

Merck & Co., Inc.
MERCK MEDICAL OUTREACH PROGRAM

The Merck Medical Outreach Program, established within the Office of Contributions in 1958, is an important component of Merck's commitment to global health and is administered to meet the highest standards of ethics and integrity. Through this program Merck donates life-giving pharmaceuticals and vaccines for humanitarian purposes in developing countries and to respond to disaster/emergency situations both in the U.S. and abroad. Product donations are made in accordance with Company policy, guidelines, and requirements.

The scope of the program varies from year to year and is influenced by changing medical needs in developing countries, the quantity of products available for donation, and the random nature of natural and man-made disasters.

The program is directed principally through a limited number of U.S.-based, 501(c)(3) private voluntary organizations (PVOs) that have long-standing relationships with Merck, demonstrate integrity of purpose, provide assurance that Merck products will be securely warehoused and will not be diverted, mishandled, or misappropriated, and have established programs for the ill and the needy in developing countries. Principal donees are Americares, Catholic Medical Mission Board, Direct Relief International, IMA World Health, MAP International, and Project HOPE. Such direction provides the company with the controls necessary for the proper distribution and handling of Merck medicines.

Components of the Merck Medical Outreach Program include:

- Annual Allotment Program, which is limited to 6 private voluntary organizations, allows each organization to order fully-dated material of their choice from the Merck product line up to an amount authorized annually;
- Donations of excess products made available for donation by the Merck Manufacturing Division (MMD), and/or the Merck Vaccine Division (MVID);
- Disaster and emergency relief assistance;
- Donations of MECTIZAN®.

To ensure that donated products are utilized appropriately, product dating must be sufficient to allow for proper administration prior to expiration. Merck, as part of a consortium of pharmaceutical companies committed to raising the global standards for product donations, has agreed to, where possible, donate products with the longest possible dating (i.e., 12 months or greater). Recognizing the limitation that such dating restrictions may put on our ability to provide much needed, quality medications to those in need, exceptions to this guideline may be made on a case-by-case basis. However, outdated products and products with insufficient dating for utilization prior to expiration are not donated under any circumstances. For vaccines, the dating must be sufficient to allow for a complete dosing regimen or a commitment must be made to donate additional material to complete the regimen.

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Merck Mectizan® Donation Program

In October 1987, Merck announced the plans to provide MECTIZAN® free of charge for as long as is needed to treat onchocerciasis (river blindness). MECTIZAN®, for the treatment of river blindness, is donated via two mechanisms:

- Community-Based Treatment Program - Merck donates MECTIZAN® for the treatment of large populations in countries where onchocerciasis is endemic and where treatment programs have been approved by the local Ministry of Health. Applications to implement community-based treatment programs must be submitted to the MECTIZAN® Expert Committee for review and approval.
- Special Requests - A small quantity of MECTIZAN® is provided directly, upon request, to individual physicians in medical practice in hospitals and dispensaries, for the treatment of patients diagnosed with onchocerciasis.

Additional information, as well as application forms, may be obtained by writing to the MECTIZAN® Donation Program Secretariat, MECTIZAN® Donation Program, 750 Commerce Avenue, Suite 400, Decatur, GA 30030, USA or visiting www.mectizan.org.

In October 1998, Merck announced the expansion of the Merck MECTIZAN® Donation Program to include lymphatic filariasis in African countries where onchocerciasis and lymphatic filariasis co-exist. The donation of MECTIZAN® for lymphatic filariasis takes place through the same system established successfully for onchocerciasis.