

WHO Postpones the Delivery of "AstraZeneca" Vaccine to Syria

By <u>Khaled Iskef</u> Global Research, March 30, 2021 Region: <u>Middle East & North Africa</u> Theme: <u>Intelligence</u>, <u>Science and Medicine</u> In-depth Report: <u>SYRIA</u>

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The World Health Organization (WHO) has postponed the <u>delivery</u> of the "<u>AstraZeneca</u>" vaccine against the novel coronavirus to Syria, after it was supposed to arrive during this March.

The WHO representative in Syria, Akjamal Majtimova, stated that the distribution of the vaccine "depends on its availability in the global market, as well as the ability to manufacture, purchase, and invest in delivery."

Majtimova added:

"It is possible that the distribution of the vaccine will need to be modified in light of the difficulty to anticipate circumstances and the constantly evolving variables. It is expected that Syria will receive the first batch of vaccines when the manufacturer confirms their availability."

Regarding concerns about receiving the "AstraZeneca" vaccine after / 15 / European countries suspended the vaccination process due to the emergence of serious <u>blood</u> problems such as blood clotting in some of those who received it, the WHO representative stated that the organization "suggests that the AstraZeneca vaccine will continue to receive benefits- positive risks file, that is, its benefits are greater than its risks, with enormous potential for preventing infection and reducing deaths all over the world."

Regarding the national plan to spread the vaccine, Majtimova <u>said</u> that it will be first by vaccinating 3% of the population, being "health workers who are in daily contact with pandemic patients," and then 17% of the elderly and those with chronic diseases.

Despite announcing the late arrival of the "AstraZenica" vaccine in Syria, the country is <u>close</u> to the arrival of the Russian "Sputnik V" vaccine against Coronavirus, as batches are scheduled to arrive during the next month, noting that batches of Chinese vaccine have already arrived Syria and they were allocated at the time to vaccinate medical personnel who are in contact with virus patients.

The number of people infected with Coronavirus in Syria is <u>18201</u> cases, including 1216

deaths and 12142 recoveries, bearing in mind that the total number of Coronavirus infections worldwide approached 127 million.

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