



Statement

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Merck Unveils New Website for Global Study for Monitoring Antimicrobial Resistance Trends (SMART)

KENILWORTH, N.J., November 18, 2020 – Merck (NYSE: MRK), known as MSD outside the United States and Canada, today announced the launch of a new website for the global Study for Monitoring Antimicrobial Resistance Trends (SMART). SMART, which was initiated in 2002, is one of the world’s largest and longest-running antimicrobial resistance (AMR) surveillance studies including more than 200 sites across more than 60 countries.

The expanded functionality of the global SMART surveillance website includes heat maps of non-susceptible/resistance patterns based on the generally accepted standards of professional epidemiology organizations. It also features additional functionality for SMART investigators (depending on location).

“To sufficiently address the threat of antimicrobial resistance, first we need to understand it. That’s why, alongside antimicrobial innovation, building surveillance capabilities is a core part of our efforts to address AMR,” said Dr. Amanda Paschke, executive director, infectious diseases, Merck Research Laboratories. “At Merck, we are working to make SMART data more accessible. We’re proud to take this next important step in time with World Antimicrobial Awareness Week.”

Merck’s Commitment to Infectious Diseases

For more than 100 years, Merck has contributed to the discovery and development of novel medicines and vaccines to combat infectious diseases. In addition to a combined portfolio of vaccines and antibacterial, antiviral and antifungal medicines, Merck has multiple programs

that span discovery through late-stage development. To learn more about Merck's infectious diseases pipeline, visit www.merck.com.

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 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. There can be no guarantees with respect to pipeline products that the products will receive the necessary regulatory approvals or that they will prove to be commercially successful. 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 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).

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