

Pfizer Launches Final Study for COVID Drug that's Suspiciously Similar to 'Horse Paste'

By [Zero Hedge](#)

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Another piece US anti-Ivermectin puzzle may have emerged. In late September, Pfizer announced that it's launching an accelerated Phase 2/3 trial for a COVID prophylactic pill designed to ward off COVID in those may have come in contact with the disease.

Coincidentally (or not), Pfizer's drug shares at least one mechanism of action as Ivermectin - an anti-parasitic used in humans for decades, which functions as a [protease inhibitor](#) against Covid-19, which researchers speculate "could be the biophysical basis behind its antiviral efficiency."

Lo and behold, Pfizer's new drug - which some have jokingly dubbed "Pfizermectin," is described by the pharmaceutical giant as a "potent protease inhibitor."

NEWS / Pfizer Initiates Phase 1 Study of Novel Oral Antiviral Therapeutic Agent Against SARS-CoV-2

PFIZER INITIATES PHASE 1 STUDY OF NOVEL ORAL ANTIVIRAL THERAPEUTIC AGENT AGAINST SARS-COV-2

Tuesday, March 23, 2021 - 11:00am

- In-vitro studies conducted to date show that the clinical candidate PF-07321332 is a potent **protease inhibitor** with potent anti-viral activity against SARS-CoV-2
- This is the first orally administered coronavirus-specific investigational protease inhibitor to be evaluated in clinical studies, and follows Pfizer's intravenously administered investigational **protease inhibitor**, which is currently being evaluated in a Phase 1b multi-dose study in hospitalized clinical trial participants with COVID-19

<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC7996102/>

NEW YORK-- Pfizer Inc. (NYSE: PFE) today announced that it has initiated a Phase 1 clinical trial of its novel oral antiviral therapeutic agent, PF-07321332, against SARS-CoV-2. The trial is being conducted at the University of Maryland Medical Center in Baltimore, Maryland. The trial is designed to evaluate the safety and tolerability of the drug in healthy volunteers. The drug is a novel oral antiviral therapeutic agent that is designed to inhibit the replication of SARS-CoV-2. The drug is a novel oral antiviral therapeutic agent that is designed to inhibit the replication of SARS-CoV-2. The drug is a novel oral antiviral therapeutic agent that is designed to inhibit the replication of SARS-CoV-2.

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Exploring the binding efficacy of ivermectin against the key proteins of SARS-CoV-2 pathogenesis: an *in silico* approach

Abhiyan Choudhury,^{1,2} Nabarun C. Das,^{1,2} Ritvik Patra,^{1,2} Manojit Bhattacharya,² Pratik Ghosh,³ Ritban C. Patra,³ and Suprabhat Mukherjee^{1,3}

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Associated Data

Supplementary Materials

Abstract

Go to: (C)

Aim: COVID-19 is currently the biggest threat to mankind. Recently, ivermectin (a US FDA-approved antiparasitic drug) has been explored as an anti-SARS-CoV-2 agent. Herein, we have studied the possible mechanism of action of ivermectin using *in silico* approaches. **Materials & methods:** Interaction of ivermectin against the key proteins involved in SARS-CoV-2 pathogenesis were investigated through molecular docking and molecular dynamic simulation. **Results:** Ivermectin was found as a blocker of viral **replicase, protease and human TMPRSS2**, which could be the biophysical basis behind its antiviral efficiency. The antiviral action and ADMET profile of ivermectin was on par with the currently used anticoronavirus drugs such as hydroxychloroquine and remdesivir. **Conclusion:** Our study enlightens the candidature of ivermectin as an effective drug for treating COVID-19.

Keywords: ivermectin, molecular docking, protease, replicase, SARS-CoV-2, spike glycoprotein

As Zero Hedge readers might recognize, that's exactly what ivermectin, the prophylactic used for a number of reasons in both humans and animals, does. And unlike Pfizer's experimental drug, ivermectin already may [have saved hundreds of thousands of lives from India to Brazil](#).

We aren't the only ones to have put this together, as twitter users have commented on the similarities. The timing – which coincides with the whole “[horse dewormer](#)” smear campaign – just seems odd.

The similarity between Pfizer's upcoming offering and Ivermectin has not gone unnoticed.

In other news, Pfizer is testing Ivermectin, now renamed PF-07321332, to help with Covid. They have done this so they can make this drug more expensive than Ivermectin, despite the fact, they are the same drug.....

/sarcasm. <https://t.co/D1besDEJ2d>

— Krena (@WGrrrl) [September 27, 2021](#)

After a crafted "horse dewormer" smear campaigns on a 35yr old safe, effective, off-label drug, i.e. Ivermectin, media brazenly started to praise unproven pills for which Pfizer & Merck are pushing EUA following that of experimental vaccines. <https://t.co/fhopikcPVP>

— Kwanghoon Seok (@khoonseok) [September 25, 2021](#)

But Pfizer, Moderna and their executives have already shown the world with their actions that they see COVID as “manna from heaven” – to quote legendary defense attorney Johnny Cochran – a new ‘profit center’ that will keep shareholders in butter brickle, especially since

the companies have quietly raised prices on their vaccines.

But since a large portion of the American market has rejected the vaccines, Pfizer needs another medication that can be used to treat them as well (otherwise, the company is missing out on nearly one-third of the American market).

According to [Reuters](#), Pfizer said on Monday it has “started a large study testing its investigational oral antiviral drug for the prevention of COVID-19 infection among those who have been exposed to the virus.”

Pfizer isn't the only drugmaker hoping to develop a prophylactic treatment for COVID exposure (especially since variants raise the possibility that vaccinations just might not be enough). Merck and Swiss rival Roche have been racing to develop an easy-to-administer antiviral pill of their own – so the clock is ticking for Pfizer.

[Reuters](#) explains that the mid-to-late-stage study will test the Pfizer drug's – known as PF-07321332 ability to prevent COVID symptoms in up to 2,660 healthy adult participants aged 18 and older who live in the same household as an individual with a confirmed symptomatic COVID infection.

The drug, designed to block the activity of a key enzyme needed for the coronavirus to multiply inside the human body, will be administered along with a low dose of ritonavir, an older medication widely used in combination treatments for HIV infection.

At present, Gilead's much-hyped but not-all-that-effective IV drug remdesivir is the only approved antiviral treatment for COVID in the US. Several antibody cocktails have also been widely tested and trials are ongoing – including Merck and partner Ridgeback Biotherapeutics, which recently launched a late-stage trial for experimental COVID prophylactic, molnupiravir.

In the mean time, concerned citizens should [keep an eye out for any new information about Ivermectin](#) – *if you can find it*.

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