

For Immediate Release

SOGC announces multi-tiered partnership with Merck to help support the advancement of women's health

Ottawa, ON – June 25, 2020 – The SOGC is proud to announce that Merck Canada has lent their support to SOGC Initiatives aimed at supporting health care professionals during COVID, and in the recovery from the pandemic.

This new partnership with the SOGC will see the funding go directly into the organization's efforts to improve quality of care across its entire network. This will help the SOGC to continue updating its [COVID-19 resource page](#), assist in the development of a new Virtual ALARM course (Advances in Labour and Risk Management) and by strengthening its networks and ability to support the SOGC's over 4200 active members. There will be resources to help members in the recovery phase, whether it is dealing with backlogs, providing virtual care or new ways to participate in on-going professional development that is active, engaging and accessible.

"The SOGC is an organization that looks to establish partnerships with organizations that understand the true value of the work that we do. Merck shares our commitment to advancing women's health, and supporting our members," said Dr. Jennifer Blake, CEO of the SOGC, "and that is why we are so pleased to announce their support of the SOGC COVID response, during these unprecedented times."

"The hard reality is that, even in this day and age, too many women don't have access to quality health care, and this includes pregnant women," explains Anna Van Acker, President and Managing Director of Merck Canada. "As an innovative company committed to improving maternal health and the wellbeing of girls and women, especially those who need it the most, we are very proud to partner with the SOGC to support their relentless efforts to advance the health care of women across the country."

To learn more about the SOGC and what they are doing to support our frontline workers, please visit sogc.org.

About the SOGC

The SOGC is one of Canada's oldest national specialty organizations. Established in 1944, the Society's mission is to promote excellence in the practice of obstetrics and gynaecology and to advance the health of women through leadership, advocacy, collaboration and education. The SOGC represents

obstetricians/gynaecologists, family physicians, nurses, midwives and allied health professionals working in the field of sexual reproductive health. For more information visit www.sogc.org.

About Merck

For more than 125 years, Merck, known as MSD outside of the United States and Canada, has been inventing for life, bringing forward medicines and vaccines for many of the world's most challenging diseases in pursuit of our mission to save and improve lives. We demonstrate our commitment to patients and population health by increasing access to health care through far-reaching policies, programs and partnerships. Today, Merck continues to be at the forefront of research to prevent and treat diseases that threaten people and animals – including cancer, infectious diseases such as HIV and Ebola, and emerging animal diseases – as we aspire to be the premier research-intensive biopharmaceutical company in the world. For more information about our operations in Canada, visit www.merck.ca and connect with us on [YouTube](#) and [Twitter @MerckCanada](#)

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