The role of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences in tackling the Covid-19 pandemic and post-pandemic situation

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Anna Erdei
HAS issued two resolutions in 2021:

1. Resolution and call of the Presidium of HAS to contain the fourth wave of the COVID-19 epidemic

2. Resolution of the President of HAS on the fourth wave of the COVID-19 epidemic and the need for a third vaccination against SARS-CoV-2

During the one-month Hungarian Science Festival - organized yearly, in November - several lectures and symposia were devoted to SARS-CoV-2 and Covid-19, including:

- The origin of corona viruses, how to prepare for the next outbrake?
- Vaccines and Covid-19
- Current issues in Post-Covid syndrome
- Tracking the movement of SARS-CoV-2
- The social and economic impact of the pandemic
Since the start of the outbreak, the Section of Medical Sciences of HAS has regularly published short, easy-to-understand factsheets related to the new coronavirus and the epidemic.

The topics include:

• COVID-19 and what measures to take to protect the children?
• Official licensing of COVID-19 vaccines, mental health in the pandemic
• Vaccines, plasma therapy, new antiviral agents
• Methods to detect the new coronavirus and infections: which methods to use and how
In 2021 the Academy launched a call for research proposals to support high-risk/high yield research on post-COVID phenomena, regardless of academic discipline.

**Supported projects include:**

- Understanding vaccination intention in various social contexts
- The long-term impact of SARS-CoV-2 infection on central nervous system development
- Anti-vaccination, anti-science movements and attitudes during the coronavirus epidemic
- Auto-immune reactions targeting the heart in post-COVID patients
- Training-induced compensation of cognitive decline in post-covid patients
- Role of inflammation and microglia in COVID-19-related neuropathology
- Novel drug-targets in the treatment of post-COVID lung fibrosis
- Investigation of the genetic background affecting post-covid syndromes
Katalin KARIKÓ
Plenary lecture, General Assembly of HAS
May, 2021
Understanding how coronavirus vaccines work
Thank you for your attention