

COMPANY STATEMENT



Updated March 17, 2020

BD Statement on COVID-19 (Coronavirus)

BD is closely monitoring the COVID-19 (coronavirus) situation across the world and guidance from the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the World Health Organization (WHO) and health officials in a variety of affected countries to ensure the health and safety of BD employees in affected areas around the world, which is our first priority.

Status of BD operations: China

BD does not have any manufacturing or distribution operations in Wuhan or Hubei province and is adhering to guidance from Chinese officials to instruct employees to avoid travel to Wuhan. **BD's manufacturing facilities and distribution centers in China have resumed operations as expected in February**, and are operating at normal capacity with employee attendance at normal levels. BD has also implemented safety procedures to assess the health of employees and visitors prior to granting admittance to all BD China locations to help prevent the spread of COVID-19.

The vast majority of products that BD manufactures in China are sold and used in China, and BD currently has sufficient inventory of BD products exported from China to meet current demand. For example, BD Veritor products are the only products BD manufactures in China and exports to the U.S. Currently, while we have sufficient inventory on hand, BD Veritor products are the only products on order review, stemming from a spike in U.S. demand due to a continued elevated flu season, not a manufacturing shortage. BD Veritor product manufacturing has resumed in our Chinese facility.

For customers within China, BD expects some temporary delays in customer orders based primarily on third-party transportation shortages.

Status of BD operations: Rest of world

With respect to affected areas in greater Asia, all of BD's manufacturing and distribution facilities in Singapore, South Korea and Japan are operating normally. In both the U.S. and Europe, all manufacturing and distribution facilities are operating normally. In Italy, Malaysia and Puerto Rico, where local governments have imposed stricter "lockdown" measures to slow the spread of coronavirus, BD continues to operate with measures in place to ensure business continuity.

In addition, BD continues to assess its key suppliers in all affected areas that provide raw materials and components to BD manufacturing plants around the world. BD continues to have sufficient raw material and component inventory to meet manufacturing demand, and key suppliers in China have confirmed they have resumed operations.

Product availability and business continuity planning

BD continues to meet current demand for the vast majority of our products and does not currently expect disruptions to product availability due to production shortages related to COVID-19. However, we are seeing high demand in select product categories because of a prolonged flu season and the coronavirus pandemic. We are closely monitoring this dynamic situation and will keep customers informed on any meaningful changes to product availability as the situation evolves.

Based on very high demand, the following products are on manual inventory allocation to supply our customers as much as possible:

- BD Alcohol Swabs sold to retail pharmacies and used in other 'small-medical' settings.
- BD Universal Viral Transport (UVT) System (including swabs, vials and prepackaged kits). These products are used to collect and transport clinical specimens for viral testing, including for the diagnosis of the flu or the coronavirus. Alternative product options may be available.
- BD MAX™ System and BD MAX™ Open-System Reagents that support COVID-19 testing, such as the Total Nucleic Acid (TNA) reagent suite.

In an abundance of caution, as of March 9, 2020, we have also put internal controls in place for some injection and vascular access-related products to avoid excessive stockpiling and ensure continuity of supply, including those that will be used in the diagnosis and treatment of COVID-19. This includes reviewing orders for disproportionate quantities based on historic demand.

While this may result in longer than normal call times for U.S. customer service, customers do not need to take any special action related to this process and it will not otherwise delay the ordering or shipping process. We believe these practices will help ensure continuity of supply.

BD has business continuity plans for these types of situations. If a product or raw material is deemed at risk, BD will adopt numerous contingency plans including seeking alternative suppliers, expediting shipments, redeploying raw materials and/or finished goods from other parts of the BD network and placing at-risk products on order review to prevent hoarding behavior. BD also institutes preventative pandemic precautions at facilities in affected areas to protect employees and visitors.

Supporting global response

BD announced new products to help aid in the detection and identification of COVID-19, including [a molecular test for the detection of COVID-19 for clinical laboratories in countries recognizing the CE mark](#). BD also partnered with BioGX to announce that the companies have submitted Emergency Use Authorization requests to the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) for [new diagnostic tests that would increase the potential capacity to screen for COVID-19](#) by thousands of tests per day.

BD also participated in a [recent White House meeting](#) with CEOs of private sector partners who have been involved in the effort to expand access to COVID-19 testing and test development.

In addition, BD has provided support to local health organizations in China through in-kind donations of \$300,000 in products to the Wuhan Red Cross to help support response efforts and a \$50,000 donation to Project Hope for the provision of personal protective equipment for frontline health care workers in China.

BD will continue to monitor the situation and provide updates as warranted under the Operations Updates section of the [Alerts and Notices page on BD.com](#).