



# Talking COVID Vaccines

Brendan Camellato

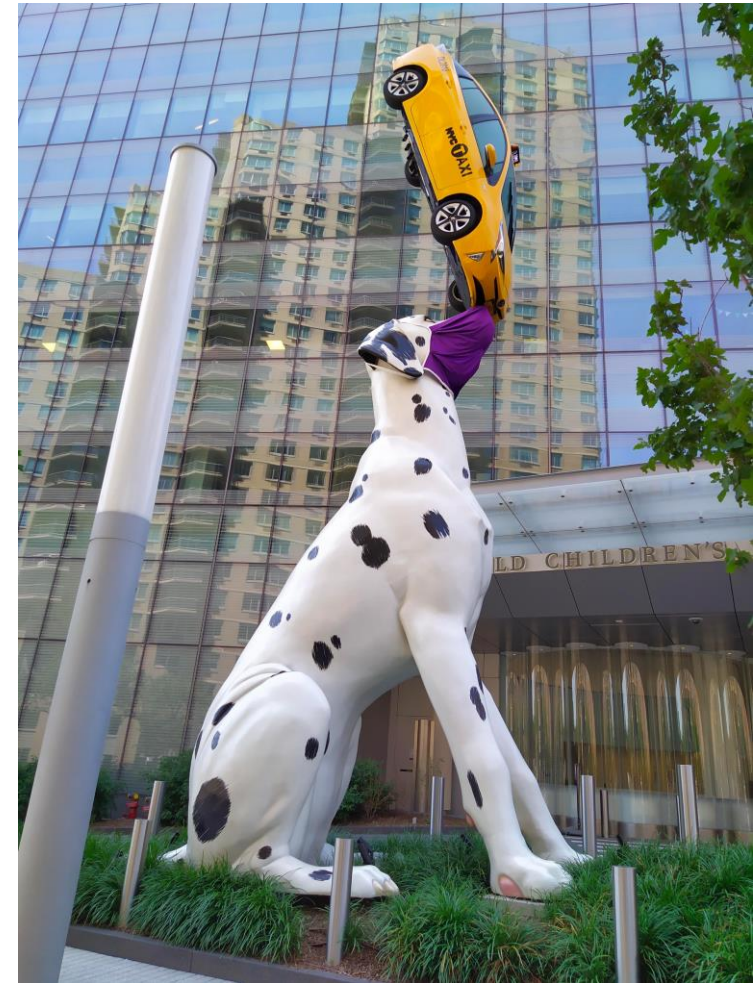
PhD student in molecular biology

NYU Langone Health

# Brendan Camellato (BSc, MSc)

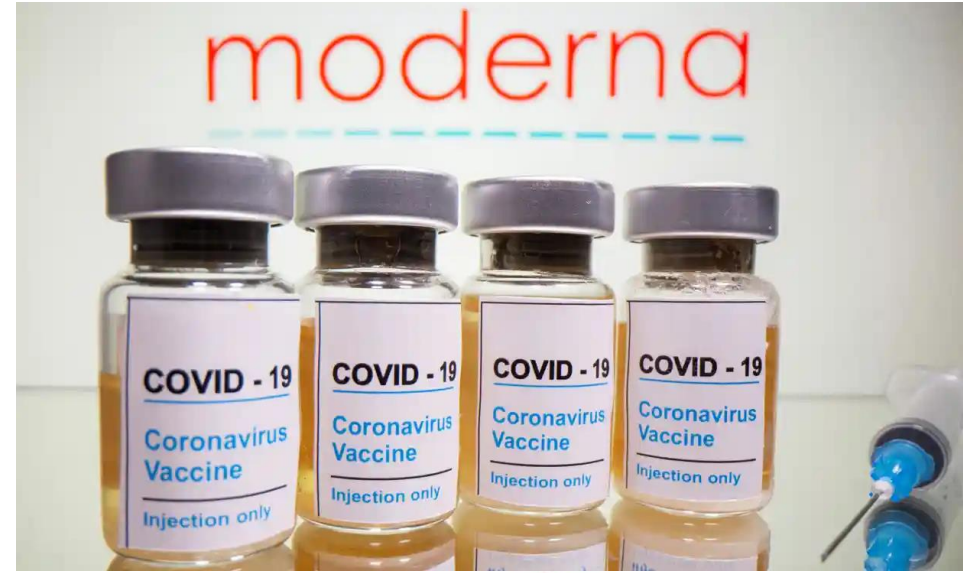
PhD Student at NYU Langone Health

(Pfizer COVID vaccine recipient – May 13 2020)

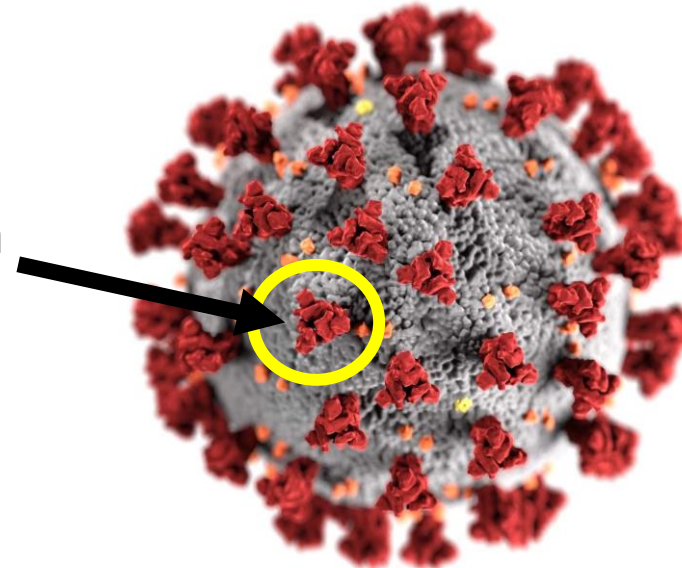




# Currently approved vaccines



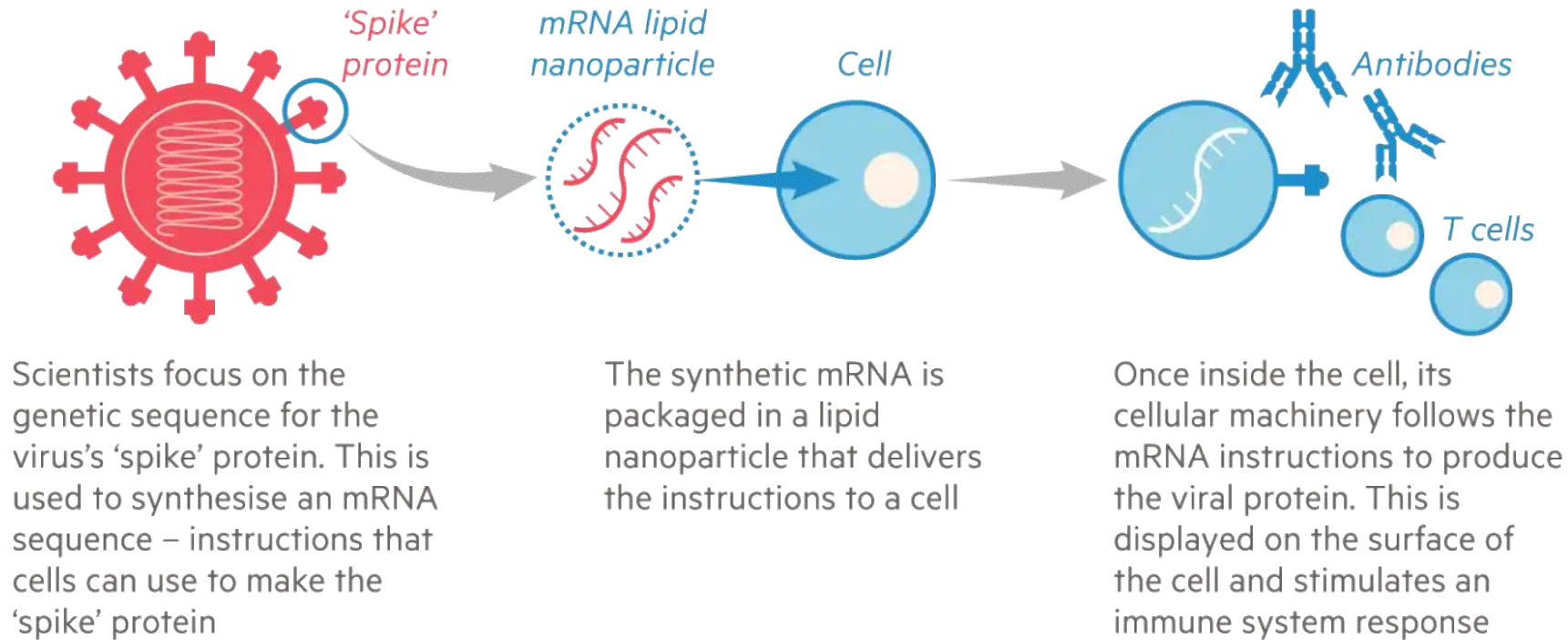
Both use mRNA for the coronavirus spike protein



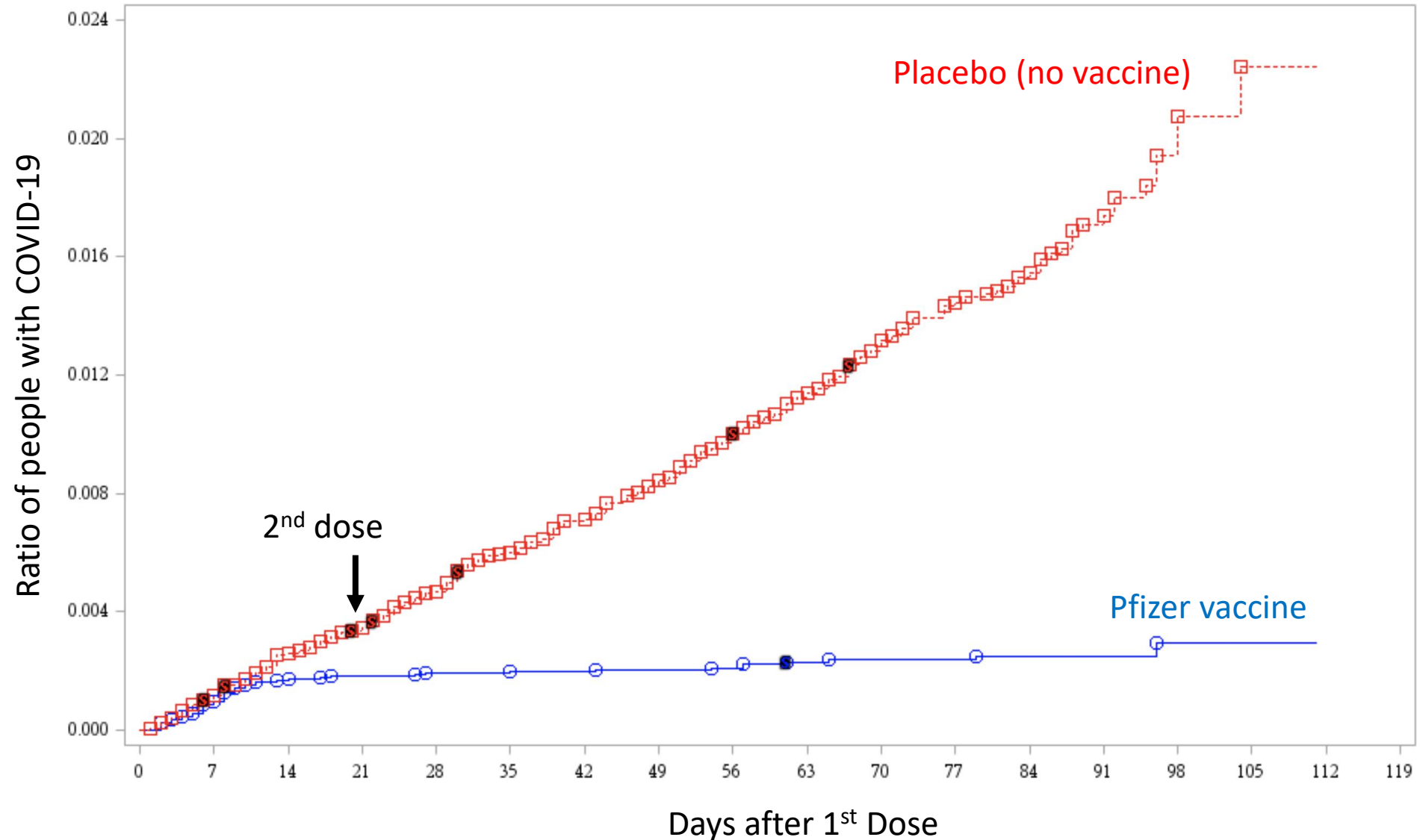
# How do mRNA vaccines work?

## How the Pfizer-BioNTech vaccine works

mRNA vaccines give the immune system genetic instructions to recognise the virus

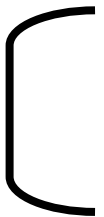


# How well do the vaccines work?



The Moderna vaccine works just as well!

# Vaccine side effects

- Sore shoulder + arm
  - Redness, swelling
  - Tiredness
  - Headache
  - Fever
  - Chills
  - Muscle, joint aches
- Mainly after 2<sup>nd</sup> dose
- 

(I had all of these when I got the vaccine, I was okay after a day)

# Who should get the vaccine?

**EVERYONE**

Except:

- Children under 16

Talk to your doctor if:

- You have a history of severe allergic reactions to vaccines
- You are currently pregnant or breastfeeding

# Who can get a vaccine right now?

## Phase 1a

- Health care workers
- Residents and staff in certain group living facilities

## Phase 1b

- Anyone 65 and older
- Grocery workers
- First responders and support staff
- Corrections workers
- People working in schools, colleges, child care, early intervention
- Public transit workers
- Homeless shelters
- Other residential programs and supportive housing

New York State COVID-19 hotline: **888-364-3065**

<https://www1.nyc.gov/site/doh/covid/covid-19-vaccine-eligibility.page>



# Frequently asked questions

**Q:** Can I get COVID from the vaccine?

**A:** NO! The vaccine only has instructions for one part of the virus, not the whole thing!

# Frequently asked questions

**Q:** The vaccine was developed too fast, should I trust it?

**A:** YES! These mRNA vaccines are based on decades of research. The vaccines have also undergone strict clinical trials and were shown to be very **safe** and **effective**!

# Frequently asked questions

**Q:** Can I still transmit the coronavirus if I'm vaccinated?

**A:** We still don't know. Keep wearing a mask and social distancing, even after getting the vaccine!

# We're still in the middle of a pandemic...



@NYGovCuomo

...but we're getting close to the end!

- People are getting vaccinated!
- New vaccines are coming (one might require only 1 dose)!



# Questions?

**All in favor  
of a COVID-19  
vaccine, raise  
your arm.**

