

War of words over vaccine safety

Germany's vaccine regulator has recommended using the AstraZeneca vaccine only for people aged over 60, following reports of 31 suspected cases of blood clots in the brain after vaccination

Jan 25: German newspapers erroneously claim efficacy of AstraZeneca vaccine is less than 10% in over-65s

Jan 29: **European Medicines Agency (EMA)** recommends authorising AstraZeneca vaccine across EU



Feb 6: First doses distributed across EU. France, Italy, Austria, Hungary and Czech Republic receive shipments

Feb 27: 49-year-old woman admitted to Medical University of Vienna. Patient has low platelet count and clots in veins and arteries of abdomen. Symptoms appear five days after vaccine shot. Patient dies

Mar 7: Austrian authorities announce investigation of another death

Mar 11: Denmark, Norway halt vaccine use after four deaths

Mar 15: Germany suspends use following three deaths

Mar 16: 13 EU countries suspend vaccine use

Mar 18: UK regulatory agency says use of vaccine will continue while reports of five blood clots among 11 million administered shots are investigated



Mar 22: London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine reports that in Europe just 25 people have developed blood clots out of 20 million who received vaccine. **Rate is lower than what is expected among unvaccinated population**

Mar 30: German Chancellor **Angela Merkel** and Health Minister **Jens Spahn** announce suspension of use of vaccine

