



# Announcement

---

Media Contacts: Navpreet Singh  
[Navpreet.singh@msd.com](mailto:Navpreet.singh@msd.com)  
+44 7388 959 606

Harry Brady  
[Harry.brady@msd.com](mailto:Harry.brady@msd.com)  
+44 7974 444 851

## **MSD Renews Commitment to Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance, as a Major Manufacturer of HPV Vaccines to Achieve Vaccination for 84 Million Girls**

Hoddesdon, June 04, 2020 – MSD (tradename of Merck & Co., Inc., Kenilworth, N.J., USA (NYSE: MRK)) reconfirms its commitment as a major supplier of HPV vaccines to Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance, helping the organisation achieve its goal of vaccinating 84 million girls globally over the next Gavi strategic period of 2021-2025.

This company commitment comes as part of the Global Vaccine Summit whereby political leaders, civil society, donors, vaccine manufacturers and governments support the Vaccine Alliance through a five-year pledge. As a Gavi partner, MSD will continue to support meaningful contributions to immunisation programmes in low-income countries where the burden of disease is the highest. The long-term collaboration between MSD and Gavi continues to be well aligned and is consistent with MSD's vision to save and improve lives around the world.

Beyond the renewal of the long-term supply commitment, MSD will also partner with the International Federation of Pharmaceutical Wholesalers' Foundation (IFPW), which has an ongoing partnership with Gavi. As part of this collaboration, MSD will provide funding of \$500,000 over the five-year strategic period (2021-2025) to support activities in three critical areas: executive training programmes and mentorships, optimisation of supply chain networks and deployment of new technologies to address broad challenges in vaccines delivery. Through these Gavi and IFPW initiatives, MSD will provide critical support to Gavi's accelerator programme, Innovation for Uptake, Scale and Equity in Immunisation (INFUSE), which helps countries accelerate the introduction of cutting-edge technology to improve vaccine delivery systems. In addition, these partnerships will leverage the expertise of MSD personnel, including some of the industry's brightest researchers, engineers and logistical experts.

“MSD remains committed to the vision of Gavi, to fulfilling the aspiration of the Vaccine Alliance over the next five-year strategic period and to executing on the IFPW partnership,” said John Markels, President, MSD Vaccines. “Together, these collective achievements will help improve lives, advance public health and create stronger vaccine delivery systems in some of the world’s poorest countries. The COVID-19 pandemic underscores the importance of vaccination now more than ever. The current decline in vaccination rates overall is creating a risk of resurgence in many vaccine-preventable diseases. With MSD’s strong legacy and leadership in vaccines, our company is honoured to partner with Gavi and other organisations committed to global health, to support efforts to increase vaccination rates around the world.”

## **About MSD**

For more than 125 years, MSD 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. MSD is a trade name of Merck & Co., Inc., with headquarters in Kenilworth, N.J., U.S.A. We demonstrate our commitment to patients and population health by increasing access to health care through far-reaching policies, programs and partnerships. Today, MSD 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.msd-uk.com](http://www.msd-uk.com) and connect with us @MSDintheUK on [Twitter](#), [Instagram](#), [LinkedIn](#), [YouTube](#) and [Facebook](#).

## **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 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 2018 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)).

###