

For the use only of a Registered Medical Practitioner or a Hospital or a Laboratory.

SII ChAdOx1 nCoV-19 Corona Virus Vaccine (Recombinant)



1 NAME OF THE MEDICINAL PRODUCT

COVISHIELD™
ChAdOx1 nCoV-19 Corona Virus Vaccine (Recombinant)

2 QUALITATIVE AND QUANTITATIVE COMPOSITION

One dose (0.5 ml) contains:

ChAdOx1 nCoV-19 Corona Virus Vaccine (Recombinant) 5 × 10¹⁰ virus particles (vp)

*Recombinant, replication-deficient chimpanzee adenovirus vector encoding the SARS-CoV-2 Spike (S) glycoprotein. Produced in genetically modified human embryonic kidney (HEK) 293 cells. This product contains genetically modified organisms (GMOs).

For the full list of excipients, see section 6.1.

Both COVISHIELD™ (manufactured by Serum Institute of India Pvt Ltd) and COVID-19 Vaccine AstraZeneca (manufactured by AstraZeneca) are ChAdOx1 nCoV-19 Corona Virus Vaccine (Recombinant).

3 PHARMACEUTICAL FORM

Solution for injection

The solution is colourless to slightly brown, clear to slightly opaque and particle free with a pH of 6.6.

4 CLINICAL PARTICULARS

4.1 Therapeutic indications

COVISHIELD™ is indicated for active immunisation of individuals ≥18 years old for the prevention of coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19).

4.2 Posology and method of administration

Posology

COVISHIELD™ vaccination course consists of two separate doses of 0.5 ml each. The second dose should be administered 28 days after the first dose.

It is recommended that individuals who receive a first dose of COVISHIELD™ complete the vaccination course with COVISHIELD™ (see section 4.4).

Special populations

Elderly population

No dosage adjustment is required in elderly individuals ≥ 65 years of age.

Paediatric population

The safety and efficacy of COVISHIELD™ in children and adolescents (aged <18 years old) has not yet been established. No data are available.

Method of administration

COVISHIELD™ is for intramuscular (IM) injection only, preferably in the deltoid muscle.

For instructions on administration, see section 6.6.

4.3 Contraindications

Hypersensitivity to the active substance or to any of the excipients listed in section 6.1.

Patients who have experienced major venous and/or arterial thrombosis in combination with thrombocytopenia following vaccination with any COVID-19 vaccine should not receive a second dose of ChAdOx1 nCoV-19 Corona Virus Vaccine (Recombinant).

4.4 Special warnings and special precautions for use

Hypersensitivity reactions including anaphylaxis

Hypersensitivity reactions including anaphylaxis and angioedema have occurred following administration of ChAdOx1 nCoV-19 Corona Virus Vaccine (Recombinant). As with all injectable vaccines, appropriate medical treatment and supervision should always be readily available in case of an anaphylactic event following the administration of the vaccine.

A second dose of the vaccine should not be given to those who have experienced a severe hypersensitivity reaction to the first dose of ChAdOx1 nCoV-19 Corona Virus Vaccine (Recombinant).

Concurrent illness

As with other vaccines, administration of COVISHIELD™ should be postponed in individuals suffering from an acute severe febrile illness. However, the presence of a minor infection, such as cold, and/or low-grade fever should not delay vaccination.

Thromboembolism and Thrombocytopenia

A very rare and serious combination of thrombosis and thrombocytopenia including thrombosis with thrombocytopenia syndrome (TTS), in some cases accompanied by bleeding, has been observed following vaccination with ChAdOx1 nCoV-19 Corona Virus Vaccine (Recombinant). This includes cases presenting as venous thrombosis, including unusual sites such as cerebral venous sinus thrombosis, splanchnic vein thrombosis, as well as arterial thrombosis, concomitant with thrombocytopenia. The majority of the events occurred within the first 21 days following vaccination and some events had a fatal outcome.

Whilst specific risk factors for thromboembolism in combination with thrombocytopenia have not been identified, cases have occurred in patients with a personal history of thrombosis, as well as in patients with autoimmune disorders, including immune thrombocytopenia. The benefits and risks of vaccination should be considered in these patients.

Healthcare professionals should be alert to the signs and symptoms of thromboembolism and thrombocytopenia, as well as coagulopathies. Vaccinated individuals should be instructed to seek immediate medical attention if they develop symptoms such as a severe or persistent headache, blurred vision, confusion, seizures, shortness of breath, chest pain, swelling in the legs, persistent abdominal pain or unusual skin bruising and/or petechia a few days after vaccination.

Individuals diagnosed with thrombocytopenia within 21 days of vaccination with ChAdOx1 nCoV-19 Corona Virus Vaccine (Recombinant), should be actively investigated for signs of thrombosis. Similarly, individuals who present with thrombosis within 21 days of vaccination should be evaluated for thrombocytopenia.

Healthcare professionals should consult applicable guidance and, if available, seek advice from specialists (e.g., haematologists, specialists in coagulation) to diagnose and treat this condition.

Risk of bleeding with intramuscular administration

As with other intramuscular injections, COVISHIELD™ should be given with caution to individuals with thrombocytopenia, any coagulation disorder or to persons on anticoagulation therapy, because bleeding or bruising may occur following an intramuscular administration in these individuals.

Immunocompromised individuals

It is not known whether individuals with impaired immune responsiveness, including individuals receiving immunosuppressive therapy, will elicit the same response as immunocompetent individuals to the vaccine regimen.

Anxiety-related reactions

Anxiety-related reactions, including vasovagal reactions (syncope), hyperventilation or stress-related reactions may occur in association with vaccination as a psychogenic response to the needle injection. It is important that precautions are in place to avoid injury from fainting.

Duration and level of protection and limitation of effectiveness

The duration of protection has not yet been established.

Protection starts from approximately 2 weeks after the first dose of ChAdOx1 nCoV-19 Corona Virus Vaccine (Recombinant). Individuals may not be fully protected until 15 days after the second dose is administered.

As with any vaccine, vaccination with COVISHIELD™ may not protect all vaccine recipients (see section 5.1).

Interchangeability

There are no safety, immunogenicity or efficacy data to support interchangeability of ChAdOx1 nCoV-19 Corona Virus Vaccine (Recombinant) with other COVID-19 vaccines.

4.5 Interaction with other medicinal products and other forms of interaction
The safety, immunogenicity and efficacy of co-administration of ChAdOx1 nCoV-19 Corona Virus Vaccine (Recombinant) with other vaccines has not been evaluated.

4.6 Fertility, pregnancy and lactation

Fertility

Animal studies do not indicate direct or indirect harmful effects with respect to fertility.

Pregnancy

There is a limited experience with the use of ChAdOx1 nCoV-19 Corona Virus Vaccine (Recombinant) in pregnant women.

Animal studies do not indicate direct or indirect harmful effects with respect to pregnancy, embryo/fetal development, parturition or post-natal development.

Administration of COVISHIELD™ in pregnancy should only be considered when the potential benefits outweigh any potential risks for the mother and fetus.

Breastfeeding

It is unknown whether COVISHIELD™ is excreted in human milk.

4.7 Effects on ability to drive and use machines

ChAdOx1 nCoV-19 Corona Virus Vaccine (Recombinant) has no or negligible influence on the ability to drive and use machines. However, some of the adverse reactions mentioned under section 4.8 may temporarily affect the ability to drive or use machines.

4.8 Undesirable effects

Overall summary of the safety profile from the Overseas studies:

COV001, COV002, COV003, and COV005

The overall safety of COVID-19 Vaccine AstraZeneca [ChAdOx1 nCoV-19 Corona Virus Vaccine (Recombinant)] is based on an analysis of pooled data from four clinical trials (COV001, COV002, COV003, and COV005) conducted in the United Kingdom, Brazil, and South Africa. At the time of analysis, 24,244 participants ≥18 years old had been randomised and received either COVID-19 Vaccine AstraZeneca or control. Out of these, 12,282 received at least one dose of COVID-19 Vaccine AstraZeneca with a median duration of follow-up of 4.5 months.

Demographic characteristics were generally similar among participants who received COVID-19 Vaccine AstraZeneca and those who received placebo. Overall, among the participants who received COVID-19 Vaccine AstraZeneca, 89.8% were aged 18 to 64 years and 10.2% were 65 years of age or older. The majority of recipients were White (75.5%), 9.8% were Black and 3.7% were Asian; 55.8% were female and 44.2% male.

The most frequently reported adverse reactions were injection site tenderness (>60%); injection site pain, headache, fatigue (>50%); myalgia, malaise (>40%); pyrexia, chills (>30%); and arthralgia, nausea (>20%). The majority of adverse reactions were mild to moderate in severity and usually resolved within a few days of vaccination.

Following vaccination, recipients may experience multiple adverse reactions occurring at the same time (for example, myalgia/arthralgia, headache, chills, pyrexia and malaise). If a recipient reports persistent symptoms, alternative causes should be considered.

When compared with the first dose, adverse reactions reported after the second dose were milder and reported less frequently. Adverse reactions were generally milder and reported less frequently in older adults (≥65 years old).

If required, analgesic and/or anti-pyretic medicinal products (e.g. paracetamol-containing products) may be used to provide symptomatic relief from post-vaccination adverse reactions.

Adverse drug reactions

Adverse drug reactions (ADRs) are organised by MedDRA System Organ Class (SOC). Within each SOC, preferred terms are arranged by decreasing frequency and then by decreasing seriousness. Frequencies of occurrence of adverse reactions are defined as: very common (≥1/10); common (≥1/100 to <1/10); uncommon (≥1/1,000 to <1/100); rare (≥1/10,000 to <1/1,000); very rare (<1/10,000) and not known (cannot be estimated from available data).

Table 1 - Adverse drug reactions

MedDRA SOC	Frequency	Adverse reactions
Blood and lymphatic system disorders	Uncommon	Lymphadenopathy ^a
Immune system disorders	Not known	Anaphylaxis ^b
Nervous system disorders	Very common	Headache
	Uncommon	Dizziness ^a , somnolence ^a
Gastrointestinal disorders	Very common	Nausea
	Common	Vomiting, diarrhoea ^a
	Uncommon	Abdominal pain ^a
Skin and subcutaneous tissue disorders	Uncommon	Hyperhidrosis ^a , pruritis ^a , rash ^a , urticaria ^a
	Not known	Angioedema ^a
Musculoskeletal and connective tissue disorders	Very common	Myalgia, arthralgia
	Common	Pain in extremity ^a
General disorders and administration site conditions	Very common	Injection site tenderness, injection site pain, injection site warmth, injection site pruritus, fatigue, malaise, pyrexia ^a , chills
	Common	Injection site swelling, injection site erythema, influenza like illness ^a

^a Unsolicited adverse reaction

^a Identified from post-authorisation experience

^b Pyrexia includes feverishness (very common) and fever >38°C (common)

^c See further description of adverse reaction below

Very rare events of neuroinflammatory disorders have been reported following vaccination with COVID-19 Vaccine AstraZeneca. A causal relationship has not been established.

Summary of safety data from DB110C00001 (Phase 3 Study in US, Peru and Chile):

Additional safety of COVID-19 Vaccine AstraZeneca was established in a randomised phase III clinical trial conducted in the United States, Peru and Chile. At the time of analysis, 32,379 participants ≥18 years old had received at least one dose, including 21,587 in the COVID-19 Vaccine AstraZeneca group and 10,792 in the placebo group.

Demographic characteristics were generally similar among participants who received COVID-19 Vaccine AstraZeneca and those who received placebo. Overall, among the participants who received COVID-19 Vaccine AstraZeneca 77.6% were 18 to 64 years and 22.4% were ≥65 years of age. Seventy-nine percent of the participants were White, 8.3% were Black, 4.4% were Asian, 4.0% were American Indian or Alaska Native, 0.3% were Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander, 2.4% were of multiple races and 1.7% were not reported or unknown; 44.4% were female and 55.6% male.

The safety profile observed in this Phase III study was consistent with pooled analysis of data from the United Kingdom, Brazil and South Africa (COV001, COV002, COV003, and COV005). Adverse reactions seen in this Phase III trial were observed at similar frequencies as seen in the pooled analysis except the following: feverishness (pyrexia) (0.7%), arthralgia (1.1%), injection site warmth (<0.1%) and injection site pruritus (0.2%). These adverse reactions were solicited adverse events in the COV001, COV002, COV003, and COV005 studies whereas the DB110C00001 study did not include these as solicited symptoms to report.

Post-authorisation reports of influenza-like illness

Some recipients have reported chills, shivering (in some cases rigors), and increased body temperature possibly with sweating, headache (including migraine-like headaches), nausea, myalgia and malaise, starting within a day of vaccination. These effects usually last for a day or two.

If a patient reports unusually high or prolonged fever, or other symptoms, alternative causes should be considered and appropriate advice should be provided for diagnostic investigation and medical management as required.

Summary of global post-authorisation data of ChAdOx1 nCoV-19 Corona Virus Vaccine (Recombinant)

The following adverse reactions were not observed during clinical trials and have been spontaneously reported during worldwide post-authorisation use of COVID-19 Vaccine AstraZeneca.

Immune system disorders: Anaphylactic reaction (frequency: not known)

Skin and subcutaneous tissue disorders: Angioedema (frequency: not known)

Vascular disorders: A very rare and serious combination of thrombosis and thrombocytopenia including thrombosis with thrombocytopenia syndrome (TTS) in some cases accompanied by bleeding, has been observed with a frequency less than 1/100,000. This includes cases presenting as venous thrombosis, including unusual sites such as cerebral venous sinus thrombosis, splanchnic vein thrombosis, as well as arterial thrombosis, concomitant with thrombocytopenia (see section 4.4).

Blood and lymphatic system disorders: Thrombocytopenia (frequency: very rare). The majority of reported events occurred in individuals aged 18-59 years old.

Overall summary of the safety profile from the Indian study:

COVISHIELD™ was also safe and well tolerated in the phase 2/3 clinical trial in India. An interim analysis included data of all 1600 participants who received first dose [1200 in COVISHIELD™ group, 100 in COVID-19 Vaccine AstraZeneca group and 300 in Placebo group]. This interim analysis includes data collected until Day 57 visit (28 days after second dose) of all 1600 participants who received first dose and 1577 participants who received second dose.

Demographic characteristics were generally similar among participants across the three groups. Overall, among the participants who received COVISHIELD™, 87.1% were aged 18 to 59 years and 12.9% were 60 years of age or older.

Overall, the incidence of solicited reactions (injection site reactions: pain, tenderness, redness, warmth, itch, swelling and induration; and systemic reactions: fever, chills, fatigue, malaise, headache, arthralgia and myalgia), unsolicited adverse events and serious adverse events (SAEs) was comparable in the study and control groups.

Among all 1600 participants who received a first dose, a total of 19 SAEs in 19 (1.2%) participants were reported, in 15 of 1200 (1.3%; 95% CI: 0.2-2.1) participants who received COVISHIELD™, 2 (0.7%; 95% CI: 0.1-2.4) who received placebo and 2 (2.0%; 95% CI: 0.2-7.0) who received COVID-19 Vaccine AstraZeneca. These included COVID-19 (n=11),

fracture/dislocation (n=3), malaria (n=1), megaloblastic anaemia (n=1), cataract (n=1), encephalopathy (n=1) and a vocal cord cyst (n=1). All SAEs resolved without sequelae and none was assessed as related to study vaccine. There were no thromboembolic-associated or autoimmune-related SAEs reported in the study.

Table 2 - Adverse drug reactions from COVISHIELD™ study in India (Data until Day 57 visit)

MedDRA SOC	Frequency	Adverse reactions
Gastrointestinal disorders	Common	Nausea
	Uncommon	Diarrhoea
General disorders and administration site conditions	Very common	Injection site pain
	Common	Pyrexia, malaise, fatigue, pain, chills, injection site erythema, injection site swelling, injection site induration, asthma, injection site pruritus
Musculoskeletal and connective tissue disorders	Common	Myalgia, arthralgia
	Uncommon	Pain in extremity, back pain, neck pain
Nervous system disorders	Common	Headache
	Uncommon	Dizziness, somnolence
Skin and subcutaneous tissue disorders	Uncommon	Urticaria

Summary of post-authorisation data in India

The following adverse reactions were not observed during clinical trials and have been spontaneously reported during post-authorisation use of COVISHIELD™ in India.

Immune system disorders: Anaphylactic reaction (frequency: very rare), Hypersensitivity reactions (frequency: very rare).

Vascular disorders: A very rare and serious combination of thrombosis and thrombocytopenia including thrombosis with thrombocytopenia syndrome (TTS) in some cases accompanied by bleeding, has been observed with a frequency less than 1/70,000,000. This includes cases presenting as venous thrombosis, including unusual sites such as cerebral venous sinus thrombosis, as well as arterial thrombosis, concomitant with thrombocytopenia (see section 4.4).

Blood and lymphatic system disorders: Thrombocytopenia (frequency: very rare).

4.9 Overdose

Experience of overdose is limited.

There is no specific treatment for an overdose with ChAdOx1 nCoV-19 Corona Virus Vaccine (Recombinant). In the event of an overdose, the individual should be monitored and provided with symptomatic treatment as appropriate.

5 PHARMACOLOGICAL PROPERTIES

5.1 Pharmacodynamic properties

Pharmaco-therapeutic group: Vaccine, other viral vaccines, ATC code: J07B03

Mechanism of action

COVISHIELD™ is a monovalent vaccine composed of a single recombinant, replication-deficient chimpanzee adenovirus (ChAdOx1) vector encoding the S glycoprotein of SARS-CoV-2. Following administration, the S glycoprotein of SARS-CoV-2 is expressed locally stimulating neutralizing antibody and cellular immune responses.

Efficacy and immunogenicity data from the Overseas studies:

Clinical efficacy

Primary analysis of pooled data from COV001, COV002, COV003, and COV005

COVID-19 Vaccine AstraZeneca [ChAdOx1 nCoV-19 Corona Virus Vaccine (Recombinant)] has been evaluated based on pooled data from four on-going randomised, blinded, controlled trials: a Phase I/II Study, COV001 (NCT04324606), in healthy adults 18 to 55 years of age in the UK; a Phase III/II Study, COV002 (NCT0400838), in adults ≥18 years of age (including the elderly) in the UK; a Phase III Study, COV003 (ISRCTN8951424), in adults ≥18 years of age (including the elderly) in Brazil; and a Phase I/II study, COV005 (NCT0444674), in adults aged 18 to 65 years of age in South Africa.

The studies excluded participants with history of anaphylaxis or angioedema; severe and/or uncontrolled cardiovascular, gastrointestinal, liver, renal, endocrine/metabolic disease, and neurological illnesses; as well as those with immunosuppression. In studies COV001 and COV002, licensed seasonal influenza and pneumococcal vaccinations were permitted (at least 7 days before or after their study vaccine). All participants are planned to be followed for up to 12 months, for assessments of safety and efficacy against COVID-19 disease.

In the pooled analysis for efficacy, participants ≥18 years of age received two doses of COVID-19 Vaccine AstraZeneca (N=8,597) or control (meningococcal vaccine or saline) (N=8,581). Participants randomised to COVID-19 Vaccine AstraZeneca received either two standard doses [5D] (5 × 10¹⁰ vp per dose) or one low dose [LD] (2.2 × 10¹⁰ vp) followed by one SD (5 × 10¹⁰ vp), administered via IM injection. Overall, the majority of participants (83.8%) received two SD. Because of logistical constraints, the interval between dose 1 and dose 2 ranged from 3 to 28 weeks with 77.0% of participants receiving their two doses within the interval of 4 to 12 weeks.

Baseline demographics were well balanced across COVID-19 Vaccine AstraZeneca and control treatment groups. Overall, among the participants who received COVID-19 Vaccine AstraZeneca, 91.8% of participants were 18 to 64 years old (with 8.2% aged 65 or older); 56.0% of subjects were female; 74.9% were White, 10.1% were Black and 3.7% were Asian. A total of 3,056 (35.3%) participants had at least one pre-existing comorbidity (defined as a BMI ≥ 30 kg/m², cardiovascular disorder, respiratory disease or diabetes). At the time of primary analysis the median follow up time post-dose 1 and post-dose 2 was 143 days and 83 days, respectively.

Final determination of COVID-19 cases were made by an adjudication committee, who also assigned disease severity according to the WHO clinical progression scale. A total of 332 participants had SARS-CoV-2 virologically confirmed (by nucleic acid amplification tests) COVID-19 occurring ≥15 days post-dose 2 with at least one COVID-19 symptom [objective fever (defined as ≥37.8°C), cough, shortness of breath, anosmia, or ageusia] and were without evidence of previous SARS-CoV-2 infection. COVID-19 Vaccine AstraZeneca significantly decreased the incidence of COVID-19 compared to control (see Table 2a).

Table 2a - COVID-19 Vaccine AstraZeneca efficacy against COVID-19 in COV001, COV002, COV003 and COV005^a

Population	COVID-19 Vaccine AstraZeneca		Control		Vaccine efficacy % (95% CI)
	N	Number of COVID-19 cases ^b , n (%)	N	Number of COVID-19 cases ^b , n (%)	
Primary analysis population					
Overall (SSD + LSD)	8597	84 (0.98)	8581	248 (2.89)	66.73 (57.41, 74.01)
Licensing regimen					
SSD	7201	74 (1.03)	7179	197 (2.74)	63.09 (51.81, 71.73)

N = Number of subjects included in each group; n = Number of subjects having a confirmed event; CI = Confidence Interval; LD = Low Dose; SD = Standard Dose.

^a Primary study endpoint was based on confirmed COVID-19 cases in subjects aged 18 years and over who were seronegative at baseline, who had received two doses (SSD or LSD) and were on-study ≥15 days post-dose 2.

^b Virologically confirmed SARS-CoV-2 and at least one of the following symptoms: objective fever (defined as ≥37.8°C), cough, shortness of breath, anosmia, or ageusia. Confirmed by adjudication committee.

The level of protection gained from one SD of COVID-19 Vaccine AstraZeneca was assessed in an exploratory analysis that included participants who had received one dose of SD. Participants were censored from the analysis at the earliest time point of when they received a second dose or at 12 weeks post-dose 1. In this population, vaccine efficacy from 22 days post-dose 1 was 71.42% (95% CI: 51.11; 84.08) [COVID-19 Vaccine AstraZeneca 18/9,335 vs control 63/9,312].

Exploratory analyses showed that increased vaccine efficacy was observed with increasing dose interval, see Table 2b.

Table 2b - COVID-19 Vaccine AstraZeneca efficacy by dosing interval in COV001, COV002, COV003 and COV005^a

Dosing interval	COVID-19 Vaccine AstraZeneca		Control		Vaccine efficacy % (95% CI)
	N	Number of COVID-19 cases ^b , n (%)	N	Number of COVID-19 cases ^b , n (%)	
< 6 weeks	3,905	35 (0.90)	3,871	76 (1.96)	55.09 (33.0, 69.90)
6-8 weeks	1,124	20 (1.78)	1,023	44 (4.30)	59.72 (31.68, 76.25)
9-11 weeks	1,530	14 (0.92)	1,594	52 (3.26)	72.25 (49.95, 84.61)
≥ 12 weeks	2,038	15 (0.74)	2,093	76 (3.63)	79.99 (65.20, 88.50)

N = Number of subjects included in each group; n = Number of subjects having a confirmed event; CI = Confidence Interval; LD = Low Dose; SD = Standard Dose.

^a Primary study endpoint was based on confirmed COVID-19 cases in subjects aged 18 years and over who were seronegative at baseline, who had received two doses (SSD or LSD) and were on-study ≥15 days post-dose 2.

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The level of protection gained from one SD of COVID-19 Vaccine AstraZeneca was assessed in an exploratory analysis that included participants who had received one dose of SD. Participants were censored from the analysis at the earliest time point of when they received a second dose or at 12 weeks post-dose 1. In this population, vaccine efficacy from 22 days post-dose 1 was 71.42% (95% CI: 51.11; 84.08) [COVID-19 Vaccine AstraZeneca 18/9,335 vs control 63/9,312].

Exploratory analyses showed that increased vaccine efficacy was observed with increasing dose interval, see Table 2b.

Table 2c - COVID-19 Vaccine AstraZeneca efficacy by dosing interval in COV001, COV002, COV003 and COV005^a

Dosing interval	COVID-19 Vaccine AstraZeneca		Control		Vaccine efficacy % (95% CI)
	N	Number of COVID-19 cases ^b , n (%)	N	Number of COVID-	

