

WORKING TOWARD EQUITABLE ACCESS TO VACCINES AND VACCINE RESEARCH

PANEL DISCUSSION

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Vaccine Design and Equity

- Immune responses and side effects to vaccines are influenced by ethnicity, sex, age, environment and genetic factors
- Some groups at higher risk might be excluded or under-enrolled in early trials (e.g., pregnant women, children, ethnic groups, patients with complex medical issues)
- Yet, vaccines are ‘one-size-fits-all’
 - Same delivery, same dose for everyone
 - Increased risk to some groups who weren’t tested or may have underlying vulnerabilities

Vaccine Design and Equity

Please briefly describe an example from your own practice or research where a 'one-size-fits--all' vaccine design might actually contribute to research inequities, risks, or other ethical dilemmas?



Challenges to Inclusivity in Vaccine Trials

If you were asked as an expert in your field to determine the best study population for a vaccine trial in your specialty area, what would your two biggest challenges be to ensuring the most equitable *inclusion and exclusion criteria* were used for the trial?

Questions and Comments from Conference Participants

At any stage in the vaccine process, how could collaborations between patients, medical providers, scientists, and communities help reduce barriers, inequities, or vaccine hesitancy?

Participants: please share your thoughts with the panel or ask a related question.