



# MYTHS AND FACTS

about TB Vaccine Research



MYTH ❌



People in developing countries are used as “guinea pigs” in vaccine clinical trials

FACT ✓

The very first clinical trials are usually held in the country where the vaccine was first discovered.

After a vaccine is first tested for safety, it needs to be tested in countries where the disease is common to see if it prevents disease in the people who need it most. **For TB vaccine trials, this needs to be a community with high rates of TB.**



MYTH ❌

Blood collected in clinical trials is later sold to make profit

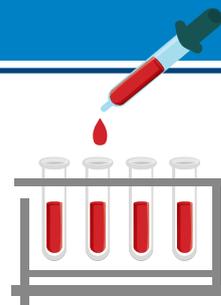
FACT ✓

Blood is never sold or used in any illegal way.

Blood is taken in clinical trials:

- To ensure that the participants are healthy and appropriate for the trial
- To monitor participants’ health and safety during the trial
- To determine how the vaccine helps the body to fight disease

**The tests use the least amount of blood possible.** In some trials, some blood is stored so that can be tested later, but only with the participant’s permission.



MYTH ❌



TB vaccines given during TB vaccine clinical trials give people TB

FACT ✓

**The vaccine itself cannot give you TB.** In vaccine trials some participants are given the vaccine being tested and some are given a placebo (dummy vaccine). Researchers compare the results to see whether the vaccine is working. Participants who receive the placebo have the same risk of developing TB disease as other people in the community, so it is expected that some participants may develop TB. However, **even when someone gets a TB vaccine as part of a trial, they are still at risk of getting TB from their community.**



MYTH ❌

When and if a vaccine is proven to work, it will not benefit the community and participants involved in the clinical trial.

FACT ✓

Once we **prove that a vaccine is safe and effective, it will be available** to any community whose government licenses and approves it. **Aeras’s mission is to develop a vaccine that is available and accessible to all the communities who need it most.**



MYTH ❌

Only people who are sick with TB can participate in TB vaccine clinical trials

FACT ✓

A TB vaccine clinical trial tests whether a vaccine can prevent people from getting TB. So, the **people participating in a TB vaccine clinical trial are usually healthy, but live in a place where their risk of getting TB is high.**

