

**Covid-19 | 10th Stakeholder Communiqué | 8<sup>th</sup> October 2020**

Dear Team-Member, Customer, Supplier, Contractor, Neighbor and all other Stakeholders,

COVID-19 outbreak is evolving with new infections increasing worldwide, there are clear indications of a 2<sup>nd</sup> wave of infections developing across Europe. We have seen many different forecasts and projections some are horrific others are optimistic – basically infections are up but nobody can tell what outcomes we will face 8-12 weeks down the road – whatever they are we need to be prepared. We will be taking a fresh look at our precautions at our sites, we will share best practices and make sure we are as ready as possible for the coming winter.

Hovione sites in Macau, China and New Jersey, US have no new cases to report. In Ireland/ Cork and in Portugal we detected respectively 1 and 5 isolated cases in the last month. None of the cases impacted operations.

**Fighting the Virus**

After the summer we saw road traffic increasing and it appears that many aspects of life have returned close to normal. The return to school has contributed to this sense, this may result in increased infection rates and consequently in absenteeism of parents with young children. At Hovione we put together some booklets of recommendations on Covid-19 including what precautions to take when you are outside Hovione.

Because of the large number of TMs in Portugal we have contracted with a lab to provide fast PCR testing to detect Sars-Cov-2 – this service is available for free to all TMs and to all those that they live with providing one individual has a symptom or one person was identified as a close contact. Tests as voluntary, the goal is to be able to go from suspicion to sample, test result and isolation in under 12 hours in order to effectively contain infection spread. The success of this effort requires swift cooperation by all involved.

To enable business to continue when enhanced sighting of activities or when face-to-face work is required we have enabled our video conferencing with virtual tours. "[COVID-19 – Guidance Protocol for External Visitors](#)" was created to help Team Members and external visitors to maintain their safety while on site.

**Our Communities**

A 17-year old arts student [video](#) won the ABCovid contest Hovione sponsored. The initiative was led by a group of summer trainees keen to take a role in changing behaviors of school children. Authors submitted 178 videos from 94 Portuguese schools. All videos can be found in [www.ABCovid.pt](http://www.ABCovid.pt). Hovione provided support to 28 schools / 9000 students in our communities for the purchase of materials and equipment for the prevention of COVID-19 contamination.

**Helping Patients**

On September 23<sup>rd</sup> Hovione announced the signing of a partnership agreement with Ligand to significantly ramp up the production of Captisol®, used in the formulation of Gilead's Covid-19 treatment Veklury® (remdesivir). We are the sole producer of this key enabling excipient and will soon be producing per month the quantity we usually produced in one year. This has required unique mobilization efforts across the Hovione network.

**Our Business**

Our 1<sup>st</sup> half of FY2020 ended on 30<sup>th</sup> September and I am pleased to report that we ended with sales slightly ahead of budget. The order book is in line with plan and ahead of prior year.

For all other on-going activities see our webpage [Covid-19/Coronavirus](#).

Guy Villax  
Chief Executive

[Click here for our previous External Stakeholder Communiqués](#)

For more information please contact Isabel Pina at Hovione Communications ([ipina@hovione.com](mailto:ipina@hovione.com))