

Covid-19 | 16th Stakeholder Communiqué | 11th May 2021

Dear Team-Member, Customer, Supplier, Contractor, Neighbor, and all other Stakeholders,

We are now into the second year of this pandemic. It is 2 months since the last communiqué. After the terrible month of January in Portugal, and 3 months of strict lockdown, things have fortunately dramatically improved in Portugal.

After months of lockdown several European countries are starting a careful and gradual relaxation of measures. Portugal entered the fourth and final phase of the plan to ease restrictions. We have now had one week without deaths in the country for the first time since August 2020. Caution is uppermost in every leader's mind. We cannot forget that just 4 months ago Portugal experienced the worst Covid surge in the world, for some weeks we had the worst record of all the countries in the planet in terms of number of deaths per 100.000 population. The vaccination rollout is slow across Europe, this is so frustrating.

Hovione and Covid-19

We have 4 active cases in all Hovione sites: 2 in Ireland and 2 in New Jersey (both expected to fully recover). In Portugal and Macau we have no active cases. All our cases have recovered, we are fortunate that we have had no serious cases among our Team Members.

Strict precautions are in place and we continue to implement new initiatives to make Hovione a safe workplace. In April a new Traffic Light System was installed that allows early detection of risk cases. For anyone to enter Hovione premises in Lisbon you must have an ID card. If you have not replied to the Covid questionnaire app in the last 4 days and have not tested negative in an antigen test in the last 7 days your ID card will flash red if you attempt to enter any Hovione site.

Hovione accepted the request of our local Health Unit to participate in regular laboratory screenings to support the national health authority (*DGS - Direção Geral de Saúde*) initiatives. The screenings aim to identify SARS-CoV-2 infections in asymptomatic individuals that have had no contact with a confirmed case of Covid-19.

In Portugal we continue to test on a weekly basis 100% of those that work in our premises. In New Jersey we are running regular onsite antigen tests and we encourage team members to register should they wish to be tested and/or be vaccinated. In all our sites we continue to make our place of work safe, over a third of us work from home.

Vaccines

During the past year we have understood that we can model positive cases of infection with statistics. In the same way the impact of vaccines, whether they are more or less effective, will always have positive statistical impact and will reduce the probability of hospitalization and death.

Remaining vigilant

Many regions are seeing surges of Covid-19 cases and new variants. So long as billions of people remain unprotected each infection gives the virus new opportunities to mutate. The end of this pandemic will still require considerable effort, time and concerted action: Strict hygiene, PPE, science, extensive use of statistics and models, vaccines, dedicated hospital workers... we are not there yet.

Be resilient. Act safe!

Guy Villax
Chief Executive

The Stakeholder Communiqué will be released bimonthly.

[Click here for our previous External Stakeholder Communiqués](#)

For all other on-going activities see our webpage [Covid-19/Coronavirus](#)

For more information, please contact Isabel Pina at Hovione Communications ipina@hovione.com