HIPRA decided to develop a new antigen candidate (based on the same CHO cell platform technology) intended to confer protection against the new variants, and the PHH-1 vaccine was discontinued. The new antigen was the SARS-CoV-2 virus recombinant protein RBD fusion heterodimer - B.1.351-B.1.1.7 variants (beta and alpha variants), originally identified in South Africa and UK, respectively. Therefore, the vaccine containing the

antigen **RBD fusion heterodimer** together with SQBA adjuvant corresponds to **PHH-1V**. Nonclinical studies used both types of antigens: initially RBD dimer (PHH-1), and later RBD fusion heterodimer (PHH-1V). Later on, to ensure continued protection against new variants, **PHH-1V81** was developed as an adapted version of the parent vaccine BIMERVAX. This new formulation contains the antigen **RBD fusion homodimer (Omicron XBB.1.16 - XBB.1.16 strain)** together with SQBA adjuvant.

No single dose toxicology studies with PHH-1V vaccine have been performed or are planned. Instead, exposure obtained in the repeat-dose toxicity studies covers in excess the clinical posology for using BIMERVAX vaccine as a booster or as a prime-boost vaccine for naïve subjects.

The safety profile of PHH-1V vaccine was assessed by three GLP repeat dose toxicity studies: one with PHH-1 vaccine (same vaccine but with a Wuhan-strain antigen) in mice, and two with PHH-1V vaccine in rats and rabbits. These GLP studies evaluated the systemic toxicity of the vaccines when administered i.m. every two weeks for 29 days (Day 1, Day 15 Day 29), and included a recovery period of 4-weeks. The antigen dose tested in mice for PHH-1 vaccine was 50 µg, while in the studies with rats and rabbit with PHH-1V, the antigen dose was 40 µg. Additionally, the safety of PHH-1 and PHH-1V vaccines was preliminary assessed during the evaluation of the immunogenicity of these vaccine in mice, hamsters, pigs and NHPs, as well as in pilot non-GLP studies in mice and rabbits. These studies assessed different antigen doses up to 40 µg in the PHH-1V vaccine administered i.m. or SC. The main results of the GLP repeat dose toxicity studies are outlined below:

- The GLP toxicity study AC25AA in mice where PHH-1 vaccine was administered i.m. at an antigen dose of 50 µg antigen in 0.1 mL every two weeks for 29 days showed that PHH-1 vaccine caused local dermal reactions at the administration site for up to 24 hours and increased body temperature. There were no PHH-1-related effects on clinical signs, food consumption, body weight, functional observational battery (FOB) or clinical pathology. Histopathology analysis revealed slight test-item-induced effects in the lung, spleen, mesenteric lymph node, liver, and injection site, which were absent after the 4-week recovery period.
- A GLP repeat dose toxicity study in rats (AC91AA), where PHH-1V vaccine including 40 µg of antigen was administered i.m. to rats every two weeks for 29 days found that PHH-1V caused local dermal reactions at the administration site, which were mild and reversible. There were no effects on clinical signs, FOB, food consumption, body weight or clinical pathology. This study shows that PHH-1V is well tolerated in Sprague Dawley rats. There were no observations consistent with systemic toxicity, and local reactogenicity was of low magnitude.
- In the GLP toxicity study in rabbits, PHH-1V vaccine, including a dose of 40 µg antigen, was administered every 2 weeks for 28 days. PHH-1V was locally and systemically well tolerated in rabbits. As a general conclusion to the whole study, and based on general clinical signs, local reactions at the injection site, temperature, body weight, feed consumption, clinical haematology, biochemistry and coagulation data, macroscopic observation of tissues and microscopical findings, no adverse or toxicological effects have been identified in rabbits under the study conditions.

Specific studies assessing the toxicity of the SQBA adjuvant alone (without the antigen) were deemed not necessary considering the vast non-clinical and clinical data already available for this adjuvant. Moreover, non-clinical data for the SQBA adjuvant when combined with RBD dimer (PHH-1 vaccine) or RBD fusion heterodimer (PHH-1V vaccine) have been generated as part of the development of the final BIMERVAX vaccine. In this regard, the safety of the SQBA adjuvant is indeed supported by the good

safety profile of the PHH-1 and PHH-1V vaccines in the above-described studies, including three GLP studies in mice, rats and rabbits.

Overall, these non-clinical studies support the high tolerability and an excellent safety profile of PHH-1V vaccine at antigen and adjuvant doses that are well above those to be used in human. Specifically, doses of antigens tested in mice, rat, rabbit and monkey are 176, 39, 10 and 4 times, respectively, higher than the proposed dose to be used in human, which is 40 µg. Similarly, the adjuvant doses tested in mice, rat, rabbit and monkey are 28, 8, 10 and 4 times higher than the dose used in human, which is 250 µL. Moreover, the safety of PHH-1V was assessed in GLP studies after administration of 3 doses of vaccine at a frequency of one dose every 2 weeks. Both the number of doses and the frequency of administration are above those to be used in the clinical setting, where only one dose of PHH-1V, in the case of the intended booster indication, or 2 doses separated 21 days, in the case of a potential prime-boost indication, will be administered. In addition, no sex-dependent differences were observed in the safety profile of PHH-1 or PHH-1V vaccines.

No genotoxicity studies have been performed with BIMERVAX. No genotoxic potential is expected for the recombinant RBD fusion heterodimer antigen, as this type of substances would not interact directly with DNA or other chromosomal material. Also, the non-genotoxic potential of SQBA adjuvant has been demonstrated. Therefore, its genotoxicity is not expected, at least at the concentration used for BIMERVAX, which is the same as the concentration used in other currently approved vaccines.

No carcinogenicity studies have been conducted for BIMERVAX because the product is not to be administer chronically and the nature of its components raise no cause of concern.

The potential toxicity of PHH-1V on fertility and early embryonic development was assessed in a GLP toxicology study (*AE80AA*) further evaluating the effect on embryofoetal and pre- and post-natal development in rats. Final results demonstrate the good safety profile of PHH-1V as no mortalities have been detected and the body weight and local signs were similar between groups. No adverse effects on male and female fertility have been detected as the mating index is 100% and reproductive performance is equivalent between groups. No adverse effects of PHH-1V or its associated immune response were detected on embryofoetal or postnatal survival at the current date. Moreover, several aspects support the lack of concern regarding potential toxicity of BIMERVAX on fertility. Specifically, an assessment of male and female fertility by histopathological examination of the testis and ovaries in the GLP toxicity studies in mice (*AC25AA*), rat (*AC91AA*) and rabbit (*SEP-2021-011-PHH1V*) found no effect of PHH-1 or PHH-1V vaccines on these organs. Also, no effects on fertility have been described for the SQBA adjuvant at least at the dose to be used in BIMERVAX. Moreover, no effects on fertility have been associated to the development of immunogenicity against SARS-CoV-2 during the development of other three COVID-19 vaccines currently approved (SmPC Comirnaty, 2024; SmPC Spikevax, 2024; SmPC Nuvaxovid, 2024).

The immunogenicity and safety of BIMERVAX XBB.1.16 has been evaluated in different non-clinical primary pharmacodynamic studies in mice. No further non-clinical evaluations (toxicity or challenge studies) of PHH-1V81 were conducted as the data obtained from studies conducted with BIMERVAX parent vaccine were considered relevant for the adapted BIMERVAX vaccine, PHH-1V81.

The non-clinical evaluation of PHH-1V81 consisted in a comparison between BIMERVAX vaccine and the adapted BIMERVAX vaccine (PHH-1V81) as primary and booster vaccination (after priming with bivalent Comirnaty vaccine). Safety evaluation in all these studies consisted of body weight monitoring and observation of clinical signs.

All studies have demonstrated that the PHH-1V81 vaccine containing Omicron XBB.1.16 homodimer of RBD, administered either as primary vaccination or as a booster dose, elicits a strong neutralizing activity against Omicron XBB.1.5 and XBB.1.16 variants when compared to the parent vaccine BIMERVAX. Furthermore, the PHH-1V81 vaccine demonstrated to be safe in these studies carried out in mice, without any observable general clinical signs throughout the studies.



**Table 4. Key Safety Findings and Relevance to Human Usage**

Key Safety findings from Nonclinical Studies <sup>a</sup>	Relevance to Human Usage
<b>Pharmacology</b>	
<b>Challenge studies</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No evidence of vaccine-elicited disease enhancement at doses up to 40 µg.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Suggests low risk of vaccine-enhanced disease in humans; being investigated in CTs. Nevertheless, vaccine-enhanced disease reactions have been identified as a potential risk (see Module SVII)</li> </ul>
<b>Toxicity</b>	
<b>Injection site reactions:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Local dermal reactions at the administration site and increased body temperature were common and reversible or showed signs of reversibility at the end of the recovery period in nonclinical studies.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>In common with other vaccines, COVID-19 vaccine (recombinant, adjuvanted) administration has the potential to generate injection site reactions such as oedema and erythema at the injection sites.</li> </ul>
<b>Inflammation and immune activation:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The death of two treated animals after the third administration and of one female after the second administration of PHH-1V could have been caused by drug-induced anaphylactic reaction.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Anaphylactic reaction could be more linked to a species (mice)-specific immunological response than to a toxicological response, a hypothesis confirmed by the histopathology report.</li> </ul>
<b>Developmental and Reproductive Toxicity</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No effects on male and female fertility, embryofoetal or postnatal survival have been detected for the PHH-1V in the GLP toxicology study (AE80AA). Moreover, no effects have been observed in the histopathological examination of the testis and ovaries in the GLP toxicity studies with PHH-1V.</li> <li>No effects on fertility have been described for the SQBA adjuvant.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No effects are expected in WOCBP, pregnant women or their offspring.</li> </ul>
<b>Genotoxicity</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No genotoxicity studies have been performed.</li> <li>The non-genotoxic potential of the SQBA adjuvant has been demonstrated in analogous adjuvants widely used in humans.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No genotoxic potential is expected for as this type of substances would not interact directly with DNA or other chromosomal material.</li> </ul>

<sup>a</sup> Safety pharmacology, genotoxicity, and carcinogenicity studies were not conducted, in accordance with 2005 EMA and WHO vaccine guidelines, as they are generally not considered necessary to support development and licensure of vaccines for infectious diseases (EMA/CHMP/VEG/134716/2004, 2005; World Health Organization (WHO), 2005).

## Part II: Module SIII - Clinical trial exposure

At the DLP of this RMP, the clinical development plan includes one completed supportive study in Asia (HAN-01) and five completed studies in Europe (HIPRA-HH-10, HIPRA-HH-5, HIPRA-HH-1, HIPRA-HH-2 and HIPRA-HH-4).

- The FIH clinical trial with BIMERVAX, already completed in Spain (Short Term Interim Analysis Report, 07-April-2022; Final CSR, 31-March-2023), was Phase I/IIa clinical study HIPRA-HH-1 (EudraCT: 2021-001411-82) approved in August 2021 by the Spanish national competent authority (NCA), AEMPS. It was a randomised, controlled, observer-blinded, dose-escalation, multicentre clinical trial to evaluate safety and immunogenicity of COVID-19 HIPRA vaccine in adult healthy volunteers. Results showed that HIPRA vaccine presented a very good safety and tolerability profile together with a high degree of immunogenicity in healthy adults when compared with a commercial vaccine. The risk-benefit assessment favoured the selection of the 40 µg dose level for its use in phase II trials.
- The Phase IIb clinical study HIPRA-HH-2 (EudraCT: 2021-005226-26) is a completed study (Interim Analysis Report, 18 May 2022; 6 months Interim Report, 28 September 2022, CSR submission on 05 January 2024). It was approved in Spain in November 2021 and was a double-blind, randomised, active controlled, multi-centre, non-inferiority trial to assess immunogenicity and safety of a booster vaccination with BIMERVAX (PHH-1V) against SARS-CoV-2, in healthy adult volunteers fully vaccinated against COVID 19 followed by an extension period to study a fourth dose administration of PHH-1V. Overall, the observations demonstrated that vaccination with PHH-1V was well tolerated with a good safety profile. Additionally, vaccination either as a fourth dose or as a third dose with PHH-1V vaccine was also safe and well tolerated.
- The Phase III study HIPRA-HH-5 (EudraCT: 2022-000074-25) is a completed study (interim data are available; Interim Analysis Report, 24 May 2022; CSR submission on 27 October 2023). It was approved in Spain in February 2022 and was an open-label trial, single-arm, multi-centre, international trial to assess the safety and immunogenicity of a booster vaccination with BIMERVAX against SARS-CoV-2, in adults vaccinated against COVID-19. Vaccination with BIMERVAX was overall well tolerated with a good safety profile. No relevant differences in the safety profile were observed regardless of the primary vaccination schedule received or a previous COVID-19 infection.
- The Phase IIb study HIPRA-HH-10 (EudraCT: 2022-000795-19) is also a completed study (Interim Analysis Report, 13-May-2022, CSR submitted on 28 July 2023). It was approved in Spain on 8 March 2022 and was a double-blind, randomized, active controlled, multi-centre, non-inferiority trial to assess immunogenicity and safety of a booster vaccination with a recombinant protein RBD fusion dimer candidate (PHH-1V) against SARS-COV-2, in adults fully vaccinated with adenovirus vaccine against COVID-19. BIMERVAX was well tolerated throughout the study and a good safety profile was observed.
- The Phase IIb/III study HIPRA-HH-4 (EudraCT: 2022-000785-18) is a completed study (CSR submitted on 13 September 2024). It was approved in Spain on 9 May 2022 and was an open label, single arm, multi-centre, trial to assess the immunogenicity and safety of an additional dose vaccination with a recombinant protein RBD fusion heterodimer candidate (PHH-1V) against SARS-CoV-2, in adults with pre-existing immunosuppressive conditions vaccinated against COVID-19. In Turkey it was approved on 28 October 2022. Overall, the results indicated that



the PHH-1V vaccine given as a booster dose was safe and well tolerated in participants with underlying immunosuppressive conditions.

- The supportive study HAN-01 is a completed phase IIb clinical trial (Interim Analysis Report, 7-Apr-2022; CSR submitted on 14 July 2023). It was approved in Asia (Vietnam) in November 2021 and was a randomised, controlled, observer-blinded clinical trial to evaluate safety and immunogenicity of BIMERVAX compared with Pfizer-BioNTech (Comirnaty) vaccine in adult healthy volunteers. Overall, the observations demonstrated that BIMERVAX was well tolerated providing a good safety profile when two doses are administered 21 days apart.

Currently more than 3000 participants have been exposed to a single booster dose of 40 µg of PHH-1V after receiving a primary sequence of an approved COVID-19 vaccine 182 days previously. Overall extent of exposure of the Clinical Development Plan (CDP) is provided in Table SIII.1.

This safety population represents the safety population as per the proposed clinical use and posology of PHH-1V as a booster vaccine.

This data in the intended clinical use population is supplemented by supporting data in 138 naïve individuals who received two doses of 40 µg as a primary sequence (i.e., the same clinical dose level, but with one administration more, and without underlying primary sequence vaccination received at least 182 days previously), as well as an additional 15 participants who received two administrations at lower dose levels without underlying primary vaccination (10 or 20 µg per dose).

**Table SIII.1. Overall extent of exposure in the PHH-1V clinical development plan**

Product and Dose level	# of doses	HIPRA-HH-1 Phase I/IIa	HIPRA-HH-2 Phase IIb	HIPRA-HH-5 Phase III	HIPRA-HH-10 Phase IIb	HAN-01 Phase IIb	HIPRA-HH-4 Phase IIb/III	TOTAL
PHH-1V 10 µg	Two <sup>1</sup>	5	-	-	-	-	-	5
PHH-1V 20 µg	Two <sup>1</sup>	10	-	-	-	-	-	10
PHH-1V 40 µg	One (booster)	-	801 <sup>2</sup>	2661	18	-	238	3718
	Two <sup>1</sup>	10	-	-	-	128 <sup>3</sup>	-	138
Comirnaty 30 µg mRNA	One (booster)	-	252	-	8	-	-	260
	Two <sup>1</sup>	5	-	-	-	128 <sup>4</sup>	-	133

<sup>1</sup> Two doses administered as a homologous prime-boost sequence in naïve participants

<sup>2</sup> A total of 513 and 288 participants received the PHH-1V vaccine in Part A and Part B of the study, respectively

<sup>3</sup> Out of the 128 participants that received a first dose, 121 received a second dose as a primary course vaccination

<sup>4</sup> Out of the 128 participants that received a first dose, 124 received a second dose as a primary course vaccination

In the clinical trial Phase I/IIa (HIPRA-HH-1), there were 51 screened subjects and 30 randomised. All randomised subjects received the PHH-1V vaccine and are included in the Safety Population.

In Part A of the Phase IIb HIPRA-HH-2 study, the safety analysis included 765 subjects that received a dose of the study vaccine: 513 subjects that received the PHH-1V vaccine and 252 that received the Comirnaty vaccine. In part B of the study, a total of 301 subjects were screened from which 288 were vaccinated with PHH-1V as fourth dose. Out of the 288 vaccinated subjects from part B, 158 came from part A of the study and 130 were from community.

In the Phase III study clinical trial HIPRA-HH-5, 2661 participants received the booster dose of 40 µg of PHH-1V.

In the HAN-01 study there were 629 screened subjects and 256 randomized (128 in the vaccine group 1 [PHH-1V] and 128 in the vaccine group 2 [Comirnaty]). All selected subjects were included in the Safety population into one of the 2 groups. Finally, 121 participants received the second dose in Group 1 (PHH-1V) and 124 participants received the second dose in group 2 (Comirnaty).

In the Phase IIb/III HIPRA-HH-4 study, 238 participants were vaccinated with the PHH-1V vaccine.

In the Phase IIb HIPRA-HH-10, recruitment was closed with 26 participants vaccinated. A total of 18 subjects received the PHH-1V vaccine, and 8 subjects received the Comirnaty vaccine.

Table SIII.2 presents the age group and gender information of the clinical trial population, and Table SIII.3 the race information. For individual studies, the treatment groups were well-matched for demographic characteristics with no relevant differences between treatment groups, except for the ethnicity, that includes different percentages of race sub-populations in each study based on where the study was conducted. Both male and female participants were included in approximately equal proportions.



**Table SIII.2. Extent of exposure according age group and gender of the evaluated safety population from the clinical development plan of PHH-1V**

Variable	Category	HIPRA-HH-1				HIPRA-HH-2			HAN-01		HIPRA-HH-5	HIPRA-HH-10		HIPRA-HH-4
		PHH-1V (10 µg)	PHH-1V (20 µg)	PHH-1V (40 µg)	Comirnaty (30 µg)	Part A		Part B	PHH-1V (40 µg)	Comirnaty (30 µg)	PHH-1V (40 µg)	PHH-1V (40 µg)	Comirnaty (30 µg)	PHH-1V (40 µg)
						PHH-1V (40 µg)	Comirnaty (30 µg)							
n		5	10	10	5	513	252	288	128	128	2661	18	8	238
Age	Mean (SD)	30.20 (8.23)	27.90 (3.87)	26.00 (4.40)	28.40 (3.78)	42.1 (14.55)	41.6 (14.97)	47.5 (14.86)	45.6 (8.5)	45.6 (9.6)	34.4 (12.74)	44.5 (13.52)	47.6 (11.92)	56.3 (13.99)
	<18 years	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	36 (1.35%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)
	18 – <65 years	5 (100.0%)	10 (100.0%)	10 (100.0%)	5 (100.0%)	475 (92.6%)	234 (92.9%)	255 (88.5)	128 (100.0%)	128 (100.0%)	2589 (97.85%)	17 (94.4%)	7 (87.5%)	176 (73.95)
	≥65 years	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	38 (7.4%)	18 (7.1%)	33 (11.5)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	21 (0.79%)	1 (5.6%)	1 (12.5%)	62 (26.05)
Sex <sup>1</sup>	Male	4 (80.0%)	4 (40.0%)	6 (60.0%)	3 (60.0%)	188 (36.6%)	93 (36.9%)	115 (39.9)	49 (38.3%)	55 (43.0%)	1388 (52.2%)	14 (77.8%)	4 (50.0%)	152 (63.87)
	Female	1 (20.0%)	6 (60.0%)	4 (40.0%)	2 (40.0%)	325 (63.4%)	159 (63.1%)	173 (60.1)	79 (61.7%)	73 (57.0%)	1272 (47.8%)	4 (22.2%)	4 (50.0%)	86 (36.13)

Table shows values as mean (SD) for the continuous variables and n (%) for the categorical variables.

<sup>1</sup> In study HIPRA-HH-5, there was 1 participant with undifferentiated sex.

**Table SIII.3. Extent of exposure according to race of the evaluated safety population from the clinical development plan of PHH-1V**

Variable	Category	HIPRA-HH-1				HIPRA-HH-2			HAN-01		HIPRA-HH-5	HIPRA-HH-10		HIPRA-HH-4
		PHH-1V (10 µg)	PHH-1V (20 µg)	PHH-1V (40 µg)	Comirnaty (30 µg)	Part A		Part B	PHH-1V (40 µg)	Comirnaty (30 µg)	PHH-1V (40 µg)	PHH-1V (40 µg)	Comirnaty (30 µg)	PHH-1V (40 µg)
						PHH-1V (40 µg)	Comirnaty (30 µg)							
n		5	10	10	5	513	252	288	128	128	2661	18	8	238
Race	Hispanic /Caucasian	5 (100.0%)	10 (100.0%)	9 (90.0%)	5 (100.0%)	505 (98.4%)	250 (99%)	284 (98.6%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	2633 (98.9%)	18 (100.0%)	8 (100.0%)	229 (96.22%)
	Asian	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	4 (0.8%)	1 (0.4%)	0 (0.0%)	128 (100.0%)	128 (100.0%)	2 (0.001%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	3 (1.26%)
	American Indian or Alaska native	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	2 (0.4%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	7 (0.3%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	2 (0.84%)
	Other	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	1 (10.0%)	0 (0.0%)	2 (0.4%)	1 (0.4%)	4 (1.4%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	19 (0.7%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	4 (1.68%)

Table shows values as mean (SD) for the continuous variables and n (%) for the categorical variables.

**Exposure to the Adjuvant**

The SQBA adjuvant is an oil-in-water emulsion produced by HIPRA, and its qualitative and quantitative composition (9.75 mg squalene; 1.175 mg polysorbate-80; 1.175 mg sorbitan trioleate; 0.66 mg sodium citrate and 0.04 mg citric acid monohydrate) is identical to that used in other marketed vaccines in EU.

Overall, more than 30,000 individuals have participated in clinical trials of SQBA adjuvanted vaccines conducted by other MAH and more than 160 million doses of licensed vaccine have been administered using adjuvants with the same composition as SQBA. Safety and effectiveness data from clinical trials and observation studies attest to the safety of SQBA analogous adjuvants and to its ability to enhance the effectiveness of widely used vaccines in children and the elderly.

Therefore, based on the wide clinical experience using SQBA analogous adjuvants widely used in humans, in identical composition and concentration, no safety concerns are expected from its inclusion in the formulation of BIMERVAX.

**Part II: Module SIV - Populations not studied in clinical trials****SIV.1 Exclusion criteria in pivotal clinical studies within the development programme**

Detailed descriptions of all inclusion and exclusion criteria for clinical studies are provided in the individual Clinical Study Reports (CSRs). The following exclusion criteria are based on the pivotal clinical studies whose results are available at the DLP of this RMP (HIPRA-HH-1, HIPRA-HH-2 and HIPRA-HH-5).

**Table SIV.1: Important Exclusion Criteria in Pivotal Studies Across the Development Program**

Criterion	Reason for Exclusion	Included as Missing information (Yes/No)	Rationale (if not included as missing)
Pregnant or lactating or intending to become pregnant or plans to breastfeed during the study.	Clinical development generally does not initially investigate benefit/risk in pregnant women.	Yes	Not applicable.
Any medical disease (acute, subacute, intermittent, or chronic) or condition that in the opinion of the Investigator compromises the subject's safety, preclude vaccination or compromises interpretation of the results.	Allowance of these conditions would confound assessment of safety	No	It is common medical practice to not administer vaccines in patients with disease or conditions that in the opinion of the investigator compromise the volunteer's safety, preclude vaccination or compromise interpretation of the results.
Ongoing serious psychiatric condition likely to affect participation in the study.	Participants with serious psychiatric condition are considered less likely to comply with study procedures and complete the long-term safety follow-up required by the study protocols.	No	Patients with ongoing severe depression, recent suicidal ideation, bipolar disorder, personality disorder, alcohol and drug dependency, severe eating disorder, psychosis, use of mood stabilisers or antipsychotic medication, are considered less likely to comply with the study requirements.



Criterion	Reason for Exclusion	Included as Missing information (Yes/No)	Rationale (if not included as missing)
History of respiratory disease requiring daily medications currently or any treatment of respiratory disease exacerbations in the last 6 months.	Allowance of these conditions would confound assessment of safety.	Yes	Not applicable
History of significant cardiovascular disease or history of myocarditis or pericarditis as an adult.	Allowance of these conditions would confound assessment of safety.	Yes	Not applicable
History of neurological or neurodevelopmental conditions.	Allowance of these conditions would confound assessment of safety.	Yes	Not applicable
Ongoing malignancy or recent diagnosis of malignancy in the last five years.	Allowance of these conditions would confound assessment of efficacy.	No	It is common medical practice to not administer vaccines in patients with disease or conditions that in the opinion of the investigator compromise the volunteer's safety, preclude vaccination or compromise interpretation of the results.
Any confirmed or suspected autoimmune, immunosuppressive or immunodeficiency disease/condition (iatrogenic or congenital), including human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) infection, asplenia, or recurrent severe infections.	Allowance of these conditions would confound assessment of efficacy.	Yes*	Not applicable
History of hypersensitivity or severe allergic reactions, including anaphylaxis, generalised urticarial, angioedema and other significant reactions related to food, drugs, vaccines, or pharmaceutical agents, which are likely to be exacerbated by any component of the BIMERVAX.	Participants with medical history significant for allergic reactions are at increased risk for hypersensitivity reactions when receiving vaccines.	No	It is common medical practice to not administer a new vaccine in participants who have history of significant allergic reactions, including anaphylaxis, generalised urticarial, angioedema and other significant reactions related to food, drugs, vaccines, or pharmaceutical agents.
Use of any immunosuppressant, glucocorticoids, or other immune-modifying drugs within 2 months before Day 0; or anticipation of the need for immunosuppressive treatment within 182 days after vaccination (Day 0).	Allowance of these conditions would confound assessment of efficacy.	Yes	Not applicable

Criterion	Reason for Exclusion	Included as Missing information (Yes/No)	Rationale (if not included as missing)
Received immunoglobulin, blood-derived products, or other immunosuppressant drugs within 90 days before vaccination (Day 0).	Allowance of these conditions would confound assessment of efficacy.	Yes	Not applicable
Known disturbance of coagulation; bleeding disorder (iatrogenic or congenital), blood dyscrasias, or prior history of significant bleeding or bruising following intramuscular (IM) injections or venepuncture.	Participants have a potential risk of hematoma due to the puncture of the deep tissues. Allowance of these conditions would confound assessment of safety.	No	It is common medical practice to not administer a product by the intramuscular route in participants with coagulopathy or bleeding disorders although the use of a needle with proper gauge can decreased the risk.
Suspected or known current alcohol abuse or any other substances abuse (except tobacco).	Participants with drug or alcohol abuse or drug addiction are considered less likely to comply with study procedures and complete the long-term safety follow-up required by the study protocols.	No	While these participants were to be excluded per protocol, participants are not always forthcoming regarding this aspect of their medical history, and it is assumed that a not inconsequential number were actually enrolled.
History of COVID-19 infection or close contact with anyone known to have SARS-CoV-2 infection within 15 days before Screening.	Allowance of this condition would confound assessment of safety and efficacy.  Individuals with a history of non-severe COVID-19 infection were allowed in HIPRA-HH-5 if passed at least 30 days before study start.	No	Because these participants may have some degree of protection from subsequent infection by SARS-CoV-2 and therefore would confound the pivotal efficacy endpoint.
Paediatric population	Clinical development programmes generally investigate first the benefit risk in adults. In adults, the risk of symptomatic and severe COVID-19 usually is higher.	No	A modification of an agreed paediatric investigation plan for selvacovatein / damlecovatein has been agreed with the EMA PDCO. EMA decision was received on 19 July 2024.
Participant received or plans to receive other vaccines within 4 weeks before or after receiving any study vaccine.	Allowance of these conditions would confound assessment of safety and efficacy.	Yes	Interaction with other vaccines is included as missing information.
Subject has a life expectancy of less than 12 months	Allowance of these conditions would confound assessment of safety.	No	Not applicable. Long-term safety is included as missing information.

\*No longer assessed as a safety concern in the RMP.

## SIV.2 Limitations to detect adverse reactions in clinical trial development programmes

### *Rare Adverse Drug Reactions*

The clinical studies are limited in size and, therefore, unlikely to detect very rare adverse reactions, or adverse reactions with a long latency.

## SIV.3 Limitations in respect to populations typically under-represented in clinical trial development programmes

At the time of initiating Clinical Studies with BIMERVAX as a booster dose, there was limited exposure to COVID-19 mRNA vaccines in some special populations and no epidemiologic studies have been conducted in pregnant/breastfeeding women, paediatric participants (<18 years of age), and specific subpopulations that were excluded from the clinical development program. Limitations are based on the pivotal clinical studies whose results are available at the DLP of this RMP (HIPRA-HH-1, HIPRA-HH-2 and HIPRA-HH-5).

**Table SIV.2: Exposure of special populations included or not in clinical trial development programmes**

Type of special population	Exposure
Pregnant women	Pregnant and breastfeeding women were excluded from the clinical development programme.
Breastfeeding women	
Patients with relevant comorbidities: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Patients with hepatic impairment</li> <li>• Patients with renal impairment</li> <li>• Patients with cardiovascular impairment</li> <li>• Immunocompromised patients</li> <li>• Patients with a disease severity different from inclusion criteria in clinical trials</li> </ul>	<p>Patients with hepatic, renal and cardiovascular or impairment were not specifically included in the clinical development programme.</p> <p>Immunocompromised patients were included in the completed HIPRA-HH-4 clinical study. A total of 238 immunocompromised individuals (including kidney transplant, under haemodialysis or peritoneal dialysis, primary antibody deficiencies under immunoglobulin G (IgG) replacement therapy, chronic HIV infection with low CD4 cell counts and autoimmune diseases under rituximab/ocrelizumab treatment) received BIMERVAX.</p> <p>In general, Health Authorities recommend COVID-19 vaccination in immunocompromised patients, who could develop severe symptoms if infected (ECD, 2024b). Use of COVID-19 vaccine (recombinant, adjuvanted) in immunocompromised patients is included in the SmPC.</p>
Population with relevant different ethnic origin	Refer to Table SIII.3 for exposure information by ethnic origin from the studies.

Type of special population	Exposure
Subpopulations carrying relevant genetic polymorphisms	Not applicable.
Paediatric population	The safety and effectiveness in children and adolescents have not yet been established.
Elderly population	<p>Participants over 65 years of age are included in the completed HIPRA-HH-5, HIPRA-HH-10 and HIPRA-HH-2 studies.</p> <p>Refer to Table SIII.2 for exposure information by elderly population from the study.</p>



## Part II: Module SV - Post-authorisation experience

### SV.1 Post-authorisation exposure

BIMERVAX is indicated as a booster for active immunisation to prevent COVID-19 in individuals 16 years of age and older who have previously received a mRNA COVID-19 vaccine. In March 2023, the European Commission granted Marketing Authorisation of BIMERVAX vaccine for use in the European Union. Later, on 31 July 2023, it was approved in United Kingdom by the Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency (MHRA).

BIMERVAX XBB.1.16 is indicated for active immunisation to prevent COVID-19 caused by SARS-CoV-2 in individuals 16 years of age and older. In December 2024, the vaccine received Marketing Authorisation from both the European Commission for use in the European Union and the MHRA for use in the United Kingdom.

Post-authorisation exposure in the European Union from launch and up to 12 December 2024 is presented below.

#### SV.1.1 Method used to calculate exposure

BIMERVAX and BIMERVAX XBB.1.16 are to be procured and distributed through the Governments. Therefore, the estimate on the number of administered doses is based on information retrieved from official governmental websites. Should the Governments not provide these data, data from the European Centre for Disease and Control (ECDC) website is used.

Post-marketing data by age group or gender is not available. For this reason, BIMERVAX and BIMERVAX XBB.1.16 exposure described in this section is an estimation with some uncertainties regarding the lack of exposure information publicly available.

#### SV.1.2 Exposure

As of DLP of this RMP, BIMERVAX has only been distributed to Spain, Belgium and Andorra; no more doses have been distributed in any other country. BIMERVAX XBB.1.16 is not a commercially available; therefore, there is no post-authorisation exposure.

The first units of BIMERVAX were distributed to the Spanish territory on 14 June 2023. A total of 3.2 million doses have been distributed to the Spanish Government; 10000 doses to the de Belgian Government; and 500 to the Andorran Government up to the DLP of this RMP.

As stated in the most recent Periodic Safety Update Report (3<sup>rd</sup> PSUR for BIMERVAX, DLP 29 September 2024) and taking into account that COVID-19 vaccination campaigns are currently conducted on a seasonal basis, with complete data available from the most recent campaign being carried out during the autumn/winter season of 2023/2024, it is estimated that a total of 724 doses have been administered until the DLP of this RMP.



## Part II: Module SVI - Additional EU requirements for the safety specification

### Potential for misuse for illegal purposes

COVID-19 vaccines do not have characteristics that would make it attractive for misuse or for illegal purposes. Therefore, the potential for misuse and/or counterfeit of COVID-19 vaccines is considered unlikely.

## Part II: Module SVII - Identified and potential risks

### SVII.1 Identification of safety concerns in the initial RMP submission

All safety data available from the BIMERVAX clinical development programme have been evaluated in order to formulate the important safety concerns described within this RMP.

#### SVII.1.1. Risks not considered important for inclusion in the list of safety concerns in the RMP

Not all adverse reactions for the vaccine are considered to meet the level of importance/severity compared to the condition to be prevented necessitating inclusion in the list of safety concerns in the RMP.

#### Reason for not including an identified or potential risk in the list of safety concerns in the RMP:

- Risks with minimal and temporary clinical impact on patients (in relation to the severity of the disease prevented):
  - Injection site local sensitivity, injection site pain and tenderness, injection site erythema or redness, and injection site induration or swelling.
  - Fever
  - Fatigue or tiredness
  - Headache
  - Myalgia or muscle pain
  - Nausea
  - Diarrhoea

## Further considerations for COVID-19 vaccines

### ***Reactogenicity (local and systemic)***

In accordance with the European Medicines Agency (EMA) requirements (coreRMP19 guidance), the reactogenicity profile of COVID-19 vaccine (adjuvanted) HIPRA, available from the BIMERVAX vaccine clinical development, is described below for local and systemic reactions. Further analysis including observed differences between ages (younger and older groups) and after the first and second injections are still ongoing.

#### *Phase I/IIa clinical study HIPRA-HH-1*

All of solicited local adverse reactions (ADRs) were considered risks with minimal and temporary clinical impact (Grade 1 and 2 severity) on the participants. There were no solicited adverse events with grade 3 or 4 during the Phase I/IIa clinical study HIPRA-HH-1 (Phase I/IIa HIPRA-HH-1 study is still ongoing, only Short Term report safety results are available at the DLP of this RMP). The ADRs identified during the clinical development program include solicited local ADRs at the injection site including pain, local sensitivity, erythema or redness, induration or swelling. Systemic ADRs reported included fever, vomiting or nausea, diarrhoea, headache, fatigue or tiredness, myalgia or muscle pain.

**Local Adverse Reactions:** The most frequent solicited local AEs after the first and second dose of either vaccine were pain at the injection site (70% subjects dosed with 40 µg PHH-1V versus 100% subjects dosed with Comirnaty), local sensitivity (80% both in subjects dosed with 40 µg PHH-1V and Comirnaty), erythema/redness (10% subjects dosed with 40 µg PHH-1V versus 0% subjects dosed with Comirnaty) and induration/swelling (10% of subjects dosed with 40 µg PHH-1V versus 0% subjects dosed with Comirnaty). All these local AEs were of low intensity (Grade 1 or 2, mild to moderate) and a clear antigen dose-effect was not observed.

#### **Systemic Adverse Reactions:**

The most frequent solicited systemic AEs were headache (50% subjects dosed with 40 µg PHH-1V versus 60% subjects dosed with Comirnaty), fatigue (40% subjects dosed with 40 µg PHH-1V versus 40% subjects dosed with Comirnaty), myalgia (10% subjects dosed with 40 µg PHH-1V versus 40% subjects dosed with Comirnaty), and diarrhoea (10% subjects dosed with 40 µg PHH-1V versus 0% subjects dosed with Comirnaty). All were of mild intensity, except headache which was moderate in one subject dosed with 40 µg PHH-1V. Other systemic AEs appeared at a lower frequency. Fever was observed in 3 out of 5 (60%) of subjects vaccinated with Comirnaty after the administration of the second dose, however it was not observed in any of the subjects vaccinated with BIMERVAX. Grade 2 headache, fatigue and myalgia appeared with a lower frequency in subjects vaccinated with BIMERVAX at any tested antigen dose than in subjects vaccinated with Comirnaty.

Overall, in terms of frequency of systemic AEs, BIMERVAX has demonstrated a safety profile. A lower grade of systemic AEs was observed with BIMERVAX compared to Comirnaty.

*Phase IIb clinical study HIPRA-HH-2*

Most (89%) of solicited local adverse reactions (ADRs) were considered risks with minimal and temporary clinical impact (Grade 1 and 2 severity) on the participants. The ADRs identified during the clinical development program include solicited local ADRs at the injection site including pain, local sensitivity, erythema or redness, induration or swelling. Systemic ADRs reported included fever, vomiting or nausea, diarrhoea, headache, fatigue or tiredness, myalgia or muscle pain.

Local Adverse Reactions: the most frequent solicited local AEs were pain and tenderness, with 75.2% of subjects experiencing pain and 65.1% of subjects experiencing tenderness on Day 0, 12 hours and decreasing to 1.2% and 1.4%, respectively, on Day 7. The percentage of subjects who reported solicited local reactions of pain and tenderness from Day 0, 12 hours to Day 7 were higher in the Comirnaty vaccine arm compared to the PHH-1V vaccine arm. This is shown predominantly on Day 1 when 69.8% of subjects reported pain and 63.5% of subjects reported tenderness in the Comirnaty vaccine arm, however, only 51.1% of subjects reported pain and 48.5% of subjects reported tenderness in the PHH-1V vaccine arm.

Systemic Adverse Reactions: the most frequent solicited systemic AEs were fatigue (16.9% on Day 0, 12 hours, 22.4% on Day 1, 9.4% on Day 2, 5.5% on Day 3, 3.8% on Day 4, 3.0% on Day 5, 2.5% on Day 6, Day 1.6% on Day 7). Fatigue was reported more frequently in the Comirnaty vaccine arm on Day 0, 12 hours (18.7%), Day 1 (35.3%), and Day 2 (13.1%) compared to the PHH-1V vaccine arm (16.0%, 16.0%, and 7.6%, respectively). Other frequently reported solicited systemic adverse events included headache and muscle pain. Overall, both events increased in frequency from Day 0, 12 hours (headache: 15.7%, muscle pain: 12.4%) to Day 1 (headache: 18.7%, muscle pain: 17.5%) then decreased on Day 2 (headache: 8.2%, muscle pain: 7.7%) through to Day 7 (headache: 3.4%, muscle pain: 1.0%). In general, the frequency of solicited systemic adverse events were similar in the PHH-1V vaccine arm and Comirnaty vaccine arm up to 7 days post vaccination. However, in the first days after vaccination the frequency was higher in the Comirnaty arm.

*Phase III clinical study HIPRA-HH-5*

Most (84%) of solicited local adverse reactions (ADRs) were considered risks with minimal and temporary clinical impact (Grade 1 and 2 severity) on the participants. The most frequently reported types of ADRs were injection site pain (82%) and fatigue (31.25%). Other frequently reported ADRs were headache (30.88%), diarrhoea (7.75%) and vomiting (5.93%).

Local Adverse Reactions: The most frequently reported solicited local reactions from Day 0 to Day 7 were pain and tenderness, with 63.64% of subjects experiencing pain and 56.92% of subjects experiencing tenderness on Day 0 and decreasing to 1.25% and 1.40%, respectively, on Day 7.

Systemic Adverse Reactions: The most frequently reported solicited systemic event from Day 0 through to Day 7 was fatigue. Overall, the percentage of subjects who reported experiencing fatigue was 17.27% on Day 0, 19.58% on Day 1, 10.70% on Day 2, 6.08% on Day 3, 4.65% on Day 4, 4.57% on Day 5, 3.82% on Day 6, and 2.87% on Day 7. Other frequently reported solicited systemic events from Day 0 through to Day 7 included headache and muscle pain. Overall, both events increased in frequency from Day 0 (headache: 14.10%, muscle pain: 11.00%) to Day 1 (headache: 17.35%, muscle pain: 13.23%) then decreased on Day 2 (headache: 8.69%, muscle pain: 7.26%) through to Day 7 (headache: 2.87%, muscle pain: 1.89%).

***Aspects of the formulation******SQBA adjuvant:***

BIMERVAX with SQBA adjuvant is currently being evaluated in 5 ongoing clinical trials. The SQBA adjuvant is an oil-in-water emulsion produced by HIPRA and its qualitative and quantitative composition (9.75 mg squalene; 1.175 mg polysorbate-80; 1.175 mg sorbitan trioleate; 0.66 mg sodium citrate and 0.04 mg citric acid monohydrate) is identical to that used in other currently marketed vaccines in EU. Adjuvant fraction in BIMERVAX represents about a 50 % v/v of its final composition.

More than 30,000 individuals have participated in clinical trials of analogous SQBA adjuvanted vaccines conducted by other MAHs and more than 160 million doses of licensed vaccine have been administered.

Therefore, based on the wide clinical experience using the SQBA adjuvant in identical composition and concentration, no safety concerns are expected from its inclusion in the formulation of BIMERVAX. Additionally, analogous adjuvants have shown excellent compatibility with a variety of subunits antigens, all of which have been formulated by a simple mixing of antigen with the adjuvant. So, no significant interaction between the adjuvant and the antigen is expected.

In conclusion, based on the wide clinical available experience using analogous adjuvants, in identical composition and concentration, no safety concerns can be expected from its inclusion in the formulation of BIMERVAX.

***Adverse Events of Special Interest***

The HIPRA List of AESI is drawn from efforts by regulatory authorities, internationally recognized collaborations, and the scientific literature to identify AESI for vaccinations, and COVID-19 vaccinations specifically. BIMERVAX list of AESIs is provided in Annex 7.

***Relevance of long-term follow-up***

Given the expedited nature of the BIMERVAX clinical development programme in response to the global COVID-19 pandemic, understanding of the long-term safety profile of BIMERVAX is currently limited. Consequently, while there is no scientific evidence to suspect an adverse long-term safety profile, it is recognised that further follow-up for all vaccines developed in response to the COVID-19 pandemic is required.

In the ongoing clinical studies, it is planned to follow all participants contributing to safety pool for up to 48 weeks in Phase I/IIa clinical study HIPRA-HH-1, up to 52 weeks after booster vaccination of Day 0 in the Phase IIb clinical study HIPRA-HH-2 and up to 26 weeks for the fourth dose, up to 52 weeks in the Phase IIb/III study HIPRA-HH-4 and up to 24 weeks in the supportive Phase IIb study HAN-01.

***Risks of vaccination errors in the context of mass vaccination campaigns***

As BIMERVAX may be administered in large-scale vaccination programmes, there may be a potential for vaccination errors. Vaccination errors may relate to administration, vaccination scheme, storage conditions, or errors associated with multidose vials. These potential vaccination errors are mitigated through a number of strategies:

- SmPC section 6.6 contains instructions on handling and administration conditions for COVID-19 vaccine (adjuvanted) HIPRA. Instructions on storage are provided in SmPC section 6.4. Instructions on vaccination scheme are provided in SmPC section 4.2.
- Vaccination reminder cards and stickers with batch/lot numbers will be available to member states, if requested, for use by member state vaccinators.
- A website ([www.hipracovidvaccine.com](http://www.hipracovidvaccine.com)) will be available for more information.

Furthermore, as other COVID-19 vaccines are also available, there is the potential for confusion or interchangeability with other COVID-19 vaccines. The above mechanisms are in place to facilitate safe use and avoidance of vaccination errors.

### **SVII.1.2. Risks considered important for inclusion in the list of safety concerns in the RMP**

#### **Important Identified Risks**

##### ***Pericarditis***

Risk-benefit impact: Most vaccine-associated pericarditis events have been mild and self-limiting. However, pericarditis is an event which may be serious, and although generally mild may be potentially life-threatening. Balanced with the risk of death and illness seen with COVID-19 itself, the impact on the risk-balance of the vaccine is considered minimal.

#### **Important Potential Risks:**

##### ***Myocarditis***

Risk-benefit impact: Most vaccine-associated myocarditis events have been mild and self-limiting. However, myocarditis is an event which may be serious, and although generally mild may be potentially life-threatening. Balanced with the risk of death and illness seen with COVID-19 itself, the impact on the risk-balance of the vaccine is considered minimal.

##### ***Vaccine-associated enhanced disease (VAED), including vaccine-associated enhanced respiratory disease (VAERD)***

Risk-benefit impact: Vaccination against SARS-CoV-2 may be associated with enhanced severity of COVID-19 episodes. There is a theoretical risk, mostly based on non-clinical beta-coronavirus data, of VAED occurring either before the full vaccine regimen is administered or in vaccinees who have waning immunity over time (Agrawal *et al.*, 2016). VAERD refers to the predominantly lower respiratory tract presentation of VAED. VAED/VAERD may be serious or life-threatening, and requires early detection, careful monitoring, and timely medical intervention. Consequently, if VAED were to be identified as a risk, it could potentially impact the benefit risk.

#### **Missing information**

##### ***Use in pregnancy and while breastfeeding***

Risk-benefit impact: The target indication for BIMERVAX is adults  $\geq 16$  year of age thus will include women of childbearing potential. Pregnant and breastfeeding women are typically excluded from initial clinical trials. There is no experience with use of BIMERVAX in pregnant women. Studies to assess the potential toxicity on fertility are ongoing. Nevertheless, an assessment of male and female fertility by

histopathological examination of the testis and ovaries in the GLP toxicity studies in mice (AC25AA), rat (AC91AA) and rabbit (SEP-2021-011-PHH1V) found no effect of PHH-1 or PHH-1V vaccines on these organs. Also, no effects on fertility have been described in the literature for the SQBA adjuvant [REDACTED], at least at the dose to be used in BIMERVAX. Moreover, no effects on fertility have been associated to the development of immunogenicity against SARS-CoV-2 during the development of other four COVID-19 vaccines currently approved (SmPC Comirnaty, 2021; SmPC COVID-19 Vaccine Janssen, 2021; SmPC Spikevax, 2021; SmPC Vaxzevria, 2021; SmPC Nuvaxovid, 2022). Animal studies do not indicate direct or indirect harmful effects with respect to pregnancy, embryo/foetal development, parturition, or post-natal development. It is unknown whether BIMERVAX is excreted in human milk. It is important to obtain long term follow-up on women who were pregnant at or around the time of vaccination so that any potential negative consequences to the pregnancy can be assessed and weighed against the effects of maternal COVID-19 on the pregnancy.

### ***Use in immunocompromised patients***

Risk-benefit impact: In the clinical development program, subjects with immunosuppressive conditions or medications were to be excluded from the study. However, a study to assess the use of BIMERVAX in immunocompromised patients is currently on-going. In general, immunocompromised individuals are at greater risk of morbidity and mortality from vaccine-preventable disease. In addition, the efficacy of the vaccine may be lower in immunocompromised individuals, thus decreasing their protection from COVID-19. Even though there is no evidence that the safety profile of this population receiving BIMERVAX will be different to that of the general population, the possibility cannot be excluded. Additionally, a post authorization study in immunocompromised patients will be conducted to assess the safety and tolerability of BIMERVAX as a booster dose in adult subjects.

### ***Use in frail patients with comorbidities (e.g., chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD), diabetes, chronic neurological disease, cardiovascular disorders)***

Risk-benefit impact: There is limited information on the safety of the vaccine in frail individuals with comorbidities who are potentially at higher risk of severe COVID-19. Although there is no evidence that the safety profile of this population receiving BIMERVAX will be different to that of the general population, the possibility cannot be excluded.

### ***Use in patients with autoimmune or inflammatory disorders***

Risk-benefit impact: There is limited information on the safety of the vaccine in patients with autoimmune or inflammatory disorders and a theoretical concern that the vaccine may exacerbate their underlying disease. Although there is no evidence that the safety profile of this population receiving BIMERVAX will be different to that of the general population, the possibility cannot be excluded.

### ***Interaction with other vaccines***

Risk-benefit impact: BIMERVAX is indicated as a booster in individuals vaccinated against COVID 19. The safety and immunogenicity of a booster vaccination with BIMERVAX (PHH-1V) against SARS-CoV-2 in healthy adult volunteers fully vaccinated against COVID-19 (Vaxzevria, Spikevax, Janssen and Comirnaty), is being evaluated in the Phase IIb clinical study HIPRA-HH-2 and Phase III study HIPRA-HH-5. Studies to determine if co-administration of BIMERVAX with other vaccines (i.e., with seasonal illness vaccines [such as the influenza vaccines]) may affect the efficacy or safety of either vaccine have not been performed.



**Long-term safety**

**Risk-benefit impact:** The long-term safety of BIMERVAX is unknown at present, however further safety data are being collected in ongoing clinical trials. The clinical development program has a safety follow up period of 48 weeks in Phase I/IIa clinical study HIPRA-HH-1, up to 52 weeks after booster vaccination of Day 0 in the Phase IIb clinical study HIPRA-HH-2 up to 52 weeks in the Phase IIb/III study HIPRA-HH-4 and up to 24 weeks in the supportive Phase IIb study HAN-01.

**SVII.2 New safety concerns and reclassification with a submission of an updated RMP**

Not applicable.

**SVII.3 Details of important identified risks, important potential risks, and missing information****SVII.3.1. Presentation of important identified risks and important potential risks****Important Identified Risks*****Pericarditis***

**Potential mechanisms:** Viruses are the primary cause of pericarditis, including amongst others adeno- and enteroviruses. SARS-CoV-2 has been associated with pericarditis as well, and multiple cases have been described since the outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic (Klamer *et al.*, 2022).

Pericarditis has been identified as a possible rare side effect of mRNA vaccines. The pathophysiological mechanisms behind the development of myocarditis and pericarditis after a COVID-19 vaccination are currently not completely understood. One hypothesis is that the immune system detects the mRNA molecules as antigens, triggering an immune reaction in certain individuals. Another mechanism that has been proposed is that antibodies against a part of the SARS-CoV-2's spike protein that the mRNA encodes for, cross-react with structural similar host proteins in the heart, also known as molecular mimicry (Klamer *et al.*, 2022).

A mechanism of action by which a vaccine could cause pericarditis has not been established.

**Evidence source(s) and strength of evidence:** The most important published cohort studies demonstrate that pericarditis is a very rare side effect after COVID-19 mRNA vaccination, with an incidence of approximately 1-4 cases per 100,000 vaccinated subjects. Young males 16-29 appear to be at highest risk, predominantly after receiving the second dose (Klamer *et al.*, 2022). The risk of pericarditis is higher in persons who were infected with the SARS-CoV-2 than in those who received the vaccine. Most patients fully recover with rest and an adequate treatment.

The risk of pericarditis has shown to be different depending on the type of vaccine/platform used. Vaccines using adenoviral vector-based platforms produce the spike protein but have not been implicated in acquired myocarditis (Pillay *et al.*, 2022). Myocarditis and pericarditis events have also been detected in clinical studies and post-authorization surveillance of Novavax COVID-19 vaccines, which are

manufactured using a different protein platform and a different adjuvant system than BIMERVAX and BIMERVAX XBB.1.16 vaccines (Twentyman *et al.*, 2022)

Only one case of a pericarditis event was detected in a clinical study using BIMERVAX.

#### Characterisation of the risk:

Pericarditis is a rare disease with an estimated annual incidence prior to COVID-19 vaccine pandemic of 16 per 100,000 persons in the general population. The true incidence may be higher, as signs and symptoms vary, and it therefore can be challenging to make the diagnosis (Klamer *et al.*, 2022).

#### *Clinical Trial experience:*

In the phase III study HIPRA-HH-5, of the 2646 subjects included in the safety dataset, one case of pericarditis was reported. The event was considered product related because it could not be discarded due to temporal association. In the absence of alternative aetiologies, a causal association with the vaccine could not be excluded in this case.

The most important published cohort studies demonstrate that pericarditis is a very rare side effect after COVID-19 mRNA vaccination, with an incidence of approximately 1-4 cases per 100,000 vaccinated subjects. Young males 16-29 appear to be at highest risk, predominantly after receiving the second dose (Klamer *et al.*, 2022). The risk of pericarditis is higher in persons who were infected with the SARS-CoV-2 than in those who received the vaccine.

Pericarditis events have also been detected in clinical studies and post-authorization surveillance of Novavax COVID-19 vaccine, which is manufactured using a different protein platform and a different adjuvant system than BIMERVAX and BIMERVAX XBB.1.16 vaccines (Twentyman *et al.*, 2022).

#### *Post-marketing experience:*

No post-marketing cases have been received with BIMERVAX vaccine.

#### Risk factors and risk groups:

Adolescent and young adult males following the second dose of vaccine may be at higher risk (Gargano *et al.*, 2021).

#### Preventability:

Considering that a mechanism of action by which a vaccine could cause pericarditis has not been established, preventative measures cannot be defined at this time.

#### Impact on the risk-benefit balance of the product:

The rate of vaccine-associated pericarditis is low, and the events have been mild and self-limiting. In consideration of the fact that the risk of death and illness (including myocarditis) seen with SARS-CoV-2 itself, the impact on the risk-benefit balance of the vaccine is considered as minimal.

#### Public health impact:

The public health impact of the potential risk of pericarditis is expected to be low as pericarditis are very rare side effects after COVID-19 vaccination and events have been mild and self-limiting.

## Important potential risks

### **Myocarditis**

Potential mechanisms: Viruses are the primary cause of myocarditis, including amongst others adeno- and enteroviruses. SARS-CoV-2 has been associated with myocarditis as well, and multiple cases have been described since the outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic (Klamer *et al.*, 2022).

Myocarditis has been identified as possible rare side effects of mRNA vaccines. The pathophysiological mechanisms behind the development of myocarditis and pericarditis after a COVID-19 vaccination are currently not completely understood. One hypothesis is that the immune system detects the mRNA molecules as antigens, triggering an immune reaction in certain individuals. Another mechanism that has been proposed is that antibodies against a part of the SARS-CoV-2's spike protein that the mRNA encodes for, cross-react with structural similar host proteins in the heart, also known as molecular mimicry (Klamer *et al.*, 2022).

A mechanism of action by which a vaccine could cause myocarditis has not been established.

Evidence source(s) and strength of evidence: The most important published cohort studies demonstrate that myocarditis is a very rare side effect after COVID-19 mRNA vaccination, with an incidence of approximately 1-4 cases per 100,000 vaccinated subjects. Young males 16-29 appear to be at highest risk, predominantly after receiving the second dose (Klamer *et al.*, 2022). The risk of myocarditis is higher in persons who were infected with the SARS-CoV-2 than in those who received the vaccine. Most patients fully recover with rest and an adequate treatment.

The risk of myocarditis has shown to be different depending on the type of vaccine/platform used. Vaccines using adenoviral vector-based platforms produce the spike protein but have not been implicated in acquired myocarditis (Pillay *et al.*, 2022). Myocarditis and pericarditis events have also been detected in clinical studies and post-authorization surveillance of Novavax COVID-19 vaccine, which is manufactured using a different protein platform and a different adjuvant system than BIMERVAX and BIMERVAX XBB.1.16 vaccines (Twentyman *et al.*, 2022).

Considering limited safety data, the available evidence is not sufficient to rule out myocarditis as a safety concern. Thus, it is added as an important potential risk.

### Characterisation of the risk:

Myocarditis is a rare disease with an estimated annual incidence prior to COVID-19 vaccine pandemic of 16 per 100 000 persons in the general population. The true incidence may be higher, as signs and symptoms vary, and it therefore can be challenging to make the diagnosis (Klamer *et al.*, 2022).

### *Clinical Trial experience:*

No case of myocarditis has been observed in the clinical trials of BIMERVAX and BIMERVAX XBB.1.16 vaccines.

The most important published cohort studies demonstrate that myocarditis is a very rare side effect after COVID-19 mRNA vaccination, with an incidence of approximately 1-4 cases per 100,000 vaccinated subjects. Young males 16-29 appear to be at highest risk, predominantly after receiving the second dose (Klamer *et al.*, 2022). The risk of myocarditis is higher in persons who were infected with the SARS-CoV-2 than in those who received the vaccine.

Myocarditis and pericarditis events have also been detected in clinical studies and post-authorization surveillance of Novavax COVID-19 vaccine, which is manufactured using a different protein platform and a different adjuvant system than BIMERVAX vaccine (Twentyman *et al.*, 2022).

*Post-marketing experience:*

No post-marketing cases have been received with BIMERVAX and BIMERVAX XBB.1.16 vaccines.

Risk factors and risk groups: Adolescent and young adult males following the second dose of vaccine may be at higher risk (Gargano *et al.*, 2021).

Preventability: Considering that a mechanism of action by which a vaccine could cause myocarditis has not been established, preventative measures cannot be defined at this time.

Impact on the risk-benefit balance of the product:

The rate of vaccine-associated myocarditis is low, and the events have been mild and self-limiting. In consideration of the fact that the risk of death and illness (including myocarditis) seen with SARS-CoV-2 itself, the impact on the risk-benefit balance of the vaccine is considered as minimal.

Public health impact:

The public health impact of the potential risk of myocarditis is expected to be low as myocarditis is very rare side effect after COVID-19 vaccination and events have been mild and self-limiting.

***Vaccine-associated enhanced disease (VAED), including vaccine-associated enhanced respiratory disease (VAERD)***

Potential mechanisms: The pathogenesis of VAED in the context of SARS-CoV-2 is unclear. Although animal models of SARS-CoV-2 infection have not shown evidence of VAED after immunisation, cellular immunopathology has been demonstrated after viral challenge in some animal models administered SARS-CoV-1 (murine, ferret and non-human primate models) or MERS-CoV (mice model) vaccines. (Haynes *et al.*, 2020; Lambert *et al.*, 2020). VAERD refers to the predominantly lower respiratory tract presentation of VAED. The mechanism of the pathogenesis of VAERD may include both T cell-mediated [an immunopathological response favouring T helper cell type 2 (Th2) over T helper cell type 1 (Th1)] and antibody-mediated immune responses (antibody responses with insufficient neutralizing activity leading to formation of immune complexes and activation of complement or allowing for Fc-mediated increase in viral entry to cells) (Graham, 2020). Less severe cases of SARS were associated with accelerated induction of a Th1 cell response; whereas, Th2 cell responses have been associated with enhancement of lung disease following infection in hosts parenterally vaccinated with inactivated SARS-CoV vaccines (Lambert *et al.*, 2020).

Evidence source(s) and strength of evidence: This potential risk is theoretical because it has not been described in association with the BIMERVAX or BIMERVAX XBB.1.16 vaccines, nor has it been reported from any other late phase clinical trial of other human vaccine. As mentioned above, this potential risk has been included based on these animal data with these related betacoronaviruses. VAERD refers to the predominantly lower respiratory tract presentation of VAED. Evidence sources have been collected from literature on viral vaccines, safety information of other SARS-CoV-2 vaccines and clinical trials. VAED was observed in children given formalin-inactivated whole-virus vaccines against respiratory syncytial virus (RSV) and measles virus. It has been rarely encountered with existing vaccines or viral infections (Haynes *et al.*, 2020). Although, no events of VAED/VAERD have been reported in the current

BIMERVAX clinical development programme, there is a theoretical concern that vaccination against SARS-CoV-2 may be associated with enhanced severity of COVID-19 episodes, which would manifest as VAED/VAERD (Graham, 2020).

Characterisation of the risk: No events of VAED/VAERD have been reported in the current BIMERVAX clinical development programme or in the post-marketing experience. Currently, VAED/VAERD has not been reported in other COVID-19 vaccines. If it would occur in vaccinated individuals, VAED/VAERD will manifest as a modified and/or more severe clinical presentation of SARS-CoV-2 viral infection upon subsequent natural infection. This may result having higher rates of unfavourable outcomes, especially in individuals at known risk for severe COVID-19 (e.g., older or immunocompromised).

Risk factors and risk groups: No risks groups or risks factors have been identified. Nevertheless, it is postulated that the potential risk may be increased in individuals producing lower neutralizing antibody titres or in those demonstrating waning immunity (Graham, 2020).

Preventability: Information about the prevention of VAED/VAERD in the context of SARS-COV-2 is currently unknown as the risk is theoretical.

Impact on the risk-benefit balance of the product:

VAED (including VAERD) may present as severe disease or modified/unusual clinical manifestations of a known disease presentation and may involve one or multiple organ systems. Subjects with VAED/VAERD may experience rapid clinical deterioration and will likely require non-invasive or invasive mechanical ventilation; and patients diagnosed with acute respiratory distress syndrome have poorer prognosis and potentially higher mortality rate.

Public health impact: The potential risk of VAED/VAERD could have a public health impact if large populations of individuals are affected. As this safety concern is currently theoretical and has not been observed in the ongoing BIMERVAX vaccine clinical trials, there is no public health impact at this time.

### **SVII.3.2. Presentation of the missing information**

#### **Missing information**

##### ***Use in pregnancy and while breastfeeding***

Evidence source: There is no experience with use of BIMERVAX vaccine in pregnant women. Nevertheless, an assessment of male and female fertility by histopathological examination of the testis and ovaries in the GLP toxicity studies in mice (AC25AA), rat (AC91AA) and rabbit (SEP-2021-011-PHH1V) found no effect of PHH-1 or PHH-1V vaccines on these organs. Also, no effects on fertility have been described for the SQBA adjuvant, according to analogous adjuvants, at least at the dose to be used in BIMERVAX. Moreover, no effects on fertility have been associated to the development of immunogenicity against SARS-CoV-2 during the development of other three COVID-19 vaccines currently approved (SmPC Comirnaty, 2024; SmPC Spikevax, 2024; SmPC Nuvaxovid, 2024). Animal studies do not indicate direct or indirect harmful effects with respect to pregnancy, embryo/foetal development, parturition, or post-natal development. Administration of BIMERVAX and BIMERVAX XBB.1.16 vaccines in pregnancy should only be considered when the potential benefits outweigh any potential risks for the mother and foetus. It is unknown whether BIMERVAX or BIMERVAX XBB.1.16 vaccine are excreted in human milk.

Anticipated risk/consequence of the missing information: Targeted populations of the indication will include women of childbearing potential, thus, the use of BIMERVAX and BIMERVAX XBB.1.16 in pregnant and/or breastfeeding women will occur.



***Use in frail patients with comorbidities (e.g., chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD), diabetes, chronic neurological disease, cardiovascular disorders)***

Evidence source: BIMERVAX or BIMERVAX XBB.1.16 have not been studied in frail individuals with severe comorbidities that may compromise immune function due to the condition or treatment of the condition. Frail patients with comorbidities (e.g., COPD, diabetes mellitus, chronic neurological disease, cardiovascular disorders) are potentially at risk of developing a more severe manifestation of COVID-19. There is no evidence that the safety profile of this population receiving BIMERVAX or BIMERVAX XBB.1.16 will be different to that of the general population, but given the scarcity of data, the possibility cannot be ruled out.

Anticipated risk/consequence of the missing information: In general, there is a potential that frail participants with unstable health conditions and co-morbidities may experience a different outcome than achieved in healthy individuals administered vaccines.

***Interaction with other vaccines***

Evidence source: BIMERVAX is indicated as a booster in individuals vaccinated against COVID-19. The safety and immunogenicity of a booster vaccination with BIMERVAX (PHH-1V) against SARS-CoV-2 in healthy adult volunteers fully vaccinated with Vaxzevria, Spikevax, Janssen and Comirnaty vaccines against COVID-19, was evaluated in the Phase IIb clinical study HIPRA-HH-2, and in the Phase IIb/III study HIPRA-HH-4. Studies to determine if co-administration of BIMERVAX with other vaccines (i.e., with seasonal illness vaccines [such as the influenza vaccines]) may affect the efficacy or safety of either vaccine have not been performed.

Population in need of further characterisation: Subjects fully vaccinated against COVID-19 after immunisation with BIMERVAX or BIMERVAX XBB.1.16.

Anticipated risk/consequence of the missing information: There is the theoretical question as whether vaccines may interact with each other and change the immune response to either vaccine or induce safety concerns. It is common medical practice to administer vaccines concurrently. Participants receiving BIMERVAX or BIMERVAX XBB.1.16 may be administered seasonal flu vaccines during the vaccination period of the pandemic.

***Long-term safety***

Evidence source: The long-term safety profile of BIMERVAX and BIMERVAX XBB.1.16 is fully not known at present, but complete safety data up to 1 year is available for the Phase III study HIPRA-HH-5. Additionally, per protocols, the clinical development program had a safety follow up period of 48 weeks in Phase I/IIa clinical study HIPRA-HH-1, up to 52 weeks after booster vaccination of Day 0 in the Phase IIb clinical study HIPRA-HH-2, up to 52 weeks in the Phase IIb/III study HIPRA-HH-4 and up to 24 weeks in the supportive Phase IIb study HAN-01.

Anticipated risk/consequence of the missing information: At the time of vaccine availability, the long-term safety data of BIMERVAX is available in the CSR of the Phase III study HIPRA-HH-5, in the CSR of Phase IIb clinical study HIPRA-HH-2 and in the CSR of the Phase IIb/III study HIPRA-HH-4. Although there are currently no known risks with a potentially late onset, given the limited data, the possibility cannot be excluded. Data will continue to be collected from post-authorisation studies.

## Part II: Module SVIII - Summary of the safety concerns

**Table SVIII.1: Summary of safety concerns**

Summary of safety concerns	
Important identified risks	Pericarditis
Important potential risks	Myocarditis
	Vaccine-associated enhanced disease (VAED), including vaccine-associated enhanced respiratory disease (VAERD)
Missing information	Use in pregnancy and while breastfeeding
	Use in frail patients with comorbidities (e.g., chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD), diabetes, chronic neurological disease, cardiovascular disorders)
	Interaction with other vaccines
	Long-term safety

## Part III: Pharmacovigilance Plan (including post-authorisation safety studies)

### III.1 Routine pharmacovigilance activities

Routine pharmacovigilance (PV) activities for the lifecycle of a product are critical components to the detection, assessment, and understanding of risks. Objectives of routine pharmacovigilance include having processes in place to assure the ongoing and timely collection, processing, follow-up, and analysis of individual AE reports and aggregate data globally, following global safety Standard Operating Procedures and regulatory guidance. Activities include the collection, processing and analysis of individual case safety reports, the review and reporting on aggregate data, and a signal detection system.

HIPRA monitors the safety profile of its products, evaluates issues potentially impacting product benefit-risk profiles in a timely manner, and ensures that appropriate communication of relevant safety information is conveyed in a timely manner to regulatory authorities and other interested parties as appropriate and in accordance with international principles and prevailing regulations.

Routine PV activities are consistent with the EMA Guidelines on Good Pharmacovigilance Practices (GVP). A comprehensive description of all aspects of the PV system is provided in the Pharmacovigilance System Master File (PSMF), which is available upon request.

#### ➤ Signal detection and management

HIPRA has a safety surveillance and reporting system in place to organize the collection, data entry in the company global safety database and evaluation of any AEs or other safety information reported to HIPRA and an established signal management process including signal detection, validation and evaluation of spontaneous reports from all sources. Potential signal detection data sources include safety data from MAH-sponsored clinical trials and non-interventional studies; spontaneous AE reports; specific review of AEs consistent with the AESI list provided in Annex 7, which considers relevant sources such

as Brighton Collaboration SPEAC list, ACCESS Project AESI and cases definitions, CBER Surveillance Program – list of AESI; non-clinical studies; quality and manufacturing reports; published literature; and communications from external sources, including regulatory agencies, and (if applicable) business partners. The detection of signals described in the BIMERVAX Signal Detection System plan involves qualitative and quantitative pharmacovigilance methods. In addition, observed versus expected analyses will be conducted periodically as part of routine signal management activity and will use appropriate lists of AESI and background rates from ACCESS, CONSIGN and ConcePTION. The primary data sources for signal detection and the minimum frequency of review are outlined below.

Activity/Data Source		Frequency of Review
Qualitative Data Review	ICSR (Individual Case Safety Report) medical review of serious cases	Each business day
	Review of signal notifications	Each business day
	Literature review of PubMed including Medline and an additional data source (Embase, Scopus or Web of Science)	Weekly
	Line listing review of adverse event reports from HIPRA safety database which includes both clinical trial SAEs and post-marketing ICSRs, including revision of AESIs (Annex 7), and quality and manufacturing reports.	Weekly
	Standardised MedDRA [Medical Dictionary for Regulatory Activities] queries and targeted PT searches	Weekly
	Review of BIMERVAX Safety Database, including all spontaneous and solicited ICSRs, Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency (MHRA), Eudravigilance Data Analysis System (EVDAS), and other regulatory databases, as required	Bi-weekly
	Batch trend analysis	Monthly
	Review of Pharmacovigilance Risk Assessment Committee (PRAC) recommendations on signals and relevant safety information from regulatory agencies.	Monthly
Quantitative Data Review	Trends over time/frequency analysis of AESIs (Annex 7)	Monthly
	Disproportionality analysis using EVDAS	Bi-weekly
	Observed versus expected (O/E) analysis of AESIs (Annex 7)	Monthly
	Time-to-onset analysis	Monthly
	Cluster analysis	When applicable

Routine pharmacovigilance activities beyond adverse reactions reporting and signal detection:

- **Specific AE follow-up questionnaire for the following safety concern:**
  - Vaccine-associated enhanced disease (VAED), including vaccine-associated enhanced respiratory disease (VAERD).
  - Myocarditis/pericarditis

Please find this questionnaire in Annex 4.



**Other forms of routine pharmacovigilance activities**➤ Summary Safety Reports (SSRs)

In addition to routine 6-monthly PSUR production, SSRs are compiled to support timely and continuous benefit risk evaluations. Given the current COVID-19 vaccination patterns, the initiation of summary safety reports submission requirement for new vaccines should only be triggered by the start of mass vaccination using the product in any EU Member State. The need and periodicity of continuing the submission of the summary safety reports will be initiated by the rapporteur and re-evaluated based on the available post-marketing evidence for each vaccine, and at the request of the MAH, as soon as the safety data enables a decision to be made. Topics covered by SSR include:

- Interval and cumulative number of reports, overall and stratified by age groups and in special populations (e.g., pregnant women), by report type, (medically confirmed vs. non-medically confirmed) and by seriousness;
- Interval and cumulative number of reports per HLT and SOC;
- Reports per EU country;
- Exposure data based on administered doses rather than distributed doses whenever possible, stratified by region (country within the EU), by age groups, gender and by dose number (when applicable);
- Safety-related changes to the reference safety information and actions taken in the interval
- List of ongoing and closed signals in the interval, including a summary of their evaluation; reviews of signals identified during the period or of safety topics identified by EMA and requested to be addressed in the SSR;
- Summaries of reported cases of selected AESIs considered relevant for periodically review with the SSR submission and RMP safety concerns: report numbers and relevant cases, including observed versus expected (O/E) analysis using appropriate lists of AESI and background rates from ACCESS, CONSIGN and ConcePTION, an adequate risk window and, when appropriate, stratified by age groups or presented per region/EU country (e.g. if background rates vary), and complemented with a sensitivity analysis.
- Discussion if any unusual pattern of fatal reports (considering co-morbidities and frailty) is observed during initial post-marketing use;
- Data on medication errors, if a pattern of errors leading to harm is identified and/or risk minimisation activities are considered warranted;
- Details of the search strategy, case definitions for all provided reviews and methodology for O/E analyses including source of background rates, risk windows, etc.;
- Risk/benefit considerations.

➤ Traceability

The SmPC includes instructions for healthcare professionals to record the name and batch number of the administered vaccine to improve traceability (section 4.4) and to report any suspected adverse reactions including batch/Lot number if available (section 4.8).

HIPRA has available vaccination reminder cards (Annex 7) to member states, that may be completed at the time of vaccination when necessary for individual members states. The card will be also accessible electronically and through a QR code, on the applicant's website.

The Traceability and Vaccination Reminder cards contain the following elements:

- Placeholder space for name of vaccinee;
- Vaccine brand name and manufacturer name;
- Placeholder space for date of vaccination;
- Placeholder space for the batch number;
- Reminder to retain the card "Make sure you keep this card";
- QR code that links to a website with additional information on product use; and
- Adverse event reporting information.

In addition, two traceability stickers per dose, containing both printed and a 2D-code encoding brand name and batch/lot number will be made available to support documentation of the batch/lot traceability. We also acknowledge that some EU member states may require utilisation of nationally mandated vaccination cards or electronic systems to document batch/lot number; therefore, the available traceability and vaccination reminder cards and/or stickers with printed lot/batch information may not be utilised in all member states.

### **III.2 Additional pharmacovigilance activities**

The MAH intends to address general safety through continuation of safety surveillance from one non-interventional post-authorisation safety study and one non-interventional effectiveness study.

#### ***Planned post-authorisation studies***

To further characterise the BIMERVAX and BIMERVAX XBB.1.16 safety and effectiveness profile, the following two (2) non-interventional studies will be conducted:

Study name and title: **Post-authorisation safety study of BIMERVAX emulsion for injection in Europe in VAC4EU**

Rationale and study objectives: This study consists of two components—a vaccine utilisation study and a comparative safety study—. The vaccine utilisation study will characterise the individuals receiving the BIMERVAX vaccine. The comparative safety study uses two different designs: a cohort design to estimate the effect of BIMERVAX vaccine on adverse events of special interest (AESIs) compared with that of other COVID-19 vaccines authorised for the same indication; and a self-controlled risk interval (SCRI) study (a subtype of the self-controlled case series design) design to estimate the effect of the COVID-19 HIPRA vaccine booster on selected AESIs compared with no COVID-19 vaccination booster.

The study objectives are:

1. The objective of the vaccine utilisation study will be to characterise recipients of BIMERVAX in relation to demographics and clinical characteristics at the time of vaccination, including the following: pregnancy status, age of childbearing potential, immunocompromised status, comorbidities, presence of autoimmune and inflammatory disorders, and interaction with other vaccines (influenza).
2. The objective of the comparative study:
  - a. Using a cohort design will be to estimate the effect of BIMERVAX on adverse events of special interest (AESIs)—as described in a protocol for the vACCine covid-19 monitoring readinESS (ACCESS) project (Dodd et al., 2020)—compared with that of other COVID-19 vaccines authorised for the booster indication.
  - b. Using a SCRI design will be to estimate the effect of BIMERVAX booster on selected AESIs (those that can be studied under a self-controlled design as specified in ACCESS) compared with no COVID-19 vaccine as a booster.

**Study design:** The vaccine utilisation study will be descriptive and will characterise eligible individuals at the time of vaccination. The comparative safety component will follow ACCESS specifications for vaccine safety studies, for both the cohort and SCRI studies. The SCRI design was chosen over a SCCS because the SCRI design uses a post-exposure control period to minimise the probability of violating the assumption that the outcome does not influence the exposure. The study period will begin from the date of first availability of the BIMERVAX original vaccine in each participating data source/country and will end 36 months (48 months for pregnancy outcomes) after the start of data collection. The start of data collection will be anchored on the threshold of a total of 4,000 BIMERVAX doses administered across the participating data sources.

**Study population:** The eligible population for the vaccine utilisation study will be all individuals actively enrolled in each of the selected European health data sources for at least 12 months before vaccination with BIMERVAX who receive a dose of BIMERVAX within the study period.

The general eligibility criteria for the cohort comparative safety study will be as follows:

- Receipt of a full primary vaccination course with an mRNA and/or an adenovirus COVID-19 vaccine.
- Receipt of a dose of the COVID-19 HIPRA vaccine or another COVID-19 vaccine with the same indication. The date of this vaccination will be the cohort entry date.
- For each AESI, a previous diagnosis of that AESI will exclude an individual from participation.

The general eligibility criteria for the SCRI comparative safety study will be as follows:

- Receipt of a full primary vaccination course with an mRNA and/or an adenovirus COVID-19 vaccine.
- Receipt of a dose of the COVID-19 HIPRA vaccine. The date of this vaccination will be time zero, i.e., the anchor to define the risk and control intervals.
- Having experienced the AESI of interest in either the risk or control interval.

**Milestones:** The study protocol (v1.0) was submitted following receipt of first regulatory authorisation in the EEA (at the next regulatory opportunity as of 31 July 2023). One progress report was submitted 3 months after protocol endorsement on 22 July 2024. Two interim reports are planned to be submitted at 12 and 24 months after the start of data collection. A final study report is planned for submission at 36 months after the start of data collection, and 48 months in the case of pregnancy outcomes.

**Study name and title: Post-authorisation effectiveness study of BIMERVAX emulsion for injection in Europe in VAC4EU**

**Rationale and study objectives:** This study will evaluate the risk of COVID-related outcomes due to the use of BIMERVAX vaccine compared with use of other COVID-19 vaccines with the same indication.

The study objective is:

1. To estimate the effect of the BIMERVAX on COVID-19-related outcomes—i.e., COVID-19 infection, COVID-19-related hospitalisations or emergency department visits—compared with other COVID-19 vaccines authorised for the booster indication.

**Study design:** This will be a cohort study following the vaccine covid-19 monitoring readinESS (ACCESS) project specifications for vaccine effectiveness studies. The study period will begin from the date of first availability of the BIMERVAX original vaccine in each participating data source and will end 36 months after the start of data collection. The start of data collection will be anchored on the threshold of a total of 4,000 BIMERVAX doses administered across the participating data sources. Non-interventional study.

**Study population:** The general eligibility criteria for the comparative effectiveness study will be as follows:

- Received a full primary vaccination course with an mRNA and/or an adenovirus COVID-19 vaccine.
- Received a dose of the BIMERVAX or of another COVID-19 vaccine with the same approved indication. The date of this vaccination will be the cohort entry date.

**Milestones:** The study protocol (v1.0) was submitted following receipt of first regulatory authorisation in the EEA (at the next regulatory opportunity as of 31 August 2023). One progress report was submitted 3 months after protocol endorsement on 02 September 2024. An interim report is planned to be submitted at 12 months after the start of data collection. A final study report is planned for submission at 36 months after the start of the data collection.



**III.3 Summary Table of additional Pharmacovigilance activities****Table Part III.3.1: On-going and planned additional pharmacovigilance activities**

<b>Study Status</b>	<b>Summary of objectives</b>	<b>Safety concerns addressed</b>	<b>Milestones</b>	<b>Due dates</b>
<b>Category 1</b> - Imposed mandatory additional pharmacovigilance activities which are conditions of the marketing authorisation.				
Not applicable.				
<b>Category 2</b> – Imposed mandatory additional pharmacovigilance activities which are Specific Obligations in the context of a conditional marketing authorisation or a marketing authorisation under exceptional circumstances.				
Not applicable.				
<b>Category 3</b> - Required additional pharmacovigilance activities				
Post-authorisation safety study of BIMERVAX emulsion for injection in Europe in VAC4EU  <i>Planned</i>	Vaccine utilisation study: To characterise recipients of the BIMERVAX in relation to demographics and clinical characteristics at the time of vaccination, including the following: pregnancy status, age of childbearing potential, immunocompromised status, comorbidities, presence of autoimmune and inflammatory disorders, and interactions with other vaccines (influenza). Comparative safety study: 1. Cohort design: To estimate the effect of BIMERVAX on adverse events of special interest (AESIs)—as described in a protocol for the vACCine covid-19 monitoring readinESS (ACCESS) compared with that of other COVID-19 vaccines authorised for the booster indication. 2. SCRI design: To estimate the effect of the BIMERVAX booster on selected AESIs (those that can be studied under a self-controlled design as specified in ACCESS) compared with no COVID-19 vaccine as a booster.	Vaccine-associated enhanced disease (VAED), including vaccine-associated enhanced respiratory disease (VAERD) Use in pregnancy Use in immunocompromised patients Use in frail patients with co-morbidities (e.g., chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD), diabetes, chronic neurological disease, cardiovascular disorders) Use in patients with autoimmune or inflammatory disorders Interaction with other vaccines Myocarditis/Pericarditis Long-term safety	Protocol submission	31 July 2023
			Final study report	*30 September 2029

\*36 months after the start of data collection

**Table Part III.3.2: Planned post authorisation effectiveness studies**

<b>Study Status</b>	<b>Summary of objectives</b>	<b>Effectiveness uncertainties addressed</b>	<b>Milestones</b>	<b>Due dates</b>
Post-authorisation effectiveness study of BIMERVAX emulsion for injection in Europe in VAC4EU <i>Planned</i>	To estimate the effect of the BIMERVAX on COVID-19-related outcomes—i.e., COVID-19 infection, COVID-19-related hospitalisations or emergency department visits—compared with other COVID-19 vaccines authorised for the booster indication.	COVID-19 vaccine effectiveness in real-world setting	Protocol submission	31 August 2023
			Final study report	*30 September 2029

\* 36 months after the start of data collection

## Part IV: Plans for post-authorisation efficacy studies

Not applicable.

## Part V: Risk minimisation measures (including evaluation of the effectiveness of risk minimisation activities)

### Risk Minimisation Plan

#### V.1. Routine Risk Minimisation Measures

**Table Part V.1: Description of routine risk minimisation measures by safety concern**

Safety concern	Routine risk minimisation activities
<b>Important identified risks</b>	
Pericarditis	<u>Routine risk communication:</u> SmPC section 4.8. PL section 4. <u>Routine risk minimisation activities recommending specific clinical measures to address the risk:</u> None <u>Other routine risk minimisation measures beyond the Product Information:</u> None
<b>Important potential risks</b>	
Myocarditis	<u>Routine risk communication:</u> None <u>Routine risk minimisation activities recommending specific clinical measures to address the risk:</u> None <u>Other routine risk minimisation measures beyond the Product Information:</u> None
Vaccine-associated enhanced disease (VAED), including vaccine-associated enhanced respiratory disease (VAERD)	<u>Routine risk communication:</u> None <u>Routine risk minimisation activities recommending specific clinical measures to address the risk:</u> None <u>Other routine risk minimisation measures beyond the Product Information:</u> None

<b>Missing information</b>	
Use in pregnancy and while breastfeeding	<u>Routine risk communication:</u> SmPC section 4.6 and 5.3 PL section 2 <u>Routine risk minimisation activities recommending specific clinical measures to address the risk:</u> None <u>Other routine risk minimisation measures beyond the Product Information:</u> None
Use in frail patients with comorbidities (e.g., chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD), diabetes, chronic neurological disease, cardiovascular disorders)	<u>Routine risk communication:</u> None <u>Routine risk minimisation activities recommending specific clinical measures to address the risk:</u> None <u>Other routine risk minimisation measures beyond the Product Information:</u> None
Interaction with other vaccines	<u>Routine risk communication:</u> SmPC section 4.5 PL section 2 <u>Routine risk minimisation activities recommending specific clinical measures to address the risk:</u> None <u>Other routine risk minimisation measures beyond the Product Information:</u> None
Long-term safety	<u>Routine risk communication:</u> None <u>Routine risk minimisation activities recommending specific clinical measures to address the risk:</u> None <u>Other routine risk minimisation measures beyond the Product Information:</u> None

## V.2. Additional Risk Minimisation Measures

Routine risk minimisation activities as described in Part V.1. are sufficient to manage the safety concerns of the medicinal product.

### V.3 Summary of risk minimisation measures

**Table Part V.3: Summary table of pharmacovigilance activities and risk minimisation activities by safety concern**

Safety concern	Risk minimisation measures	Pharmacovigilance activities
<b>Important identified risks</b>		
Pericarditis	<u>Routine risk minimisation measures:</u> SmPC section 4.8. PL section 4. <u>Additional risk minimisation measures:</u> None	<u>Routine pharmacovigilance activities beyond adverse reactions reporting and signal detection</u> <i>Specific adverse reaction follow-up questionnaire</i> <u>Additional pharmacovigilance activities:</u> <b>Post-authorisation safety study</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Post-authorisation safety study of BIMERVAX emulsion for injection in Europe in VAC4EU; protocol submission on 31 July 2023; final study report 30 September 2029.</li> </ul>
<b>Important potential risks</b>		
Myocarditis	<u>Routine risk minimisation measures:</u> None <u>Additional risk minimisation measures:</u> None	<u>Routine pharmacovigilance activities beyond adverse reactions reporting and signal detection</u> <i>Specific adverse reaction follow-up questionnaire</i> <u>Additional pharmacovigilance activities:</u> <b>Post-authorisation safety study</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Post-authorisation safety study of BIMERVAX emulsion for injection in Europe in VAC4EU; protocol submission on 31 July 2023; final study report 30 September 2029.</li> </ul>
Vaccine-associated enhanced disease (VAED), including vaccine-associated enhanced respiratory disease (VAERD)	<u>Routine risk minimisation measures:</u> None <u>Additional risk minimisation measures:</u> None	<u>Routine pharmacovigilance activities beyond adverse reactions reporting and signal detection</u> <i>Specific adverse reaction follow-up questionnaire</i> <u>Additional pharmacovigilance activities:</u> <b>Post-authorisation safety study</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Post-authorisation safety study of BIMERVAX emulsion for injection in Europe in VAC4EU; protocol submission on 31 July 2023; final study report 30 September 2029.</li> </ul>



Safety concern	Risk minimisation measures	Pharmacovigilance activities
<b>Missing information</b>		
Use in pregnancy and while breastfeeding	<p><u>Routine risk communication:</u> SmPC section 4.6 and 5.3 PL section 2</p> <p><u>Routine risk minimisation activities recommending specific clinical measures to address the risk:</u> None</p> <p><u>Other routine risk minimisation measures beyond the Product Information:</u> None</p>	<p><u>Routine pharmacovigilance activities beyond adverse reactions reporting and signal detection</u> <i>None</i></p> <p><u>Additional pharmacovigilance activities:</u> <b>Post-authorisation safety study</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Post-authorisation safety study of BIMERVAX emulsion for injection in Europe in VAC4EU; protocol submission on 31 July 2023; final study report 30 September 2029.</li> </ul>
Use in frail patients with comorbidities (e.g., chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD), diabetes, chronic neurological disease, cardiovascular disorders)	<p><u>Routine risk communication:</u> None</p> <p><u>Routine risk minimisation activities recommending specific clinical measures to address the risk:</u> None</p> <p><u>Other routine risk minimisation measures beyond the Product Information:</u> None</p>	<p><u>Routine pharmacovigilance activities beyond adverse reactions reporting and signal detection</u> <i>None</i></p> <p><u>Additional pharmacovigilance activities:</u> <b>Post-authorisation safety study</b></p> <p>Post-authorisation safety study of BIMERVAX emulsion for injection in Europe in VAC4EU; protocol submission on 31 July 2023; final study report 30 September 2029.</p>
Interaction with other vaccines	<p><u>Routine risk communication:</u> SmPC section 4.5 PL section 2</p> <p><u>Routine risk minimisation activities recommending specific clinical measures to address the risk:</u> None</p> <p><u>Other routine risk minimisation measures beyond the Product Information:</u> None</p>	<p><u>Routine pharmacovigilance activities beyond adverse reactions reporting and signal detection</u> <i>None</i></p> <p><u>Additional pharmacovigilance activities:</u> <b>Post-authorisation safety study</b></p> <p>Post-authorisation safety study of BIMERVAX emulsion for injection in Europe in VAC4EU; protocol submission on 31 July 2023; final study report 30 September 2029.</p>

Safety concern	Risk minimisation measures	Pharmacovigilance activities
Long-term safety	<u>Routine risk communication:</u> None <u>Routine risk minimisation activities recommending specific clinical measures to address the risk:</u> None <u>Other routine risk minimisation measures beyond the Product Information:</u> None	<u>Routine pharmacovigilance activities beyond adverse reactions reporting and signal detection</u> None <u>Additional pharmacovigilance activities:</u> <b>Post-authorisation safety study</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Post-authorisation safety study of BIMERVAX emulsion for injection in Europe in VAC4EU; protocol submission on 31 July 2023; 30 September 2029.</li> </ul>

## Part VI: Summary of the risk management plan

### Summary of risk management plan for BIMERVAX and BIMERVAX XBB.1.16 emulsion for injection

This is a summary of the risk management plan (RMP) for BIMERVAX and BIMERVAX XBB.1.16 emulsion for injection. The RMP details important risks of BIMERVAX and BIMERVAX XBB.1.16, how these risks can be minimised, and how more information will be obtained about BIMERVAX's and BIMERVAX XBB.1.16's risks and uncertainties (missing information).

BIMERVAX's and BIMERVAX XBB.1.16's summaries of product characteristics (SmPCs) and their package leaflets give essential information to healthcare professionals and patients on how BIMERVAX and BIMERVAX XBB.1.16 should be used.

This summary of the RMP for BIMERVAX and BIMERVAX XBB.1.16 should be read in the context of all this information including the assessment report of the evaluation and its plain-language summary, all which is part of the European Public Assessment Report (EPAR).

Important new concerns or changes to the current ones will be included in updates of BIMERVAX's and BIMERVAX XBB.1.16's RMP.

#### I. The medicine and what it is used for

BIMERVAX is a bivalent vaccine indicated as a booster for active immunisation to prevent COVID-19 in individuals 16 years of age and older who have previously received a mRNA COVID-19 vaccine (see SmPC for the full indication). It contains selvacovatein as the active substance and it is given by intramuscular injection. BIMERVAX XBB.1.16 is indicated for active immunisation to prevent COVID-19 caused by SARS-CoV-2 in individuals 16 years of age and older (see SmPC for the full indication). It contains damlecovatein as the active substance and it is given by intramuscular injection.

Further information about the evaluation of BIMERVAX and BIMERVAX XBB.1.16 vaccines benefits can be found in the corresponding EPAR, including in its plain-language summary, available on the EMA website, under the medicine's webpage

<https://www.ema.europa.eu/en/medicines/human/EPAR/bimervax>

#### II. Risks associated with the medicine and activities to minimise or further characterise the risks

Important risks of BIMERVAX and BIMERVAX XBB.1.16, together with measures to minimise such risks and the proposed studies for learning more about BIMERVAX and BIMERVAX XBB.1.16 risks, are outlined below.

Measures to minimise the risks identified for medicinal products can be:

- Specific information, such as warnings, precautions, and advice on correct use, in the package leaflet and SmPC addressed to patients and healthcare professionals;

- Important advice on the medicine's packaging;
- The authorised pack size — the amount of medicine in a pack is chosen so to ensure that the medicine is used correctly;
- The medicine's legal status — the way a medicine is supplied to the patient (e.g. with or without prescription) can help to minimise its risks.

Together, these measures constitute *routine risk minimisation* measures.

In addition to these measures, information about adverse reactions is collected continuously and regularly analysed, including PSUR assessment and MSSRs so that immediate action can be taken as necessary. These measures constitute *routine pharmacovigilance activities*.

If important information that may affect the safe use of BIMERVAX and BIMERVAX XBB.1.16 is not yet available, it is listed under 'missing information' below.

## ***II.A List of important risks and missing information***

Important risks of BIMERVAX and BIMERVAX XBB.1.16 are risks that need special risk management activities to further investigate or minimise the risk, so that the medicinal product can be safely administered. Important risks can be regarded as identified or potential. Identified risks are concerns for which there is sufficient proof of a link with the use BIMERVAX and BIMERVAX XBB.1.16. Potential risks are concerns for which an association with the use of this medicine is possible based on available data, but this association has not been established yet and needs further evaluation. Missing information refers to information on the safety of the medicinal product that is currently missing and needs to be collected (e.g. on the long-term use of the medicine);

<b>List of important risks and missing information</b>	
Important identified risks	Pericarditis
Important potential risks	Myocarditis
	Vaccine-associated enhanced disease (VAED), including vaccine-associated enhanced respiratory disease (VAERD)
Missing information	Use in pregnancy and while breastfeeding
	Use in frail patients with comorbidities (e.g., chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD), diabetes, chronic neurological disease, cardiovascular disorders)
	Interaction with other vaccines
	Long-term safety

**II.B Summary of important risks**

<b>Important identified risk: Pericarditis</b>	
Evidence for linking the risk to the medicine	<p>The most important published cohort studies demonstrate that pericarditis is a very rare side effect after COVID-19 mRNA vaccination, with an incidence of approximately 1-4 cases per 100,000 vaccinated subjects. Young males 16-29 appear to be at highest risk, predominantly after receiving the second dose. The risk of pericarditis is higher in people who were infected with the SARS-CoV-2 than in those who received the vaccine. Most patients fully recover with rest and an adequate treatment.</p> <p>The risk of pericarditis has shown to be different depending on the type of vaccine/platform used. Vaccines using adenoviral vector-based platforms produce the spike protein but have not been implicated in acquired myocarditis. Pericarditis events have also been detected in clinical studies and post-authorization surveillance of Novavax COVID-19 vaccine, which is manufactured using a different protein platform and a different adjuvant system than BIMERVAX and BIMERVAX XBB.1.16 vaccines.</p> <p>Only one case of a pericarditis event was detected in a clinical study using BIMERVAX.</p>
Risk factors and risk groups	Adolescent and young adult males following the second dose of COVID-19 vaccine may be at higher risk.
Risk minimisation measures	<p><u>Routine risk minimisation measures:</u></p> <p>SmPC section 4.8.</p> <p>PL Section 4.</p> <p><u>Additional risk minimisation measures:</u></p> <p>None</p>
Additional pharmacovigilance activities	<p><u>Routine pharmacovigilance activities beyond adverse reactions reporting and signal detection</u></p> <p><i>Specific adverse reaction follow-up questionnaire</i></p> <p><u>Additional pharmacovigilance activities:</u></p> <p><b>Post-authorisation safety study</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Post-authorisation safety study of BIMERVAX emulsion for injection in Europe in VAC4EU. Protocol submission on 31 July 2023; final estimated date 30 September 2029.</li> </ul>



<b>Important potential risk: Myocarditis</b>	
Evidence for linking the risk to the medicine	<p>The most important published cohort studies demonstrate that myocarditis is a very rare side effect after COVID-19 mRNA vaccination, with an incidence of approximately 1-4 cases per 100,000 vaccinated subjects. Young males 16-29 appear to be at highest risk, predominantly after receiving the second dose. The risk of myocarditis is higher in people who were infected with the SARS-CoV-2 than in those who received the vaccine. Most patients fully recover with rest and an adequate treatment.</p> <p>The risk of myocarditis and pericarditis has shown to be different depending on the type of vaccine/platform used. Vaccines using adenoviral vector-based platforms produce the spike protein but have not been implicated in acquired myocarditis. Myocarditis and pericarditis events have also been detected in clinical studies and post-authorization surveillance of Novavax COVID-19 vaccine, which is manufactured using a different protein platform and a different adjuvant system than BIMERVAX and BIMERVAX XBB.1.16 vaccines.</p> <p>No case of myocarditis has been observed in the clinical studies of BIMERVAX and BIMERVAX XBB.1.16 vaccines.</p>
Risk factors and risk groups	Adolescent and young adult males following the second dose of COVID-19 vaccine may be at higher risk.
Risk minimisation measures	<p><u>Routine risk minimisation measures:</u></p> <p>None</p> <p><u>Additional risk minimisation measures:</u></p> <p>None</p>
Additional pharmacovigilance activities	<p><u>Routine pharmacovigilance activities beyond adverse reactions reporting and signal detection</u></p> <p><i>Specific adverse reaction follow-up questionnaire</i></p> <p><u>Additional pharmacovigilance activities:</u></p> <p><b>Post-authorisation safety study</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Post-authorisation safety study of BIMERVAX emulsion for injection in Europe in VAC4EU. Protocol submission on 31 July 2023; final estimated date 30 September 2029.</li> </ul>

<b>Important potential risk: Vaccine-associated enhanced disease (VAED), including vaccine-associated enhanced respiratory disease (VAERD)</b>	
Evidence for linking the risk to the medicine	<p>This potential risk is theoretical because it has not been described in association with the BIMERVAX or BIMERVAX XBB.1.16 vaccines or it has not been reported from any other late phase clinical trial of other human vaccine. As mentioned above, this potential risk has been included based on animal data with related betacoronaviruses. VAERD refers to the predominantly lower respiratory tract presentation of VAED. Evidence sources have been collected from literature on viral vaccines, safety information of other SARS-CoV-2 vaccines and clinical trials. VAED was observed in children given formalin-inactivated whole-virus vaccines against respiratory syncytial virus (RSV) and measles virus. It has been rarely encountered with existing vaccines or viral infections (Haynes <i>et al.</i>, 2020). Although, no events of VAED/VAERD have been reported in the current BIMERVAX and BIMERVAX XBB.1.16 clinical development programme, there is a theoretical concern that vaccination against SARS-CoV-2 may be associated with enhanced severity of COVID-19 episodes, which would manifest as VAED/VAERD (Graham, 2020).</p>
Risk factors and risk groups	<p>No risks groups or risks factors have been identified. Nevertheless, it is postulated that the potential risk may be increased in individuals producing lower neutralizing antibody titres or in those demonstrating waning immunity (Graham, 2020).</p>
Risk minimisation measures	<p><u>Routine risk minimisation measures:</u></p> <p>None</p> <p><u>Additional risk minimisation measures:</u></p> <p>None</p>
Additional pharmacovigilance activities	<p><u>Routine pharmacovigilance activities beyond adverse reactions reporting and signal detection</u></p> <p><i>Specific adverse reaction follow-up questionnaire</i></p> <p><u>Additional pharmacovigilance activities:</u></p> <p><b>Post-authorisation safety study</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Post-authorisation safety study of BIMERVAX emulsion for injection vaccine in Europe in VAC4EU: protocol submission on 31 July 2023; final study report estimated date 30 September 2029.</li> </ul>

<b>Missing information: Use in pregnancy and while breastfeeding</b>	
Evidence for linking the risk to the medicine	There is no experience with use of BIMERVAX and BIMERVAX XBB.1.16 vaccine in pregnant women. Nevertheless, an assessment of male and female fertility by histopathological examination of the testis and ovaries in the GLP toxicity studies in mice (AC25AA), rat (AC91AA) and rabbit (SEP-2021-011-PHH1V) found no effect of PHH-1 or PHH-1V vaccines on these organs. Also, no effects on fertility have been described for the SQBA adjuvant, using an analogous adjuvant, at least at the dose to be used in BIMERVAX and BIMERVAX XBB.1.16 vaccines. Moreover, no effects on fertility have been associated to the development of immunogenicity against SARS-CoV-2 during the development of other three COVID-19 vaccines currently approved (SmPC Comirnaty, 2024; SmPC Spikevax, 2024; SmPC Nuvaxovid, 2024). Animal studies do not indicate direct or indirect harmful effects with respect to pregnancy, embryo/foetal development, parturition, or post-natal development. Administration of BIMERVAX or BIMERVAX XBB.1.16 vaccine in pregnancy should only be considered when the potential benefits outweigh any potential risks for the mother and foetus. It is unknown whether BIMERVAX and BIMERVAX XBB.1.16 vaccines are excreted in human milk.
Anticipated risk/consequence of the missing information	Targeted populations of the indication include women of childbearing potential, thus, the use of BIMERVAX and BIMERVAX XBB.1.16 in pregnant and/or breastfeeding women will occur.
Risk minimisation measures	<u>Routine risk communication:</u> SmPC section 4.6 and 5.3 PL section 2 <u>Routine risk minimisation activities recommending specific clinical measures to address the risk:</u> None <u>Other routine risk minimisation measures beyond the Product Information:</u> None
Additional pharmacovigilance activities	<u>Routine pharmacovigilance activities beyond adverse reactions reporting and signal detection</u> None <u>Additional pharmacovigilance activities:</u> <b>Post-authorisation safety study</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Post-authorisation safety study of BIMERVAX vaccine in Europe in VAC4EU: protocol submission on 31 July 2023; final study report estimated date 30 September 2029.</li> </ul>

<b>Missing information: Use in frail patients with comorbidities (e.g., chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD), diabetes, chronic neurological disease, cardiovascular disorders)</b>	
Evidence for linking the risk to the medicine	BIMERVAX and BIMERVAX XBB.1.16 have not been studied in frail individuals with severe comorbidities that may compromise immune function due to the condition or treatment of the condition. Frail patients with comorbidities (e.g., COPD, diabetes mellitus, chronic neurological disease, cardiovascular disorders) are potentially at risk of developing a more severe manifestation of COVID-19. There is no evidence that the safety profile of this population receiving BIMERVAX or BIMERVAX XBB.1.16 will be different to that of the general population, but given the scarcity of data, the possibility cannot be ruled out.
Anticipated risk/consequence of the missing information	In general, there is a potential that frail participants with unstable health conditions and co-morbidities may experience a different outcome than achieved in healthy individuals administered vaccines.
Risk minimisation measures	<u>Routine risk communication:</u> None <u>Routine risk minimisation activities recommending specific clinical measures to address the risk:</u> None <u>Other routine risk minimisation measures beyond the Product Information:</u> None
Additional pharmacovigilance activities	<u>Routine pharmacovigilance activities beyond adverse reactions reporting and signal detection</u> None <u>Additional pharmacovigilance activities:</u> <b>Post-authorisation safety study</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Post-authorisation safety study of the BIMERVAX emulsion for injection in Europe in VAC4EU: protocol submission on 31 July 2023; final study report estimated date 30 September 2029.</li> </ul>

<b>Missing information: Interaction with other vaccines</b>	
Evidence for linking the risk to the medicine	BIMERVAX is indicated as a booster in individuals vaccinated against COVID 19 with mRNA vaccines. The safety and immunogenicity of a booster vaccination with BIMERVAX against SARS-CoV-2 in healthy adult volunteers fully vaccinated against COVID 19, was evaluated in the Phase IIb clinical study HIPRA-HH-2 and Phase III study HIPRA-HH-5. Studies to determine if co-administration of BIMERVAX or BIMERVAX XBB.1.16 with other vaccines (i.e., with seasonal illness vaccines [such as the influenza vaccines]) may affect the efficacy or safety of either vaccine have not been performed.
Anticipated risk/consequence of the missing information	There is the theoretical question as whether vaccines may interact with each other and change the immune response to either vaccine or induce safety concerns. It is common medical practice to administer vaccines concurrently. Participants receiving BIMERVAX or BIMERVAX XBB.1.16 may be administered seasonal flu vaccines during the vaccination campaigns.
Risk minimisation measures	<u>Routine risk communication:</u> SmPC section 4.5 PL section 2 <u>Routine risk minimisation activities recommending specific clinical measures to address the risk:</u> None <u>Other routine risk minimisation measures beyond the Product Information:</u> None
Additional pharmacovigilance activities	<u>Routine pharmacovigilance activities beyond adverse reactions reporting and signal detection</u> None <u>Additional pharmacovigilance activities:</u> <b>Post-authorisation safety study</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Post-authorisation safety study of BIMERVAX emulsion for injection in Europe in VAC4EU: protocol submission on 31 July 2023; final study report estimated date 30 September 2029.</li> </ul>



<b>Missing information: Long-term safety</b>	
Evidence for linking the risk to the medicine	The long-term safety profile of BIMERVAX and BIMERVAX XBB.1.16 is fully not known at present, but complete safety data up to 1 year is available for the Phase III study HIPRA-HH-5. Additionally, per protocols, the clinical development program had a safety follow up period up to 52 weeks after booster vaccination in the Phase IIb clinical study HIPRA-HH-2 and up to 52 weeks in the Phase IIb/III study HIPRA-HH-4.
Anticipated risk/consequence of the missing information	At the time of vaccine availability, the long-term safety data of BIMERVAX is available in the CSR of the Phase III study HIPRA-HH-5, in the CSR of Phase IIb clinical study HIPRA-HH-2 and in the CSR of the Phase IIb/III study HIPRA-HH-4. Although there are currently no known risks with a potentially late onset, given the limited data, the possibility cannot be excluded. Data will continue to be collected from ongoing post-authorisation studies.
Risk minimisation measures	<u>Routine risk communication:</u> None <u>Routine risk minimisation activities recommending specific clinical measures to address the risk:</u> None <u>Other routine risk minimisation measures beyond the Product Information:</u> None
Additional pharmacovigilance activities	<u>Routine pharmacovigilance activities beyond adverse reactions reporting and signal detection</u> None <u>Additional pharmacovigilance activities:</u> <b>Post-authorisation safety study</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Post-authorisation safety study of BIMERVAX emulsion for injection vaccine in Europe in VAC4EU: protocol submission on 31 July 2023; final study report estimated date 30 September 2029.</li> </ul>

## ***II.C Post-authorisation development plan***

### **II.C.1 Studies which are conditions of the marketing authorisation**

There are no studies which are conditions of the marketing authorisation or specific obligation of BIMERVAX or BIMERVAX XBB.1.16.

## II.C.2 Other studies in post-authorisation development plan

### **Study: Post-authorisation safety study of BIMERVAX emulsion for injection in Europe in VAC4EU**

**Purpose of the study:** This study consists of two components—a vaccine utilisation study and a comparative safety study—. The vaccine utilisation study will characterise the individuals receiving the BIMERVAX vaccine. The comparative safety study uses two different designs: a cohort design to estimate the effect of BIMERVAX vaccine on adverse events of special interest (AESIs) compared with that of other COVID-19 vaccines authorised for the booster indication; and a self-controlled risk interval (SCRI) study (a subtype of the self-controlled case series design) design to estimate the effect of the COVID-19 HIPRA vaccine booster on selected AESIs compared with no COVID-19 vaccine as a booster.

### **Study: Post-authorisation effectiveness study of BIMERVAX emulsion for injection in Europe in VAC4EU**

**Purpose of the study:** this study will estimate the effect of the BIMERVAX on COVID-19-related outcomes—i.e., COVID-19 infection, COVID-19-related hospitalisations or emergency department visits—compared with other COVID-19 vaccines authorised for the booster indication.

## Part VII: Annexes

### Table of contents of the Annexes

Annex 4:	Specific adverse drug reaction follow-up forms
Annex 6:	Details of proposed additional risk minimisation activities (if applicable)

## ***Annex 4 - Specific adverse drug reaction follow-up forms***

### **Table of contents**

The following specific adverse reaction follow-up questionnaire\* will be used to collect further information on important identified and potential risks:

4A. Vaccine-associated enhanced disease (VAED), including vaccine-associated enhanced respiratory disease (VAERD) questionnaire

4B. Myocarditis/pericarditis questionnaire

\*Subject to national health authority agreement

## VACCINE ASSOCIATED ENHANCED DISEASE QUESTIONNAIRE

### Instructions for use:

This Data Capture Aid (DCA) is intended to enable the retrieval of clinical details about potential vaccine associated enhanced disease experienced by an individual following administration of BIMERVAX. Select questions as needed to obtain any DCA-defined information described below that was not included in the initial report.

### 1. Reporter information

Reporter's first and last name

Is the reporter a Healthcare professional ☐ Yes ☐ No

If yes what is the specialty:

Reporter's Address (no, street, city, country):

Reporter's telephone and fax:

Reporter's signature and date (DD,MM,YY) :

### 2. Patient details.

**Initials**      **Sex:** ☐ Male ☐ Female      **Date of birth** (DD,MM,YYYY)      **Age** (years)

**Race:** ☐ White    ☐ Black or African American    ☐ Native American    ☐ Alaska Native    ☐ Native Hawaiian  
☐ Asian    ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_    ☐ Refused or Unknown

**Ethnicity:** ☐ Hispanic or Latino    ☐ Not Hispanic or Latino    ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_    ☐ Unknown

### 3. BIMERVAX:

Dose 1 received ☐ Yes ☐ No    If yes, date of vaccination (DD/MM/YY):      Batch/Lot number:

Dose 2 received ☐ Yes ☐ No    If yes, date of vaccination (DD/MM/YY):      Batch/Lot number:

If dose 2 was not received, was the dose not administered due to the adverse event? ☐ Yes | ☐ No

### 4. Adverse event details.

Adverse Event(s)	Start Date (DD/MM/YY)	Stop Date (DD/MM/YY)	Outcome	
			<input type="checkbox"/> Recovered <input type="checkbox"/> Event ongoing <input type="checkbox"/> Recovering	<input type="checkbox"/> Resolved with sequelae, <i>please specify</i> <input type="checkbox"/> Patient died <input type="checkbox"/> Unknown
			<input type="checkbox"/> Recovered <input type="checkbox"/> Event ongoing <input type="checkbox"/> Recovering	<input type="checkbox"/> Resolved with sequelae, <i>please specify</i> <input type="checkbox"/> Patient died <input type="checkbox"/> Unknown

Please provide details of any signs and symptoms experienced in relation to diagnosed or suspected COVID-19 illness (including date of onset for each and eventual worsening):

#### SARS-CoV-2 test/antibodies:

Did the patient have testing for SARS-CoV-2? ☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Unknown

If yes, specify type of testing and date of test, whether IgM /IgG or both and the titer:

PCR test result:

Variant type if known:

Viral load (including Cycle Threshold):

In the absence of a positive test, what findings suggested a diagnosis of COVID-19 infection or VAED?

Does the patient have SARS-CoV-2 antibodies at diagnosis? ☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Unknown

How many days from the SARS-CoV2 diagnosis did it take before the SARS-CoV2 antigen test became negative



In the event of death, please provide the date and cause of death (*please provide copy of autopsy report, if available*):

Was the patient hospitalized for the adverse event(s)? ☐ Yes ☐ No

If yes, please provide the admission and the discharge dates (*DD/MM/YY*)

Please provide the discharge report information and histology results

Was/Is the patient admitted to an Intensive Care Unit? ☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Unknown

*If 'Yes', please provide case summary:*

Have any pre-existing diseases worsened during the SARS-CoV-2 ☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Unknown

*If 'Yes', please specify the details:*

## 5. Patient Covid-19 treatment

Therapy	Start Date (DD/MM/YY)	Stop Date (DD/MM/YY)	Daily dose/ Any additional information
Remdesivir			
Hydroxychloroquine			
Monoclonal antibodies			
Azithromycine			
Corticosteroids			
Bamlavinimab			
Etesevimab			
Plasmapheresis			
Other (please <i>specify</i> )			

**6. Please provide information on any new or worsening symptoms/signs during the COVID-19 illness**

Respiratory	Cardio-vascular	Hematology& Immune system	Renal system	Gastro-intestinaland hepatic system	Central nervous system	Other systems
<input type="checkbox"/> Dyspnea	<input type="checkbox"/> Heart failure	<input type="checkbox"/> Coagulopathy	<input type="checkbox"/> Renal disfunction	<input type="checkbox"/> Vomiting	<input type="checkbox"/> Altered mental status	<input type="checkbox"/> Acute arthritis
<input type="checkbox"/> Tachypnea	<input type="checkbox"/> Acute cardiac injury	<input type="checkbox"/> Thrombocytopenia	<input type="checkbox"/> Acute kidney injury	<input type="checkbox"/> Diarrhea	<input type="checkbox"/> Convulsions/ seizures	<input type="checkbox"/> Dermatologic
<input type="checkbox"/> Hypoxemia	<input type="checkbox"/> Acute myocardia infarction	<input type="checkbox"/> Deep vein thrombosis	<input type="checkbox"/> Other:	<input type="checkbox"/> Jaundice	<input type="checkbox"/> Cranial nerve involvement	<input type="checkbox"/> Chilblains
<input type="checkbox"/> Cough	<input type="checkbox"/> Arrhythmia	<input type="checkbox"/> Disseminated intravascular coagulation		<input type="checkbox"/> Abdominal pain	<input type="checkbox"/> Encephalopathy	<input type="checkbox"/> Erythema multiforme
<input type="checkbox"/> Cyanosis	<input type="checkbox"/> Pericarditis	<input type="checkbox"/> Vasculitis		<input type="checkbox"/> Acute liver injury	<input type="checkbox"/> Cerebrovascular accident	<input type="checkbox"/> Multisystem inflammatory syndrome
<input type="checkbox"/> COVID-19 pneumonia	<input type="checkbox"/> Myocarditis	<input type="checkbox"/> Limb ischemia		<input type="checkbox"/> Other:	<input type="checkbox"/> Other:	<input type="checkbox"/> Multiorgan failure <i>Specify:</i>
<input type="checkbox"/> Acute respiratory distress syndrome	<input type="checkbox"/> Cardiogenic shock	<input type="checkbox"/> Pulmonary embolism				<input type="checkbox"/> Death
<input type="checkbox"/> Lower respiratory tract infection	<input type="checkbox"/> Other	<input type="checkbox"/> Other:				<input type="checkbox"/> Other:
<input type="checkbox"/> Respiratory failure						
<input type="checkbox"/> Pulmonary hemorrhage						
<input type="checkbox"/> Radiographic abnormalities						
<input type="checkbox"/> Other:						

## 7. Relevant Medical History/Concurrent Diseases

Medical History	Start date	Stop date	Is the patient treated for this condition?
Respiratory or gastrointestinal infection <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No			
Lymphoma <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No			
HIV positive <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No			
Systemic lupus erythematosus <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No			
Vasculitis <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No			
Other autoimmune disorders <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No			
Hypertension <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No			
Diabetes <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No			
Heart Disease (please specify) <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No			
Lung Disease (please specify) <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No			
Kidney disease (please specify) <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No			
Liver disease (please specify) <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No			
Coagulation disorders <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No			
Obesity <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No			
Current or Former Smoker <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No If Yes, please provide details			

## 8. Concomitant Drugs/ Vaccines

Please exclude drugs used to treat the event(s). List all medications taken by the patient, including over-the-counter drugs, supplements, and herbal preparations. Add vaccine administered within the last month

Concomitant Drug Name	Indication	Daily Dose	Route	Start Date (DD/MM/YY)	Stop Date (DD/MM/YY)	Withdrawn
						<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
						<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
						<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
						<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No

## 9. Lab test/ diagnostic procedures Please provide and attach results of relevant laboratory test and procedures

Lab test /Diagn. procedure	Date and Results
Imaging for COVID-Pneumonia (e.g., CXR, CT)	
Hypoxemia, OR, Hypercapnia (PaCO <sub>2</sub> ) OR acidosis (pH)	
Hematology results	
Chemistry results	
Elevated cytokines	

Thank you for completing this form.

## MYOCARDITIS/PERICARDITIS QUESTIONNAIRE

### Instructions for use:

This Data Capture Aid (DCA) is intended to enable the retrieval of clinical details about potential myocarditis/pericarditis experienced by an individual following administration of BIMERVAX. Select questions as needed to obtain any DCA-defined information described below that was not included in the initial report.

### 1. Reporter information

Reporter's first and last name \_\_\_\_\_ Is the reporter a Healthcare professional ☐ Yes ☐ No  
If yes what is the specialty: \_\_\_\_\_

Reporter's Address (no, street, city, country): \_\_\_\_\_

Reporter's telephone and fax: \_\_\_\_\_ Reporter's signature and date (DD,MM,YY) : \_\_\_\_\_

### 2. Patient details.

Initials \_\_\_\_\_ Sex: ☐ Male ☐ Female Date of birth (DD,MM,YYYY) \_\_\_\_\_ Age (years) \_\_\_\_\_

Race: ☐ White ☐ Black or African American ☐ Native American ☐ Alaska Native ☐ Native Hawaiian  
☐ Asian ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_ ☐ Refused or Unknown

Ethnicity: ☐ Hispanic or Latino ☐ Not Hispanic or Latino ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_ ☐ Unknown

### 3. BIMERVAX:

Dose 1 received ☐ Yes ☐ No If yes, date of vaccination (DD/MM/YY): \_\_\_\_\_ Batch/Lot number: \_\_\_\_\_

Dose 2 received ☐ Yes ☐ No If yes, date of vaccination (DD/MM/YY): \_\_\_\_\_ Batch/Lot number: \_\_\_\_\_

If dose 2 was not received, was the dose not administered due to the adverse event? ☐ Yes | ☐ No

### 4. Adverse event details.

Adverse Event(s)	Start Date (DD/MM/YY)	Stop Date (DD/MM/YY)	Outcome	
<input type="checkbox"/> Myocarditis			<input type="checkbox"/> Recovered <input type="checkbox"/> Event ongoing <input type="checkbox"/> Recovering	<input type="checkbox"/> Resolved with sequelae, <i>please specify</i> <input type="checkbox"/> Patient died <input type="checkbox"/> Unknown
<input type="checkbox"/> Pericarditis			<input type="checkbox"/> Recovered <input type="checkbox"/> Event ongoing <input type="checkbox"/> Recovering	<input type="checkbox"/> Resolved with sequelae, <i>please specify</i> <input type="checkbox"/> Patient died <input type="checkbox"/> Unknown

**Were clinical cardiac symptoms present?** (If yes, please circle what is relevant)

Acute chest pain or pressure - Palpitations - Dyspnea after exercise - Dyspnea at rest or lying down – Diaphoresis (excessive sweating)

**Were Non-Specific Symptoms present?** (If yes, please circle what is relevant)

Fatigue - Abdominal pain - Dizziness/Syncope - Edema - Cough - Weakness - Nausea/Vomiting - Diarrhea - Shoulder/Upper back pain - Cyanosis - Low grade intermittent fever - Altered Mental Status

In Infants and Young Children: Irritability - Vomiting - Poor feeding - Tachypnea – Lethargy

Other: please specify \_\_\_\_\_

**In the event of death**, please provide the date and cause of death: \_\_\_\_\_

Was an autopsy performed? ☐ Yes (if yes please attach the autopsy report) ☐ No

Was the patient hospitalized for the adverse event(s)? ☐ Yes (if yes, provide date of hospitalization) \_\_\_\_\_ ☐ No

Is a discharge report available? ☐ Yes (if yes, please attach the report) ☐ No

### 5. Patient treatment

Drug name	Start Date (DD/MM/YY)	Route	Stop Date (DD/MM/YY)	Daily dose/ Any additional information

### 6. Relevant Medical History/Concurrent Diseases

Medical History (please, specify all relevant medical conditions)	Start date	Stop date	Is the patient treated for this condition?

### 7. Concomitant Drugs/ Vaccines

Please exclude drugs used to treat the event(s). List all medications taken by the patient, including over-the-counter drugs, supplements, and herbal preparations. Add vaccine administered within the last month

Concomitant Drug Name	Indication	Daily Dose	Route	Start Date (DD/MM/YY)	Stop Date (DD/MM/YY)	Withdrawn
						<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
						<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
						<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
						<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No

### 8. Lab test/ diagnostic procedures Please provide and attach results of relevant laboratory test and procedures

Lab test /Diagn. procedure	Date and Results	Normal Reference Range
Troponin T <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No		
Troponin I <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No		
Creatine Kinasa Myocardial <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No		
C-reactive protein <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No		

Erythrocyte sedimentation rate <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No		
D-Dimer <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No		
Cardiac Magnetic Resonance Imaging Study <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No		
Echocardiogram <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No		
EKG <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No		
Radiography <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No		
Myocardial Tissue Histopathology/ Endomyocardial biopsy <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No		
CT-Scan <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No		
Diagnostic tests for infectious etiologies, including but not limited to COVID-19 <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No		
Other, <i>pls specify</i> :		

**Thank you for completing this form.**



***Annex 6 - Details of proposed additional risk minimisation activities (if applicable)***

Not applicable.