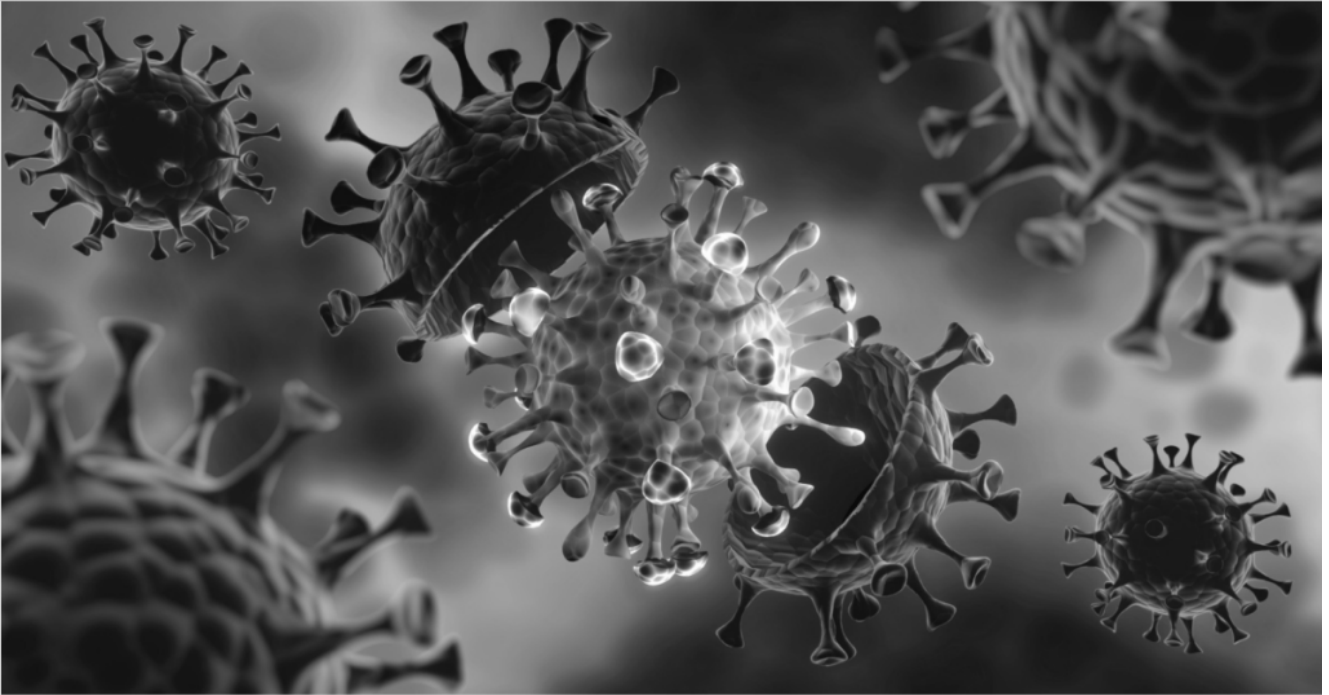


# Pfizer, BioNTech to Test Combined COVID-19 and Flu Shot in New Vaccine Trial



Pfizer and BioNTech [announced](#) on Nov. 3 they will test a combined COVID-19 and influenza mRNA vaccine, which they claim will potentially lead to a better vaccine update for both diseases.

The new vaccine will combine Pfizer's quadrivalent mRNA-based flu shot, which is currently in [Phase 3 clinical development](#), and Pfizer and BioNTech's new bivalent booster targeting the original and Omicron BA.4/BA.5 variants – a “vaccine” that hasn't even been subjected to its own clinical trial to determine safety or efficacy.

According to Pfizer's [press release](#), Phase 1 of the study, sponsored by BioNTech, is designed to “evaluate the safety, immunogenicity and optimal dose level” of a combined vaccine. The trial will be conducted in the U.S. and seeks to enroll 180 health volunteers 18 through 64 years of age. The follow-up period for each trial participant will be six months.

The first participant in the study was dosed earlier this week.

Moderna and Novavax are also testing a combined vaccine targeting COVID-19 and the flu.

According to the Vaccine Adverse Event Reporting System, [6,777 reports of adverse events](#) following the new COVID-19 bivalent booster have been reported as of Oct. 28, 2022. The data included a total of [50 deaths](#) and [361 serious injuries](#). As of Nov. 2, [26.3 million people](#) have received the updated bivalent booster dose.