

Company Overview

Novartis provides healthcare solutions that address the evolving needs of patients and societies worldwide. We provide products to prevent and treat diseases, ease suffering and enhance quality of life.

Our purpose is to care and cure

Novartis is committed to bringing new healthcare products to patients and physicians worldwide. We also seek to provide a return to shareholders that reflects our outstanding performance and to adequately reward those who invest ideas and resources in our company.

Several global trends create growing demand for healthcare: aging populations, lifestyle changes that contribute to chronic diseases, economic growth in emerging countries, and advancements in science and technology.

Growing demand for quality healthcare

Our portfolio, focused on broad areas of healthcare, aims to best meet the evolving needs of patients and societies worldwide. Novartis is the only company with leading positions in four key areas:

A broad healthcare portfolio

- **Pharmaceuticals:** Innovative patent-protected medicines
- **Vaccines and Diagnostics:** Vaccines and diagnostic tools to protect against life-threatening diseases
- **Sandoz:** Affordable, high-quality generic medicines and biosimilars
- **Consumer Health:** Strong, trustworthy brands for increasingly knowledgeable consumers

Novartis has a strong development pipeline with 145 projects in clinical development, including 60 new molecular entities. Research at Novartis focuses on discovery projects at the intersection of powerful scientific mechanisms and greatest medical needs. Research and Development teams at Novartis cooperate closely to translate fundamental science into new medicines with multi-disciplinary teams. In a distinctive approach, initial Proof-of-Concept studies explore multiple disease indications before full development begins to maximize the opportunity for patients. Novartis also has one of the industry's largest biologics pipelines.

A deep pipeline underpinned by a distinctive R&D strategy

We are proud of our inspiring and challenging global work environment, and reward those who invest their talent and ideas to create value for patients and customers. With approximately 99 800 associates in 140 countries, we are expanding in dynamic markets such as China, Russia, India, Eastern Europe and Latin America.

A global leader with 99 800 associates in 140 countries

At Novartis, corporate citizenship is embedded in the way we manage our businesses. Our initiatives rest on four pillars of commitment to patients, people and communities, the environment and ethical business conduct.

Novartis is committed to helping patients in need through access-to-medicine programs and research targeting neglected diseases. In 2009, these programs reached 79.5 million patients worldwide, with contributions totaling USD 1.5 billion. Our corporate citizenship efforts were once again recognized by the Dow Jones Sustainability Index, which named Novartis one of the leaders in the pharmaceutical sector for the second year in a row.

Access-to-medicine programs reached 79.5 million patients in 2009

Disclaimer

These materials contain certain forward-looking statements relating to the Group's business, which can be identified by terminology such as "planned," "expected", "will", "potential", "pipeline", "outlook," or similar expressions, or by express or implied discussions regarding potential new products, potential new indications for existing products, or regarding potential future revenues from any such products, or potential future sales or earnings of the Novartis Group or any of its divisions or business units; or regarding the potential acquisition and merger with Alcon; or by discussions of strategy, plans, expectations or intentions. You should not place undue reliance on these statements. Such forward-looking statements reflect the current views of the Group regarding future events, and involve known and unknown risks, uncertainties and other factors that may cause actual results to be materially different from any future results, performance or achievements expressed or implied by such statements. There can be no guarantee that any new products will be approved for sale in any market, or that any new indications will be approved for existing products in any market, or that such products will achieve any particular revenue levels. Nor can there be any guarantee that the Novartis Group, or any of its divisions or business units, will achieve any particular financial results. Neither can there be any guarantee that the proposed acquisition and merger with Alcon will be completed in the expected form or within the expected time frame or at all. Nor can there be any guarantee that Novartis will be able to realize any of the potential synergies, strategic benefits or opportunities as a result of the proposed acquisition. In particular, management's expectations could be affected by, among other things, unexpected clinical trial results, including additional analysis of existing clinical data or unexpected new clinical data; unexpected regulatory actions or delays or government regulation generally; the Group's ability to obtain or maintain patent or other proprietary intellectual property protection; uncertainties regarding actual or potential legal proceedings, including, among others, product liability litigation, litigation regarding sales and marketing practices, government investigations and intellectual property disputes; competition in general; government, industry, and general public pricing and other political pressures; uncertainties regarding the after-effects of the recent global financial and economic crisis; uncertainties regarding future global exchange rates and uncertainties regarding future demand for our products; uncertainties involved in the development of new pharmaceutical products; the impact that the foregoing factors could have on the values attributed to the Group's assets and liabilities as recorded in the Group's consolidated balance sheet; and other risks and factors referred to in Novartis AG's current Form 20-F on file with the US Securities and Exchange Commission. Should one or more of these risks or uncertainties materialize, or should underlying assumptions prove incorrect, actual results may vary materially from those described herein as anticipated, believed, estimated or expected. Novartis is providing the information in these materials as of this date and does not undertake any obligation to update any forward-looking statements as a result of new information, future events or otherwise.