

Investor-led Collaborative Engagement on Access to Medicine and SDG3

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS (FAQ)

1. What is the background of the collaborative engagement?

- The Access to Medicine Index ranks 20 of the world's largest research-based pharmaceutical companies on the basis of how they manage risks and opportunities related to access to medicine in low- and middle-income countries. The Index measures a range of value drivers within the pharmaceutical business, including pricing, R&D, governance and compliance.
- The Index is viewed by investors as one of the most credible sources of information for assessing how pharmaceutical companies strengthen their licence to operate globally and expand in international markets. It is endorsed by a group of 120+ signatory investors – collectively managing assets worth more than USD 19 trillion – which have signed the Access to Medicine Index Investor Statement and committed to using the Index in their investment analysis and engagement with companies.
- In May 2019, the Access to Medicine Foundation published the first-ever 10-year report which offered a rigorous baseline for encouraging pharmaceutical companies to further expand the progress that has been made towards SDG3.

2. What is the overall and company-specific objective of the collaborative engagement?

- The collaborative engagement is a long-term engagement project for tracking the progress of pharmaceutical companies towards SDG3 by 2030. It represents a unique opportunity for investors to collectively drive pharmaceutical companies forward to achieve the SDG3, as well as to track the progress and impact through the engagement.
- The collaborative engagement currently covers the 19 listed companies in the 2021 Access to Medicine Index (with Boehringer Ingelheim as the only exception since it is a private company). These companies together account for approximately 60-70% of global pharmaceutical revenues.
- The company-specific opportunities included in the company report cards in the Index will form the basis for engagement and tracking progress. The key areas for improvement across the companies include R&D, access planning, equitable pricing, governance, as well as patents and licensing. These priorities have been reinforced by company representatives and industry experts during the Amsterdam workshop in July 2019.

3. Does the Access to Medicine Index cover COVID-19?

- Coronaviruses are within the disease scope of the Access to Medicine Index. This means that the Access to Medicine Index will assesses what pharmaceutical companies are doing to conduct R&D for COVID-19 health technologies, including medicines, vaccines and diagnostics, in addition to what steps companies are taking to ensure the availability and affordability of COVID-19 health technologies as they come to market.

4. Timeline

- The collaborative engagement will be a long-term engagement project, with the Access to Medicine Index (published every 2 years) as the building block for tracking the progress.

5. Who is participating in the collaborative engagement?

- 120+ investors participate in the collaborative engagement. The vast majority of participating investors are signatory investor of the Access to Medicine Index Investor Statement (link to the statement is in the **Tools and links for investors** section).

6. What is the format of the collaborative engagement?

- The engagement will take place mainly in the format of one-on-one or group calls/meetings with companies. The format may vary depending on the lead investors' approach and the regional context, as well as the company's response.

7. What is the role of the Access to Medicine Foundation in the collaborative engagement?

- The engagement was conceived and is led by investors. The Access to Medicine Foundation plays a supportive role, as needed.
- The Access to Medicine Foundation will remain independent and not participate in the investor-led engagement meetings/calls with the companies. The Foundation will provide full research support wherever needed.

8. Who are lead investors in the collaborative engagement?

- There is between one to three co-lead investors for each of the 19 listed companies in the 2021 Access to Medicine Index.

9. What is the responsibility of lead investors?

- Lead investors will be responsible for initiating calls/meetings with the respective companies to discuss their progress in response to the opportunities highlighted in the 2021 Access to Medicine Index.

10. Tools and links for investors

- Access to Medicine Index [Investor Statement](#)
- [2021 Access to Medicine Index](#) (published in January 2021)
- [Report Card](#) of 19 listed pharmaceutical companies included in the collaborative engagement
- [10-year Progress Analysis Report](#) (published in May 2019)
- Amsterdam workshop [summary report](#) (published in July 2019)
- [Comparison Hub](#) with filter by company and topic
- [Best & Innovative Practices](#) with filter by company, disease, region and topic