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The potential risks of delaying the second vaccine dose during the SARS-CoV-2 pandemic

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I.R. Humphreys and A.J. Godkin

I.R. Humphreys and ¹ A.J. Godkin [AQ1] [AQ2]¹

¹. From the Division of Infection and Immunity, School of Medicine, Cardiff University, Henry Wellcome Building, Heath Park, Cardiff 144XN, UK

Address correspondence to A.J. Godkin, Division of Infection and Immunity, School of Medicine, Cardiff University, Henry Wellcome Building, Heath Park, Cardiff 144XN, UK. email: godkinaj@cardiff.ac.uk [AQ3]

Dear Sir, Dr Jalobe describes a case where an immunocompromized patient suffered chronic SARS-CoV-2 infection over several months, and sadly eventually succumbed to the illness. The PCR tests for viral genome were strongly positive throughout, and virus sequencing data suggested evolution of the same virus in a single individual under immune selection pressure rather than re-infection. This case supports the possible scenario we proposed in the commentary,¹ namely that partial immunity that results from a single dose of vaccine may facilitate the selection of more aggressive virus variants that subsequently demonstrate increased virulence and pathogenicity.

Conflict of interest. None declared. [AQ4]

Reference

1. Humphreys IR, Godkin A. The potential risks of delaying the second vaccine dose during the SARS-CoV-2 pandemic. *QJM* (in press). [AQ5]

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