



The Jenner Institute Laboratories
University of Oxford
Old Road Campus Research Building
Roosevelt Drive
Oxford
OX3 7DQ

1st May 2020

Dear Prof Gilbert,

Thank you for the research of critical global importance which you and your team have undertaken into a potential vaccine for the SARS-CoV-2 virus. As patients and the families of people affected by COVID19, health workers, and public health and social justice campaigners, we are now writing this open letter to you with urgent questions about the licence agreement with Astra Zeneca announced yesterday.

We believe that there should be no monopolies in the time of a pandemic - and they should never prevent patients getting affordable access to important diagnostics, medicines or vaccines. We kindly ask that you please respond to the following points:

1. Please make the full terms of the licence agreement with Astra Zeneca public, as has been normalised through the global public health standards set by the Medicines Patent Pool.
2. Can you please provide information on the patents related to the ChAdOx technologies, such as PCT application numbers and information about patent applications at national patent offices and the EPO?
3. Can you please confirm what safeguards have been included in the agreement to guarantee access and affordability for the NHS and for the billions across the world whose lives and livelihoods are threatened?
4. Can you assure us that the agreement with Astra Zeneca is a non-exclusive licence and that it will allow other manufacturers to make and supply quality-assured versions of the vaccine?
5. What efforts have been made to ensure non-patent based monopoly protections, such as regulatory exclusivities, are not enforced on this vaccine?
6. Will you also licence your vaccine to the Medicines Patent Pool, which has expanded its remit to help ensure accelerated access to COVID technologies around the world, ahead of the anticipated creation of a WHO COVID Technologies Pool, as proposed by Costa Rica and supported by countries around the world including Europe?
7. Will you also please support the Open COVID pledge (<https://opencovidpledge.org/license/>), and press for Oxford University to sign on?
8. Astra Zeneca have stated that they will price the vaccine at cost during the pandemic. Have you secured a commitment from them to make public all their costs to allow verification of this claim?
9. Will Astra Zeneca have full market monopoly and total control over the price of the vaccine after the declared pandemic is over?

The incredible work to develop this vaccine candidate has largely been financed with public funds. You have publicly stated that it should be regarded as a global public good and have made commitments to non-exclusivity. These statements have been welcomed by many in the public health community. It would be wrong for that taxpayer

investment to result in a private corporation profiting from an unjustified monopoly - particularly one which may severely limit supply and access across the world.

Thank you for the important work you continue to do to develop this vaccine. We hope you will appreciate and share the urgency of our request for transparency and assurance on the means of getting this vaccine to all who need it if it is proven to be effective. Best of luck for the ongoing trials.

Yours,

Anne MacLean-Chang
Breast cancer patient and partner to an NHS worker

Darlaine Honey
Breast cancer and COVID patient

Chris Burn
Parent of a child with cystic fibrosis

Robert Finlay
Parent of a child with cystic fibrosis

Rob Long
Parent of a child with cystic fibrosis

Diarmaid McDonald
Lead Organiser, Just Treatment

Heidi Chow
Senior Policy Manager, Global Justice Now

Tabitha Ha
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Dr Will Nutland
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Anthony Johnson
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Sarai Keestra
Universities Allied for Essential Medicines UK, Oxford Chapter