

# EXHIBIT A



BY FEDERAL EXPRESS

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Albert Bourla, DVM, Ph.D.  
Chairman and Chief Executive Officer  
Pfizer Inc.  
235 East 42<sup>nd</sup> Street  
New York, New York 10017

Doug Lankler, Esq.  
Executive Vice President, General Counsel  
Pfizer Inc.  
235 East 42<sup>nd</sup> Street  
New York, New York 10017

**Re: Arbutus/Genevant LNP Technology and Intellectual Property**

Dear Dr. Bourla and Mr. Lankler:

We are writing on behalf of Genevant Sciences GmbH (“Genevant”), Arbutus Biopharma Corporation (“Arbutus”), and their respective affiliates. As you are aware, Genevant and Arbutus scientists have spent almost twenty years pioneering and refining lipid nanoparticle (“LNP”) technologies for the delivery of nucleic acid therapeutics.

We were very pleased to read about your encouraging data, and we remain hopeful that your important work will lead to the availability of a COVID-19 vaccine. In light of the current COVID-19 public health crisis, we believe it is imperative for companies in our industry to join forces, and we are firmly committed to using our available resources to help end this pandemic as quickly as possible. Genevant is actively collaborating with multiple companies and academic institutions working on vaccines and therapeutics for COVID-19. Arbutus is actively engaged in a research program to develop therapeutic treatments for COVID-19 and future coronavirus outbreaks.

Arbutus owns intellectual property protecting LNP technologies and has licensed that intellectual property to Genevant. We are aware that Pfizer Inc. (“Pfizer”) is conducting Phase 3 clinical trials of an mRNA-LNP COVID-19 vaccine. We believe and notify you as contemplated by 35 U.S.C. § 287(a) that the manufacture, importation, offer for sale, sale, and/or use of your COVID-19 vaccine may infringe Arbutus patents, including at least U.S. Patent Nos. 8,058,069, 8,492,359, 8,822,668, 9,006,417, 9,404,127, 9,364,435, 9,504,651, and 9,518,272.

Our priority is for COVID-19 to be eradicated, and we support your focus on the important work of developing and distributing an effective vaccine. **We state unequivocally that we will not seek an injunction and have no intent to otherwise delay or obstruct the availability of a COVID-19 vaccine. Additionally, we do not intend to file a case asserting patent infringement in the near future, unless litigation is initiated against us.**

Recognizing the important contribution that our patented LNP delivery technologies may be making to the accelerated development and potential medical benefits of your COVID-19 vaccine, Genevant would like to engage in a constructive partnering discussion with you in the coming months. In particular, Genevant would appreciate the opportunity to discuss the terms of



experience and expertise with the formulation and manufacture of LNP delivery systems. Genevant would also welcome discussing the terms of a nonexclusive license to Pfizer to use our intellectual property for the limited but critically important purpose of a COVID-19 vaccine. We look forward to discussing the partnering possibilities with you, and should you need to reach us, please contact Pete Zorn, GSI President and Chief Legal Officer, at [pete.zorn@genevant.com](mailto:pete.zorn@genevant.com).

We hope and trust that you will recognize that we are writing in a spirit of cooperation toward our common goals.

Sincerely,

*Sascha Bucher*

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*William H. Collier*

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