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## Novavax Deploys Its Nanoparticle Vaccine Technology to Fight Coronavirus

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Novavax, Inc., a clinical-stage biotechnology company that produces innovative vaccines to prevent a broad spectrum of infectious diseases with the slogan of “creating tomorrow's vaccines today,” has lately initiated the development of a vaccine candidate for the novel coronavirus relying on its proprietary recombinant nanoparticle vaccine technology and the genetic sequence of this newly emerged virus.

[Novavax, Inc.](#), a late-stage biotechnology company developing next-generation vaccines for serious infectious diseases, today announced progress in its efforts to develop a novel vaccine to protect against coronavirus disease COVID-19. Novavax has produced and is currently assessing multiple nanoparticle vaccine candidates in animal models prior to identifying an optimal candidate for human testing, which is expected to begin by the end of spring 2020.

Novavax created the COVID-19 vaccine candidates using its proprietary recombinant protein nanoparticle technology platform to generate antigens derived from the coronavirus spike (S) protein. Novavax expects to utilize its proprietary [Matrix-M™ adjuvant](#) with its COVID-19 vaccine candidate to enhance immune responses.

“Our previous experience working with other corona viruses, including both MERS and SARS, allowed us to mobilize quickly against COVID-19 and successfully complete the critical preliminary steps to engineer viable vaccine candidates,” said Stanley C. Erck, President and Chief Executive Officer of Novavax. “Now that the protein has been expressed stably in our baculovirus system, we aim to identify the optimal candidate and scale up production of sufficient vaccine for preliminary clinical trials. We are now well-positioned to advance the COVID-19 vaccine candidate to Phase I clinical testing in May or June.”

Novavax has a proven track record of rapid innovative vaccine development against novel emerging viruses, including efforts to develop vaccines against previous coronaviruses,

Middle East Respiratory Syndrome (MERS-CoV), and Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS). In both cases, Novavax' candidate vaccines demonstrated strong immunogenicity and 100% protection against virus challenge in preclinical testing. Novavax also developed a safe and clinically immunogenic Ebola vaccine candidate that proved effective in primate studies.

Read the [original article](#) on GlobeNewswire.