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## News Release

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### Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany, to Invest € 50 Million in Italian Production Site in Bari

- **Investment to meet the rising demand for biopharmaceuticals**

Darmstadt, Germany / Bari, Italy, May 20, 2014 – Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany, today announced plans to invest € 50 million in its Italian production site in Bari in order to respond to the rising demand for biopharmaceuticals.

The announcement was made by Karl-Ludwig Kley, Chairman of the Executive Board of Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany, during a press conference held today at the Bari plant, in the presence of the Italian Prime Minister, Matteo Renzi, and of the President of the Italian Pharma Industries Association Farindustria, Massimo Scaccabarozzi.

Within the biopharmaceuticals division, the Bari site is part of fill & finish operations alongside the facilities in Darmstadt and Aubonne (Switzerland). The drugs produced within this global network are seeing long-term growing demand, especially as regards those to treat infertility. The new production facility in Bari, southern Italy, is to be commissioned in 2017 for the sterile filling and packaging of liquid drugs into syringes, vials and ampoules (fill & finish).

“To make Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany, fit for the future, we are also investing in modern, expanded production capacities in order to meet the rising demand for our drugs,” said Kley, making reference to the “Fit for 2018” transformation and growth program. During his visit to the Bari site today, he explained the reasons for the investment: “This is



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part of our growth plans for Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany, and for the biopharmaceuticals division in particular here in Bari, where we have excellent conditions thanks to highly skilled employees and a very good infrastructure. Patients will also benefit from this investment as we secure the supply of drugs that improve the quality of life of people around the globe.”

Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany, generates more than half of the sales of its biopharmaceuticals division with biotech products. Among others, the company is the world market leader in the treatment of infertility. Around two million babies of the five million born with the help of infertility drugs worldwide were conceived with the aid of EMD Serono products.

All Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany, press releases are distributed by e-mail at the same time they become available on the EMD Group Website. In case you are a resident of the USA or Canada please go to [www.emdgroup.com/subscribe](http://www.emdgroup.com/subscribe) to register again for your online subscription of this service as our newly introduced geo-targeting requires new links in the email. You may later change your selection or discontinue this service.

### **About Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany**

Merck KGaA of Darmstadt, Germany, is a leading company for innovative and top-quality high-tech products in the pharmaceutical and chemical sectors. Its subsidiaries in Canada and the United States operate under the umbrella brand EMD. Around 38,000 employees work in 66 countries to improve the quality of life for patients, to further the success of customers and to help meet global challenges. The company generated total revenues of € 11.1 billion in 2013 with its four divisions: Biopharmaceuticals, Consumer Health, Performance Materials and Life Science Tools. Merck KGaA of Darmstadt, Germany, is the world’s oldest pharmaceutical



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and chemical company – since 1668, the name has stood for innovation, business success and responsible entrepreneurship. Holding an approximately 70 percent interest, the founding family remains the majority owner of the company to this day.