

# Life Sciences Ontario

Queens Park Day &  
2020 Success Stories



## About Life Sciences Ontario (LSO)

Life Sciences Ontario (LSO) is a member-funded, not-for-profit organization with a legacy of more than 30 years advancing the success of Ontario's life sciences sector. LSO collaborates with governments, academia, industry, and other life science organizations in Ontario and across Canada to promote and encourage commercial success throughout the sector. The organization provides a wide range of networking and educational events, operates a scholarship and mentorship program that is helping to develop highly skilled talent and build new business opportunities for the life sciences sector. LSO is an effective conduit for delivering policy options to governments, and is dedicated to promoting Ontario's life sciences sector internationally.

### **LSO's advocacy efforts currently focus around three key priorities:**

The need for a coordinated provincial life sciences strategy aligning with a clear vision for Canada's life sciences sector.

Support for innovation – including policy surrounding potential changes to drug pricing and intellectual property impacting the health of Canadians and the sustainability of our healthcare system.

Access to capital and support for talent so our life sciences companies can thrive and grow here at home, creating Made-in-Ontario success stories.

### **Key Advocacy Reports and Publications**

- **[Blueprint for a Coordinated Life Sciences Strategy](#)**  
[Read the Blueprint Here.](#)
- **[Accelerating Prosperity: The Life Sciences Sector in Ontario](#)**  
[Read the Sector Report Here.](#)
- **[PMPRB Life Sciences Ontario and Research Etc., Survey Results: Impact of PMPRB Pricing Changes](#)**  
[Read the Report Here.](#)

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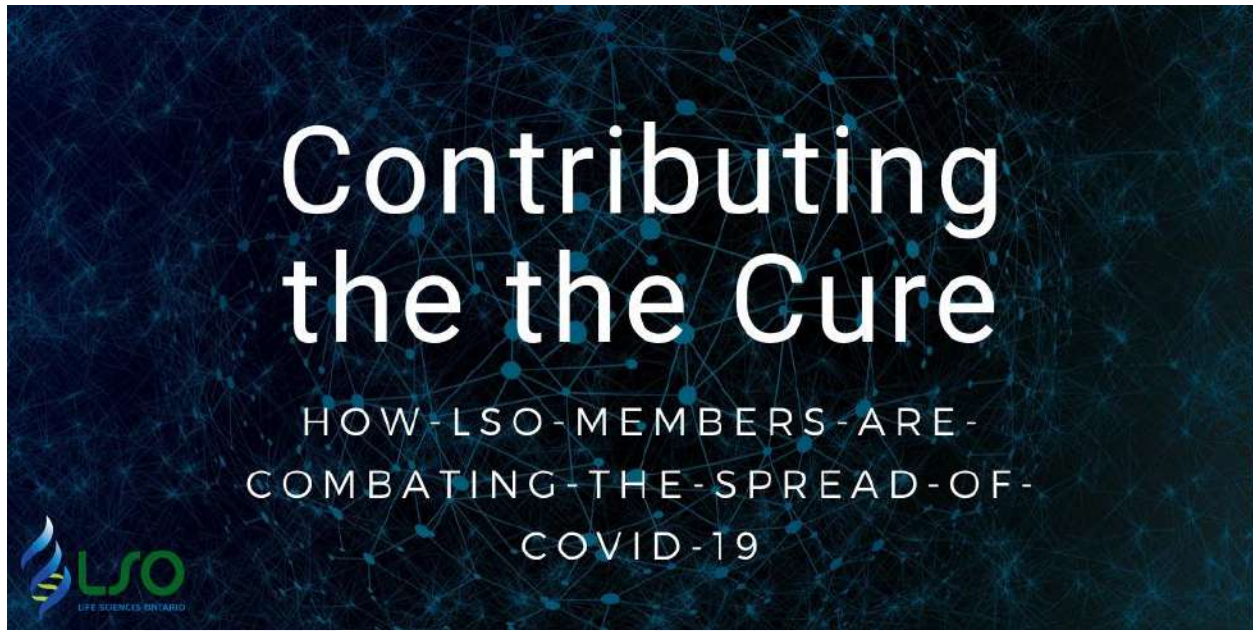


Gold



Silver





## 2020 Life Science Ontario Success Stories

In March 2020, our country and province were faced with the realities of the novel COVID-19 virus. LSO began collecting stories and updates from our member companies on the research, resources, and innovation they have surrounding combating the pandemic.

The collection of stories was shared on the Life Sciences Ontario website under the title [“Contributing to the Cure”](#). These stories and resources are routinely updated as new information becomes available. We have taken a small segment of those stories and created a document to highlight not only what our member companies are doing *locally* but also *globally*.

## 2020 LSO Success Stories



### Amgen Canada launches \$1M giving program to support Canadians during COVID-19

Amgen lives its “[Mission to Serve Patients](#)” and their communities by providing supplies, expertise and donations where they’re needed. The impact of the Amgen Canada response is valued at over \$1 million, including contributing substantially to a major industry effort to obtain 100,000 N95 masks for communities across Canada and donation to the [CanadaHelps COVID-19](#) Healthcare and Hospital Fund supporting charities and hospital foundations providing medical response efforts, lifesaving aid and critical equipment.

[Learn More Here.](#)

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### Sanofi and GSK sign agreements with the Government of Canada to supply up to 72 million doses of adjuvanted



Sanofi and GSK announce the signing of agreements with the Government of Canada for the supply of up to [72 million doses of an adjuvanted COVID-19 vaccine, beginning in 2021](#). Sanofi is leading the clinical development and registration of the COVID-19



vaccine, and a Phase 1/ 2 study was initiated on September 3 with a total of 440 subjects being enrolled.

The companies anticipate results in early December 2020 to support the initiation of a pivotal Phase 3 study before the end of the year. If the data is sufficient for regulatory application, it is planned to request regulatory approval in the first half of 2021. In parallel, Sanofi and GSK are scaling up manufacturing of the antigen and adjuvant respectively with the target of producing up to one billion doses in total per year, globally.

[Learn More Here.](#)

## BD Receives Order from Canada Government for 37 Million Injection Devices to Support Vaccination Program



BD (Becton, Dickinson and Company) (NYSE: BDX), a leading global medical technology company, today issued a statement following the receipt of a large pandemic order from the Canadian government for 37 million needles and syringes to support Canada's planning for a vaccination effort for COVID-19.

[Learn More Here.](#)

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## COVID-19: Ontario's clinical trials community rising to the challenge

### CLINICAL TRIALS ONTARIO

With a highly efficient clinical trials system already in place and world-class institutions and sponsors working collaboratively, Ontario has been able to move COVID-19 research forward quickly. There are more than [75 COVID-19 clinical trials and observational studies underway across 240 trial sites in Ontario](#), according to data collected from CTO Stream, the province's research ethics approval platform powered by **Clinical Trials Ontario (CTO)**. These studies have been and continue to be central to Ontario's response to this global pandemic. They are showing the efficacy and safety of interventions and are guiding our understanding of the disease.

CTO is enabling these trials to get up and running quickly by providing single ethics review for multi-centre studies, and Ontario's clinical research community is ensuring that trials are conducted safely in our new reality. A high level of collaboration among researchers, trial sites and study sponsors has allowed for innovation in clinical research conduct that will lead to an even stronger clinical research environment in Ontario.

[Learn More Here.](#)

## Shift Health brings a science mindset to strategy consulting for the health research and innovation ecosystem.



We are leading conversations about what COVID-19 means for the future of the health research and innovation ecosystem. COVID-19 has compressed into weeks structural and system-level adaptations that might otherwise have evolved over years. In our [report](#), we identify five phenomena that augur permanent shifts in how we conduct research, advance innovation and deliver health impact:

1. The long-awaited end of the beginning of health digitalization is setting the stage for a futureproofed data ecosystem.
2. Emerging regulations and practices are optimizing the triad of safety, quality and speed.
3. The rapid propagation of nimble models of collaboration is creating possibilities and expectations to sustain the urgent pace of innovation.
4. Growth in the public's attention to science is driving us toward a more accountable, community-engaged research and innovation ecosystem.
5. Our awakening to the global interconnectedness of social, ecological, economic and innovation systems is transforming our understanding of global and sovereign health security.

COVID-19 has proven that innovation systems have the potential to perform with greater agility, alacrity and ambition, inviting a re-imagining of the rules, conventions and practices that will guide us into the future.

[Learn More Here.](#)

## Stryker Canada's Sterilization Technology Increasing uses of N95 masks in Canada



Stryker has the first system approved by Health Canada to sterilize N95 masks for reuse, allowing front line workers to use one mask up to three times. Hospitals across the country are receiving the Sterizone VP4 technology and will be able to sterilize almost 12 million masks per year, resulting in more than 36 million uses of masks.

Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) and specifically N95 masks are essential for healthcare workers and have limited supply in Canada, making it important to find creative ways to increase supply and maximize use.

After taking the initiative to start testing their existing Sterizone VP4 sterilizer on N95 masks in March, in early April the company's Quebec subsidiary, TS03, received approval from Health Canada for this new use in only two days after submitting.

[Learn More Here.](#)

## “First approved treatment option for COVID-19 in Canada” Gilead Sciences Canada, Mississauga, ON



Since the onset of the pandemic, Gilead has been committed to putting our resources and research to bear as we work to advance potential treatments that may help in the global response to this public health emergency. Decades of antiviral expertise enabled Gilead Sciences to move quickly to determine the safety and efficacy of our investigational agent, remdesivir. Veklury (remdesivir) became the first approved treatment option for COVID-19 in Canada on July 27<sup>th</sup> <sup>1</sup>.

In addition, investments to scale up manufacturing, including at our Edmonton production facility, has allowed us to increase supply of Veklury, nearly 50-fold since January and at current rate of infection, exceed real-time demand. To get this product to hospitals, Gilead Sciences Canada has entered into an agreement with the Government of Canada to supply 150,000 vials of Veklury.

[Learn More Here.](#)

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## GSK Steps up for COVID-19



GSK has been closely monitoring the COVID-19 pandemic and is supporting global efforts to tackle the virus. In addition, since the start of the pandemic, GSK in Canada has been actively exploring ways to support those in our communities waging war against COVID-19. GSK's Canadian operations – which include Pharma, ViiV, Manufacturing, Consumer Healthcare and Vaccines - are now taking a Canada-wide approach to support COVID-19 relief efforts. Towards this, GSK in Canada has made available \$950,000 in corporate grants.

To date, GSK in Canada has granted over \$90,000 to patient organizations to continue supporting their COVID-19 action plans which includes reaching out to their communities, providing relevant information and education as they face new organizational challenges.

[Learn More Here.](#)

## First Patient Enrolled in NIH Phase 3 Trial to Evaluate Potential COVID-19 Hyperimmune Medicine



The **CoVig-19 Plasma Alliance**, an unprecedented collaboration of leading plasma companies supported by global organizations outside the plasma industry, confirmed that patients are now being enrolled in the Inpatient Treatment with Anti-Coronavirus Immunoglobulin (ITAC) Phase 3 clinical trial sponsored by the

National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID), part of the National Institutes of Health (NIH). The trial will evaluate the safety, tolerability and efficacy of an investigational anti-coronavirus hyperimmune intravenous immunoglobulin (H-Ig) medicine for treating hospitalized adults at risk for serious complications of COVID-19 disease. If successful, the Alliance's H-Ig may become one of the earliest treatment options for hospitalized COVID-19 patients.

### About the CoVig-19 Alliance:

The Alliance, formed by **CSL Behring and Takeda**, also includes the leading-edge expertise of founding members Biotest, BPL, LFB, and Octapharma, along with additional industry members ADMA Biologics, BioPharma Plasma, GC Pharma, Liminal BioSciences, National Bioproducts Institute and Sanquin. The Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation is providing advisory support. Microsoft is providing technology including the Alliance website and the Plasma Bot for donor recruitment. Organizations including Pall and Uber Health are also making contributions to the CoVig-19 Plasma Alliance. Experts from the Alliance are collaborating across key aspects such as plasma collection, clinical trial development, and product manufacturing.

[Learn More Here.](#)

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You can read past [LSO Success Stories here.](#)

For more COVID-19 related stories, please visit our [“Contributing to the Cure”](#) page on our website.

### Other Member and Partner COVID-19 resources:

- [MedTech Canada](#)
- [Innovative Medicines Canada](#)
- [BIOTECanada](#)



LSO Office  
350 Bay Street, Suite 700  
Toronto, ON  
M5H 2S6  
P: 416-426-7293  
admin@lifesciencesontario.ca

@LifeSciencesON  
[www.lifesciencesontario.ca](http://www.lifesciencesontario.ca)