

# How FluGen's COVID-19 vaccine might work

*Madison-based FluGen and its founders, UW-Madison scientists Yoshihiro Kawaoka and Gabriele Neumann, are adapting the company's experimental flu vaccine to develop a vaccine against the new coronavirus. Also involved is Bharat Biotech of India.*

## 1. Modify existing flu vaccine

Researchers insert gene sequences from the new coronavirus into an experimental flu vaccine called M2SR.

## 2. Trigger immune response

Delivered into the body by a nasal spray, the new vaccine uses M2SR to trigger an immune response including antibodies to the coronavirus and also possibly to the flu.

## 3. Hinder reproduction

M2SR is self-limiting meaning the altered flu virus carrying the coronavirus genes can reproduce in cells only once, generating immune response without an infection.

