

News Release

Your Contact
Jean-Francois Zawieja +41 58 432 3116

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Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany, Enhances Research and Capacity in Ghana for Malaria Prevention

- **Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany, joins forces with the Infanta Malaria Prevention Foundation of the First Lady of Ghana and with ASPIRx to support the National Malaria Control Program in Ghana**
- **Celebrations in Accra marking the World Malaria Day on April 25th led to the signature of a Memorandum of Understanding for a Consortium to identify and deploy timely and effective malarial prevention solutions for vulnerable populations.**

Darmstadt, Germany, June 06 2018 – Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany, a leading science and technology company which operates its healthcare business in the U.S. and Canada as EMD Serono, announced that, the Global Health Institute of the company and EMD Performance Materials signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the Infanta Malaria Prevention Foundation and with ASPIRx, a Ghanaian biopharmaceutical manufacturer. The partnership is aimed to support the National Malaria Control Program of the Ghana Health Service and the Infanta Foundation by developing capacities in Community-based Health Planning and Services (CHPS) facilities in Ghana and to explore development of solutions for malaria prevention based on the insect repellent, IR3535®.

The signature occurred on April 25th during the World Malaria Day through a high level scientific and operational forum on the topic of effective prevention for malaria that was hosted by Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany, and ASPIRx in Accra, Ghana. This formalized the initiation of a long-term research and capacity-building

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consortium to identify and deploy timely and effective malarial prevention solutions for vulnerable communities.

“In the context of our Global Health integrated Malaria research and development programs, this initiative will certainly contribute to strengthen the work we conduct on malaria transmission control as well as support the goals of our collaborators to significantly impact preventive measures against malaria infection,” said Beatrice Greco, head of R&D and Access for the Global Health Institute of the company.

“This relationship with Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany, and ASPIRx, offers yet another opportunity to invest in what we believe will make a difference in the lives of women and children” said The First Lady of Ghana, Rebecca Akufo-Addo.

“Our President has set our tone of action and our First Lady has inspired us with her dedication to service. It is now our responsibility to bring our achievements back home. I am proud to announce today that I am bringing my achievements and life's work back home to invest in my country. We are building the first World-class biopharma manufacturing and research platform in Africa, here in Ghana” said ASPIRx Executive Chairman, Andrew Clocanas.

About Infanta Malaria Prevention Foundation

Infanta Malaria Prevention Foundation is a Ghanaian privately funded on governmental organization, active in the country since 2005. Our organization chaired by Madam First Lady, Mrs Akufo-Addo, has brought together women committed to issues of child health and women's development. Infanta members through their own contributions and fundraising have carried out many projects across the country in the past twelve years. We recognize that the burden of malaria and malnutrition is not the same in all of Ghana. There are specific groups of people like pregnant women and children under the age of five years, who suffer more than others and there are specific communities that contribute greater proportions of the incidence of malaria in the country.

About ASPIRx

ASPIRx is bringing world-class biomedical manufacturing and research to Ghana, and all of Africa – for the benefit of the continent's human resource development, for timely and affordable research into Africa's emerging healthcare needs, for security, affordability and accessibility of locally produced vaccines and pharmaceuticals.

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About Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany

Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany, is a leading science and technology company in healthcare, life science and performance materials. Almost 53,000 employees work to further develop technologies that improve and enhance life – from biopharmaceutical therapies to treat cancer or multiple sclerosis,

cutting-edge systems for scientific research and production, to liquid crystals for smartphones and LCD televisions. In 2017, Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany, generated sales of € 15.3 billion in 66 countries.

Founded in 1668, Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany, is the world's oldest pharmaceutical and chemical company. The founding family remains the majority owner of the publicly listed corporate group. Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany, holds the global rights to the „Merck“ name and brand. The only exceptions are the United States and Canada, where the company operates as EMD Serono, MilliporeSigma and EMD Performance Materials.