



Solving the world's hardest problems.

Dear Friend of Southern Research,

On behalf of the scientists and engineers at Southern Research, we hope that each of you are finding new and productive ways of coping during these unprecedented times. Here at Southern Research we are certainly doing so, and I wanted to update you on the efforts Southern Research has put forth in conjunction with local and national government agencies in the fight against COVID-19.

For example, we are working with several pharmaceutical companies to develop novel vaccines and other potent agents that are effective against this virus. As part of a large consortium funded by the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID) involving our partnering institution, the University of Alabama at Birmingham (UAB), we are building upon our ongoing research on the highly pathogenic coronaviruses to develop new therapies.

Southern Research's expertise in screening compounds represents a vital resource. Our high throughput screening system can test a large number of chemical compounds in a short period of time. We've already begun testing compounds in our vast library, with many showing potential action against COVID-19. We fully understand the urgency and need to accelerate drug discovery and development activities to help curb the coronavirus pandemic.

Here are some of the actions that Southern Research has taken to fight the virus behind this pandemic:

- We are collaborating with several pharmaceutical companies to develop new research tools and vaccines.
- We have launched an internal program to identify drugs which are already FDA-approved that could be effective against COVID-19, repurposing them so they can be quickly incorporated into treatments.
- We are collaborating with key government agencies to develop better ways to test the safety and efficacy of promising therapeutics and vaccines.

There is no doubt that this situation is moving at warp speed. Despite the numerous strides Southern Research has undertaken to provide novel therapeutics against COVID-19, a great deal of work remains to accelerate identification of therapeutics against the disease, allowing for clinical trials to be initiated rapidly. Work performed now will also help improve responses in the future.

Our leadership, scientists, and laboratories are aggressively pursuing resources and tirelessly working to bring therapies closer to patients in need while also adhering to social distancing measures to protect our staff. As a friend of our organization, we will continue to update you on our scientific research and breakthroughs.

Additional resources could greatly accelerate our research and allow Southern Research's scientists to expand these multi-pronged efforts in the fight against this pandemic.

Thank you for your support,

*Michael Catalano*

Interim Chief Operating Officer

*Brynn MacCann*

Senior Director of Development

[Donate Now](#)