OUR CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE FIGHT AGAINST COVID-19

We are dedicated to serving patients, scientists and healthcare providers around the world – now more than ever.

PREVENTION

In March 2020
Stefan Oschmann and Wolfgang Ischinger issued a 5-point plan for pandemic preparedness. They first addressed the topic at the Munich Security Conference back in 2017.

In 2020 we offered a research grant of up to € 500,000 per year for three consecutive years to external research teams working on pandemic preparedness projects.

Since October 2020 we are partnering with the Californian company Mammoth Biosciences for the development, scale-up and commercial production of a CRISPR-based Covid-19 diagnostic test.

In February 2021 we announced the expansion of our strategic partnership with BioNTech and will increase our supply volume of lipids needed for the Pfizer-BioNTech vaccine.

TREATMENT

We are a member of the CARE (Corona Accelerated R&D in Europe) consortium in order to advance research and future treatments. Studies are also underway to investigate whether existing treatments can be used.

Our compound MS049 is being clinically tested in a Phase II trial as a treatment for patients with Covid-19 pneumonia. As a result of the acquisition of AmpTec at the start of 2021, we are strengthening our capacity for developing and manufacturing vaccines and treatments based on messenger ribonucleic acid (mRNA) technology.

Our Life Science business participates in the M1T Pandemic Response CoLab, which will help individuals and groups work together to solve practical problems created by the Covid-19 pandemic. By leveraging an open online collaboration platform, the CoLab mobilizes innovators, communities, businesses, and others to develop actionable solutions to real problems.

PRODUCTION

In December 2020 our company announced the broadening of its manufacturing footprint with a combined 40 million euro investment at its Life Science production facilities in Danvers, Massachusetts, and Jaffrey, New Hampshire, USA. These sites supply critical products to customers developing lifesaving therapies, including Covid-19 vaccines.

In March 2021 we announced to accelerate its European expansion plans for single-use products which are critical to manufacturing vaccines and lifesaving therapies. A 25 million euro investment in Nansheim, France, will create 350 new jobs. In addition, capacity expansion activities are underway at our single-use production site in WuXi, China.

In the first phase of the pandemic in 2020, we maintained the production and supply chains of our Healthcare business sector across the globe in all affected regions and supplied more than 85 million patients worldwide with their (non-Covid-19-related) medication.

EMPLOYEE HEALTH & SAFETY

A Corporate Crisis Management Team formed in February 2020 provides global guidance on hygiene measures, travel and meeting restrictions adaptable to local needs.

A holistic hygiene and social distancing concept with comprehensive measures in place for our people on site including special arrangements for employees with pre-existing health conditions or childcare obligations.

We support working from home wherever possible.

We support psychological counseling for our employees in all countries, often 24/7, also for close relatives in need.

We are offering several free-of-charge training elements to support our employees in managing the Covid-19 crisis. We produce FFP2 protective face masks at our Healthcare manufacturing site in Nantong, China, to deliver fully certified masks to our employees in Europe and Asia.

We are supporting our employees in heavily affected countries: In India, we are providing two million euro for vaccinations and medical equipment; vaccination programs are being prepared for Peru, Indonesia and the Philippines, among others.

GOOD TO KNOW

Our liquid crystal technology is used in X-ray imaging technologies, ventilators and monitors for keeping track of the vital signs of patients in intensive care units.

Our electronic materials help people all over the world to stay in contact and are also used in the medical equipment that is needed to detect and fight Covid-19.

FURTHERMORE

Our employees and the company donated around 340,000 euro to “Save the Children” in the fight against Covid-19.

In more than 40 countries we had multiple donation efforts, adding up to cash and goods worth millions of euro, including in-house 3D-printed face shields and disinfectant.

We donated two million FFP2 masks, e.g. in Germany, France, Brazil, the United States, Ethiopia, Ghana, Central America, Cameroon, Nigeria, Mexico, Lebanon, Mauritania to support frontline healthcare workers.

WE ARE InvOLVED IN...

> 50 vaccine projects
> 35 testing solutions
> 20 monoclonal antibodies, plasma products and antiviral drugs

EARLY MILESTONES

In 2019 we awarded one million euro to Pardis Sabeti and James Crowe, the winners of the Future Insight Prize, for outstanding research on the topic of pandemic preparedness.

In 2020 we partnered with Jenner Institute of the University of Oxford to develop a manufacturing process for a vaccine, which has been approved for emergency use in multiple countries.

We also partnered with Baylor College of Medicine in Houston, Texas, to develop manufacturing platforms for two vaccines, which are in clinical trials.

To date, we have donated a total of 300,000 units of interferon beta-1a (Babil®) to the French Institut National de la Santé et de la Recherche Médicale (INSERM) for a trial, the World Health Organization (WHO) for use in their global Solidarity trial, and the US National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID) for their ACTT 3 trial in combination with remdesivir.

* To date, our interferon beta-1a is not approved by any regulatory authority for the treatment of Covid-19 or for use as an antiviral agent.