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# Merck donates two million FFP2 masks

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Merck, a science and technology company, is donating a total of two million FFP2 masks in Germany, France and the United States, among others. The company is covering the costs of purchasing and transporting the protective equipment. The donation is mainly intended to support healthcare workers; the relevant authorities and organizations will handle the distribution of the masks.

“During these unprecedented times, we are grateful for the dedication and great work of all those on the Covid-19 front lines. To help protect more than 30,000 healthcare professionals, we are donating up to a month’s supply of the much needed FFP2 masks. At Merck, we are focused on advancing human progress and continue to provide our resources and full dedication to overcome the Covid-19 pandemic.”

Belén Garijo, Member of the Executive Board and CEO Healthcare of Merck

Moreover, Merck is supporting the global fight against Covid-19 through a wide range of actions. For example, the company is cooperating with other pharmaceutical and life science companies as well as the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation to develop, manufacture and provide vaccines, diagnostics and treatment options for Covid-19. Merck is supporting the Jenner Institute in reaching an initial milestone for the industrial production of a potential Covid-19 vaccine. In addition, Merck has set up its own production capacities for disinfectant at its sites in Darmstadt and Wiesbaden, Germany, as well as Rio de Janeiro, Brazil and Norwood, US, amongst others.

In 2019, the company awarded the Future Insight Prize, a research grant worth up to € 1 million, for superb scientific achievements in the field of pandemic preparedness to Pardis Sabeti from Harvard University and the Broad Institute as well as to James Crowe from Vanderbilt University Medical Center. Like many scientists worldwide, they are currently working hard to identify diagnostics and therapeutic options for Covid-19 infections.