

The information in this preliminary prospectus supplement is not complete and may be changed. A registration statement relating to these securities has been filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission and is effective. This preliminary prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus are not an offer to sell these securities and we are not soliciting an offer to buy these securities in any state or other jurisdiction where the offer or sale is not permitted.

SUBJECT TO COMPLETION, DATED AUGUST 10, 2022

PRELIMINARY PROSPECTUS SUPPLEMENT
(to Prospectus dated November 22, 2021)

\$250,000,000



Cerevel Therapeutics Holdings, Inc.

Common Stock

We are offering \$250,000,000 of shares of our common stock, par value \$0.0001 per share (the “common stock”).

Our common stock is listed on The Nasdaq Capital Market under the symbol “CERE.” On August 9, 2022, the last reported sale price of our common stock on The Nasdaq Capital Market was \$39.77 per share.

Concurrently with this offering of shares of common stock, we are offering % Convertible Senior Notes due 2027 (the “notes”) in the aggregate principal amount of \$250.0 million (or \$287.5 million if the initial purchasers of such offering (the “initial purchasers”) exercise in full their option to purchase additional notes) to qualified institutional buyers (“QIBs”), in an offering exempt from registration under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended (the “Securities Act”), pursuant to a separate offering memorandum (the “Concurrent Convertible Notes Offering”). Neither the completion of this offering nor the Concurrent Convertible Notes Offering is contingent on the completion of the other, so it is possible that this offering occurs and the Concurrent Convertible Notes Offering does not occur, and vice versa. We cannot assure you that the Concurrent Convertible Notes Offering will be completed on the terms described herein, or at all. This prospectus supplement is not an offer to sell or a solicitation of an offer to buy any securities being offered in the Concurrent Convertible Notes Offering. See “Description of Concurrent Convertible Notes Offering” for a summary of the terms of the notes and a further description of the Concurrent Convertible Notes Offering.

Investing in our securities involves a high degree of risk. See “[Risk Factors](#)” beginning on page S-7 of this prospectus supplement and elsewhere in this prospectus supplement and the accompanying base prospectus for a discussion of information that should be considered in connection with an investment in our securities.

| | <u>Per Share</u> | <u>Total</u> |
|--------------------------------------|------------------|--------------|
| Public Offering Price | \$ | \$ |
| Underwriting Discount ⁽¹⁾ | \$ | \$ |
| Proceeds, Before Expenses, to Us | \$ | \$ |

(1) See “Underwriters” beginning on page S-31 for a description of all compensation payable to the underwriters.

We have granted to the underwriters an option, exercisable for 30 days from the date of this prospectus supplement, to purchase up to \$37,500,000 of additional shares of our common stock at the public offering price, less underwriting discounts and commissions.

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

The underwriters expect to deliver the shares against payment on or about , 2022.

Joint Book-Running Managers

MORGAN STANLEY

GOLDMAN SACHS & CO. LLC

JEFFERIES

EVERCORE ISI

Co-Managers

LOOP CAPITAL MARKETS

SIEBERT WILLIAMS SHANK

The date of this prospectus supplement is , 2022.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Prospectus Supplement

| | |
|--|------|
| ABOUT THIS PROSPECTUS SUPPLEMENT | S-ii |
| MARKET, INDUSTRY AND OTHER DATA | S-iv |
| PROSPECTUS SUPPLEMENT SUMMARY | S-1 |
| THE OFFERING | S-5 |
| RISK FACTORS | S-7 |
| CAUTIONARY NOTE REGARDING FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS | S-12 |
| USE OF PROCEEDS | S-14 |
| CAPITALIZATION | S-15 |
| DILUTION | S-17 |
| DESCRIPTION OF CAPITAL STOCK | S-19 |
| DESCRIPTION OF CONCURRENT CONVERTIBLE NOTES OFFERING | S-25 |
| MATERIAL U.S. FEDERAL INCOME TAX CONSEQUENCES | S-26 |
| UNDERWRITERS | S-31 |
| LEGAL MATTERS | S-40 |
| EXPERTS | S-40 |
| WHERE YOU CAN FIND MORE INFORMATION | S-40 |
| INCORPORATION OF CERTAIN INFORMATION BY REFERENCE | S-40 |

Prospectus

| | |
|---|----|
| ABOUT THIS PROSPECTUS | 1 |
| RISK FACTORS | 2 |
| SPECIAL NOTE REGARDING FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS | 2 |
| THE COMPANY | 4 |
| USE OF PROCEEDS | 5 |
| DESCRIPTION OF CAPITAL STOCK | 6 |
| DESCRIPTION OF DEBT SECURITIES | 11 |
| DESCRIPTION OF WARRANTS | 18 |
| DESCRIPTION OF UNITS | 19 |
| PLAN OF DISTRIBUTION | 22 |
| LEGAL MATTERS | 23 |
| EXPERTS | 23 |
| WHERE YOU CAN FIND MORE INFORMATION | 24 |
| INCORPORATION OF CERTAIN INFORMATION BY REFERENCE | 24 |

ABOUT THIS PROSPECTUS SUPPLEMENT

This prospectus supplement and the accompanying base prospectus are part of a registration statement on Form S-3 (Registration No. 333-260945) that we filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission (the “SEC”) using a “shelf” registration process. The accompanying base prospectus provides you with a general description of Cerevel and the securities that may be offered. Each time we sell securities under the registration statement through an underwriter, dealer, or agent, a prospectus supplement will be provided that contains specific information about the terms of that offering. A prospectus supplement may also add, update, or change information contained in the accompanying base prospectus.

This prospectus supplement provides specific details regarding this offering of shares of common stock, including the purchase price per share. To the extent there is a conflict between the information contained in this prospectus supplement and the accompanying base prospectus, you should rely on the information in this prospectus supplement. This prospectus supplement, the accompanying base prospectus, and the documents incorporated by reference herein and therein include important information about us and our common stock and other information you should know before investing. You should read both this prospectus supplement and the accompanying base prospectus, together with the additional information described below under the headings “*Where You Can Find More Information*” and “*Incorporation of Certain Information by Reference*”. Neither we nor the underwriters have authorized anyone to provide any information or to make any representations other than those contained or incorporated by reference in this prospectus supplement or the accompanying base prospectus. Neither we nor the underwriters takes any responsibility for, or provides any assurance as to the reliability of, any other information that others may give you.

We are offering to sell, and seeking offers to buy, shares of common stock only in jurisdictions where offers and sales are permitted. The distribution of this prospectus supplement and the offering of the common stock in certain jurisdictions may be restricted by law. Persons outside the United States who come into possession of this prospectus supplement must inform themselves about, and observe any restrictions relating to, the offering of the common stock and the distribution of this prospectus supplement outside the United States. This prospectus supplement does not constitute, and may not be used in connection with, an offer to sell, or a solicitation of an offer to buy, any securities offered by this prospectus supplement by any person in any jurisdiction in which it is unlawful for such person to make such an offer or solicitation.

You should not assume that the information appearing in this prospectus supplement or the accompanying base prospectus is accurate as of any date other than the date on the front cover of the respective documents. You should not assume that the information contained in the documents incorporated by reference in this prospectus supplement or the accompanying base prospectus is accurate as of any date other than the respective dates of those documents. Our business, financial condition, results of operations, and prospects may have changed since the dates set forth in the respective documents.

We use various trademarks and tradenames in our business, including “Cerevel” and our corporate logo. All other trademarks or trade names referred to in this prospectus supplement or the accompanying base prospectus are the property of their respective owners. Solely for convenience, the trademarks and trade names in this prospectus supplement or the accompanying base prospectus are referred to without the symbols ® and ™, but such references should not be construed as any indicator that their respective owners will not assert, to the fullest extent under applicable law, their rights thereto. We do not intend our use or display of other companies’ trademarks and trade names to imply a relationship with, or endorsement or sponsorship of us by, any other companies.

This prospectus supplement, the accompanying base prospectus and the documents incorporated by reference herein contain 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

[Table of Contents](#)

their entirety by the actual documents. Copies of some of the documents referred to herein have been filed as exhibits to the documents incorporated by reference herein.

Unless otherwise indicated or the context otherwise requires, references in this prospectus supplement to “Cerevel,” the “Company,” “we,” “us” and “our” refer, collectively, to Cerevel Therapeutics Holdings, Inc. and its consolidated subsidiaries.

MARKET, INDUSTRY AND OTHER DATA

We obtained the industry, market and competitive position data included or incorporated by reference in this prospectus supplement and the accompanying base prospectus from our own internal estimates and research, as well as from independent market research, industry and general publications and surveys, governmental agencies and publicly available information in addition to research, surveys and studies conducted by third parties. Internal estimates are derived from publicly available information released by industry analysts and third-party sources, our internal research and our industry experience, and are based on assumptions made by us based on such data and our knowledge of our industry and market, which we believe to be reasonable. We have not independently verified the accuracy or completeness of the data contained in the third-party research and other publicly available information. Further, while we believe that our internal research is reliable, such research has not been verified by any third party. You are cautioned not to give undue weight to any such information, projections and estimates. In some cases, we do not expressly refer to the sources from which this data is derived. In that regard, when we refer to one or more sources of this type of data in any paragraph, you should assume that other data of this type appearing in the same paragraph is derived from the same sources, unless otherwise expressly stated or the context otherwise requires. In addition, while we believe the industry, market and competitive position data included or incorporated by reference in this prospectus supplement is reliable and based on reasonable assumptions, such data involve risks and uncertainties and are subject to change based on various factors, including those discussed under the heading “*Risk Factors*” in this prospectus supplement, in the documents incorporated by reference in this prospectus supplement and in the accompanying base prospectus. These and other factors could cause results to differ materially from those expressed in the estimates made by the third parties or by us.

PROSPECTUS SUPPLEMENT SUMMARY

This summary highlights information contained elsewhere, or incorporated by reference, in this prospectus supplement or the accompanying base prospectus and does not contain all of the information you should consider in making your investment decision. Before deciding to purchase any of our shares of common stock in this offering, you should read this summary together with the more detailed information included elsewhere, or incorporated by reference, in this prospectus supplement or the accompanying base prospectus. You should carefully consider, among other things, (i) the matters discussed in “Risk Factors” and “Cautionary Note Regarding Forward-Looking Statements,” in each case, included elsewhere, or incorporated by reference, in this prospectus supplement or the accompanying base prospectus, and (ii) our consolidated financial statements and related notes and the matters discussed in “Risk Factors” and “Management’s Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations,” in each case, included in our most recent Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2021 (our “2021 10-K”), our Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the quarter ended March 31, 2022 (our “First Quarter 10-Q”) and our Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the quarter ended June 30, 2022 (our “Second Quarter 10-Q”).

In addition, any reference to or description of our Concurrent Convertible Notes Offering herein is wholly subject to a separate offering memorandum pursuant to which our notes are being offered, and you should not rely on this prospectus supplement or the accompanying base prospectus in making an investment decision to purchase our notes. The notes are being offered only to QIBs pursuant to such offering memorandum.

Overview

We are a clinical-stage biopharmaceutical company pursuing a targeted approach to neuroscience that combines a deep understanding of disease-related biology and neurocircuitry of the brain with advanced chemistry and central nervous system target receptor selective pharmacology to discover and design new therapies. We seek to transform the lives of patients through the development of new therapies for neuroscience diseases, including schizophrenia, epilepsy and Parkinson’s disease. We are advancing our extensive and diverse pipeline with numerous clinical trials underway or planned, including three ongoing Phase 3 trials and an open-label extension trial for tavapadon in Parkinson’s, two ongoing Phase 2 trials and a planned open-label extension trial for emraclidine in schizophrenia and an ongoing Phase 2 proof-of-concept trial with an open-label extension trial for darigabat in focal epilepsy. See “—Our Pipeline” below. We have built a highly experienced team of senior leaders and neuroscience drug developers who combine a nimble, results-driven biotech mindset with the proven expertise of large pharmaceutical company experience and capabilities in drug discovery and development.

Our portfolio of product candidates is based on a differentiated approach to addressing neuroscience diseases, which incorporates three key pillars: (1) targeted neurocircuitry, where we seek to unlock new treatment opportunities by precisely identifying and targeting the neurocircuit that underlies a given neuroscience disease, (2) targeted receptor subtype selectivity, where we selectively target the receptor subtype(s) related to the disease physiology to minimize undesirable off-target effects while maximizing activity and (3) differentiated pharmacology, where we design full and partial agonists, antagonists and allosteric modulators to precisely fine-tune the receptor pharmacology and neurocircuit activity to avoid over-activation or over-suppression of the endogenous physiologic range. In addition, our portfolio is supported by robust data packages and rigorous clinical trial execution designed to elucidate the key points of differentiation for our compounds. We believe that this science-driven approach is critical to achieving optimal therapeutic activity while minimizing unintended side effects of currently available therapies.

Behind our portfolio stands a team with a multi-decade track record of drug approvals and commercial success. This track record has been driven by their extensive experience with empirically-driven clinical trial design and implementation, a history of successful interactions with regulatory agencies and relationships with

global key opinion leaders. We believe that the distinctive combination of our management team and our existing pipeline has the potential to bring to patients the next generation of transformative neuroscience therapies.

Our Pipeline

The following table summarizes our current portfolio of product candidates. This table does not include multiple additional preclinical programs that have not yet been disclosed.

| Compound | Disease Area | Discovery | Pre-clinical | Phase 1 | Phase 2 | Phase 3 | Upcoming Milestone | Mechanism | |
|---------------------------------|------------------------------|-------------------------------|--------------|------------|------------|------------|--------------------------|------------------------------|-----------------------|
| Lead Programs | | | | | | | | | |
| Emraclidine | Schizophrenia / Psychosis | ██████████ | ██████████ | ██████████ | ██████████ | | Ph. 2 Data 1H 2024 | M4 PAM | |
| Darigabat | Epilepsy | ██████████ | ██████████ | ██████████ | ██████████ | | Ph. 2 Data Mid-Year 2023 | GABA _A α2/3/5 PAM | |
| Darigabat | Panic Disorder | ██████████ | ██████████ | ██████████ | | | Pending | | |
| Tavapadon | Early Parkinson's | ██████████ | ██████████ | ██████████ | ██████████ | ██████████ | Ph. 3 Data 2H 2023 | D1/D5 Strong Partial Agonist | |
| Tavapadon (adjunct with L-Dopa) | Late Parkinson's | ██████████ | ██████████ | ██████████ | ██████████ | ██████████ | Ph. 3 Data 1H 2023 | | |
| CVL-871 | Dementia-related Apathy | <i>Fast Track Designation</i> | | | | ██████████ | | Ph. 2a Data 1H 2023 | D1/D5 Partial Agonist |
| Other Programs | | | | | | | | | |
| CVL-354 | MDD / Substance Use Disorder | ██████████ | ██████████ | ██████████ | | | Ph. 1 Data | KOR Antagonist | |
| CVL-047 | MDD / Schizophrenia | ██████████ | ██████████ | | | | Ph. 1 Data | PDE4 Inhibitor | |
| M4 Agonist | Schizophrenia / Psychosis | ██████████ | | | | | Candidate Selection | M4 Agonist | |
| LRRK2 Inhibitor | Parkinson's | ██████████ | | | | | Candidate Selection | LRRK2 Inhibitor | |

Our Lead Programs

1. Emraclidine is a positive allosteric modulator (“PAM”) that selectively targets the muscarinic acetylcholine 4 receptor subtype (“M4”). In June 2021, we announced positive topline results for a Phase 1b trial of emraclidine in schizophrenia, consisting of Part A, a multiple ascending dose study and Part B, a pharmacodynamic assessment. Emraclidine demonstrated a clinically meaningful and statistically significant improvement in the Positive and Negative Syndrome Scale total score at six weeks and was generally well-tolerated compared with placebo at the two dose levels evaluated in Part B. We initiated two Phase 2 clinical trials in schizophrenia in June 2022 and plan to initiate a 52-week open-label extension trial to begin development of the required safety database. Data are expected from the Phase 2 trials in the first half of 2024. We are also conducting an eight-week ambulatory blood pressure monitoring trial, with data expected by the

end of 2022. In addition, we plan to evaluate the potential of this mechanism in other populations, including Alzheimer's disease psychosis. We plan to initiate a Phase 1 trial evaluating the safety, tolerability and pharmacokinetics in elderly healthy volunteers by the end of 2022 to support the future development of emraclidine in Alzheimer's disease psychosis.

2. Darigabat is a PAM that selectively targets the alpha-2/3/5 subunits of the GABA_A receptor. In the second half of 2020, we initiated a Phase 2 proof-of-concept trial, known as REALIZE, in patients with drug-resistant focal onset seizures, or focal epilepsy. Data are expected mid-year 2023 for the Phase 2 proof-of-concept trial in focal epilepsy. In February 2022, we announced positive topline results for a Phase 1 trial of darigabat in acute anxiety in healthy volunteers. Both doses of darigabat demonstrated clinically meaningful and statistically significant anxiolytic activity compared with placebo in this proof-of-principle trial. Darigabat was generally well-tolerated in this trial, with no serious adverse events and no discontinuations in the darigabat cohorts. We intend to pursue development of darigabat in panic disorder.
3. Tavapadon is a selective dopamine D1/D5 receptor partial agonist that we are developing for the treatment of early- and late-stage Parkinson's disease. We initiated a registration-directed Phase 3 program for tavapadon beginning in January 2020, which includes two trials in early-stage Parkinson's, known as TEMPO-1 and TEMPO-2, one trial in late-stage Parkinson's, known as TEMPO-3, and an open-label extension trial, known as TEMPO-4. We expect initial data from our Phase 3 program to be available beginning in the first half of 2023.
4. CVL-871 is a selective dopamine D1/D5 receptor partial agonist specifically designed to achieve a modest level of partial agonism, which we believe may be useful in modulating the complex neural networks that govern cognition, motivation and apathy behaviors in neurodegenerative diseases. In the second quarter of 2021, the FDA granted Fast Track Designation for CVL-871 for the treatment of dementia-related apathy. We are conducting a Phase 2a exploratory trial in dementia-related apathy, with data expected in the first half of 2023.

We believe that our lead programs have target product profiles that may enable them to become backbone therapies in their respective lead indications, either replacing standards of care as monotherapies or enhancing treatment regimens as adjunct to existing therapies. Results from the clinical trials mentioned above will guide the potential development of our product candidates in additional indications with similar neurocircuitry deficits.

Our Other Programs

In addition to the lead programs described above, we plan to further characterize and appropriately advance our early clinical and preclinical pipeline across multiple potential neuroscience indications. Our other programs include:

- CVL-354, our selective kappa opioid receptor antagonist ("KORA") for the treatment of major depressive disorder ("MDD") and substance use disorder;
- CVL-047, our selective PDE4 inhibitor (PDE4D-sparing) for the treatment of MDD and schizophrenia;
- our selective M4 agonist program for the treatment of psychosis and related indications; and
- our LRRK2 inhibitor program that has the potential to address disease progression in Parkinson's.

We are also pursuing other undisclosed targets, including those with disease-modifying potential for leading neuroscience diseases. These programs include those initiated by Pfizer Inc. ("Pfizer") as well as others developed internally through the application of human genetic analyses and new technology platforms, such as artificial intelligence and DNA-encoded chemical libraries, to establish novel chemical lead series that are designed to enable better understanding of therapeutic potential.

Concurrent Convertible Notes Offering

Concurrently with this offering of shares of common stock, we are offering % Convertible Senior Notes due 2027 (the “notes”) in the aggregate principal amount of \$ million (or \$ million if the initial purchasers in that offering exercise in full their option to purchase additional notes) to QIBs, pursuant to a separate offering memorandum in the Concurrent Convertible Notes Offering.

Neither the completion of this offering nor the Concurrent Convertible Notes Offering is contingent on the completion of the other, so it is possible that this offering occurs and the Concurrent Convertible Notes Offering does not occur, and vice versa. We cannot assure you that the Concurrent Convertible Notes Offering will be completed on the terms described herein, or at all. This prospectus supplement is not an offer to sell or a solicitation of an offer to buy any securities being offered in the Concurrent Convertible Notes Offering. See “*Description of Concurrent Convertible Notes Offering*” for a summary of the terms of the notes and a further description of the Concurrent Convertible Notes Offering.

Corporate History and Information

Cerevel Therapeutics, Inc. was formed as a Delaware corporation in July 2018. ARYA Sciences Acquisition Corp II was incorporated in February 2020 as a Cayman Islands exempted company formed for the purpose of effecting a merger, share exchange, asset acquisition, share purchase, reorganization or similar business combination with one or more businesses.

On October 27, 2020, ARYA Sciences Acquisition Corp II completed the acquisition of Cerevel Therapeutics, Inc. pursuant to a business combination agreement dated July 29, 2020, as amended on October 2, 2020 (the “Business Combination Agreement”). Upon closing of the transactions contemplated by the Business Combination Agreement, Cerevel Therapeutics, Inc. became a wholly owned subsidiary of ARYA Sciences Acquisition Corp II and ARYA Sciences Acquisition Corp II was renamed Cerevel Therapeutics Holdings, Inc.

The mailing address for our principal executive office is 222 Jacobs Street, Suite 200, Cambridge, MA 02141, and our telephone number is (844) 304-2048. Our website address is <http://www.cerevel.com>. The information contained in or accessible from our website is not incorporated into this prospectus supplement, and you should not consider it part of this prospectus supplement. We have included our website address in this prospectus supplement solely as an inactive textual reference.

Our Annual Reports on Form 10-K, Quarterly Reports on Form 10-Q and Current Reports on Form 8-K and amendments to those reports filed or furnished pursuant to Section 13(a) or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the “Exchange Act”) are available, free of charge, on or through our website as soon as reasonably practicable after such reports and amendments are electronically filed with or furnished to the SEC. The SEC maintains an Internet site that contains reports, proxy and information statements and other information regarding our filings at www.sec.gov.

For additional information about our Company, please refer to other documents we have filed with the SEC and that are incorporated by reference into this prospectus supplement, as listed under the headings “*Where You Can Find More Information*” and “*Incorporation of Certain Information by Reference*.”

THE OFFERING

The following summary contains basic information about this offering. The summary is not intended to be complete. You should read the full text and more specific details contained elsewhere in this prospectus supplement.

| | |
|---|---|
| Common Stock Offered by Us | shares |
| Common Stock to be Outstanding Immediately after This Offering⁽¹⁾ | shares (or additional shares in full) shares if the underwriters exercise their option to purchase |
| Option to Purchase Additional Shares of Common Stock | We have granted to the underwriters an option, exercisable for 30 days from the date of this prospectus supplement, to purchase up to additional shares of our common stock at the public offering price listed on the cover page of this prospectus supplement, less underwriting discounts and commissions. |
| Use of Proceeds | <p>We estimate that the net proceeds to us in this offering will be approximately \$ million (or approximately \$ million if the underwriters exercise their option to purchase additional shares in full), after deducting underwriting discounts and commissions and estimated offering expenses payable by us.</p> <p>In addition, we estimate that the net proceeds to us from the Concurrent Convertible Notes Offering (as described below under “—Concurrent Convertible Notes Offering”), after deducting the initial purchasers’ discounts and estimated offering expenses payable by us, will be approximately \$ million (or approximately \$ million if the initial purchasers in the Concurrent Convertible Notes Offering exercise in full their option to purchase additional notes).</p> <p>We intend to use the net proceeds from this offering and, if consummated, the Concurrent Convertible Notes Offering: (i) to support the continued development of emraclidine, including to accelerate registration-enabling activities; (ii) to evaluate the potential of emraclidine in other populations, including Alzheimer’s disease psychosis; (iii) to accelerate market development and pre-commercial planning activities for emraclidine and tavapadon; (iv) to advance the remainder of the programs in our pipeline, including darigabat, and our other promising earlier-stage programs, including CVL-354, our selective KORA; and (v) for working capital and other general corporate purposes, including to extend our cash runway. These intentions are subject to change. See “Use of Proceeds” for additional information.</p> |

Concurrent Convertible Notes Offering

Concurrently with this offering of shares of common stock, we are offering the notes in the aggregate principal amount of \$ million (or \$ million if the initial purchasers of such offering exercise in full their option to purchase additional notes) to QIBs, pursuant to a separate offering memorandum in the Concurrent Convertible Notes Offering.

Subject to satisfaction of certain conditions and during certain periods, the notes may be converted at an initial conversion rate of shares of common stock per \$1,000 principal amount of notes (equivalent to an initial conversion price of approximately \$ per share of common stock). The conversion rate is subject to adjustment if certain events occur.

Neither the completion of this offering nor of the Concurrent Convertible Notes Offering is contingent on the completion of the other, so it is possible that this offering occurs and the Concurrent Convertible Notes Offering does not occur, and vice versa. We cannot assure you that the Concurrent Convertible Notes Offering will be completed on the terms described herein, or at all.

This prospectus supplement is not an offer to sell or a solicitation of an offer to buy any securities being offered in the Concurrent Convertible Notes Offering. We cannot assure you that the Concurrent Convertible Notes Offering will be completed on the terms described herein, or at all. See “*Description of Concurrent Convertible Notes Offering*” for a summary of the terms of the notes and a further description of the Concurrent Convertible Notes Offering.

Risk Factors

See “*Risk Factors*” beginning on page S-7 for a discussion of factors you should consider carefully before deciding to invest in our common stock.

The Nasdaq Capital Market Symbol for our Common Stock

CERE.

- (1) Unless otherwise indicated, the number of shares of our common stock outstanding before and after this offering is based on 148,395,282 shares of common stock outstanding as June 30, 2022, and excludes:
- 17,942,895 shares of our common stock issuable upon exercise of options outstanding as of June 30, 2022, with a weighted-average exercise price of approximately \$13.01 per share;
 - 18,932 shares of our common stock issuable upon the vesting of restricted stock units outstanding as of June 30, 2022;
 - 14,867,698 shares of our common stock available for future issuance as of June 30, 2022 under our 2020 Equity Incentive Plan;
 - 4,289,242 shares of our common stock available for future issuance as of June 30, 2022 under our Amended and Restated 2020 Employee Stock Purchase Plan; and
 - any shares of our common stock issuable upon the conversion of the notes offered in the Concurrent Convertible Notes Offering.

RISK FACTORS

An investment in our common stock involves significant risks. Prior to making a decision about investing in our common stock, and in consultation with your own financial and legal advisors, you should carefully consider, among other matters, the following risk factors, as well as those incorporated by reference in this prospectus supplement from our 2021 10-K, our First Quarter 10-Q and our Second Quarter 10-Q under the heading “Risk Factors.” Any of these risks could have a material adverse effect on our business, operating results and financial condition, which could cause you to lose all or part of your investment. Additional risks and uncertainties not currently known to us or that we currently deem immaterial also may affect our business and operations. As such, you should not consider this list to be a complete statement of all potential risks or uncertainties.

Risks Related to the Offering

If you purchase our common stock in this offering, you will incur immediate and substantial dilution in the book value of your shares.

You will suffer immediate and substantial dilution in the net tangible book value of the common stock you purchase in this offering. Based on the public offering price of \$ _____ per share, purchasers of common stock in this offering will experience immediate dilution of \$ _____ per share in net tangible book value of the common stock. In the past, we issued options to acquire common stock at prices significantly below the public offering price. To the extent these outstanding options are ultimately exercised, investors purchasing common stock in this offering will sustain further dilution. See “Dilution” for a more detailed description of the dilution to new investors in the offering.

Because management has broad discretion as to the use of the net proceeds from this offering and, if consummated, the Concurrent Convertible Notes Offering, you may not agree with how we use them, and such proceeds may not be applied successfully.

Our management will have broad discretion over the use of the net proceeds from this offering and, if consummated, the Concurrent Convertible Notes Offering, including for any of the purposes described in “Use of Proceeds,” and you will not have the opportunity as part of your investment decision to assess whether such proceeds are being used appropriately. Because of the number and variability of factors that will determine our use of the net proceeds from this offering and, if consummated, the Concurrent Convertible Notes Offering, their ultimate use may vary substantially from their currently intended use. Our management might not apply the net proceeds from this offering and, if consummated, the Concurrent Convertible Notes Offering in ways that ultimately increase the value of your investment. The failure by our management to apply these funds effectively could harm our business. If we do not invest or apply the net proceeds from this offering and, if consummated, the Concurrent Convertible Notes Offering in ways that enhance stockholder value, we may fail to achieve expected financial results, which could cause our stock price and the trading price of the notes to decline.

Concurrent or future sales of a substantial number of shares of our common stock or equity-linked securities in the public market could lower the market price for our common stock.

Concurrently with this offering, we are offering the notes in the aggregate principal amount of \$ _____ million (or \$ _____ million if the initial purchasers of such offering exercise in full their option to purchase additional notes) to QIBs, pursuant to a separate offering memorandum in the Concurrent Convertible Notes Offering. In the future, we may sell additional shares of our common stock or equity-linked securities to raise capital.

If our existing stockholders sell, or indicate an intention to sell, substantial amounts of our common stock in the public market, the market price of our common stock could decline. Holders of a significant portion of our common stock have rights, subject to specified conditions, to require us to file registration statements covering

[Table of Contents](#)

their shares or to include their shares in registration statements that we may file for ourselves or other stockholders. In addition, a substantial number of shares of our common stock are reserved for issuance upon the exercise of stock options, settlement of other equity incentive awards and upon conversion of the notes. We have registered all shares of common stock that we may currently issue under our equity compensation plans. These shares can be freely sold in the public market upon issuance, subject to volume, notice and manner of sale limitations applicable to affiliates.

Other than any shares held by our directors and officers, and certain existing stockholders, all of the outstanding shares are currently freely tradable, and the shares to be sold in this offering, plus any shares sold upon exercise of the underwriters' option to purchase additional shares, will be freely tradable, without restriction, in the public market immediately following this offering, unless these shares are owned or purchased by "affiliates" as that term is defined in Rule 144 under the Securities Act. The underwriters, however, may, in their discretion, permit our executive officers, directors and certain stockholders who are subject to lock-up agreements to sell shares prior to the expiration of the respective lock-up agreements. Exceptions to the lock-up restrictions are described in more detail in this prospectus supplement under the caption "*Underwriters.*" *Any sales of securities by these stockholders could have a material adverse effect on the trading price of our common stock.*

The indenture for the notes offered in the Concurrent Convertible Notes Offering will not restrict our ability to issue additional shares of our common stock or equity-linked securities in the future. We cannot predict the size of future issuances or the effect, if any, that they may have on the market price for our common stock. The issuance and sale of substantial amounts of common stock or equity-linked securities, or the perception that such issuances and sales may occur, could adversely affect the trading price of the notes offered hereby and the market price of our common stock and impair our ability to raise capital through the sale of additional shares of our common stock or equity-linked securities.

In connection with the filing of our registration statement on Form S-3, we entered into an Open Market Sale AgreementSM with Jefferies LLC, as sales agent, pursuant to which, from time to time, we may offer and sell shares of our common stock with an aggregate offering price of up to \$250.0 million under an "at-the-market" offering program. As of the date of this prospectus supplement, we have common stock that we may issue and sell for gross proceeds of up to \$250.0 million that remain available under our "at the market offering" program. To the extent that we sell shares of our common stock pursuant to our "at the market offering" program, investors purchasing shares of common stock in this offering could experience further dilution.

In addition, certain of our employees, executive officers and directors have entered or may enter into Rule 10b5-1 trading plans providing for sales of shares of our common stock from time to time. Under a Rule 10b5-1 trading plan, a broker executes trades pursuant to parameters established by the employee, director, or officer when entering into the plan, without further direction from the employee, officer, or director. A Rule 10b5-1 trading plan may be amended or terminated in some circumstances. Our employees, executive officers and directors also may buy or sell additional shares outside of a Rule 10b5-1 trading plan when they are not in possession of material, nonpublic information, subject to the expiration of the lock-up agreements, if applicable, described in "*Underwriters.*"

In particular, during the lock-up period, sales of shares of common stock held by our executive officers and directors permitted under Rule 10b5-1 trading plans that have been entered into prior to the date of this prospectus supplement are considered exceptions to the restrictions set forth in the lock-up agreements. Furthermore, the lock-up agreements also include other exceptions for shares sold by our executive officers, directors and certain stockholders that are entering into lock-up agreements in connection with this offering. Such sales of shares into the market, including during the lock-up period, could adversely affect the market price of shares of our common stock. See "*Underwriters.*"

Risks Related to Our Concurrent Convertible Notes Offering

This offering is not contingent on the consummation of any other financing, including the Concurrent Convertible Notes Offering.

We currently intend to use the net proceeds of this offering, together with the proceeds from the Concurrent Convertible Notes Offering, as described in “Use of Proceeds” herein. However, neither the completion of this offering nor of the Concurrent Convertible Notes Offering is contingent on the completion of the other, so it is possible that this offering occurs and the Concurrent Convertible Notes Offering does not occur, and vice versa. This prospectus supplement is not an offer to sell or a solicitation of an offer to buy any securities being offered in the Concurrent Convertible Notes Offering. We cannot assure you that the Concurrent Convertible Notes Offering will be completed on the terms described herein, or at all.

Conversion of the notes will dilute the ownership interest of our existing stockholders or may otherwise depress the price of our common stock.

The conversion of some or all of the notes will dilute the ownership interests of existing stockholders. Any sales in the public market of our common stock issuable upon such conversion could adversely affect prevailing market prices of our common stock. In addition, the existence of the notes may encourage sales of our common stock by investors who view the notes as a more attractive means of equity participation in us and/or short selling of our common stock pursuant to hedging or arbitrage activity that we expect many investors in the notes to employ. In addition, anticipated conversion of the notes into shares of our common stock could depress the price of our common stock.

Our indebtedness and liabilities could limit the cash flow available for our operations, expose us to risks that could adversely affect our business, financial condition and results of operations and impair our ability to satisfy our obligations under the notes.

As of June 30, 2022, Cerevel Therapeutics Holdings, Inc. had no indebtedness and our subsidiaries had \$143.8 million of liabilities, including accounts payable, but excluding intercompany liabilities, \$54.4 million of which consisted of secured financing liabilities under separate funding agreements that we entered into with NovaQuest Co-Investment Fund XVI, L.P. (“NovaQuest”) and BC Pinnacle Holdings, LP (“Bain”) (together, the “Funding Agreements”). See Notes 5 and 6 to our Second Quarter 10-Q for a discussion of how we calculate such financing liabilities, which can change significantly as a result of changes in one or multiple inputs, including additional funding received, adjustments to discount rates, changes in the expected achievement or timing of any regulatory milestone, sales-based milestone or royalty-based payments, changes in the amount or timing of expected net cash flows, changes in the probability of certain clinical events and changes in the assumed probability associated with regulatory approval of tavapadon by the FDA. We will incur \$ million (or, if the initial purchasers exercise in full their option to purchase additional notes, \$ million) principal amount of additional indebtedness as a result of the Concurrent Convertible Notes Offering, if consummated. We may also incur additional indebtedness (including financial liabilities) to meet future financing needs. Our indebtedness could have significant negative consequences for our stockholders and our business, results of operations and financial condition by, among other things:

- increasing our vulnerability to adverse economic and industry conditions;
- limiting our ability to obtain additional financing on acceptable terms or at all;
- requiring the dedication of a substantial portion of our cash flow from operations to service our indebtedness, which will reduce the amount of cash available for other purposes;
- limiting our flexibility to plan for, or react to, changes in our business;
- diluting the interests of our existing stockholders as a result of issuing shares of our common stock upon conversion of the notes; and

[Table of Contents](#)

- placing us at a possible competitive disadvantage with competitors that are less leveraged than we or have better access to capital.

Our business may not generate sufficient funds, and we may otherwise be unable to maintain sufficient cash reserves, to pay amounts due under our indebtedness, including the notes, and our cash needs may increase in the future. In addition, any future indebtedness that we may incur may contain financial and other restrictive covenants that limit our ability to operate our business, raise capital or make payments under any then-existing indebtedness. If we fail to comply with these covenants or to make payments under any then-existing indebtedness when due, then we would be in default under that indebtedness, which could, in turn, result in that and any then-existing other indebtedness becoming immediately payable in full.

We may be unable to raise the funds necessary to repurchase the notes offered in the Concurrent Convertible Notes Offering for cash following a fundamental change or to pay any cash amounts due upon conversion, and any other then-existing indebtedness may limit our ability to repurchase the notes or pay cash upon their conversion.

Holders of the notes offered in the Concurrent Convertible Notes Offering may, subject to a limited exception described in the offering memorandum, require us to repurchase their notes following a fundamental change at a cash repurchase price generally equal to the principal amount of the notes to be repurchased, plus accrued and unpaid interest, if any to, but excluding, the fundamental change repurchase date. In addition, upon conversion, we will satisfy part or all of our conversion obligation in cash unless we elect to settle conversions solely in shares of our common stock. We may not have enough available cash or be able to obtain financing at the time we are required to repurchase the notes or pay any cash amounts due upon conversion. In addition, applicable law, regulatory authorities and the agreements governing any other indebtedness may restrict our ability to repurchase the notes or pay any cash amounts due upon conversion. Our failure to repurchase notes or pay any cash amounts due upon conversion when required will constitute a default under the indenture governing the notes offered in the Concurrent Convertible Notes Offering. A default under the indenture or the fundamental change itself could also lead to a default under agreements governing any other indebtedness, which may result in that other indebtedness becoming immediately payable in full. We may not have sufficient funds to satisfy all amounts due under any other indebtedness and the notes.

We and our subsidiaries may incur substantially more debt or take other actions which would intensify the risks discussed above.

We and our subsidiaries may be able to incur substantial additional debt in the future, subject to the restrictions contained in our debt instruments, some of which may be secured debt or other secured obligations. We will not be restricted under the terms of the indenture governing the notes offered in the Concurrent Convertible Notes Offering from incurring additional debt, securing then-existing or future debt, recapitalizing our debt or taking a number of other actions that are not limited by the terms of the indenture governing the notes offered in the Concurrent Convertible Notes Offering that could have the effect of diminishing our ability to make payments on our indebtedness when due.

Provisions in the indenture for the notes offered in the Concurrent Convertible Notes Offering may deter or prevent a business combination that may be favorable to you.

If a fundamental change occurs prior to the maturity date, holders of the notes offered in the Concurrent Convertible Notes Offering will have the right, at their option, to require us to repurchase all or a portion of their notes. In addition, if a make-whole fundamental change occurs prior the maturity date, we will in some cases be required to increase the conversion rate for a holder that elects to convert its notes in connection with such make-whole fundamental change. Furthermore, the indenture for the notes will prohibit us from engaging in certain mergers or acquisitions unless, among other things, the surviving entity assumes our obligations under the notes. These and other provisions in the indenture could deter or prevent a third party from acquiring us even when the acquisition may be favorable to you.

[Table of Contents](#)

The accounting method for convertible debt securities that may be settled in cash, such as the notes, could adversely affect our reported financial condition and results.

The accounting method for reflecting the notes offered in the Concurrent Convertible Notes Offering on our consolidated balance sheet, accruing interest expense for the notes and reflecting the underlying shares of our common stock in our reported diluted earnings per share may adversely affect our reported earnings and financial condition.

In August 2020, the Financial Accounting Standards Board published an Accounting Standards Update, which we refer to as ASU 2020-06, which simplified certain of the accounting standards that apply to convertible notes. ASU 2020-06 eliminated the cash conversion and beneficial conversion feature models used to separately account for embedded conversion features as a component of equity. Instead, the entity would account for the convertible debt or convertible preferred stock securities as a single unit of account, unless the conversion feature requires bifurcation and recognition as derivatives. Additionally, the guidance requires entities to use the if-converted method for all convertible instruments in the diluted earnings per share calculation and to include the effect of potential share settlement for instruments that may be settled in cash or shares. ASU 2020-06 became effective for us beginning on January 1, 2022.

In accordance with ASU 2020-06 and subject to our full accounting assessment, which is not complete as of the date of this prospectus supplement, we expect that the notes will be reflected as a liability on our consolidated balance sheets, with the initial carrying amount equal to the principal amount of the notes, net of issuance costs. The issuance costs will be treated as a debt discount for accounting purposes, which will be amortized into interest expense over the term of the notes. As a result of this amortization, the interest expense that we expect to recognize for the notes for accounting purposes will be greater than the cash interest payments we will pay on the notes, which will result in lower reported income.

In addition, we expect that the shares of common stock underlying the notes will be reflected in our diluted earnings per share using the “if converted” method, in accordance with ASU 2020-06. Under that method, diluted earnings per share would generally be calculated assuming that all the notes were converted solely into shares of common stock at the beginning of the reporting period, unless the result would be anti-dilutive. The application of the if-converted method may reduce our reported diluted earnings per share to the extent we are profitable in the future, and accounting standards may change in the future in a manner that may adversely affect our diluted earnings per share.

Furthermore, if any of the conditions to the convertibility of the notes is satisfied, then we may be required under applicable accounting standards to reclassify the liability carrying value of the notes as a current, rather than a long-term, liability. This reclassification could be required even if no noteholders convert their notes and could materially reduce our reported working capital.

The foregoing information reflects our current expectations regarding the accounting method for the notes offered in the Concurrent Convertible Notes Offering and is subject to change. See “*Cautionary Note Regarding Forward-Looking Statements*”. Our independent registered public accounting firm has not conducted a review and does not express an opinion or any other form of assurance with respect to these expectations.

CAUTIONARY NOTE REGARDING FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS

Certain statements in this prospectus supplement, including the documents incorporated by reference in this prospectus supplement, may constitute “forward-looking statements” for purposes of the federal securities laws. Our forward-looking statements include, but are not limited to, statements regarding our or our management team’s expectations, hopes, beliefs, intentions or strategies regarding the future. In addition, any statements that refer to projections, forecasts or other characterizations of future events or circumstances, including any underlying assumptions, are forward-looking statements. The words “anticipate,” “believe,” “contemplate,” “continue,” “could,” “estimate,” “expect,” “intends,” “may,” “might,” “plan,” “possible,” “potential,” “predict,” “project,” “should,” “will,” “would” and similar expressions may identify forward-looking statements, but the absence of these words does not mean that a statement is not forward-looking. Forward-looking statements in this prospectus supplement may include, for example, statements about:

- the format, likelihood of success, cost and timing of our clinical trials and other product development activities, including the design of clinical trials and preclinical studies, the timing of initiation and completion of clinical trials and related preparatory work, our ability to collect and interpret clinical trial data and the timing and outcome of regulatory interactions;
- our ability to recruit and enroll suitable patients in our clinical trials;
- the potential attributes and benefits of our product candidates;
- our ability to obtain and maintain regulatory approval for our product candidates, and any related restrictions, limitations or warnings in the label of an approved product candidate;
- our ability to obtain funding for our operations, including funding necessary to complete further development, approval and, if approved, commercialization of our product candidates;
- the period over which we anticipate our available financial resources will enable us to fund our operating expense and capital expenditure requirements;
- the potential for our business development efforts to maximize the potential value of our portfolio;
- our ability to identify, in-license or acquire additional product candidates;
- our ability to maintain our license agreement with Pfizer;
- our ability to compete with other companies currently marketing or engaged in the development of treatments for the indications that we are pursuing for our product candidates;
- our ability to obtain and maintain intellectual property protection for our product candidates and the duration of such protection;
- our ability to contract with and rely on third parties to assist in conducting our clinical trials and manufacturing our product candidates;
- the size and growth potential of the markets for our product candidates, and our ability to serve those markets, either alone or in partnership with others;
- the rate and degree of market acceptance of our product candidates, if approved;
- the pricing and reimbursement of our product candidates, if approved;
- regulatory developments in the United States and foreign countries;
- the impact of laws, regulations, accounting standards, regulatory requirements, judicial decisions and guidance issued by authoritative bodies;
- our ability to attract and retain key scientific, medical, commercial or management personnel;
- our estimates regarding expenses, future revenue, capital requirements and cash holdings, and needs for additional financing;

[Table of Contents](#)

- our future financial performance;
- the ability to recognize the anticipated benefits of the tavapadon financing transaction (including our ability to receive future payments thereunder) and other financing and business development transactions;
- the effect of the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, including as a result of the emergence of new variants, on the foregoing;
- our expectations regarding the accounting method for the notes issued in the Concurrent Convertible Notes Offering; and
- our anticipated use of net proceeds from this offering and, if consummated, the Concurrent Convertible Notes Offering.

The forward-looking statements in this prospectus supplement, including the documents incorporated by reference herein, are based on current expectations and beliefs concerning future developments and their potential effects on us. There can be no assurance that future developments affecting us will be those that we have anticipated. These forward-looking statements involve a number of risks, uncertainties (some of which are beyond our control) or other assumptions that may cause actual results or performance to be materially different from those expressed or implied by these forward-looking statements. These risks and uncertainties include, but are not limited to, those factors described under “*Risk Factors*” in this prospectus supplement, in the documents incorporated by reference in this prospectus supplement and in the accompanying base prospectus. Should one or more of these risks or uncertainties materialize, or should any of our assumptions prove incorrect, actual results may vary in material respects from those projected in these forward-looking statements. Some of these risks and uncertainties may in the future be amplified by the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, including as a result of the emergence of new variants, and there may be additional risks that we consider immaterial, or which are unknown. It is not possible to predict or identify all such risks. We do not undertake any obligation to update or revise any forward-looking statements, whether as a result of new information, future events or otherwise, except as may be required under applicable securities laws.

You should read this prospectus supplement, including the documents incorporated by reference herein, completely and with the understanding that our actual future results may be materially different from what we expect. We qualify all of our forward-looking statements by these cautionary statements.

USE OF PROCEEDS

We estimate that the net proceeds to us in this offering will be approximately \$ million (or approximately \$ million if the underwriters exercise in full their option to purchase additional shares), after deducting underwriting discounts and commissions and estimated offering expenses payable by us.

In addition, concurrently with this offering of shares of common stock, we are offering the notes in the aggregate principal amount of \$ million (or \$ million if the initial purchasers of such offering exercise in full their option to purchase additional notes) to QIBs, pursuant to a separate offering memorandum in the Concurrent Convertible Notes Offering. We estimate that the net proceeds to us from the Concurrent Convertible Notes Offering, if consummated, after deducting the initial purchasers' discounts and estimated offering expenses payable by us, will be approximately \$ million (or approximately \$ million if the initial purchasers in the Concurrent Convertible Notes Offering exercise in full their option to purchase additional notes).

We intend to use the net proceeds from this offering and, if consummated, the Concurrent Convertible Notes Offering:

- to support the continued development of emraclidine, our M4 PAM for the treatment of schizophrenia, including to accelerate registration-enabling activities;
- to evaluate the potential of emraclidine in other populations, including Alzheimer's disease psychosis;
- to accelerate market development and pre-commercial planning activities for emraclidine and tavapadon, our selective D1/D5 partial agonist for the treatment of Parkinson's disease;
- to advance the remainder of the programs in our pipeline, including darigabat, our GABA_A alpha-2/3/5-selective PAM for the treatment of panic disorder and epilepsy, and our other promising earlier-stage programs, including CVL-354, our selective KORA for the treatment of major depressive disorder and substance use disorder; and
- for working capital and other general corporate purposes, including to extend our cash runway.

These intentions are subject to change. We cannot predict with certainty all of the particular uses for the net proceeds or the amounts that we will actually spend on the uses set forth above. The amounts and timing of our actual expenditures may vary significantly depending on numerous factors, including the progress of our research and development efforts, the status of and results from clinical trials we may commence in the future, as well as any collaborations that we may enter into with third parties for our product candidates or strategic opportunities that become available to us, and any unforeseen cash needs. Accordingly, we will have broad discretion over the uses of the net proceeds from this offering and, if consummated, the Concurrent Convertible Notes Offering.

Pending our use of the proceeds as described above, we intend to invest the proceeds in cash, cash equivalents and marketable securities in a manner that permits us to maintain our exemption from registration under the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended.

Neither the completion of this offering nor the Concurrent Convertible Notes Offering is contingent on the completion of the other, so it is possible that this offering occurs and the Concurrent Convertible Notes Offering does not occur, and vice versa. We cannot assure you that the Concurrent Convertible Notes Offering will be completed on the terms described herein, or at all. The Concurrent Convertible Notes Offering is being made pursuant to a separate offering memorandum, and nothing contained herein shall constitute an offer to sell or the solicitation of an offer to buy the notes to be issued in the Concurrent Convertible Notes Offering.

CAPITALIZATION

The following table sets forth our cash, cash equivalents and marketable securities and capitalization as of June 30, 2022, as follows:

- on an actual basis;
- on an as adjusted basis to give effect to the issuance and sale of _____ shares in this offering (assuming the underwriters do not exercise their option to purchase additional shares of common stock) at the public offering price of \$ _____ per share, after deducting underwriting discounts and commissions and estimated offering expenses payable by us and assuming the net proceeds are held as cash, cash equivalents or marketable securities; and
- on a further as adjusted basis to give effect to the issuance and sale of the notes in the Concurrent Convertible Notes Offering (assuming the initial purchasers in the Concurrent Convertible Notes Offering do not exercise their option to purchase additional notes), after deducting the initial purchasers' discounts and estimated offering expenses payable by us and assuming the net proceeds are held as cash, cash equivalents or marketable securities.

Neither the completion of this offering nor the Concurrent Convertible Notes Offering is contingent on the completion of the other, so it is possible that this offering occurs and the Concurrent Convertible Notes Offering does not occur, and vice versa. We cannot assure you that the Concurrent Convertible Notes Offering will be completed on the terms described herein, or at all. The Concurrent Convertible Notes Offering is being made pursuant to a separate offering memorandum, and nothing contained herein shall constitute an offer to sell or the solicitation of an offer to buy the notes in the Concurrent Convertible Notes Offering. You should read the following information in conjunction with "Use of Proceeds" included in this prospectus supplement and "Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations" and our consolidated financial statements and related notes in our First Quarter 10-Q and our Second Quarter 10-Q, which are incorporated by reference into this prospectus supplement.

| | As of June 30, 2022 (in thousands, other than par value and share numbers) | | |
|---|--|-------------|--|
| | Actual | As Adjusted | As Further Adjusted for the Concurrent Convertible Notes Offering ⁽²⁾ |
| Cash, cash equivalents and marketable securities | \$ 531,208 | | |
| Long-term indebtedness: | | | |
| Financing liability, related party ⁽¹⁾ | \$ 27,205 | | |
| Financing liability ⁽¹⁾ | 27,205 | | |
| Notes offered in the Concurrent Convertible Notes Offering ⁽²⁾ | — | | |
| Total long-term indebtedness | 54,410 | | |
| Stockholders' equity: | | | |
| Preferred stock, \$0.0001 par value; 10,000,000 shares authorized, no shares issued and outstanding, actual, as adjusted and as further adjusted | — | | |
| Common stock, \$0.0001 par value; 500,000,000 shares authorized, actual, as adjusted and as further adjusted; 148,395,282 shares issued and outstanding, actual, _____ shares issued and outstanding, as adjusted and as further adjusted | 15 | | |
| Additional paid-in capital | 1,219,820 | | |
| Accumulated other comprehensive income (loss) | 7,988 | | |
| Accumulated deficit | (775,009) | | |
| Total stockholders' equity | 452,814 | | |
| Total capitalization | \$ 507,224 | | |

- (1) On April 12, 2021, we entered into the Funding Agreements, pursuant to which NovaQuest and Bain have provided and are expected to provide further funding to support our development of tavapadon for the treatment of Parkinson’s disease. Under the terms of the Funding Agreements, we will receive up to \$62.5 million in funding from each of NovaQuest and Bain, for a combined total of up to \$125.0 million in funding, of which approximately \$31.1 million (net of \$0.2 million of fees incurred by Bain and NovaQuest) was received in April 2021, \$37.5 million was received in April 2022, and approximately \$31.3 million and \$25.0 million are expected to be received on the second and third anniversaries of the effective date of the Funding Agreements, respectively, subject to certain customary funding conditions (collectively, the “Total Funding Commitment”). In return, we agreed to pay to NovaQuest and Bain significant regulatory milestone, sales-based milestone and royalty-based payments upon approval of tavapadon by the FDA that collectively will not exceed \$531.3 million. In addition, we have the option to satisfy our payment obligations to NovaQuest and Bain upon the earlier of FDA approval or May 1, 2025, by paying an amount equal to the Total Funding Commitment multiplied by an initial factor of 3.00x. This factor will increase ratably over time up to a maximum of 4.25x, less amounts previously paid to NovaQuest and Bain. We determined that each Funding Agreement represents a financial instrument that is considered to be a debt host containing embedded redemption features due to certain contingencies related to repayment. We elected to account for the Funding Agreements in accordance with the fair value option as permitted under ASC 825, Financial Instruments. See Notes 5 and 6 to our Second Quarter 10-Q for a discussion of how we calculate the financing liabilities.
- (2) The amount shown in the table above for the notes offered in the Concurrent Convertible Notes Offering represents their aggregate principal amount. However, we expect that the initial liability carrying amount of the notes for accounting purposes will be recorded net of issuance costs, which will be treated as a debt discount for accounting purposes and amortized into interest expense over the term of the notes. See “Risk Factors—Risks Related to Our Concurrent Convertible Notes Offering—The accounting method for convertible debt securities that may be settled in cash, such as the notes, could adversely affect our reported financial condition and results.”

The outstanding share information set forth above is as of June 30, 2022, and, unless indicated otherwise, excludes:

- 17,942,895 shares of our common stock issuable upon exercise of options outstanding as of June 30, 2022, with a weighted-average exercise price of approximately \$13.01 per share;
- 18,932 shares of our common stock issuable upon the vesting of restricted stock units outstanding as of June 30, 2022;
- 14,867,698 shares of our common stock available for future issuance as of June 30, 2022 under our 2020 Equity Incentive Plan;
- 4,289,242 shares of our common stock available for future issuance as of June 30, 2022 under our Amended and Restated 2020 Employee Stock Purchase Plan; and
- any shares of our common stock issuable upon the conversion of the notes offered in the Concurrent Convertible Notes Offering.

DILUTION

If you invest in our common stock in this offering, your ownership interest will be diluted immediately to the extent of the difference between the public offering price per share of our common stock and the as adjusted net tangible book value per share of our common stock immediately after this offering. As of June 30, 2022, our historical net tangible book value was \$452.8 million, or \$3.05 per share. Our historical net tangible book value is the amount of our total tangible assets less our total liabilities. Historical net tangible book value per share represents historical net tangible book value divided by the 148,395,282 shares of our common stock outstanding as of June 30, 2022.

After giving effect to the sale of _____ shares of common stock in this offering at the public offering price of \$ _____ per share, and after deducting underwriting discounts and commissions and estimated offering expenses payable by us, our as adjusted net tangible book value as of June 30, 2022 would have been \$ _____, or \$ _____ per share. This represents a resulting increase in as adjusted net tangible book value of \$ _____ per share to our existing stockholders and an immediate dilution of \$ _____ per share to new investors in this offering.

The following table illustrates this dilution on a per share basis:

| | |
|---|------------------|
| Public offering price per share | \$ |
| Historical net tangible book value per share as of June 30, 2022 | \$3.05 |
| Increase in as adjusted net tangible book value per share attributable to this offering | <u>\$</u> |
| As adjusted net tangible book value per share after giving effect to this offering | |
| Dilution in as adjusted net tangible book value per share to new investors in this offering | <u><u>\$</u></u> |

If the underwriters exercise in full their option to purchase additional shares of our common stock, our as adjusted net tangible book value per share after this offering would be \$ _____, representing an immediate aggregate increase in as adjusted net tangible book value per share of \$ _____ to existing stockholders and immediate aggregate dilution in as adjusted net tangible book value per share of \$ _____ to new investors in this offering, based on a public offering price of \$ _____ per share and after deducting underwriting discounts and commissions and estimated offering expenses payable by us.

The above table and discussion are based on 148,395,282 shares of our common stock outstanding as June 30, 2022, and excludes:

- 17,942,895 shares of our common stock issuable upon exercise of options outstanding as of June 30, 2022, with a weighted-average exercise price of approximately \$13.01 per share;
- 18,932 shares of our common stock issuable upon the vesting of restricted stock units outstanding as of June 30, 2022;
- 14,867,698 shares of our common stock available for future issuance as of June 30, 2022 under our 2020 Equity Incentive Plan;
- 4,289,242 shares of our common stock available for future issuance as of June 30, 2022 under our Amended and Restated 2020 Employee Stock Purchase Plan; and
- any shares of our common stock issuable upon the conversion of the notes offered in the Concurrent Convertible Notes Offering.

[Table of Contents](#)

To the extent that outstanding options are exercised, new options or warrants are issued, or shares are issued under our equity incentive plans, you will experience further dilution. In addition, we may choose to raise additional capital due to market conditions or strategic considerations even if we believe we have sufficient funds for our current or future operating plans. To the extent that additional capital is raised through the sale of equity or convertible preferred or debt securities (including the notes offered in the Concurrent Convertible Notes Offering, to the extent we settle conversions thereof with shares of our common stock), the issuance of these securities may result in further dilution to our stockholders.

DESCRIPTION OF CAPITAL STOCK

The following description of our capital stock is a summary of certain provisions of our securities that are registered under Section 12 of the Exchange Act, and does not purport to be complete. It is subject to and qualified in its entirety by reference to our certificate of incorporation (the "Certificate of Incorporation") and our amended and restated bylaws (the "Bylaws"), each of which is incorporated by reference in this prospectus supplement, and by applicable law. This description also summarizes relevant provisions of the General Corporation Law of the State of Delaware (the "DGCL"). We encourage you to read our Certificate of Incorporation, our Bylaws and the applicable provisions of the DGCL for additional information.

Authorized Capital

The total amount of our authorized share capital consists of 500,000,000 shares of common stock, par value \$0.0001 per share, and 10,000,000 shares of preferred stock, par value \$0.0001 per share, all of which shares of preferred stock are undesignated.

Common Stock

Voting rights. Each holder of common stock is entitled to one (1) vote for each share of common stock held of record by such holder on all matters voted upon by our stockholders, provided, however, that, except as otherwise required in our Certificate of Incorporation or by applicable law, the holders of common stock are not entitled to vote on any amendment to our Certificate of Incorporation (or on any amendment to a certificate of designations of any series of preferred stock) that relates solely to the terms of one or more outstanding series of preferred stock if the holders of such affected series are entitled, either separately or together with the holders of one or more other such series, to vote thereon pursuant to our Certificate of Incorporation (including any certificate of designation relating to any series of preferred stock) or pursuant to the DGCL.

Dividend rights. Subject to any other provisions of our Certificate of Incorporation, as it may be amended from time to time, holders of shares of common stock will be entitled to receive ratably, in proportion to the number of shares of common stock held by them, such dividends and other distributions in cash, stock or property when, as and if declared thereon by our board of directors from time to time out of our assets or funds legally available therefor.

Rights upon liquidation. Subject to the rights of holders of preferred stock, in the event of any liquidation, dissolution or winding up of our affairs, whether voluntary or involuntary, after payment or provision for payment of our debts and any other payments required by law and amounts payable upon shares of preferred stock ranking senior to the shares of common stock upon such dissolution, liquidation or winding up, if any, our remaining net assets will be distributed to the holders of shares of common stock and the holders of shares of any other class or series ranking equally with the shares of common stock upon such dissolution, liquidation or winding up, equally on a per share basis.

Other rights. No holder of shares of common stock is entitled to preemptive or subscription rights contained in our Certificate of Incorporation or in our Bylaws. There are no redemption or sinking fund provisions applicable to the common stock. The rights, preferences and privileges of holders of the common stock will be subject to those of the holders of any shares of the preferred stock with preferential rights that we may issue in the future.

Preferred Stock

Our board of directors or any authorized committee thereof is expressly authorized has the authority to issue shares of preferred stock from time to time on terms it may determine, to divide shares of preferred stock into one or more series and to fix the designations, preferences, privileges, and restrictions of preferred stock,

[Table of Contents](#)

including dividend rights, conversion rights, voting rights, terms of redemption, liquidation preference, sinking fund terms, and the number of shares constituting any series or the designation of any series to the fullest extent permitted by the DGCL. The issuance of preferred stock could have the effect of decreasing the trading price of our common stock, restricting dividends on our capital stock, diluting the voting power of our common stock, impairing the liquidation rights of our capital stock or delaying or preventing a change in our control.

Election of Directors, Staggered Board and Vacancies

Subject to the rights of the holders of any series of preferred stock to elect additional directors under specified circumstances and the terms and conditions of an existing registration and shareholder rights agreement among us and certain of our stockholders (the “Registration and Shareholder Rights Agreement”), the number of directors of our board of directors shall be fixed solely and exclusively by resolution duly adopted from time to time by our board of directors.

Pursuant to our Certificate of Incorporation, our directors, other than those who may be elected by holders of any series of preferred stock, shall be divided, with respect to the term for which they severally hold office, into three classes, serving staggered three-year terms, with one class being elected each year. The classification of directors could have the effect of making it more difficult for stockholders to change the composition of our board of directors.

Under our Bylaws, at all meetings of stockholders called for the election of directors, in uncontested elections, a director nominee will be elected by the vote of a majority of the votes properly cast, which means that the number of shares voted “for” a director must exceed the number of votes cast “against” that director. In contested elections, where the number of nominees exceeds the number of directors to be elected, plurality voting will continue to apply.

Except as the DGCL or the Registration and Shareholder Rights Agreement may otherwise require and subject to the rights, if any, of the holders of any series of preferred stock, in the interim between annual meetings of stockholders or special meetings of stockholders called for the election of directors and/or the removal of one or more directors and the filling of any vacancy in that connection, newly created directorships and any vacancies on our board of directors, including unfilled vacancies resulting from the removal of directors, may be filled only by the affirmative vote of a majority of the remaining directors then in office, even if less than a quorum, or by the sole remaining director. All directors will hold office until the expiration of their respective terms of office and until their successors will have been elected and qualified, except that incumbent directors who fail to receive a majority of votes cast at a meeting of stockholders will not be elected and will be required to tender a letter of resignation to the Chairman of the Board. A director elected or appointed to fill a vacancy resulting from the death, resignation or removal of a director or a newly created directorship will serve for the remainder of the full term of the class of directors in which the new directorship was created or the vacancy occurred and until his or her successor will have been elected and qualified. Subject to the rights, if any, of the holders of any series of preferred stock, when the number of directors is increased or decreased, our board of directors shall, subject to applicable provisions of our Certificate of Incorporation, determine the class or classes to which the increased or decreased number of directors shall be apportioned. Subject to the rights, if any, of any series of preferred stock and the terms of the Registration and Shareholder Rights Agreement, and as except as otherwise required in connection with the election of directors at meetings of our stockholders pursuant to our Bylaws, any director may be removed from office only with cause and then only by the affirmative vote of the holders of not less than two-thirds of the outstanding voting stock then entitled to vote at an election of directors. Except as otherwise required in connection with the election of directors at meetings of our stockholders pursuant to our Bylaws, any such director proposed to be removed from office is entitled to advance written notice as described in our Certificate of Incorporation. Subject to the terms and conditions of the Registration and Shareholder Rights Agreement, in case our board of directors or any one or more directors should be so removed, new directors may be elected at the same time for the unexpired portion of the full term of the director or directors so removed.

[Table of Contents](#)

Notwithstanding the foregoing, any director elected pursuant to the right, if any, of the holders of preferred stock to elect additional directors under specified circumstances will serve for such term or terms and pursuant to such other provisions as specified in the relevant certificate of designations related to such preferred stock.

Quorum

The holders of a majority of the voting power of the capital stock issued and outstanding and entitled to vote thereat, present in person or represented by proxy, will constitute a quorum at all meetings of the stockholders for the transaction of business except as otherwise required by law or provided by our Certificate of Incorporation. If a quorum is not present or represented at any meeting of the stockholders, the holders of a majority of the voting power present in person or represented by proxy or the presiding officer, may adjourn the meeting from time to time, without notice other than announcement at the meeting, until a quorum will be present or represented. If the adjournment is for more than thirty (30) days, or if after the adjournment a new record date is fixed for the adjourned meeting, a notice of the adjourned meeting will be given to each stockholder entitled to vote at such adjourned meeting as of the record date fixed for notice of such adjourned meeting. At such adjourned meeting at which a quorum is present or represented, any business may be transacted which might have been transacted at the meeting as originally noticed.

Anti-Takeover Effects of Provisions of our Certificate of Incorporation and our Bylaws

Our Certificate of Incorporation and our Bylaws contain provisions that may delay, defer or discourage another party from acquiring control of us. We expect that these provisions, which are summarized below, will discourage coercive takeover practices or inadequate takeover bids. These provisions are also designed to encourage persons seeking to acquire control of us to first negotiate with our board of directors, which we believe may result in an improvement of the terms of any such acquisition in favor of our stockholders. However, they also give our board of directors the power to discourage acquisitions that some stockholders may favor.

Authorized but Unissued Capital Stock

Delaware law does not require stockholder approval for any issuance of authorized shares. However, the listing requirements of the Nasdaq Stock Market ("Nasdaq"), which would apply if and so long as our common stock remains listed on Nasdaq, require stockholder approval of certain issuances equal to or exceeding 20% of the then outstanding voting power or then outstanding number of shares of common stock.

One of the effects of the existence of unissued and unreserved common stock may be to enable our board of directors to issue shares to persons friendly to current management, which issuance could render more difficult or discourage an attempt to obtain control of us by means of a merger, tender offer, proxy contest or otherwise and thereby protect the continuity of management and possibly deprive stockholders of opportunities to sell their shares of common stock at prices higher than prevailing market prices.

Special Meeting, Action by Written Consent and Advance Notice Requirements for Stockholder Proposals

Unless otherwise required by law, and subject to the rights, if any, of the holders of any series of preferred stock, special meetings of our stockholders, for any purpose or purposes, may be called only by a majority of our board of directors. At any time when no annual meeting has been held for a period of thirteen (13) months after our last annual meeting, a special meeting in lieu thereof may be held, and such special meeting shall have, for the purposes of our Bylaws or otherwise, all the force and effect of an annual meeting. Business transacted at any special meeting of stockholders will be limited to the purposes stated in the notice.

Except as may otherwise be provided by or pursuant to our Certificate of Incorporation (or any certificate of designations of any series of preferred stock then outstanding) with respect to the holders of any series of preferred stock then outstanding, any action required or permitted to be taken by our stockholders at any annual or special meeting of stockholders must be effected at a duly called annual or special meeting of stockholders and may not be taken or effected by a written consent of stockholders in lieu thereof.

[Table of Contents](#)

In addition, our Bylaws require advance notice procedures for stockholder proposals to be brought before an annual meeting of the stockholders, including the nomination of directors. Stockholders at an annual meeting may only consider the proposals specified in the notice of meeting or brought before the meeting by or at the direction of the board of directors, or by a stockholder of record on the record date for the meeting, who is entitled to vote at the meeting and who has delivered a timely written notice in proper form to our secretary, of the stockholder's intention to bring such business before the meeting.

These provisions could have the effect of deterring or delaying stockholder actions, even if they are favored by the holders of a majority of our outstanding voting securities.

Amendment to Certificate of Incorporation and Bylaws

The DGCL provides generally that the affirmative vote of a majority of the outstanding stock entitled to vote on amendments to a corporation's certificate of incorporation or bylaws is required to approve such amendment, unless a corporation's certificate of incorporation or bylaws, as the case may be, requires a greater percentage.

Our Certificate of Incorporation provides that the following provisions therein may be amended, altered, repealed or rescinded only by the affirmative vote of the holders of at least 66-2/3% in voting power of all the then outstanding shares of our stock entitled to vote thereon and the affirmative vote of at least 66-2/3% of the outstanding shares of each class entitled to vote thereon as a class:

- the provisions regarding the size of our board of directors, the classification of our board of directors, and the election of directors pursuant to the Registration and Shareholder Rights Agreement;
- the provisions prohibiting stockholder actions without a meeting;
- the provisions regarding calling special meetings of stockholders;
- the provisions regarding removal of directors; or
- the provisions regarding the limited liability of our directors.

Our Bylaws may be amended or repealed (i) by the affirmative vote of a majority of the entire board of directors then in office (subject to any bylaw requiring the affirmative vote of a larger percentage of the members of our board of directors) or (ii) without the approval of the board of directors, by the affirmative vote of the holders of 66-2/3% of the outstanding voting stock entitled to vote on such amendment or repeal, voting as a single class, provided that if our board of directors recommends that stockholders approve such amendment or repeal at such meeting of stockholders, then such amendment or repeal shall only require the affirmative vote of the majority of the outstanding shares of capital stock entitled to vote on such amendment or repeal, voting as a single class.

Delaware Anti-Takeover Statute

Section 203 of the DGCL provides that if a person acquires 15% or more of the voting stock of a Delaware corporation, such person becomes an "interested stockholder" and may not engage in certain "business combinations" with the corporation for a period of three years from the time such person acquired 15% or more of the corporation's voting stock, unless:

- the board of directors approves the acquisition of stock or the merger transaction before the time that the person becomes an interested stockholder;
- the interested stockholder owns at least 85% of the outstanding voting stock of the corporation at the time the merger transaction commences (excluding voting stock owned by directors who are also officers and certain employee stock plans); or

[Table of Contents](#)

- the merger transaction is approved by the board of directors and at a meeting of stockholders, not by written consent, by the affirmative vote of 2/3 of the outstanding voting stock which is not owned by the interested stockholder. A Delaware corporation may elect in its certificate of incorporation or bylaws not to be governed by this particular Delaware law.

Under our Certificate of Incorporation, we opted out of Section 203 of the DGCL and therefore are not subject to Section 203. However, our Certificate of Incorporation contains similar provisions providing that we may not engage in certain “business combinations” with any “interested stockholder” for a three-year period following the time that the stockholder became an interested stockholder, unless:

- prior to such time, our board of directors approved either the business combination or the transaction which resulted in the stockholder becoming an interested stockholder;
- upon consummation of the transaction that resulted in the stockholder becoming an interested stockholder, the interested stockholder owned at least 85% of our voting stock outstanding at the time the transaction commenced, excluding certain shares; or
- at or subsequent to that time, the business combination is approved by our board of directors and by the affirmative vote of holders of at least 66-2/3% of the outstanding voting stock that is not owned by the interested stockholder.

Generally, a “business combination” includes a merger, asset or stock sale or other transaction resulting in a financial benefit to the interested stockholder. Subject to certain exceptions, an “interested stockholder” is a person who, together with that person’s affiliates and associates, owns, or within the previous three years owned, 15% or more of our voting stock.

Under certain circumstances, this provision will make it more difficult for a person who would be an “interested stockholder” to effect various business combinations with a corporation for a three-year period. This provision may encourage companies interested in acquiring our Company to negotiate in advance with our board of directors because the stockholder approval requirement would be avoided if our board of directors approves either the business combination or the transaction which results in the stockholder becoming an interested stockholder. These provisions also may have the effect of preventing changes in our board of directors and may make it more difficult to accomplish transactions which stockholders may otherwise deem to be in their best interests.

Our Certificate of Incorporation provides that (i) investment funds affiliated with Bain Capital Investors, LLC or Bain Capital Life Sciences Investors, LLC and their respective successors, transferees and affiliates, or (ii) any person whose ownership of shares in excess of the 15% limitation set forth therein is the result of any action taken solely by us (provided, that such person shall be an “interested stockholder” if thereafter such person acquires additional shares of our voting stock, except as a result of further corporate actions not caused by such person) do not constitute “interested stockholders” for purposes of this provision.

Limitations on Liability and Indemnification of Officers and Directors

Our Certificate of Incorporation limits the liability of our directors to the fullest extent permitted by the DGCL, and our Bylaws provide that we will indemnify them to the fullest extent permitted by such law. We have entered and expect to continue to enter into agreements to indemnify our directors, executive officers and other employees as determined by our board of directors. Under the terms of such indemnification agreements, we are required to indemnify each of our directors and officers, to the fullest extent permitted by the laws of the state of Delaware, if the basis of the indemnitee’s involvement was by reason of the fact that the indemnitee is or was a director or officer of us or any of our subsidiaries or was serving at our request in an official capacity for another entity. We must indemnify our officers and directors against all reasonable fees, expenses, charges and other costs of any type or nature whatsoever, including any and all expenses and obligations paid or incurred in

[Table of Contents](#)

connection with investigating, defending, being a witness in, participating in (including on appeal), or preparing to defend, be a witness or participate in any completed, actual, pending or threatened action, suit, claim or proceeding, whether civil, criminal, administrative or investigative, or establishing or enforcing a right to indemnification under the indemnification agreement. The indemnification agreements also require us, if so requested, to advance within ten (10) days of such request all reasonable fees, expenses, charges and other costs that such director or officer incurred, provided that such person will return any such advance if it is ultimately determined that such person is not entitled to indemnification by us. Any claims for indemnification by our directors and officers may reduce our available funds to satisfy successful third-party claims against us and may reduce the amount of money available to us.

Exclusive Jurisdiction of Certain Actions

Our Bylaws require, to the fullest extent permitted by law, unless we consent in writing to the selection of an alternative forum, that derivative actions brought in our name, actions against directors, officers and other employees for breach of fiduciary duty, actions asserting a claim arising pursuant to any provision of the DGCL or our Certificate of Incorporation or our Bylaws, actions to interpret, apply, enforce or determine the validity of our Certificate of Incorporation or our Bylaws and actions asserting a claim against us governed by the internal affairs doctrine may be brought only in the Court of Chancery of the State of Delaware and, if brought outside of Delaware, the stockholder bringing the suit will be deemed to have consented to service of process on such stockholder's counsel; provided, however, that the foregoing provisions will not apply to any claims arising under the Exchange Act or the Securities Act. Although we believe this provision benefits us by providing increased consistency in the application of Delaware law in the types of lawsuits to which it applies, the provision may have the effect of discouraging lawsuits against our directors and officers.

In addition, our Bylaws require that, unless we consent in writing to the selection of an alternative forum, the United States District Court for the District of Massachusetts shall be the sole and exclusive forum for resolving any action asserting a claim arising under the Securities Act. We have chosen the United States District Court for the District of Massachusetts as the exclusive forum for such Securities Act causes of action because our principal executive offices are located in Cambridge, Massachusetts.

Any person or entity purchasing or otherwise acquiring any interest in shares of our capital stock shall be deemed to have notice of, and consented to, the foregoing provisions.

The foregoing exclusive forum provisions would not apply to suits brought to enforce any liability or duty created by the Securities Act or the Exchange Act, or any other claim for which the federal courts have exclusive jurisdiction. To the extent that any such claims may be based upon federal law claims, Section 27 of the Exchange Act creates exclusive federal jurisdiction over all suits brought to enforce any duty or liability created by the Exchange Act or the rules and regulations thereunder. Furthermore, Section 22 of the Securities Act creates concurrent jurisdiction for federal and state courts over all suits brought to enforce any duty or liability created by the Securities Act or the rules and regulations thereunder. Although our Bylaws contain the choice of forum provision described above, it is possible that a court could rule that such a provision is inapplicable for a particular claim or action or that such provision is unenforceable.

Transfer Agent

The transfer agent for our common stock is Continental Stock Transfer & Trust Company.

Stock Exchange Listing

Our common stock is listed on The Nasdaq Capital Market under the symbol "CERE."

DESCRIPTION OF CONCURRENT CONVERTIBLE NOTES OFFERING

Concurrently with this offering of our common stock, we are offering % Convertible Senior Notes due 2027 in the aggregate principal amount of \$ million to QIBs, pursuant to a separate offering memorandum in the Concurrent Convertible Notes Offering. The closing of this offering of shares of our common stock is not contingent upon the closing of the Concurrent Convertible Notes Offering and the closing of the Concurrent Convertible Notes Offering is not contingent upon the closing of this offering of shares of our common stock. This prospectus supplement is not an offer to sell or a solicitation of an offer to buy any securities being offered in the Concurrent Convertible Notes Offering. We cannot assure you that the Concurrent Convertible Notes Offering will be completed on the terms described herein, or at all.

The notes will mature on August 15, 2027 unless earlier converted, redeemed or repurchased by us. The notes will bear interest at a rate of % per year, payable semiannually in arrears on February 15 and August 15 of each year, beginning on February 15, 2023. Subject to satisfaction of certain conditions and during certain periods, the notes may be converted at an initial conversion rate of shares of common stock per \$1,000 principal amount of notes (equivalent to an initial conversion price of approximately \$ per share of common stock). The conversion rate is subject to adjustment if certain events occur.

We will settle conversions by paying or delivering, as applicable, cash, shares of our common stock or a combination of cash and shares of our common stock, at our election, based on the applicable conversion rate(s). If we elect to deliver cash or a combination of cash and shares of our common stock, then the consideration due upon conversion will be determined over an observation period consisting of 50 consecutive “VWAP trading days” (as defined in the indenture governing the notes). The initial conversion rate is shares per \$1,000 principal amount of notes, which represents an initial conversion price of approximately \$ per share, and is subject to adjustment as described in the indenture governing the notes.

The notes will be redeemable, in whole or in part (subject to certain limitations described in the indenture governing the notes), at our option at any time, and from time to time, on or after August 20, 2025 and on or before the 50th scheduled trading day immediately before the maturity date, at a cash redemption price equal to the principal amount of the notes to be redeemed, plus accrued and unpaid interest, if any, to, but excluding, the redemption date, but only if certain liquidity conditions described in the indenture governing the notes are satisfied and the last reported sale price per share of our common stock exceeds 130% of the conversion price on (1) each of at least 20 trading days, whether or not consecutive, during the 30 consecutive trading days ending on, and including, the trading day immediately before the date we send the related redemption notice; and (2) the trading day immediately before the date we send such notice.

If a “fundamental change” (as defined in the indenture governing the notes) occurs, then, except as described in the indenture governing the notes, noteholders may require us to repurchase their notes at a cash repurchase price equal to the principal amount of the notes to be repurchased, plus accrued and unpaid interest, if any, to, but excluding, the fundamental change repurchase date. In connection with certain corporate events or in connection with a redemption, we will, under certain circumstances, increase the conversion rate for holders who elect to convert their notes in connection with such corporate event or convert their notes called for redemption.

MATERIAL U.S. FEDERAL INCOME TAX CONSEQUENCES

The following is a discussion of material U.S. federal income tax consequences of the acquisition, ownership and disposition of our shares of common stock. This discussion applies only to shares of common stock that are held as capital assets for U.S. federal income tax purposes (generally, property held for investment) and is applicable only to holders who are purchasing our shares of common stock in this offering.

This discussion is a summary only and does not describe all of the tax consequences that may be relevant to you in light of your particular circumstances, including but not limited to the alternative minimum tax, the Medicare contribution tax on certain net investment income and the different consequences (such as the effects of special tax accounting rules under Section 451(b) of the Code) that may apply if you are subject to special rules that apply to certain types of investors, including but not limited to:

- financial institutions or financial services entities;
- broker-dealers;
- governments or agencies or instrumentalities thereof;
- regulated investment companies;
- real estate investment trusts;
- expatriates or former long-term residents of the U.S.;
- persons that actually or constructively own five percent or more of our voting shares;
- insurance companies;
- dealers or traders subject to a mark-to-market method of accounting with respect to the common stock;
- persons holding the common stock as part of a “straddle,” hedge, integrated transaction or similar transaction and persons deemed to sell common stock under the constructive sale provisions of the Code;
- U.S. holders (as defined below) whose functional currency is not the U.S. dollar;
- “controlled foreign corporations,” “passive foreign investment companies” and corporations that accumulate earnings to avoid U.S. federal income tax;
- partnerships or other pass-through entities for U.S. federal income tax purposes and any beneficial owners of such entities; and
- tax-exempt entities.

This discussion is based on the Code, and administrative pronouncements, judicial decisions and final, temporary and proposed Treasury regulations as of the date hereof, which are subject to change, possibly on a retroactive basis, and changes to any of which subsequent to the date of this prospectus may affect the tax consequences described herein. This discussion does not address any aspect of state, local or non-U.S. taxation, or any U.S. federal taxes other than income taxes (such as gift and estate taxes).

We have not sought, and will not seek, a ruling from the U.S. Internal Revenue Service (the “IRS”) as to any U.S. federal income tax consequence described herein. The IRS may disagree with the discussion herein, and its determination may be upheld by a court. Moreover, there can be no assurance that future legislation, regulations, administrative rulings or court decisions will not adversely affect the accuracy of the statements in this discussion. You are urged to consult your tax advisor with respect to the application of U.S. federal tax laws to your particular situation, as well as any tax consequences arising under the laws of any state, local or foreign jurisdiction.

This discussion does not consider the tax treatment of partnerships or other pass-through entities or persons who hold our common stock through such entities. If a partnership (or other entity or arrangement classified as a

[Table of Contents](#)

partnership or other pass-through entity for U.S. federal income tax purposes) is the beneficial owner of our common stock, the U.S. federal income tax treatment of a partner or member in the partnership or other pass-through entity generally will depend on the status of the partner or member and the activities of the partnership or other pass-through entity. If you are a partner or member of a partnership or other pass-through entity holding our common stock, we urge you to consult your own tax advisor.

THIS DISCUSSION IS ONLY A SUMMARY OF CERTAIN U.S. FEDERAL INCOME TAX CONSIDERATIONS ASSOCIATED WITH THE ACQUISITION, OWNERSHIP AND DISPOSITION OF OUR COMMON STOCK. EACH PROSPECTIVE INVESTOR IN OUR COMMON STOCK IS URGED TO CONSULT ITS OWN TAX ADVISOR WITH RESPECT TO THE PARTICULAR TAX CONSEQUENCES TO SUCH INVESTOR OF THE ACQUISITION, OWNERSHIP AND DISPOSITION OF OUR COMMON STOCK, INCLUDING THE APPLICABILITY AND EFFECT OF ANY U.S. FEDERAL NON-INCOME, STATE, LOCAL, AND NON-U.S. TAX LAWS AND ANY APPLICABLE INCOME TAX TREATY.

U.S. Holders

This section applies to you if you are a “U.S. holder.” A U.S. holder is a beneficial owner of our shares of common stock who or that is, for U.S. federal income tax purposes:

- an individual who is a citizen or resident of the United States;
- a corporation (or other entity taxable as a corporation) organized in or under the laws of the United States, any state thereof or the District of Columbia;
- an estate the income of which is includible in gross income for U.S. federal income tax purposes regardless of its source; or
- a trust, if (i) a court within the United States is able to exercise primary supervision over the administration of the trust and one or more U.S. persons (as defined in the Code) have authority to control all substantial decisions of the trust or (ii) it has a valid election in effect under Treasury Regulations to be treated as a U.S. person.;

Taxation of Distributions. If we pay distributions in cash or other property (other than certain distributions of our stock or rights to acquire our stock) to U.S. holders of shares of our common stock, such distributions generally will constitute dividends for U.S. federal income tax purposes to the extent paid from our current or accumulated earnings and profits, as determined under U.S. federal income tax principles. Distributions in excess of current and accumulated earnings and profits will constitute a return of capital that will be applied against and reduce (but not below zero) the U.S. holder’s adjusted tax basis in our common stock. Any remaining excess will be treated as gain realized on the sale or other disposition of the common stock and will be treated as described under “—U.S. Holders—Gain or Loss on Sale, Taxable Exchange or Other Taxable Disposition of Common Stock” below.

Dividends we pay to a U.S. holder that is a taxable corporation generally will qualify for the dividends received deduction if the requisite holding period is satisfied. With certain exceptions (including, but not limited to, dividends treated as investment income for purposes of investment interest deduction limitations), and provided certain holding period requirements are met, dividends we pay to a non-corporate U.S. holder may constitute “qualified dividends” that will be subject to tax at the maximum tax rate accorded to long-term capital gains. If the holding period requirements are not satisfied, then a corporation may not be able to qualify for the dividends received deduction and would have taxable income equal to the entire dividend amount, and non-corporate U.S. holders may be subject to tax on such dividend at regular ordinary income tax rates instead of the preferential rate that applies to qualified dividend income.

Gain or Loss on Sale, Taxable Exchange or Other Taxable Disposition of Common Stock. Upon a sale or other taxable disposition of our common stock, a U.S. holder generally will recognize capital gain or loss in an

[Table of Contents](#)

amount equal to the difference between the amount realized and the U.S. holder's adjusted tax basis in the common stock. Any such capital gain or loss generally will be long-term capital gain or loss if the U.S. holder's holding period for the common stock so disposed of exceeds one year at the time of such sale or other taxable disposition. If the holding period requirements are not satisfied, any gain on a sale or taxable disposition of the shares would be subject to short-term capital gain treatment and would be taxed at regular ordinary income tax rates. Long-term capital gains recognized by non-corporate U.S. holders will be eligible to be taxed at reduced rates. The deductibility of capital losses is subject to limitations.

Generally, the amount of gain or loss recognized by a U.S. holder is an amount equal to the difference between (i) the sum of the amount of cash and the fair market value of any property received in such disposition and (ii) the U.S. holder's adjusted tax basis in its common stock so disposed of. A U.S. holder's adjusted tax basis in its common stock generally will equal the U.S. holder's acquisition cost for the common stock, less any prior distributions treated as a return of capital. In the case of any shares of common stock originally acquired as part of an investment unit, the acquisition cost for the share of common stock that was part of such unit would equal an allocable portion of the acquisition cost of the unit based on the relative fair market values of the components of the unit at the time of acquisition.

Information Reporting and Backup Withholding. In general, information reporting requirements may apply to dividends paid to a U.S. holder and to the proceeds of the sale or other disposition of our shares of common stock, unless the U.S. holder is an exempt recipient. Backup withholding (currently at a rate of 24%) may apply to such payments if the U.S. holder fails to provide a taxpayer identification number, a certification of exempt status or has been notified by the IRS that it is subject to backup withholding (and such notification has not been withdrawn).

Any amounts withheld under the backup withholding rules generally should be allowed as a refund or a credit against a U.S. holder's U.S. federal income tax liability provided the required information is timely furnished to the IRS.

Non-U.S. Holders

This section applies to you if you are a "Non-U.S. holder." As used herein, the term "Non-U.S. holder" means a beneficial owner of our common stock who or that is for U.S. federal income tax purposes:

- a non-resident alien individual (other than certain former citizens and residents of the United States subject to U.S. tax as expatriates);
- a foreign corporation; or
- an estate or trust that is not a U.S. holder.

but generally does not include an individual who is present in the United States for 183 days or more in the taxable year of disposition. If you are such an individual, you should consult your tax advisor regarding the U.S. federal income tax consequences of the acquisition, ownership or sale or other disposition of our common stock.

Taxation of Distributions. In general, any distributions we make to a Non-U.S. holder of shares of our common stock, to the extent paid out of our current or accumulated earnings and profits (as determined under U.S. federal income tax principles), will constitute dividends for U.S. federal income tax purposes and, provided such dividends are not effectively connected with the Non-U.S. holder's conduct of a trade or business within the United States, we will be required to withhold tax from the gross amount of the dividend at a rate of 30%, unless such Non-U.S. holder is eligible for a reduced rate of withholding tax under an applicable income tax treaty and provides proper certification of its eligibility for such reduced rate (usually on an IRS Form W-8BEN or W-8BEN-E). Any distribution not constituting a dividend will be treated first as reducing (but not below zero) the Non-U.S. holder's adjusted tax basis in its shares of our common stock and, to the extent such distribution exceeds the Non-U.S. holder's adjusted tax basis, as gain realized from the sale or other disposition of the

[Table of Contents](#)

common stock, which will be treated as described under “—Non-U.S. Holders—Gain on Sale, Taxable Exchange or Other Taxable Disposition of Common Stock” below.

The withholding tax does not apply to dividends paid to a Non-U.S. holder who provides an IRS Form W-8ECI, certifying that the dividends are effectively connected with the Non-U.S. holder’s conduct of a trade or business within the United States (and, under certain income tax treaties, is attributable to a U.S. permanent establishment or fixed base maintained by the Non-U.S. holder). Instead, the effectively connected dividends will be subject to regular U.S. income tax as if the Non-U.S. holder were a U.S. resident, subject to an applicable income tax treaty providing otherwise. A Non-U.S. corporation receiving effectively connected dividends also may be subject to an additional “branch profits tax” imposed at a rate of 30% (or a lower treaty rate).

Gain on Sale, Taxable Exchange or Other Taxable Disposition of Common Stock. Subject to the discussion below regarding backup withholding, a Non-U.S. holder generally will not be subject to U.S. federal income or withholding tax in respect of gain recognized on a sale, taxable exchange or other taxable disposition of our common stock, unless:

- the gain is effectively connected with the conduct of a trade or business by the Non-U.S. holder within the United States (and, under certain income tax treaties, is attributable to a U.S. permanent establishment or fixed base maintained by the Non-U.S. holder); or
- we are or have been a “U.S. real property holding corporation” for U.S. federal income tax purposes at any time during the shorter of the five-year period ending on the date of disposition or the period that the Non-U.S. holder held our common stock, and, in the case where shares of our common stock are regularly traded on an established securities market, the Non-U.S. holder has owned, directly or constructively, more than 5% of our common stock at any time within the shorter of the five-year period preceding the disposition or such Non-U.S. holder’s holding period for the shares of our common stock. There can be no assurance that our common stock will be treated as regularly traded on an established securities market for this purpose.

Unless an applicable treaty provides otherwise, gain described in the first bullet point above will be subject to tax at generally applicable U.S. federal income tax rates as if the Non-U.S. holder were a U.S. resident. Any gains described in the first bullet point above of a Non-U.S. holder that is a foreign corporation also may be subject to an additional “branch profits tax” at a 30% rate (or lower treaty rate).

If the second bullet point above applies to a Non-U.S. holder, gain recognized by such holder on the sale, exchange or other disposition of shares of our common stock will be subject to tax at generally applicable U.S. federal income tax rates, and a buyer of such shares may be required to withhold U.S. federal income tax at a rate of 15% of the amount realized upon the disposition. We expect not to be classified as a “U.S. real property holding corporation” for U.S. federal income tax purposes. However, such determination is factual in nature and subject to change and no assurance can be provided as to whether we will be a “U.S. real property holding corporation” for U.S. federal income tax purposes in the future.

Information Reporting and Backup Withholding. Information returns will be filed with the IRS in connection with payments of dividends and the proceeds from a sale or other disposition of our shares of common stock. A Non-U.S. holder may have to comply with certification procedures to establish that it is not a U.S. person in order to avoid information reporting and backup withholding requirements. The certification procedures required to claim a reduced rate of withholding under a treaty will generally satisfy the certification requirements necessary to avoid the backup withholding as well. The amount of any backup withholding from a payment to a Non-U.S. holder will be allowed as a credit against such Non-U.S. holder’s U.S. federal income tax liability and may entitle such holder to a refund, provided that the required information is timely furnished to the IRS.

[Table of Contents](#)

FATCA Withholding Taxes. Sections 1471 through 1474 of the Code and the Treasury Regulations and administrative guidance promulgated thereunder (commonly referred as the “Foreign Account Tax Compliance Act” or “FATCA”) generally impose withholding at a rate of 30% in certain circumstances on dividends in respect of, and (subject to the proposed Treasury Regulations discussed below) gross proceeds from the sale or other disposition of, securities (including shares of our common stock) which are held by or through certain foreign financial institutions (as specifically defined under FATCA, and including certain investment funds), unless any such institution (i) enters into, and complies with, an agreement with the IRS to report, on an annual basis, information with respect to interests in, and accounts maintained by, the institution that are owned by certain U.S. persons and by certain non-U.S. entities that are wholly or partially owned by U.S. persons and to withhold on certain payments, or (ii) if required under an intergovernmental agreement between the United States and an applicable foreign country, reports such information to its local tax authority, which will exchange such information with the U.S. authorities. An intergovernmental agreement between the United States and an applicable foreign country may modify these requirements. Accordingly, the entity through which shares of our common stock are held will affect the determination of whether such withholding is required. Similarly, dividends in respect of, and (subject to the proposed Treasury Regulations discussed below) gross proceeds from the sale or other disposition of, our common stock held by an investor that is a non-financial foreign entity (as specifically defined under FATCA) that does not qualify under certain exceptions will generally be subject to withholding at a rate of 30%, unless such entity either (i) certifies to the applicable withholding agent that such entity does not have any “substantial United States owners” or (ii) provides certain information regarding the entity’s “substantial United States owners,” which will in turn be provided to the U.S. Department of Treasury. Certain foreign financial institutions or non-financial foreign entities may qualify for an exemption from the FATCA withholding rules.

Under the applicable Treasury Regulations and administrative guidance, withholding under FATCA generally applies to payments of dividends in respect of our common stock. While the Code provides that withholding under FATCA generally would also apply to payments of gross proceeds from the sale or other disposition of securities (including shares of our common stock), proposed Treasury Regulations have been released that, if finalized in their present form, would eliminate FATCA withholding on payments of gross proceeds entirely. In the preamble to such proposed Treasury Regulations, the U.S. Treasury Department states that taxpayers generally may rely on these proposed Treasury Regulations until final Treasury Regulations are issued. All holders should consult their tax advisors regarding the possible implications of FATCA on their investment in shares of our common stock.

UNDERWRITERS

Under the terms and subject to the conditions in an underwriting agreement dated the date of this prospectus supplement, the underwriters named below, for whom Morgan Stanley & Co. LLC, Goldman Sachs & Co. LLC, Jefferies LLC and Evercore Group L.L.C. are acting as representatives, have severally agreed to purchase, and we have agreed to sell to them, severally, the number of shares indicated below:

| <u>Name</u> | <u>Number of Shares</u> |
|-----------------------------------|-------------------------|
| Morgan Stanley & Co. LLC | |
| Goldman Sachs & Co. LLC | |
| Jefferies LLC | |
| Evercore Group L.L.C. | |
| Loop Capital Markets LLC | |
| Siebert Williams Shank & Co., LLC | |
| Total: | |

The underwriters and the representatives are collectively referred to as the “underwriters” and the “representatives,” respectively. The underwriters are offering the shares of common stock subject to their acceptance of the shares from us and subject to prior sale. The underwriting agreement provides that the obligations of the several underwriters to pay for and accept delivery of the shares of common stock offered by this prospectus supplement are subject to the approval of certain legal matters by their counsel and to certain other conditions. The underwriters are obligated to take and pay for all of the shares of common stock offered by this prospectus supplement if any such shares are taken. However, the underwriters are not required to take or pay for the shares covered by the underwriters’ option to purchase additional shares described below.

The underwriters initially propose to offer part of the shares of common stock directly to the public at the offering price listed on the cover page of this prospectus supplement and part to certain dealers at a price that represents a concession not in excess of \$ _____ per share under the public offering price. After the initial offering of the shares of common stock, the offering price and other selling terms may from time to time be varied by the representatives.

We have granted to the underwriters an option, exercisable for 30 days from the date of this prospectus supplement, to purchase up to additional shares of our common stock at the public offering price listed on the cover page of this prospectus supplement, less underwriting discounts and commissions. To the extent the option is exercised, each underwriter will become obligated, subject to certain conditions, to purchase about the same percentage of the additional shares of common stock as the number listed next to the underwriter’s name in the preceding table bears to the total number of shares of common stock listed next to the names of all underwriters in the preceding table.

The following table shows the per share and total public offering price, underwriting discounts and commissions, and proceeds before expenses to us. These amounts are shown assuming both no exercise and full exercise of the underwriters’ option to purchase up to an additional _____ shares of our common stock.

| | <u>Per Share</u> | <u>Total</u> | |
|--|------------------|--------------------|----------------------|
| | | <u>No Exercise</u> | <u>Full Exercise</u> |
| Public offering price | \$ | \$ | \$ |
| Underwriting discounts and commissions to be paid by us: | \$ | \$ | \$ |
| Proceeds, before expenses, to us | \$ | \$ | \$ |

The estimated offering expenses payable by us, exclusive of the underwriting discounts and commissions, are approximately \$ _____. We have agreed to reimburse the underwriters for expenses relating to, among other things, clearance of this offering with the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority in an amount up to \$25,000.

Table of Contents

Our common stock is listed on The Nasdaq Capital Market under the trading symbol “CERE”.

We have agreed that, without the prior written consent of the representatives, on behalf of the underwriters, we will not, and will not publicly disclose an intention to, during the period ending 60 days after the date of this prospectus supplement, (1) offer, pledge, sell, contract to sell, sell any option or contract to purchase, purchase any option or contract to sell, grant any option, right or warrant to purchase, lend, or otherwise transfer or dispose of, directly or indirectly, any shares of our common stock or any securities convertible into or exercisable or exchangeable for shares of our common stock, (2) enter into any swap or other arrangement that transfers to another, in whole or in part, any of the economic consequences of ownership of our common stock, whether any such transaction described in clause (1) or (2) above is to be settled by delivery of common stock or such other securities, in cash or otherwise, or (3) file any registration statement with the SEC relating to the offering of any shares of our common stock or any securities convertible into or exercisable or exchangeable for common stock.

The restrictions described in the immediately preceding paragraph do not apply to us in certain circumstances, including:

(1) the issuance by us of shares of common stock to be sold in this offering;

(2) the issuance by us of shares of common stock upon the exercise of an option pursuant to stock plans or a warrant or the conversion of a security, in each case outstanding on the date of the underwriting agreement and described in this prospectus supplement;

(3) the grant or issuance by us, or exercise or settlement (in cash, shares of common stock or otherwise) of options, restricted stock awards, restricted stock units or any other type of equity award to our employees, officers, directors, advisors, or consultants pursuant to the terms of an employee benefit plan described in this prospectus supplement;

(4) our filing of a registration statement with the Securities and Exchange Commission on Form S-8 with respect to employee benefit plans issued under stock plans described in this prospectus supplement;

(5) the sale or issuance of or entry into an agreement to sell or issue shares of common stock or securities convertible into or exercisable for common stock by us in connection with any (a) merger, (b) acquisition of securities, businesses, property or other assets, (c) joint ventures, (d) strategic alliances, (e) equipment leasing arrangements or (f) any term loan or revolving credit facility, provided that the aggregate number of shares of common stock or securities convertible into or exercisable for common stock that we may issue pursuant to this clause (5) shall not exceed 5% of the outstanding shares of our common stock immediately following the closing of this offering, provided that such recipients enter into a lock-up agreement with the underwriters; and

(6) the issuance by us of the notes pursuant to the Concurrent Convertible Notes Offering and the issuance of shares of our common stock upon the conversion of any notes.

Our directors and officers and certain of our securityholders have agreed that, subject to certain exceptions, without the prior written consent of the representatives, on behalf of the underwriters, they will not, during the period ending 60 days (or 45 days, in the case of Bain and Pfizer) after the date of this prospectus supplement (the “restricted period”), (1) offer, pledge, sell, contract to sell, sell any option or contract to purchase, purchase any option or contract to sell, grant any option, right or warrant to purchase, lend or otherwise transfer or dispose of, directly or indirectly, any shares of our common stock beneficially owned (as such term is used in Rule 13d-3 of the Exchange Act) or any other or any securities convertible into or exercisable or exchangeable for shares of common stock, (2) enter into any swap or other arrangement (including, without limitation, any short sale or the purchase or sale of, or entry into, any put or call option, or combination thereof, forward, swap or any other derivative transaction or instrument, however described or defined) which is designed to or which reasonably

Table of Contents

could be expected to lead to or result in a sale, loan, pledge or other disposition (whether by the stockholder or someone other than the stockholder) or transfer to another, in whole or in part, of any of the economic consequences of ownership of any shares of common stock or derivative instrument, whether any such transaction (or instrument provided for thereunder) is to be settled by delivery of common stock or such other securities, in cash or otherwise; or (3) otherwise publicly announce any intention to engage in or cause any action or activity described in the clauses above.

The restrictions described in the immediately preceding paragraph do not apply to our directors and officers and such securityholders, subject to certain conditions, with respect to:

(1) transactions relating to the securities acquired in this offering or in open market transactions after the completion of this offering and the Concurrent Convertible Notes Offering;

(2) transfers of shares of our common stock or any security convertible into common stock (i) as a bona fide gift or gifts in a transaction not involving a disposition for value or to certain trusts, partnerships or beneficiaries, (ii) by will, other testamentary document or intestate succession to the legal representative, heir, beneficiary or a member of the immediate family of such person or (iii) by operation of law, such as pursuant to a qualified domestic order or as required by a divorce settlement;

(3) if an individual, transfers of shares of our common stock or any security directly or indirectly convertible into common stock in a transaction not involving a disposition for value for estate planning purposes;

(4) if a trust, distributions of shares of our common stock or any security directly or indirectly convertible into share of our common stock to its beneficiaries in a transaction not involving a disposition for value;

(5) if a corporation, limited liability company, partnership (whether general, limited or otherwise) or other entity, transfers or distributions of shares of our common stock or any security directly or indirectly convertible into share of our common stock to members, stockholders, limited partners, general partners, subsidiaries or affiliates (as defined in Rule 405 promulgated under the Securities Act) of the stockholder or to any investment fund or other entity that controls or manages the stockholder (including, for the avoidance of doubt, a fund managed by the same manager or managing member or general partner or management company or by an entity controlling, controlled by, or under common control with such manager or managing member or general partner or management company as the stockholder or who shares a common investment advisor with the stockholder);

(6) transfers of shares of our common stock to us in connection with the exercise of options, warrants or other rights to acquire common stock or any security convertible into or exercisable for shares of our common stock by way of net exercise and/or to cover withholding tax obligations in connection with such exercise pursuant to an employee benefit plan, option, warrant or other right, provided that any such shares issued upon exercise of such option, warrant or other right shall be subject to the restrictions set forth in the lock-up agreement;

(7) transfers or dispositions of shares of our common stock or other securities to us in connection with the conversion of any convertible preferred stock into, or the exercise of any option or warrant for, shares of common stock;

(8) the establishment of a trading plan on behalf of our stockholder, officer or director pursuant to Rule 10b5-1 under the Exchange Act for the transfer of shares of common stock, provided that (i) such plan does not provide for the transfer of common stock during the restricted period and (ii) to the extent a public announcement or filing under the Exchange Act, if any, is required of or voluntarily made by us regarding the establishment of such plan, such announcement or filing shall include a statement to the effect that no transfer of common stock may be made under such plan during the restricted period;

Table of Contents

(9) transfers or dispositions of shares of our common stock under a trading plan pursuant to Rule 10b5-1 under the Exchange Act for the transfer or disposition of shares of common stock that is existing as of the date hereof;

(10) transfers or dispositions of shares of our common stock or any security convertible into or exercisable or exchangeable for shares of common stock to us pursuant to any contractual arrangement in effect on the date of the lock-up agreement that provides for the repurchase of the stockholder's shares of common stock or other securities by us or in connection with the termination of the stockholder's employment with or service to us; or

(11) transfers of shares of our common stock to a bona fide third-party pursuant to a merger, consolidation, tender offer or other similar transaction made to all holders of our shares of common stock and involving a change of control and approved by our board of directors.

In addition, each such person agrees that, without the prior written consent of the representatives on behalf of the underwriters, such other person will not, during the restricted period, make any demand for, or exercise any right with respect to, the registration of any shares of common stock or any security convertible into or exercisable or exchangeable for common stock.

The representatives, in their sole discretion, may release the common stock and other securities subject to the lock-up agreements described above in whole or in part at any time.

Concurrently with this offering of shares of common stock, we are offering the notes in the aggregate principal amount of \$ million (or \$ million if the initial purchasers of such offering exercise in full their option to purchase additional notes) to QIBs, in an offering exempt from registration under the Securities Act, pursuant to a separate offering memorandum in the Concurrent Convertible Notes Offering. Neither the completion of this offering nor the Concurrent Convertible Notes Offering is contingent on the completion of the other, so it is possible that this offering occurs and the Concurrent Convertible Notes Offering does not occur, and vice versa. We cannot assure you that the Concurrent Convertible Notes Offering will be completed on the terms described herein, or at all. This prospectus supplement is not an offer to sell or a solicitation of an offer to buy any securities being offered in the Concurrent Convertible Notes Offering. See "*Description of Concurrent Convertible Notes Offering*" for a summary of the terms of the notes and a further description of the Concurrent Convertible Notes Offering.

In order to facilitate the offering of the common stock, the underwriters may engage in transactions that stabilize, maintain or otherwise affect the price of the common stock. Specifically, the underwriters may sell more shares than they are obligated to purchase under the underwriting agreement, creating a short position. A short sale is covered if the short position is no greater than the number of shares available for purchase by the underwriters under the option. The underwriters can close out a covered short sale by exercising the option or purchasing shares in the open market. In determining the source of shares to close out a covered short sale, the underwriters will consider, among other things, the open market price of shares compared to the price available under the option. The underwriters may also sell shares in excess of the option, creating a naked short position. The underwriters must close out any naked short position by purchasing shares in the open market. A naked short position is more likely to be created if the underwriters are concerned that there may be downward pressure on the price of the common stock in the open market after pricing that could adversely affect investors who purchase in this offering. As an additional means of facilitating this offering, the underwriters may bid for, and purchase, shares of common stock in the open market to stabilize the price of the common stock. These activities may raise or maintain the market price of the common stock above independent market levels or prevent or retard a decline in the market price of the common stock. The underwriters are not required to engage in these activities and may end any of these activities at any time.

We and the underwriters have agreed to indemnify each other against certain liabilities, including liabilities under the Securities Act.

Table of Contents

A prospectus supplement in electronic format may be made available on websites maintained by one or more underwriters, or selling group members, if any, participating in this offering. The representatives may agree to allocate a number of shares of common stock to underwriters for sale to their online brokerage account holders. Internet distributions will be allocated by the representatives to underwriters that may make Internet distributions on the same basis as other allocations.

The underwriters and their respective affiliates are full service financial institutions engaged in various activities, which may include securities trading, commercial and investment banking, financial advisory, investment management, investment research, principal investment, hedging, financing and brokerage activities. Certain of the underwriters and their respective affiliates have, from time to time, performed, and may in the future perform, various financial advisory and investment banking services for us, for which they received or will receive customary fees and expenses. For example, the representatives are also acting as the representatives of the several initial purchasers in the Concurrent Convertible Notes Offering. Additionally, Jefferies LLC is the sales agent under an Open Market Sale AgreementSM dated as of November 10, 2021, with us. Under the Open Market Sale AgreementSM, we may offer and sell, from time to time, shares of our common stock through Jefferies LLC through an “at the market offering,” as defined in Rule 415(a)(4) promulgated under the Securities Act.

In addition, in the ordinary course of their various business activities, the underwriters and their respective affiliates may make or hold a broad array of investments and actively trade debt and equity securities (or related derivative securities) and financial instruments (including bank loans) for their own account and for the accounts of their customers and may at any time hold long and short positions in such securities and instruments. Such investment and securities activities may involve our securities and instruments. The underwriters and their respective affiliates may also make investment recommendations or publish or express independent research views in respect of such securities or instruments and may at any time hold, or recommend to clients that they acquire, long or short positions in such securities and instruments.

Selling Restrictions

European Economic Area

In relation to each Member State of the European Economic Area (each, a “Relevant State”), no shares have been offered or will be offered pursuant to the offering to the public in that Relevant State prior to the publication of a prospectus in relation to the shares which has been approved by the competent authority in that Relevant State or, where appropriate, approved in another Relevant State and notified to the competent authority in that Relevant State, all in accordance with the Prospectus Regulation, except that offers of shares may be made to the public in that Relevant State at any time under the following exemptions under the Prospectus Regulation:

- (a) to any legal entity which is a qualified investor as defined under Article 2 of the Prospectus Regulation;
- (b) to fewer than 150 natural or legal persons (other than qualified investors as defined under Article 2 of the Prospectus Regulation), subject to obtaining the prior consent of the representatives for any such offer; or
- (c) in any other circumstances falling within Article 1(4) of the Prospectus Regulation,

provided that no such offer of shares shall require us or any representative to publish a prospectus pursuant to Article 3 of the Prospectus Regulation or supplement a prospectus pursuant to Article 23 of the Prospectus Regulation.

For the purposes of this provision, the expression an “offer to the public” in relation to the shares in any Relevant State means the communication in any form and by any means of sufficient information on the terms of the offer and any shares to be offered so as to enable an investor to decide to purchase or subscribe for any shares, and the expression “Prospectus Regulation” means Regulation (EU) 2017/1129 (as amended).

United Kingdom

No shares have been offered or will be offered pursuant to the offering to the public in the United Kingdom prior to the publication of a prospectus in relation to the shares which is to be treated as if it had been approved by the Financial Conduct Authority in accordance with the transitional provisions in Article 74 (transitional provisions) of the Prospectus Amendment etc. (EU Exit) Regulations 2019/1234, except that offers of shares may be made to the public in the United Kingdom at any time under the following exemptions under the UK Prospectus Regulation:

- (a) to any legal entity which is a qualified investor as defined under Article 2 of the UK Prospectus Regulation;
- (b) to fewer than 150 natural or legal persons (other than qualified investors as defined under Article 2 of the UK Prospectus Regulation), subject to obtaining the prior consent of the representatives for any such offer; or
- (c) in any other circumstances falling within Section 86 of the Financial Services and Markets Act 2000 (“FSMA”),

provided that no such offer of shares shall require us or any representative to publish a prospectus pursuant to Section 85 of the FSMA or supplement a prospectus pursuant to Article 23 of the UK Prospectus Regulation.

For the purposes of this provision, the expression an “offer to the public” in relation to the shares in the United Kingdom means the communication in any form and by any means of sufficient information on the terms of the offer and any shares to be offered so as to enable an investor to decide to purchase or subscribe for any shares, and the expression “UK Prospectus Regulation” means Regulation (EU) 2017/1129 as it forms part of domestic law by virtue of the European Union (Withdrawal) Act 2018.

Canada

The shares may be sold only to purchasers purchasing, or deemed to be purchasing, as principal that are accredited investors, as defined in National Instrument 45-106 *Prospectus Exemptions* or subsection 73.3(1) of the *Securities Act* (Ontario), and are permitted clients, as defined in National Instrument 31-103 *Registration Requirements, Exemptions and Ongoing Registrant Obligations*. Any resale of the shares must be made in accordance with an exemption from, or in a transaction not subject to, the prospectus requirements of applicable securities laws.

Securities legislation in certain provinces or territories of Canada may provide a purchaser with remedies for rescission or damages if this prospectus (including any amendment thereto) contains a misrepresentation, provided that the remedies for rescission or damages are exercised by the purchaser within the time limit prescribed by the securities legislation of the purchaser’s province or territory. The purchaser should refer to any applicable provisions of the securities legislation of the purchaser’s province or territory for particulars of these rights or consult with a legal advisor.

Pursuant to section 3A.3 (or, in the case of securities issued or guaranteed by the government of a non-Canadian jurisdiction, section 3A.4) of National Instrument 33-105 *Underwriting Conflicts* (NI 33-105), the underwriters are not required to comply with the disclosure requirements of NI 33-105 regarding underwriter conflicts of interest in connection with this offering.

Hong Kong

Shares of our common stock may not be offered or sold by means of any document other than (i) in circumstances which do not constitute an offer to the public within the meaning of the Companies Ordinance (Cap.32, Laws of Hong Kong), (ii) to “professional investors” within the meaning of the Securities and Futures

[Table of Contents](#)

Ordinance (Cap.571, Laws of Hong Kong) and any rules made thereunder or (iii) in other circumstances which do not result in the document being a “prospectus” within the meaning of the Companies Ordinance (Cap.32, Laws of Hong Kong), and no advertisement, invitation or document relating to shares of our common stock may be issued or may be in the possession of any person for the purpose of issue (in each case whether in Hong Kong or elsewhere), which is directed at, or the contents of which are likely to be accessed or read by, the public in Hong Kong (except if permitted to do so under the laws of Hong Kong) other than with respect to shares of our common stock which are or are intended to be disposed of only to persons outside Hong Kong or only to “professional investors” within the meaning of the Securities and Futures Ordinance (Cap.571, Laws of Hong Kong) and any rules made thereunder.

Japan

No registration pursuant to Article 4, paragraph 1 of the Financial Instruments and Exchange Law of Japan (Law No. 25 of 1948, as amended) (the “FIEL”) has been made or will be made with respect to the solicitation of the application for the acquisition of the shares of common stock.

Accordingly, the shares of common stock have not been, directly or indirectly, offered or sold and will not be, directly or indirectly, offered or sold in Japan or to, or for the benefit of, any resident of Japan (which term as used herein means any person resident in Japan, including any corporation or other entity organized under the laws of Japan) or to others for re-offering or re-sale, directly or indirectly, in Japan or to, or for the benefit of, any resident of Japan except pursuant to an exemption from the registration requirements, and otherwise in compliance with, the FIEL and the other applicable laws and regulations of Japan.

For Qualified Institutional Investors (“QII”)

Please note that the solicitation for newly-issued or secondary securities (each as described in Paragraph 2, Article 4 of the FIEL) in relation to the shares of common stock constitutes either a “QII only private placement” or a “QII only secondary distribution” (each as described in Paragraph 1, Article 23-13 of the FIEL). Disclosure regarding any such solicitation, as is otherwise prescribed in Paragraph 1, Article 4 of the FIEL, has not been made in relation to the shares of common stock. The shares of common stock may only be transferred to QIIs.

For Non-QII Investors

Please note that the solicitation for newly-issued or secondary securities (each as described in Paragraph 2, Article 4 of the FIEL) in relation to the shares of common stock constitutes either a “small number private placement” or a “small number private secondary distribution” (each as is described in Paragraph 4, Article 23-13 of the FIEL). Disclosure regarding any such solicitation, as is otherwise prescribed in Paragraph 1, Article 4 of the FIEL, has not been made in relation to the shares of common stock. The shares of common stock may only be transferred en bloc without subdivision to a single investor.

Singapore

This prospectus has not been registered as a prospectus with the Monetary Authority of Singapore. Accordingly, this prospectus and any other document or material in connection with the offer or sale, or invitation for subscription or purchase, of shares of our common stock may not be circulated or distributed, nor may the shares of our common stock be offered or sold, or be made the subject of an invitation for subscription or purchase, whether directly or indirectly, to persons in Singapore other than (i) to an institutional investor under Section 274 of the Securities and Futures Act, Chapter 289 of Singapore (the “SFA”), (ii) to a relevant person, or any person pursuant to Section 275(1A), and in accordance with the conditions, specified in Section 275 of the SFA or (iii) otherwise pursuant to, and in accordance with the conditions of, any other applicable provision of the SFA.

[Table of Contents](#)

Where shares of our common stock are subscribed or purchased under Section 275 by a relevant person which is: (i) a corporation (which is not an accredited investor) the sole business of which is to hold investments and the entire share capital of which is owned by one or more individuals, each of whom is an accredited investor; or (ii) a trust (where the trustee is not an accredited investor) whose sole purpose is to hold investments and each beneficiary is an accredited investor, shares, debentures and units of shares and debentures of that corporation or the beneficiaries' rights and interest in that trust shall not be transferable for 6 months after that corporation or that trust has acquired shares of our common stock under Section 275 except: (a) to an institutional investor under Section 274 or to a relevant person, or any person pursuant to Section 275(1A), and in accordance with the conditions, specified in Section 275 of the SFA; (b) where no consideration is given for the transfer; or (c) by operation of law.

Switzerland

The shares of common stock may not be publicly offered in Switzerland and will not be listed on the SIX Swiss Exchange ("SIX") or on any other stock exchange or regulated trading facility in Switzerland. This document has been prepared without regard to the disclosure standards for issuance prospectuses under art. 652a or art. 1156 of the Swiss Code of Obligations or the disclosure standards for listing prospectuses under art. 27 ff. of the SIX Listing Rules or the listing rules of any other stock exchange or regulated trading facility in Switzerland. Neither this document nor any other offering or marketing material relating to the common stock or the offering may be publicly distributed or otherwise made publicly available in Switzerland.

Neither this document nor any other offering or marketing material relating to the offering, Cerevel Therapeutics Holdings, Inc., or the common stock have been or will be filed with or approved by any Swiss regulatory authority. In particular, this document will not be filed with, and the offer of the shares of common stock will not be supervised by, the Swiss Financial Market Supervisory Authority FINMA ("FINMA"), and the offer of shares of common stock has not been and will not be authorized under the Swiss Federal Act on Collective Investment Schemes ("CISA"). The investor protection afforded to acquirers of interests in collective investment schemes under the CISA does not extend to acquirers of our shares of common stock.

Dubai International Financial Center

This prospectus relates to an Exempt Offer in accordance with the Offered Securities Rules of the Dubai Financial Services Authority ("DFSA"). This prospectus is intended for distribution only to persons of a type specified in the Offered Securities Rules of the DFSA. It must not be delivered to, or relied on by, any other person. The DFSA has no responsibility for reviewing or verifying any documents in connection with Exempt Offers. The DFSA has not approved this prospectus nor taken steps to verify the information set forth herein and has no responsibility for the prospectus. The shares to which this prospectus relates may be illiquid and/or subject to restrictions on their resale. Prospective purchasers of our shares of common stock offered should conduct their own due diligence on the common stock. If you do not understand the contents of this prospectus you should consult an authorized financial advisor.

Australia

No placement document, prospectus, product disclosure statement or other disclosure document has been lodged with the Australian Securities and Investments Commission ("ASIC"), in relation to the offering. This prospectus does not constitute a prospectus, product disclosure statement or other disclosure document under the Corporations Act 2001 (the "Corporations Act"), and does not purport to include the information required for a prospectus, product disclosure statement or other disclosure document under the Corporations Act.

Any offer in Australia of the common stock may only be made to persons (the "Exempt Investors") who are "sophisticated investors" (within the meaning of section 708(8) of the Corporations Act), "professional investors" (within the meaning of section 708(11) of the Corporations Act) or otherwise pursuant to one or more exemptions contained in section 708 of the Corporations Act so that it is lawful to offer the common stock without disclosure to investors under Chapter 6D of the Corporations Act.

[Table of Contents](#)

The shares of common stock applied for by Exempt Investors in Australia must not be offered for sale in Australia in the period of 12 months after the date of allotment under the offering, except in circumstances where disclosure to investors under Chapter 6D of the Corporations Act would not be required pursuant to an exemption under section 708 of the Corporations Act or otherwise or where the offer is pursuant to a disclosure document which complies with Chapter 6D of the Corporations Act. Any person acquiring shares of common stock must observe such Australian on-sale restrictions.

This prospectus contains general information only and does not take account of the investment objectives, financial situation or particular needs of any particular person. It does not contain any securities recommendations or financial product advice. Before making an investment decision, investors need to consider whether the information in this prospectus is appropriate to their needs, objectives and circumstances, and, if necessary, seek expert advice on those matters.

LEGAL MATTERS

The validity of the shares of common stock being offered hereby will be passed upon for us by Goodwin Procter LLP. Certain legal matters will be passed upon for the underwriters by Cooley LLP, New York, New York.

EXPERTS

The consolidated financial statements of Cerevel Therapeutics Holdings, Inc., appearing in Cerevel Therapeutics Holdings, Inc.'s Annual Report (Form 10-K) for the year ended December 31, 2021, and the effectiveness of Cerevel Therapeutics Holdings, Inc.'s internal control over financial reporting as of December 31, 2021, have been audited by Ernst & Young LLP, independent registered public accounting firm, as set forth in their reports thereon included therein, and incorporated herein by reference. Such financial statements are, and audited financial statements to be included in subsequently filed documents will be, incorporated herein in reliance upon the reports of Ernst & Young LLP pertaining to such financial statements and the effectiveness of our internal control over financial reporting as of the respective dates (to the extent covered by consents filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission) given on the authority of such firm as experts in accounting and auditing.

WHERE YOU CAN FIND MORE INFORMATION

This prospectus supplement and the accompanying base prospectus are part of a registration statement that we filed with the SEC under the Securities Act and does not contain all the information set forth or incorporated by reference in the registration statement. Whenever a reference is made in this prospectus supplement 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 supplement for a copy of such contract, agreement or other document. You may obtain copies of the registration statement and its exhibits via the SEC's EDGAR database.

We file annual, quarterly and current reports, proxy statements and other information with the SEC under the Exchange Act. The SEC maintains a website that contains reports, proxy and information statements and other information regarding issuers, including us, that file electronically with the SEC. You may obtain documents that we file with the SEC at www.sec.gov.

Our website address is <https://www.cerevel.com>. We do not incorporate the information on or accessible through our website into this prospectus supplement, and you should not consider any information on, or that can be accessed through, our website as part of this prospectus supplement, the accompanying base prospectus or the registration statement of which this prospectus supplement and the accompanying base prospectus are a part. Our website address is included in this prospectus supplement as an inactive textual reference only.

INCORPORATION OF CERTAIN INFORMATION BY REFERENCE

SEC rules permit us to incorporate information by reference into this prospectus. This means that we can disclose important information to you by referring you to another document filed separately with the SEC. The information incorporated by reference is considered to be part of this prospectus supplement, except for information superseded by information contained in this prospectus supplement or in any subsequently filed incorporated document. This prospectus supplement incorporates by reference the documents set forth below that we have previously filed with the SEC, other than information in such documents that is deemed to be furnished and not filed. These documents contain important information about us and our business and financial condition.

[Table of Contents](#)

Any report or information within any of the documents referenced below that is furnished, but not filed, shall not be incorporated by reference into this prospectus supplement.

- (a) our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2021, filed with the SEC on [March 1, 2022](#);
- (b) the information specifically incorporated by reference into our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2021 from our Definitive Proxy Statement on Schedule 14A, filed with the SEC on [April 28, 2022](#);
- (c) our Quarterly Reports on Form 10-Q for the fiscal quarter ended March 31, 2022, filed with the SEC on [May 10, 2022](#), and for the fiscal quarter ended June 30, 2022, filed with the SEC on [August 1, 2022](#);
- (d) our Current Report on Form 8-K filed with the SEC on [June 15, 2022](#); and
- (e) the description of our common stock contained in our registration statement on Form 8-A, filed with the SEC on [June 4, 2020](#), including all amendments and reports filed for the purpose of updating such description, including [Exhibit 4.1](#) to our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2021.

All documents that we file (but not documents or parts of documents that we furnish) pursuant to Sections 13(a), 13(c), 14 or 15(d) of the Exchange Act after the date of this prospectus supplement but prior to the termination of this offering of common stock, shall be deemed to be incorporated by reference into this prospectus supplement.

Any statement contained herein or in a document incorporated or deemed to be incorporated by reference into this prospectus supplement shall be deemed to be modified or superseded for purposes of this prospectus supplement to the extent that a statement contained in this prospectus supplement and the accompanying base prospectus, or in any other subsequently filed document which also is or is deemed to be incorporated by reference into this prospectus supplement, modifies or supersedes such earlier statement. Any statement so modified or superseded shall not be deemed, except as so modified or superseded, to constitute a part of this prospectus supplement.

We will furnish without charge to each person, including any beneficial owner, to whom a prospectus supplement is delivered, upon written or oral request, a copy of any or all of the documents incorporated by reference in this prospectus supplement, including exhibits to these documents. Any such request may be made by writing or calling us at the following address or phone number:

Cerevel Therapeutics Holdings, Inc.
222 Jacobs Street, Suite 200
Cambridge, MA 02141
(844) 304-2048
Attention: Corporate Secretary

PROSPECTUS



\$750,000,000
Common Stock
Preferred Stock
Debt Securities
Warrants
Units

From time to time, we may offer and sell up to \$750,000,000 aggregate dollar amount of our common stock, preferred stock, debt securities, warrants to purchase our common stock, and/or units consisting of some or all of these securities, in any combination, together or separately, in one or more offerings, in amounts, at prices and on the terms that will be determined at the time of the offering and which will be set forth in a prospectus supplement. The prospectus supplement may also add, update or change information contained in this prospectus.

The securities may be sold directly to investors, through agents designated from time to time or to or through underwriters or dealers. If any agents, underwriters or dealers are involved in the sale of any securities with respect to which this prospectus is being delivered, the names of such agents, underwriters or dealers and any applicable fees, commissions, discounts and over-allotment options will be set forth in a prospectus supplement.

You should carefully read this prospectus, the applicable prospectus supplement and the documents incorporated or deemed incorporated by reference in this prospectus, before you invest.

Our common stock is listed on the Nasdaq Capital Market under the symbol "CERE." On November 5, 2021, the last reported sale price of our common stock on the Nasdaq Capital Market was \$44.61 per share.

Our principal executive office is located at 222 Jacobs Street, Suite 200, Cambridge, Massachusetts 02141, and our telephone number is (844) 304-2048.

Investing in our securities involves a high degree of risk. You should carefully review the risks and uncertainties described under the heading "[Risk Factors](#)" contained in this prospectus beginning on page 2, the applicable prospectus supplement, and under similar headings in the documents that are incorporated by reference into this prospectus.

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 November 22, 2021.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

| | PAGE |
|---|-------------|
| ABOUT THIS PROSPECTUS | 1 |
| RISK FACTORS | 2 |
| SPECIAL NOTE REGARDING FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS | 2 |
| THE COMPANY | 4 |
| USE OF PROCEEDS | 5 |
| DESCRIPTION OF CAPITAL STOCK | 6 |
| DESCRIPTION OF DEBT SECURITIES | 11 |
| DESCRIPTION OF WARRANTS | 18 |
| DESCRIPTION OF UNITS | 19 |
| PLAN OF DISTRIBUTION | 22 |
| LEGAL MATTERS | 23 |
| EXPERTS | 23 |
| WHERE YOU CAN FIND MORE INFORMATION | 24 |
| INCORPORATION OF CERTAIN INFORMATION BY REFERENCE | 24 |

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 the SEC, using a “shelf” registration process. Under this shelf registration process, we may offer and sell shares of our common stock, preferred stock, debt securities, warrants to purchase our common stock, and/or units, either individually or in combination with other securities, in one or more offerings, up to a total dollar amount of \$750,000,000. This prospectus provides you with a general description of the securities we may offer.

Each time we offer securities under this prospectus, we will provide a prospectus supplement that will contain more specific information about the terms of that offering. The prospectus supplement 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. You should carefully read this prospectus and any applicable prospectus supplement, together with the information incorporated herein by reference as described under the section titled “Incorporation of Certain Information by Reference,” before buying any of the securities in this offering.

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

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 titled “Where You Can Find More Information.”

As used in this prospectus, unless the context indicates otherwise, the terms “us,” “our,” “Cerevel,” “we,” “company” and similar designations refer to Cerevel Therapeutics Holdings, Inc. and, where appropriate, its consolidated subsidiaries.

RISK FACTORS

Investing in our securities involves a high degree of risk. Before deciding whether to invest in our securities, you should carefully consider the risks and uncertainties described under the heading “Risk Factors” contained in the applicable prospectus supplement, and described under the section titled “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 subsequent filings with the SEC, which are incorporated by reference into this prospectus, together with other information in this prospectus and the documents incorporated by reference. The risks described in these documents are not the only ones we face. Additional risks and uncertainties not presently known to us or that we currently deem immaterial also may impair our business operations. 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 materially adversely affected. This could cause the trading price of our securities to decline, resulting in a loss of all or part of your investment. Please also carefully read the section titled “Special Note Regarding Forward-Looking Statements.”

SPECIAL NOTE REGARDING FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS

Certain statements in this prospectus, including the documents incorporated by reference in this prospectus, may constitute “forward-looking statements” for purposes of the federal securities laws. Our forward-looking statements include, but are not limited to, statements regarding our or our management team’s expectations, hopes, beliefs, intentions or strategies regarding the future. In addition, any statements that refer to projections, forecasts or other characterizations of future events or circumstances, including any underlying assumptions, are forward-looking statements. The words “anticipate,” “believe,” “contemplate,” “continue,” “could,” “estimate,” “expect,” “intends,” “may,” “might,” “plan,” “possible,” “potential,” “predict,” “project,” “should,” “will,” “would” and similar expressions may identify forward-looking statements, but the absence of these words does not mean that a statement is not forward-looking. Forward-looking statements in this prospectus may include, for example, statements about:

- the format, likelihood of success, cost and timing of our clinical trials and other product development activities, including the design of clinical trials and preclinical studies, the timing of initiation and completion of clinical trials and related preparatory work and the timing and outcome of regulatory interactions;
- our ability to recruit and enroll suitable patients in our clinical trials;
- the potential attributes and benefits of our product candidates;
- our ability to obtain and maintain regulatory approval for our product candidates, and any related restrictions, limitations or warnings in the label of an approved product candidate;
- our ability to obtain funding for our operations, including funding necessary to complete further development, approval and, if approved, commercialization of our product candidates;
- the period over which we anticipate our existing cash and cash equivalents will be sufficient to fund our operating expense and capital expenditure requirements;
- the potential for our business development efforts to maximize the potential value of our portfolio;
- our ability to identify, in-license or acquire additional product candidates;
- our ability to maintain the Pfizer License Agreement underlying our product candidates;
- our ability to compete with other companies currently marketing or engaged in the development of treatments for the indications that we are pursuing for our product candidates;

[Table of Contents](#)

- our ability to obtain and maintain intellectual property protection for our product candidates and the duration of such protection;
- our ability to contract with and rely on third parties to assist in conducting our clinical trials and manufacturing our product candidates;
- the size and growth potential of the markets for our product candidates, and our ability to serve those markets, either alone or in partnership with others;
- the rate and degree of market acceptance of our product candidates, if approved;
- the pricing and reimbursement of our product candidates, if approved;
- regulatory developments in the United States and foreign countries;
- the impact of laws, regulations, accounting standards, regulatory requirements, judicial decisions and guidance issued by authoritative bodies;
- our ability to attract and retain key scientific, medical, commercial or management personnel;
- our estimates regarding expenses, future revenue, capital requirements and needs for additional financing;
- our financial performance;
- the ability to recognize the anticipated benefits of our business combination and the tavapadon financing transaction; and
- the effect of COVID-19 on the foregoing.

The forward-looking statements contained or incorporated by reference in this prospectus are based on current expectations and beliefs concerning future developments and their potential effects on us. There can be no assurance that future developments affecting us will be those that we have anticipated. These forward-looking statements involve a number of risks, uncertainties (some of which are beyond our control) or other assumptions that may cause actual results or performance to be materially different from those expressed or implied by these forward-looking statements. These risks and uncertainties include, but are not limited to, those factors described in the section titled "Risk Factors" and elsewhere in this prospectus, our most recent Annual Report on Form 10-K and our most recent Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q, as well as any subsequent filings with the SEC. Should one or more of these risks or uncertainties materialize, or should any of our assumptions prove incorrect, actual results may vary in material respects from those projected in these forward-looking statements. Some of these risks and uncertainties may in the future be amplified by the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic and there may be additional risks that we consider immaterial or which are unknown. It is not possible to predict or identify all such risks. We do not undertake any obligation to update or revise any forward-looking statements, whether as a result of new information, future events or otherwise, except as may be required under applicable securities laws.

THE COMPANY

We are a clinical-stage biopharmaceutical company pursuing a targeted approach to neuroscience that combines a deep understanding of disease-related biology and neurocircuitry of the brain with advanced chemistry and central nervous system, or CNS, target receptor selective pharmacology to discover and design new therapies. We seek to transform the lives of patients through the development of new therapies for neuroscience diseases, including schizophrenia, epilepsy and Parkinson's disease. Our "ready-made" pipeline of 11 small molecule programs, which includes six clinical-stage product candidates, was developed through over a decade of research and investment by Pfizer Inc., or Pfizer, and was supported by an initial capital commitment from an affiliate of Bain Capital and a keystone equity position from Pfizer. We are advancing our extensive and diverse pipeline with numerous clinical trials underway, including three Phase 3 trials and an open-label safety extension trial for tavapadon in Parkinson's as well as a Phase 2 trial in focal epilepsy and a Phase 1 trial in acute anxiety for darigabat. In addition, in June 2021, we announced positive topline results for CVL-231 in our Phase 1b trial in schizophrenia and plan to advance CVL-231 with a comprehensive Phase 2 development program. We have built a highly experienced team of senior leaders and neuroscience drug developers who combine a nimble, results-driven biotech mindset with the proven expertise of large pharmaceutical company experience and capabilities in drug discovery and development.

Our portfolio of product candidates is based on a differentiated understanding of the neurocircuitry of CNS diseases, as well as the key pillars of our targeted approach to neuroscience: (i) receptor-drug interactions at the atomic level to achieve targeted receptor subtype selectivity, (ii) orthosteric and allosteric chemistry to achieve ideal receptor pharmacology and (iii) robust packages of preclinical and clinical data that elucidate the key points of differentiation for our compounds. Our rational design approach uses measured and calculated structural and surface charge information from the target protein combined with high-resolution crystallography data, computational homology models, screening of single-residue mutant proteins, indirect solution-phase imaging techniques and other biophysical measurements to glean key molecular-level information about the interaction between a target protein and our product candidates. These insights then drive structure-informed design of subsequent molecules. Due to our understanding of the specificity and dynamic range of neural networks and how to modulate them, we believe that our product candidates have the potential to achieve optimal therapeutic activity while minimizing unintended side effects of currently available therapies.

USE OF PROCEEDS

Except as described in any applicable prospectus supplement, we intend to use the net proceeds from the sale of the securities under this prospectus for working capital and other general corporate purposes. We have not determined the amount of net proceeds to be used specifically for such purposes. As a result, our management will retain broad discretion over the allocation of net proceeds. We will set forth in the applicable prospectus supplement our intended use for the net proceeds received from the sale of any securities. Pending the use of the net proceeds, we may temporarily invest the net proceeds in a variety of capital preservation instruments, including investment grade instruments, certificates of deposit or direct or guaranteed obligations of the U.S. government, or may hold such proceeds as cash, until they are used for their stated purpose.

DESCRIPTION OF CAPITAL STOCK

The following summary of certain provisions of our securities does not purport to be complete and is subject to our certificate of incorporation and bylaws and the provisions of applicable law. Copies of our certificate of incorporation and bylaws are filed as exhibits to the registration statement of which this prospectus is a part.

Authorized Capitalization

General

The total amount of our authorized share capital consists of 500,000,000 shares of common stock, par value \$0.0001 per share, and 10,000,000 shares of preferred stock, par value \$0.0001 per share.

Common Stock

Voting rights. Each holder of common stock is entitled to one vote for each share of common stock held of record by such holder on all matters voted upon by our stockholders, provided, however, that, except as otherwise required in our certificate of incorporation or by applicable law, the holders of common stock are not entitled to vote on any amendment to our certificate of incorporation that relates solely to the terms of one or more outstanding series of preferred stock if the holders of such affected series are entitled, either separately or together with the holders of one or more other such series, to vote thereon pursuant to our certificate of incorporation (including any certificate of designation relating to any series of preferred stock) or pursuant to the General Corporation Law of the State of Delaware, or the DGCL.

Dividend rights. Subject to any other provisions of our certificate of incorporation, as it may be amended from time to time, holders of shares of common stock are entitled to receive ratably, in proportion to the number of shares of common stock held by them, such dividends and other distributions in cash, stock or property when, as and if declared thereon by our board of directors from time to time out of our assets or funds legally available therefor.

Rights upon liquidation. Subject to the rights of holders of preferred stock, in the event of any liquidation, dissolution or winding up of our affairs, whether voluntary or involuntary, after payment or provision for payment of our debts and any other payments required by law and amounts payable upon shares of preferred stock ranking senior to the shares of common stock upon such dissolution, liquidation or winding up, if any, our remaining net assets will be distributed to the holders of shares of common stock and the holders of shares of any other class or series ranking equally with the shares of common stock upon such dissolution, liquidation or winding up, equally on a per share basis.

Other rights. No holder of shares of common stock is entitled to preemptive or subscription rights contained in our certificate of incorporation or bylaws. There are no redemption or sinking fund provisions applicable to the common stock. The rights, preferences and privileges of holders of the common stock will be subject to those of the holders of any shares of preferred stock with preferential rights that we may issue in the future.

Preferred Stock

Our board of directors has the authority to issue shares of preferred stock from time to time on terms it may determine, to divide shares of preferred stock into one or more series and to fix the designations, preferences, privileges, and restrictions of preferred stock, including dividend rights, conversion rights, voting rights, terms of redemption, liquidation preference, sinking fund terms, and the number of shares constituting any series or the designation of any series to the fullest extent permitted by the DGCL. The issuance of preferred stock could have the effect of decreasing the trading price of common stock, restricting dividends on our capital stock, diluting the voting power of the common stock, impairing the liquidation rights of our capital stock or delaying or preventing a change in control of us.

Election of Directors and Vacancies

Subject to the rights of the holders of any series of preferred stock to elect additional directors under specified circumstances and the terms and conditions of an existing registration and shareholder rights agreement, or the Registration and Shareholder Rights Agreement, the number of directors of our board of directors shall be fixed solely and exclusively by resolution duly adopted from time to time by our board of directors.

Under our bylaws, at all meetings of stockholders called for the election of directors, a plurality of the votes properly cast will be sufficient to elect such directors to our board of directors.

Except as the DGCL or the Registration and Shareholder Rights Agreement may otherwise require, and subject to the rights, if any, of the holders of any series of preferred stock, in the interim between annual meetings of stockholders or special meetings of stockholders called for the election of directors and/or the removal of one or more directors and the filling of any vacancy in that connection, newly created directorships and any vacancies on our board of directors, including unfilled vacancies resulting from the removal of directors, may be filled only by the affirmative vote of a majority of the remaining directors then in office, although less than a quorum, or by the sole remaining director. All directors will hold office until the expiration of their respective terms of office and until their successors will have been elected and qualified. A director elected or appointed to fill a vacancy resulting from the death, resignation or removal of a director or a newly created directorship will serve for the remainder of the full term of the class of directors in which the new directorship was created or the vacancy occurred and until his or her successor will have been elected and qualified.

Subject to the rights, if any, of any series of our preferred stock, any director may be removed from office only with cause and only by the affirmative vote of the holders of not less than two-thirds of the outstanding voting stock then entitled to vote at an election of directors. Any such director proposed to be removed from office is entitled to advance written notice as described in our certificate of incorporation. Subject to the terms and conditions of the Registration and Shareholder Rights Agreement, in case our board of directors or any one or more directors should be so removed, new directors may be elected at the same time for the unexpired portion of the full term of the director or directors so removed.

In addition to the powers and authorities hereinbefore or by statute expressly conferred upon them, the directors are hereby empowered to exercise all such powers and do all such acts and things as may be exercised or done by us, subject, nevertheless, to the provisions of the DGCL, our certificate of incorporation and to any bylaws adopted and in effect from time to time; provided, however, that no bylaws so adopted will invalidate any prior act of the directors which would have been valid if such bylaw had not been adopted.

Notwithstanding the foregoing, any director elected pursuant to the right, if any, of the holders of preferred stock to elect additional directors under specified circumstances will serve for such term or terms and pursuant to such other provisions as specified in the relevant certificate of designations related to our preferred stock.

Quorum

The holders of a majority of the voting power of the capital stock issued and outstanding and entitled to vote thereat, present in person or represented by proxy, will constitute a quorum at all meetings of the stockholders for the transaction of business except as otherwise required by law or provided by our certificate of incorporation. If, however, such quorum will not be present or represented at any meeting of the stockholders, the holders of a majority of the voting power present in person or represented by proxy, will have power to adjourn the meeting from time to time, without notice other than announcement at the meeting, until a quorum will be present or represented. At such adjourned meeting at which a quorum will be present or represented, any business may be transacted which might have been transacted at the meeting as originally noticed. If the adjournment is for more than thirty days, or if after the adjournment a new record date is fixed for the adjourned meeting, a notice of the adjourned meeting will be given to each stockholder entitled to vote at such adjourned meeting as of the record date fixed for notice of such adjourned meeting.

Anti-takeover Effects of the Certificate of Incorporation and the Bylaws

Our certificate of incorporation and bylaws contain provisions that may delay, defer or discourage another party from acquiring control of us. We expect that these provisions, which are summarized below, will discourage coercive takeover practices or inadequate takeover bids. These provisions are also designed to encourage persons seeking to acquire control of us to first negotiate with the board of directors, which we believe may result in an improvement of the terms of any such acquisition in favor of our stockholders. However, they also give the board of directors the power to discourage acquisitions that some stockholders may favor.

Authorized but Unissued Capital Stock

Delaware law does not require stockholder approval for any issuance of authorized shares. However, the listing requirements of Nasdaq, which would apply if and so long as our common stock remains listed on Nasdaq, require stockholder approval of certain issuances equal to or exceeding 20% of the then outstanding voting power or then outstanding number of shares of common stock. Additional shares that may be issued in the future may be used for a variety of corporate purposes, including future public offerings, to raise additional capital or to facilitate acquisitions.

One of the effects of the existence of unissued and unreserved common stock may be to enable our board of directors to issue shares to persons friendly to current management, which issuance could render more difficult or discourage an attempt to obtain control of us by means of a merger, tender offer, proxy contest or otherwise and thereby protect the continuity of management and possibly deprive stockholders of opportunities to sell their shares of common stock at prices higher than prevailing market prices.

Special Meeting, Action by Written Consent and Advance Notice Requirements for Stockholder Proposals

Unless otherwise required by law, and subject to the rights, if any, of the holders of any series of preferred stock, special meetings of our stockholders, for any purpose or purposes, may be called only (i) by a majority of our board of directors or (ii) at any time when no annual meeting has been held for a period of thirteen months after our last annual meeting, a special meeting in lieu thereof may be held, and such special meeting shall have, for the purposes of our bylaws or otherwise, all the force and effect of an annual meeting. Unless otherwise required by law, written notice of a special meeting of stockholders, stating the time, place and purpose or purposes thereof, shall be given to each stockholder entitled to vote at such meeting, not less than 10 or more than sixty days before the date fixed for the meeting. Business transacted at any special meeting of stockholders will be limited to the purposes stated in the notice.

Our bylaws also provide that unless otherwise restricted by our certificate of incorporation or bylaws, any action required or permitted to be taken at any meeting of our board of directors or of any committee thereof may be taken without a meeting, if all members of our board of directors or of such committee, as the case may be, consent thereto in writing or by electronic transmission, and the writing or writings or electronic transmission or transmissions are filed with the minutes of proceedings of our board of directors or committee.

In addition, our bylaws require advance notice procedures for stockholder proposals to be brought before an annual meeting of the stockholders, including the nomination of directors. Stockholders at an annual meeting may only consider the proposals specified in the notice of meeting or brought before the meeting by or at the direction of the board of directors, or by a stockholder of record on the record date for the meeting, who is entitled to vote at the meeting and who has delivered a timely written notice in proper form to our secretary, of the stockholder's intention to bring such business before the meeting.

These provisions could have the effect of delaying until the next stockholder meeting any stockholder actions, even if they are favored by the holders of a majority of our outstanding voting securities.

Amendment to Certificate of Incorporation and Bylaws

The DGCL provides generally that the affirmative vote of a majority of the outstanding stock entitled to vote on amendments to a corporation's certificate of incorporation or bylaws is required to approve such amendment, unless a corporation's certificate of incorporation or bylaws, as the case may be, requires a greater percentage.

Our certificate of incorporation provides that the following provisions therein may be amended, altered, repealed or rescinded only by the affirmative vote of the holders of at least 66^{2/3}% in voting power of all the then outstanding shares of our stock entitled to vote thereon and the affirmative vote of at least 66^{2/3}% of the outstanding shares of each class entitled to vote thereon as a class:

- the provisions regarding the size of our board of directors and the election of directors pursuant to the Registration and Shareholder Rights Agreement;
- the provisions prohibiting stockholder actions without a meeting;
- the provisions regarding calling special meetings of stockholders;
- the provisions regarding removal of directors;
- the provisions regarding the limited liability of our directors; or
- the provisions regarding the election not to be governed by Section 203 of the DGCL.

Our bylaws may be amended or repealed (i) by the affirmative vote of a majority of the entire board of directors then in office (subject to any bylaw requiring the affirmative vote of a larger percentage of the members of our board of directors) or (ii) without the approval of the board of directors, by the affirmative vote of the holders of 66^{2/3}% of the outstanding voting stock entitled to vote on such amendment or repeal, voting as a single class, provided that if our board of directors recommends that stockholders approve such amendment or repeal at such meeting of stockholders, then such amendment or repeal shall only require the affirmative vote of the majority of the outstanding shares of capital stock entitled to vote on such amendment or repeal, voting as a single class.

Delaware Anti-Takeover Statute

Section 203 of the DGCL provides that if a person acquires 15% or more of the voting stock of a Delaware corporation, such person becomes an "interested stockholder" and may not engage in certain "business combinations" with the corporation for a period of three years from the time such person acquired 15% or more of the corporation's voting stock, unless:

- (i) the board of directors approves the acquisition of stock or the merger transaction before the time that the person becomes an interested stockholder;
- (ii) the interested stockholder owns at least 85% of the outstanding voting stock of the corporation at the time the merger transaction commences (excluding voting stock owned by directors who are also officers and certain employee stock plans); or
- (iii) the merger transaction is approved by the board of directors and at a meeting of stockholders, not by written consent, by the affirmative vote of 2/3 of the outstanding voting stock which is not owned by the interested stockholder. A Delaware corporation may elect in its certificate of incorporation or bylaws not to be governed by this particular Delaware law.

Under our certificate of incorporation, we opted out of Section 203 of the DGCL and therefore are not subject to Section 203. However, our certificate of incorporation contains similar provisions providing that we may not engage in certain "business combinations" with any "interested stockholder" for a three-year period following the time that the stockholder became an interested stockholder, unless:

- prior to such time, our board of directors approved either the business combination or the transaction which resulted in the stockholder becoming an interested stockholder;

Table of Contents

- upon consummation of the transaction that resulted in the stockholder becoming an interested stockholder, the interested stockholder owned at least 85% of our voting stock outstanding at the time the transaction commenced, excluding certain shares; or
- at or subsequent to that time, the business combination is approved by our board of directors and by the affirmative vote of holders of at least 66^{2/3}% of the outstanding voting stock that is not owned by the interested stockholder.

Generally, a “business combination” includes a merger, asset or stock sale or other transaction resulting in a financial benefit to the interested stockholder. Subject to certain exceptions, an “interested stockholder” is a person who, together with that person’s affiliates and associates, owns, or within the previous three years owned, 15% or more of our voting stock.

Under certain circumstances, this provision will make it more difficult for a person who would be an “interested stockholder” to effect various business combinations with a corporation for a three-year period. This provision may encourage companies interested in acquiring our company to negotiate in advance with our board of directors because the stockholder approval requirement would be avoided if our board of directors approves either the business combination or the transaction which results in the stockholder becoming an interested stockholder. These provisions also may have the effect of preventing changes in our board of directors and may make it more difficult to accomplish transactions which stockholders may otherwise deem to be in their best interests.

Our certificate of incorporation provides that (i) investment funds affiliated with Bain Capital Investors, LLC or Bain Capital Life Sciences Investors, LLC and their respective successors, transferees and affiliates or (ii) any person whose ownership of shares in excess of the 15% limitation set forth therein is the result of any action taken solely by us (provided, that such person shall be an “interested stockholder” if such thereafter such person acquires additional shares of voting stock of us, except as a result of further corporate actions not caused by such person) do not constitute “interested stockholders” for purposes of this provision.

Limitations on Liability and Indemnification of Officers and Directors

Our certificate of incorporation limits the liability of our directors to the fullest extent permitted by the DGCL, and our bylaws provide that we will indemnify them to the fullest extent permitted by such law. We have entered and expect to continue to enter into agreements to indemnify our directors, executive officers and other employees as determined by our board of directors. Under the terms of such indemnification agreements, we are required to indemnify each of our directors and officers, to the fullest extent permitted by the laws of the state of Delaware, if the basis of the indemnitee’s involvement was by reason of the fact that the indemnitee is or was a director or officer of us or any of its subsidiaries or was serving at our request in an official capacity for another entity. We must indemnify our officers and directors against all reasonable fees, expenses, charges and other costs of any type or nature whatsoever, including any and all expenses and obligations paid or incurred in connection with investigating, defending, being a witness in, participating in (including on appeal), or preparing to defend, be a witness or participate in any completed, actual, pending or threatened action, suit, claim or proceeding, whether civil, criminal, administrative or investigative, or establishing or enforcing a right to indemnification under the indemnification agreement. The indemnification agreements also require us, if so requested, to advance within 10 days of such request all reasonable fees, expenses, charges and other costs that such director or officer incurred, provided that such person will return any such advance if it is ultimately determined that such person is not entitled to indemnification by us. Any claims for indemnification by our directors and officers may reduce our available funds to satisfy successful third-party claims against us and may reduce the amount of money available to us.

Exclusive Jurisdiction of Certain Actions

Our bylaws require, to the fullest extent permitted by law, unless we consent in writing to the selection of an alternative forum, that derivative actions brought in our name, actions against directors, officers and employees

[Table of Contents](#)

for breach of fiduciary duty, actions asserting a claim arising pursuant to any provision of the DGCL or our certificate of incorporation or bylaws, actions to interpret, apply, enforce or determine the validity of our certificate of incorporation or bylaws and actions asserting a claim against us governed by the internal affairs doctrine may be brought only in the Court of Chancery in the State of Delaware and, if brought outside of Delaware, the stockholder bringing the suit will be deemed to have consented to service of process on such stockholder's counsel; provided, however, that the foregoing provisions will not apply to any claims arising under the Exchange Act or the Securities Act. Although we believe this provision benefits us by providing increased consistency in the application of Delaware law in the types of lawsuits to which it applies, the provision may have the effect of discouraging lawsuits against our directors and officers.

In addition, our bylaws require that, unless we consent in writing to the selection of an alternative forum, the United States District Court for the District of Massachusetts shall be the sole and exclusive forum for resolving any action asserting a claim arising under the Securities Act. We have chosen the United States District Court for the District of Massachusetts as the exclusive forum for such Securities Act causes of action because our principal executive offices are located in Cambridge, Massachusetts.

This exclusive forum provision would not apply to suits brought to enforce any liability or duty created by the Securities Act or the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, or the Exchange Act, or any other claim for which the federal courts have exclusive jurisdiction. To the extent that any such claims may be based upon federal law claims, Section 27 of the Exchange Act creates exclusive federal jurisdiction over all suits brought to enforce any duty or liability created by the Exchange Act or the rules and regulations thereunder. Furthermore, Section 22 of the Securities Act creates concurrent jurisdiction for federal and state courts over all suits brought to enforce any duty or liability created by the Securities Act or the rules and regulations thereunder. Although our bylaws contain the choice of forum provision described above, it is possible that a court could rule that such a provision is inapplicable for a particular claim or action or that such provision is unenforceable.

Transfer Agent and Registrar

The transfer agent for our common stock is Continental Stock Transfer & Trust Company.

Listing

Our common stock is listed on the Nasdaq Capital Market under the symbol "CERE."

DESCRIPTION OF DEBT SECURITIES

This section describes the general terms and provisions of our debt securities that we may issue from time to time. We may issue debt securities, in one or more series, as either senior or subordinated debt or as senior or subordinated convertible debt. While the terms we have summarized below will apply generally to any future debt securities we may offer under this prospectus, the applicable prospectus supplement will describe the specific terms of any debt securities offered through that prospectus supplement. The terms of any debt securities we offer under a prospectus supplement may differ from the terms we describe below. Unless the context requires otherwise, whenever we refer to the "indentures," we are also referring to any supplemental indentures that specify the terms of a particular series of debt securities.

We will issue any senior debt securities under the senior indenture that we will enter into with the trustee named in the senior indenture. We will issue any subordinated debt securities under the subordinated indenture that we will enter into with the trustee named in the subordinated indenture. We have filed forms of these documents as exhibits to the registration statement of which this prospectus is a part, and supplemental indentures and forms of debt securities containing the terms of the debt securities being offered will be filed as exhibits to the registration statement of which this prospectus is a part or will be incorporated by reference from reports that we file with the SEC.

[Table of Contents](#)

The indentures will be qualified under the Trust Indenture Act of 1939, as amended, or the Trust Indenture Act. We use the term “trustee” to refer to either the trustee under the senior indenture or the trustee under the subordinated indenture, as applicable.

The following summaries of material provisions of the senior debt securities, the subordinated debt securities and the indentures are subject to, and qualified in their entirety by reference to, all of the provisions of the indenture applicable to a particular series of debt securities. We urge you to read the applicable prospectus supplement related to the debt securities that we may offer under this prospectus, as well as the complete applicable indenture that contains the terms of the debt securities. Except as we may otherwise indicate, the terms of the senior indenture and the subordinated indenture are identical.

General

We will describe in the applicable prospectus supplement the terms of the series of debt securities being offered, including:

- the title;
- the principal amount being offered, and if a series, the total amount authorized and the total amount outstanding;
- any limit on the amount that may be issued;
- whether or not we will issue the series of debt securities in global form, and, if so, the terms and who the depository will be;
- the maturity date;
- whether and under what circumstances, if any, we will pay additional amounts on any debt securities held by a person who is not a United States person for tax purposes, and whether we can redeem the debt securities if we have to pay such additional amounts;
- the annual interest rate, which may be fixed or variable, or the method for determining the rate and the date interest will begin to accrue, the dates interest will be payable and the regular record dates for interest payment dates or the method for determining such dates;
- whether or not the debt securities will be secured or unsecured, and the terms of any secured debt;
- the terms of the subordination of any series of subordinated debt;
- the place where payments will be payable;
- restrictions on transfer, sale or other assignment, if any;
- our right, if any, to defer payment of interest and the maximum length of any such deferral period;
- the date, if any, after which, the conditions upon which, and the price at which, we may, at our option, redeem the series of debt securities pursuant to any optional or provisional redemption provisions and the terms of those redemption provisions;
- the date, if any, on which, and the price at which we are obligated, pursuant to any mandatory sinking fund or analogous fund provisions or otherwise, to redeem, or at the holder’s option, to purchase, the series of debt securities and the currency or currency unit in which the debt securities are payable;
- whether the indenture will restrict our ability or the ability of our subsidiaries, if any at such time, to:
 - incur additional indebtedness;
 - issue additional securities;
 - create liens;

Table of Contents

- pay dividends or make distributions in respect of our capital stock or the capital stock of our subsidiaries;
 - redeem capital stock;
 - place restrictions on our subsidiaries' ability to pay dividends, make distributions or transfer assets;
 - make investments or other restricted payments;
 - sell or otherwise dispose of assets;
 - enter into sale-leaseback transactions;
 - engage in transactions with stockholders or affiliates;
 - issue or sell stock of our subsidiaries; or
 - effect a consolidation or merger;
- whether the indenture will require us to maintain any interest coverage, fixed charge, cash flow-based, asset-based or other financial ratios;
 - a discussion of certain material U.S. federal income tax considerations applicable to the debt securities;
 - information describing any book-entry features;
 - provisions for a sinking fund purchase or other analogous fund, if any;
 - the applicability of the provisions in the indenture on discharge;
 - whether the debt securities are to be offered at a price such that they will be deemed to be offered at an "original issue discount" as defined in paragraph (a) of Section 1273 of the Internal Revenue Code, as amended;
 - the denominations in which we will issue the series of debt securities, if other than denominations of \$1,000 and any integral multiple thereof;
 - the currency of payment of debt securities if other than U.S. dollars and the manner of determining the equivalent amount in U.S. dollars; and
 - any other specific terms, preferences, rights or limitations of, or restrictions on, the debt securities, including any additional events of default or covenants provided with respect to the debt securities, and any terms that may be required by us or advisable under applicable laws or regulations or advisable in connection with the marketing of the debt securities.

Conversion or Exchange Rights

We will set forth in the applicable prospectus supplement the terms on which a series of debt securities may be convertible into or exchangeable for our common stock, our preferred stock or other securities (including securities of a third party). We will include provisions as to whether conversion or exchange is mandatory, at the option of the holder or at our option. We may include provisions pursuant to which the number of shares of our common stock, our preferred stock or other securities (including securities of a third-party) that the holders of the series of debt securities receive would be subject to adjustment.

Consolidation, Merger or Sale

Unless we provide otherwise in the prospectus supplement applicable to a particular series of debt securities, the indentures will not contain any covenant that restricts our ability to merge or consolidate, or sell, convey, transfer or otherwise dispose of all or substantially all of our assets. However, any successor to or acquirer of such assets

[Table of Contents](#)

must assume all of our obligations under the indentures or the debt securities, as appropriate. If the debt securities are convertible into or exchangeable for other securities of ours or securities of other entities, the person with whom we consolidate or merge or to whom we sell all of our property must make provisions for the conversion of the debt securities into securities that the holders of the debt securities would have received if they had converted the debt securities before the consolidation, merger or sale.

Events of Default Under the Indenture

Unless we provide otherwise in the prospectus supplement applicable to a particular series of debt securities, the following are events of default under the indentures with respect to any series of debt securities that we may issue:

- if we fail to pay interest when due and payable and our failure continues for 90 days and the time for payment has not been extended;
- if we fail to pay the principal, premium or sinking fund payment, if any, when due and payable at maturity, upon redemption or repurchase or otherwise, and the time for payment has not been extended;
- if we fail to observe or perform any other covenant contained in the debt securities or the indentures, other than a covenant specifically relating to another series of debt securities, and our failure continues for 90 days after we receive notice from the trustee or holders of at least 25% in aggregate principal amount of the outstanding debt securities of the applicable series; and
- if specified events of bankruptcy, insolvency or reorganization occur.

We will describe in each applicable prospectus supplement any additional events of default relating to the relevant series of debt securities.

If an event of default with respect to debt securities of any series occurs and is continuing, other than an event of default specified in the last bullet point above, the trustee or the holders of at least 25% in aggregate principal amount of the outstanding debt securities of that series, by notice to us in writing, and to the trustee if notice is given by such holders, may declare the unpaid principal, premium, if any, and accrued interest, if any, due and payable immediately. If an event of default specified in the last bullet point above occurs with respect to us, the unpaid principal, premium, if any, and accrued interest, if any, of each issue of debt securities then outstanding shall be due and payable without any notice or other action on the part of the trustee or any holder.

The holders of a majority in principal amount of the outstanding debt securities of an affected series may waive any default or event of default with respect to the series and its consequences, except defaults or events of default regarding payment of principal, premium, if any, or interest, unless we have cured the default or event of default in accordance with the indenture. Any waiver shall cure the default or event of default.

Subject to the terms of the indentures, if an event of default under an indenture shall occur and be continuing, the trustee will be under no obligation to exercise any of its rights or powers under such indenture at the request or direction of any of the holders of the applicable series of debt securities, unless such holders have offered the trustee reasonable indemnity or security satisfactory to it against any loss, liability or expense. The holders of a majority in principal amount of the outstanding debt securities of any series will have the right to direct the time, method and place of conducting any proceeding for any remedy available to the trustee, or exercising any trust or power conferred on the trustee, with respect to the debt securities of that series, provided that:

- the direction so given by the holder is not in conflict with any law or the applicable indenture; and
- subject to its duties under the Trust Indenture Act, the trustee need not take any action that might involve it in personal liability or might be unduly prejudicial to the holders not involved in the proceeding.

[Table of Contents](#)

A holder of the debt securities of any series will have the right to institute a proceeding under the indentures or to appoint a receiver or trustee, or to seek other remedies if:

- the holder has given written notice to the trustee of a continuing event of default with respect to that series;
- the holders of at least 25% in aggregate principal amount of the outstanding debt securities of that series have made written request, and such holders have offered reasonable indemnity to the trustee or security satisfactory to it against any loss, liability or expense or to be incurred in compliance with instituting the proceeding as trustee; and
- the trustee does not institute the proceeding, and does not receive from the holders of a majority in aggregate principal amount of the outstanding debt securities of that series other conflicting directions within 90 days after the notice, request and offer.

These limitations do not apply to a suit instituted by a holder of debt securities if we default in the payment of the principal, premium, if any, or interest on, the debt securities, or other defaults that may be specified in the applicable prospectus supplement.

We will periodically file statements with the trustee regarding our compliance with specified covenants in the indentures.

Modification of Indenture; Waiver

Subject to the terms of the indenture for any series of debt securities that we may issue, we and the trustee may change an indenture without the consent of any holders with respect to the following specific matters:

- to fix any ambiguity, defect or inconsistency in the indenture;
- to comply with the provisions described above under “—Consolidation, Merger or Sale”;
- to comply with any requirements of the SEC in connection with the qualification of any indenture under the Trust Indenture Act;
- to add to, delete from or revise the conditions, limitations, and restrictions on the authorized amount, terms, or purposes of issue, authentication and delivery of debt securities, as set forth in the indenture;
- to provide for the issuance of and establish the form and terms and conditions of the debt securities of any series as provided under “Description of Debt Securities—General,” to establish the form of any certifications required to be furnished pursuant to the terms of the indenture or any series of debt securities, or to add to the rights of the holders of any series of debt securities;
- to evidence and provide for the acceptance of appointment hereunder by a successor trustee;
- to provide for uncertificated debt securities and to make all appropriate changes for such purpose;
- to add to our covenants such new covenants, restrictions, conditions or provisions for the benefit of the holders, to make the occurrence, or the occurrence and the continuance, of a default in any such additional covenants, restrictions, conditions or provisions an event of default or to surrender any right or power conferred to us in the indenture; or
- to change anything that does not materially adversely affect the interests of any holder of debt securities of any series.

In addition, under the indentures, the rights of holders of a series of debt securities may be changed by us and the trustee with the written consent of the holders of at least a majority in aggregate principal amount of the outstanding debt securities of each series that is affected. However, subject to the terms of the indenture for any series of debt securities that we may issue or as otherwise provided in the prospectus supplement applicable to a

[Table of Contents](#)

particular series of debt securities, we and the trustee may make the following changes only with the consent of each holder of any outstanding debt securities affected:

- extending the stated maturity of the series of debt securities;
- reducing the principal amount, reducing the rate of or extending the time of payment of interest, or reducing any premium payable upon the redemption or repurchase of any debt securities; or
- reducing the percentage of debt securities, the holders of which are required to consent to any amendment, supplement, modification or waiver.

Discharge

Each indenture provides that, subject to the terms of the indenture and any limitation otherwise provided in the prospectus supplement applicable to a particular series of debt securities, we can elect to be discharged from our obligations with respect to one or more series of debt securities, except for specified obligations, including obligations to:

- register the transfer or exchange of debt securities of the series;
- replace stolen, lost or mutilated debt securities of the series;
- maintain paying agencies;
- hold monies for payment in trust;
- recover excess money held by the trustee;
- compensate and indemnify the trustee; and
- appoint any successor trustee.

In order to exercise our rights to be discharged, we must deposit with the trustee money or government obligations sufficient to pay all the principal of, any premium, and interest on, the debt securities of the series on the dates payments are due.

Form, Exchange and Transfer

We will issue the debt securities of each series only in fully registered form without coupons and, unless we otherwise specify in the applicable prospectus supplement, in denominations of \$1,000 and any integral multiple thereof. The indentures provide that we may issue debt securities of a series in temporary or permanent global form and as book-entry securities that will be deposited with, or on behalf of, The Depository Trust Company or another depository named by us and identified in a prospectus supplement with respect to that series.

At the option of the holder, subject to the terms of the indentures and the limitations applicable to global securities described in the applicable prospectus supplement, the holder of the debt securities of any series can exchange the debt securities for other debt securities of the same series, in any authorized denomination and of like tenor and aggregate principal amount.

Subject to the terms of the indentures and the limitations applicable to global securities set forth in the applicable prospectus supplement, holders of the debt securities may present the debt securities for exchange or for registration of transfer, duly endorsed or with the form of transfer endorsed thereon duly executed if so required by us or the security registrar, at the office of the security registrar or at the office of any transfer agent designated by us for this purpose. Unless otherwise provided in the debt securities that the holder presents for transfer or exchange, we will make no service charge for any registration of transfer or exchange, but we may require payment of any taxes or other governmental charges.

[Table of Contents](#)

We will name in the applicable prospectus supplement the security registrar, and any transfer agent in addition to the security registrar, that we initially designate for any debt securities. We may at any time designate additional transfer agents or rescind the designation of any transfer agent or approve a change in the office through which any transfer agent acts, except that we will be required to maintain a transfer agent in each place of payment for the debt securities of each series. If we elect to redeem the debt securities of any series, we will not be required to:

- issue, register the transfer of, or exchange any debt securities of that series during a period beginning at the opening of business 15 days before the day of mailing of a notice of redemption of any debt securities that may be selected for redemption and ending at the close of business on the day of the mailing; or
- register the transfer of or exchange any debt securities so selected for redemption, in whole or in part, except the unredeemed portion of any debt securities we are redeeming in part.

Information Concerning the Trustee

The trustee, other than during the occurrence and continuance of an event of default under an indenture, undertakes to perform only those duties as are specifically set forth in the applicable indenture. Upon an event of default under an indenture, the trustee must use the same degree of care as a prudent person would exercise or use in the conduct of his or her own affairs.

Subject to this provision, the trustee is under no obligation to exercise any of the powers given it by the indentures at the request of any holder of debt securities unless it is offered reasonable security and indemnity against the costs, expenses and liabilities that it might incur.

Payment and Paying Agents

Unless we otherwise indicate in the applicable prospectus supplement, we will make payment of the interest on any debt securities on any interest payment date to the person in whose name the debt securities, or one or more predecessor securities, are registered at the close of business on the regular record date for the interest.

We will pay principal of and any premium and interest on the debt securities of a particular series at the office of the paying agents designated by us, except that unless we otherwise indicate in the applicable prospectus supplement, we will make interest payments by check that we will mail to the holder or by wire transfer to certain holders. Unless we otherwise indicate in the applicable prospectus supplement, we will designate the corporate trust office of the trustee as our sole paying agent for payments any other paying agents that we initially designate for the debt securities of a particular series. We will maintain a paying agent in each place of payment for the debt securities of a particular series.

All money we pay to a paying agent or the trustee for the payment of the principal of or any premium or interest on any debt securities that remains unclaimed at the end of two years after such principal, premium or interest has become due and payable will be repaid to us, and the holder of the debt security thereafter may look only to us for payment thereof.

Governing Law

The indentures and the debt securities will be governed by and construed in accordance with the laws of the State of New York, except to the extent that the Trust Indenture Act is applicable.

Ranking of Debt Securities

The subordinated debt securities will be subordinate and junior in priority of payment to certain of our other indebtedness to the extent described in a prospectus supplement. The subordinated indenture does not limit the

amount of subordinated debt securities that we may issue. It also does not limit us from issuing any other secured or unsecured debt.

The senior debt securities will rank equally in right of payment to all our other senior unsecured debt. The senior indenture does not limit the amount of senior debt securities that we may issue. It also does not limit us from issuing any other secured or unsecured debt.

DESCRIPTION OF WARRANTS

The following description, together with the additional information we may include in any applicable prospectus supplements, summarizes the material terms and provisions of the warrants that we may offer under this prospectus and the related warrant agreements and warrant certificates. While the terms summarized below will apply generally to any warrants that we may offer, we will describe the particular terms of any series of warrants in more detail in the applicable prospectus supplement. If we indicate in the prospectus supplement, the terms of any warrants offered under that prospectus supplement may differ from the terms described below. Specific warrant agreements will contain additional important terms and provisions and will be incorporated by reference as an exhibit to the registration statement, which includes this prospectus.

General

We may issue warrants for the purchase of common stock, in one or more series. We may issue warrants independently or together with common stock, preferred stock and/or debt securities, and the warrants may be attached to or separate from these securities.

We plan to evidence each series of warrants by warrant certificates that we will issue under a separate warrant agreement. We will enter into the warrant agreement with a warrant agent. We will indicate the name and address of the warrant agent in the applicable prospectus supplement relating to a particular series of warrants.

We will describe in the applicable prospectus supplement the terms of the series of warrants, including:

- the offering price and aggregate number of warrants offered;
- the currency for which the warrants may be purchased;
- if applicable, the designation and terms of the securities with which the warrants are issued and the number of warrants issued with each such security or each principal amount of such security;
- if applicable, the date on and after which the warrants and the related securities will be separately transferable;
- the number of shares of common stock purchasable upon the exercise of one warrant and the price at which these shares may be purchased upon such exercise;
- the effect of any merger, consolidation, sale or other disposition of our business on the warrant agreement and the warrants;
- the terms of any rights to redeem or call the warrants;
- any provisions for changes to or adjustments in the exercise price or number of securities issuable upon exercise of the warrants;
- the periods during which, and places at which, the warrants are exercisable;
- the manner of exercise;
- the dates on which the right to exercise the warrants will commence and expire;

[Table of Contents](#)

- the manner in which the warrant agreement and warrants may be modified;
- if applicable, a discussion of certain material U.S. federal income tax considerations of holding or exercising the warrants; and
- any other specific terms, preferences, rights or limitations of or restrictions on the warrants.

DESCRIPTION OF UNITS

We may issue units comprised of shares of common stock, shares of preferred stock, debt securities and warrants to purchase common stock in any combination. We may issue units in such amounts and in as many distinct series as we wish. This section outlines certain provisions of the units that we may issue. If we issue units, they will be issued under one or more unit agreements to be entered into between us and a bank or other financial institution, as unit agent. The information described in this section may not be complete in all respects and is qualified entirely by reference to the unit agreement with respect to the units of any particular series. The specific terms of any series of units offered will be described in the applicable prospectus supplement. If so described in a particular supplement, the specific terms of any series of units may differ from the general description of terms presented below. We urge you to read any prospectus supplement related to any series of units we may offer, as well as the complete unit agreement and unit certificate that contain the terms of the units. If we issue units, forms of unit agreements and unit certificates relating to such units will be incorporated by reference as exhibits to the registration statement, which includes this prospectus.

Each unit that we may issue will be issued so that the holder of the unit is also the holder of each security included in the unit. Thus, the holder of a unit will have the rights and obligations of a holder of each included security. The unit agreement under which a unit is issued may provide that the securities included in the unit may not be held or transferred separately, at any time or at any time before a specified date.

The applicable prospectus supplement may describe:

- the designation and terms of the units and of the securities comprising the units, including whether and under what circumstances those securities may be held or transferred separately;
- any provisions of the governing unit agreement;
- the price or prices at which such units will be issued;
- the applicable U.S. federal income tax considerations relating to the units;
- any provisions for the issuance, payment, settlement, transfer or exchange of the units or of the securities comprising the units; and
- any other terms of the units and of the securities comprising the units.

The provisions described in this section, as well as those described under “Description of Capital Stock,” “Description of Debt Securities” and “Description of Warrants” will apply to the securities included in each unit, to the extent relevant and as may be updated in any prospectus supplements. We may issue units in such amounts and in as many distinct series as we wish. This section summarizes terms of the units that apply generally to all series. Most of the financial and other specific terms of a particular series of units will be described in the applicable prospectus supplement.

Unit Agreements

We will issue the units under one or more unit agreements to be entered into between us and a bank or other financial institution, as unit agent. We may add, replace or terminate unit agents from time to time. We will identify the unit agreement under which each series of units will be issued and the unit agent under that agreement in the applicable prospectus supplement.

[Table of Contents](#)

The following provisions will generally apply to all unit agreements unless otherwise stated in the applicable prospectus supplement:

Modification Without Consent

We and the applicable unit agent may amend any unit or unit agreement without the consent of any holder:

- to cure any ambiguity in any provisions of the governing unit agreement that differ from those described below;
- to correct or supplement any defective or inconsistent provision; or
- to make any other change that we believe is necessary or desirable and will not adversely affect the interests of the affected holders in any material respect.

We do not need any approval to make changes that affect only units to be issued after the changes take effect. We may also make changes that do not adversely affect a particular unit in any material respect, even if they adversely affect other units in a material respect. In those cases, we do not need to obtain the approval of the holder of the unaffected unit; we need only obtain any required approvals from the holders of the affected units.

Modification With Consent

We may not amend any particular unit or a unit agreement with respect to any particular unit unless we obtain the consent of the holder of that unit, if the amendment would:

- impair any right of the holder to exercise or enforce any right under a security included in the unit if the terms of that security require the consent of the holder to any changes that would impair the exercise or enforcement of that right; or
- reduce the percentage of outstanding units or any series or class the consent of whose holders is required to amend that series or class, or the applicable unit agreement with respect to that series or class, as described below.

Any other change to a particular unit agreement and the units issued under that agreement would require the following approval:

- if the change affects only the units of a particular series issued under that agreement, the change must be approved by the holders of a majority of the outstanding units of that series; or
- if the change affects the units of more than one series issued under that agreement, it must be approved by the holders of a majority of all outstanding units of all series affected by the change, with the units of all the affected series voting together as one class for this purpose.

These provisions regarding changes with majority approval also apply to changes affecting any securities issued under a unit agreement, as the governing document.

In each case, the required approval must be given by written consent.

Unit Agreements Will Not be Qualified Under Trust Indenture Act

No unit agreement will be qualified as an indenture, and no unit agent will be required to qualify as a trustee, under the Trust Indenture Act. Therefore, holders of units issued under unit agreements will not have the protections of the Trust Indenture Act with respect to their units.

Mergers and Similar Transactions Permitted; No Restrictive Covenants or Events of Default

The unit agreements will not restrict our ability to merge or consolidate with, or sell our assets to, another corporation or other entity or to engage in any other transactions. If at any time we merge or consolidate with, or

[Table of Contents](#)

sell our assets substantially as an entirety to, another corporation or other entity, the successor entity will succeed to and assume our obligations under the unit agreements. We will then be relieved of any further obligation under these agreements.

The unit agreements will not include any restrictions on our ability to put liens on our assets, nor will they restrict our ability to sell our assets. The unit agreements also will not provide for any events of default or remedies upon the occurrence of any events of default.

Form, Exchange and Transfer

We will issue each unit in global (i.e., book-entry) form only. Units in book-entry form will be represented by a global security registered in the name of a depository, which will be the holder of all the units represented by the global security. Those who own beneficial interests in a unit will do so through participants in the depository's system, and the rights of these indirect owners will be governed solely by the applicable procedures of the depository and its participants. We will describe book-entry securities, and other terms regarding the issuance and registration of the units in the applicable prospectus supplement.

Each unit and all securities comprising the unit will be issued in the same form.

If we issue any units in registered, non-global form, the following will apply to them:

- The units will be issued in the denominations stated in the applicable prospectus supplement. Holders may exchange their units for units of smaller denominations or combined into fewer units of larger denominations, as long as the total amount is not changed.
- Holders may exchange or transfer their units at the office of the unit agent. Holders may also replace lost, stolen, destroyed or mutilated units at that office. We may appoint another entity to perform these functions or perform them ourselves.
- Holders will not be required to pay a service charge to transfer or exchange their units, but they may be required to pay for any tax or other governmental charge associated with the transfer or exchange. The transfer or exchange, and any replacement, will be made only if our transfer agent is satisfied with the holder's proof of legal ownership. The transfer agent may also require an indemnity before replacing any units.
- If we have the right to redeem, accelerate or settle any units before their maturity, and we exercise our right as to less than all those units or other securities, we may block the exchange or transfer of those units during the period beginning 15 days before the day we mail the notice of exercise and ending on the day of that mailing, in order to freeze the list of holders to prepare the mailing. We may also refuse to register transfers of or exchange any unit selected for early settlement, except that we will continue to permit transfers and exchanges of the unsettled portion of any unit being partially settled. We may also block the transfer or exchange of any unit in this manner if the unit includes securities that are or may be selected for early settlement.

Only the depository will be entitled to transfer or exchange a unit in global form, since it will be the sole holder of the unit.

Payments and Notices

In making payments and giving notices with respect to our units, we will follow the procedures as described in the applicable prospectus supplement.

PLAN OF DISTRIBUTION

We may sell the securities from time to time pursuant to underwritten public offerings, “at the market offerings,” negotiated transactions, block trades or a combination of these methods. We may sell the securities to or through one or more underwriters or dealers (acting as principal or agent), through agents, or directly to one or more purchasers. We may distribute securities from time to time in one or more transactions:

- at a fixed price or prices, which may be changed;
- at market prices prevailing at the time of sale;
- at prices related to such prevailing market prices; or
- at negotiated prices.

A prospectus supplement or supplements will describe the terms of the offering of the securities, including, to the extent applicable:

- the name or names of the underwriters, dealers or agents, if any;
- the purchase price of the securities or other consideration therefor, and the proceeds, if any, we will receive from the sale;
- any over-allotment or other options under which underwriters may purchase additional securities from us;
- any agency fees or underwriting discounts and other items constituting agents’ or underwriters’ compensation;
- any public offering price;
- any discounts or concessions allowed or reallocated or paid to dealers; and
- any securities exchange or market on which the securities may be listed.

Only underwriters named in the prospectus supplement will be underwriters of the securities offered by the prospectus supplement. Dealers and agents participating in the distribution of the securities may be deemed to be underwriters, and compensation received by them on resale of the securities may be deemed to be underwriting discounts. If such dealers or agents were deemed to be underwriters, they may be subject to statutory liabilities under the Securities Act.

If underwriters are used in the sale, they will acquire the securities for their own account and may resell the securities from time to time in one or more transactions at a fixed public offering price or at varying prices determined at the time of sale. The obligations of the underwriters to purchase the securities will be subject to the conditions set forth in the applicable underwriting agreement. We may offer the securities to the public through underwriting syndicates represented by managing underwriters or by underwriters without a syndicate. Subject to certain conditions, the underwriters will be obligated to purchase all of the securities offered by the prospectus supplement, other than securities covered by any over-allotment option. If a dealer is used in the sale of securities, we or an underwriter will sell the securities to the dealer, as principal. The dealer may then resell the securities to the public at varying prices to be determined by the dealer at the time of resale. To the extent required, we will set forth in the prospectus supplement the name of the dealer and the terms of the transaction. Any public offering price and any discounts or concessions allowed or reallocated or paid to dealers may change from time to time.

We may use underwriters, dealers or agents with whom we have a material relationship. We will describe in the prospectus supplement, naming the underwriter, dealer or agent, the nature of any such relationship.

We may sell securities directly or through agents we designate from time to time. We will name any agent involved in the offering and sale of securities and we will describe any commissions payable to the agent in the

Table of Contents

prospectus supplement. Unless the prospectus supplement states otherwise, the agent will act on a best-efforts basis for the period of its appointment.

We may provide agents, underwriters and dealers with indemnification against civil liabilities, including liabilities under the Securities Act, or contribution with respect to payments that the agents, underwriters or dealers may make with respect to these liabilities. Agents, underwriters and dealers, or their affiliates, may engage in transactions with, or perform services for, us in the ordinary course of business.

All securities we may offer, other than common stock, will be new issues of securities with no established trading market. Any underwriters may make a market in these securities, but will not be obligated to do so and may discontinue any market making at any time without notice. We cannot guarantee the liquidity of the trading markets for any securities.

Any underwriter may engage in over-allotment, stabilizing transactions, short-covering transactions and penalty bids in accordance with Regulation M under the Exchange Act. Over-allotment involves sales in excess of the offering size, which create a short position. Stabilizing transactions permit bids to purchase the underlying security so long as the stabilizing bids do not exceed a specified maximum price. Syndicate-covering or other short-covering transactions involve purchases of the securities, either through exercise of the over-allotment option or in the open market after the distribution is completed, to cover short positions. Penalty bids permit the underwriters to reclaim a selling concession from a dealer when the securities originally sold by the dealer are purchased in a stabilizing or covering transaction to cover short positions. Those activities may cause the price of the securities to be higher than it would otherwise be. If commenced, the underwriters may discontinue any of the activities at any time.

Any underwriters that are qualified market makers on the Nasdaq Capital Market may engage in passive market making transactions in the common stock on the Nasdaq Capital Market in accordance with Regulation M under the Exchange Act, during the business day prior to the pricing of the offering, before the commencement of offers or sales of the common stock. Passive market makers must comply with applicable volume and price limitations and must be identified as passive market makers. In general, a passive market maker must display its bid at a price not in excess of the highest independent bid for such security; if all independent bids are lowered below the passive market maker's bid, however, the passive market maker's bid must then be lowered when certain purchase limits are exceeded. Passive market making may stabilize the market price of the securities at a level above that which might otherwise prevail in the open market and, if commenced, may be discontinued at any time.

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 Goodwin Procter LLP, Boston, Massachusetts. Additional legal matters may be passed upon for us or any underwriters, dealers or agents, by counsel that we will name in the applicable prospectus supplement.

EXPERTS

The consolidated financial statements of Cerevel Therapeutics Holdings, Inc. appearing in Cerevel Therapeutics Holdings, Inc.'s Annual Report (Form 10-K) for the year ended December 31, 2020, have been audited by Ernst & Young LLP, independent registered public accounting firm, as set forth in their report thereon included therein, and incorporated herein by reference. Such financial statements are, and audited financial statements to be included in subsequently filed documents will be, incorporated herein in reliance upon the report of Ernst & Young LLP pertaining to such financial statements (to the extent covered by consents filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission) given on the authority of such firm as experts in accounting and auditing.

WHERE YOU CAN FIND MORE INFORMATION

This prospectus is part of a registration statement on Form S-3 we filed with the SEC under the Securities Act and does not contain all the information set forth or incorporated by reference 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. You may obtain copies of the registration statement and its exhibits via the SEC's EDGAR database.

We file annual, quarterly and current reports, proxy statements and other information with the SEC under the Exchange Act. The SEC maintains a website that contains reports, proxy and information statements and other information regarding issuers, including us, that file electronically with the SEC. You may obtain documents that we file with the SEC at www.sec.gov.

Our website address is <https://www.cerevel.com>. We do not incorporate the information on or accessible through our website into this prospectus or any prospectus supplement, and you should not consider any information on, or that can be accessed through, our website as part of this prospectus or any prospectus supplement. Our website address is included in this prospectus as an inactive textual reference only.

INCORPORATION OF CERTAIN INFORMATION BY REFERENCE

SEC rules permit us to incorporate information by reference into this prospectus and any applicable prospectus supplement. This means that we can disclose important information to you by referring you to another document filed separately with the SEC. The information incorporated by reference is considered to be part of this prospectus and any applicable prospectus supplement, except for information superseded by information contained in this prospectus or the applicable prospectus supplement itself or in any subsequently filed incorporated document. This prospectus and any applicable prospectus supplement incorporate by reference the documents set forth below that we have previously filed with the SEC, other than information in such documents that is deemed to be furnished and not filed. These documents contain important information about us and our business and financial condition. Any report or information within any of the documents referenced below that is furnished, but not filed, shall not be incorporated by reference into this prospectus.

- Our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2020, filed with the SEC on [March 24, 2021](#);
- The information specifically incorporated by reference into our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2020 from our Definitive Proxy Statement on Schedule 14A, filed with the SEC on [April 28, 2021](#);
- Our Quarterly Reports on Form 10-Q for the fiscal quarters ended March 31, 2021, June 30, 2021 and September 30, 2021, filed with the SEC on [May 17, 2021](#), [August 11, 2021](#) and [November 10, 2021](#), respectively;
- Our Current Reports on Form 8-K filed with the SEC on [January 21, 2021](#), [April 13, 2021](#), [April 21, 2021](#), [June 16, 2021](#), [June 29, 2021](#), [July 2, 2021](#), [July 30, 2021](#) and [September 21, 2021](#); and
- The description of our common stock contained in our registration statement on Form 8-A, filed with the SEC on [June 4, 2020](#), including all amendments and reports filed for the purpose of updating such description, including [Exhibit 4.3](#) to our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2020.

All documents that we file (but not documents or parts of documents that we furnish) pursuant to Sections 13(a), 13(c), 14 or 15(d) of the Exchange Act on or after the date of this prospectus and prior to the termination of the

Table of Contents

offering of any of the securities covered under this prospectus shall be deemed to be incorporated by reference into this prospectus and will automatically update and supersede the information in this prospectus, the applicable prospectus supplement and any previously filed documents.

Any statement contained herein or in a document incorporated or deemed to be incorporated by reference into this prospectus or the applicable prospectus supplement shall be deemed to be modified or superseded for purposes of this prospectus and such applicable prospectus supplement to the extent that a statement contained in this prospectus or such applicable prospectus supplement, or in any other subsequently filed document which also is or is deemed to be incorporated by reference into this prospectus and such applicable prospectus supplement, modifies or supersedes such earlier statement. Any statement so modified or superseded shall not be deemed, except as so modified or superseded, to constitute a part of this prospectus or such applicable prospectus supplement.

We will furnish without charge to each person, including any beneficial owner, to whom a prospectus is delivered, upon written or oral request, a copy of any or all of the documents incorporated by reference, including exhibits to these documents. Any such request may be made by writing or calling us at the following address or phone number:

Cerevel Therapeutics Holdings, Inc.
222 Jacobs Street, Suite 200
Cambridge, MA 02141
(844) 304-2048
Attention: Corporate Secretary



Cerevel Therapeutics Holdings, Inc.

\$250,000,000

Common Stock

PRELIMINARY PROSPECTUS SUPPLEMENT

Joint Book-Running Managers

Morgan Stanley
Goldman Sachs & Co. LLC
Jefferies
Evercore ISI

Co-Managers

Loop Capital Markets
Siebert Williams Shank

, 2022