

(SANTE)

**Sent:** Tuesday 21 April 2020 19:49  
**To:** (SANTE)  
**Cc:** [JPPBE]; [JPPBE]; [JPPBE]; [JJCBE]  
**Subject:** J&J Announces a Lead Vaccine Candidate for COVID-19

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**From:** [JPPBE] <@its.jnj.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 15, 2020 5:09 PM  
**To:** (SANTE) <@ec.europa.eu>  
**Cc:** [JPPBE] <@ITS.JNJ.com>; [JPPBE] <@its.jnj.com>;  
[JPPBE] <@ITS.JNJ.com>; [JJCBE] <@its.jnj.com>  
**Subject:** J&J Announces a Lead Vaccine Candidate for COVID-19

Dear ,

I hope you and your family are staying healthy in these troubling times.

I wanted to share with you the below good news that J&J has identified a **lead vaccine candidate for COVID-19** and will be **moving swiftly towards human clinical trials by September 2020**.

Like everyone at the Commission, J&J is working hard to bring solutions to society under these unprecedented circumstances. Now, more than ever, we want to reiterate our commitment to partnering with DG SANTE to contribute to our common goal to build a healthier Europe.

In addition, we continue to highly value our collaborations with you and your team. Particularly as you have been such a staunch supporter of the **European Health Parliament**, we wanted to also provide you with an update on EHP.

With respect to the health and wellbeing of EHP members, speakers and stakeholders - many of whom are healthcare workers facing difficult personal and professional times themselves - we have taken the tough decision to **postpone the closing plenary** that was scheduled to take place on the 10 June and which you and Ms. Bucher had very kindly agreed to attend. In light of the current circumstances, the closing plenary of this edition will be **rescheduled for early September**. We would like to re-extend a warm invitation to you both to attend this rescheduled session and hope that you can provisionally indicate your interest.

We continue to see a role for young Europeans to play – leading with open and informed minds to help develop short, medium and longer-term solutions to help make health systems more sustainable, better able to prevent, react, and recover from times of strain.

If you have any questions about the vaccine development or other initiatives that J&J is involved in, please do not hesitate to come back to me.  
For questions regarding the EHP, please reach out to the team here in copy who you already know well.

With very best wishes,

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** [REDACTED] [JPPBE]  
**To:** "BUCHER Anne (SANTE)" <[Anne.Bucher@ec.europa.eu](mailto:Anne.Bucher@ec.europa.eu)>  
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[JPPBE] <[@its.jnj.com](mailto:@its.jnj.com)>  
**Subject:** J&J Announces a Lead Vaccine Candidate for COVID-19



## J&J Announces a Lead Vaccine Candidate for COVID-19

Dear Director General,

I sincerely hope you and your loved ones are doing well during these difficult times.

As I believe we share a common goal to contribute to a healthy Europe and given your crucial work in advancing the well-being of European citizens, I would like to share information with you regarding Johnson & Johnson's efforts to collaborate in the fight against COVID-19.

This 30<sup>th</sup> of March, Johnson & Johnson announced the selection of a [lead COVID-19 vaccine candidate](#).

We are moving swiftly toward **human clinical trials** of the lead vaccine candidate **by September 2020** and we anticipate the first batches of a COVID-19 vaccine could be available for **emergency use authorization in early 2021**, a substantially accelerated timeframe. For comparison: the typical vaccine development process involves a number of different stages, ranging from 5 to 7 *years* before a candidate even qualifies for approval.

To upscale this effort, we have expanded our landmark partnership between the Janssen Pharmaceutical Companies of Johnson & Johnson and the Biomedical Advanced Research and Development Authority (BARDA). Together, we have committed over \$1 billion dollars of investment to co-fund vaccine **research, development and clinical testing**.

J&J will expand its manufacturing capacity to ensure **global supply** of more than one billion doses of a **safe and effective vaccines worldwide**. The Company plans to begin production at risk imminently and is committed to bringing an affordable vaccine to the public on a **not-for-profit** basis for emergency pandemic use. The world is facing an urgent public health crisis and we are committed to doing our part to make a COVID-19 vaccine **available and affordable globally as quickly as possible**.

We will also upscale Janssen's ongoing efforts to **identify new or existing treatments**. We are working with global partners to screen a library of existing antiviral molecules, with the aim of identifying compounds with promising antiviral activity against the novel coronavirus, SARS-CoV-2 (also known as 2019-nCoV) that could contribute to providing immediate relief to the current outbreak. This work is being conducted in partnership with the Rega Institute for Medical Research (**KU Leuven/University of Leuven**), in **Belgium**.

“ We are very pleased to have identified a lead vaccine candidate from the constructs we have been working on since January. We are moving on an accelerated timeline toward Phase 1 human clinical trials at the latest by September 2020 and, supported by the global production capability that we are scaling up in parallel to this testing, we expect a vaccine could be ready for emergency use in early 2021.”

and  
Johnson & Johnson



This incredibly swift progress would not be possible without intense **public-private collaboration**. We still have a long way to go, but we are confident that this step marks a major milestone in ending COVID-19 for patients everywhere.

Our press release is available [here](#).

I also want to let you know how J&J is **supporting frontline health workers**, the backbone of our health systems and vital resources for global health security.

Since the outbreak of the pandemic and with the rapidly evolving strain on **health systems**, we have mobilized to provide equipment, products, financial donations, and even our own human resources to support organizations and healthcare workers on the front lines. Our commitments include:

- A new global **volunteer leave policy for medically trained J&J employees** who are either called to serve or who volunteer to provide medical service support for the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Collaboration with the Belgium government to increase the capacity of **COVID-19 testing in Belgium** by offering testing capacity of our **J&J laboratories in Beerse**. We are also **producing disinfectant hand liquid** in our industrial site in Geel **to supply hospitals**.
- \$50M to the Johnson & Johnson Center for Health Worker Innovation to aid in the immediate COVID-19 response, primarily focused on supporting frontline health workers in the most affected-countries. Press release [here](#).
- \$1M for The COVID-19 Solidarity Response Fund, which will enable individuals, and organizations around the world to directly support the **World Health Organization's** work to prevent, detect and respond to the COVID-19 pandemic (WHO).
- \$500K financial donation to the Swiss Red Cross.

Our team remains committed to these response efforts and available to answer any questions you may have, as we continue trying to live up to Our Promise to change the trajectory of health for humanity. Please do not hesitate to reach out to us directly.

Sincerely,

  
Europe, Middle East & Africa and  
Global Supply Chain, Johnson & Johnson



GA&P EMEA,  
Pharmaceuticals



GA&P EMEA,  
Consumer



GA&P EMEA,  
Medical Devices



GA&P EMEA,  
EU External Affairs &  
Alliance Development



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