**Drug to Treat Coronavirus Possible ‘Before the Summer’**

**治疗冠状病毒的药物或在入夏前问世**

The European Medicines Agency predicted that there could be drugs to treat the new coronavirus in the next few months. The organization added that a vaccine might be approved in early 2021.

欧洲药品管理局预测，未来几个月内可能会研发出治疗新冠状病毒的药物。该组织还补充说，疫苗可能会在2021年初获得批准。

Dr. Marco Cavaleri heads the European regulator’s vaccines department. He said Thursday that approving medicines to treat COVID-19 might be possible “before the summer” noting several current clinical trials.

马可·卡瓦列里博士是欧洲该机构疫苗科的负责人。周四在接受采访时他提到目前的一些临床试验，并表示“入夏之前”可能会审批通过治疗新冠肺炎的药物。

A recent study in the United States suggested that the drug remdesivir could help patients recover from the coronavirus faster. Patients who received remdesivir recovered on average four days earlier than those who got the usual care. Earlier, animal studies showed remdesivir was effective against SARS and MERS, two diseases also caused by coronaviruses. It helped prevent infection and some symptoms when given early enough in the disease process.

美国最近的一项研究表明，“瑞德西韦” 药物能够帮助感染新冠病毒的患者更快速地康复。与接受常规治疗的患者相比，接受瑞德西韦治疗的患者平均早四天康复。此前，动物试验研究表明瑞德西韦治疗冠状病毒引起的另外两种疾病非典（SARS）和中东呼吸综合征（MERS）有效。在疾病治疗过程中如果能够尽早给予此种治疗将有助于预防感染和防止出现某些症状。

In France, a group of hospitals reported success with use of another drug, Actemra, against COVID-19. In a study of 129 coronavirus patients, 65 were treated with the drug while the other patients received the usual care. The doctors did not release details, but said they were preparing to publish results. Actemra is used to treat rheumatoid arthritis and other diseases.

法国一组医院报告称成功使用另一种药物Actemra（IL-6受体单克隆抗体注射剂）对抗新冠肺炎。在对129例冠状病毒患者的研究中，有65人接受了该药物的治疗，而其他患者则接受了常规护理。医生们没有透露细节，但表示他们正在准备发表研究结果。 Actemra一直用于治疗类风湿关节炎和其他疾病。

Doctors around the world are also trying a treatment for infections that is about 100 years old: giving blood plasma from recovered patients to sick ones. Plasma is the yellowish liquid part of blood. The blood from former patients is filled with protein molecules that fight infection. These molecules can help survivors defeat COVID-19, the disease caused by the coronavirus.

世界各地的医生也在尝试使用一种已有100年历史的流行征的治疗方法：将康复患者的血浆注射给受感染的患者。血浆是血液中的淡黄色液体部分。康复患者的血液中充满了抵抗病毒的蛋白质分子。这些分子可以帮助幸存者抵抗冠状病毒引起的新冠肺炎疾病。

Developing a vaccine

研发疫苗

On Monday, the World Health Organization chief Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus said there are around seven or eight “top” candidates for a vaccine to combat COVID-19. He added work on the vaccines is being accelerated and helped with an additional $8 billion by 40 countries.

周一，世界卫生组织首席执行长特德罗斯·阿达诺姆·格布雷耶苏斯表示，大约有七八种“顶级”候选疫苗可以对抗新冠肺炎。他补充说，疫苗的研发工作正在加速进行中，并得到了来自40个国家80亿美元的帮助。

It usually takes years to develop a vaccine. But Cavaleri said that if some of the vaccines already being tested prove to be effective, they could be approved as early as the beginning of next year.

疫苗研发通常需要数年时间。但是卡瓦列里表示，如果一些已经测试过的疫苗被证明是有效的，那么它们最早可以在明年年初被批准。

Cavaleri cautioned, however, that many experimental vaccines never make it to the end and that there are often delays.

卡瓦列里也警告道，然而许多实验性疫苗并无法通过最终审批，而且经常会出现延误。

“But we can see the possibility that if everything goes as planned, vaccines could be approved a year from now,” he said.

他还表示：“但是如果一切按计划进行的话，或许疫苗可以在一年后获得批准。”

Some experts have proposed cancelling the requirement for large, extended clinical trials. But, Cavaleri said that was not currently being considered.

一些专家建议取消大型扩展性临床试验的要求。但卡瓦列里表示，目前暂不考虑这一点。

He said that could change if the situation worsened. “Things may evolve as the pandemic will evolve and we will see if we need to do something else,” Cavaleri said.

他说，如果情况恶化则计划可能会变。卡瓦列里说：“随着大流行的发展，情况可能会演变，我们也可能会尝试其他办法。”

Some officials have warned that a vaccine for COVID-19 might never be found. They note that previous attempts to develop a vaccine against related coronaviruses like SARS and MERS have all failed. But Cavaleri believes that a vaccine could be discovered with new technologies being tried around the world.

一些部门警告称，可能研发不出治愈新冠肺炎的疫苗。他们指出，以前开发针对非典和中东呼吸综合征等冠状病毒相关的疫苗均以失败告终。但卡瓦列里认为，全球都在用新科技尝试研发疫苗，因此疫苗还是有可能研发成功的。

South Africa’s President Cyril Ramaphosa, the chair of the African Union, said a vaccine “is our best hope of ending this pandemic.”

非洲联盟主席南非总统西里尔·拉马福萨说，疫苗“是结束这一大流行的最大希望。”

On Thursday, he joined more than 140 world leaders and health experts calling on all countries to unite behind a “people’s vaccine” against COVID-19. They asked that the vaccine be available to anyone around the world at no cost.

周四，他与140多位世界领导人和卫生专家一起，呼吁所有国家联合起来共同研发抗击新冠肺炎的“人类的疫苗”。他们呼吁疫苗免费提供给世界各地的任何人。

I’m Jonathan Evans.

乔纳森·埃文斯报道。

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