

FDA Approves Pfizer Vaccine, Clears Path for 'Epic Vaccination Campaign'

Late Friday evening, the FDA approved the widespread use of Pfizer's coronavirus vaccine in a move that could mark the beginning of the end of the pandemic.

It comes after a preliminary U.S. government advisory panel endorsed it in a 17-4 vote with one abstention over a Zoom call on Thursday. The experts concluded that the vaccine appears safe and effective for emergency use in adults and teenagers 16 and over.

President Trump's Operation Warp Speed yielded impressive vaccine results in record time.

"I don't think you would have found a scientist on this planet that would have predicted this 11 months ago," said Dr. Paul Offit, a vaccine expert at Children's Hospital of Philadelphia who advises the FDA.

The FDA's final endorsement opens the door for an epic vaccination campaign against the virus that has killed nearly 300,000 Americans.

"We really want to treat this vaccine as the liquid gold that it is because it's really the only tool that we have right now in our toolbox to cure this disease," said Susan Mashni, vice president of pharmacy for the Mount Sinai Health System.

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