Food & Drug Administration
Silver Spring, MD 20993

(b) (6) ANALYTICAL METHOD REVIEW MEMO

To The file: STN 125817

From (b) (6)

Through (b) (6)

Applicant Novavax

Subject Review of Bioburden, Sterility, and Endotoxin Analytical Methods for COVID-19 Vaccine, Adjuvanted

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Recommendation: Approval

Executive Summary:
The bioburden, sterility, and endotoxin analytical methods used for testing and release of COVID-19 vaccine and the associated analytic method qualifications or validations, were reviewed. The assays were adequately described and shown to be suitable for their intended purpose.

Conclusion: The analytical methods and their qualifications or validations reviewed for COVID-19 vaccine (b) (4) drug product were determined to be adequate for their intended use.

Documents Reviewed
Information in sections of the original submission that describe control of (b) (4) Drug Product (DP) (3.2.S.4 and 3.2.P.5, respectively), including descriptions of (b) (4) DP specifications, analytical procedures of (b) (4) DP, and qualifications or validation of these analytical procedures were reviewed. In addition, responses to CBER's Information Requests (IRs) received on May 5, 2024 (Amendment # 16), June 05, 2024 (Amendment # 24), and June 27, 2024 (Amendment # 26) were also reviewed as mentioned below.

1. Bioburden (b) (4)

Introduction
(b) (4)

(b) (4)

Method

The bioburden test is performed using (b) (4)

The bioburden test lacked sufficient information to complete review of the method qualification and therefore IRs were sent, and Novavax provided the requested information on May 5, 2024 (Amendment # 16), June 05, 2024 (Amendment # 24), and June 27, 2024 (Amendment # 26), which were reviewed as part of the bioburden test below to determine suitability of the test method for its intended use.

Bioburden Method Qualification

(b) (4)

(b) (4)



Conclusion

The method suitability tests were performed and were compliant with (b) (4) and the test results indicate there is no product inhibition on microorganism growth, thus indicating the (b) (4) bioburden test method is appropriate under the actual conditions of use.

2. Endotoxin Method (b) (4) DP)

Introduction

(b) (4)

Method

(b) (4) . The method is described in more detail below together with the tests performed to determine the suitability of the test method for its intended use.

(b) (4)

The endotoxin tests lacked sufficient information to complete review of the method qualification. In addition, endotoxin specification of (b) (4) COVID-19 DP was determined to be very high (b) (4) . Therefore, IRs were sent requesting missing information and either updating the endotoxin specification to one that better reflects the production process capabilities, or an alert limit be to ensure product endotoxin levels can be better tracked and trended. Novavax provided the requested information on May 5, 2024 (Amendment # 16) and June 27, 2024 (Amendment # 26), which were reviewed as part of the endotoxin tests below to determine the suitability of the test methods for their intended use.

(b) (4) Qualification

(b) (4)

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(b) (4)

Conclusion
The method suitability test was performed and compliant with (b) (4) indicating (b) (4) COVID-19 DP test samples using (b) (4) (b) (4) , are appropriate under the actual conditions of use.

3. **Sterility Method (DP)**

Introduction
Sterility testing for SARS-CoV-2 (b) (4) COVID-19 DP is performed at (b) (4) Acceptance criterion of 'No Growth Detected' must be met for the release of SARS-CoV-2 (b) (4) COVID-19 DP.

1 page has been determined to be not releasable: (b)(4)

Conclusion

The method suitability tests were performed and compliant with (b) (4) and the test results indicate there is no product inhibition of microorganism growth, thus indicating the (b) (4) sterility test method is appropriate under the actual conditions of use.