

The year that was 2020

For many, the year 2020 will always be remembered as the year that everything changed. From the way we greeted one another, to the way we held meetings, it was truly the year of radical transformation for many businesses.

For Novacyt, we too had a transformational year. From a mid-sized company of 110 people to a group of 237 people by the end of 2020. We have the capability to rapidly innovate new solutions and now supply our Gold standard kits to over 130 countries worldwide.

The Novacyt ethos has shone through, with everyone demonstrating a continued drive and positivity to innovate new products rapidly.

As a pioneer in clinical diagnostics, we have a proven history of responding quickly to changing global health needs, which includes providing testing solutions for Zika, Swine flu, and Ebola viruses. Solidifying this position, we were among the first to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic in 2020, providing a rapid and reliable CE-IVD marked SARS-CoV-2 testing kit.

Breakthrough innovations in 2020 by Novacyt Group

JAN/FEB RUO

Product launches

RUO novel Coronavirus test.

genesig®

Product launches

genesig® real-time PCR (polymerase chain reaction) COVID-19 (CE), the first CE-mark approved test for clinical diagnosis of the 2019 strain of the novel coronavirus.

Market need

In late 2019, researchers in China identified a new virus that had infected dozens of people in Asia. As the COVID-19 pandemic began to spread beyond China, the need for testing increased exponentially worldwide.

MAR EUA FROM THE FDA FOR FIRST COVID-19 TEST

APR EUL FROM WHO FOR FIRST COVID- 19-CE IVD TEST

JUL AWARDED LTA WITH UNICEF

JUN exsig® DIRECT, exsig® and COVID-HT Product launches

Two new products to support laboratories testing for COVID-19. These were exsig® Direct and exsig® Mag, both RNA extraction kits for use prior to running a PCR test for COVID-19, and COVID-HT, a high-throughput test for COVID-19.

Market need

The number of known Coronavirus cases across the globe grew rapidly, with more than 100,000 new infections a day, causing demand for higher throughput COVID-19 tests. The onset of mass testing globally brought about many challenges. One of the most profound was a sudden shortage of pre-analytical solutions required for sample preparation prior to PCR testing for COVID-19.



**AUG****Winterplex®****Product launches**

Winterplex® CE-mark approved PCR respiratory test panel.

Market need

With the anticipation of Winter in the northern hemisphere, Influenza A, B and RSV were expected to add complexity to the COVID-19 pandemic.

SEPT**genesig® COVID-19 2G****Product launches**

CE-mark approved PCR two-gene target test for COVID-19.

Market need

To support the adoption of our products in jurisdictions mandating the approach of utilising PCR testing, Novacyt's first generation product was improved further with the addition of a secondary target to the initial Gold standard product.

SEPT**SARS-CoV-2 IgG EIA****Product launches**

CE-mark approved serology (antibody) 96-well plate ELISA (enzyme-linked immunosorbent assay) test for the detection of IgG antibodies to SARS-CoV-2 derived from plasma and serum samples.

Market need

Since the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic, patients and population groups have been extensively tested for an antibody response to COVID-19. Although there is much ongoing debate about how the immune system responds to different variants, the impact of vaccinations and even the type of antibody used in the test, our serology tests offer additional information on a patient profile, supporting ongoing population management.

NOV**PROmate®****Product launches**

PROmate®, a new product to improve the workflow efficiency of Novacyt's closer to patient system for COVID-19 testing.

Market need

The global death toll from coronavirus surpassed 800,000 in August. The tally continued to rise as new infections flared across Europe with high numbers of deaths recorded in the United States, India, South Africa and most of Latin America, prompting mass testing programmes to be operated out of centralised laboratories.

Our contribution to the COVID-19 testing solutions has proven that we can respond quickly to any changing global health needs.

Our teams in Marketing and R&D aimed to pioneer innovations as a strategic priority. We are committed to delivering high-quality diagnostic products that will make a meaningful difference to our customers and their patients.

Our state-of-the-art innovations and technologies enabled us to be the first company globally to respond to the threat of the global COVID-19 pandemic by developing a CE IVD molecular test for the virus. Fast forward a year: we have developed a suite of solutions for COVID-19 to better manage the pandemic. These innovations enable us to deploy our expertise in other areas of diagnostics, paving the way for us to be a truly global clinical diagnostics company.



➔ See page 136 for a **glossary of terms**