EUROPEAN MEDICINES AGENCY
SCIENCE MEDICINES HEALTH

Marcel de Graaff MEP
European Parliament
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Email: [redacted]

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European Medicines Agency

Dear Honourable Members of Parliament Marcel de Graaff, [redacted]

Thank you for your letter of 4 October 2023 in which you call for the suspension of the marketing authorisations of the mRNA COVID-19 vaccines Comirnaty and Spikevax.

The European Medicines Agency is committed to protecting public health by conducting thorough scientific assessments of medicinal products for the EU. We are equally dedicated to ensuring that the public and their representatives in the European Parliament are informed of the reasons why their medicines are authorised and of the measures we take to monitor them once they are available.

We should also emphasise that EMA focuses mainly on one aspect of EU health policy, namely the authorisation and monitoring of medicines and vaccines. When our scientific committees issue recommendations, other bodies, such as the European Commission, the European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control (ECDC) and national health and vaccination authorities can consider them as they develop immunisation policies to protect the public.

Please find below direct responses to the questions you raise in your letter.

1. The authorised indications

   You state that based on the authorised indications, the vaccines 'should only be administered to individuals who seek personal protection, and they are not authorised for the purpose of reducing transmission or infection rates (transmission control)'. You also state that the authorised indication does not align with uses promoted by 'pharmaceutical companies, politicians, and health professionals'.

   You are indeed correct to point out that COVID-19 vaccines have not been authorised for preventing transmission from one person to another. The indications are for protecting the vaccinated individuals only.

   The product information for COVID-19 vaccines clearly states that the vaccines are for active immunisation to prevent COVID-19. In addition, EMA's assessment reports on the authorisation of the vaccines note the lack of data on transmissibility.

EMA will continue to be transparent about the approved uses of COVID-19 vaccines and identify areas where we need to tackle misconceptions.