CATALYST PHARMACEUTICALS, INC.

Form S-3 July 12, 2017 Table of Contents

As filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on July 12, 2017

Registration No. 333-

# **UNITED STATES**

# SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

**WASHINGTON, D.C. 20549** 

#### FORM S-3

#### REGISTRATION STATEMENT

**UNDER** 

THE SECURITIES ACT OF 1933

# CATALYST PHARMACEUTICALS, INC.

(Exact Name of Registrant as Specified in Its Charter)

Delaware (State or Other Jurisdiction of

2834 (Primary Standard Industrial 76-0837053 (I.R.S. Employer

**Incorporation or Organization**)

**Classification Code Number**)

**Identification Number**)

# 355 Alhambra Circle

**Suite 1250** 

Coral Gables, Florida 33134

(305) 420-3200

(Address, Including Zip Code, and Telephone Number, Including Area Code, of Registrant's Principal Executive Offices)

Patrick J. McEnany

Catalyst Pharmaceuticals, Inc.

355 Alhambra Circle, Suite 1250

Coral Gables, Florida 33134

(305) 420-3200

(Name, Address, Including Zip Code, and Telephone Number, Including Area Code, of Agent for Service)

Copy to:

Philip B. Schwartz, Esq.

Andrew E. Schwartz, Esq.

**Akerman LLP** 

350 East Las Olas Boulevard

**Suite 1600** 

Fort Lauderdale, Florida 33301

Tel: (954) 463-2700

Fax: (305) 349-4833

**Approximate date of commencement of proposed sale to the public**: From time to time after the effective date of this registration statement.

If the only securities being registered on this Form are being offered pursuant to dividend or interest reinvestment plans, please check the following box:

If any of the securities being registered on this form are to be offered on a delayed or continuous basis pursuant to Rule 415 under the Securities Act of 1933, other than securities offered only in connection with dividend or interest reinvestment plans, check the following box.

If this Form is filed to register additional securities for an offering pursuant to Rule 462(b) under the Securities Act, please check the following box and list the Securities Act registration statement number of the earlier effective registration statement for the same offering.

If this Form is a post-effective amendment filed pursuant to Rule 462(c) under the Securities Act, check the following box and list the Securities Act registration statement number of the earlier effective registration statement for the same offering.

If this form is a registration statement pursuant to General Instruction I.D. or a post-effective amendment thereto that shall become effective upon filing with the Commission pursuant to Rule 462(e) under the Securities Act, check the following box.

If this form is a post-effective amendment to a registration statement filed pursuant to General Instruction I.D. filed to register additional securities or additional classes of securities pursuant to Rule 413(b) under the Securities Act, check the following box.

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a large accelerated filer, an accelerated filer, a non-accelerated filer, a smaller reporting company, or an emerging growth company. See the definitions of large accelerated filer , accelerated filer , smaller reporting company and emerging growth company in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act.

Large accelerated filer

Non-accelerated filer

(do not check if a smaller reporting company)

Emerging Growth Company

If an emerging growth company, indicate by check mark if the registrant has elected not to use the extended transition period for complying with any new or revised financial accounting standards provided pursuant to Section 7(a)(2)(B) of the Securities Act.

### CALCULATION OF REGISTRATION FEE

Title of Each Class of	Amount to be	Proposed Maximum Offering Price	Proposed Maximum Aggregate	Amount of
<b>Shares to be Registered (1)</b>	Registered	Per Share	Offering Price(2) (3)	<b>Registration Fee (4)</b>
Common Stock, par value \$0.001 per				
share (5)	(6)	(6)	(6)	(6)

Preferred Stock, par value \$0.001 per				
share	(6)	(6)	(6)	(6)
Debt Securities	(6)	(6)	(6)	(6)
Warrants to Purchase Common Stock	(6)	(6)	(6)	(6)
Units	(6)	(6)	(6)	(6)
Total			\$150,000,000	\$17,385

- (1) We are registering such indeterminate number of principal amount and number of each identified class of our securities as we may offer and sell from time to time, which will have an aggregate initial offering price not to exceed \$150,000,000.
- (2) Pursuant to Rule 416 under the Securities Act, this Registration Statement shall cover any additional shares of the Registrant s common stock that become issuable by reason of any stock split, stock dividends, recapitalization or other similar transactions.
- (3) Subject to Rule 462(b) under the Securities Act, in no event will the aggregate maximum offering price of all securities issued by the Registrant under this Registration Statement exceed \$150,000,000.
- (4) The registration fee has been calculated in accordance with Rule 457(o) under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended.
- (5) Subject to the restrictions of Rule 5635 of the Nasdaq Marketplace Rules, the Registrant may sell only 20% of its common shares in a primary offering in any given year if such shares are sold below market value.
- (6) Not specified as to each class of securities to be registered pursuant to General Instruction II.D of Form S-3 under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended.

The information in this prospectus is not complete and may be changed. We may not sell these securities until the registration statement filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission is effective. This preliminary prospectus is not an offer to sell these securities and it is not soliciting an offer to buy these securities in any jurisdiction where the offer or sale is not permitted.

# **SUBJECT TO COMPLETION, DATED JULY 12, 2017**

# **Preliminary Prospectus**

\$150,000,000

Common Stock

**Preferred Stock** 

**Warrants to Purchase Common Stock** 

**Debt Securities** 

Units

We may offer and sell from time to time common stock, preferred stock, warrants to purchase common stock, and debt securities (including debt securities that may be convertible or exchangeable for common stock or other securities). The common stock, preferred stock, warrants to purchase common stock and debt securities may be offered separately or together, in units or multiple series, in amounts, at prices and on terms that will be set forth in one or more prospectus supplements to this prospectus.

The prospectus provides a general description of the securities that we may offer. Each time securities are offered and sold pursuant to this prospectus, a supplement to this prospectus that contains specific information about the offering will be provided. We may also authorize one or more free writing prospectuses to be provided to you in connection with these offerings. The prospectus supplement and any related free writing prospectus may add, update or change information contained in this prospectus. You should carefully read this prospectus, the applicable prospectus supplement and any related free writing prospectus, as well as the documents incorporated by reference, before you invest in shares of our common stock. This prospectus may not be used to sell securities unless accompanied by a prospectus supplement.

Our common stock is listed on The NASDAQ Capital Market under the symbol CPRX. On July 11, 2017, the last reported sale price on The NASDAQ Capital Market was \$3.08 per share. There is no market for any preferred stock, warrants to purchase common stock, or debt securities we may sell pursuant to this prospectus.

Our business and investing in our securities involves significant risks. You should carefully read and consider the *Risk Factors* beginning on page 6 of this prospectus before investing.

Neither the Securities and Exchange Commission nor any state securities commission has approved or disapproved of these securities or passed upon the adequacy or accuracy of this prospectus. Any representation to the contrary is a criminal offense.

The date of this prospectus is , 2017

# TABLE OF CONTENTS

Summary	1
Risk Factors	6
Cautionary Statement Regarding Forward-Looking Statements.	24
Ratio of Earnings to Fixed Charges.	26
Use of Proceeds	26
Determination of Offering Price	27
<u>Dilution</u>	28
Plan of Distribution	28
General Description of our Capital Stock	29
Description of Debt Securities .	34
Description of Warrants	37
Description of Units	38
Legal Matters	39
Experts.	39
Where You Can Find Additional Information	39
Incorporation of Information by Reference	39
Disclosure of Commission Position On Indemnification for Securities Act Liabilities	
ABOUT THIS PROSPECTUS	

This prospectus is part of a shelf registration statement on Form S-3 that we filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC), using the shelf registration process. By using a shelf registration statement, we may, from time to time, sell our securities in one or more offerings up to a total dollar amount of \$150,000,000.

Each time that we offer and sell securities, we will provide a prospectus supplement to this prospectus that contains specific information about the securities being offered and sold and the specific terms of that offering. The prospectus supplement may also add, update or change information contained in this prospectus with respect to that offering. If there is any inconsistency between the information in this prospectus and the applicable prospectus supplement, you should rely on the prospectus supplement. Before purchasing any securities, you should carefully read both this prospectus and the applicable prospectus supplement, together with the additional information described under the headings. Where You Can Find Additional Information and Incorporation of Information by Reference.

You should rely only on the information contained or incorporated by reference in this prospectus and any related prospectus supplement. We have not authorized anyone to provide you with different information. If anyone provides you with different or inconsistent information, you should not rely on it. We will not make an offer to sell these securities in any jurisdiction where the offer or sale is not permitted. You should assume that the information contained in this prospectus and the applicable prospectus supplement is accurate as of the date on its respective front cover, and that any information incorporated by reference is accurate only as of the date given in the document incorporated by reference, regardless of the time of delivery of this prospectus, any applicable prospectus supplement or any sale of our securities. Our business, financial condition, results of operations and prospects may have changed since that date.

#### **SUMMARY**

This summary highlights information contained elsewhere in this prospectus; it does not contain all of the information you should consider before investing. You should carefully read the entire prospectus, including our filings with the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission that are incorporated by reference into this prospectus, before making an investment decision.

This prospectus includes trademarks, service marks or trade names owned by us or other companies. All trademarks, service marks or trade names included in this prospectus are the property of their respective owners.

Throughout this prospectus, the terms we, us, our and company refer to Catalyst Pharmaceuticals, Inc.

#### **Our Business**

We are a biopharmaceutical company focused on developing and commercializing innovative therapies for people with rare debilitating diseases. We currently have three drug candidates in development:

# <u>Firdapse</u>®

In October 2012, we licensed the North American rights to Firdapse<sup>®</sup>, a proprietary form of amifampridine phosphate, or chemically known as 3,4-diaminopyridine phosphate, from BioMarin Pharmaceutical Inc. (BioMarin). In August 2013, we were granted breakthrough therapy designation by the U.S. Food & Drug Administration (FDA) for Firdapse<sup>®</sup> for the treatment of patients with Lambert-Eaton Myasthenic Syndrome, or LEMS, a rare and sometimes fatal autoimmune disease characterized by muscle weakness. Further, the FDA has granted Orphan Drug Designation for Firdapse<sup>®</sup> for the treatment of patients with LEMS, Congenital Myasthenic Syndromes, or CMS, and Myasthenia Gravis (MG).

The chemical entity, amifampridine (3,4-diaminopyridine or 3,4-DAP), has never been approved by the FDA for any indication. Because Firdapse<sup>®</sup> has been granted Orphan Drug designation for the treatment of LEMS, CMS and MG by the FDA, the product is eligible to receive seven years of marketing exclusivity for either or all of these indications. Further, if we are the first pharmaceutical company to obtain approval for an amifampridine product, of which there can be no assurance, we will be eligible to receive five years of marketing exclusivity with respect to the use of this product for any indication, running concurrently with the seven years of orphan marketing exclusivity described above (if both exclusivities are granted).

We previously sponsored a multi-center, randomized, placebo-controlled Phase 3 trial evaluating Firdapse® for the treatment of LEMS. This Phase 3 trial, which involved 38 subjects, was designed as a randomized withdrawal trial in which all patients were treated with Firdapse® during a 7 to 91-day run-in-period followed by treatment with either Firdapse® or placebo over a two-week randomization period. The co-primary endpoints for this Phase 3 trial were the comparison of changes in patients randomized to continue Firdapse® versus those who transitioned to placebo that occurred in both the Quantitative Myasthenia Gravis Score (QMG), which measures muscle strength, and subject global impression score (SGI), on which the subjects rate their global impression of the effects of a study treatment during the two-week randomization period. In September 2014, we reported positive top-line results from this Phase 3 trial.

During 2014, we established an expanded access program (EAP) to make Firdapse® available to any patients diagnosed with LEMS, CMS, or Downbeat Nystagmus in the United States, who meet the inclusion and exclusion

criteria, with Firdapse<sup>®</sup> being provided to patients for free until sometime after New Drug Application (NDA) approval, should we receive such approval (of which there can be no assurance). We continue to inform neuromuscular physicians on the availability of the Firdapse<sup>®</sup> EAP and also to work with various rare disease advocacy organizations to inform patients and physicians about the program.

1

On December 17, 2015, we announced completion of the submission of an NDA for Firdapse® for the treatment of LEMS and CMS. However, on February 17, 2016, we announced that we had received a refusal to file letter from the FDA regarding our NDA submission. In early April 2016, we met with the FDA to obtain greater clarity regarding what will be required by the FDA to accept the Firdapse® NDA for filing. Following the receipt of the formal minutes of that meeting, on April 26, 2016, we issued a press release reporting that the FDA has advised us that in addition to the results of the Company s previously submitted multi-center, randomized, placebo-controlled Phase 3 trial, we will need to submit positive results from a second adequate and well-controlled study in patients with LEMS. Additionally, there is a requirement for several more short-term toxicology studies, which are currently in process.

In October 2016, we announced that we had reached an agreement with the FDA under a Special Protocol Assessment (SPA) for the protocol design, clinical endpoints, and statistical analysis approach to be taken in our second Phase 3 study evaluating Firdapse® (amifampridine phosphate) for the symptomatic treatment of LEMS. A SPA is a process by which sponsors ask the FDA to evaluate the protocol of a proposed clinical trial to determine whether it adequately addresses scientific and regulatory requirements for the purpose identified by the sponsor. A SPA agreement indicates FDA concurrence with the adequacy and acceptability of specific critical elements of protocol design, endpoints and analysis. Additionally, it provides a binding agreement with FDA s review division that a pivotal trial design, conduct, and planned analysis adequately addresses the scientific and regulatory objectives in support of a regulatory submission for drug approval. However, the FDA may rescind a SPA agreement when the division director determines that a substantial scientific issue essential to determining the safety or efficacy of the product has been identified after the trial has begun.

We are presently conducting our second Phase 3 trial evaluating Firdapse® for the treatment of LEMS (designated as LMS-003) at sites in Miami, Florida and Los Angeles, California. This double-blind, placebo-controlled withdrawal trial will include approximately 28 subjects, and will have the same co-primary endpoints as our first Phase 3 trial evaluating Firdapse® for the treatment of LEMS. Further, the FDA is allowing us to enroll patients from our expanded access program as study subjects in this second trial. Details of the Phase 3 clinical trial are available on <a href="https://www.clinicaltrials.gov">www.clinicaltrials.gov</a> (NCT02970162).

We initiated this trial in December 2016, and we expect to report top-line results from this trial during the second half of 2017. Assuming the results of this trial are successful, and our anticipated timeline for the completion of this trial is met, we expect to resubmit an NDA for Firdapse® for the treatment of LEMS in the second half of 2017. There can be no assurance as to the timing or requirements of this trial, whether this trial, along with the results of our first Phase 3 trial, will be sufficient for the FDA to accept for filing any NDA that we might resubmit in the future for Firdapse®, or whether Firdapse® will ever be approved for commercialization.

Our original NDA submission for Firdapse<sup>®</sup> included data and information (including data from a currently ongoing investigator treatment IND) providing evidence supporting the benefits of Firdapse<sup>®</sup> for treating certain types of CMS, and requested that CMS be included in our initial label for Firdapse<sup>®</sup>. To provide additional support for our submission of an NDA for Firdapse<sup>®</sup> for the treatment of CMS, in October 2015 we initiated a small blinded clinical trial at four academic centers of up to 10 subjects in the pediatric CMS population, ages 2 to 17. However, after considering comments from the FDA, we determined to enroll both adult and pediatric subjects with CMS in this trial and to expand the number of subjects to be evaluated in the trial to an aggregate of approximately 20 subjects. We also added a fifth trial site for this study, and we expect to add one or more additional sites in the future. Details of this trial are available on www.clinicaltrials.gov (NCT02562066).

Based on currently available information, we expect to report top line results from this study in the first half of 2018 and if the results of the study are successful, we hope to add the CMS indication to our labeling for Firdapse<sup>®</sup>. We also may include in our initial NDA filing for LEMS those limited types of CMS that are

2

generally considered mechanistically similar to LEMS. There can be no assurance that any trial we perform for Firdapse® for the treatment of CMS will be successful or whether any NDA that we may submit for Firdapse® for the treatment of CMS will be filed by the FDA for review and approved.

In February 2016, we announced the initiation of an investigator-sponsored, randomized, double-blind, placebo-controlled, crossover Phase 2/3 clinical trial evaluating the safety, tolerability and potential efficacy of Firdapse® as a symptomatic treatment for patients with MuSK-MG. MuSK- MG, an ultra-rare sub-population of MG patients, is a debilitating neuromuscular disease, and there are currently no FDA approved therapies for this specific form of MG. Seven patients participated in this proof-of-concept trial. We provided study drug, placebo and financial support for this study.

On March 15, 2017, we reported top-line results from this trial. Both of the co-primary efficacy endpoints of change from baseline (CFB) in total Quantitative Myasthenia Gravis (QMG) score (p=0.0003) and CFB in total Myasthenia Gravis Activities of Daily Living (MG-ADL) score (p=0.0006) were statistically and clinically significant in this trial. Several secondary efficacy measures also achieved statistical significance. Amifampridine phosphate was well tolerated in this population of patients.

We are currently discussing with the FDA conducting a registration trial evaluating Firdapse® for the treatment of patients with MuSK- MG. There can be no assurance that future clinical trials that we initiate to evaluate Firdapse® for this indication will be successful, or whether we can obtain the resources available to fund any such registration trial. Further, there can also be no assurance that the FDA will ever approve Firdapse® for this indication.

Finally, we may seek to evaluate Firdapse<sup>®</sup> for the treatment of other treatment-refractory types of MG or other rare, similar neuromuscular diseases, although we have not yet begun to develop clinical programs for these indications and all such programs are subject to the availability of funding. There can be no assurance that Firdapse<sup>®</sup> will be an effective treatment for other treatment-refractory types of MG or for any other rare, similar neuromuscular diseases.

Prior to the receipt of the refusal to file letter, we had been actively taking steps to prepare for the commercialization of Firdapse<sup>®</sup> in the United States. In light of the determination that we will have to complete a second adequate and well controlled study evaluating Firdapse<sup>®</sup> for the treatment of LEMS, we have placed most of these commercialization activities on hold in order to conserve cash. We currently expect to recommence our commercialization plans for Firdapse<sup>®</sup> during the second half of 2017. Notwithstanding, we are continuing to work with several rare disease advocacy organizations to help increase awareness of LEMS and CMS and to provide awareness and outreach support for the physicians who treat these rare diseases and the patients they treat.

Under our License Agreement with BioMarin, we have agreed to make the following royalty payments on commercial sales of Firdapse®: (i) royalty payments to BioMarin for seven years from the first commercial sale equal to: (a) 7% of net sales (as defined in the license agreement) in North America in any calendar year for sales up to \$100 million, and (b) 10% of net sales in North America in any calendar year in excess of \$100 million; and (ii) royalty payments to a third-party licensor of the rights sublicensed to us for seven years from the first commercial sale equal to 7% of net sales (as defined in the license agreement between BioMarin and the third party licensor) in North America in any calendar year. We have also agreed to make certain milestone payments to such third-party licensor and to the former stockholders of Huxley Pharmaceuticals, Inc. (Huxley) that BioMarin is obligated to make. With respect to Firdapse®, the milestones aggregate up to \$2.6 million upon acceptance of an NDA for Firdapse® by the FDA for the treatment of LEMS, and up to \$7.2 million upon the unconditional approval by the FDA of an NDA for Firdapse® for the treatment of LEMS.

# CPP-115

We are developing CPP-115, a GABA aminotransferase inhibitor that, based on our preclinical studies to date, we believe is a more potent form of vigabatrin, and may have fewer side effects (e.g., visual field

3

defects) than those associated with vigabatrin. We are hoping to develop CPP-115 for the treatment of refractory infantile spasms and possibly for the treatment of adult refractory patients with Tourette s Disorder. CPP-115 has been granted Orphan Drug Designation by the FDA for the treatment of infantile spasms and Orphan Medicinal Product Designation in the European Union, or E.U., for West syndrome (a form of infantile spasms).

We are currently refining our development plans for this product. Once the refinement of our development plans is completed, and subject to the then availability of funding, we plan to take the steps to complete the work required to make our drug candidate Phase 2 ready. We are also working with one or more potential investigators who have expressed an interest in evaluating our product for particular indications (particularly infantile spasms). Further, we continue to seek a partner to work with us in furthering the development of CPP-115, although no agreements have been entered into to date.

There can be no assurance that we will ever successfully commercialize CPP-115.

#### Generic Sabril®

During September 2015, we announced the initiation of a project to develop a generic version of Sabril® (vigabatrin). Sabril® is marketed by Lundbeck Inc. in the United States for the treatment of infantile spasms and complex partial seizures. There can be no assurance that we will be successful in these efforts or that any abbreviated new drug application (ANDA) that we submit for vigabatrin will be accepted for review or approved. Further, while there can be no assurance, we are hopeful that any ANDA submission we make for vigabatrin will be among the first ANDAs submitted for this product.

We are also continuing our efforts to seek a partner to work with us in furthering the development of generic Sabril<sup>®</sup>. However, no agreements have been entered into to date.

#### Risks Associated with Product Development

The successful development of our current drug candidates or any other drug candidate we may acquire, develop or license in the future is highly uncertain. We cannot reasonably estimate or know the nature, timing, or estimated expenses of the efforts necessary to complete the development of, or the period in which material net cash inflows are expected to commence due to the numerous risks and uncertainties associated with developing such products, including the uncertainty of:

our estimates regarding anticipated capital requirements and our need for additional funding;

the risk that another pharmaceutical company will receive an approval for its formulation of 3,4-diaminopyridine (3,4-DAP) for the treatment of Lambert-Eaton Myasthenic Syndrome (LEMS), Congenital Myasthenic Syndromes (CMS), or any other indication, before we do;

whether the clinical studies or trials that are required to be completed before the FDA will accept an NDA submission for Firdapse® for the treatment of either LEMS will be successful;

what additional supporting information, including any additional clinical studies or trials, will be required before the FDA will accept our NDA submission for Firdapse® for the treatment of either LEMS or CMS (or any other condition or disease);

whether any NDA that we may submit for Firdapse® will be accepted for filing by the FDA, and if accepted, whether it will be granted a priority review;

whether, even if the FDA accepts an NDA submission for Firdapse<sup>®</sup>, such product will be determined to be safe and effective and approved for commercialization for any of the submitted indications;

whether the receipt of breakthrough therapy designation for Firdapse® for LEMS will result in an expedited review of Firdapse® by the FDA or affect the likelihood that the product will be found to be safe and effective;

4

whether as part of the FDA review of any NDA that we may submit for filing for Firdapse<sup>®</sup>, the tradename Firdapse<sup>®</sup>, which is the tradename used for the same product in Europe, will be approved for use for the product in the United States;

whether, assuming Firdapse<sup>®</sup> is approved for commercialization, we will be able to develop or contract with a sales and marketing organization that can successfully market Firdapse<sup>®</sup> while maintaining full compliance with applicable federal and state laws, rules and regulations;

whether any future trial that we undertake evaluating Firdapse<sup>®</sup> for the treatment of MuSK-MG will be successful and whether we can obtain the funding required to conduct such trial;

whether CPP-115 will be determined to be safe for humans;

whether CPP-115 will be determined to be effective for the treatment of infantile spasms, Tourette s Disorder, or any other indication;

whether we can successfully design and complete a bioequivalence study of our version of vigabatrin compared to Sabril® that is acceptable to the FDA;

whether any ANDA that we submit for a generic version of Sabril® will be accepted by the FDA for review and approved (and the timing of any such approval);

the scope, rate of progress and expense of our clinical trials and studies, pre-clinical studies, proof-of-concept studies, and our other drug development activities;

our ability to complete our trials and studies on a timely basis and within the budgets we establish for such trials and studies and whether our trials and studies will be successful;

the ability of our third-party suppliers and contract manufacturers to maintain compliance with current Good Manufacturing Practices (cGMP);

whether our estimates of the size of the market for our drug candidates will turn out to be accurate;

the pricing of our products that we may be able to achieve if we are granted the ability to commercialize our drug candidates; and

changes in the healthcare industry occasioned by any future repeal and replacement of the Affordable Care Act, in laws relating to the pricing of drug products, or in the healthcare industry generally.

# **Company Information**

Our principal executive offices are located at 355 Alhambra Circle, Suite 1250, Coral Gables, Florida 33134, and our telephone number at that address is (305) 420-3200.

5

# **RISK FACTORS**

An investment in our securities involves a high degree of risk. You should carefully consider the risks described below as well as the other information in this prospectus before deciding to invest in or maintain your investment in our company. You should also carefully review the Risk Factors contained in the applicable prospectus supplement and in our most recent Annual Report on Form 10-K and any updates in subsequent Quarterly Reports on Form 10-Q. The risks described below are not intended to be an all-inclusive list of the potential risks relating to an investment in our securities. Any of the risk factors described below could significantly and adversely affect our business, prospects, financial condition and results of operations. Additional risks and uncertainties not currently known or that are currently considered to be immaterial may also materially and adversely affect our business. As a result, the trading price or value of our common stock could be materially adversely affected and you may lose all or part of your investment.

#### **Risks Related to our Business**

We are a development stage company. Our limited operating history makes it difficult to evaluate our future performance.

We are a development stage company and, as such, we have a limited operating history upon which you can evaluate our current business and our prospects. The likelihood of our future success must be viewed in light of the problems, expenses, difficulties, delays and complications often encountered in the operation of a business without revenues, especially in the pharmaceutical industry, where failures of companies are common. We are subject to the risks inherent in the ownership and operation of a development stage company, including availability of capital, regulatory setbacks and delays, fluctuations in expenses, competition and government regulation. If we fail to address these risks and uncertainties our business, results of operations, financial condition and prospects would be adversely affected.

#### We have no products currently available and we have never had any products available for commercial sale.

We have had no revenues from product sales to date, currently have no products available for commercial sale, and have never had any products available for commercial sale. We expect to incur losses at least until we are in a position to commercialize Firdapse<sup>®</sup>, which may never occur. Our net loss was \$18.1 million and \$20.2 million for the years ended December 31, 2016 and December 31, 2015, respectively, and \$5.0 million and \$5.4 million for the three months ended March 31, 2017 and March 31, 2016, respectively. We may never obtain approval of an NDA for any of our drug candidates and we may never achieve profitability.

# Our business will require additional capital.

Our business will require additional capital to meet our product development objectives. Based on currently available information, we estimate that we have sufficient working capital to support our operations through at least the next 12 months. The expectations described above are based on current information available to us. If the cost of our ongoing activities are greater than we expect, our assumptions may not prove to be accurate. There can be no assurance as to the exact amount of the funding we will require or as to whether any such required funding will be available to us when it is required.

We plan to raise additional funds in the future through public or private equity offerings, debt financings, corporate collaborations, or other means. We may also seek governmental grants to support our clinical and pre-clinical trials. However, there is no assurance that any such grants will be available, and, if available, that we will qualify to receive any such grants. We may also seek to raise additional capital to fund additional product development efforts, even if

we have sufficient funds for our planned operations.

Any sale by us of additional equity or debt securities convertible into additional equity could result in dilution to our stockholders. There can be no assurance that any required additional funding will be available to us at all or

6

available on terms acceptable to us. Further, to the extent that we raise funds through collaborative arrangements, it may be necessary to relinquish some rights to our technologies or grant sublicenses on terms that are not favorable to us. If we are not able to secure funding when needed, we may have to delay, reduce the scope of or eliminate one or more research and development programs, which could have an adverse effect on our business.

If we are not the first to obtain approval for Firdapse® for the treatment of LEMS, we may not be able to bring it to market in the United States.

Another pharmaceutical company, Jacobus Pharmaceutical, has completed its own clinical trial studying their own formulation of amifampridine (3,4-DAP) for the treatment of LEMS. Jacobus Pharmaceutical is a privately held company and there is little public information available about their development plans. While there can be no assurance, we believe that Firdapse® is further along in development and as a result we expect that we will be in a position to obtain the first approval of an NDA for 3,4-DAP. Under the Orphan Drug Act of 1983, the first pharmaceutical product to obtain approval for an indication receives the orphan exclusivity under the statute. If Jacobus Pharmaceutical receives approval of an NDA for its formulation of amifampridine for the treatment of LEMS before we are able to receive approval of Firdapse® for the same indication, we would be barred from marketing Firdapse® in the United States during the seven-year orphan exclusivity period, which would have a severe adverse effect on our results of operations. In addition, if Jacobus Pharmaceutical were to receive five-year new chemical entity exclusivity for amifampridine for any indication prior to approval of Firdapse®, we would be barred from marketing Firdapse® in the United States during this five-year exclusivity period.

# The development of CPP-115 is at an early stage.

Our development of CPP-115 is at an early stage, and it is going to be several years before we are in a position to submit an NDA for CPP-115, assuming our future clinical trials of this product are successful. At the present time, there can be no assurance that we will ever submit an NDA for CPP-115 or successfully commercialize CPP-115.

# Our business is subject to substantial competition.

The biotechnology and pharmaceutical industries are highly competitive. Many of our competitors have substantially greater financial and other resources, larger research and development staffs and more experience developing products, obtaining FDA and other regulatory approvals of products and manufacturing and marketing products than we have. We compete against pharmaceutical companies that are developing or currently marketing therapies that will compete with our drug candidates. In addition, we compete against biotechnology companies, universities, government agencies, and other research institutions in the development of pharmaceutical products. While we believe that our drug candidates will offer advantages over many of the currently available competing therapies, our business could be negatively impacted if our competitors—present or future offerings are more effective, safer or less expensive than ours, or more readily accepted by regulators, healthcare providers or third-party payors. Further, if we are permitted to commence commercial sales of our drug candidates, we may also compete with respect to manufacturing efficiency and marketing capabilities.

For example, amifampridine, the active ingredient in Firdapse®, despite not being FDA approved, has been available from compounding pharmacies and from Jacobus Pharmaceutical under compassionate use INDs for many years. Amifampridine from these sources can be expected to be substantially less expensive than Firdapse®. The FDA Pharmacy Compounding Advisory Committee, however, has previously issued a list of drugs which cannot be compounded, and amifampridine was included on that list. In addition, drugs that are not approved by FDA for the treatment of LEMS, such as a related aminopyridine drug, dalfampridine (Ampyra®), may nonetheless be prescribed by physicians for the treatment of LEMS.

For all of these reasons, we may not be able to compete successfully.

7

# We face a risk of product liability claims and may not be able to obtain adequate insurance.

Our business exposes us to potential liability risks that may arise from the clinical testing, manufacture, and/or sale of our pharmaceutical products. Patients have received substantial damage awards in some jurisdictions against pharmaceutical companies based on claims for injuries allegedly caused by the use of pharmaceutical products used in clinical trials or after FDA approval. Liability claims may be expensive to defend and may result in large judgments against us. We currently carry liability insurance with an aggregate annual coverage limit of \$15,000,000 per claim and \$15,000,000 in the aggregate, with a deductible of \$10,000 per occurrence. Our insurance may not reimburse us for certain claims or the coverage may not be sufficient to cover claims made against us. We cannot predict all of the possible harms or side effects that may result from the use of our current drug candidates, or any potential future products we may acquire and use in clinical trials or after FDA approval and, therefore, the amount of insurance coverage we currently hold may not be adequate to cover all liabilities we might incur. If we are sued for any injury allegedly caused by our products, our liability could exceed our ability to pay the liability. Whether or not we are ultimately successful in any adverse litigation, such litigation could consume substantial amounts of our financial and managerial resources, all of which could have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition, results of operations, prospects and stock price.

# The obligations incident to being a public company place significant demands on our management.

As a public reporting company, we are required to comply with the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002 and the related rules and regulations of the SEC, including periodic reports, disclosures and more complex accounting rules. As directed by Section 404 of Sarbanes-Oxley, the SEC adopted rules requiring public companies to include a report of management on a company s internal control over financial reporting in their Annual Report on Form 10-K. Based on current rules, we are required to annually report under Section 404(a) of Sarbanes-Oxley regarding our management s assessment as to the effectiveness of our internal control over financial reporting. Further, under Section 404(b) of Sarbanes-Oxley, our auditors are required to report on their assessment as to the effectiveness of our internal control over financial reporting. If we or our auditors are unable to conclude that we have effective internal control over our financial reporting, investors could lose confidence in the reliability of our financial statements, which could result in a decrease in the value of our common stock.

# We are highly dependent on our small number of key personnel and advisors.

We are highly dependent on our officers and employees, on our Board of Directors and on our scientific advisors. The loss of the services of any of these individuals could significantly impede the achievement of our scientific and business objectives. Other than an employment agreement with Patrick J. McEnany, our Chairman, President and Chief Executive Officer with respect to his services, and the consulting agreements we have with several of our scientific advisors, we have no employment or retention agreements with our officers, directors or scientific advisors. If we lose the services of any of our existing officers, directors or scientific advisors, or if we were unable to recruit qualified replacements on a timely basis for persons who leave our employ, our efforts to develop our drug candidates might be significantly delayed. We do not carry key-man insurance on any of our personnel.

We have relationships with our scientific advisors and collaborators at academic and other institutions. Such individuals are employed by entities other than us and may have commitments to, or consulting advisory contracts with, such entities that may limit their availability to us. Although each scientific advisor and collaborator has agreed not to perform services for another person or entity that would create an appearance of a conflict of interest, conflicts may arise from the work in which other scientific advisors and/or collaborators are involved.

8

# Risks Related to the Development of Our Drug Candidates

# Our drug development efforts may fail.

Development of our pharmaceutical drug candidates is subject to risks of failure. For example:

our drug candidates may be found to be ineffective or unsafe, or fail to receive necessary regulatory approvals;

our drug candidates may not be economical to market or take substantially longer to obtain necessary regulatory approvals than anticipated; or

competitors may develop and market equivalent or superior products, including next generation products that act with the same mechanism of action as our drug candidates.

As a result, our drug development activities may not result in any safe, effective and commercially viable products, and we may not be able to commercialize our products successfully. For example, for several years, we evaluated CPP-109 (our formulation of vigabatrin) for the treatment of cocaine addiction. However, CPP-109 failed to meet the primary and two key secondary endpoints in a Phase 2b trial for cocaine addiction, and we are no longer pursuing the evaluation of CPP-109 for addiction. Further, our lead compound, Firdapse<sup>®</sup>, is for very rare conditions for which there is no FDA-approved treatment. As such, the clinical development plan we pursued after consulting with FDA including the clinical endpoints, protocol design, and statistical analysis plan, may not allow the FDA to ultimately conclude that our Phase 3 trial of Firdapse<sup>®</sup> is adequate to establish the clinical benefit of the drug.

Our failure to develop safe, effective, and/or commercially viable products would have a material adverse effect on our business, prospects, results of operations and financial condition.

# Failure can occur at any stage of our drug development efforts.

We will only obtain regulatory approval to commercialize our drug candidates if we can demonstrate to the satisfaction of the FDA (or the equivalent foreign regulatory authorities) in adequate and well-controlled clinical studies and trials that the drug is safe and effective for its intended use, that the clinical and other benefits outweigh the safety risks and that it otherwise meets approval requirements. As we have experienced in the past, a failure of one or more pre-clinical or clinical trials or studies can occur at any stage of drug development. We may experience numerous unforeseen events during, or as a result of, testing that could delay or prevent us from obtaining regulatory approval for, or commercializing our drug candidates, including but not limited to:

regulators or Institutional Review Boards (IRBs) may not authorize us to commence a clinical trial or conduct a clinical trial at a prospective trial site;

conditions may be imposed upon us by the FDA regarding the scope or design of our clinical trials, or we may be required to resubmit our clinical trial protocols to IRBs for review due to changes in the regulatory

environment;

the number of subjects required for our clinical trials may be larger, patient enrollment may take longer, or patients may drop out of our clinical trials at a higher rate than we anticipate;

we may have to suspend or terminate one or more of our clinical trials if we, regulators, or IRBs determine that the participants are being subjected to unreasonable health risks;

our third-party contractors, clinical investigators or contractual collaborators may fail to comply with regulatory requirements or fail to meet their contractual obligations to us in a timely manner;

the FDA may not accept clinical data from trials that are conducted at clinical sites in countries where the standard of care is potentially different from the United States;

our tests may produce negative or inconclusive results, and we may decide, or regulators may require us, to conduct additional testing; and

the costs of our pre-clinical and/or clinical trials may be greater than we anticipate.

9

We rely on third parties to conduct our pre-clinical studies and clinical studies and trials, and if they do not perform their obligations to us we may not be able to obtain approval for our drug candidates.

We do not currently have the ability to independently conduct pre-clinical studies or clinical studies and trials for our drug candidates, and we typically rely on third parties, such as third-party contract research and governmental organizations, medical institutions and clinical investigators (including academic clinical investigators), to conduct studies and trials of our drug candidates. Our reliance on third parties for development activities reduces our control over these activities. These third parties may not complete activities on schedule, or may not conduct our pre-clinical studies and our clinical studies and trials in accordance with regulatory requirements or our study design. If these third parties do not successfully carry out their contractual duties or meet expected deadlines, we may be adversely affected, and our efforts to obtain regulatory approvals for and commercialize our drug candidates may be delayed.

If we conduct studies with other parties, we may not have control over all decisions associated with that trial. To the extent that we disagree with the other party on such issues as study design, study timing and the like, it could adversely affect our drug development plans.

Although we also rely on third parties to manage the data from our studies and trials, we are responsible for confirming that each of our studies and trials is conducted in accordance with its general investigational plan and protocol. Moreover, the FDA and foreign regulatory agencies will require us to comply with applicable regulations and standards, including Good Laboratory Practice (GLP) and Good Clinical Practice (GCP), for conducting, recording and reporting the results of such studies and trials to assure that the data and the results are credible and accurate and that the human study and trial participants are adequately protected. Our reliance on third-parties does not relieve us of these obligations and requirements, and we may fail to obtain regulatory approval for our drug candidates if these requirements are not met.

# We will need to develop marketing, distribution and production capabilities or relationships to be successful.

In order to generate sales of any products we may develop, we must either acquire or develop an internal marketing force with technical expertise and with supporting documentation capabilities, or make arrangements with third parties to perform these services for us. The acquisition and development of a marketing and distribution infrastructure requires substantial resources and compete for available resources with our drug development efforts. To the extent that we enter into marketing and distribution arrangements with third parties, our revenues will depend on the efforts of others. If we fail to enter into such agreements, or if we fail to develop our own marketing and distribution channels, we would experience delays in product sales and incur increased costs.

We have no in-house manufacturing capacity and, to the extent we are successful in completing the development of our drug candidates, we will be obligated to rely on contract manufacturers. We cannot be sure that we will successfully manufacture any product we may develop, either independently or under manufacturing arrangements, if any, with third party manufacturers. Moreover, if any manufacturer should cease doing business with us or experience delays, shortages of supply or excessive demands on their capacity, we may not be able to obtain adequate quantities of product in a timely manner, or at all. Manufacturers, and in certain situations their suppliers, are required to comply with current NDA commitments and current good manufacturing practices (cGMP) requirements enforced by the FDA, and similar requirements of other countries. The failure by a manufacturer to comply with these requirements could affect its ability to provide us with product. Although we intend to rely on third-party contract manufacturers, we are ultimately responsible for ensuring that our products are manufactured in accordance with cGMP. In addition, if, during a preapproval inspection or other inspection of our third-party manufacturers facility or facilities, the FDA determines that the facility is not in compliance with cGMP, any of our marketing applications that lists such facility as a manufacturer may not be approved or approval may be delayed until the facility comes into compliance with

cGMP and completes a successful re-inspection by the FDA.

10

Any manufacturing problem, natural disaster affecting manufacturing facilities, or the loss of a contract manufacturer could be disruptive to our operations and result in lost sales. Additionally, we will be reliant on third parties to supply the raw materials needed to manufacture our potential products. Any reliance on suppliers may involve several risks, including a potential inability to obtain critical materials and reduced control over production costs, delivery schedules, reliability and quality. Any unanticipated disruption to future contract manufacture caused by problems at suppliers could delay shipment of products, increase our cost of goods sold and result in lost sales. If our suppliers were to be unable to supply us with adequate supply of our drug candidates, it could have a material adverse effect on our ability to commercialize our drug candidates.

# If we rely on a sole source of supply to manufacture our products we could be impacted by the viability of our supplier.

We intend to attempt to source our products from more than one supplier. We also intend to enter into contracts with any supplier of our products to contractually obligate them to meet our requirements. However, if we are reliant on a single supplier and that supplier cannot or will not meet our requirements (for whatever reason), our business could be adversely impacted.

# We may not be able to sufficiently scale-up manufacturing of our drug candidates.

If our NDA for Firdapse<sup>®</sup> is approved, we will need to manufacture our product in larger quantities than we have in the past to launch the product and meet customer requirements. With respect to our other products, to date they have only been manufactured in small quantities for pre-clinical studies and clinical trials, and, in order to conduct large trials and commercialize these products, we will need to manufacture our products in larger quantities than we have in the past.

We may not be able to successfully increase in a sufficient manner the manufacturing capacity for our drug candidates, whether in collaboration with third-party manufacturers or on our own, in a timely or cost-effective manner or at all. If a contract manufacturer makes improvements in the manufacturing process for our drug candidates, we may not own, or may have to share, the intellectual property rights to those improvements.

Significant scale-up of manufacturing may require additional validation studies, which are costly and which the FDA must review and approve. In addition, quality issues may arise during those scale-up activities because of the inherent properties of a drug candidate itself or of a drug candidate in combination with other components added during the manufacturing and packaging process, or during shipping and storage of the finished product or active pharmaceutical ingredients. If we are unable to successfully scale-up manufacture of any of our drug candidates in sufficient quality and quantity, the development of that drug candidate and regulatory approval or commercial launch for any resulting drug products may be delayed or there may be a shortage in supply, which could significantly harm our business.

# We may encounter difficulties in managing our growth, which would adversely affect our results of operations.

If we are successful in obtaining approval to commercialize Firdapse<sup>®</sup> or any of our other drug candidates, we will need to significantly expand our operations, which could put significant strain on our management and our operational and financial resources. We currently have 19 employees and conduct many of our activities through outsourcing arrangements. To manage future growth, we will need to hire, train, and manage additional employees. Concurrent with expanding our operational and marketing capabilities, we will also need to increase our product development activities. We may not be able to support, financially or otherwise, future growth, or hire, train, motivate, and manage the required personnel. Our failure to manage growth effectively could limit our ability to achieve our goals.

Our success in managing our growth will depend in part on the ability of our executive officers to continue to implement and improve our operational, management, information and financial control systems and to expand,

11

train and manage our employee base, and particularly to expand, train and manage a specially-trained sales force to market our products. We may not be able to attract and retain personnel on acceptable terms given the intense competition for such personnel among biotechnology, pharmaceutical and healthcare companies, universities and non-profit research institutions. Our inability to manage growth effectively could cause our operating costs to grow at a faster pace than we currently anticipate, and could have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition, results of operations and prospects.

Pressure on drug product third-party payor coverage, reimbursement and pricing may impair our ability to be reimbursed for any of our drug candidates which we commercialize in the future at prices or on terms sufficient to provide a viable financial outcome.

The commercial success of Firdapse® will depend substantially on the extent to which the cost of Firdapse® will be paid by health maintenance, managed care, pharmacy benefit and similar healthcare management organizations, or reimbursed by government health administration authorities (such as Medicare and Medicaid), private health coverage insurers and other third-party payors. If reimbursement is not available, or is available only to limited levels, we may not be able to successfully commercialize Firdapse®. Even if coverage is provided, the approved reimbursement amount may not be high enough to establish and maintain pricing sufficient to realize a meaningful return on our investment.

Our ability to commercialize Firdapse® or any other product candidate will depend in large part on the extent to which coverage and reimbursement for these products and related treatments will be available from government health administration authorities, private health insurers and other organizations. Government authorities and third-party payors, such as private health insurers and health maintenance organizations, decide which medications they will cover and establish reimbursement levels. The healthcare industry is acutely focused on cost containment, both in the United States and elsewhere. Government authorities and third-party payors have attempted to control costs by limiting coverage and the amount of reimbursement for particular medications, which could affect our ability to sell our product candidate profitably. These payors may not view our products, if any, as cost-effective, and coverage and reimbursement may not be available to our customers, or may not be sufficient to allow our products, if any, to be marketed on a competitive basis. Cost-control initiatives could cause us to decrease the price we might establish for products, which could result in lower than anticipated product revenues. If the prices for our products, if any, decrease or if governmental and other third-party payors do not provide adequate coverage or reimbursement, our prospects for revenue and profitability will suffer.

There may also be delays in obtaining coverage and reimbursement for newly approved drugs, and coverage may be more limited than the indications for which the drug is approved by the FDA. Moreover, eligibility for reimbursement does not imply that any drug will be paid for in all cases or at a rate that covers our costs, including research, development, manufacture, sale and distribution. Reimbursement rates may vary, by way of example, according to the use of the drug and the clinical setting in which it is used. Reimbursement rates may also be based on reimbursement levels already set for lower cost drugs or may be incorporated into existing payments for other services.

In addition, increasingly, third-party payors are requiring higher levels of evidence of the benefits and clinical outcomes of new technologies and are challenging the prices charged. We cannot be sure that coverage will be available for any product candidate that we commercialize and, if available, that the reimbursement rates will be adequate. Further, the net reimbursement for drug products may be subject to additional reductions if there are changes to laws that presently restrict imports of drugs from countries where they may be sold at lower prices than in the United States. An inability to promptly obtain coverage and adequate payment rates from both government funded and private payors for any of our product candidates for which we obtain marketing approval could have a material adverse effect on our operating results, our ability to raise capital needed to commercialize products and our overall

financial condition.

The pricing of pharmaceutical products, in general, and specialty drugs, in particular, has been a topic of concern in the U.S. Congress, where hearings on the topic have been held. It has also been a topic raised by President

12

Trump, most recently in a meeting with pharmaceutical industry participants. There can be no assurance as to how this scrutiny on pricing of pharmaceutical products will impact future pricing of orphan drugs or pharmaceutical products generally or our products in particular.

We cannot assess the impact on our business of the public concerns expressed by a vocal group of neuromuscular physicians and some patients with LEMS.

There is a vocal group of neuromuscular physicians who have raised public concerns in a letter to the editor of a medical journal and some LEMS patients and neuromuscular physicians who have raised public concerns in interviews quoted in articles published in the press. Their overarching concern appears to be that LEMS patients may not be able to get amifampridine treatment because of the concern that it would be priced too high as an orphan drug if we are the first pharmaceutical company to receive an FDA approval for an amifampridine product, thereby giving us the seven-year orphan drug exclusivity and the five-year new chemical entity exclusivity for our product. Articles about their concerns have been published in several national publications and some in the press have sought to tie their expectations about the anticipated pricing of Firdapse® to stories about perceived abusive price increases of drug products by other pharmaceutical companies. This vocal group has also questioned the appropriateness of the provisions of the Orphan Drug Act that would grant us exclusivity if our product were to be the first amifampridine product approved by the FDA, and whether this exclusivity should be eliminated from the law. We have responded to their concerns in a letter to the editor to the same medical journal. However, there can be no assurance as to the ultimate impact of the activities of this vocal group on us or our products.

Because the target patient populations for Firdapse<sup>®</sup> and our other drug candidates are small, we must achieve significant market share and obtain relatively high per-patient prices for our products to achieve meaningful gross margins.

Firdapse® and our other orphan drug candidates target diseases with small patient populations. A key component of the successful commercialization of a drug product for these indications includes identification of patients and a targeted prescriber base for the drug product. Due to small patient populations, we believe that we would need to have significant market penetration to achieve meaningful revenues and identifying patients and targeting the prescriber base are key to achieving significant market penetration. Typically, drugs for conditions with small prevalence have higher prices in order to generate a re