

Hello,

This letter requests your participation to help us gather more information from you and your organization's experience in COVID-19 testing and treatment during this critical time in pandemic response worldwide.

For over 200 years, the Mass General Brigham (Partners) healthcare system has been responding to pandemics, global health crises, and changing how medicine is practiced. In response to the unprecedented SARS-CoV-2/COVID-19 pandemic, our world leading medical institutions have formed the [Mass General Brigham Center for COVID Innovation](#). This virtual global community of world leading academic research centers, healthcare systems, biopharmaceutical, device and technology companies is headquartered at Massachusetts General Hospital and Brigham and Women's Hospital in Boston, Massachusetts. The Center for COVID Innovation has a mandate to find, create, enable, and implement Device, Diagnostic, Data and Therapeutic solutions helping those affected by the pandemic in all its forms.

As part of the Diagnostics Pillar within the MGB Center for COVID Innovation, we have formed the Horizon Technology Initiative to improve COVID testing world-wide by providing a bridge between tech developers and opportunities for clinical use, as well as strategies which will enable the next generation of diagnostic technologies to reach patients rapidly and effectively.

Our strategy involves three activities:

- **Opportunities:** a thorough characterization of clinical unmet needs and opportunities for innovation through market research, canvassing frontline medical practitioners, clinical labs, testing sites, public health officials, health policy makers, gatekeepers, and thought leaders--worldwide;
- **Evaluation:** horizon scanning the pre-commercial landscape to identify and score interesting and potentially powerful technological solutions to unmet clinical needs for SARS-CoV-2/COVID-19 diagnosis and associated testing which can be brought to bear on the current crisis;
- **Engagement:** working together with inventors, technology developers--academic or industrial--to offer market intelligence, COVID testing expertise, access to the CCI Validation Pipeline/Diagnostics Accelerator (founded to provide honest, unbiased testing and evaluation with well-characterized samples), as well commercialization strategies, all geared to aid in the further development of these diagnostics tests and/or technologies and to accelerate their development timeline.

One of the initial tasks for our initiative is to gather information from the Covid-19 "field of engagement"--where people like you are charged with triage, diagnosis, treatment, policy decisions, deriving safe re-opening strategies and practices, and maintaining safe conduct practices. We aim to determine the testing approaches in use, how well they meet the needs, and the remaining gaps--the critical unmet needs, challenges which remain, and also blue-sky ideas you may have--the "Opportunities." We would like to collect information about your experience in SARS-CoV-2/COVID-19 diagnosis and associated testing and ask you to kindly complete this brief [survey](#); you may also find the survey on our website's homepage (above).

We hope you can join us in this rapidly changing environment of pandemic response as we seek to identify, understand, and address the challenges that remain. You can accelerate and enable our goal of the development and delivery of the absolute best technological solutions to meeting the diagnostic clinical needs of COVID-19.

Thank you in advance for your cooperation in this urgent matter,

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