

December 5, 2016

## **MilliporeSigma to Provide Provantage® End-to-End Services to Acticor Biotech SAS**

- **Accelerates development and manufacture of Acticor’s antibody fragment that treats ischemic stroke**

Billerica, Massachusetts, December 5, 2016 — [MilliporeSigma](#) today announced that it will provide its [Provantage® End-to-End](#) services to [Acticor Biotech SAS](#) for accelerated development and manufacturing of Acticor’s antibody fragment used for the primary treatment of ischemic stroke.

MilliporeSigma’s Provantage® End-to-End solution is a comprehensive suite of products and services enabling biopharmaceutical companies to accelerate progress of molecules into the clinic and toward commercialization.

“Our Provantage® End-to-End solution will provide Acticor with a fast and flexible approach to development and clinical-scale manufacturing,” said Udit Batra, Member of the Executive Board of Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany and CEO, MilliporeSigma. “We look forward to executing full process development for the antibody fragment, which will help accelerate this important new molecule through the pipeline to patients in need.”

The turnkey package includes process development, cGMP clinical manufacturing, quality and regulatory support, training, commercial facilities design, engineering and build-up as well as production equipment supply and process technical transfer activities.



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“Stroke is the third leading cause of death in the world and the first cause of disabilities in adults,” said Gilles Avenard, CEO, Acticor Biotech. “Motivated by these statistics, we are developing innovative therapeutic strategies for safe and effective emergency treatment of the acute phase of ischemic strokes. Through our collaboration with MilliporeSigma, we now have access to a comprehensive set of development and manufacturing services that will help us deliver on our mission.”

MilliporeSigma’s Provantage® End-to-End solution delivers important benefits and addresses key challenges for biopharmaceutical companies at all life cycle stages in any geography, including established biopharmaceutical companies decentralizing manufacturing that must rapidly and efficiently establish local production capabilities. With an end-to-end approach, MilliporeSigma can facilitate and accelerate transfer of an entire process to a new location. Early-stage companies with limited manufacturing capabilities, resources and infrastructure benefit from a partner with best-in-class unit operations and the support and expertise to develop processes and production facilities.

All Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany news releases are distributed by email at the same time they become available on the EMD Group website. In case you are a resident of the U.S. 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 the Life Science Business of Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany**

The life science business of Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany, which operates as MilliporeSigma in the U.S. and Canada, has 19,000 employees and 65 manufacturing sites worldwide, with a portfolio of more than 300,000 products enabling scientific discovery. Udit Batra is the global chief executive officer of MilliporeSigma.

Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany completed its \$17 billion acquisition of Sigma-Aldrich in November 2015, creating a leader in the \$125 billion global life science industry.

Merck KGaA of Darmstadt, Germany is a leading company for innovative and top-quality high-tech products in healthcare, life science and performance materials. The company has six businesses – Biopharmaceuticals, Consumer Health, Allergopharma, Biosimilars, Life Science and Performance Materials – and generated sales of €12.85 billion in 2015. Around 50,000 employees work in 66 countries to improve the quality of life for patients, to foster the success of customers and to help meet global challenges.

Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany is the world’s oldest pharmaceutical and chemical company – since 1668, the company 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. Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany holds the global rights to the name and the trademark “Merck” internationally except for the United

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States and Canada, where the company operates as EMD Serono, MilliporeSigma and EMD Performance Materials.

### **About Acticor Biotech**

Acticor Biotech is bio-pharmaceutical company, spin-off of Inserm, founded late 2013, dedicated to developing an innovative treatment in the therapy of acute ischemic stroke.

Acticor is developing ACT-017, a Humanized Antibody Fragment (Fab). The therapeutic candidate is directed against a novel target of major interest, platelet glycoprotein VI (GPVI), and inhibits its action. Evidence of antithrombotic efficacy of ACT-017 and safety of inhibition of GPVI have been established both ex vivo and in vivo. The target is involved in the growth of the thrombus, but not in physiological hemostasis. This limits the bleeding risk associated with its inhibition.

Acticor Biotech is built upon expertise and results of researches conducted by the founders: Dr. Martine Jandrot-Perrus and Dr Christian Gachet, in two INSERM units, and Professor Philippe Billiald at Paris-Sud University.