

# the **Medicine Maker**<sup>TM</sup>

## The Pandemic Diaries

We ask medicine makers around the world to tell us how their professional and personal lives have changed over the course of the COVID-19 crisis. Featuring Stream Bio and MIP Diagnostics.

## In My View

*Experts from across the world share a single strongly held opinion or key idea.*



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*By Andy Chaloner, CEO of Stream Bio, and Stephane Argivier, CEO of MIP Diagnostics*

The speed and severity of this pandemic has vastly changed business and research priorities for many biotechnology companies and sparked many new partnerships – including one between our two companies. We’d discussed the possibilities of our companies working together in the past, but it was the pandemic that finally cemented the relationship – one we hope will continue long after the pandemic ends!

Our current collaboration focuses on diagnostics. There is a huge need to improve COVID-19 diagnosis times and laboratory testing capacity. To this end, the industry needs appropriate reagents. We’ll be using our Conjugated Polymer

Nanoparticles (CPNs) and high-affinity molecular imprinted polymers (MIPs) to create adaptable detection reagents for various diagnostic assays – including ELISA-format assays and lateral flow. We hope to reduce diagnosis times to just 10 minutes.

As the pandemic progresses, it is essential that we have robust diagnostic development and manufacturing infrastructure in place to meet future demands. Synthetic CPN and MIP development times are much shorter than traditional reagents, so if new mutations were to arise in the virus spike protein, diagnostic reagents could be adapted and scaled quickly to target novel variants.