

Whole inactivated COVID-19 vaccines: effect on adult symptomatic-COVID-19 infection

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Editorial

Recently, a large phase-III-clinical trial on persons with age of 18 years or above, conducted by Bharat Biotech International Limited, “COVAXIN®” (BBV152), a whole virus inactivated corona virus vaccine demonstrated that two doses of its vaccine with an interval of 4 weeks of administration had 78 % of efficacy against any COVID-19 (live SARS-CoV-2) severity and 93 % of efficacy against severe COVID-19 after 14 days or more after the second dose administration.¹ Whereas vaccine efficacy was 79 % in adults with age of 60 years or below, and 68 % in those with age of 60 years or above.¹ On the median of follow-up of 99 days, the vaccine efficacy in persons with asymptomatic COVID-19 infection was 64 %.¹ A recent study on effect of two whole inactivated COVID-19 vaccines (two intramuscular injections, 21 days apart) among adults with symptomatic COVID-19 infection revealed that COVID-19 vaccine with 5 µg/dose (n = 13,459) and vaccine with 4 µg/dose (n = 13,465) had the vaccine efficacy of 72.8 % and 78.1 %, respectively, compared with control group (n = 13,458) of 95 % (77 days of median duration), whereas the adverse reactions at 7 days after each injection were around 41.7 % to 46.5 % of the study participants.²

In conclusion, these two whole inactivated COVID-19 vaccines could decrease the risk of symptomatic COVID-19 infection among adults, whereas the use of COVAXIN® in adults with age of 18 years or above.

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Attapon Cheepsattayakorn,^{1,2}
Ruangrong Cheepsattayakorn,³ Porntep
Siriwanarangsun¹

¹Faculty of Medicine, Western University, Thailand

²10th Zonal Tuberculosis and Chest Disease Center, Thailand

³Department of Pathology, Chiang Mai University, Thailand

Correspondence: Attapon Cheepsattayakorn, 10th Zonal Tuberculosis and Chest Disease Center, 143 Sridornchai Road Changklan Muang Chiang Mai 50100 Thailand, Tel 66 53 140767; 66 53 276364, Fax 66 53 140773; 66 53 273590, Email Attapon1958@gmail.com

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Conflict of interest

There are no conflicting interests declared by the authors.

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