



Key Messages: Bayer's Contribution to Contain the Corona Crisis

Target group: Public Affairs Stakeholders

Bayer's conduct is guided by the principle of "*Health for All, Hunger for None*". In light of the developing COVID-19 situation, this is today truer than ever before. Bayer Pharma is well positioned to help contain the outbreak of COVID-19 and find a therapeutic against it. In close collaboration with authorities, industry partners, and other stakeholders, we are mobilizing resources to provide relief in the short term and find a suitable therapeutic in the medium term. In particular, we are engaged in financial and product donations, research cooperations, ensuring medicinal supply, and community support.

1. Chloroquine (Resochin ®)

A pre-clinical study from China showed that Chloroquine, discovered by Bayer in the 1930s and primarily used to treat malaria, could be effective as a therapeutic agent for clinically symptomatic patients infected with COVID-19. Bayer has donated Chloroquine to China to perform further clinical trials and treat patients. Chloroquine was recommended for inclusion in the Guidelines for the Prevention, Diagnosis, and Treatment of Pneumonia Caused by COVID-19 issued by the National Health Commission of the People's Republic of China. Bayer has also responded to Chloroquine supply requests from various other governments around the world while at the same time acknowledging that stock is limited to date and shipping of product requires special import and export licenses. It is of note that further manufacturers have given public commitments to expand the production of (Hydroxy)-Chloroquine.

We are ready to cooperate with international organizations, governments, authorities and scientific institutions around the globe to jointly explore options to better understand how Chloroquine can contribute to the treatment of patients infected with COVID-19.

2. Research / Open and Shared Knowledge / Cooperations

For this novel virus there are currently no targeted therapeutics available. Thus, healthcare players, governments, and research institutions must share their knowledge and resources to come up with novel therapeutics and vaccines against COVID-19. As part of joining the *COVID-19 Therapeutics Accelerator*, initiated by the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, Bayer will open its compound library to find and develop effective novel compounds.

Bayer also responded to the European Innovation Medicine Initiative's call for the "Development of therapeutics and diagnostics combatting coronavirus infections" with an in-kind contribution covering the screening of a molecular target against the Bayer substance library.



3. Safeguarding availability of our medicines

Besides advancing the search for a new therapeutic for COVID-19, Bayer is also ensuring that existing product supply chains are maintained as supplying medicines and nutrients for patients has the highest priority. Therefore, we have a general inventory policy which includes buffers for our sourced material and in our entire supply chain. We continuously and closely monitor the situation worldwide. All our plants have implemented crisis teams to enable production of active pharmaceutical ingredients, pharmaceuticals and medical devices and our sourcing colleagues are in regular contact with suppliers and freight forwarders. Our own production is currently running according to plan. In general, we do not have an impact on market supply.

4. Community Engagement

To support local public agencies in their efforts against COVID-19 we are willing to provide hardware, facilities, and skills within the realms of current and evolving possibility.

To help with diagnostics, we are repurposing stationary PCR testing facilities in our R&D laboratories in Wuppertal to support local authorities (~10,000/day). We will also produce disinfection agents at large scale.

Bayer employs many great healthcare professionals. We will assess on a case-by-case basis whether we can release Bayer employed healthcare professionals who wish to volunteer in their communities to help fight the pandemic from work temporarily while Bayer continues to pay their wages. This way, we support our communities and reduce some of the stress on the local healthcare staff.