

stage of conducting human clinical trials.

Bains said while he applauds the “passion” of many Canadian scientists, the government will take its guidance from the two task forces it has appointed to review and recommend most promising vaccine and therapeutic treatment candidates.

He said more announcements would follow as the task forces do their work.

In a statement, Pfizer and BioNTech said the terms of the deal with Canada are “based on the timing of delivery and the volume of doses. As requested by the Government of Canada, deliveries of the vaccine candidate are planned for over the course of 2021.”

BioNTech executive Sean Marett said the company is working to advance its lead vaccine candidate through clinical development “in order to seek regulatory review as early as October. At the same time, Pfizer and BioNTech continue to scale up manufacturing capacities to be able to produce up to 100 million doses in 2020 and more than 1 billion doses in 2021.”

The U.K. and the U.S. have similarly struck deals with Pfizer to purchase doses of a successful vaccine. Anand said on Wednesday Pfizer has at least four vaccine candidates in trials now. The U.S. inked a deal with Pfizer and BioNTech to purchase 100 million doses with an option of buying another 500 million of a vaccine, subject to regulatory approval.

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