



Launching the IP PACT: Intellectual Property Principles for Advancing Cures and Therapies

Brussels/Basel, 26 April 2021 – The "[IP PACT](#)" (Intellectual Property Principles for Advancing Cures and Therapies) is being launched today, on World IP Day 2021, by over 25 members of the innovative biopharmaceutical industry and associations, under the umbrella of INTERPAT.

This ground-breaking initiative affirms the industry's strong commitment to innovation and to putting patients at the heart of the industry's approach to Intellectual Property (IP).

Setting out a framework for greater trust and collaboration, the IP PACT includes 10 key principles that explain how the biopharmaceutical industry uses the IP system and underscore the values it carries and promotes.

IP has been a fundamental enabler to great scientific advances and breakthrough medical innovation and is a cornerstone of a thriving research ecosystem, facilitating access to today's medicines and enabling the development of tomorrow's cures, therapies, and vaccines. By laying the groundwork to find solutions to combat pressing medical needs, including the COVID-19 pandemic, IP improves and extends patients' lives across the world.

"It is important to us that patients and society understand the way we use IP and why it matters for what we do. The IP PACT is an industry-wide unified commitment to the IP system and to using it in a way that brings value to patients and society. We want to communicate the key principles to which we adhere to and guide our companies' use of IP to advance the goals of improving and extending patients' lives." said **Andrew Jenner, INTERPAT Director-General**.

To mark the launch of the principles, the digital [event](#) "**Launching the IP Principles for Advancing Cures and Therapies (IP PACT). Our approach to Intellectual Property with patient and societal benefit at its core**" will take place today, gathering patient representatives, government officials and industry to comment on the significance of the IP PACT initiative and the importance of a sustainable IP system.

ABOUT INTERPAT

INTERPAT is a non-profit association of research-based biopharmaceutical companies that promotes effective intellectual property (IP) protection throughout the world as a key incentive for sustainable innovation to advance global health. Its representatives are the leading and senior executives of its member companies who are responsible for IP and IP-related matters.

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Additional Quotes Provided by the Speakers

Jean-Christophe Tellier, UCB CEO: *“In developing this IP PACT, our goal was to explain how we use the IP system. We are pleased to share today the 10 principles that guide our companies’ approach to IP: these exemplify our commitment to keeping the needs of patients at the heart of everything we do.”*

Paola Barbarino, Alzheimer's Disease International (ADI) CEO: *“I am happy to support this important initiative by the biopharmaceutical industry, a unified commitment to the IP system that highlights the need of keeping patients at the heart of these practices.”*

Thomas Cueni, International Federation of Pharmaceutical Manufacturers & Associations (IFPMA) DG: *“Intellectual property rights underpin the system that gives us all new medicines, from psychiatric drugs to cancer treatments; as well as the science that is providing us with COVID-19 treatments, diagnostics and vaccines. This IP PACT sends an important signal. Innovative biopharmaceutical companies are eager to show that the way they use the IP system can bring value to patients and society.”*

Sune Stampe Sørensen, Danish Patent and Trademark Office DG: *“IP rights are a key instrument for driving innovation and knowledge sharing. The IP framework should be fair, effective, and accessible for all - locally as well as globally. A level playing field with legal certainty and efficient enforcement. That is what we as an authority is aiming to achieve.”*