

News Release

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Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany, appoints Renee Connolly as Chief Diversity Equity & Inclusion Officer

Darmstadt, Germany, July 8, 2021– Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany, a leading science and technology company, today announced that Renee Connolly has been appointed Chief Diversity Equity & Inclusion (DE&I) Officer, effective August 1. She will take over from Jennifer O’Lear, who will pursue new opportunities within Merck, and become a member of the company’s Human Resources leadership team.

“Diversity, equity and inclusion are core to our culture and an essential part of our innovation and business priorities. We aim to accelerate and broaden our DE&I efforts to create an environment where every Merck employee can grow and develop”, said Belén Garijo, Chair of the Executive Board and CEO of Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany. “Renee Connolly will provide global leadership to advancing our DE&I strategy to deliver on our future ambitions.”

Connolly has been with the company for more than 17 years and served as Head of Communications for its Life Science business sector since 2013. She is a U.S. citizen and will continue to be based in Burlington, Massachusetts, United States.

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About Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany

Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany, a leading science and technology company, operates across healthcare, life science and electronics. Around 58,000 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 2020, Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany, generated sales of € 17.5 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 Electronics. Since its founding in 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.