



# Pfizer Invests Half Billion Dollars to Advance State-of-the-Art Gene Therapy Facility in Sanford, North Carolina

Wednesday, August 21, 2019 - 06:00am

Pfizer announced today an additional half billion dollar investment for the construction of its state-of-the-art gene therapy manufacturing facility in Sanford, North Carolina. This facility is anticipated to support Pfizer's continuing investment in gene therapy research and development, similar to Pfizer's Chapel Hill and Kit Creek, North Carolina research and development sites. This facility would expand the company's presence in North Carolina, where there are currently more than 3,600 Pfizer colleagues, including 650 in Sanford. The expanded facility is projected to add approximately 300 new jobs.

In addition to its gene therapy operations, colleagues at Pfizer's Sanford facility also manufacture components for the company's vaccine portfolio, including Prevnar 13 and several vaccines currently in Pfizer's research pipeline.

By expanding its manufacturing footprint in Sanford, Pfizer expects to strengthen its ability to produce and supply both clinical- and commercial-scale quantities of critical, potentially life-changing gene therapy medicines to patients living with rare diseases around the world. Specifically, the new facility would help advance Pfizer's work in manufacturing highly specialized, potentially one-time gene therapies that use custom-made recombinant adeno-associated virus (rAAV) vectors. ([Link to video](#))

"At Pfizer, our purpose is breakthroughs that change patients' lives," said Angela Hwang, Group President, Pfizer Biopharmaceuticals Group. "We're excited to build this new state-of-the-art facility in Sanford because it will have the potential to help us develop novel methods to deliver transformative treatments to patients."

“This investment will further strengthen Pfizer’s leadership in gene therapy manufacturing technology,” said Mike McDermott, President, Pfizer Global Supply. “The expansion of the Sanford site is expected to create hundreds of highly skilled jobs, which would increase Sanford’s high-tech manufacturing environment and is part of our overall plan to invest approximately \$5 billion in U.S.-based capital projects over the next several years.”

“North Carolina is a leader in life sciences in part because of our long-standing partnership with Pfizer. Today we mark another boost to our state and we are proud of the people conducting life-saving research in Sanford,” North Carolina Governor Roy Cooper said.

Pfizer is expanding its end-to-end capabilities in gene therapy in North Carolina by investing in facilities focused on all stages of research, development, and manufacturing. In the Kit Creek facility, scientists work at a small scale – from 2L flasks up to 250L bioreactors – to develop the process that may eventually be used in larger scale manufacturing. That process is optimized at the Chapel Hill facility, where Pfizer colleagues continue to work at a 250L scale while implementing quality control measures included in GMP, or Good Manufacturing Practice, standards. Pfizer’s focus on these processes, combined with its existing and new additional investment in Sanford to manufacture gene therapies, is designed to result in a high-quality, efficient supply of gene therapies at clinical- and commercial-scale.

Today, the company celebrated the successful completion of the first phase of the project at a ceremony at 10:00 AM EDT at 3316 Hawkins Avenue, Sanford, North Carolina.

### About Pfizer Manufacturing

Pfizer is a 169-year-old American company founded in Brooklyn, NY. Pfizer is a proud U.S.-based manufacturing and supply company with more than 10,000 U.S.-based employees. With 14 sites, the U.S. hosts more Pfizer manufacturing and distribution sites than any other country in the world.

### Pfizer Inc.: Breakthroughs that change patients’ lives

At Pfizer, we apply science and our global resources to bring therapies to people that extend and significantly improve their lives. We strive to set the standard for quality, safety and value in the discovery, development and manufacture of health care products, including innovative medicines and vaccines. Every day, Pfizer colleagues work across developed and emerging markets to advance wellness, prevention, treatments and cures

that challenge the most feared diseases of our time. Consistent with our responsibility as one of the world's premier innovative biopharmaceutical companies, we collaborate with health care providers, governments and local communities to support and expand access to reliable, affordable health care around the world. For more than 150 years, we have worked to make a difference for all who rely on us. We routinely post information that may be important to investors on our website at [www.pfizer.com](http://www.pfizer.com). In addition, to learn more, please visit us on [www.pfizer.com](http://www.pfizer.com) and follow us on Twitter at @Pfizer and @Pfizer\_News, LinkedIn, YouTube and like us on Facebook at [Facebook.com/Pfizer](https://www.facebook.com/Pfizer).

**PFIZER DISCLOSURE NOTICE:** The information contained in this release is as of August 21, 2019. Pfizer assumes no obligation to update forward-looking statements contained in this release as the result of new information or future events or developments.

This release contains forward-looking information about Pfizer's plans to invest a half billion-dollars for the construction of a state-of-the-art gene therapy facility in Sanford, North Carolina, including its potential benefits and the anticipated timing of completion and production, that involves substantial risks and uncertainties that could cause actual results to differ materially from those expressed or implied by such statements. Risks and uncertainties include, among other things, risks related to the ability to realize the anticipated benefits of the investment and the new facility and the ability to complete construction and begin production in the anticipated timeframe or at all; other business effects, including the effects of industry, market, economic, political or regulatory conditions; and competitive developments.

A further description of risks and uncertainties can be found in Pfizer's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2018 and in its subsequent reports on Form 10-Q, including in the sections thereof captioned "Risk Factors" and "Forward-Looking Information and Factors That May Affect Future Results", as well as in its subsequent reports on Form 8-K, all of which are filed with the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission and available at [www.sec.gov](http://www.sec.gov) and [www.pfizer.com](http://www.pfizer.com).

Media: Kim Bencker [Kim.bencker@pfizer.com](mailto:Kim.bencker@pfizer.com) 610-329-1340