California, New York, Michigan, and Other States Plan to Independently Review COVID Vaccines

The secretary of California Health and Human Services, Dr. Mark Ghaly, announced on Friday that the state of California will be forming an independent review board to evaluate COVID-19 vaccine data.

> *We think it is an appropriate approach to take, especially because things are moving so quickly. We want to make sure – despite the urge and interest in having a useful vaccine – that we do it with the utmost safety of Californians in mind."*
>
> *Dr. Mark Ghaly, secretary of CA Health and Human Services*

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California is not the only state or jurisdiction saying they will independently analyze coronavirus vaccines. Others include Colorado, the District of Columbia, Michigan, New York, Oregon, and West Virginia. Montana and Wyoming have said they would only administer vaccines if they had completed clinical trials and had been reviewed by an outside committee.

Confidence in the coronavirus vaccine has been steadily waning as government timelines continue to waver. President Trump has consistently promised that the vaccine will be ready before the election and all Americans will be vaccinated by April, while the director of the CDC, Dr. Robert Redfield, maintains that widespread vaccination will not be achieved until the third quarter of 2021. According to a new survey from the Pew Research Center, only 51% of Americans would probably get the

vaccine as opposed to the 72% that would give the same answer in May.