



## Press Release

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## MERCK ANNOUNCES SALE OF POXEL EQUITY STAKE

**Darmstadt, Allemagne, 6 october 2017** - Merck Santé SAS, an affiliate of Merck KGaA, today announces it sold its entire 4.74 percent stake of 1,088,531 shares in Poxel SA through sales on the market.

Merck reaffirms its full support to Poxel's strategy. The divestment of Merck's equity stake in Poxel was driven by Merck's period reassessment of strategic priorities. Merck will retain its economic interest in Poxel's activities through royalties derived from their existing license agreement.

\* \* \*

*This announcement is for information purposes only and does not constitute an offer to sell or the solicitation of an offer to buy any securities in any jurisdiction, including France and other member states of the European Economic Area.*

*The sale of Poxel shares referred to in this announcement has not been, nor will be, registered under the United States Securities Act of 1933 (the "Securities Act").*

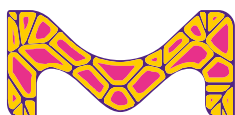
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### About Merck

Merck is a leading science and technology company in healthcare, life science and performance materials. Around 50,000 employees work to further develop technologies that improve and enhance life – from biopharmaceutical therapies to treat cancer or multiple sclerosis, cutting-edge systems for scientific research and production, to liquid crystals for smartphones and LCD televisions. In 2015, Merck generated sales of € 12.85 billion in 66 countries.

Founded in 1668, Merck is the world's oldest pharmaceutical and chemical company. The founding family remains the majority owner of the publicly listed corporate group. Merck, Darmstadt, Germany holds the global rights to the Merck name and brand. The only exceptions are the United States and Canada, where the company operates as EMD Serono, MilliporeSigma and EMD Performance Materials.



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