



# News Statement

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **Merck Acknowledges the End of the Ebola Outbreak in Eastern Democratic Republic of the Congo**

KENILWORTH, N.J. June 26, 2020 – Merck, known as MSD outside the United States and Canada, joins the global public health community to applaud the announcement by authorities in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) declaring the end of the Ebola outbreak in the eastern portion of the DRC.

“While an outbreak of Ebola continues in the northwestern part of the country, ending the Ebola outbreak in the eastern part of the DRC is a significant milestone. This effort required cutting-edge science, strong public health measures, unity of purpose among the many global partners, and most importantly, relentless courage of frontline workers and patients,” said Dr. Julie Gerberding, executive vice president and chief patient officer, Merck. “As the world confronts the unprecedented SARS-CoV-2 pandemic and the DRC faces a new Ebola outbreak among other public health challenges, lessons from these efforts will help continuously improve response efforts to infectious disease outbreaks. These experiences are stark reminders of the importance of global solidarity as well as strong, sustainable health systems more broadly.”

Merck commends the leadership and courage of everyone who fought to end this outbreak and those currently responding to the latest event, particularly the Government of the DRC, the World Health Organization and its Regional Office for Africa, Médecins Sans Frontières, community organizations, health care workers, and frontline responders, many of whom sacrificed their own lives to save others.

Merck remains focused on the important work ahead and continues to collaborate closely with our stakeholders on efforts to help advance global public health preparedness against Zaire ebolavirus disease.

## **About Merck**

For more than 125 years, Merck, known as MSD outside of the United States and Canada, has been inventing for life, bringing forward medicines and vaccines for many of the world's most challenging diseases in pursuit of our mission to save and improve lives. We demonstrate our commitment to patients and population health by increasing access to health care through far-reaching policies, programs and partnerships. Today, Merck continues to be at the forefront of research to prevent and treat diseases that threaten people and animals – including cancer, infectious diseases such as HIV and Ebola, and emerging animal diseases -- as we aspire to be the premier research-intensive biopharmaceutical company in the world. For more information, visit [www.merck.com](http://www.merck.com) and connect with us on [Twitter](#), [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), [YouTube](#) and [LinkedIn](#).

## **Forward-Looking Statement of Merck & Co., Inc., Kenilworth, N.J., USA**

This news release of Merck & Co., Inc., Kenilworth, N.J., USA (the “company”) includes “forward-looking statements” within the meaning of the safe harbor provisions of the U.S. Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. These statements are based upon the current beliefs and expectations of the company’s management and are subject to significant risks and uncertainties. If underlying assumptions prove inaccurate or risks or uncertainties materialize, actual results may differ materially from those set forth in the forward-looking statements.

Risks and uncertainties include but are not limited to, general industry conditions and competition; general economic factors, including interest rate and currency exchange rate fluctuations; the impact of the recent global outbreak of novel coronavirus disease (COVID-19); the impact of pharmaceutical industry regulation and health care legislation in the United States and internationally; global trends toward health care cost containment; technological advances, new products and patents attained by competitors; challenges inherent in new product development, including obtaining regulatory approval; the company’s ability to accurately predict future market conditions; manufacturing difficulties or delays; financial instability of international economies and sovereign risk; dependence on the effectiveness of the company’s patents and other protections for innovative products; and the exposure to litigation, including patent litigation, and/or regulatory actions.

The company undertakes no obligation to publicly update any forward-looking statement, whether as a result of new information, future events or otherwise. Additional factors that could cause results to differ materially from those described in the forward-looking statements can be found in the company’s 2019 Annual Report on Form 10-K and the company’s other filings with

the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) available at the SEC's Internet site ([www.sec.gov](http://www.sec.gov)).

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