PORTOLA PHARMACEUTICALS INC Form S-3ASR October 01, 2014 Table of Contents

As filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on October 1, 2014

Registration No. 333-

UNITED STATES

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20549

FORM S-3

REGISTRATION STATEMENT

UNDER

THE SECURITIES ACT OF 1933

Portola Pharmaceuticals, Inc.

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Delaware (State or other jurisdiction of

20-0216859 (I.R.S. Employer

incorporation or organization)

Identification Number)

270 E. Grand Ave.

South San Francisco, CA 94080

(650) 246-7300

(Address, including zip code, and telephone number, including area code, of registrant s principal executive offices)

William Lis

Chief Executive Officer

Portola Pharmaceuticals, Inc.

270 E. Grand Ave.

South San Francisco, CA 94080

(650) 246-7300

(Name, address, including zip code, and telephone number, including area code, of agent for service)

Copies to:

Kenneth L. Guernsey

Sally A. Kay

Cooley LLP

101 California Street, 5th Floor

San Francisco, CA 94111

(415) 693-2000

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, as amended, other than securities offered only in connection with dividend or interest reinvestment plans, check the following box: x

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. x

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, or a smaller reporting company. See the definitions of large accelerated filer, accelerated filer and smaller reporting company in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act.

Large accelerated filer		Accelerated filer	••
Non-accelerated filer	x (Do not check if a smaller reporting company)	Smaller reporting company	••

CALCULATION OF REGISTRATION FEE

	Amount			
		Proposed	Proposed	
	to be	Maximum	Maximum	
Title of Each Class of		Offering Price	Aggregate	Amount of
Securities to be Registered	Registered	Per Unit(1)	Offering Price ⁽¹⁾	Registration Fee

Common Stock, par value \$0.001 per

share 10,000,000 \$25.94 \$259,400,000 \$30,143

(1) Estimated solely for the purpose of computing the amount of the registration fee pursuant to Rule 457(c) under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended.

Prospectus

Up to 10,000,000 Shares of Common Stock

From time to time, we may offer and sell shares of common stock in amounts, at prices and on terms described in one or more supplements to this prospectus.

This prospectus describes some of the general terms that may apply to an offering of our common stock. We will provide the specific terms of these offerings and securities in one or more supplements to this prospectus. 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 also 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 any documents incorporated by reference, before buying any of the securities being offered.

We may offer and sell shares of common stock to or through one or more underwriters, dealers and agents, or directly to purchasers, on a continuous or delayed basis. The supplements to this prospectus will provide the specific terms of the plan of distribution.

If any agents or underwriters are involved in the sale of any securities with respect to which this prospectus is being delivered, the names of such agents or underwriters and any applicable fees, commissions, discounts and options for additional shares will be set forth in a prospectus supplement. The price to the public of such securities and the net proceeds that we expect to receive from such sale will also be set forth in a prospectus supplement.

Our common stock is listed on The NASDAQ Global Select Market under the trading symbol PTLA. On September 30, 2014, the last reported sale price of our common stock was \$25.28 per share. The applicable prospectus supplement will contain information, where applicable, as to other listings, if any, on The NASDAQ Global Select Market or other securities exchange of the securities covered by the prospectus supplement.

Investing in our common stock involves a high degree of risk. You should review carefully the risks and uncertainties described under the heading <u>Risk Factors</u> contained in the applicable prospectus supplement and in any free writing prospectuses we have authorized for use in connection with a specific offering, and under similar headings in the other documents that are incorporated by reference into this prospectus.

This prospectus may not be used to consummate a sale of securities unless accompanied by a prospectus supplement.

Neither the Securities and Exchange Commission nor any state securities commission has approved or disapproved of these securities or determined if this prospectus is truthful or complete. Any representation to the contrary is a criminal offense.

The date of this prospectus is October 1, 2014.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

ABOUT THIS PROSPECTUS	i
PROSPECTUS SUMMARY	1
RISK FACTORS	3
SPECIAL NOTE REGARDING FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS	3
<u>USE OF PROCEEDS</u>	5
DESCRIPTION OF CAPITAL STOCK	5
<u>PLAN OF DISTRIBUTION</u>	8
LEGAL MATTERS	8
<u>EXPERTS</u>	8
WHERE YOU CAN FIND MORE INFORMATION	9
INCORPORATION OF CERTAIN INFORMATION BY REFERENCE	9

ABOUT THIS PROSPECTUS

This prospectus is part of a registration statement on Form S-3 that we filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission, or SEC, utilizing a shelf registration process. Under this shelf registration process, we may offer and sell, in one or more offerings, shares of our common stock as described in this prospectus. This prospectus provides you with a general description of the shares we may offer.

Each time we offer shares of our common stock under this prospectus, we will provide a prospectus supplement that will contain more specific information about the terms of that offering. We may also authorize one or more free writing prospectuses to be provided to you that may contain material information relating to these offerings. The prospectus supplement and any related free writing prospectus that we may authorize to be provided to you may also add, update or change any of the information contained in this prospectus or in the documents that we have incorporated by reference into this prospectus. We urge you to read carefully this prospectus, any applicable prospectus supplement and any free writing prospectuses we have authorized for use in connection with a specific offering, together with the information incorporated herein by reference as described under the heading Incorporation of Certain Information by Reference, before buying any of the securities being offered.

This prospectus may not be used to consummate a sale of securities unless it is accompanied by a prospectus supplement.

You should rely only on the information contained in, or incorporated by reference into, this prospectus and any applicable prospectus supplement, along with the information contained in any free writing prospectuses we have authorized for use in connection with a specific offering. We have not authorized anyone to provide you with different or additional information. This prospectus is an offer to sell only the securities offered hereby, but only under circumstances and in jurisdictions where it is lawful to do so.

The information appearing in this prospectus, any applicable prospectus supplement or any related free writing prospectus is accurate only as of the date on the front of the document and any information we have incorporated by reference is accurate only as of the date of the document incorporated by reference, regardless of the time of delivery

of this prospectus, any applicable prospectus supplement or any related free writing prospectus, or any sale of a security. Our business, financial condition, results of operations and prospects may have changed since those dates.

i

This prospectus contains summaries of certain provisions contained in some of the documents described herein, but reference is made to the actual documents for complete information. All of the summaries are qualified in their entirety by the actual documents. Copies of some of the documents referred to herein have been filed, will be filed or will be incorporated by reference as exhibits to the registration statement of which this prospectus is a part, and you may obtain copies of those documents as described below under the section entitled Where You Can Find More Information.

This prospectus contains and incorporates by reference market data and industry statistics and forecasts that are based on independent industry publications and other publicly available information. Although we believe these sources are reliable, we do not guarantee the accuracy or completeness of this information and we have not independently verified this information. Although we are not aware of any misstatements regarding the market and industry data presented in this prospectus and the documents incorporated herein by reference, these estimates involve risks and uncertainties and are subject to change based on various factors, including those discussed under the heading Risk Factors contained in the applicable prospectus supplement and any related free writing prospectus, and under similar headings in the other documents that are incorporated by reference into this prospectus. Accordingly, investors should not place undue reliance on this information.

This prospectus and the information incorporated herein by reference include trademarks, service marks and trade names owned by us or other companies. All trademarks, service marks and trade names included or incorporated by reference into this prospectus, any applicable prospectus supplement or any related free writing prospectus are the property of their respective owners.

ii

PROSPECTUS SUMMARY

This summary highlights selected information contained elsewhere in this prospectus or incorporated by reference in this prospectus, and does not contain all of the information that you need to consider in making your investment decision. You should carefully read the entire prospectus, the applicable prospectus supplement and any related free writing prospectus, including the risks of investing in our securities discussed under the heading Risk Factors contained in the applicable prospectus supplement and any related free writing prospectus, and under similar headings in the other documents that are incorporated by reference into this prospectus. You should also carefully read the information incorporated by reference into this prospectus, including our financial statements, and the exhibits to the registration statement of which this prospectus is a part.

Unless the context otherwise requires, references in this prospectus to the company, Portola, we, us and our refer to Portola Pharmaceuticals, Inc.

Portola Pharmaceuticals, Inc.

Overview

We are a biopharmaceutical company focused on the development and commercialization of novel therapeutics in the areas of thrombosis, other hematologic disorders and inflammation for patients who currently have limited or no approved treatment options. We are advancing our three wholly-owned compounds using novel biomarker and genetic approaches that may increase the likelihood of clinical, regulatory and commercial success of our potentially life-saving therapies. Two of these compounds were discovered through our internal research efforts, and one was discovered by Portola scientists during their time at a prior company.

Our two lead programs address significant unmet medical needs in the area of thrombosis, or blood clots. Our lead compound Betrixaban is a novel oral once-daily inhibitor of Factor Xa in Phase 3 development for extended duration prophylaxis, or preventive treatment, of a form of thrombosis known as venous thromboembolism, or VTE, in acute medically ill patients for up to 35 days of in-hospital and post-discharge use. Currently, there is no anticoagulant approved for extended duration VTE prophylaxis in this population. Our second lead development candidate Andexanet alfa, an FDA-designated breakthrough therapy is a recombinant protein designed to reverse the anticoagulant activity in patients treated with a Factor Xa inhibitor who suffer an uncontrolled bleeding episode or undergo emergency surgery. Andexanet alfa is currently being evaluated in Phase 3 clinical trials. Our third product candidate, Cerdulatinib, formerly PRT2070, is an orally available kinase inhibitor that inhibits spleen tyrosine kinase, or Syk, and janus kinases, or JAK, enzymes that regulate important signaling pathways and is being developed for hematologic, or blood, cancers and inflammatory disorders. We are currently in a Phase 1/2 proof-of-concept study for Cerdulatinib in patients with non-Hodgkin's lymphoma, or NHL, or chronic lymphocytic leukemia, or CLL, who have failed or relapsed on existing marketed therapies or products in development, including patients with identified mutations. Our fourth program of highly selective Syk inhibitors is partnered with Biogen Idec Inc.

Members of our management team, working together or individually, have played central roles at prior companies in discovering, developing and commercializing a number of successful therapeutics in the area of thrombosis, including Integrilin®, Lovenox® and Xarelto®. Our approach has been to identify key enzymes and cellular signaling pathways and to apply our translational expertise to discover compounds with unique properties that have potential for clear clinical and pharmacoeconomic value. To increase the likelihood that our programs will succeed, we enhance our internal discovery and development expertise by collaborating with academic leaders at major universities, including Cornell University, Duke University, Harvard University, King s College, McMaster University, Stanford University and The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center, and by proactively engaging regulatory authorities early in

the development process.

1

We have full worldwide commercial rights to Betrixaban, Andexanet alfa and Cerdulatinib. We believe we can maximize the value of our company by retaining substantial commercialization rights to these three product candidates and, where appropriate, entering into partnerships to develop and commercialize these product candidates. We plan on building a successful commercial enterprise to commercialize Betrixaban and Andexanet alfa globally, using a hospital-based sales team in the United States and possibly other major markets and with partners in other territories.

Company Information

We were incorporated in Delaware in September 2003. Our principal executive offices are located at 270 E. Grand Avenue, South San Francisco, California 94080, and our telephone number is (650) 246-7300. Our website address is *www.portola.com*. Information found on, or accessible through, our website is not a part of, and is not incorporated into, this prospectus, and you should not consider it part of this prospectus or part of any prospectus supplement or free writing prospectus. Our website address is included in this document as an inactive textual reference only.

We are an emerging growth company, as defined in the Jumpstart Our Business Startups Act of 2012. As such, we are eligible for exemptions from various reporting requirements applicable to other public companies that are not emerging growth companies, including, but not limited to, not being required to comply with the auditor attestation requirements of Section 404 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002 and reduced disclosure obligations regarding executive compensation. We will remain an emerging growth company until December 31, 2014, at which time we will become a large accelerated filer.

Use of Proceeds

Except as described in any applicable prospectus supplement or in any free writing prospectuses we have authorized for use in connection with a specific offering, we currently intend to use the net proceeds from the sale of the securities offered by us hereunder, if any, for working capital and general corporate purposes, including research and development expenses and capital expenditures. See Use of Proceeds in this prospectus.

The NASDAQ Global Select Market Listing

Our common stock is listed on The NASDAQ Global Select Market under the symbol PTLA. The applicable prospectus supplement will contain information, where applicable, as to other listings, if any, on The NASDAQ Global Select Market or any other securities market or other exchange of the securities covered by the applicable prospectus supplement.

2

RISK FACTORS

Investing in our securities involves a high degree of risk. Before deciding whether to invest in our securities, you should consider carefully the risks and uncertainties described under the heading Risk Factors contained in the applicable prospectus supplement and any related free writing prospectus, and discussed under the section entitled Risk Factors contained in our most recent Annual Report on Form 10-K and in our most recent Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q, as well as any amendments thereto reflected in subsequent filings with the SEC, which are incorporated by reference into this prospectus in their entirety, together with other information in this prospectus, the documents incorporated by reference and any free writing prospectus that we may authorize for use in connection with this offering. The risks described in these documents are not the only ones we face, but those that we consider to be material. There may be other unknown or unpredictable economic, business, competitive, regulatory or other factors that could have material adverse effects on our future results. Past financial performance may not be a reliable indicator of future performance, and historical trends should not be used to anticipate results or trends in future periods. If any of these risks actually occurs, our business, financial condition, results of operations or cash flow could be seriously harmed. This could cause the trading price of our common stock to decline, resulting in a loss of all or part of your investment. Please also read carefully the section below entitled Special Note Regarding Forward-Looking Statements.

SPECIAL NOTE REGARDING FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS

This prospectus and the documents we have filed with the SEC that are incorporated by reference contain forward-looking statements—within the meaning of Section 27A of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, or the Securities Act, and Section 21E of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, or the Exchange Act. These statements relate to future events or to our future operating or financial performance and involve known and unknown risks, uncertainties and other factors which may cause our actual results, performance or achievements to be materially different from any future results, performances or achievements expressed or implied by the forward-looking statements. Forward-looking statements include, but are not limited to, statements about:

our ability to enroll patients in our clinical studies at the pace that we project;

our ability to scale up manufacturing of our product candidates to commercial scale;

the timing and the success of the design of our Phase 3 clinical study of Betrixaban, or APEX;

the timing of our anticipated Phase 3 registration study and Phase 4 confirmatory study of Andexanet alfa;

the timing of our anticipated additional Phase 2 proof-of-concept studies of Andexanet alfa;

our ability to design and implement a registration program of Andexanet alfa in the time frame we project;

whether the results of our APEX study will be sufficient to support global regulatory approvals for Betrixaban;

our ability to obtain and maintain regulatory approval of our product candidates;

the possibility that we will come to an agreement with the FDA for an expedited regulatory approval process for Andexanet alfa;

our ability to conduct a proof-of-concept study in hematologic cancers for Cerdulatinib;

our expectation that our existing capital resources and the net proceeds from this offering will be sufficient to enable us to complete our ongoing Phase 3 clinical study of Betrixaban, initiate our Phase 3/4 Biologics License Application enabling studies and related manufacturing of Andexanet alfa and our Phase 1/2 proof-of-concept studies of Cerdulatinib in hematologic cancers;

3

the projected number of acute medically ill patients who would benefit from the use of Betrixaban;

the projected dollar amounts of future sales of established and novel anticoagulants;

our ability to successfully commercialize our products;

the rate and degree of market acceptance of our products;

our ability to successfully build a hospital-based sales force and commercial infrastructure;

our ability to compete with branded and generic Factor Xa inhibitors;

our reliance on third parties to conduct our clinical studies;

our reliance on third-party contract manufacturers to manufacture and supply our product candidates for us;

our reliance on our collaboration partners performance over which we do not have control;

our ability to retain and recruit key personnel;

our ability to obtain and maintain intellectual property protection for our products;

the actual receipt and timing of any milestone payments or royalties from our collaborators;

our estimates of our expenses, ongoing losses, future revenue, capital requirements and our needs for or ability to obtain additional financing;

our ability to identify, develop, acquire and in-license new products and product candidates;

our ability to successfully establish and successfully maintain appropriate collaborations and derive significant revenue from those collaborations;

our financial performance; and

developments and projections relating to our competitors or our industry.

In some cases, you can identify forward-looking statements by terms such as may, will, should, could, would. anticipate, believe, estimate, project, predict, potential and similar expressions intended to identify forward-looking statements. These statements reflect our current views with respect to future events and are based on assumptions and are subject to risks and uncertainties. Given these uncertainties, you should not place undue reliance on these forward-looking statements. We discuss in greater detail many of these risks under the heading Risk Factors contained in the applicable prospectus supplement, in any free writing prospectuses we may authorize for use in connection with a specific offering, and in our most recent Annual Report on Form 10-K and in our most recent Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q, as well as any amendments thereto reflected in subsequent filings with the SEC, which are incorporated by reference into this prospectus in their entirety. Also, these forward-looking statements represent our estimates and assumptions only as of the date of the document containing the applicable statement. Unless required by law, we undertake no obligation to update or revise any forward-looking statements to reflect new information or future events or developments. Thus, you should not assume that our silence over time means that actual events are bearing out as expressed or implied in such forward-looking statements. You should read this prospectus, any applicable prospectus supplement, together with the documents we have filed with the SEC that are incorporated by reference and any free writing prospectus that we may authorize for use in connection with this offering completely and with the understanding that our actual future results may be materially different from what we expect. We qualify all of the forward-looking statements in the foregoing documents by these cautionary statements.

4

USE OF PROCEEDS

Except as described in any applicable prospectus supplement or in any free writing prospectuses we have authorized for use in connection with a specific offering, we currently intend to use the net proceeds from the sale of the securities offered by us hereunder, if any, for working capital and general corporate purposes, including research and development expenses and capital expenditures.

The amounts and timing of our use of the net proceeds from this offering will depend on a number of factors, such as the timing and progress of our research and development efforts, the timing and progress of any partnering and commercialization efforts, technological advances and the competitive environment for our products. As of the date of this prospectus, we cannot specify with certainty all of the particular uses for the net proceeds to us from the sale of the securities offered by us hereunder. Accordingly, our management will have broad discretion in the timing and application of these proceeds. Pending application of the net proceeds as described above, we intend to temporarily invest the proceeds in short-term, interest-bearing instruments.

DESCRIPTION OF CAPITAL STOCK

General

As of June 30, 2014, our amended and restated certificate of incorporation authorizes common stock and authorizes shares of undesignated preferred stock, the rights, preferences and privileges of which may be designated from time to time by our board of directors.

Our authorized capital stock consists of 105,000,000 shares, all with a par value of \$0.001 per share, of which:

100,000,000 shares are designated as common stock; and

5,000,000 shares are designated as preferred stock.

Common Stock

Voting rights

Each holder of our common stock is entitled to one vote for each share of common stock held on all matters submitted to a vote of stockholders, except as otherwise expressly provided in our amended and restated certificate of incorporation or required by applicable law. Cumulative voting for the election of directors is not provided for in our amended and restated certificate of incorporation, which means that the holders of a majority of our shares of common stock can elect all of the directors then standing for election.

Economic rights

Dividends and distributions. Subject to preferences that may apply to any shares of convertible preferred stock outstanding at the time, the holders of outstanding shares of our common stock are entitled to receive dividends out of funds legally available at the times and in the amounts that our board of directors may determine.

Liquidation rights. Upon our liquidation, dissolution or winding-up, the assets legally available for distribution to our stockholders would be distributable ratably among the holders of our common stock and any participating convertible preferred stock outstanding at that time after payment of liquidation preferences, on any outstanding shares of convertible preferred stock and payment of other claims of creditors.

The rights, preferences, and privileges of holders of our common stock are subject to, and may be adversely affected by, the rights of holders of shares of any series of convertible preferred stock that we may designate and issue in the future.

5

Preemptive or similar rights. Our common stock is not entitled to preemptive rights and is not subject to conversion or redemption.

Preferred Stock

Our board of directors may, without further action by our stockholders, fix the rights, preferences, privileges and restrictions of up to an aggregate of 5,000,000 shares of preferred stock in one or more series and authorize their issuance. These rights, preferences and privileges could include dividend rights, conversion rights, voting rights, terms of redemption, liquidation preferences, sinking fund terms and the number of shares constituting any series or the designation of such series, any or all of which may be greater than the rights of our common stock. The issuance of our preferred stock could adversely affect the voting power of holders of our common stock and the likelihood that such holders will receive dividend payments and payments upon liquidation. In addition, the issuance of preferred stock could have the effect of delaying, deferring or preventing a change of control or other corporate action. No shares of preferred stock are outstanding, and we have no present plan to issue any shares of preferred stock.

Warrants

As of June 30, 2014, we had three warrants to purchase an aggregate of 1,500 shares of our common stock with an exercise price of \$13.10 per share outstanding. Each of these warrants has a net exercise provision under which the holder, in lieu of payment of the exercise price in cash, can surrender the warrant and receive a net number of shares of our common stock based on the fair market value of such stock at the time of exercise of the warrant after deduction of the aggregate exercise price. Unless earlier exercised, these warrants will expire on May 22, 2020.

As of June 30, 2014, we had a warrant to purchase the number of shares of our common stock equal to 1.9% of our utilization of the credit line provided by General Electric Capital Corporation, rounded down to the nearest whole share, with an exercise price of \$10.00 per share outstanding. As of June 30, 2014, there were 4,740 shares of our common stock issuable pursuant to the exercise of this warrant. This warrant has a net exercise provision under which the holder, in lieu of payment of the exercise price in cash, can surrender the warrant and receive a net number of shares of common stock based on the fair market value of such stock at the time of exercise of the warrant after deduction of the aggregate exercise price. Unless earlier exercised, this warrant will expire on January 21, 2015.

As of June 30, 2014, we had a warrant to purchase 7,633 shares of our common stock with an exercise price of \$13.10 per share outstanding. This warrant has a net exercise provision under which the holder, in lieu of payment of the exercise price in cash, can surrender the warrant and receive a net number of shares of our common stock based on the fair market value of such stock at the time of exercise of the warrant after deduction of the aggregate exercise price. Unless earlier exercised, this warrant will expire on September 29, 2016.

Anti-takeover provisions

Certificate of incorporation and bylaws

Our amended and restated certificate of incorporation provides for our board of directors to be divided into three classes with staggered three-year terms. Only one class of directors will be elected at each annual meeting of our stockholders, with the other classes continuing for the remainder of their respective three-year terms. Because our stockholders do not have cumulative voting rights, our stockholders holding a majority of the voting power of our shares of common stock outstanding will be able to elect all of our directors. The directors may be removed by the stockholders only for cause upon the vote of holders of a majority of the shares then entitled to vote at an election of directors. Furthermore, the authorized number of directors may be changed only by resolution of our board of

directors, and vacancies and newly created directorships on our board of directors may,

6

except as otherwise required by law or determined by our board, only be filled by a majority vote of the directors then serving on the board, even though less than a quorum. Our amended and restated certificate of incorporation and amended and restated bylaws provide that all stockholder actions must be effected at a duly called meeting of stockholders and not by a written consent. A special meeting of stockholders may be called only by a majority of our whole board of directors, the chair of our board of directors, our chief executive officer or our president. Our amended and restated bylaws also provide that stockholders seeking to present proposals before a meeting of stockholders to nominate candidates for election as directors at a meeting of stockholders must provide timely advance notice in writing, and will specify requirements as to the form and content of a stockholder s notice.

Our amended and restated certificate of incorporation further provides that the affirmative vote of holders of at least 66 2/3% of the voting power of all of the then outstanding shares of voting stock, voting as a single class, is required to amend certain provisions of our certificate of incorporation, including provisions relating to the structure of our board of directors, the size of the board, removal of directors, special meetings of stockholders, actions by written consent and cumulative voting. The affirmative vote of holders of at least 66 2/3% of the voting power of all of the then outstanding shares of voting stock, voting as a single class, is required to amend or repeal our bylaws, although our bylaws may be amended by a simple majority vote of our board of directors.

The foregoing provisions will make it more difficult for our existing stockholders to replace our board of directors as well as for another party to obtain control of the company by replacing our board of directors. Since our board of directors has the power to retain and discharge our officers, these provisions could also make it more difficult for existing stockholders or another party to effect a change in management. In addition, the authorization of undesignated preferred stock makes it possible for our board of directors to issue preferred stock with voting or other rights or preferences that could impede the success of any attempt to change the control of the company.

These provisions are intended to enhance the likelihood of continued stability in the composition of our board of directors and its policies and to discourage certain types of transactions that may involve an actual or threatened acquisition of the company. These provisions are also designed to reduce our vulnerability to an unsolicited acquisition proposal and to discourage certain tactics that may be used in proxy rights. However, such provisions could have the effect of discouraging others from making tender offers for our shares and may have the effect of deterring hostile takeovers or delaying changes in control of the company or our management. As a consequence, these provisions also may inhibit fluctuations in the market price of our stock that could result from actual or rumored takeover attempts.

Section 203 of the Delaware general corporation law

We are subject to Section 203 of the Delaware General Corporation Law, which prohibits a Delaware corporation from engaging in any business combination with any interested stockholder for a period of three years after the date that such stockholder became an interested stockholder, with the following exceptions:

before such date, the board of directors of the corporation approved either the business combination or the transaction that resulted in the stockholder becoming an interested stockholder;

upon closing of the transaction that resulted in the stockholder becoming an interested stockholder, the interested stockholder owned at least 85% of the voting stock of the corporation outstanding at the time the transaction began, excluding for purposes of determining the voting stock outstanding (but not the

outstanding voting stock owned by the interested stockholder) those shares owned by (i) persons who are directors and also officers and (ii) employee stock plans in which employee participants do not have the right to determine confidentially whether shares held subject to the plan will be tendered in a tender or exchange offer; or

on or after such date, the business combination is approved by the board of directors and authorized at an annual or special meeting of the stockholders, and not by written consent, by the affirmative vote of at least 66 2/3% of the outstanding voting stock that is not owned by the interested stockholder.

7

In general, Section 203 defines business combination to include the following:

any merger or consolidation involving the corporation and the interested stockholder;

any sale, transfer, pledge or other disposition of 10% or more of the assets of the corporation involving the interested stockholder;

subject to certain exceptions, any transaction that results in the issuance or transfer by the corporation of any stock of the corporation to the interested stockholder;

any transaction involving the corporation that has the effect of increasing the proportionate share of the stock or any class or series of the corporation beneficially owned by the interested stockholder; or

the receipt by the interested stockholder of the benefit of any loss, advances, guarantees, pledges or other financial benefits by or through the corporation.

In general, Section 203 defines an interested stockholder as an entity or person who, together with the person s affiliates and associates, beneficially owns, or within three years prior to the time of determination of interested stockholder status did own, 15% or more of the outstanding voting stock of the corporation.

Listing

Our common stock is listed on The NASDAQ Global Select Market under the trading symbol PTLA. The applicable prospectus supplement will contain information, where applicable, as to any other listing, if any, on The NASDAQ Global Select Market or any securities market or other exchange of the common stock covered by such prospectus supplement.

Transfer agent and registrar

The transfer agent and registrar for our common stock is American Stock Transfer & Trust Company, LLC.

PLAN OF DISTRIBUTION

We may offer and sell shares of our common stock in offerings hereunder to or through one or more underwriters, dealers and agents, or directly to purchasers, on a continuous or delayed basis. We will provide the specific plan of distribution for any shares of our common stock to be offered by us in a supplement to this prospectus.

LEGAL MATTERS

Unless otherwise indicated in the applicable prospectus supplement, the validity of the securities offered by this prospectus, and any supplement thereto, will be passed upon for us by Cooley LLP, San Francisco and Palo Alto, California.

EXPERTS

Ernst & Young LLP, independent registered public accounting firm, has audited our financial statements included in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2013, as set forth in their report, which is incorporated by reference in this prospectus and elsewhere in the registration statement. Our financial statements are incorporated by reference in reliance on Ernst & Young LLP s report, given on their authority as experts in accounting and auditing.

8

WHERE YOU CAN FIND MORE INFORMATION

This prospectus is part of the registration statement on Form S-3 we filed with the SEC under the Securities Act and does not contain all the information set forth in the registration statement. Whenever a reference is made in this prospectus to any of our contracts, agreements or other documents, the reference may not be complete and you should refer to the exhibits that are a part of the registration statement or the exhibits to the reports or other documents incorporated by reference into this prospectus for a copy of such contract, agreement or other document. Because we are subject to the information and reporting requirements of the Exchange Act, we file annual, quarterly and current reports, proxy statements and other information with the SEC. Our SEC filings are available to the public over the Internet at the SEC s website at http://www.sec.gov. You may also read and copy any document we file at the SEC s Public Reference Room at 100 F Street, N.E., Washington, D.C. 20549. Please call the SEC at 1-800-SEC-0330 for further information on the operation of the Public Reference Room.

INCORPORATION OF CERTAIN INFORMATION BY REFERENCE

The SEC allows us to incorporate by reference information from other documents that we file with it, which means that we can disclose important information to you by referring you to those documents. The information incorporated by reference is considered to be part of this prospectus. Information in this prospectus supersedes information incorporated by reference that we filed with the SEC prior to the date of this prospectus, while information that we file later with the SEC will automatically update and supersede the information in this prospectus. We incorporate by reference into this prospectus and the registration statement of which this prospectus is a part the information or documents listed below that we have filed with the SEC (Commission File No. 001-35935):

our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2013, which was filed with the SEC on March 3, 2014 (the Form 10-K);

the information specifically incorporated by reference into the Form 10-K from our definitive proxy statement on Schedule 14A which was filed with the SEC on April 4, 2014;

our Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the quarter ended March 31, 2014, which was filed with the SEC on May 13, 2014;

our Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the quarter ended June 30, 2014, which was filed with the SEC on August 6, 2014;

our Current Reports on Form 8-K filed with the SEC on March 18, 2014, March 19, 2014, April 2, 2014, May 16, 2014, May 27, 2014, July 2, 2014 (two filings) and October 1, 2014; and

the description of our common stock in our registration statement on Form 8-A filed with the SEC on May 17, 2013, including any amendments thereto or reports filed for the purposes of updating this description.

Any information in any of the foregoing documents will automatically be deemed to be modified or superseded to the extent that information in this prospectus or in a later filed document that is incorporated or deemed to be incorporated herein by reference modifies or replaces such information.

We also incorporate by reference any future filings (other than current reports furnished under Item 2.02 or Item 7.01 of Form 8-K and exhibits filed on such form that are related to such items) made with the SEC pursuant to Sections 13(a), 13(c), 14 or 15(d) of the Exchange Act until we file a post-effective amendment which indicates the termination of the offering of the securities made by this prospectus. Information in such future filings updates and supplements the information provided in this prospectus. Any statements in any such future filings will automatically be deemed to modify and supersede any information in any document we previously filed with the SEC that is incorporated or deemed to be incorporated herein by reference to the extent that statements in the later filed document modify or replace such earlier statements.

You can request a copy of these filings, at no cost, by writing or telephoning us at the following address or telephone number:

Portola Pharmaceuticals, Inc.

270 E. Grand Ave.

South San Francisco, CA 94080

(650) 246-7300

Attn: Secretary

10

PART II

INFORMATION NOT REQUIRED IN THE PROSPECTUS

Item 14. Other Expenses of Issuance and Distribution

The following table sets forth an estimate of the fees and expenses, other than the underwriting discounts and commissions, payable by us in connection with the issuance and distribution of the securities being registered. All the amounts shown are estimates, except for the SEC registration fee.

	Amount
SEC registration fee	\$ 30,143
The NASDAQ Global Select Market listing fee	65,000
FINRA filing fee	39,410
Accounting fees and expenses	150,000
Legal fees and expenses	150,000
Transfer agent and registrar fees and expenses	5,000
Printing and miscellaneous fees and expenses	60,447
Total	\$ 500,000

Item 15. Indemnification of Directors and Officers

Section 145 of the Delaware General Corporation Law authorizes a court to award, or a corporation s board of directors to grant, indemnity to directors and officers in terms sufficiently broad to permit such indemnification under certain circumstances for liabilities, including reimbursement for expenses incurred, arising under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, or the Securities Act.

Our amended and restated certificate of incorporation provides for indemnification of our directors, officers, employees and other agents to the maximum extent permitted by the Delaware General Corporation Law, and our amended and restated bylaws provide for indemnification of our directors, officers, employees and other agents to the maximum extent permitted by the Delaware General Corporation Law.

We have entered and expect to continue to enter into agreements to indemnify our directors and executive officers. With certain exceptions, these agreements provide for indemnification for related expenses including, among other things, attorneys fees, judgments, fines and settlement amounts incurred by any of these individuals in any action or proceeding.

We maintain insurance policies that indemnify our directors and officers against various liabilities arising under the Securities Act and the Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, that might be incurred by any director or officer in his capacity as such.

The underwriting agreement that we may enter into (Exhibit 1.1) may provide for indemnification by any underwriters of Portola, its directors, its officers who sign the registration statement and Portola s controlling persons for some liabilities, including liabilities arising under the Securities Act.

II-1

Item 16. Exhibits

Exhibit Number	Description
1.1*	Form of Underwriting Agreement.
3.1	Amended and Restated Certificate of Incorporation of Portola Pharmaceuticals, Inc. (Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 3.1 from Portola s Current Report on Form 8-K as filed with the SEC on May 28, 2013 (SEC File No. 001-35935)).
3.2	Amended and Restated Bylaws of Portola Pharmaceuticals, Inc. (Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 3.2 from Portola s Current Report on Form 8-K as filed with the SEC on May 28, 2013 (SEC File No. 001-35935)).
4.1	Reference is made to Exhibits 3.1 and 3.2.
4.2	Form of Common Stock Certificate of Portola Pharmaceuticals, Inc. (Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4.1 from Portola s Registration Statement on Form S-1 (File No. 333-187901) filed with the SEC on May 17, 2013).
5.1	Opinion of Cooley LLP.
23.1	Consent of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm.
23.2	Consent of Cooley LLP is contained in Exhibit 5.1 to this Registration Statement.
24.1	Power of Attorney is contained on the signature pages.

^{*} To be filed by amendment or as an exhibit to a Current Report on Form 8-K and incorporated herein by reference, if applicable.

Item 17. Undertakings

The undersigned registrant hereby undertakes:

- (1) To file, during any period in which offers or sales are being made, a post-effective amendment to this registration statement:
- (i) to include any prospectus required by Section 10(a)(3) of the Securities Act of 1933;
- (ii) to reflect in the prospectus any facts or events arising after the effective date of the registration statement (or the most recent post-effective amendment thereof) which, individually or in the aggregate, represent a fundamental change in the information set forth in the registration statement. Notwithstanding the foregoing, any increase or decrease in volume of securities offered (if the total dollar value of securities offered would not exceed that which was registered) and any deviation from the low or high end of the estimated maximum offering range may be reflected in the form of prospectus filed with the Commission pursuant to Rule 424(b) if, in the aggregate, the changes in volume and price represent no more than a 20% change in the maximum aggregate offering price set forth in the Calculation of Registration Fee table in the effective registration statement; and

(iii) to include any material information with respect to the plan of distribution not previously disclosed in the registration statement or any material change to such information in the registration statement;

provided, however, that paragraphs (1)(i), (1)(ii) and (1)(iii) do not apply if the information required to be included in a post-effective amendment by those paragraphs is contained in reports filed with or furnished to the Commission by the registrant pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 that are incorporated by reference in the registration statement, or is contained in a form of prospectus filed pursuant to Rule 424(b) that is part of the registration statement.

II-2

- (2) That, for the purpose of determining any liability under the Securities Act of 1933, each such post-effective amendment shall be deemed to be a new registration statement relating to the securities offered therein, and the offering of such securities at that time shall be deemed to be the initial *bona fide* offering thereof.
- (3) To remove from registration by means of a post-effective amendment any of the securities being registered which remain unsold at the termination of the offering.
- (4) That, for the purpose of determining liability under the Securities Act of 1933 to any purchaser:
- (i) Each prospectus filed by the registrant pursuant to Rule 424(b)(3) shall be deemed to be part of the registration statement as of the date the filed prospectus was deemed part of and included in the registration statement; and
- (ii) Each prospectus required to be filed pursuant to Rule 424(b)(2), (b)(5), or (b)(7) as part of a registration statement in reliance on Rule 430B relating to an offering made pursuant to Rule 415(a)(1)(i), (vii), or (x) for the purpose of providing the information required by Section 10(a) of the Securities Act of 1933 shall be deemed to be part of and included in the registration statement as of the earlier of the date such form of prospectus is first used after effectiveness or the date of the first contract of sale of securities in the offering described in the prospectus. As provided in Rule 430B, for liability purposes of the issuer and any person that is at that date an underwriter, such date shall be deemed to be a new effective date of the registration statement relating to the securities in the registration statement to which that prospectus relates, and the offering of such securities at that time shall be deemed to be the initial *bona fide* offering thereof. *Provided*, *however*, that no statement made in a registration statement or prospectus that is part of the registration statement or made in a document incorporated or deemed incorporated by reference into the registration statement or prospectus that is part of the registration statement will, as to a purchaser with a time of contract of sale prior to such effective date, supersede or modify any statement that was made in the registration statement or prospectus that was part of the registration statement or made in any such document immediately prior to such effective date.
- (5) That, for the purpose of determining liability of the registrant under the Securities Act of 1933 to any purchaser in the initial distribution of the securities, the undersigned registrant undertakes that in a primary offering of securities of the undersigned registrant pursuant to this registration statement, regardless of the underwriting method used to sell the securities to the purchaser, if the securities are offered or sold to such purchaser by means of any of the following communications, the undersigned registrant will be a seller to the purchaser and will be considered to offer or sell such securities to such purchaser:
- (i) Any preliminary prospectus or prospectus of the undersigned registrant relating to the offering required to be filed pursuant to Rule 424;
- (ii) Any free writing prospectus relating to the offering prepared by or on behalf of the undersigned registrant or used or referred to by the undersigned registrant;
- (iii) The portion of any other free writing prospectus relating to the offering containing material information about the undersigned registrant or its securities provided by or on behalf of the undersigned registrant; and
- (iv) Any other communication that is an offer in the offering made by the undersigned registrant to the purchaser.
- (6) That, for the purpose of determining liability of the registrant under the Securities Act of 1933, each filing of the registrant s annual report pursuant to Section 13(a) or Section 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (and, where applicable, each filing of an employee benefit plan s annual report pursuant to section 15(d) of the Securities

Exchange Act of 1934) that is incorporated by reference in the registration statement shall be deemed to be a new registration statement relating to the securities offered therein, and the offering of such securities at that time shall be deemed to be the initial *bona fide* offering thereof.

II-3

Table of Contents

- (7) That, for purposes of determining any liability under the Securities Act of 1933:
- (i) the information omitted from the form of prospectus filed as part of the registration statement in reliance upon Rule 430A and contained in the form of prospectus filed by the registrant pursuant to Rule 424(b)(l) or (4) or 497(h) under the Securities Act of 1933 shall be deemed to be a part of the registration statement as of the time it was declared effective; and
- (ii) each post-effective amendment that contains a form of prospectus shall be deemed to be a new registration statement relating to the securities offered therein, and the offering of such securities at that time shall be deemed to be the initial bona fide offering thereof.

Insofar as indemnification for liabilities arising under the Securities Act of 1933 may be permitted to directors, officers and controlling persons of the registrant pursuant to the foregoing provisions, or otherwise, the registrant has been advised that in the opinion of the Securities and Exchange Commission such indemnification is against public policy as expressed in the Securities Act and is, therefore, unenforceable. In the event that a claim for indemnification against such liabilities (other than the payment by the registrant of expenses incurred or paid by a director, officer or controlling person of the registrant in the successful defense of any action, suit or proceeding) is asserted by such director, officer or controlling person in connection with the securities being registered, the registrant will, unless in the opinion of its counsel the matter has been settled by controlling precedent, submit to a court of appropriate jurisdiction the question whether such indemnification by it is against public policy as expressed in the Securities Act of 1933 and will be governed by the final adjudication of such issue.

II-4

SIGNATURES

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Act of 1933, the registrant certifies that it has reasonable grounds to believe that it meets all of the requirements for filing on Form S-3 and has duly caused this registration statement to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned, thereunto duly authorized, in the City of South San Francisco, State of California, on October 1, 2014.

PORTOLA PHARMACEUTICALS, INC.

By: /s/ William Lis
William Lis
Chief Executive Officer

Know ALL Persons By These Presents, that each person whose signature appears below constitutes and appoints William Lis and Mardi C. Dier, and each of them, as true and lawful attorneys-in-fact and agents, with full powers of substitution and resubstitution, for them and in their name, place and stead, in any and all capacities, to sign any and all amendments (including post-effective amendments) to this registration statement, and to file the same, with all exhibits thereto, and other documents in connection therewith, with the SEC, and generally to do all such things in their names and behalf in their capacities as officers and directors to enable Portola Pharmaceuticals to comply with the provisions of the Securities Act of 1933 and all requirements of the SEC, granting unto said attorneys-in-fact and agents, and each of them, full power and authority to do and perform each and every act and thing requisite and necessary to be done in connection therewith, as fully to all intents and purposes as he or she might or could do in person, ratifying and confirming all that said attorneys-in-fact and agents, or any of them, or their or his or her substitutes or substitute, may lawfully do or cause to be done by virtue hereof.

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Act of 1933, this registration statement has been signed below by the following persons in the capacities and on the dates indicated.

Signatures	Title	Date
/s/ William Lis	Director and Chief Executive Officer	October 1, 2014
William Lis	(Principal Executive Officer)	
/s/ Mardi C. Dier	Chief Financial Officer	October 1, 2014
Mardi C. Dier	(Principal Financial and Accounting Officer)	
/s/ Hollings C. Renton	Chairman of the Board of Directors	October 1, 2014
Hollings C. Renton		
/s/ Charles J. Homcy	Director	October 1, 2014

Charles J. Homcy, M.D.

/s/ Jeffrey W. Bird	Director	October 1, 2014
Jeffrey W. Bird, M.D., Ph.D.		
/s/ Robert M. Califf	Director	October 1, 2014
Robert M. Califf, M.D.		
/s/ Nicholas G. Galakatos	Director	October 1, 2014
Nicholas G. Galakatos, Ph.D.		
/s/ John H. Johnson	Director	October 1, 2014
John H. Johnson		
/s/ H. Ward Wolff	Director	October 1, 2014
H. Ward Wolff		

II-5

EXHIBIT INDEX

Exhibit Number	Description
1.1*	Form of Underwriting Agreement.
3.1	Amended and Restated Certificate of Incorporation of Portola Pharmaceuticals, Inc. (Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 3.1 from Portola s Current Report on Form 8-K as filed with the SEC on May 28, 2013 (SEC File No. 001-35935)).
3.2	Amended and Restated Bylaws of Portola Pharmaceuticals, Inc. (Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 3.2 from Portola s Current Report on Form 8-K as filed with the SEC on May 28, 2013 (SEC File No. 001-35935)).
4.1	Reference is made to Exhibits 3.1 and 3.2.
4.2	Form of Common Stock Certificate of Portola Pharmaceuticals, Inc. (Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4.1 from Portola s Registration Statement on Form S-1 (File No. 333-187901) filed with the SEC on May 17, 2013).
5.1	Opinion of Cooley LLP.
23.1	Consent of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm.
23.2	Consent of Cooley LLP is contained in Exhibit 5.1 to this Registration Statement.
24.1	Power of Attorney is contained on the signature pages.

^{*} To be filed by amendment or as an exhibit to a Current Report on Form 8-K and incorporated herein by reference, if applicable.