

News Release

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Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany launches the cosmetic active ingredient RonaCare® Epintegrity to strengthen the skin's resilience

- **New product specifically for the needs of aging skin**
- **Essential calcium improves overall skin integrity**
- **Halal-certified blend of 100% of plant and mineral origin serves sustainable market trends**

Darmstadt, Germany, October 11, 2021 – Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany, a leading science and technology company, introduced its new cosmetic ingredient RonaCare® Epintegrity. The product was developed to help the skin maintain the integrity of the epidermis, from which the name is derived.

It is inspired by the Natural Moisturizing Factor (NMF). This consists of a mixture of hydrophilic substances with a strong water-binding capacity that regulate skin hydration. If the skin lacks NMF - for example in the course of natural skin aging - the skin dries out, becomes taut and flaky.

To counteract this, RonaCare® Epintegrity offers a composition of selected natural amino acids as well as the most effective components of NMF.

"Taking care of skin integrity goes beyond purely concealing cosmetic effects, as it helps maintain a vital skin," explained Wiebke Dondras, Head of Cosmetics Surface Solutions at Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany. "RonaCare® Epintegrity is specifically designed to meet the needs of mature skin, which is often more sensitive, drier and overall, more vulnerable to environmental conditions."



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The product improves the resilience of the outermost layer of the epidermis by delivering essential calcium to skin cells. This helps build the bonds that hold epithelial cells together, while also helping to seal the spaces between cells.

RonaCare® Epintegrity is Halal certified and of 100% plant and mineral origin. The product is suitable for use in a wide range of topical products, from daily skin care to dermocosmetics. It is the first product in a range of botanical- and marine-derived cosmetic actives that the Surface Solutions business of Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany, will launch in the coming months.

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.