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Our medications reach more than 750 million people worldwide every year, but many more people still lack access to essential medicines and healthcare. We are committed to helping ensure that our medicines are accessible to as many patients as possible, irrespective of where they come from. We have therefore embarked on a journey to fundamentally shift the way we do business and reimagine how to expand access to critical healthcare innovations.

In late 2017, we committed to systematically integrate access strategies into how we research, develop and deliver our new medicines globally and established the Novartis Access Principles. These strategies include adopting innovative pricing and access models, refocusing research and development based on society's healthcare needs, and supporting approaches to strengthen healthcare systems.

Learn more about each of the principles

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Research & development

We consider how to get medicines in our pipeline to more people by assessing our portfolio against the unmet needs of underserved populations and integrating these needs into our drug discovery and development strategy.

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Affordability

We aim to be part of the solution on pricing and access to medicines by considering both effective affordability strategies and innovative solutions to disease management, as well as off-patent solutions.

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Strengthening healthcare systems

With partners, we seek opportunities to lower local barriers to healthcare delivery by strengthening healthcare systems.

These changes will take time and it will not be easy. In order to have a maximum impact on patients' health, we will need to join forces with others across sectors and industries.

We plan to continually measure our progress and be transparent in our achievements and failures in the hope that those learnings will inform new models and practices across our industry.

Our leaders will be held accountable and will be compensated based on our progress in meeting this commitment.

Resources

- [Novartis Position on Access to Medicines \(PDF 0.2 MB\)](#)

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