News Release

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October 13, 2020

MilliporeSigma's New VirusExpress™ Platform Speeds Development of Cell and Gene Therapies

- **Proven, scalable platform increases dose yields and reduces process development time for cell and gene therapies**
- **Marks the latest of MilliporeSigma's continued investments in rapidly growing cell and gene therapy market**

Burlington, Massachusetts, October 13, 2020 – MilliporeSigma, a leading life science company, has bolstered its viral vector manufacturing capabilities with the launch of its VirusExpress™ Lentiviral Production Platform. This new platform helps to overcome lentiviral production challenges and can reduce process development time by approximately 40 percent, based on MilliporeSigma's experience as a contract development and manufacturing organization.

"Cell and gene therapies offer the potential for curative treatments and are being developed and commercialized in half the time it has taken traditional therapies," said Angela Myers, head of Gene Editing & Novel Modalities at MilliporeSigma. "We are committed to accelerating manufacturing of cell and gene therapies with the ultimate goal of getting these lifesaving treatments to patients faster. By increasing dose yields and dramatically reducing process development time, this new platform will help us reach this goal."

Using a suspension cell line rather than an adherent-based production, coupled with a chemically defined cell culture media and process with built-in scalability, MilliporeSigma's VirusExpress™ Platform meets multiple market needs. In addition to accelerating process development, the suspension culture format allows each batch of virus to be larger yielding more patient doses. Additionally, suspension

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culture is amenable to true scale-up, while being less labor-intensive. The chemically defined medium eliminates the safety, regulatory and supply chain concerns related to animal- and human-derived materials.

MilliporeSigma's VirusExpress™ Platform offers a simplified upstream workflow, making processes easier to manage, adjust and scale. Flexible licensing allows companies to manufacture vectors by using either MilliporeSigma's contract manufacturing capabilities, a third-party contract development and manufacturing organization, or in-house development.

MilliporeSigma is a leading contract development and manufacturing organization combining an integrated portfolio of manufacturing solutions with proven commercialization experience. This new offering underscores MilliporeSigma's continued investment in cell and gene therapies. In April 2020, the company announced a new $110 million, 140,000-square-foot manufacturing center at its Carlsbad, California, location that will double the existing production capacity and support large-scale commercial manufacturing. Today, MilliporeSigma manufactures vectors for two of the first five FDA-approved cell and gene therapies.

The cell and gene therapy market is growing rapidly and continues to show great promise. According to market research leader Arizton, the cell and gene therapy market is expected to reach more than $6.6 billion by 2024[1]. MilliporeSigma has been involved in this space since clinical trials for gene therapy began in the 1990s.

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About the Life Science business of Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany
The Life Science business of Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany, which operates as MilliporeSigma in the U.S. and Canada, has some 22,000 employees and 59 manufacturing sites worldwide, with a portfolio of more than 300,000 products focused on scientific discovery, biomanufacturing and testing services.

Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany completed its $17 billion acquisition of Sigma-Aldrich in November 2015, creating a leader in the $125 billion global life science industry.

[1] www.prnewswire.com/news-releases/the-cell-and-gene-therapy-market-to-reach-revenues-of-over-6-6-billion-by-2024---market-research-by-arizton-300957463.html

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Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany, a leading science and technology company, operates across healthcare, life science and performance materials. Around 57,000 employees work to make a positive difference to millions of people's lives every day by creating more joyful and sustainable ways to live. From advancing gene-editing technologies and discovering unique ways to treat the most challenging diseases to enabling the intelligence of devices – the company is everywhere. In 2019, Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany generated sales of €16.2 billion in 66 countries.

The company holds the global rights to the name and trademark "Merck" internationally. The only exceptions are the United States and Canada, where the business sectors of Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany operate as EMD Serono in healthcare, MilliporeSigma in life science, and EMD Performance Materials. Since its founding 1668, scientific exploration and responsible entrepreneurship have been key to the company's technological and scientific advances. To this day, the founding family remains the majority owner of the publicly listed company. For more information about Merck, KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany, visit www.emdgroup.com.