DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Food and Drug Administration

[Docket No. FDA-2021-N-0856]

Vaccines and Related Biological Products Advisory Committee; Notice of Meeting;
Establishment of a Public Docket; Request for Comments

AGENCY: Food and Drug Administration, HHS.

ACTION: Notice; establishment of a public docket; request for comments.

SUMMARY: The Food and Drug Administration (FDA or Agency) announces a forthcoming public advisory committee meeting of the Vaccines and Related Biological Products Advisory Committee (VRBPAC). The general function of the committee is to provide advice and recommendations to FDA on regulatory issues. Members will participate via teleconference. At least one portion of the meeting will be closed to the public. FDA is establishing a docket for public comment on this document.

DATES: The meeting will be held on September 30, 2021, from 8:30 a.m. to 3:40 p.m. Eastern Time.

ADDRESSES: Please note that due to the impact of this COVID-19 pandemic, all meeting participants will be joining this advisory committee meeting via an online teleconferencing platform. The online web conference meeting will be available at the following link on the day of the meeting: https://youtu.be/VeknygU5MKM.

FDA is establishing a docket for public comment on this meeting. The docket number is FDA-2021-N-0856. The docket will close on September 29, 2021. Submit either electronic or written comments on this public meeting by September 29, 2021. Please note that late, untimely filed comments will not be considered. Electronic comments must be submitted on or before September 29, 2021. The https://www.regulations.gov electronic filing system will accept comments until 11:59 p.m. Eastern Time at the end of September 29, 2021. Comments received
by mail/hand delivery/courier (for written/paper submissions) will be considered timely if they are postmarked or the delivery service acceptance receipt is on or before that date.

Comments received on or before September 23, 2021, will be provided to the committee. Comments received after September 23, 2021, and by September 29, 2021, will be taken into consideration by FDA. In the event that the meeting is canceled, FDA will continue to evaluate any relevant applications or information, and consider any comments submitted to the docket, as appropriate.

You may submit comments as follows:

**Electronic Submissions**

Submit electronic comments in the following way:

- Federal eRulemaking Portal: https://www.regulations.gov. Follow the instructions for submitting comments. Comments submitted electronically, including attachments, to https://www.regulations.gov will be posted to the docket unchanged. Because your comment will be made public, you are solely responsible for ensuring that your comment does not include any confidential information that you or a third party may not wish to be posted, such as medical information, your or anyone else’s Social Security number, or confidential business information, such as a manufacturing process. Please note that if you include your name, contact information, or other information that identifies you in the body of your comments, that information will be posted on https://www.regulations.gov

- If you want to submit a comment with confidential information that you do not wish to be made available to the public, submit the comment as a written/paper submission and in the manner detailed (see “Written/Paper Submissions” and “Instructions”).

**Written/Paper Submissions**

Submit written/paper submissions as follows:
• Mail/Hand delivery/Courier (for written/paper submissions): Dockets Management Staff (HFA-305), Food and Drug Administration, 5630 Fishers Lane, Rm. 1061, Rockville, MD 20852.

• For written/paper comments submitted to the Dockets Management Staff, FDA will post your comment, as well as any attachments, except for information submitted, marked and identified, as confidential, if submitted as detailed in “Instructions.”

Instructions: All submissions received must include the Docket No. FDA-2021-N-0856 for “Vaccines and Related Biological Products; Notice of Meeting; Establishment of a Public Docket; Request for Comments.” Received comments, those filed in a timely manner (see ADDRESSES), will be placed in the docket and, except for those submitted as “Confidential Submissions,” publicly viewable at https://www.regulations.gov or at the Dockets Management Staff between 9 a.m. and 4 p.m., Monday through Friday, 240-402-7500.

• Confidential Submissions--To submit a comment with confidential information that you do not wish to be made publicly available, submit your comments only as a written/paper submission. You should submit two copies total. One copy will include the information you claim to be confidential with a heading or cover note that states “THIS DOCUMENT CONTAINS CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION.” FDA will review this copy, including the claimed confidential information, in its consideration of comments. The second copy, which will have the claimed confidential information redacted/blacked out, will be available for public viewing and posted on https://www.regulations.gov. Submit both copies to the Dockets Management Staff. If you do not wish your name and contact information be made publicly available, you can provide this information on the cover sheet and not in the body of your comments and you must identify the information as “confidential.” Any information marked as “confidential” will not be disclosed except in accordance with 21 CFR 10.20 and other applicable disclosure law. For more information about FDA’s posting of comments to public dockets, see 80 FR 56469,
September 18, 2015, or access the information at:

Docket: For access to the docket to read background documents or the electronic and written/paper comments received, go to https://www.regulations.gov and insert the docket number, found in brackets in the heading of this document, into the “Search” box and follow the prompts and/or go to the Dockets Management Staff, 5630 Fishers Lane, Rm. 1061, Rockville, MD 20852, 240-402-7500.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Kathleen Hayes or Monique Hill, Center for Biologics Evaluation and Research, Food and Drug Administration, 10903 New Hampshire Ave., Bldg. 71, Rm. 6307C, Silver Spring, MD 20993-0002, 301-796-7864, Kathleen.Hayes@fda.hhs.gov, or 301-796-4620, Monique.Hill@fda.hhs.gov, respectively; or FDA Advisory Committee Information Line, 1-800-741-8138 (301-443-0572 in the Washington, DC area). A notice in the Federal Register about last minute modifications that impact a previously announced advisory committee meeting cannot always be published quickly enough to provide timely notice. Therefore, you should always check the Agency’s website at https://www.fda.gov/AdvisoryCommittees/default.htm and scroll down to the appropriate advisory committee meeting link, or call the advisory committee information line to learn about possible modifications before coming to the meeting.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Agenda: The meeting presentations will be heard, viewed, captioned, and recorded through an online teleconferencing platform. On September 30, 2021, under Topic I, the committee will meet in open session to hear an overview of the research programs in the Laboratory of Bacterial Polysaccharides, Division of Bacterial, Parasitic, and Allergenic Products, Office of Vaccines Research and Review, and the Center for Biologics Evaluation and Research (CBER). Also, on September 30, 2021, under Topic II, CBER’s VRBPAC will meet in
open session to discuss and make recommendations on the selection of strains to be included in
the influenza virus vaccines for the 2021 to 2022 southern hemisphere influenza season.

FDA intends to make background material available to the public no later than 2 business
days before the meeting. If FDA is unable to post the background material on its website prior to
the meeting, background material will be made publicly available on FDA’s website at the time
of the advisory committee meeting. Background material and the link to the online
teleconference meeting room will be available at https://www.fda.gov/advisory-
committees/advisory-committee-calendar. Scroll down to the appropriate advisory committee
meeting link. The meeting will include slide presentations with audio components to allow the
presentation of materials in a manner that most closely resembles an in-person advisory
committee meeting.

Procedure: On September 30, 2021, under Topic I, from 8:30 a.m. to 10:45 a.m. the
meeting is open to the public. On September 30, 2021, under Topic II, from 12:15 p.m. to 3:40
p.m. the meeting is open to the public. Interested persons may present data, information, or
views, orally or in writing, on issues pending before the committee. All electronic and written
submissions submitted to the Docket (see ADDRESSES) on or before September 23, 2021, will
be provided to the committee. Oral presentations from the public will be scheduled between
approximately 10:15 a.m. and 10:45 a.m. under Topic I and from 2:10 p.m. and 2:40 p.m. under
Topic II. Those individuals interested in making formal oral presentations should notify the
contact person and submit a brief statement of the general nature of the evidence or arguments
they wish to present, the names and addresses of proposed participants, and an indication of the
approximate time requested to make their presentation on or before September 15, 2021. Time
allotted for each presentation may be limited. If the number of registrants requesting to speak is
greater than can be reasonably accommodated during the scheduled open public hearing session,
FDA may conduct a lottery to determine the speakers for the scheduled open public hearing session.
The contact person will notify interested persons regarding their request to speak by September 16, 2021.

Closed Committee Deliberations: On September 30, 2021, from 10:45 a.m. to 11:45 a.m., the meeting will be closed to permit discussion where disclosure would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy (5 U.S.C. 552b(c)(6)). The recommendations of the advisory committee regarding the progress of the individual investigator’s research programs along with other information, will be discussed during this session. We believe that public discussion of these recommendations on individual scientists would constitute an unwarranted invasion of personal privacy.

For press inquiries, please contact the Office of Media Affairs at fdaoma@fda.hhs.gov or 301-796-4540.

FDA welcomes the attendance of the public at its advisory committee meetings and will make every effort to accommodate persons with disabilities. If you require accommodations due to a disability, please contact Kathleen Hayes (CBERVRBPAC@fda.hhs.gov) at least 7 days in advance of the meeting.

FDA is committed to the orderly conduct of its advisory committee meetings. Please visit our website at: https://www.fda.gov/advisory-committees/about-advisory-committees/public-conduct-during-fda-advisory-committee-meetings for procedures on public conduct during advisory committee meetings.

Notice of this meeting is given under the Federal Advisory Committee Act (5 U.S.C. app. 2).

Dated: August 18, 2021.

Lauren K. Roth,

Acting Principal Associate Commissioner for Policy.

[FR Doc. 2021-18107 Filed: 8/23/2021 8:45 am; Publication Date: 8/24/2021]