

Factors that boost falsifying of COVID-19 vaccines:

Money drives the wheel

- The huge amount of money that is currently spent attracts people with criminal energy.
- Many criminal cartels are currently jobless looking for opportunities to earn money.

Supply Chain Security

- COVID-19 vaccines are developed, transported and traded in enormous quantities. Each truck is worth millions.
- The media alarmism leads to an enormous pressure of expectation that everyone wants to make these vaccines available to their interest groups. The source becomes secondary.
- New distribution structures are created. These will probably run through hospitals and authorities with no experience of the peculiarities of the pan-European pharmaceutical logistics sector.
- Politically managed government agencies are involved; they control, dictate and are often the payers.
- The current market is partly influenced by players who are NOT experienced in supply chain issues, e.g. Politicians and start-ups.
- There is an enormous competitive pressure. Every company / every country wants to be the first to bring "its" vaccine onto the market. An enormous amount of money is at stake (including shareholder value).

Product Authenticity

- For reasons of production efficiency, the vials will be the same for all countries. The only possible distinguishing features are therefore the label or, if printed, a number on the crimp cap. Large batches with the same number will be divided and used for different countries and continents. Illegal relabelling at a later date will be difficult to determine.
- The future parallel trade of COVID vaccines is open - will there be any special regulations? Is it then even possible to have global trade / exchange between continents?
- It is unclear whether the regulations of the FMD (RL 2011/62 EU) and the Delegated Acts for serialization will be obligatory for each individual vaccine pack. It is to be feared that there could be exceptions!

Global Politics

- Behind every vaccine-company, there is a country / region of the world with economic interests. Thus, many decisions are probably made not only to avert the danger of the pandemic, but for political and economic reasons.
- The world economy has suffered enormous losses; many countries will seek to generate as much money as possible from the enormous amount of money that is spent on COVID-19 vaccines.

At the moment, speed counts.

At this speed, however, it must always be considered that criminal elements seek to take advantage of this speed. Any suggestion to prevent the introduction of falsified COVID-19 vaccines is therefore useful.

