



# THE VACCINE QUEST

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## The Vaccine Quest

Last year, the search for a vaccine for COVID-19 got underway worldwide, including here in Singapore at the Duke-NUS Emerging Infectious Diseases Programme.

The process is part detective work, part onerous research, part trial-and-error, with many moments of trepidation and some moments of triumph too. And the work isn't over, even as some vaccines get approval and are being rolled out.

This programme tells the story of how vaccines are developed and addresses some of the facts and fictions, the issues and the collaborative efforts. Following closely the Singapore team, it will also incorporate the stories of some of the doctors and researchers working to save the lives of millions.

去年，全世界各地都在寻找新冠病毒疫苗，其中当然也包括杜克-新加坡国立大学医学院新发传染病项目团队。

寻找疫苗的过程中，有侦查，有严苛的研究，有反复的试验，当中也有许多战战兢兢的时刻，及一些胜利的欢愉。但是使命仍未完成，虽然有些疫苗已经获得批准并正式推出。

节目讲述新加坡团队在开发疫苗的过程中、如何应对事实与虚构、解决问题和在合作方面作出努力。节目也紧随他们的步伐，收录那些致力于拯救百万人性命的医生和研究人员的故事。

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## Episode 1

A Singapore-based team at Duke-NUS Medical School have spent the last year working on a COVID-19 vaccine. How close are they to producing one and will it help end the pandemic?

Duke-NUS Medical School in Singapore and San Diego-based Arcturus Therapeutics have partnered to develop a COVID-19 vaccine. It is a self-replicating mRNA vaccine. So while the mRNA technology is similar to vaccines from Pfizer-BioNTech and Moderna, this vaccine requires a lower dose.

From pre-clinical trial to animal testing and finally to human trials, follow the whole process of vaccine development to see how COVID-19 vaccines are being produced at record speeds. Meet the scientists on the frontlines of the war against the deadly coronavirus that has claimed millions of lives around the world.

## Episode 2

Human trials have started in Singapore and the Duke-NUS team is one step closer to producing a viable COVID-19 vaccine. However other researchers in other parts of the world are ahead in the race.

As the world waits with bated breath for a possible end to the pandemic, is a viable COVID-19 vaccine the answer? But creating a viable vaccine is just the first step; producing enough for everyone is a different mountain to climb. As Pfizer-BioNTech, Moderna and other first-generation vaccines become available, what happens to the ones that are a step behind?

Meanwhile, vaccine hesitancy and an ever-growing anti-vaccine movement could threaten to derail our path towards herd immunity through vaccination. Could this lead to prolonging the coronavirus pandemic?