

## Help us learn more about corona vaccines

Dear participant

Thank you for answering the initial three questionnaires and for allowing us to contact you again. We are sending you the fourth and, for the time being, last questionnaire, which we hope you will complete. The questionnaire can be answered in approximately 10 minutes.

### Every answer makes a difference

Your answers are important for the study, independently of whether you have been vaccinated or not, also if you do not wish to be vaccinated. To estimate the frequency of symptoms, it is important that you participate regardless of whether you experience symptoms or not.

### What is BiCoVac?

“BiCoVac” is a research project that aims to clarify, whether the frequency of symptoms among persons who have been vaccinated is higher than among persons who have not yet been vaccinated or who do not wish to be vaccinated.

As part of the research project, we have received information about your name and CPR number from the Danish Health Data Authority, who have made a random retrieval of individuals within the age span 16-65 years. The Danish Health Data Authority has considered that the project is in accordance with the Data Protection Act, section 10, and that we therefore are allowed to obtain this information. The handling of personal data within the research project is registered at Aarhus University (2016-051-000001, lb no. 2272). You can read more about how we process your personal information on the next pages.

### Answering questionnaire 4

Participation in the project is of course still voluntary.

To participate in the survey, you need to go back to the invitation you received in your digital mailbox and click on the link for the questionnaire. If the questionnaire does not open when you click on the link, please go to [www.datafabrikken.dk](http://www.datafabrikken.dk) and enter the code written in your invitation letter.

Thank you in advance for your participation.

Kind regards,

On behalf of the project team,

[Dorte Rytter](#), Associate professor and PhD  
Aarhus University, Department of Public Health  
E-mail: [bicovac@ph.au.dk](mailto:bicovac@ph.au.dk)

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### Do you want to know more?

You can read more about the study on our project website: [ph.au.dk/bicovac](http://ph.au.dk/bicovac)

The project has received financial support from TrygFonden.

## **Information about how the Department of Public Health, Aarhus University processes your personal data in connection with the study "BiCoVac".**

### **1. We are the data controllers – how can you contact us?**

The Department of Public Health, Aarhus University is data controller for the processing of the personal data that we process about you in connection with the invitation to participate in the study and the subsequent processing of the results of the study. The project is registered at Aarhus University (2016-051-000001, lb no. 2272)

Our contact information is:

Department of Public Health, Aarhus University  
Bartholins Allé 2  
DK-8000 Aarhus C  
CVR no.: 31119103  
Tel.: (+45) 8716 7936  
Email: ph@au.dk

### **2. Purpose of the processing of your personal data**

In this research project we wish to investigate whether there is a correlation between the vaccines against coronavirus and unwanted symptoms. These vaccines are new vaccines, which are recommended by the health authorities to protect against the new coronavirus (SARS-Cov-2). The health authorities are closely monitoring the side effects of the vaccine by reporting of side effects and by using information from health registers. However, a range of symptoms will not appear in these registers, and we do not know the frequency of these symptoms in the background population. In order to be able to investigate whether there is an increased incidence of undesirable symptoms after vaccination against the coronavirus, it is important to collect information about this directly from citizens.

### **3 Your participation**

Your answers are regularly saved and are thus included in the study regardless of whether the questionnaire is fully or partially completed. However, you can change your answers prior to clicking on "Finish".

### **4. Categories of personal data and the legal basis for processing your personal data**

We process the following categories of personal data:

General, non-sensitive personal data, including:

Name

General, sensitive personal data, including:

Danish civil registration number (CPR)

Sensitive personal data:

If you respond to the questionnaire, we will also process your answers to the questions. The information we process will depend on your answers. The questionnaire contains questions about infection with Covid-19, vaccination against Covid-19, physical and psychological well-being and various diseases and symptoms.

In addition to the above information, the Department of Public Health will also use public registers to extract a range of additional personal data about you – e.g. your age, gender and socio-economic background, contact with the hospital (incl. diagnosis), contact with your general practitioner, and

the use of prescription medications. The department does this in order to answer some of the research questions we wish to investigate in connection with the vaccination of the population against Covid-19. Information from the questionnaire survey will be stored on a secure server at the Department of Public health for as long as the data collection lasts and will not be directly identifiable. After the completion of the data collection, the questionnaire data will be transferred to servers at Statistics Denmark and linked with registry information and stored in a form which is not directly identifiable.

We thus process personal data about you on the basis of article 9 (2) (j) of the General Data Protection Regulation<sup>1</sup>, as the planned research has great societal interest in the field of public health.

We process your civil registration number (CPR no.) on the basis of Section 11 (1) of the Danish Data Protection Act<sup>2</sup>, as the processing is necessary in order to clearly identify you.

### **5. Recipients or categories of recipients**

The information obtained in the study may be disclosed to research projects of significant importance to society on the condition that relevant approvals have been obtained and legislation observed. Such disclosure may take place pursuant to Section 10 of the Danish Data Protection Act.

The Department of Public Health, Aarhus University uses data processors, including KMD, Ramboll and Statistics Denmark. Aarhus University has entered into data processing agreements with the data processors and monitors the data processor's compliance with the data processor agreements in accordance with the current rules.

### **6. Transfer to recipients in third countries, including international organisations**

The Department of Public Health will not transfer your personal data to recipients outside of the EU and EEA.

### **7. Where your personal data originates from**

We have received information about your CPR number from the Danish Health Data Authority. In addition, we receive information from you personally.

We may also receive further information about you, e.g. your age, gender, contact to the healthcare system, information on medicine and socio-economic background, from public registers when deemed necessary for the planned research project.

### **8. Personal data storage**

The questionnaires, your civil registration number and the register information will be stored for as long as necessary for the performance of the study. The information will then be deleted or anonymised.

### **9. Information about your rights**

If you have any questions on how we process your personal data or your rights, you are always welcome to contact Aarhus University's Data Protection Officer Søren Broberg Nielsen.

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<sup>1</sup> The European Parliament and the Council's Regulation 2016/679 of 27 April 2016 on the protection of natural persons with regard to the processing of personal data and on the free movement of such data and repealing Directive 95/46/EC (General Data Protection Regulation).

<sup>2</sup> Act no. 502 of 23 May 2018 concerning supplementary provisions to the Regulation on the protection of natural persons with regard to the processing of personal data and on the free movement of such data (the Danish Data Protection Act).

You can contact the data protection officer in the following ways:

Via email: [dpo@au.dk](mailto:dpo@au.dk)

By letter: Aarhus University Nordre Ringgade 1, 8000 Aarhus C. attn. "Data Protection Officer"

#### **10. Complaints to the Danish Data Protection Agency**

You have the right to lodge a complaint with the Danish Data Protection Agency if you are dissatisfied with the way in which we process your personal data. You can find the contact information for the Danish Data Protection Agency at [www.datatilsynet.dk](http://www.datatilsynet.dk).