

Vaccine process. Viral vector. Products. Services. Expertise.

After experiencing initial setbacks related to safety, viral vector vaccines are now poised for rapid market growth. Improvements in molecular biology, vector engineering and an increased understanding of vector-induced immunology have facilitated this growth of viral vectors.

As a new twist in biopharmaceutical manufacturing, viral vector vaccines present some unique challenges. A number of different viruses are considered safe for use as viral vectors. This creates process challenges associated with the varying properties of the viruses used for manufacturing. For large viral vectors, process sterility is critical due to yield loss associated with sterile filtration. There are also challenges with vector aggregation and stability.

For viral vector vaccines, many Phase I/II processes involve adherent cell cultures in tissue culture flasks or cell factories. As a result, scale-up to Phase III and commercial manufacturing can be problematic as process adjustments are required in order to reach larger production targets. In Phases III and beyond, product yield and purity clearance become central issues as high dosage titers are required in the final product.

When designing a manufacturing process for viral vector vaccines, it is important to work with a partner who understands these challenges. Merck Millipore's regulatory expertise, integrated portfolio of development and manufacturing solutions, and proven applications experience can help you overcome your viral vector vaccines process challenges.

No guide will replace the need to conduct process development and optimization experiments. The unique nature of every process stream combined with application and regulatory requirements play a part in determining the optimum process solutions. Use this selection guide as a starting point for selecting and sizing the most appropriate Merck Millipore solutions.

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The holder of the manufacturing authorization shall ensure that the excipients are suitable for use in medicinal products by ascertaining the appropriate good manufacturing practice.

This is particularly true if the material in a certain application is regarded as high risk excipient, for example in parenteral dosage forms.

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¹ based on IPEC - PQG GMP guide for pharmaceutical excipients 2006.
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