

## Immunization: A Preventive Care Approach

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### ABSTRACT

Vaccines, asymptomatic disease screening and lifestyle recommendations are among the preventive health interventions. These services are advised depending on personal aspects like gender, age and risk factors in order to improve health and welfare. The “U.S. Preventive Services Task Force (USPSTF, 2004)” advises doctors to test those with high syphilis infection risk. Asymptomatic persons not at increased risk for syphilis infection should not be routinely screened. The “United States Preventive Services Task Force (USPSTF)” reiterated in 2009 its advise for all pregnant women to get syphilis testing. Supported by the “American Academy of Family Physicians (AAFP, 2009)” clinical policy statement, the USPSTF has suggested screening all pregnant women and those at increased risk for syphilis. Screening at-risk people for syphilis infection can help to lower morbidity. Preventive therapy includes lifestyle recommendations, vaccinations and asymptomatic sickness detection tests. Every decade adults should have a tetanus toxoid injection, a pneumonia and pneumococcal immunization, an annual influenza booster and a herpes zoster vaccination (regardless of past infection). To help doctors make tailored patient decisions, the United States Preventive Services Task Force has developed an easily navigable website (<http://epss.ahrq.gov/ePSS/search.jsp>). Considerations of the patient's age, gender, smoking history and present sexual activity, Younger old people should be screened for blood pressure, diabetes, hyperlipidemia, obesity, alcohol abuse, colorectal cancer, osteoporosis and breast cancer in addition to receiving suitable counseling and treatment should these diseases be found. In this group, aspirin might be advised to lower their risk of cardiovascular disease. Any further advice will depend on the risk factors connected to the patient. Reduced life expectancy and increasing comorbidities call for less preventative actions for elderly people. The elderly should so avoid some preventive actions, like cancer screenings or aspirin intake to reduce cardiovascular disease risk. Without proof on preventative care, it is imperative to provide recommendations for every patient depending on their own priorities, values and beliefs.

**Keywords:** Vaccines, Disease, Preventive Therapy, Injection, Immunization

### 1. Introduction

Most people associate medical visits with disease or the existence of a specific health issue calling for attention. “Preventive health” is the term used to describe regular tests and extra medical interventions meant to help you stay healthy. Early spotting of health issues is really vital. Using techniques to stop major diseases from starting originally is one of the best ways you can safeguard your health. Unfortunately, consumption is not strong. According to a 2018 poll, barely 8% of Americans 35 years of age and beyond got the recommended preventative

treatment by their doctors. Before we go into the specifics of preventative healthcare, let us define the idea, go over the several tests and exams covered under it and look at how your family history shapes the exact tests that could be needed for you. Preventive health aims to find probable health problems before they start to show symptoms. Preventive treatment helps one to lead a longer, better life. Along with advice on smoking cessation and good diet, screenings for cancer, diabetes and heart disease are essential components of adult preventive healthcare. Essential elements of pediatric preventative healthcare include

annual tests, vaccines and condition checks including lead poisoning and autism. Along with immunizations for dangerous viruses like influenza and COVID-19, adult preventative care depends critically on screening for chronic illnesses such as diabetes and cardiovascular problems. It includes education and counseling to help you choose wisely for your general health. Your age and medical background will determine the particular tests advised for you. Adults routinely receive the following preventative tests:

- **Cancer tests:** Among the most often occurring cancers affecting men and women are colorectal, breast, cervical and prostate ones. Many cancers cannot be avoided from progressing or aggravating themselves without timely identification.
- **Diabetes, hyperlipidemia and hypertension tests:** Although they are treatable with pharmaceutical therapies and lifestyle changes, metabolic illnesses are common and these tests help in their diagnosis. Ignorance of them can cause major morbidity and early death.

Vaccines are usually connected to children; yet, adults also have to make sure they get their immunizations regularly. Adults should have a COVID-19 immunization, an annual flu shot and a booster dose should the efficiency of a childhood vaccination drop. One can get this material from a reliable source.

- **Advisory:** Guideline for Injury Prevention A reliable source might help you to control a chronic illness. Among its several uses are screening for mental health problems, encouraging a good lifestyle and helping smokers kick their habits.

## 2. History of Vaccines

People have been looking for ways to stop deadly illnesses from spreading for decades. From dangerous experiments to a worldwide immunization campaign during a major pandemic, vaccination has evolved. Research on vaccinations may provide difficult ethical conundrums; many past studies conducted for vaccine development are today judged inappropriate. Vaccines have shown to be more life-saving medical innovation than any other in human history. Scroll farther to study the last millennium and see the major impact these remarkable discoveries and achievements have had on our daily life. Derived from the smallpox virus, variolation has existed since at least the 15th century and entails the deliberate exposure of healthy people to the virus in order to avoid disease. Several accounts see these activities beginning by 200 BCE. Following her smallpox vaccination in Turkey, Lady Mary Wortley Montagu argued for her two children to be inoculated in 1721, therefore introducing the practice to Europe. Benjamin Jesty had a major breakthrough in 1774. Analyzing his theory that a person may get protection to smallpox by acquiring cowpox, a virus able to be passed from cows to people, British doctor Edward Jenner built on this finding in May 1796 by injecting 8-year-old James Phipps fluids taken from a cowpox lesion from a milkmaid. Phipps recovered completely, but suffering a localized response and sickness for several days. Two months after the first trial, Jenner vaccines Phipps with material from a human smallpox lesion in July 1796 to evaluate his immunity. Phipps stays completely healthy even though he was the first beneficiary of the smallpox immunization. Later on, the Latin word “vacca,” which means cow, was used to

produce the English word “vaccine.” Having suffered a stroke and lost two children to typhoid, Louis Pasteur successfully created the first laboratory-produced vaccine—a fowl cholera vaccination for chickens—in 1872. Louis Pasteur developed a post-exposure vaccine against rabies effectively in 1885. Opinions on the therapy vary. Pasteur had already tried and failed twice to administer the vaccination to individuals; the injection of a live organism containing a harmful agent is still an untested and maybe dangerous method. Pasteur was not a medical practitioner. Despite the related hazards, he starts a treatment plan for patient Joseph Meister of thirteen injections, each with an increasing amount of the rabies virus. Having gone through the experience, Meister eventually takes on the responsibility of guardian of Pasteur’s tomb in Paris. When Dr. Anna Wessels Williams found a specific strain of the bacterium in 1894, the progress toward a diphtheria vaccination underwent a major turn-about. With 1 in every 67 American service personnel among the projected 20–50 million deaths globally during the Spanish flu epidemic of 1918–1919, the development of an influenza vaccination became a top military priority in the United States. The US Army Medical School assessed two million doses of an influenza vaccination in 1918, but its findings were equivocal. In 1937 the 17D vaccination for yellow fever was created by Hugh Smith, Max Theiler and Eugen Haagen. Following its approval, around one million people had gotten the vaccination by 1938. Theiler is so given the Nobel Prize. Bactiologists Pearl Kendrick and Grace Eldering showed in 1939 the effectiveness of the pertussis vaccination. Vaccination dropped the disease incidence in youngsters from 15.1 per 100 to 2.3 per 100, according to researchers. First approved for military use in 1945, the flu vaccination gained civilian certification in 1946. Lead by Drs. Thomas Francis Jr. and Jonas Salk, who would later become well-known for their contributions to the polio vaccination, the research team included between 1952 and 1955 Jonas Salk developed and tested the first successful polio vaccine. Following Salk’s self-administration of the vaccination on himself and his family the year before, major trials comprising more than 1.3 million children were carried out in 1954. Albert Sabin created another polio vaccination that was licensed for use in 1960. Delivered orally either in drop form or in a sugar cube, the live-attenuated vaccination developed by Sabin used a weakened virus. Eastern Europe and the Soviet Union developed and mass-produced the oral polio vaccination (OPV). After a long and hard fight, Czechoslovakia has eradicated polio. Four years after the virus was identified, in 1969 Dr. Baruch Blumberg and microbiologist Irving Millman created the first hepatitis B vaccination. They made use of a thermally modified form of the virus. A plasma-derived vaccination was licensed for commercial release between 1981 and 1990; but, produced in 1986 and now in use is a genetically modified immunization known as DNA recombinant. Dr. Maurice Hilleman combined the mumps vaccination (1967), rubella vaccination (1969) and measles vaccine (1963) into a single injection (MMR) in 1971. Originally registered in 1978, a polysaccharide vaccination against 14 distinct strains of pneumococcal pneumonia was licensed in 1983; its effectiveness was then extended to encompass 23 strains. With whooping cough in the United States reaching an unheard-of low in 1976, the 1970s came to an end and the 1980s began. Concerns regarding the infrequent but severe adverse effects of the whole-cell vaccination progressively eclipse concerns about the illness itself as the frequency of whooping

cough decreases, therefore compromising the efficiency of the pertussis immunization and hence hampering its acceptance. David H. Smith started a firm in 1985 to provide the first vaccination against diseases brought on by Haemophilus influenza type b (Hib). Smith and Porter W. Anderson Jr. have been vaccinating together since 1968. Researchers began working on an HPV vaccination in 1995; Anne Szarewski led a group that clarified the significance of HPV in diagnosis and cervical cancer screening. While most people show no symptoms at all when infected with human papillomavirus (HPV), certain strains of the virus pose significant health risks and could cause catastrophic diseases like cervical cancer. Szarewski then takes the stage as primary researcher on the HPV bivalent vaccination. Just one year following permission, the first rotavirus vaccination was withdrawn due to worries about possible gastrointestinal side effects. Severe diarrhea in children mostly results from rotavirus. Less danger was introduced with a vaccination in 2006. Not one hundred countries will start using it till 2019. The first license for the HPV vaccination came in 2006. The elimination of cervical cancer hinges mostly on the HPV vaccine. Three African countries—Kenya, Malawi and Ghana—will begin malaria vaccine trials in 2019. Young children under five

are especially vulnerable to the severe effects of malaria; but, the RTS/S immunization can greatly lower this risk. As part of a whole reaction to the epidemic, the World Health Organization (WHO) prequalified an Ebola vaccination for use in high-risk nations. Establishing a worldwide immunization supply in 2021 guarantees reaction to pandemics, approved for use in disease prevention is the first monkeypox vaccination—a third-generation smallpox vaccination. Fast development, manufacturing and distribution of effective COVID-19 vaccinations are made possible by innovative mRNA technologies. December 2020 saw the first doses of the COVID-19 vaccination delivered, exactly one year following the first case discovery. Continues in delivering and distributing doses of the COVID-19 vaccination was shown by continents in 2021. Vaccination disparities compromise efforts to manage the epidemic: just 10 countries have given over 75% of the vaccines as of July 2021; 85% of them are in high- and upper-middle-income countries. From the time the smallpox vaccination first emerged more than 200 years ago, immunization has protected humans from sometimes fatal illnesses. As history has shown, a comprehensive and worldwide response to vaccine-preventable illnesses calls for time, money and cooperation; we also have to remain vigilant (**Table 1**).

Vaccine and other immunizing agents	Birth	1 mo	2 mos	4 mos	6 mos	9 mos	12 mos	15 mos	18 mos	19–23 mos	2–3 yrs	4–6 yrs	7–10 yrs	11–12 yrs	13–15 yrs	16 yrs	17–18 yrs			
Respiratory syncytial virus (RSV-mAb [Nirsevimab])	1 dose depending on maternal RSV vaccination status (See Notes)					1 dose (8 through 19 months; See Notes)														
Hepatitis B (HepB)	1st dose	← 2nd dose →				← 3rd dose →														
Rotavirus (RV): RV1 (2-dose series), RV5 (3-dose series)			1st dose	2nd dose	See Notes															
Diphtheria, tetanus, acellular pertussis (DTaP <7 yrs)			1st dose	2nd dose	3rd dose			← 4th dose →				5th dose								
Haemophilus influenzae type b (Hib)			1st dose	2nd dose	See Notes		← 3rd or 4th dose → (See Notes)													
Pneumococcal conjugate (PCV15, PCV20)			1st dose	2nd dose	3rd dose		← 4th dose →													
Inactivated poliovirus (IPV)			1st dose	2nd dose		← 3rd dose →					4th dose				See Notes					
COVID-19 (1vCOV-mRNA, 1vCOV-aPS)	1 or more doses of 2024–2025 vaccine (See Notes)																			
Influenza (IIV3, cclV3)						1 or 2 doses annually								1 dose annually						
OR																				
Influenza (LAIV3)											1 or 2 doses annually		1 dose annually							
Measles, mumps, rubella (MMR)					See Notes		← 1st dose →					2nd dose								
Varicella (VAR)							← 1st dose →					2nd dose								
Hepatitis A (HepA)					See Notes		2-dose series (See Notes)													
Tetanus, diphtheria, acellular pertussis (Tdap ≥7 yrs)													1 dose							
Human papillomavirus (HPV)													See Notes							
Meningococcal (MenACWY-CRM ≥2 mos, MenACWY-TT ≥2 years)			See Notes															1st dose	2nd dose	
Meningococcal B (MenB-4C, MenB-FHbp)															See Notes					
Respiratory syncytial virus vaccine (RSV [Abyryo])															Seasonal administration during pregnancy (See Notes)					
Dengue (DENACYD: 9–16 yrs)													Seropositive in endemic dengue areas (See Notes)							
Mpox																				



3. Vaccine Schedule for Children

Help medical professionals determine the necessary vaccines for different age groups; but, this talk will mostly address the immunization schedule for children (Table 2).

Table 2

Recommended Catch-up Immunization Schedule for Children and Adolescents Who Start Late or Who Are More than 1 Month Behind, United States, 2025

The table below provides catch-up schedules and minimum intervals between doses for children whose vaccinations have been delayed. A vaccine series does not need to be restarted, regardless of the time that has elapsed between doses. Use the section appropriate for the child's age. Always use this table in conjunction with Table 1 and the Notes that follow.

Vaccine	Minimum Age for Dose 1	Children age 4 months through 6 years			
		Minimum Interval Between Doses			
		Dose 1 to Dose 2	Dose 2 to Dose 3	Dose 3 to Dose 4	Dose 4 to Dose 5
Hepatitis B	Birth	4 weeks	8 weeks and at least 16 weeks after first dose minimum age for the final dose is 24 weeks		
Rotavirus	6 weeks Maximum age for first dose is 14 weeks, 6 days	4 weeks	4 weeks maximum age for final dose is 8 months, 0 days		
Diphtheria, tetanus, and acellular pertussis	6 weeks	4 weeks	4 weeks	6 months	6 months A fifth dose is not necessary if the fourth dose was administered at age 4 years or older and at least 6 months after dose 3
Haemophilus influenzae type b	6 weeks	No further doses needed if first dose was administered at age 15 months or older. 4 weeks if first dose was administered before the 1st birthday. 8 weeks (as final dose) if first dose was administered at age 12 through 14 months.	No further doses needed if previous dose was administered at age 15 months or older. 4 weeks if current age is younger than 12 months and first dose was administered at younger than age 7 months and at least 1 previous dose was PHi-2 (ActHib, Pertacet, Hibentis, Vaxelis or unknown) 8 weeks and age 12 through 59 months (as final dose) if current age is younger than 12 months and first dose was administered at age 7 through 11 months; OR if current age is 12 through 59 months and first dose was administered before the 1st birthday and second dose was administered at younger than 15 months; OR if both doses were PedvaxIM and were administered before the 1st birthday	8 weeks (as final dose) This dose is only necessary for children age 12 through 59 months who received 2 doses before the 1st birthday.	
Pneumococcal conjugate	6 weeks	No further doses needed for healthy children if first dose was administered at age 24 months or older. 4 weeks if first dose was administered before the 1st birthday 8 weeks (as final dose for healthy children) if first dose was administered at the 1st birthday or after	No further doses needed for healthy children if previous dose was administered at age 24 months or older 4 weeks if current age is younger than 12 months and previous dose was administered at <7 months old 8 weeks (as final dose for healthy children) if previous dose was administered between 7–11 months (wait until at least 12 months old); OR if current age is 12 months or older and at least 1 dose was administered before age 12 months	8 weeks (as final dose) This dose is only necessary for children age 12 through 59 months regardless of risk, or age 60 through 71 months with any risk, who received 3 doses before age 12 months.	
Inactivated poliovirus	6 weeks	4 weeks	4 weeks if current age is <4 years 6 months (as final dose) if current age is 4 years or older	6 months (minimum age 4 years for final dose)	
Measles, mumps, rubella	12 months	4 weeks			
Varicella	12 months	3 months			
Hepatitis A	12 months	6 months			
Meningococcal ACWY	2 months MenACWY-DM 2 years MenACWY-TT	8 weeks	See Notes	See Notes	
Children and adolescents age 7 through 18 years					
Meningococcal ACWY	Not applicable (N/A)	8 weeks			
Tetanus, diphtheria, tetanus, diphtheria, and acellular pertussis	7 years	4 weeks	4 weeks if first dose of D(a)P/DT was administered before the 1st birthday 6 months (as final dose) if first dose of D(a)P/DT or Tdap/Id was administered at or after the 1st birthday	6 months if first dose of D(a)P/DT was administered before the 1st birthday	
Human papillomavirus	9 years	Routine dosing intervals are recommended.			
Hepatitis A	N/A	6 months			
Hepatitis B	N/A	4 weeks	8 weeks and at least 16 weeks after first dose		
Inactivated poliovirus	N/A	4 weeks	6 months A fourth dose is not necessary if the third dose was administered at age 4 years or older and at least 6 months after the previous dose.	A fourth dose of IPV is indicated if all previous doses were administered at <4 years OR if the third dose was administered <6 months after the second dose.	
Measles, mumps, rubella	N/A	4 weeks			
Varicella	N/A	3 months if younger than age 13 years. 4 weeks if age 13 years or older			
Dengue	9 years	6 months	6 months		

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4. Vaccine Schedule for Adults

The vaccine schedule for adults is presented herewith:

Based on age and risk factors, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) advise Americans to get a flu shot annually, a booster injection of the Tdap (tetanus, diphtheria, pertussis) vaccination and possibly other vaccines including shingles, pneumococcal and COVID-19<sup>1,6</sup>. - Regular Adult Vaccinations:<sup>4,5</sup> - Influenza (flu) vaccination once a year<sup>4,5</sup>. The citizens will have to undergo the Tdap once if they missed it while they were teenagers. This vaccination guards against

diphtheria, tetanus and pertussis. Every 10 years, one booster shot of the TD vaccination-which guards against diphtheria and tetanus-should be given. Women should have the Tdap immunization throughout every pregnancy, preferably between the ages of 27 and 36 weeks. All adults should have the COVID-19 vaccination; booster doses based on age and risk factors. Recommendations for vaccines depending on age and risk factors: Those 50 years of age and above should get the shingles vaccination, Shingrix. Those 65 years of age and more, those at high risk of pneumococcal disease and those at normal risk should all get the pneumococcal vaccination. Everyone up to the

age of 59 is advised to obtain the hepatitis B vaccination; certain people 60 years of age or above should also get the vaccination based on identified risk factors. Every adult born either in 1957 or after should have the measles, mumps and rubella (MMR) vaccination. Those born in 1980 or after are advised to have the varicella vaccination, which guards against chickenpox. According to<sup>3</sup> everyone up to the age of 26 and certain adults between the ages of 27 and 45 should have the human papillomavirus (HPV) vaccination advised for young people (16-23 years old): the meningococcal B (MenB) vaccination<sup>3,7</sup>.

Anyone over the age of sixty should have the Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV) vaccination as RSV infection raises a higher risk of serious consequences like pneumonia<sup>6</sup>.

Consult Medical Advice: Based on the consultant medical advice determining the correct vaccinations for individual can be suggested by their doctors about their particular needs. Pregnant women should discuss immunizations with their doctors in the third stage. Certain medical disorders or medications may affect the advised vaccination schedule<sup>4,7</sup>.

Vacation: By seeing a travel clinic or doctor one can find out which vaccinations their trip calls for before they fly off on their great journey<sup>10</sup>. Since the CDC's recommendations on immunization are prone to change (**Table 3**), it is imperative to follow their most current ones<sup>11</sup>.

**Table 3 Recommended Child and Adolescent Immunization Schedule by Medical Indication, United States, 2025**

Always use this table in conjunction with Table 1 and the Notes that follow. Medical conditions are often not mutually exclusive. If multiple conditions are present, refer to guidance in all relevant columns. See Notes for medical conditions not listed.

Vaccine and other immunizing agents	Pregnancy	Immunocompromised (excluding HIV infection)	HIV infection CD4 percentage and count <sup>a</sup>	CSF leak or cochlear implant	Asplenia or persistent complement component deficiencies	Heart disease or chronic lung disease	Kidney failure, End-stage renal disease or on dialysis	Chronic liver disease	Diabetes
			<15% or <200/mm <sup>3</sup>	≥15% and ≥200/mm <sup>3</sup>					
RSV-mAb (nirsevimab)		2nd RSV season		1 dose depending on maternal RSV vaccination status (See Notes)		2nd RSV season for chronic lung disease (See Notes)		1 dose depending on maternal RSV vaccination status (See Notes)	
Hepatitis B									
Rotavirus		SCD <sup>b</sup>							
DTaP/Tdap	DTaP Tdap: 1 dose each pregnancy								
Hib		HSCT: 3 doses	See Notes		See Notes				
Pneumococcal									
IPV									
COVID-19		See Notes							
Influenza inactivated		Solid organ transplant: 18yrs (See Notes)							
LAIV3						Asthma, wheezing: 2-4 years <sup>c</sup>			
MMR									
VAR									
Hepatitis A									
HPV		3-dose series (See Notes)							
MenACWY									
MenB									
RSV (Abrysvo)	Seasonal administration (See Notes)								
Dengue									
Mpox	See Notes								

Recommended for all age-eligible children who lack documentation of a complete vaccination series
Not recommended for all children, but recommended for some children based on increased risk for or severe outcomes from disease
Recommended for all age-eligible children, and additional doses may be necessary based on medical condition or other indications. See Notes.
Precaution: Might be indicated if benefit of protection outweighs risk of adverse reaction
Contraindicated or not recommended  
<sup>a</sup>Vaccinate after pregnancy, if indicated
No Guidance/ Not Applicable

<sup>a</sup> For additional information regarding HIV laboratory parameters and use of live vaccines, see the General Best Practice Guidelines for Immunization, "Altered Immunocompetence," at [www.cdc.gov/vaccines/hcp/immunization-general-recommendations/immunocompetence.html](https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/hcp/immunization-general-recommendations/immunocompetence.html) and Table 4-1 (Footnote J) at [www.cdc.gov/vaccines/hcp/immunization-general-recommendations/immunocompetence.html](https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/hcp/immunization-general-recommendations/immunocompetence.html).  
<sup>b</sup> Severe Combined Immunodeficiency  
<sup>c</sup> LAIV3 contraindicated for children 2-4 years of age with asthma or wheezing during the preceding 12 months

## 5. Importance of Immunization

The three main reasons immunization - also known as vaccination - is crucial are the life it saves, the diseases it avoids and the future generations it shields.

### 5.1. Immunizations' process

- » Vaccines work by generating an immune system resistance against illness.
- » Among the various deadly diseases vaccines can protect against are measles, diphtheria, tetanus, pertussis, influenza and polio.
- » In terms of general health, vaccines are like regular exercise and good diet. Positive effects of vaccination
- » Vaccine protects community, family and self.
- » To save next generations from harmful illnesses, immunization is really vital.
- » Vaccination can stop childhood deficiencies.
- » Fighting antibiotic resistance mostly depends on immunization.
- » Value of vaccinations
- » Sometimes vaccination-preventable infections are fatal. Moreover, certain avoidable diseases are communicative.
- » When one gets sick, their parents, kids and grandkids all run danger.
- » National Vaccination Day marks annually on November 10th to emphasize the need of immunization among people.

## 6. Conclusion

Vaccination has been and always is seen as a necessary component of public health preventative actions from the beginning of time. Vaccines have drastically lower the frequency of infectious diseases such as measles, polio and influenza as they boost the immune system to identify and fight infectious diseases. The average life expectancy has risen, medical care expenses have dropped and disease outbreaks have been avoided thanks in great part to the broad use of immunization campaigns. Although vaccination has numerous advantages, many issues are stopping worldwide initiatives to raise immunization rates. These issues cover vaccination reluctance, false information and access restrictions. Solving these issues via education, legislative backing and fair distribution is essential to ensure the whole prevention of illnesses is guaranteed. Last but not least, vaccination is an essential part of preventative medicine as it shields individuals and helps the general population to acquire immunity. If we wish to guarantee long-term health security and stop further pandemics, we must first raise public understanding of vaccinations, improve their efficacy and finance research on them.

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