

# Oral COVID-19 vaccine being tested

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(HealthDay)—California researchers are testing whether an oral vaccine offers similar or better protection than current COVID-19 shots.

The [capsule](#)-delivered [vaccine](#) under development at the Chan Soon-Shiong Research Institute in El Segundo is being tested in healthy volunteers, *CBS News* reported.

Existing vaccines promote production of antibodies to the spike protein on the surface of the coronavirus that causes COVID-19, but the ImmunityBio T cell oral vaccine targets the globe in the middle of the virus, a part that is less prone to mutation, according to scientists. "And the value of doing so is that we generate killer T cells," ImmunityBio founder and Executive Chairman Patrick Soon-Shiong, M.D., told *CBS News*.

The ImmunityBio researchers believe they may be able to create long-term protection by generating both antibodies and killer T cells.

**More information:** [CBS News Article](#)

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