

# Review of: "The COVID 19 vaccine patent race"

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I appreciate the authors thoughtful discussions of both the history of mRNA and the relevant information on the patent process. The speed at which the vaccines for COVID were created was extraordinary. It is a testament to the importance of consistent, well-funded scientific research and the authors did a good job of explaining the process that led to the rapid creation of the vaccines.

What I found most thought-provoking about the article was the “warning” about potential future patent issues. Patents do indeed spur innovation and invention. It is important the patent examiners and policy-makers carefully consider ways to credit and reward researchers for the years spent on finding solutions important to present and future public health (and other) concerns. As surely COVID-19 and its variants will not be the last viruses we will see, policy considerations should begin immediately to ensure vibrant timely research is not stifled in any way.

The fascinating process of mRNA development and its future possibilities make this article worth reading. Kudos also for highlighting the policy implications associated with the future of mRNA.