

From: Fauci, Anthony (NIH/NIAID) [E]
Sent: Mon, 3 Feb 2020 15:10:32 +0000
To: Joe Palca
Subject: RE: Coronavirus vaccine

Joe:

Thanks for the note. The has nothing to do with the validity of the test. We see this with other viruses when you look at shedding. When there is a low titer of virus, any specific site (in this case a nose or throat swab) may vary between positive and negative even though the person is clearly still infected. It could be that the virus is there in the throat at one point and cleared at another and comes back again. Alternatively, it may be that the virus is always there, but at different titers and at some points it is present below the sensitivity of the test, even though the test is in general quite sensitive.

Hope that this is helpful.

Best regards,

Tony

Anthony S. Fauci, MD
Director
National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases
Building 31, Room 7A-03
31 Center Drive, MSC 2520
National Institutes of Health
Bethesda, MD 20892-2520
Phone: (b) (6)
FAX: (301) 496-4409
E-mail: (b) (6)

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From: Joe Palca <JPalca@npr.org>
Sent: Monday, February 3, 2020 9:30 AM
To: Fauci, Anthony (NIH/NIAID) [E] (b) (6) >
Subject: FW: Coronavirus vaccine

From: Joe Palca
Sent: Monday, February 3, 2020 9:13 AM