

BIOCOM MEMBERS IN ACTION

Biocom is proud of the swift actions of our member companies and the work they are doing to address COVID-19.

Abbvie

- Doctors in China have started using a combination of AbbVie Inc.'s HIV drugs ritonavir and lopinavir at hospitals. A clinical trial is assessing whether the combination, sold under the brand name Kaletra, is more effective than an antiviral medicine known as interferon-alpha 2b in treating patients.
- [Read More – Bloomberg](#)

Chan Zuckerberg

- Bay Area COVID-19 testing ability to quadruple with UCSF, Stanford, Chan Zuckerberg effort
- [Read More – San Francisco Business Times](#)

Distributed Bio

- Coronavirus spreads faster than influenza, scientist from Netflix's 'Pandemic' says
- [Read More – Fox](#)

Gilead

- Assisting in development and testing of therapies (trial).
- Working with Chinese health authorities to set up a randomized clinical trial in the country of its experimental antiviral drug remdesivir (used for Ebola), which has shown some potential in animal studies against the related coronaviruses MERS and SARS.
- Bring deep experience in antiviral research and development and the global reach that many of the dozen or so biotechs working on coronavirus therapeutics lack. Has drawn attention for the potential of its antiviral drug remdesivir (now are accelerating lab testing of this drug to see its affects against coronavirus).
- [Read More – BioPharma Dive](#)
- [Read More – The Economist](#)

GSK

- Assisting in development and testing of therapies.
- One of the world's largest producers of vaccines, has made its vaccine adjuvant technology (makes vaccines more effective & boosts immunity) available to companies and universities partnered with the Coalition for Epidemic Preparedness Innovations (CEPI) on coronavirus vaccine development.
- Brings deep experience in antiviral research and development and the global reach that many of the dozen or so biotechs working on coronavirus therapeutics lack.
- In theory, the adjuvant should cut the amount of antigen that is needed to create effective vaccines. That benefit, known as antigen sparing, is particularly sought after during pandemic outbreaks as it enables more people to be vaccinated using available antigen supplies.
- Coalition for Epidemic Preparedness Innovations (backed by Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation).
- Australia's University of Queensland is the first CEPI-partnered group to formalize an agreement with GSK, which will supply its AS03 adjuvant system to the university.
- [Read More – Fierce Biotech](#)

Hologic

- [HHS Supports Development of First High-Throughput COVID-19 Diagnostic Test](#)

Inovio Pharmaceuticals

- The Coalition for Epidemic Preparedness Innovations signed contracts with drugmakers including Moderna and Inovio Pharmaceuticals Inc. as early as Jan. 22 to expedite work.
- [Read More – Bloomberg](#)

Mammoth Biosciences

- Given the global health emergency, rapid transmission, and severe respiratory disease associated with the outbreak of the 2019 novel coronavirus (SARS-CoV-2), Mammoth Biosciences has reconfigured our DETECTR platform to rapidly and accurately detect SARS-CoV-2 using a visual lateral flow strip format within 30 minutes from sample to result.
- [Read More – Mammoth Biosciences](#)

Marsh

- [Marsh Coronavirus Resilience Fact Sheet](#)

- [Marsh Coronavirus Webcast Presentation](#)

McDermott Will & Emery

- [FDA Update: COVID-19 Testing, Vaccine Development and Other Impacts](#)

Procopio

- [3/19 Webinar: Answers to the Questions Employers Should be Asking Regarding COVID-19 \(Coronavirus\)](#)

San Diego Blood Bank

- [Support Needed Amid COVID-19 Concerns](#)

Sorrento Therapeutics and Celularity

- Both companies have initiated a clinical and manufacturing collaboration to expand therapeutic use of existing cell therapy.
- Companies have a longstanding relationship and both have expressed interest in starting clinical development efforts for anti-coronavirus allogeneic NK cell therapy immediately.
- Looking to expand use of Celularity's CYNK-001, an allogeneic, off-the-shelf, placental-derived Natural Killer (NK) cell therapy, to the treatment and prevention of coronavirus infections.
- Sorrento would utilize current existing capacity in its "state-of-the-art" cGMP cell therapy manufacturing facilities in San Diego to supplement Celularity's new cGMP facility in Florham Park, New Jersey. The combined capacity would support the rapid scale-up and sustained production of the novel cell therapy.
- Sorrento in contact with leading scientists and local Chinese experts to discuss clinical validation and logistics requirements to fast-track CYNK-001 cell therapy available in China for this particularly urgent indication.
- [Read More – BioSpace](#)

SynBioBeta

- [SynBioBeta COVID-19 Town Hall with Distributed Bio and Mammoth Biosciences](#)

ThermoFisher Scientific

- Providing genetic analysis solutions for coronavirus 2019-nCoV.
- Thermo Fisher Scientific is an industry-leading, worldwide, trusted partner with comprehensive, end-to-end solutions for pathogen detection; scientific

expertise; and the support capabilities critical to combating the current outbreak.

- Utilizes Applied Biosystems TaqMan Assay technology to provide specific, sensitive, and accurate results.
- [Read More – ThermoFisher](#)

Twist Biosciences (working with Inovio)

- [Read More – Forbes](#)

Vir Biotechnology

- Vir Biotechnology Announces Research Collaboration with the National Institutes of Health Vaccine Research Center on Antibodies Against Coronaviruses
- [Read More](#)

See also: [COVID-19: A growing list of new vaccines and therapies in development](#)