

Forum Bioethik

# Wer zuerst? Verteilung von Impfstoffen gegen SARS-CoV-2

Online Veranstaltung • 18. November 2020, Berlin



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Bioethics Forum

# Who First? Allocation of Vaccines against SARS-CoV-2

Online Event • 18 November 2020, Berlin

Weltweit forschen Wissenschaftlerinnen und Wissenschaftler mit Hochdruck an der Entwicklung von Impfstoffen gegen das neue Coronavirus. Klinische Tests laufen bereits. Das für die Zulassung von Impfstoffen in Deutschland zuständige Paul-Ehrlich-Institut zeigte sich Mitte September 2020 zuversichtlich, dass zum Jahreswechsel ein oder sogar mehrere Impfstoffe gegen das Coronavirus SARS-CoV-2 vorliegen könnten.

Jedoch wird erwartet, dass anfangs nicht genügend Impfstoffdosen verfügbar sein werden, um alle Menschen zu impfen, die dies wünschen. Wie könnte also eine gerechte Verteilung potenzieller Vakzine national wie international aussehen? Welche Personen oder Gruppen gilt es prioritär zu impfen? Muss es unterschiedliche Impfpläne geben, je nachdem, ob ein Impfstoff zugelassen wird, der altersgruppenspezifische Schutzwirkungen auslöst? Welche medizinischen, welche ethischen Kriterien gilt es zu berücksichtigen?

Diesen Fragen möchte sich der Deutsche Ethikrat gemeinsam mit internationalen Expertinnen und Experten im Rahmen einer Veranstaltung der Reihe „Forum Bioethik“ widmen. Vertreterinnen und Vertreter der Weltgesundheitsorganisation (WHO), der European Group on Ethics in Science and New Technologies (EGE) und des Deutschen Ethikrats stellen verschiedene Strategien vor. In einem abschließenden Podiumsgespräch werden sowohl die genannten Expertinnen und Experten der WHO und der EGE als auch Mitglieder europäischer Ethikräte die Frage der Impfstoffverteilung aus unterschiedlichen Perspektiven beleuchten.

Die Veranstaltung ist Teil des 26. Forum Nationaler Ethikräte (NEC) und der Europäischen Gruppe für Ethik der Naturwissenschaften und der Neuen Technologien (EGE).

Diskutieren Sie mit:  
**#Impfstoffverteilung**

Scientists around the world are working relentlessly to develop vaccines against the new coronavirus. Clinical trials are already being conducted. In mid-September 2020, the Paul Ehrlich Institute, responsible for the authorisation of vaccines in Germany, expressed confidence that one or even several vaccines against the coronavirus SARS-CoV-2 could be available by the turn of the year.

However, it is expected that vaccine doses will initially not be available for all people who wish to be vaccinated. So, what might a fair distribution of potential vaccines look like nationally and internationally? Which individuals or groups should be vaccinated first? Should there be different vaccination schedules depending on whether an approved vaccine provides age-group-specific protection? What medical and ethical criteria need to be considered?

In a “Bioethics Forum”, the German Ethics Council addresses these questions together with international experts. Representatives of the World Health Organization (WHO), the European Group on Ethics in Science and New Technologies (EGE) and of the German Ethics Council will present different strategies. In a concluding panel discussion, both the mentioned experts from the WHO and the EGE as well as members of several European ethics councils will debate the question of vaccine distribution.

The Bioethics Forum is part of the 26<sup>th</sup> Forum of the National Ethics Councils (NEC) and the European Group on Ethics in Science and New Technologies (EGE).

Join the discussion:  
**#vaccineallocation**

## Programm

### 17:00 Begrüßung

Alena Buyx · Vorsitzende des Deutschen Ethikrates

#### Vorträge

Christiane Woopen · Vorsitzende der European Group on Ethics in Science and New Technologies

Mariângela Simão · Stellvertretende WHO-Generaldirektorin für Arzneimittel und Gesundheitsprodukte

Alena Buyx · Vorsitzende des Deutschen Ethikrates

#### Podiumsdiskussion

David Archard · Vorsitzender des Nuffield Council on Bioethics, Vereinigtes Königreich

Alena Buyx · Vorsitzende des Deutschen Ethikrates

Jean-François Delfraissy · Vorsitzender des französischen Comité consultatif national d'éthique

Mariângela Simão · Stellvertretende WHO-Generaldirektorin für Arzneimittel und Gesundheitsprodukte

Christiane Woopen · Vorsitzende der European Group on Ethics in Science and New Technologies

**Moderation:** Susanne Schreiber · Stellvertretende Vorsitzende des Deutschen Ethikrates

### 19:00 Ende des Forum Bioethik

## Programme

### 17:00 Welcome

Alena Buyx · Chair of the German Ethics Council

#### Presentations

Christiane Woopen · Chair of the European Group on Ethics in Science and New Technologies

Mariângela Simão · Assistant Director-General for Access to Medicines and Health Products at the World Health Organization

Alena Buyx · Chair of the German Ethics Council

#### Round table discussion

David Archard · Chair of the Nuffield Council on Bioethics, United Kingdom

Alena Buyx · Chair of the German Ethics Council

Jean-François Delfraissy · Chair of the French National Ethical Consultative Committee for Life Sciences and Health (CCNE)

Mariângela Simão · Assistant Director-General for Access to Medicines and Health Products at the World Health Organization

Christiane Woopen · Chair of the European Group on Ethics in Science and New Technologies

**Chair:** Susanne Schreiber · Vice Chair of the German Ethics Council

### 19:00 End of the Bioethics Forum

# Christiane Woopen

## A Broad Approach to the Allocation of Vaccines



It looks as if there will be vaccines against the novel coronavirus in the foreseeable future. But at least for some time, there will not be sufficient doses available for all people who want to be vaccinated.

Against this background, this presentation examines the following questions: What should be the standards for judging which prioritisation is fair or unfair? How can these standards be translated into concrete distribution criteria? Should the standards and criteria differ nationally and regionally or would it be desirable to standardise them internationally? Who should define the standards and criteria for a fair allocation of vaccines?

The answers to these questions depend not least on what understanding of a pandemic is taken as a basis. Based on the joint opinion “Improving pandemic preparedness and management” of the European Group on Ethics in Science and New Technologies, the Group of Chief Scientific Advisors to the European Commission and the Special Advisor to President Ursula von der Leyen on the response to the coronavirus and COVID-19, delivered on November 11<sup>th</sup>, I will argue for a broad approach to decide on the allocation of vaccines, including medical, economic and social aspects.

### Beruflicher Werdegang // Professional Curriculum

Christiane Woopen is Professor for Ethics and Theory of Medicine at the University of Cologne, where she is also Executive Director of the Cologne Center for Ethics, Rights, Economics, and Social Sciences of Health (CERES). She is Head of the Research Unit Ethics at the University Hospital Cologne. She coordinates and leads several international and national research projects concerning ethical aspects of reproductive medicine, neuroethics, quality of life, aging, genome editing as well as health and society in the digital age. She is former Chair of the German Ethics Council and President of the 11<sup>th</sup> Global Summit of National Ethics/Bioethics Committees. She was a member of the International Bioethics Committee of UNESCO until 2017. In 2017, she was elected Chair of the European Group on Ethics of Science and New Technologies (EGE), which advises the European Commission. From 2018 to 2019, she was appointed Co-Chair of the newly established Data Ethics Commission of the German Government. Woopen was awarded the Federal Cross of Merit 1<sup>st</sup> Class.

## Mariângela Simão

### WHO Concept for Fair Access and Equitable Allocation of COVID-19 Health Products



#### Beruflicher Werdegang // Professional Curriculum

Mariângela Batista Galvão Simão from Brazil was most recently WHO Assistant Director-General for Drug Access, Vaccines and Pharmaceuticals. She was Director of Community Support, Social Justice and Inclusion at UNAIDS. In addition to her work at UNAIDS, she brings more than 30 years of experience working in the Brazilian public health system and has played an active role in enhancing access and decentralizing health services in the country. Between 2006 and 2010, she served as Director of the National STD/AIDS and Viral Hepatitis Department in the Brazilian Ministry of Health, where she led successful price negotiations with pharmaceutical companies to lower the price of HIV medication. During this time, she also represented the Brazilian Ministry of Health in the negotiations that led to the constitution of UNITAID in 2006, including its governing body, where she served as a board member until 2008. She was trained as a paediatrician in Brazil and holds an MSc degree in public health from University of London, United Kingdom.

# Alena Buyx

## Recommendations for Fair and Regulated Access to a COVID-19 Vaccine



Together with the Standing Committee on Vaccination (STIKO) and the National Academy of Sciences Leopoldina, the German Ethics Council recently published a position paper on ethical, legal and practical framework conditions for regulating initial access to Covid-19 vaccines.

Prioritisation should not be based on medical and epidemiological findings alone. Ethical and legal considerations should play a decisive role, too. Whilst detailed recommendations for allocating specific vaccines will also depend on their individual characteristics, which are not yet fully available, the ethical and legal principles according to which prioritisation is to be undertaken have already been established independently of this. In addition to autonomy, these are non-maleficence and beneficence, justice and fundamental equality of rights, solidarity and urgency.

These ethical and legal principles are reflected in concrete vaccination goals: prevention of severe courses of Covid-19 (hospitalisation) and deaths; protection of persons with an especially high work-related risk of exposure to SARS-CoV-2 (occupational indication); prevention of transmission and protection in environments with a high proportion of vulnerable individuals and in those with a high outbreak potential; and maintenance of essential state functions and public life.

Since the distribution of the initially scarce vaccines touches on so many ethical and constitutional values, there should be clear legal regulation and uniform, transparent distribution that inspires confidence and ensures acceptance, for example in vaccination centres mandated by the state. Prioritisation criteria should be presented to the population in a comprehensible way.

### Beruflicher Werdegang // Professional Curriculum

Director of the Institute of History and Ethics of Medicine and Professor of Ethics of Medicine and Health Technologies at the Technical University of Munich (since September 2018); Professor of Biomedical Ethics and Head of the Department of Biomedical Ethics at the Institute of Experimental Medicine at the University of Kiel (since 2014); Senior Research Fellow at the School of Public Policy at the University College of London (2012–2015); Head of the DFG-Emmy Noether Research Group “Bioethics and Political Philosophy” at the University of Münster (2012–2014); Habilitation and *venia legendi* in Ethics, History and Theory of Medicine at the University of Münster (2013); Assistant Director of the Nuffield Council on Bioethics in London (2009–2012); Visiting Scholar of the Harvard University Programme in Ethics and Health at the Harvard Medical School (2008–2009); Assistant Professor at the Institute for Ethics, History and Philosophy of Medicine at the University of Münster (2006–2008); Medical Licensure, Medical Doctor; *Magistra Artium* in Philosophy & Sociology (2005).

## David Archard



### Initial Response to the Joint Position Paper of the Standing Committee on Vaccination (STIKO), the German Ethics Council and the National Academy of Sciences Leopoldina

The joint statement by the Standing Committee on Vaccination (STIKO), the German Ethics Council and the National Academy of Sciences Leopoldina offers a very clear, concise, and well-argued presentation of the ethical principles relevant to the question of who to prioritise in any COVID vaccination programme and identifies those groups that should be prioritised.

We would wish to make four points. First, it needs to be clear in respect of any prioritised group whether it is the risk of the group being exposed to the virus that makes them a priority or some other principle such as reciprocity or fairness. Second, when several ethical principles are being used we need to know how to balance these against one another and whether there is a ranking of some principles. For instance, is the imperative to reduce the loss of lives the most important principle? Third, different ethical principles may be incompatible or conflict. Fourth, any talk of equality or justice must take into account the global context and thus our obligations of fairness to those beyond our borders; and the disadvantage suffered in this pandemic suffered by some social groups, such as black and ethnic minority groups.

#### Beruflicher Werdegang // Professional Curriculum

David Archard was appointed Chair of the Nuffield Council on Bioethics in 2017. He is Emeritus Professor of Philosophy, Queen's University Belfast. He has published extensively in applied ethics, moral and political philosophy, and jurisprudence. He authored "Children: Rights and Childhood", widely regarded as the first book to offer a detailed philosophical examination of children's rights. Between 2005 and 2016 he was a Member of the Human Fertilisation and Embryology Authority, and latterly its Deputy Chair. He is also currently a member of the Clinical Ethics Committee of the Great Ormond Street Hospital for Sick Children, and is Honorary Vice-President of the Society for Applied Philosophy.

# Jean-François Delfraissy

## Allocation of Vaccines against SARS-CoV-2



### Beruflicher Werdegang // Professional Curriculum

Jean-François Delfraissy is Chairman of the National Ethical Consultative Committee for Life Sciences and Health (CCNE) in France since January 2017. He is a specialist in HIV and emerging viruses. He was Director of ANRS (France Recherche Nord & Sud Sida-hiv Hépatites) and ITMO I3M (Aviesan-Inserm) until the end of 2016. In 2014, he was appointed as inter-ministerial coordinator for the response to the Ebola epidemic in France and Guinea. He was Head of the Department of Internal Medicine at the University Hospital Paris Saclay (AP-HP), and Professor at Paris Saclay University.

Delfraissy has chaired several international scientific councils on HIV/AIDS as well as a series of international conferences devoted to infectious disease research such as the IAS World Conference in July 2017 in Paris. He has published more than 500 articles in the fields of immunology, internal medicine and HIV infection. He has established close collaborations with the HIV community both in France and in the South. Delfraissy was appointed Officer of the National Order of the Legion of Honour in 2010.

In March 2020, he was appointed Chairman of the Scientific Council COVID-19 to give scientific advices to the French President Emmanuel Macron. This committee is multidisciplinary and independent, bringing together 12 scientists and medical doctors.

# Susanne Schreiber

## Moderation // Chair



### Beruflicher Werdegang // Professional Curriculum

Professor for Theoretical Neurophysiology at the Humboldt University of Berlin (since 2015); Head of Research Group and since 2010 Junior Professor for Computational Neurophysiology at the Humboldt University of Berlin (2009–2014); Research Assistant at the Charité Berlin (2004–2008); Doctorate in Theoretical Biophysics (2004); Sloan-Swartz Fellow at the Salk Institute for Biological Studies in La Jolla (USA) (2001–2002); Research stay at the University of Cambridge (UK) (1999–2000); Study of Biophysics at the Humboldt University of Berlin (1995–2000).