OUR COMMITMENT TO ADDRESSING NON-COMMUNICABLE DISEASES (NCDs)

NCDs — CANCER, CARDIOVASCULAR DISEASE, DIABETES, MENTAL HEALTH CONDITIONS, AND RESPIRATORY DISEASES — ARE A GROWING GLOBAL HEALTH CRISIS.

TOGETHER, WE CAN HELP ADDRESS THE U.N. SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOAL OF REDUCING MORTALITY FROM NCDs BY 2030.

MSD (Merck Sharp & Dohme Corp., a subsidiary of Merck & Co., Inc., Kenilworth, NJ, USA) has a long history of leadership in the prevention and treatment of NCDs. Through our internal activities and external partnerships, we aim to help address the burden of NCDs worldwide.
COMMITMENT TO RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT

New medicines are essential tools in the effort to prevent and treat NCDs. Our current portfolio contains products that address key non-communicable diseases like cancer, diabetes, and cardiovascular and respiratory diseases. In February 2011 Merck CEO Ken Frazier committed to preserving a strong research and development program across all these areas.


MEETING THE NEEDS OF EMERGING MARKETS

We recognize that patients in emerging markets have unique needs. For that reason, Merck is engaged in a number of collaborations as part of its commitment to improve health care by expanding the reach of our product offerings. Activities include developing innovative therapeutic combinations and formulations as well as expanded access mechanisms.

- Merck and Sun Pharma formed a joint venture to develop, manufacture and commercialize new combinations and formulations of innovative, branded generics in the emerging markets where we have strong customer reach and a compelling, innovative product portfolio.
- We established the Oss Development Center (Netherlands) and the Mexico Pharmaceutical Development Labs to develop novel, innovative formulations for existing Merck compounds.
- In Korea we expanded our collaboration with Hanmi Pharmaceuticals to expand the reach of a hypertension product in emerging markets.
- Merck and the Simcere Pharmaceutical Group formed a partnership to expand access to cardiovascular and metabolic pharmaceutical products in China.

These approaches will position us to expand access to Merck’s innovations across a broader segment of the population.


PROMOTING HEALTHY LIFESTYLES

Merck recognizes that maintaining a healthy lifestyle is one of the best ways to prevent NCDs. We invest in programs that promote good nutrition globally and support our employees’ workplace wellness at Merck.

- Merck invests significant resources in the developing and developed world to promote health education and good nutrition with partners such as CARE/Save the Children. In recent years, The Merck Company Foundation dedicated approximately $5 million for programs to create sustainable solutions for reducing hunger for people of all ages around the world.
- Merck facilities throughout the world are improving workplace wellness. The majority are providing free screenings for important NCDs and taking steps to reduce tobacco use. Going forward, Merck will be implementing a global strategy to raise all offices up to industry-wide best practices in health and wellness.

A GROWING GLOBAL CRISIS

According to the World Health Organization (WHO), NCDs are the leading causes of death and disability worldwide. Burdening communities and economies around the world, NCDs have reached a point of crisis. While systems in the developed world to address NCDs are relatively advanced, NCDs will continue to pose an increasing burden on health and economic development in developing countries, where 80 percent of NCD-related deaths take place. To manage the growing global challenge of NCDs it will require collaborative solutions, involving governments, civil society, and private companies.

SDG Goal: By 2030, reduce by one third premature mortality from non-communicable diseases through prevention and treatment and promoting mental health and well-being.

To help address this challenge, MSD is proud to be a part of Access Accelerated (www.accessaccelerated.org) – a first-of-its-kind, multi-stakeholder collaboration focused on improving NCD care. Involving more than 20 biopharmaceutical companies, the initiative works with partners such as the World Bank and the Union of International Cancer Control (UICC) to help overcome a variety of access barriers to NCD medicines in low-income and lower-middle income countries. Access Accelerated will support multi-stakeholder dialogue and begin on-the-ground work to improve NCD prevention, diagnostics, and treatment.

“More than 30 years ago, when faced with the human toll from the spread of HIV infection among millions, MSD joined the global fight and rallied with others to turn the tide. Together, we transformed a death sentence into a manageable disease for many. Today, we share a collective responsibility to do the same for non-communicable diseases.”

– Ken Frazier, Chairman & CEO
COMMITMENT TO INVENTION IN NCD CARE

New medicines and vaccines are essential in the effort to address the public health burden of NCDs. Throughout our long history, we have pioneered numerous novel approaches to prevent and treat NCDs – particularly in cardiovascular disease, cancer and diabetes. In 2015, our research and development expenses were $6.7 billion for conditions including NCDs. We are committed to broadening the number of solutions available to patients to help decrease the affliction of NCDs worldwide.

Innovation in Cancer Care
Cancer is a leading and growing cause of morbidity and mortality worldwide. According to the WHO, 14 million people developed cancer and 8.2 million died of it in 2012. And, new cases of cancer are expected to rise by about 70 percent over the next two decades, to 22 million. Our goal is to translate breakthrough science into innovative oncology medicines to help people with cancer worldwide. Today, our portfolio includes seven oncology medicines that treat different cancers and conditions related to cancer treatment. As part of our focus on cancer, we are committed to exploring the potential of immuno-oncology with one of the fastest-growing development programs in the industry. We are currently executing an expansive immuno-oncology research program that includes nearly 400 clinical trials across more than 30 tumor types.

Innovation in Cardiac Care
Cardiovascular diseases (CVDs) are the number one cause of death worldwide. According to the WHO, in 2012, 17.5 million people died from CVDs. Our company is an historic leader in cardiac care and has developed some of the most innovative cholesterol lowering agents. We continue our commitment to reducing CVDs with eight approved medicines.

Innovation in Diabetes Treatment
Diabetes is a major global health problem. The WHO states that in 2014, 422 million people worldwide had diabetes. Our company has a proud history in helping patients with type 2 diabetes. Since launching the first DPP-4 inhibitor in the United States, we have continued to collaborate with academic and industry partners on advances in the care of patients with diabetes, and to research and develop innovative treatment options.

Innovation in Mental Health
Alzheimer’s disease is a devastating disease with a serious and significant economic and social burden. Worldwide, an estimated 47 million people are living with Alzheimer’s and other dementias. For more than 10 years, we have been researching different ways to treat Alzheimer’s disease, including a late-stage, clinical development program evaluating the leading hypothesis – the Amyloid Cascade hypothesis – for what causes Alzheimer’s disease.

NCD Medicines in the Pipeline:
- **KEYTRUDA** (pembrolizumab): Immunotherapy being evaluated, as monotherapy as well as in combination, for the treatment of more than 30 types of cancer.
- **MK-8662**: Investigational cancer therapy being evaluated in phase 2 clinical trials for the treatment of patients with hematological cancer.
- **MK-2206**: Investigational oral cancer treatment being evaluated in clinical trials for the treatment of patients with solid tumors.
- **Vericiguat**: Investigational oral therapy being evaluated for the treatment of heart failure. This candidate is being co-developed with Bayer.
- **Anacetrapib**: Investigational oral therapy being evaluated for its ability to alter blood cholesterol and reduce the risk of heart disease.
- **Ertugliflozin**: Investigational oral therapy being evaluated (with Pfizer) for the treatment of type 2 diabetes.
- **Verubecestat**: Investigational oral therapy being evaluated for its ability to slow or delay the progress of Alzheimer’s disease.
ENSURING ACCESS TO SUSTAIN AND SAVE LIVES

We believe that we have a responsibility not only to discover innovative medicines, but also to innovate in how we improve them, how we use technology, and how we partner with the health community to bring them to the people who need them. All stakeholders – governments, industry, civil society, patients and caregivers – need to engage in creative and collaborative partnerships to address NCDs.

Our access to health approach supports the company’s overall mission to discover, develop and produce innovative products and services that save and improve lives around the world. To guide our efforts we follow our companywide Access to Health Statement of Guiding Principles, which articulates our approach and aspirations in the areas of Research and Development, Manufacturing and Supply, Registration, Commercialization, and Community Investment.

Guided by these principles, our company seeks to commercialize our medicines and vaccines in a way that develops our business and meets local needs in a responsible and efficient manner. Part of that approach involves pricing our solutions for NCDs through differential pricing frameworks, taking into consideration the level of economic development, channel, and public health need. Within countries, particularly in the developing world and emerging markets, we seek to identify innovative strategies for differential pricing or other approaches that allow for flexibility to better reach those most in need.

In addition, we understand that access to medicines is a particularly complex issue in low-income countries given the inability of most portions of the population in these countries to afford medicines and the very substantial resource constraints facing the governments. Furthermore, we recognize the role that generic medicines can play in meeting the needs of many people in the developing world, particularly in low-income countries. We have, therefore, adopted a policy of not filing for patents for medicines and vaccines in low-income countries defined by The World Bank in its Country and Lending Groups classifications.

- Through pilot programs, in Ghana and the Philippines, we are examining the role of differential pricing and health system strengthening in helping to improve access to medicines for NCDs in underserved populations, particularly low-income groups, in developing countries. The pilots, which are at the core of the Access and Affordability Initiative (AAI) – a work stream of the Gates CEO Global Health Roundtable involving pharmaceutical and diagnostics companies and the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation – are expected to enhance understanding of how intra-country differential pricing, coupled with complementary health systems improvements, can be a tool to help improve access to medicines.

- We are an investment partner in the Abraaj Growth Markets Health Fund, which aims to bring affordable, accessible, quality health eco-systems to underserved populations in emerging markets in Asia and sub-Saharan Africa. With a disease focus that includes NCDs such as cardiovascular disease, diabetes, and mental health, the Abraaj network of health care facilities will expand the reach of needed products and services.

- Through Access Accelerated, MSD and the other coalition companies serve as a foundational partner of the UICC’s C/Can 2025: City Cancer Challenge (C/Can 2025) – a first-of-its-kind, multi-sector initiative that aims to engage cities around the world with a population over 1 million to improve cancer treatment and care. C/Can 2025 will start in specific ‘learning cities’ in low- and middle-income countries, which require international support to develop effective, sustainable cancer care delivery for their citizens.

- In the US, we offer a program to provide our medicines and adult vaccines for free to people who do not have prescription drug or health insurance coverage and who, without our assistance, cannot afford their Merck medicine, or vaccines.
PREVENTION IS CRITICAL

Vaccines are one of the most valuable health innovations in modern times, according to the WHO, the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), and other leading health authorities. Our company’s framework is one that allows ongoing research, development, and distribution of innovative vaccines that address important unmet health needs, including for NCDs.

Specific to NCDs, we are proud to collaborate with organizations and local governments worldwide to help foster comprehensive cervical cancer prevention and control programs. By helping to raise awareness of the connection between HPV and cervical cancer, increasing access to primary prevention through HPV immunization, secondary prevention through cervical cancer screenings and diagnosis, and tertiary prevention through early treatment, we aim to empower communities worldwide to reduce the burden of HPV-related cancers in both women and men.

We are committed to working closely with governments and scientific institutions to ensure broad and sustained access to GARDASIL [Human Papillomavirus Quadrivalent (Types 6, 11, 16, and 18) Vaccine, Recombinant]. We have a long-standing commitment to helping improve access to GARDASIL in developing countries, where more than 85 percent of the world’s cervical cancer cases occur. We have engaged in a number of multidisciplinary partnerships that help resource-poor countries gain access to HPV vaccination.

• Since 2013, we have partnered with Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance (Gavi) to offer GARDASIL at an access price allowing this organization to expand the use of this vaccine in developing countries and for the populations that need it the most. As a result of this decision, a growing number of countries are using GARDASIL for their public sector HPV vaccination programs. Last year, we extended our pricing commitment to Gavi for both GARDASIL and RotaTeq for 10 years, through 2026.

• Since 2011, we have worked with Pink Ribbon Red Ribbon™ (PRRR) to address both cervical and breast cancer in sub-Saharan African nations. PRRR is an historic initiative that brought together public- and private-sector partners, including Susan G. Komen for the Cure®, the George W. Bush Institute, the President’s Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR), UNAIDS, the U.S. government, and corporate organizations.

• Through the charitable GARDASIL Access Program, we donated doses of GARDASIL for use in smaller-scale HPV-vaccination projects in eligible lowest-income countries around the world. The program, which came to a conclusion in 2015, has enabled organizations and institutions in 21 countries to gain operational experience in designing and implementing HPV-vaccination projects, with the goal of supporting the development of successful child and adolescent immunization models.
Over the next five years, through our company’s Foundation, we have committed over $35 million in support for programs to address the growing NCD epidemic. Through the Foundation, we are collaborating with community-based organizations, health care providers, academic institutions and other stakeholders to make an impact on NCDs in underserved communities.

Advancing Cancer Care
- **The Alliance to Advance Patient-Centered Cancer Care** is a commitment of $15M over five years (2016-2020) to support six program sites around the U.S. with the aim of increasing timely access to patient-centered cancer care and reducing disparities in care, particularly for vulnerable and underserved populations.
- To improve timely access to high-quality cancer care, we have committed $1.58M over four years (2015-2018) to support the American Cancer Society (ACS) Patient Navigation Program in three U.S. communities. This program aims to help patients overcome barriers to timely initiation of treatment, enhance care coordination, promote patient activation, and advance best practices in patient navigation.

Advancing Diabetes Care
- **Bridging the Gap**, with a commitment of $10M over five years (2017-2021), aims to improve access to high-quality diabetes care and reduce health disparities among vulnerable and underserved populations in the United States. **Bridging the Gap** will support up to five program sites around the country in advancing intersectoral strategies that improve population health and reduce diabetes disparities.
- In partnership with the University of North Carolina School of Public Health, we have committed $781K over three years (2016-2018) to support the development, implementation and evaluation of a peer support (e.g., community health worker) program in 10 Community Health Centers in Shanghai, China, to help improve diabetes self-management, treatment adherence, and quality of life.

Advancing Mental Health Care
- Since 2013, we have supported the North Carolina A&T State University’s **Center for Outreach in Alzheimer’s, Aging and Community Health (COAACH)**. Most recently, we expanded our support of COAACH with a commitment of $2M over four years (2016-2019) to improve access to needed health care and support services for patients and family/caregivers who are affected by Alzheimer’s disease in underserved, rural North Carolina communities.

Advancing Care Across NCDs
- In partnership with the University of New Mexico, we are committing $7M over five years (2016-2020) to support the replication of **Project ECHO** (Extension for Community Healthcare Outcomes) to help expand access to specialty care for complex, chronic conditions, including NCDs such as mental health conditions and diabetes, in rural and underserved communities in India and Vietnam. This partnership will focus on strengthening health system capacity and improving the quality of the health care workforce through the use of telehealth technology and innovative clinical management tools.
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More information: http://www.merck.com/research/home.html

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PROMOTING HEALTHY LIFESTYLES

We recognize that maintaining a healthy lifestyle is one of the best ways to prevent many NCDs. Risk factors, such as obesity, poor diet and lack of sufficient exercise are precursors to NCDs and lead to largely preventable diseases and premature death.

As we strive to improve and save lives around the world, we also recognize the importance of leading by example. Our company is investing in a culture of well-being through workplace-sponsored health promotion, wellness and disease prevention programs. Our comprehensive, integrated platform of health tools, resources, and programs help employees manage their health – getting the right care at the right place and at the right time. Globally, our programs have reached over 50,000 employees in 32 countries.

Our company’s Consumer-Engagement Program, a free health-support program available in the U.S., offers resources that help U.S. consumers achieve their health goals by reinforcing healthy lifestyle choices, providing disease-specific education, supporting adherence to therapy and facilitating more productive interactions with health care professionals. The site also provides support and encouragement for caregivers, who are often engaged in the day-to-day care and treatment decisions of family members and friends.
“The surest remedy for any disease is to invent the best medicine or vaccine and ensure that the broadest number of patients have access to it. Our collective impact will be measured by the number of lives sustained or saved.”

– Ken Frazier, Chairman & CEO

About MSD
For more than a century, MSD has been a global health care leader working to help the world be well. MSD is a tradename of Merck & Co., Inc., Kenilworth, N.J., USA. Through our prescription medicines, vaccines, biologic therapies, and animal health products, we work with customers and operate in more than 140 countries to deliver innovative health solutions. We also demonstrate our commitment to increasing access to healthcare through far-reaching policies, programs and partnerships.

For more information, visit www.msd.com.

Forward-Looking Statement of Merck & Co., Inc., Kenilworth, N.J., USA
This document 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 2015 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).