

Flu/Covid season is upon us. Will we see a 2nd spike combined with Flu or will we see a return to something more normal? Personally, I find it hard to believe we'll see the same type of pandemic we saw last February-April as there has been much learned over the past 6-9 months. However, the risks are still present, and we must be vigilant. If you haven't gotten your flu vaccine, schedule a time to talk with your physician to see if they recommend it. A number of Covid vaccines are in a various stages of trials so perhaps we'll see something in the upcoming months that will help put the past year behind us.

----Chuck

Race for a Vaccine

Here's what you need to know.

Provided by Charles D. Vercellone, ChFC

A U.S. drug company recently said that it's in late-stage trials for its coronavirus vaccine and reported that it could be given to Americans as early as the end of the year.¹

Great news. But it seems like every few days there's a new update on a clinical trial for COVID-19. So we took the opportunity to check out the overall status for the development of a vaccine.

Much to our surprise, we learned that more than 150 vaccines are in development across the world. Hopes are high that at least one of these vaccines can be brought to market in record time to help manage the global crisis.²

In the past, it has taken 10 to 15 years to develop a vaccine that's ready for the market. The vaccine for the mumps, for example, took four years in the 1960s.²

Along with the rapid development, there has been some fear that the process may be moving along too quickly without the proper checks and balances. On September 8, nine drug companies attempted to ease those concerns, releasing a letter saying they would prioritize safety and uphold "the integrity of the scientific process" in their efforts to develop coronavirus vaccines.³

We expect that news about potential vaccines may continue to influence the financial markets. Progress on vaccines also may affect the outlook for specific industries, like travel and leisure. At least one airline company believes that a vaccine may be critical to the ongoing recovery of the aviation industry.⁴

Much like you, we're watching the developments and hoping for amazing news that may help bring an end to the coronavirus. If you are concerned about the coronavirus, we welcome the chance to speak with you.

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Citations.

1. FoxBusiness.com, September 13, 2020
2. NationalGeographic.com, September 9, 2020
3. USNews.com, September 8, 2020
4. CNBC.com, September 13, 2020

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