

Claimed pioneer of mRNA technology files patent infringement lawsuit against BioNTech

CureVac NV, a global biopharmaceutical company developing a new class of transformative medicines based on messenger ribonucleic acid (mRNA), announced that it has moved to assert its intellectual property rights, accumulated over more than two decades of pioneering work in mRNA technology, which contributed to Covid-19 vaccine development.



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CureVac has filed a lawsuit in the German Regional Court in Düsseldorf against BioNTech SE and two of its subsidiaries, seeking fair compensation for infringement of a portfolio of CureVac's intellectual property rights utilised in the manufacture and sale of Comirnaty®, BioNTech and Pfizer's mRNA Covid-19 vaccine.

CureVac does not seek an injunction nor intend to take legal action that impedes the production, sale or distribution of Comirnaty® by BioNTech and its partner Pfizer.

The CureVac intellectual property portfolio protects multiple inventions that are considered essential to the design and development of BioNTech's Sars' CoV-2 mRNA vaccine, among others.

These relate to the engineering of mRNA molecules, including sequence modifications to increase stability and enhance protein expression, as well as mRNA vaccine formulations specific to Sars CoV-2 vaccines.



Pfizer and BioNTech announce FDA approval of their Covid-19 vaccine for young teens

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Over the last 22 years, CureVac developed proprietary foundational technology related to mRNA design, delivery and manufacturing that materially contributed to the development of safe and efficacious Covid-19 vaccines.

CureVac considers the rapid development of these vaccines a tremendous achievement, with unprecedented positive impact for global public health. This achievement is based on decades of scientific research and innovation, supported by CureVac as the earliest pioneer in mRNA technology.

"Accordingly, CureVac's intellectual property rights need to be acknowledged and respected in the form of a fair compensation to reinvest into the further advancement of mRNA technology and the ongoing development of new classes of life-saving medicines," it's media statement said.

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