



## Pfizer's Intellectual Property (IP) Policy Position

Pfizer's purpose – *Breakthroughs that change patients' lives* – fuels everything we do and reflects both our passion for science and our commitment to patients. The incentives provided by the intellectual property (IP) system have enabled Pfizer to build an infrastructure that allows us to apply science and our global resources to advance our purpose. We are thrilled our COVID-19 vaccine has the potential to change more lives than any other breakthrough from the past century, and we are just as proud of our other breakthroughs – big and small – that deliver meaningful value to patients and society.

As demonstrated by our commitment to the “IP Principles for Advancing Cures and Therapies” ([IP PACT](#)), we are committed to patient and societal benefit as guiding principles in our IP practice. Responsible use of our intellectual property (IP) enables us to engage in collaborations and partnerships that have the potential to speed up progress on the most pressing unmet medical needs. We are a founding member of the [World Intellectual Property Organization \(WIPO\) Re:Search](#) program, an initiative that aims to catalyze a broad range of innovative collaborations to support early stage research and development in the fight against neglected tropical diseases, malaria and tuberculosis. We have also engaged with the [Medicines Patent Pool](#) (MPP) to facilitate the clinical development of sutezolid, an investigational medicine for the treatment of tuberculosis.

Pfizer supports patent transparency, as evidenced by our participation in the [Patent Information Initiative for Medicines](#) (Pat-INFORMED), an initiative that seeks to facilitate easy access to medicine patent information. Through this initiative, we have taken a leading role by listing all of the patents from our entire small molecule product portfolio.

Enforcement of patent rights is driven by numerous factors particular to each case. We are committed to continually acting in a responsible, ethical and proportionate way when protecting our inventions and resolving patent disputes, which includes careful consideration of the legal remedies available to us in a given situation.

The company recognizes the unique level of economic development and social challenges of Least Developed Countries (LDCs), as defined by the United Nations Committee for Development Policy; therefore, Pfizer has a policy of patent non-enforcement in LDCs. In that same spirit, we are supportive of a time-limited extension for LDCs to comply with the provisions of the WTO Agreement on Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights (TRIPS Agreement).

To demonstrate our commitment to build capacity and advance developing country patent systems, Pfizer supports programs such as the [Inventor Assistance Program](#) (IAP), an initiative of the World Intellectual Property Organization in cooperation with the World Economic Forum. The IAP matches developing country inventors and small businesses with limited financial means with patent attorneys, who provide pro bono legal assistance to secure patent protection. We believe that ensuring that as many people as possible have the opportunity to turn great ideas into reality through the patent system is an important part of creating a thriving society that will help move a country to the next stage of development.

The Pfizer-IIT Delhi Innovation and IP Program, for example, represents a first of its kind industry-academia partnership that funds and incubates healthcare startups and provides assistance with IP search and filing services—helping transform ideas into products and solutions that address important healthcare needs. With guidance from Pfizer’s experts, industry experts and mentoring support from IIT Delhi’s faculty the program provides active support for incubation and intellectual property (IP) creation in healthcare innovation.

Pfizer shares the goal of facilitating access to medicines for patients and we support implementation of the 2001 WTO Doha Declaration on TRIPS and Public Health, which recognizes countries’ right to protect public health, while also acknowledging that IP protection is important for the development of new medicines. We welcome the “Paragraph 6” amendment (Article 31bis) to the TRIPS Agreement that entered into force in 2017, and we understand that the limited, narrow use of a compulsory license to address a national health emergency may be appropriate if all other options have been exhausted and the problem is truly urgent. However, Pfizer has been and will continue to work directly with governments and other stakeholders to ensure our treatments and vaccines are accessible to those who need them. Resorting to a compulsory license as a routine matter of public or industrial policy is not the best way to achieve the goal of facilitating sustainable access to medicines.

Pfizer further supports regulatory data protection (RDP) as a means of ensuring the protection of innovative data against both disclosure and unfair commercial use as required by the TRIPS Agreement. RDP enables the approval of lower cost generic medicines, by preserving an incentive for innovators to generate safety and efficacy data, while allowing generic companies to refer to and rely on that data in seeking approval once the RDP period expires. We believe RDP terms should meet the highest international standards and should be measured from the date of approval of the product by each country’s respective regulator.