Moderna – leveraging ground-breaking mRNA technology in support of Europe’s response to COVID-19

Moderna has grown in partnership with key European actors and is deeply committed to the region.

- Moderna have been shaped by European influence, investment, institutions and expertise since their start in 2010.
- Ten years since they started, Moderna is a small but fast-growing biotech company, with big European ambitions for their global growth.
- European partners, investors and citizens have been part of Moderna from their beginnings and have played a key role in getting their mRNA technology to where it is today - collaborating in peer reviewed research and participating in clinical trials - laying the foundation to respond to this global pandemic.

Moderna is committed to being part of the solution and see it as their intrinsic responsibility as leading mRNA innovators to leverage their technology and expertise in support of the global response to COVID-19.

- Moderna believe in the potential of mRNA to develop scalable solutions in a class of their own. This is what the company has been building up to for nearly ten years, investing significant capital, resources and talent.
- Recognising the urgent need for action early on, Moderna redirected resources across their R&D pipeline to accelerate their mRNA COVID-19 development program shortly after the first cases of COVID-19 became known.
- Moderna are leveraging their extensive experience with mRNA-LNP vaccine industrialisation, having developed their own proprietary technology and scaled it and deployed it in over 10 vaccines, and want to bring this know-how to Europe.
- Moderna look forward to collaborating with the EU now and in the future to bring mRNA technology to benefit European citizens.

- Moderna are a young company that bring a fresh and innovative approach to vaccine and drug development to the table. Leveraging this rapid drug design approach for COVID is what has allowed them to lead the pack in this process without compromising quality, scalability or speed.
- The European Commission vaccine strategy recognizes that developing a vaccine quickly in response the pandemic crisis is risk worth taking by making this funding available for APAs. Moderna has made the same assessment and directed a significant amount to date.
- It is not just a first in class vaccine, it will also be a first market-ready product for the young company.
- Global institutional partners are supportive of Moderna’s race to a vaccine.
- Building this technology platform in Europe would allow Moderna to respond faster in future pandemic situations as mRNA aspires to be the fastest response technology with no changes in raw materials, personnel or infrastructure required for multiple products.
- Moderna have already invested heavily in this vaccine, without a clear indication of demand or secure orders.
  - Moderna will be hiring high-skilled professionals both directly and indirectly.
  - Establishing a European presence would also see operating units and additional partnerships agreed with local companies.
  - Alongside securing sufficient raw materials to supply European vaccine needs.
- The EC vaccine strategy recognises securing raw materials and EU manufacturing as key early investments needed in parallel to clinical trials if vaccines are to be delivered on such a short time scale.
- The scale and fast changing nature of this crisis requires an agile and reactive response in the short term which Moderna provides, but their set-up also translates to longer term gain.

Modernas are committed to making sure this vaccine is available outside of the US and want to ensure it is fairly and equitable accessible.

- Peer reviewed data from Phase 1 trials of Moderna’s vaccine is to be published imminently, following a trial conducted by the National Institutes of Health (NIH), under its own, independent Investigational New Drug (IND) application. Manufacture of the first clinical batch for this trial was funded by the Coalition for Epidemic Preparedness Innovations (CEPI).