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**Our reference**  
4238570

Date 2 December 2021  
Subject Response to your letter of 12 November 2021

Dear Mr Rath,

In your letter you make statements about the vaccines against COVID-19. These statements are false. The mRNA molecules used in the Moderna- and BioNTech/Pfizer-vaccine have no effect on people's DNA.

COVID-19 mRNA vaccines give instructions for our cells to make a harmless piece of what is called the 'spike protein'. The spike protein is found on the surface of the virus that causes COVID-19. Our immune system learns to see these spike proteins that don't belong in our body and in case of an infection starts making antibodies to destroy the proteins. Our cells get rid of the mRNA as soon as they have finished using the instructions. The mRNA molecules never enter the part of the cell where our DNA is stored. This applies to vector-vaccines AstraZeneca and Janssen as well. The vector-vaccines differ from mRNA-vaccines as they deliver the code with the help of a harmless virus, but there is also no effect on people's DNA.

Furthermore, too little research is available on vitamin C and the prevention of COVID-19. One should be able to get all the vitamin C you need by eating a varied and balanced diet.

Yours sincerely,

On behalf of the Prime Minister, Minister of General Affairs,

  
Ms E.M.H.J. van Overveld  
Government Information Service