

Statement



Roche statement on SARS-CoV-2 and COVID-19

Basel, 19 March 2020 (Update)

On Wednesday 11th March the World Health Organization (WHO) declared a pandemic in response to the COVID-19 outbreak. This is a serious health situation and we extend our sympathies to people who have lost loved ones, to patients and healthcare professionals. We recognise that the public and private sectors across the globe need to work together to help effectively manage this developing situation.

As a leader in diagnostics, Roche is committed to providing testing solutions for the world's most challenging healthcare emergencies. Our emergency response teams have been working to develop a diagnostics test which was [granted Emergency Use Authorization by the US Food and Drug Administration](#). It is also available in markets accepting the CE mark. Roche is committed to delivering as many tests as possible and is going to the limits of our production capacity.

While there are currently no approved treatment options for the treatment of COVID-19, Roche is actively involved in understanding the potential of our existing portfolio. Roche has confirmed initiation of a clinical trial, and is also collecting and compiling data from other, independently-led clinical trials that are taking place around the world.

Roche is working with and supporting the WHO and global and national non-governmental organisations, health authorities and the governments in affected countries to ensure people can get access to diagnostics and healthcare. In order to continue fulfilling this role Roche has implemented solid business continuity planning.

Roche advocates that people follow the steps outlined by the WHO and the US Center for Disease Control (CDC) to protect themselves and others from the virus.

About Roche

Roche is a global pioneer in pharmaceuticals and diagnostics focused on advancing science to improve people's lives. The combined strengths of pharmaceuticals and diagnostics under one roof have made Roche the leader in personalised healthcare – a strategy that aims to fit the right treatment to each patient in the best way possible.

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Roche is the world's largest biotech company, with truly differentiated medicines in oncology, immunology, infectious diseases, ophthalmology and diseases of the central nervous system. Roche is also the world leader in in vitro diagnostics and tissue-based cancer diagnostics, and a frontrunner in diabetes management.

Founded in 1896, Roche continues to search for better ways to prevent, diagnose and treat diseases and make a sustainable contribution to society. The company also aims to improve patient access to medical innovations by working with all relevant stakeholders. More than thirty medicines developed by Roche are included in the World Health Organization Model Lists of Essential Medicines, among them life-saving antibiotics, antimalarials and cancer medicines. Moreover, for the eleventh consecutive year, Roche has been recognised as one of the most sustainable companies in the Pharmaceuticals Industry by the Dow Jones Sustainability Indices (DJSI).

The Roche Group, headquartered in Basel, Switzerland, is active in over 100 countries and in 2019 employed about 98,000 people worldwide. In 2019, Roche invested CHF 11.7 billion in R&D and posted sales of CHF 61.5 billion. Genentech, in the United States, is a wholly owned member of the Roche Group. Roche is the majority shareholder in Chugai Pharmaceutical, Japan. For more information, please visit www.roche.com.

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