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**UNITED STATES  
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION**  
Washington, D.C. 20549

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**SCHEDULE 14A**

**Proxy Statement Pursuant to Section 14(a) of the  
Securities Exchange Act of 1934  
(Amendment No.    )**

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Filed by the Registrant ☒  
Filed by a party other than the Registrant ☐

- Check the appropriate box:
- ☐ Preliminary Proxy Statement
  - ☐ **Confidential, for Use of the Commission Only** (as permitted by Rule 14a-6(e)(2))
  - ☒ Definitive Proxy Statement
  - ☐ Definitive Additional Materials
  - ☐ Soliciting Material under §240.14a-12

**Cerevel Therapeutics Holdings, Inc.**  
(Name of Registrant as Specified In Its Charter)

(Name of Person(s) Filing Proxy Statement, if other than the Registrant)

- Payment of Filing Fee (Check all boxes that apply):
- ☒ No fee required
  - ☐ Fee paid previously with preliminary materials
  - ☐ Fee computed on table in exhibit required by Item 25(b) per Exchange Act Rules 14a-6(i)(1) and 0-11
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April 28, 2022

Dear Stockholder:

At Cerevel, we are dedicated to unraveling the mysteries of the brain to treat neuroscience disease, and we appreciate your support and confidence as we take this journey together. Scientific breakthroughs in the fundamental understanding of the central nervous system have led to a substantial increase in the level of interest and investment in diseases of the brain. Neuroscience is currently the second most active area of therapeutic development research, and Cerevel stands at the forefront.

We are proud of our targeted approach to treating neuroscience diseases, through which we focus on three key factors: we combine a deep expertise in neurocircuitry, or “how the brain is wired,” with a focus on targeted receptor subtype selectivity, and then leverage our differentiated approach to pharmacology to develop potential new medications for the millions of people who need them.

We are a team of dedicated and diverse leaders who are anchored in our core values of trust, courage, respect, curiosity and compassion. Our mission is to push boundaries, develop solutions and transform the lives of patients living with some of the most vexing neuroscience diseases, including schizophrenia, epilepsy and Parkinson’s disease.

Cerevel’s results support the benefits of our approach. In the past year, we announced two positive data readouts. First, we announced positive topline results for a Phase 1b trial of emraclidine in schizophrenia. 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. We plan to initiate a comprehensive Phase 2 program in schizophrenia by the middle of 2022. We also 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. This trial demonstrated, for the first time, proof of principle in the clinic that a compound that targets alpha-2/3/5 and spares alpha-1 can generate anxiolytic activity while reducing the side effects that limit benzodiazepines to episodic use. We intend to pursue development of darigabat in anxiety-related disorders. We also hired two new members of our executive team; raised more than \$500 million in capital through a follow-on offering and innovative dealmaking; and continued to advance other programs in our broad pipeline. By bringing together the people, the pipeline and the capital we need, Cerevel is changing what is possible in neuroscience.

In 2021, we also made significant progress on our corporate citizenship goals, which focused on how we engage with our people, partners and patients. We worked with the Posse Foundation to conduct a series of workshops for all Cerevel employees to examine the history of racism in the United States and discuss how we could actively build an inclusive culture. We also developed a diversity, equity and inclusion guidebook for our clinical trials to address potential barriers that may impact clinical trial participation, for which we presented a poster entitled “*Operationalizing the Enhancement of Diversity in Clinical Trials*” at the CNS Summit. Each of our Phase 2 and Phase 3 clinical trials now includes an inclusivity plan that addresses staff training, outreach and impact metric development. Finally, we created and launched the InSPiRE internship program to diversify and expand the talent base in the scientific community. Our commitment to corporate citizenship is supported by our 11-member board of directors, which includes three women and three racial minorities.

We invite you to hear more about our progress by joining the virtual 2022 Annual Meeting of Stockholders of Cerevel Therapeutics Holdings, Inc. on Tuesday, June 14, 2022 at 9:00 a.m. ET, which we refer to as the Annual Meeting. In light of the continuing public health concerns resulting from COVID-19, and to support the health and well-being of our stockholders, employees and communities, the Annual Meeting will be held as a virtual

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meeting. The Annual Meeting will take place via live webcast, providing stockholders with the ability to participate, vote their shares and ask questions. We are mailing the Notice of Internet Availability of Proxy Materials on or about April 28, 2022. Additional information about the Annual Meeting, including instructions for accessing our proxy materials and voting, as well as information about the agenda for the Annual Meeting, are described in the accompanying Notice of Annual Meeting and proxy statement.

Your vote is very important. Whether or not you plan to join the virtual Annual Meeting, it is important that your shares be represented. To ensure that your vote is counted, please carefully review the accompanying Notice of Annual Meeting and proxy statement and cast your vote as soon as possible, even if you plan to attend the Annual Meeting. Only Cerevel stockholders of record as the close of business on April 18, 2022 will be entitled to receive notice of and to vote at the Annual Meeting and any adjournment or postponement thereof.

At Cerevel, we seek to become ***the*** premier neuroscience company, and your investment and continuing interest in our efforts are an essential part of achieving that aspiration. We hope that you will join us virtually on June 14, 2022.

Sincerely,

/s/ N. Anthony Coles

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N. Anthony Coles, M.D.

Chairperson of the Board of Directors and Chief Executive Officer



## NOTICE OF 2022 ANNUAL MEETING OF STOCKHOLDERS

You are cordially invited to attend the 2022 annual meeting of stockholders, or the Annual Meeting, of Cerevel Therapeutics Holdings, Inc. or “we,” the “Company” or “Cerevel”.

<b>Time</b>	9:00 a.m., Eastern Time.
<b>Date</b>	Tuesday, June 14, 2022.
<b>Place</b>	Online at <a href="http://www.proxydocs.com/CERE">www.proxydocs.com/CERE</a>
<b>Purpose</b>	<p>To elect each of Deborah Baron, Doug Giordano, Adam Koppel and Ruth McKernan as a Class II member of the Company’s board of directors, to serve until the Company’s 2025 Annual Meeting of Stockholders and until his or her successor is duly elected and qualified;</p> <p>To approve, on a non-binding advisory basis, the compensation of the Company’s named executive officers as described in the proxy statement;</p> <p>To approve, on a non-binding advisory basis, the frequency of future advisory votes on named executive officers’ compensation;</p> <p>To ratify the appointment of Ernst &amp; Young LLP as the Company’s independent registered public accounting firm for the fiscal year ending December 31, 2022; and</p> <p>To transact any other business that may properly come before the meeting or any adjournment thereof.</p>
<b>Record Date</b>	The board of directors has fixed the close of business on April 18, 2022 as the record date for determining stockholders entitled to notice of and to vote at the meeting.
<b>Meeting Admission</b>	All stockholders as of the record date, or their duly appointed proxies, may attend the meeting. In order to attend the Annual Meeting, you must register in advance at <a href="http://www.proxydocs.com/CERE">www.proxydocs.com/CERE</a> and provide the control number located on the Notice of Internet Availability of Proxy Materials, voting instruction form or proxy card. Upon completing your registration, you will receive further instructions via email, including a unique link that will allow you access to the Annual Meeting and to vote and submit questions during the Annual Meeting.
<b>Address of Corporate Headquarters</b>	222 Jacobs Street, Suite 200, Cambridge, MA 02141.
<b>Voting by Proxy</b>	If you are a stockholder of record, please vote via the internet or, for shares held in street name, please vote in accordance with the voting instruction form you receive from your broker or nominee as soon as possible so your shares can be voted at the meeting. You may submit your voting instruction form by mail. If you are a stockholder of record, you may also vote by telephone or by submitting a proxy card by mail. If your shares are held in street name, you will receive instructions from your broker or other nominee explaining how to vote your shares, and you may also have the choice of instructing the record holder as to the voting of your shares over the internet or by telephone. Follow the instructions on the voting instruction form you received from your broker or nominee.

By order of the Board of Directors,

/s/ Scott Akamine

Scott Akamine, J.D.

Chief Legal Officer and Corporate Secretary

Cambridge, Massachusetts  
April 28, 2022

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**Important Notice Regarding the Availability of Proxy Materials for the Company's 2022 Annual Meeting of Stockholders To Be Held on June 14, 2022: The Notice of 2022 Annual Meeting of Stockholders, proxy statement and our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2021 are each available at [www.proxydocs.com/CERE](http://www.proxydocs.com/CERE).**

**A copy of our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2021, as filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission, except for the exhibits, will be furnished without charge to any stockholder upon written or oral request to Cerevel Therapeutics Holdings, Inc., 222 Jacobs Street, Suite 200, Cambridge, Massachusetts 02141, (844) 304-2048, Attention: Corporate Secretary. The accompanying proxy statement and our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2021 are also available on the Securities and Exchange Commission's website at [www.sec.gov](http://www.sec.gov).**

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**CEREVEL THERAPEUTICS HOLDINGS, INC.  
222 JACOBS STREET, SUITE 200  
CAMBRIDGE, MASSACHUSETTS 02141**

**PROXY STATEMENT  
FOR THE 2022 ANNUAL MEETING OF STOCKHOLDERS  
TO BE HELD ON JUNE 14, 2022  
AT 9:00 AM ET**

**GENERAL INFORMATION**

**Cautionary note regarding forward-looking statements**

Certain statements in this proxy statement 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 proxy statement include, but are not limited to, statements about the potential attributes and benefits of our product candidates; the format and timing of our product development activities and clinical trials, including the timing, details and objectives of the emraclidine Phase 2 program and other statements regarding the design of clinical trials and preclinical studies and the timing of initiation, completion and data readouts for clinical trials; the timing and outcome of regulatory interactions; and the sufficiency of our cash runway and available financial resources. The forward-looking statements contained in this proxy statement 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*” in Part I, Item 1A of our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2021, or the Annual Report. Should one or more of such risks or uncertainties materialize, or should any of our assumptions prove incorrect, actual results may vary in material respects from those projected in our 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. We qualify all of our forward-looking statements herein by these cautionary statements.

**When are this proxy statement and the accompanying materials scheduled to be sent to stockholders?**

We have elected to provide access to our proxy materials to our stockholders via the internet. Accordingly, on or about April 28, 2022, we will begin mailing to our stockholders a Notice of Internet Availability of Proxy Materials containing instructions on how to access our proxy materials, including our proxy statement and our Annual Report. The Notice of Internet Availability of Proxy Materials also instructs you on how to submit your proxy or voting instructions through the internet or to request a paper copy of our proxy materials, including a proxy card or voting instruction form that includes instructions on how to submit your proxy or voting instructions by mail or telephone. For shares held in street name (i.e. held for your account by a broker or other nominee), you will receive a voting instruction form from your broker or nominee. The Annual Report is available at [www.proxydocs.com/CERE](http://www.proxydocs.com/CERE).

**Why did I receive a Notice of Internet Availability of Proxy Materials instead of a full set of proxy materials?**

Pursuant to rules adopted by the Securities and Exchange Commission, or the SEC, we are providing access to our proxy materials over the internet rather than printing and mailing the proxy materials. We believe electronic delivery will expedite the receipt of materials, will help lower our costs and reduce the environmental impact of our annual meeting materials. Therefore, a Notice of Internet Availability of Proxy Materials will be mailed to holders of record and beneficial owners of our common stock starting on or around April 28, 2022. The Notice of Internet Availability of Proxy Materials will provide instructions as to how stockholders may access and review the proxy materials, including the Notice of Annual Meeting, proxy statement, proxy card and Annual Report, on the website referred to in the Notice of Internet Availability of Proxy Materials or, alternatively, how to request that a copy of the proxy materials, including a proxy card, be sent to stockholders by mail. The Notice of Internet Availability of Proxy Materials will also provide voting instructions. In addition, stockholders of record may request to receive the proxy materials in printed form by mail, or electronically by email, on an ongoing basis for future stockholder meetings. Please note that while our proxy materials are available at the website referenced in the Notice of Internet Availability of Proxy Materials, and our Notice of Annual Meeting, proxy statement and Annual Report are available on our website, no other information contained on either website is incorporated by reference in or considered to be a part of this document.

**Why is the Annual Meeting virtual only?**

Protecting the health and well-being of attendees (employees, stockholders and the general public) is our top priority. In light of the continuing public health concerns resulting from COVID-19, and to support the health and well-being of our stockholders, employees and communities, we think a virtual-only meeting for this year is advisable. Accordingly, this year's Annual Meeting will be conducted virtually, via live webcast.

**Who is soliciting my vote?**

The board of directors of Cerevel Therapeutics Holdings, Inc. is soliciting your vote for the Annual Meeting.

**When is the record date for the Annual Meeting?**

The board of directors has fixed the record date for the Annual Meeting as of the close of business on April 18, 2022.

**How many votes can be cast by all stockholders?**

A total of 148,289,416 shares of common stock of the Company were outstanding on April 18, 2022 and entitled to be voted at the meeting. Each share of common stock is entitled to one vote on each matter.

**Who can vote?**

If your shares are registered directly in your name, you are a "stockholder of record" who may vote at the Annual Meeting. As the stockholder of record, you have the right to direct the voting of your shares by voting over the internet, by telephone, by returning your proxy or by voting online during the Annual Meeting.

If your shares are held in an account at a bank or at a brokerage firm or other nominee holder, you are considered the beneficial owner of shares held in "street name," and these proxy materials are being forwarded to you by your bank, broker or other nominee who is considered the stockholder of record for purposes of voting at the Annual Meeting. As the beneficial owner, you have the right to direct your bank, broker or other nominee on how to vote your shares and to participate in the Annual Meeting. You will receive instructions from your bank, broker or other nominee explaining how you can vote your shares and whether they permit internet or telephone



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voting. Follow the instructions from your bank, broker or other nominee included with these proxy materials, or contact your bank, broker or other nominee to request a proxy form. We encourage you to provide voting instructions to your bank, broker or other nominee by giving your proxy to them. This ensures that your shares will be voted at the Annual Meeting according to your instructions. If you want to vote in person virtually at the Annual Meeting, you must register in advance at [www.proxydocs.com/CERE](http://www.proxydocs.com/CERE). You may be instructed to obtain a legal proxy from your broker, bank or other nominee and to submit a copy in advance of the meeting. Further instructions will be provided to you as part of your registration process.

### How do I vote?

If you are a stockholder of record and your shares are registered directly in your name, you may vote:

- **By Internet.** If you received the Notice of Internet Availability of Proxy Materials or a printed copy of the proxy materials, follow the instructions in the Notice of Internet Availability of Proxy Materials or on the proxy card. Votes submitted by internet must be received by 11:59 p.m. Eastern Time on June 13, 2022.
- **By Telephone.** If you received a printed copy of the proxy materials, follow the instructions on the proxy card. Votes submitted by telephone must be received by 11:59 p.m. Eastern Time on June 13, 2022.
- **By Mail.** If you received a printed copy of the proxy materials, complete, sign, date, and mail your proxy card in the enclosed, postage-prepaid envelope. If you sign and return the enclosed proxy card but do not specify how you want your shares voted, they will be voted **FOR** each of the four Class II nominees for director named in this proxy statement, **FOR** the compensation of our named executive officers, on an advisory basis, **EVERY ONE YEAR** for the frequency of future advisory votes on named executive officers' compensation and **FOR** the ratification of the appointment of Ernst & Young LLP as our independent registered public accounting firm for the fiscal year ending December 31, 2022, and will be voted according to the discretion of the proxy holder upon such other matters that may properly come before the meeting or any adjournment or postponement thereof. If you are mailed or otherwise receive or obtain a proxy card or voting instruction form, and you choose to vote by internet or by telephone, you do not have to return your proxy card or voting instruction form. Votes submitted by mail must be received by June 13, 2022.
- **By Internet at the Annual Meeting.** You may also vote in person virtually by attending the meeting through [www.proxydocs.com/CERE](http://www.proxydocs.com/CERE). To attend the Annual Meeting and vote your shares, you must register in advance at [www.proxydocs.com/CERE](http://www.proxydocs.com/CERE) and provide the control number located on your Notice of Internet Availability of Proxy Materials, voting instruction form or proxy card.

If your shares of common stock are held in street name (i.e. held for your account by a broker or other nominee):

- **By Internet or By Telephone.** You will receive instructions from your broker or other nominee if you are permitted to vote by internet or telephone.
- **By Mail.** You will receive instructions from your broker or other nominee explaining how to vote your shares by mail.

### How do I attend the Annual Meeting online?

We will be hosting our Annual Meeting via live webcast only. Any stockholder can attend the Annual Meeting live online by registering at [www.proxydocs.com/CERE](http://www.proxydocs.com/CERE). In order to attend the Annual Meeting, you must register in advance at [www.proxydocs.com/CERE](http://www.proxydocs.com/CERE) and provide the control number located on your Notice of Internet Availability of Proxy Materials, voting instruction form or proxy card. Upon completing your registration, you will receive further instructions via email, including a unique link that will allow you access to the Annual Meeting and to vote and submit questions during the Annual Meeting. The webcast will start at 9:00 a.m. Eastern Time on June 14, 2022.

### **What are the board of directors' recommendations on how to vote my shares?**

The board of directors recommends a vote:

Proposal 1: **FOR** election of the four Class II director nominees (page 7)

Proposal 2: **FOR** approval of the compensation of our named executive officers as disclosed in this proxy statement, or Say-On-Pay (page 62)

Proposal 3: Every **ONE YEAR** for the frequency of future advisory votes on named executive officers' compensation, or Say-On-Frequency (page 63)

Proposal 4: **FOR** ratification of the appointment of Ernst & Young LLP as our independent registered public accounting firm for the fiscal year ending December 31, 2022 (page 64)

### **Who pays the cost for soliciting proxies?**

The Company will pay the cost for the solicitation of proxies by the board of directors. The solicitation of proxies will be made primarily by mail and through internet access to materials. Proxies may also be solicited personally, by telephone, fax or email by employees of the Company without any remuneration to such individuals other than their regular compensation. The Company will also reimburse brokers, banks, custodians, other nominees and fiduciaries for forwarding these materials to their principals to obtain the authorization for the execution of proxies.

### **What are broker non-votes?**

Brokers or other nominee holders who hold shares of common stock in "street name" for a beneficial owner of those shares typically have the authority to vote in their discretion on "routine" proposals when they have not received instructions from beneficial owners. However, they are not allowed to exercise their voting discretion with respect to the election of directors or for the approval of other matters that are considered "non-routine" matters without specific voting instructions from the beneficial owner. These non-voted shares are referred to as "broker non-votes." If your broker holds your common stock in "street name," your broker will vote your shares on "non-routine" proposals only if you provide instructions to your broker on how to vote. Only Proposal No. 4 (ratifying the appointment of our independent registered public accounting firm) is considered a routine matter. Proposals No. 1 (election of directors), No. 2 (say-on-pay) and No. 3 (say-on-frequency) are considered non-routine matters, and without your instruction, your broker cannot vote your shares for those proposals.

### **Can I change or revoke my proxy?**

If you are a stockholder of record, you may revoke your proxy at any time before your proxy is voted at the Annual Meeting by notifying the Company's Corporate Secretary in writing, by returning a signed proxy with a later date, or by transmitting a subsequent vote over the internet or by telephone prior to the close of the internet voting facility or the telephone voting facility. You may also attend the virtual meeting and vote during the meeting, although attendance at the Annual Meeting will not, by itself, revoke a proxy.

If your stock is held in street name, you must contact your broker or nominee for instructions as to how to change your vote.

### **What constitutes a quorum?**

The presence, by virtual attendance or by proxy, of holders of at least a majority of the total number of outstanding shares entitled to vote is necessary to constitute a quorum for the transaction of business at the

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Annual Meeting. Shares held of record by stockholders or brokers, bankers or other nominees who do not return a signed and dated proxy or attend the Annual Meeting virtually will not be considered present or represented at the Annual Meeting and will not be counted in determining the presence of a quorum.

“Withhold” votes, abstentions and broker non-votes, if any, will be counted for purposes of determining whether a quorum is present for the transaction of business at the meeting.

### **What vote is required to approve each item and how are votes counted?**

Votes cast by proxy or online at the Annual Meeting will be counted by the persons appointed by the Company to act as tabulators for the meeting. The tabulators will count all votes FOR, AGAINST, WITHHOLD, abstentions and broker non-votes, as applicable, for each matter to be voted on at the Annual Meeting. Abstentions and broker non-votes are not counted as votes cast and, therefore, do not have the effect of votes in opposition to any of the proposals.

- ***Proposal 1—Election of four Class II director nominees***

With respect to Proposal 1, you may:

- vote FOR all nominees;
- vote FOR one or more nominees and WITHHOLD from other nominees; or
- WITHHOLD your vote from all nominees.

A plurality of the votes cast by the shares of common stock present or represented by proxy at the meeting and entitled to vote thereon is required to elect each nominee named herein. This means that the four nominees for director to receive the highest number of votes FOR election will be elected as directors, even if those votes do not constitute a majority of the votes cast. Stockholders are not permitted to cumulate votes with respect to the election of directors. Broker non-votes and “withheld” votes will have no effect on the voting on Proposal 1.

- ***Proposal 2—Advisory vote on the compensation of our named executive officers as disclosed in this proxy statement***

Advisory approval of the compensation of our named executive officers will be obtained if the number of votes cast FOR the proposal at the Annual Meeting exceeds the number of votes AGAINST the proposal. Because abstentions and broker non-votes are neither votes for or against the proposal, they will have no effect on the outcome of the vote. Although this vote is advisory and not binding on us, our board of directors and the compensation committee of our board of directors will consider the results of the stockholder vote when making future decisions regarding executive compensation.

- ***Proposal 3—Vote on frequency of future advisory votes on named executive officers’ compensation***

Advisory approval of the frequency of future advisory votes on named executive officers’ compensation will be the frequency alternative (every one year, two years or three years) that receives a number of votes cast for such alternative that exceeds the number of votes cast for the other alternatives. Because abstentions and broker non-votes are not votes for any of the alternatives, they will have no effect on the outcome of the vote. If none of the frequency alternatives receives a majority of the votes cast, the frequency that receives the highest number of votes cast will be deemed to be the frequency recommended by the stockholders. While our board of directors intends to carefully consider the voting results of this proposal, the final vote is advisory in nature and therefore not binding on us, our board of directors or the compensation committee of our board of directors. Our board of directors and the compensation committee thereof value the opinions of all of our stockholders and will consider the outcome of this vote when making future decisions on the frequency with which we will hold an advisory vote on executive compensation.

• ***Proposal 4—Ratification of the appointment of Ernst & Young LLP as our independent registered public accounting firm***

The number of votes FOR must exceed the number of votes AGAINST in order to ratify the appointment of Ernst & Young LLP as our independent registered public accounting firm for our fiscal year ending December 31, 2022. Abstentions are considered to be votes not cast on this proposal and thus will have no effect on the outcome. Brokers generally have discretionary authority to vote on the ratification of our independent registered public accounting firm, thus broker non-votes are not expected to result from the vote on Proposal 4. To the extent there are any broker non-votes, they will have no effect on the outcome of Proposal 4.

**Could other matters be decided at the Annual Meeting?**

We do not know of any other matters that may be presented for action at the Annual Meeting. Should any other business come before the meeting, the persons named on the enclosed proxy will have discretionary authority to vote the shares represented by such proxies in accordance with their best judgment. If you hold shares through a broker, bank or other nominee as described above, they will not be able to vote your shares on any other business that comes before the Annual Meeting unless they receive instructions from you with respect to such matter.

**How can I find out the results of the voting at the Annual Meeting?**

Preliminary voting results will be announced at the Annual Meeting. Final voting results will be published in a Current Report on Form 8-K that we expect to file with the SEC within four business days after the Annual Meeting. If final voting results are not available to us in time to file a Current Report on Form 8-K within four business days after the Annual Meeting, we intend to file a Current Report on Form 8-K to publish preliminary results and, within four business days after the final results are known to us, file an additional Current Report on Form 8-K to publish the final results.

**What does it mean if I receive more than one proxy card or voting instruction form?**

It means that you have multiple accounts at the transfer agent or with brokers. Please complete and return all proxy cards or voting instruction forms to ensure that all of your shares are voted.

**What if I have technical difficulties or trouble accessing the Annual Meeting?**

If you encounter any technical difficulties with the virtual meeting platform on the meeting day, please call the technical support number that will be posted on the virtual Annual Meeting log-in page. Technical support will be available starting at 8:45 a.m. Eastern Time on June 14, 2022 and will remain available until the Annual Meeting has ended.

**Who should I call if I have any additional questions?**

If you hold your shares directly, please call the Corporate Secretary of the Company at (844) 304-2048. If your shares are held in street name, please contact the telephone number provided on your voting instruction form or contact your broker or nominee holder directly.

## **PROPOSAL 1: ELECTION OF FOUR CLASS II DIRECTORS**

Our board of directors is divided into three classes, with one class of our directors standing for election each year. The members of each class are elected to serve a three-year term with the term of office of each class ending in successive years. Deborah Baron, Doug Giordano, Adam Koppel and Ruth McKernan are the directors whose terms will expire at this Annual Meeting and each of them has been nominated for and has agreed to stand for re-election to the board of directors to serve as a Class II director of the Company until the 2025 Annual Meeting and until his or her successor is duly elected and qualified, or until his or her earlier death, resignation or removal. The term for our Class III directors will expire at our 2023 annual meeting of stockholders and the term for our Class I directors will expire at our 2024 annual meeting of stockholders.

It is intended that, unless you give contrary instructions, shares represented by proxies solicited by the board of directors will be voted for the election of the director nominees listed below. We have no reason to believe that the director nominees will be unavailable for election at the Annual Meeting. In the event that a director nominee is unexpectedly not available to serve, proxies may be voted for another person nominated as a substitute by the board of directors, or the board of directors may reduce the number of directors to be elected at the Annual Meeting. Pursuant to our bylaws, the board of directors has fixed the number of directors at 11 as of the date of the Annual Meeting. Except as otherwise provided in the Registration and Shareholder Rights Agreement (as defined herein), vacancies on the board of directors are filled solely and exclusively by the affirmative vote of a majority of the remaining directors, even if less than a quorum, and not by the stockholders. Your proxy cannot be voted for a greater number of persons than the number of director nominees named in this proxy statement.

Information relating to each director nominee and each continuing director, including his or her period of service as a director of the Company, principal occupation and other biographical material is shown below.

### **Voting Requirement to Approve Proposal**

For Proposal 1, the four nominees receiving the plurality of votes properly cast will be elected as directors.

**THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS UNANIMOUSLY RECOMMENDS THAT YOU VOTE**

**FOR**

**EACH DIRECTOR NOMINEE FOR CLASS II DIRECTOR:**

**DEBORAH BARON, DOUG GIORDANO, ADAM KOPPEL AND RUTH MCKERNAN**

**(PROPOSAL 1 ON YOUR PROXY CARD)**

## DIRECTORS

The following table sets forth information concerning our directors as of March 31, 2022. The biographical description of each director includes the specific experience, qualifications, attributes and skills that the board of directors would expect to consider if it were making a conclusion currently as to whether such person should serve as a director.

	<b>N. Anthony Coles, M.D.</b> Chairperson and Class I Director; Age 61
	<b>Morris Birnbaum, M.D., Ph.D.</b> Class I Director; Age 70
	<b>Christopher Gordon, M.B.A.</b> Class I Director; Age 49
	<b>Deborah Baron, M.B.A.</b> Class II Director; Age 53
	<b>Doug Giordano, M.B.A.</b> Class II Director; Age 59
	<b>Adam Koppel, M.D., Ph.D.</b> Class II Director; Age 52
	<b>Ruth McKernan, Ph.D., CBE, FMedSci</b> Class II Director; Age 64
	<b>Marijn Dekkers, Ph.D.</b> Class III Director; Age 64
	<b>Deval Patrick, J.D.</b> Class III Director; Age 65
	<b>Norbert Riedel, Ph.D.</b> Class III Director; Age 64
	<b>Gabrielle Sulzberger, J.D., M.B.A.</b> Class III Director; Age 61

## Information about Class II Director Nominees

**Deborah Baron, M.B.A.** has served as a member of our board of directors since January 2021. Ms. Baron is currently a senior vice president in Pfizer Inc.'s Worldwide Business Development Group, which she joined in 2002. In this role, Ms. Baron leads all Pfizer business development activities, covering a wide range of transaction types including venture investments, research/development/commercial collaborations, license agreements, mergers and acquisitions and divestitures. Prior to this role, Ms. Baron held positions of increasing responsibility at Pfizer, including leading business development activities in Pfizer's Primary Care and Emerging Markets businesses. Before joining Pfizer in 2002, Ms. Baron was an associate principal at McKinsey & Co, a management consulting firm, and was previously a manufacturing engineer at The Stanley Works, now Stanley Black & Decker, Inc., a manufacturer of industrial tools and household hardware and provider of security products. Ms. Baron received her B.S. in Mechanical Engineering from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and an M.B.A. from the Sloan School of Management at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. We believe Ms. Baron is qualified to serve on our board of directors because of her extensive executive experience in our industry.

**Doug Giordano, M.B.A.** has served as a member of our board of directors since September 2018. Mr. Giordano is currently a managing director at Perceptive Advisors. Prior to joining Perceptive Advisors, Mr. Giordano served as a senior vice president in Pfizer Inc.'s Worldwide Business Development Group, from 2010 until April 2021. From March 2007 through February 2010, Mr. Giordano was Vice President of Pfizer Worldwide Business Development, responsible for Corporate Development and Corporate Transactions. Prior to that, Mr. Giordano held positions of increasing responsibility within Pfizer's U.S. Pharmaceuticals commercial organization. Before his U.S. pharmaceuticals operating role, Mr. Giordano worked in a mergers and acquisitions role within Pfizer's Medical Technology Group. Prior to his role with the Medical Technology Group, Mr. Giordano held positions within Pfizer's U.S. Pharmaceutical Group in finance and global manufacturing. Prior to joining Pfizer, Mr. Giordano was a consultant at Booz, Allen & Hamilton. Mr. Giordano currently serves on the board of directors of Panacea Acquisition Corp. II (NASDAQ: PANA) and previously served on the boards of directors of ICU Medical, Inc. (NASDAQ: ICUI) (from April 2017 to March 2019) and ViiV Healthcare Limited (from 2012 to 2019). Mr. Giordano earned a bachelor's degree in biomedical engineering from Duke University and an M.B.A. from Cornell University's Johnson School of Business. We believe Mr. Giordano is qualified to serve on our board of directors because of his industry experience as an investor and business development executive.

**Adam Koppel, M.D., Ph.D.** has served as a member of our board of directors since September 2018. Dr. Koppel is managing director of Bain Capital Life Sciences. He initially joined Bain Capital Public Equity in 2003, where he was a leader within the healthcare sector until 2014. From 2014 to 2016, Dr. Koppel was executive vice president of corporate development and chief strategy officer at Biogen Inc. Prior to joining Bain Capital Public Equity in 2003, Dr. Koppel was an associate principal at McKinsey & Co in New Jersey where he served a variety of healthcare companies. Dr. Koppel currently serves as a member of the boards of directors of BCLS Acquisition Corp. (NASDAQ: BLSA), Solid Biosciences Inc. (NASDAQ: SLDB), Aptinyx Inc. (NASDAQ: APTX) and Foghorn Therapeutics Inc. (NASDAQ: FHTX), and previously served on the board of directors of Dicerna Pharmaceuticals, Inc. (a former Nasdaq-listed company acquired by Novo Nordisk A/S), Trevena, Inc. (NASDAQ: TRVN), PTC Therapeutics, Inc. (NASDAQ: PTCT), and Viacyte, Inc. Dr. Koppel graduated magna cum laude from Harvard University with a bachelor's and master's degrees in history and science. He received an M.D. and Ph.D. in neuroscience from the University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine and an M.B.A. from The Wharton School at the University of Pennsylvania, where he was a Palmer Scholar. We believe Dr. Koppel is qualified to serve on our board of directors because of his background as an executive officer, director and public equity and growth private equity investor in pharmaceutical companies, as well as his scientific and medical background.

**Ruth McKernan, Ph.D., CBE, FMedSci** has served as a member of our board of directors since December 2020. Dr. McKernan has served as a venture partner at SV Health Investors, LLP, a global investment firm

focused on the healthcare industry, since 2018. Previously, from 2015 to 2018, Dr. McKernan served as chief executive officer of Innovate UK, a non-departmental public body funded by a grant-in-aid from the UK government. From 2005 to 2015, Dr. McKernan held various roles of increasing responsibility at Pfizer Inc., a global pharmaceutical company, most recently as chief scientific officer. Prior to joining Pfizer, she served in multiple senior positions over 18 years at Merck & Co., a publicly traded pharmaceutical company. Dr. McKernan currently serves as chair of the board of directors of AstronauTx Ltd. and BioIndustry Association, a trade association for innovative life sciences in the UK, and as a trustee of Alzheimer's Research UK, and is a member of Cancer Research UK. Dr. McKernan earned her B.S. in Pharmacology and Biochemistry from King's College London, where she also obtained her Ph.D. in Neuroscience from the Institute of Psychiatry, Psychology and Neuroscience. Dr. McKernan was conferred with Honorary D.Sc. degrees from the University of Bradford and the University of Coventry. We believe Dr. McKernan is qualified to serve on our board of directors because of her scientific and industry experience in our field.

## **Information about Other Directors Not Standing for Election at this Meeting**

### ***Class III Directors with Terms Expiring at the 2023 Annual Meeting***

**Marijn Dekkers, Ph.D.** has served as a member of our board of directors since September 2018. Since May 2017, Dr. Dekkers has served as a founder and the chairperson of Novalis LifeSciences LLC, an investment and advisory firm for the life science industry. From October 2010 to April 2016, Dr. Dekkers served as chief executive officer of Bayer AG in Leverkusen, Germany, and from 2002 to 2009, he was chief executive officer of Thermo Fisher Scientific. Dr. Dekkers currently serves on the boards of directors of the Foundation for the National Institutes of Health, Georgetown University, Quantum-Si Incorporated (NASDAQ: QSI) and Ginkgo Bioworks Holdings, Inc. (NYSE: DNA) and previously served on the board of directors of Unilever PLC (NYSE: UL), General Electric Company (NYSE: GE), Biogen Inc. (NASDAQ: BIIB) and Quanterix Corporation (NASDAQ: QTRX). Dr. Dekkers received his Ph.D. and M.S. in chemical engineering from the University of Eindhoven and his bachelor's degree in chemistry from the Radboud University, both in the Netherlands. We believe Dr. Dekkers is qualified to serve on our board of directors because of his extensive executive experience in our industry.

**Deval Patrick, J.D.** has served as a member of our board of directors since January 2021. Mr. Patrick is the co-director of the Center for Public Leadership at the Harvard Kennedy School. He has served as co-chair of American Bridge 21st Century and BridgeTogether, a political action committee and 501(c)(3) that supports progressive politics and grassroots groups to drive turnout and engagement among disenfranchised and marginalized votes, since May 2020. From April 2015 to December 2019, Mr. Patrick served as a managing director of Bain Capital, where he founded and led a growth equity fund focused on delivering competitive financial returns and positive social impact. Previously, from January 2007 to January 2015, Mr. Patrick served as Massachusetts' first African-American governor. Prior to his tenure in government, from 2000 to 2004, Mr. Patrick served as the executive vice president and general counsel at The Coca-Cola Company. Previously, from 1998 to 1999, he served as vice president and general counsel at Texaco Inc., until its acquisition by Chevron Corporation. Mr. Patrick also previously served as a partner in two Boston law firms and, from 1994 to 1997, served as the Assistant Attorney General of the United States for Civil Rights in the Department of Justice. Mr. Patrick serves on the boards of directors of Global Blood Therapeutics, Inc. (NASDAQ: GBT), American Well Corporation (NYSE: AMWL), Twilio Inc. (NYSE: TWLO) and Toast, Inc. (NYSE: TOST), and previously served as a member of the board of directors of Environmental Impact Acquisition Corp (now GreenLight Biosciences Holdings, PBC) (NASDAQ: GRNA). Mr. Patrick is a Rockefeller Fellow, a Crown Fellow of the Aspen Institute, and the author of two books, *A Reason to Believe: Lessons from an Improbable Life* and *Faith in the Dream: A Call to the Nation to Reclaim American Values*. Mr. Patrick received a B.A. from Harvard College and a J.D. from Harvard Law School. We believe Mr. Patrick is qualified to serve on our board of directors because of his extensive public and private sector leadership experience and business management.

**Norbert G. Riedel, Ph.D.**, has served as a member of our board of directors since December 2018. Dr. Riedel currently serves as the Executive Chairman and a member of the board of directors of Aptinyx Inc.



(NASDAQ: APTX), a biopharmaceutical company, where he also previously served as chief executive officer from September 2015 to December 2021, and as president from September 2015 to December 2020. Dr. Riedel also previously served as chief executive officer and president of Naurex Inc., the predecessor to Aptinyx, from January 2014 to August 2015. From 2001 to January 2013, he served as corporate vice president and chief scientific officer of Baxter International Inc., a diversified healthcare company, where from 1998 to 2001, he also served as president and general manager of the recombinant therapeutic proteins business unit and vice president of research and development of the bioscience business unit. From 1996 to 1998, Dr. Riedel served as head of worldwide biotechnology and worldwide core research functions at Hoechst-Marion Roussel (now Sanofi), a global pharmaceutical company. Dr. Riedel served on the board of directors of Ariad Pharmaceuticals, Inc., an oncology company then listed on Nasdaq, from May 2011 until the company was acquired in February 2017. Dr. Riedel also serves on the boards of directors of Jazz Pharmaceuticals plc (NASDAQ: JAZZ), Eton Pharmaceuticals, Inc. (NASDAQ: ETON) and the Illinois Biotechnology Innovation Organization and is also a member of the Austrian Academy of Sciences. Dr. Riedel is an Adjunct Professor at Boston University School of Medicine and an Adjunct Professor of Medicine at Northwestern University's Feinberg School of Medicine. Dr. Riedel previously served as an associate professor of medicine at Boston University School of Medicine and a visiting associate professor at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. Dr. Riedel holds a diploma in biochemistry and a Ph.D. in biochemistry from the University of Frankfurt. We believe Dr. Riedel is qualified to serve on our board of directors because of his significant scientific, drug discovery and development and commercial expertise with over 20 years of experience in the biotechnology and pharmaceutical industries.

**Gabrielle Sulzberger, J.D., M.B.A.** has served as a member of our board of directors since June 2019. Ms. Sulzberger currently serves as chairperson of the ESG practice at Teneo, a public relations and advisory company, and is also a senior advisor at Two Sigma and Centerbridge Partners. From September 2007 to August 2020, Ms. Sulzberger was a general partner of Fontis Partners, a private equity fund based in Pasadena, California, and has served as chief financial officer of several public and private companies. Until August of 2017, Ms. Sulzberger served as chairperson of the board of directors of Whole Foods Market, Inc. Ms. Sulzberger currently serves on the boards of directors of Mastercard Incorporated (NYSE: MA), Eli Lilly and Company (NYSE: LLY), Warby Parker Inc. (NYSE: WRBY), True Food Kitchen and Acorns Advisers, LLC, and previously served on the boards of directors of Brixmor Property Group Inc. (NYSE: BRX), Teva Pharmaceutical Industries Limited (NYSE: TEVA), Bright Horizons Family Solutions Inc. (NYSE: BFAM), IndyMac Bank and Stage Stores Inc. Ms. Sulzberger is a Trustee of the Ford Foundation, and also serves on the boards of the Metropolitan Museum of Art, Sesame Street Workshop, TimesUp and Trinity Church Wall Street. She is a Henry Crown Fellow of the Aspen Institute. Ms. Sulzberger received her B.A. from the Woodrow Wilson School of Princeton University. She received her M.B.A. from Harvard Business School and J.D. from Harvard Law School and is a member of the Massachusetts Bar. We believe Ms. Sulzberger is qualified to serve on our board of directors because of her finance and accounting background, her experience as a private equity investor as well as her experience as a director of a range of businesses and industries.

#### ***Class I Directors with Terms Expiring at the 2024 Annual Meeting***

**N. Anthony Coles, M.D.** has been our Chief Executive Officer since September 2019 and has served as the chairperson of our board of directors since December 2018. From October 2014 to September 2019, Dr. Coles co-founded and served as the chairperson and chief executive officer of Yumanity Therapeutics, Inc. (NASDAQ: YMTX), where he continues to serve as executive chair. Yumanity Therapeutics is a clinical-stage biopharmaceutical company targeting neurodegenerative diseases caused by protein misfolding. From October 2013 to October 2014, Dr. Coles served as the chairperson and chief executive officer of TRATE Enterprises, LLC, a privately-held company. Previously, Dr. Coles served as president, chief executive officer and chairperson of the board directors of Onyx Pharmaceuticals, Inc., from 2012 until its sale to Amgen in 2013, having served as its president, chief executive officer and a member of its board of directors from 2008 until 2012. Prior to joining Onyx Pharmaceuticals, Inc., Dr. Coles was president, chief executive officer and a member of the board of directors of NPS Pharmaceuticals, Inc. Before joining NPS Pharmaceuticals, Inc. in 2005, Dr. Coles was senior vice president of commercial operations at Vertex Pharmaceuticals Incorporated, and

earlier, held several executive positions at Bristol-Myers Squibb Company and positions of increasing responsibility at Merck & Co., Inc. In addition to having previously served as a director of Onyx and NPS, Dr. Coles was formerly a director of CRISPR Therapeutics AG (NASDAQ: CRSP), Laboratory Corporation of America Holdings (NYSE: LH), Campus Crest Communities, Inc. and McKesson Corporation (NYSE: MCK). He also previously served as a member of the Harvard Medical School Board of Fellows. Dr. Coles currently serves on the board of directors of Regeneron Pharmaceuticals, Inc. (NASDAQ: REGN), and is also a member of the board of trustees for Johns Hopkins University. He is also a member of the Council for the Smithsonian's National Museum of African American History and Culture in Washington, D.C., a member of the board of trustees of The Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York, and a member of the board of directors of the Council on Foreign Relations. In 2021, Dr. Coles was elected to the American Academy of Arts & Sciences. Dr. Coles earned a B.A. at Johns Hopkins University, a medical degree from Duke University, and a master's degree in public health from Harvard University. He completed his cardiology and internal medicine training at Massachusetts General Hospital and was a research fellow at Harvard Medical School. We believe Dr. Coles is qualified to serve on our board of directors because of his extensive executive experience in our industry and his service as our Chief Executive Officer.

**Morris Birnbaum, M.D., Ph.D.** has served as a member of our board of directors since September 2018. Since 2017, Dr. Birnbaum has served as the senior vice president and chief scientific officer of internal medicine at Pfizer Inc., where he previously served as senior vice president and chief scientific officer of CVMET from 2014 to 2017. Previously, Dr. Birnbaum served as a professor of medicine at the University of Pennsylvania from December 1994 to June 2014. Dr. Birnbaum was elected to membership in the American Society for Clinical Investigation and Association of American Physicians and is a fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science. Dr. Birnbaum completed his undergraduate, graduate and medical training at Brown University. He carried out clinical training in internal medicine at Barnes Hospital of Washington University School of Medicine and then performed postdoctoral studies at the University of California, San Francisco and Sloan-Kettering Cancer Institute. We believe Dr. Birnbaum is qualified to serve on our board of directors because of his scientific and industry experience in our field.

**Christopher Gordon, M.B.A.** has served as a member of our board of directors since September 2018. Mr. Gordon is a managing director at Bain Capital. He joined the firm in 1997 and has significant experience in private equity investing, with a specialized focus in the healthcare sector. He is Co-Head of Bain Capital's North American Private Equity business and currently leads Bain Capital's North American healthcare team. Mr. Gordon is also a member of the investment committee for the Bain Capital Life Sciences Fund. Prior to joining Bain Capital, he was a consultant at Bain & Company. Mr. Gordon has been actively involved in and served on the boards of directors of a wide spectrum of prominent healthcare companies in which Bain Capital has made investment and currently serves on the boards of Aveanna Healthcare Holdings Inc. (NASDAQ: AVAH), InnovaCare Health, Kestra Medical Technologies, Grupo Notre Dame Intermedica, U.S. Renal Care and Stada. Mr. Gordon previously served on the boards of Acadia Healthcare Company, Inc. (NASDAQ: ACHC), Surgery Partners, Inc. (NASDAQ: SGRY), HCA Inc., Quintiles Transnational Corporation, Air Medical Group Holdings Inc., Beacon Health Options, Physio Control Inc., QuVa Pharmaceuticals and Waystar Inc. He is also a founding director of the Healthcare Private Equity Association. Mr. Gordon volunteers his time and support to a variety of charitable organizations and currently serves on the board of directors of Tenacity, Boston Medical Center Health Plan and Dana Farber Cancer Institute Board of Trustees. Mr. Gordon received a bachelor's degree in economics from Harvard College, graduating magna cum laude, and an M.B.A. from Harvard Business School, where he was a Baker Scholar. We believe Mr. Gordon is qualified to serve on our board of directors because of his experience as a director and public equity and growth private equity investor in pharmaceutical companies.

### **Director Nomination Rights**

Pursuant to the terms of the Registration and Shareholder Rights Agreement (as defined herein), so long as BC Perception Holdings, LP and Pfizer Inc. own certain specified amounts of our equity securities, BC Perception Holdings, LP and Pfizer Inc. have certain rights to nominate directors to serve on our board of directors.

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Of the current members of our board of directors, Deborah Baron and Morris Birnbaum were nominated to serve on our board of directors by Pfizer Inc., Christopher Gordon, Adam Koppel, Ruth McKernan and Gabrielle Sulzberger were nominated to serve on our board of directors by BC Perception Holdings, LP, and Marijn Dekkers and Norbert Riedel were nominated to serve on our board of directors as unaffiliated directors by BC Perception Holdings, LP, with the prior written consent of Pfizer Inc.

For additional details regarding the Registration and Shareholder Rights Agreement, see “*Certain Relationships and Related Person Transactions—Amended and Restated Registration and Shareholder Rights Agreement.*”









### Board Diversity Matrix

The following table summarizes certain self-identified personal characteristics of our directors (including our director nominees) as of April 28, 2022. Each of the categories listed in the table below has the definition provided in Nasdaq Rule 5605(f).

<b>Total Number of Directors</b>	11			
	<b>Female</b>	<b>Male</b>	<b>Non-Binary</b>	<b>Did Not Disclose Gender</b>
<b>Part I: Gender Identity</b>				
Directors	3	8	—	—
<b>Part II: Demographic Background</b>				
African American or Black	1	2	—	—
Alaskan Native or Native American	—	—	—	—
Asian	—	—	—	—
Hispanic or Latinx	—	—	—	—
Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander	—	—	—	—
White	2	6	—	—
Two or More Races or Ethnicities	—	—	—	—
LGBTQ+			—	
Did Not Disclose Demographic Background			—	

## EXECUTIVE OFFICERS

The following table sets forth information regarding our executive officers as of March 31, 2022:

	<b>N. Anthony Coles, M.D.(1)</b> Chairperson of the Board of Directors and Chief Executive Officer; Age 61
	<b>Scott Akamine, J.D.</b> Chief Legal Officer and Corporate Secretary; Age 38
	<b>Mark Bodenrader</b> Interim Chief Financial Officer, Vice President, Finance and Accounting Officer; Age 49
	<b>Abraham Ceesay, M.B.A.</b> President; Age 44
	<b>Kenneth DiPietro</b> Chief Human Resources Officer; Age 63
	<b>John Renger, Ph.D.</b> Chief Scientific Officer; Age 53
	<b>Raymond Sanchez, M.D.</b> Chief Medical Officer; Age 61
	<b>Kathleen Tregoning, M.A.</b> Chief Corporate Affairs Officer; Age 51

- (1) Dr. Coles is also a member of our board of directors, and his biographical information appears under “*Directors—Class I Directors with Terms Expiring at the 2024 Annual Meeting.*”

**Scott Akamine, J.D.** has served as our Chief Legal Officer and Corporate Secretary since May 2021. Previously, from August 2019 to May 2020, Mr. Akamine served as general counsel and corporate secretary of AEON Biopharma, Inc., a privately-held biopharmaceutical company, overseeing legal and certain administrative functions including business development, corporate governance, intellectual property and compliance. Prior to AEON, Mr. Akamine was the associate general counsel and interim general counsel at CoreLogic, Inc. from April 2018 to August 2019, and general counsel and corporate secretary at Incipio, LLC from June 2015 to March 2018. He also held legal roles of escalating responsibility at Allergan, Inc. until the company was acquired by Actavis plc. Mr. Akamine began his legal career as a corporate attorney at Latham & Watkins. Mr. Akamine earned his B.A. from Chapman University and his J.D. from Pepperdine University School of Law where he graduated with honors.

**Mark Bodenrader** has served as our interim Chief Financial Officer since September 2021 and as our Vice President, Finance and Chief Accounting Officer since September 2019. Previously, from February 2007 to September 2019, Mr. Bodenrader held various roles of increasing responsibility at Biogen Inc., a publicly traded biotechnology company, most recently as corporate controller, where he was responsible for all aspects of worldwide accounting and SEC reporting. Previously, he was head of internal audit at Heritage Property Investment Trust. From 2003 to 2004, Mr. Bodenrader served as manager, assurance and business advisory services at Grant Thornton LLP, after serving as assistant controller at Cabot Industrial Trust from 1998 to 2002. Mr. Bodenrader began his career in public accounting at Arthur Andersen, LLP. Mr. Bodenrader earned a B.S. in Finance and Accounting from Merrimack College, and is a Certified Public Accountant.

**Abraham Ceesay, M.B.A.** has served as our President since May 2021. Mr. Ceesay has nearly two decades of experience in leading biopharmaceutical companies and commercializing innovative therapeutic products. From January 2019 until April 2021, Mr. Ceesay served as the chief executive officer at Tiburio Therapeutics Inc., a company focused on the development of novel therapies for rare neuroendocrine tumors and endocrine diseases. At Tiburio, Mr. Ceesay built a fully integrated company that led to the Investigational New Drug enablement of Tiburio's lead program for a rare neuroendocrine tumor. Prior to joining Tiburio, from May 2016 to October 2018, Mr. Ceesay served as chief operating officer at scPharmaceuticals Inc. where he developed and led all operational and commercial aspects of the company. Prior to joining scPharmaceuticals, from February 2014 to March 2016, Mr. Ceesay served as the head of commercial (sales, marketing, and commercial operations) at Keryx Biopharmaceuticals, Inc. (Akebia Therapeutics, Inc.) and spent four years at Ironwood Pharmaceuticals, Inc. as vice president of marketing. At Ironwood, Mr. Ceesay led the launch of Linzess® and also held responsibility for the management of the U.S. P&L, leadership of the Linzess® brand team and co-promotion collaboration with Forest Laboratories/Allergan. Previously, Mr. Ceesay was at Genzyme/Sanofi, initially as a field sales specialist and ultimately as the director, Renal Global Marketing, in which capacity he led the global launch of Renvela® and held global marketing responsibility for the company's renal franchise. Mr. Ceesay currently serves on the boards of directors of Life Science Cares and Camp Harbor View. He holds a bachelor's degree from Ithaca College, and an M.B.A. from Suffolk University's Sawyer School of Management.

**Kenneth DiPietro** has served as our Chief Human Resources Officer since April 2019. Prior to joining us, Mr. DiPietro worked as the chief talent officer for Oak Hill Capital Partners from February 2018 to October 2018 and was also a senior advisor to several Polaris Ventures portfolio companies beginning in August 2017. Previously, he was a director at InVivo Therapeutics Holdings Corp. after serving as executive vice president of human resources at Biogen Inc. from February 2012 to September 2017. Earlier in his career, Mr. DiPietro held senior human resources roles with Lenovo Group Limited, Microsoft Corporation, and Dell Technologies Inc. Mr. DiPietro also served in a range of human resource and general management positions over 19 years at PepsiCo, Inc. Mr. DiPietro earned a B.S. in Industrial and Labor Relations from Cornell University. He sits on the Dean's Advisory Board at Cornell, the Peer Roundtable, the Boston Posse Advisory Board and advises a small number of technology startups focused on human resource management.

**John Renger, Ph.D.** has served as our Chief Scientific Officer since May 2019. Prior to joining us, Dr. Renger served as vice president of research and development and regulatory affairs at Imbrium Therapeutics L.P. from April 2018 to April 2019 and as head of clinical research and translational medicine at Purdue Pharma L.P. from August 2016 to April 2018. Previously, Dr. Renger held roles of increasing responsibility at Merck & Co. between October 2001 and August 2016, most recently serving as associate vice president. Dr. Renger was a postdoctoral fellow at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology Center for Learning and Memory and previously worked at the RIKEN Brain Science Institute in Japan. Dr. Renger earned his Ph.D. in biological sciences with a focus on neurogenetics at the University of Iowa where he also completed his B.S. in biology.

**Raymond Sanchez, M.D.,** has served as our Chief Medical Officer since January 2019. Previously, from November 2007 to January 2019, Dr. Sanchez held various roles of increasing responsibility at Otsuka Pharmaceutical Development & Commercialization, Inc., most recently as senior vice president, global clinical development. From June 2018 to January 2019, Dr. Sanchez served as the chief medical officer of Avanir

Pharmaceuticals, Inc. Dr. Sanchez is currently the executive co-chair of the International Society for CNS Drug Development and trustee, member of the board of directors for the Connecticut Mental Health Center Foundation, Yale School of Medicine, as well as several other not-for-profit organizations. Dr. Sanchez received a bachelor's degree from the Weinberg College of Arts and Sciences at Northwestern University and a medical degree from the Feinberg School of Medicine at Northwestern. He completed his residency training and fellowship in psychiatry at the Yale University Medical School, where he was also appointed as an instructor.

**Kathleen Tregoning, M.A.** has served as our Chief Corporate Affairs Officer since July 2020. Previously, from February 2017 to March 2020, Ms. Tregoning served as executive vice president for External Affairs at Sanofi S.A., a French multinational pharmaceutical company, where she was responsible for leading an integrated organization that brought together market access, communications, public policy, government affairs, patient advocacy and corporate social responsibility. Prior to joining Sanofi, Ms. Tregoning spent more than a decade at Biogen Inc., first as vice president, Public Policy & Government Affairs, from 2006 to 2015, and then as senior vice president, Corporate Affairs, from December 2015 to February 2017. Previously, Ms. Tregoning served as a professional staff member in the United States Congress, where she held health policy roles with the Senate Budget Committee, the House Energy & Commerce Committee, and the House Ways & Means Committee. Ms. Tregoning began her career with Andersen Consulting, where she developed business strategies and processes for clients in a range of industries, and later served as an Assistant Deputy Mayor for Policy & Budget in the office of the Mayor of Los Angeles. Ms. Tregoning graduated from Stanford University with a B.A. in International Relations and holds an M.A. in Public Policy from the Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University.

## CORPORATE GOVERNANCE

### Board Composition

Our board of directors currently consists of eleven members. In accordance with the terms of our certificate of incorporation, our board of directors is divided into the following three classes, with members of each class serving staggered three-year terms:

- Class I, whose term will expire at the annual meeting of stockholders to be held in 2024;
- Class II, whose term will expire at this Annual Meeting; and
- Class III, whose term will expire at the annual meeting of stockholders to be held in 2023.

Class I consists of N. Anthony Coles, M.D., Morris Birnbaum, M.D., Ph.D. and Christopher Gordon, M.B.A., Class II consists of Deborah Baron, M.B.A., Doug Giordano, M.B.A., Adam Koppel, M.D., Ph.D. and Ruth McKernan, Ph.D., CBE, FMedSci, and Class III consists of Marijn Dekkers, Ph.D., Deval Patrick, J.D., Norbert Riedel, Ph.D. and Gabrielle Sulzberger, J.D., M.B.A. At each annual meeting of stockholders, a class of directors will be elected for a three-year term to succeed the directors of the same class whose terms are then expiring.

Our certificate of incorporation provides that, subject to the terms of the Registration and Shareholder Rights Agreement (as defined herein), the authorized number of directors may be fixed solely and exclusively by resolution of our the board of directors.

Our certificate of incorporation further provides that, subject to the terms of the Registration and Shareholder Rights Agreement, our directors may be removed only with cause and then only by the affirmative vote of the holders of not less than two-thirds of the outstanding shares of capital stock then entitled to vote at an election of directors, and that any vacancy on our board of directors, however occurring, shall be filled solely and exclusively by the affirmative vote of a majority of the remaining directors then in office.

The division of our board of directors into three classes with staggered three-year terms may have the effect of delaying or preventing changes in our control or management of our company.

### Director Independence

Our board of directors has determined that each individual who serves on our board of directors, other than Dr. Coles, qualifies as an independent director for purposes of the rules of Nasdaq and the SEC. In making this determination, our board of directors considered the relationships that each non-employee director has with us and all other facts and circumstances that our board of directors deemed relevant, including the beneficial ownership of our common stock by each non-employee director. The composition and functioning of our board of directors and each committee of our board of directors complies with all applicable requirements of Nasdaq and the rules and regulations of the SEC.

### Family Relationships

There are no family relationships among any of our directors or executive officers.

### Board Meetings and Attendance

Our board of directors held seven meetings during the fiscal year ended December 31, 2021. Each of the directors attended at least 75% of the meetings of the board of directors and the committees of the board of directors on which he or she served during the fiscal year ended December 31, 2021 (in each case, which were held during the period for which he or she was a director and/or a member of the applicable committee). Under

our corporate governance guidelines, each of our directors is expected to attend our annual meetings of stockholders, and we encourage our directors to attend our annual meetings of stockholders. All of our directors attended our 2021 annual meeting of stockholders.

### **Committees of the Board of Directors**

Our board of directors has four standing committees: an audit committee, a compensation committee, a nominating and corporate governance committee and a science and technology committee. Each committee operates pursuant to a written charter. In addition, each committee reviews and assesses the adequacy of its charter and submits its charter to the board of directors for approval. Copies of each committee's current charter are posted on our website at [www.cerevel.com](http://www.cerevel.com) under the "Governance" subsection of the "Investors & Media" section of the site. The information contained on or that can be accessed through our website is not incorporated by reference into this proxy statement, and you should not consider such information to be part of this proxy statement.

#### ***Audit Committee***

The members of our audit committee are Ms. Sulzberger, Mr. Giordano and Dr. Riedel, and Ms. Sulzberger serves as the chairperson of the audit committee. Under the Nasdaq listing rules and applicable SEC rules, the audit committee is required to have at least three members. The Nasdaq listing rules and Rule 10A-3 under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, or the Exchange Act, also require that the audit committee of a listed company be composed solely of independent directors for audit committee purposes, and each member of our audit committee qualifies as an independent director for audit committee purposes under applicable rules. Each of Ms. Sulzberger, Mr. Giordano and Dr. Riedel is financially literate and each of Ms. Sulzberger, Mr. Giordano and Dr. Riedel qualifies as an "audit committee financial expert" as defined in applicable SEC rules. During the fiscal year ended December 31, 2021, the audit committee met 10 times. The report of the audit committee is included in this proxy statement under "Audit Committee Report." The audit committee's responsibilities include:

- appointing, retaining, terminating, determining the compensation of, and assessing the independence of, our independent registered public accounting firm;
- pre-approving auditing and permissible non-audit services, and the terms of such services, to be provided by our independent registered public accounting firm;
- reviewing the overall audit plan with our independent registered public accounting firm and members of management responsible for preparing our financial statements;
- reviewing and discussing with management and our independent registered public accounting firm our annual and quarterly financial statements and related disclosures as well as critical accounting policies and practices used by us;
- coordinating the oversight and reviewing the adequacy of our internal control over financial reporting;
- establishing policies and procedures for the receipt and retention of accounting-related complaints and concerns;
- recommending based upon the audit committee's review and discussions with management and our independent registered public accounting firm whether our audited financial statements should be included in our Annual Report on Form 10-K;
- monitoring the quality and integrity of our financial statements and our compliance with legal and regulatory requirements as they relate to our financial statements and accounting matters;
- preparing the audit committee report required by SEC rules to be included in our annual proxy statement;



- reviewing all related person transactions for potential conflict of interest situations and approving all such transactions; and
- discussing earnings press releases and financial information and earnings guidance provided to analysts and rating agencies.

### ***Compensation Committee***

The members of our compensation committee are Dr. Dekkers, Dr. Koppel and Mr. Patrick, all of whom are “independent” under applicable Nasdaq and SEC rules, and Dr. Dekkers serves as the chairperson of the compensation committee. During the fiscal year ended December 31, 2021, the compensation committee met six times. The compensation committee’s responsibilities include:

- periodically reviewing and approving our compensation philosophy and policies;
- reviewing and approving the goals and objectives relevant to the incentive compensation of our Chief Executive Officer and our other executive officers;
- annually reviewing and approving the compensation of our Chief Executive Officer and our other executive officers;
- reviewing, approving and administering the cash incentive plans offered by us to our executive officers, including our Chief Executive Officer;
- approving stock option and other stock awards for all of our employees;
- overseeing and administering our equity-based plans and making recommendations to our board of directors about amendments to existing equity-based plans or the adoption of any new equity-based plans;
- periodically reviewing and recommending to our board of directors the compensation for non-employee members of our board of directors;
- reviewing the compensation discussion and analysis, if and when required, to be included in the annual proxy statement; and
- preparing the compensation committee report required by SEC rules, if and when required, to be included in our annual proxy statement.

Historically, our compensation committee has made most of the significant determinations of annual compensation, determined bonus and equity awards and established new performance objectives. However, our compensation committee also considers matters related to individual compensation, such as compensation for new executive hires, as well as high-level strategic compensation issues, such as the effectiveness of our overall compensation strategy, potential modifications to that strategy and new trends, plans or approaches to compensation. Generally, the compensation committee’s process comprises two related elements: the determination of compensation levels and the establishment of performance objectives for the current year. For executives other than our Chief Executive Officer, our compensation committee solicits and considers evaluations and recommendations submitted to the compensation committee by our Chief Executive Officer. In the case of our Chief Executive Officer, the evaluation of his performance is conducted by the compensation committee, which determines any adjustments to his compensation as well as awards to be granted. For all executives and directors, as part of its deliberations, the compensation committee may review and consider, as appropriate, materials such as financial reports and projections, operational data, tax and accounting information, tally sheets that set forth the total compensation that may become payable to executives in various hypothetical scenarios, executive and director stock ownership information, company stock performance data, analyses of historical executive compensation levels and current company-wide compensation levels and analyses of executive and director compensation paid at a peer group of other companies approved by our compensation committee. In 2021, the compensation committee also retained the services of an independent compensation

consultant and considered its input on certain compensation matters as the compensation committee deemed appropriate. The compensation committee may delegate its authority to grant certain equity awards to one or more employees of the Company, and in 2021 it has delegated such authority to our Chief Executive Officer, Chief Human Resources Officer and to certain other human resources employees.

#### ***Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee***

The members of our nominating and corporate governance committee are Mr. Gordon, Ms. Baron, Mr. Giordano and Ms. Sulzberger, all of whom are independent directors, and Mr. Gordon serves as the chairperson of the nominating and corporate governance committee. During the fiscal year ended December 31, 2021, the nominating and corporate governance committee met two times. The nominating and corporate governance committee's responsibilities include:

- recommending to the board of directors, and annually reassessing, criteria for board and committee membership;
- establishing procedures for recommending, identifying and evaluating board of director candidates, including nominees recommended by stockholders;
- reviewing and identifying individuals proposed to become members of the board of directors or the board's committees based on the criteria approved by the board of directors and all facts and circumstances that it deems appropriate, including, among other things, the skills of the proposed candidate, relevant business experience or other background characteristics, independence determination and the needs of the board;
- recommending to the board of directors the persons to be nominated for election as directors and to each of the board's committees;
- developing and recommending to the board of directors a set of corporate governance guidelines;
- overseeing the evaluation of our board of directors and management; and
- exercising oversight over succession planning of the board of directors.

We believe that the composition and functioning of our nominating and corporate governance committee complies with all applicable requirements of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act and all applicable SEC and Nasdaq rules and regulations.

#### ***Science and Technology Committee***

The members of our science and technology committee are Dr. Riedel, Dr. Birnbaum, Dr. Koppel and Dr. McKernan, all of whom are independent directors, and Dr. Riedel serves as the chairperson of the science and technology committee. During the fiscal year ended December 31, 2021, the science and technology committee met one time. The science and technology committee's responsibilities include:

- reviewing, evaluating and advising the board of directors and management regarding our scientific direction and progress in achieving our short-term and long-term strategic R&D goals and objectives;
- reviewing and making recommendations to the board of directors on our internal and external investments and technology platforms for development;
- reviewing, evaluating and advising the board of directors regarding the quality, direction, strategy and competitiveness of our R&D programs and pipeline, including any new potential therapeutic area opportunities;
- identifying and discussing new and emerging trends in pharmaceutical and biotechnological science, technology and regulation; and

- reviewing and reporting to the board of directors regarding our compliance with the terms of our license agreement with Pfizer Inc. and the development of assets related thereto.

Our board of directors may from time to time establish other committees.

### **Compensation Committee Interlocks and Insider Participation**

During the fiscal year ended December 31, 2021, Dr. Dekkers, Dr. Koppel and Mr. Patrick served as members of our compensation committee. None of the members of our compensation committee is or has been an officer or employee of the Company or had a relationship requiring disclosure under “*Certain Relationships and Related Person Transactions*.” None of our executive officers currently serves, nor in the past fiscal year has served, as a member of the board of directors or compensation committee of any entity that has one or more executive officers serving on our board of directors or compensation committee.

### ***Identifying and Evaluating Director Nominees***

Our board of directors is responsible for selecting its own members. The board of directors delegates the selection and nomination process to the nominating and corporate governance committee, with the expectation that other members of the board of directors, and of management, will be requested to take part in the process as appropriate.

Generally, our nominating and corporate governance committee identifies candidates for director nominees in consultation with management, through the use of search firms or other advisors, through the recommendations submitted by stockholders or through such other methods as the nominating and corporate governance committee deems to be helpful to identify candidates. Once candidates have been identified, our nominating and corporate governance committee confirms that the candidates meet all of the minimum qualifications for director nominees established by the nominating and corporate governance committee. The nominating and corporate governance committee may gather information about the candidates through interviews, detailed questionnaires, background checks or any other means that the nominating and corporate governance committee deems to be appropriate in the evaluation process. The nominating and corporate governance committee then meets as a group to discuss and evaluate the qualities and skills of each candidate, both on an individual basis and taking into account the overall composition and needs of our board of directors. Based on the results of the evaluation process, the nominating and corporate governance committee recommends candidates for the board of directors’ approval as director nominees for appointment or election to the board of directors.

### ***Minimum Qualifications and Board Diversity***

Our nominating and corporate governance committee will consider, among other things, the following minimum qualifications, skills and attributes when recommending candidates for the board’s selection as director nominees for the board and as candidates for appointment to the board’s committees: a nominee shall have experience at a strategic or policymaking level in a business, government, non-profit or academic organization of high standing; a nominee shall be highly accomplished in his or her respective field, with superior credentials and recognition; a nominee shall be well regarded in the community and shall have a long-term reputation for high ethical and moral standards; a nominee shall have sufficient time and availability to devote to our affairs, particularly in light of the number of boards of directors on which such nominee may serve; and, to the extent a nominee serves or has previously served on other boards, the nominee shall have a demonstrated history of actively contributing at board meetings.

In evaluating prospective director candidates, our nominating and corporate governance committee will also consider all facts and circumstances that it deems appropriate or advisable, including, among other things, diversity, including, but not limited to, race, gender, national origin, the skills of the proposed director candidate, his or her depth and breadth of professional experience or other background characteristics, his or her

independence and the needs of the board of directors. We are proud to have a board of directors that, as of the date of this proxy statement, is self-reportedly approximately 27% women and approximately 27% racial minorities. See “*Directors—Board Diversity Matrix*” for additional details. While we have no formal policy regarding board diversity, we believe that the varied perspectives and experiences resulting from having a diverse board of directors enhances the quality of our decision-making. We also believe diversity can help the board identify and respond more effectively to the needs of patients, stockholders, employees and other stakeholders.

The nominating and corporate governance committee will consider director candidates recommended by stockholders. The policy adopted by the nominating and corporate governance committee provides that candidates recommended by stockholders are given appropriate consideration in the same manner as other candidates.

### **Non-Employee Director Meetings**

In addition to the meetings of the committees of the board of directors described above, in connection with board of directors’ meetings, the non-employee directors met four times in executive sessions during the fiscal year ended December 31, 2021.

### **Communication with the Board of Directors**

Any interested party with concerns about the Company may report such concerns to our board of directors or the chairperson of our board of directors or nominating and corporate governance committee, by submitting a written communication to the attention of such director at the following address:

c/o Cerevel Therapeutics Holdings, Inc.  
222 Jacobs Street, Suite 200  
Cambridge, Massachusetts 02141

You may submit your concern anonymously or confidentially by postal mail. You may also indicate whether you are a stockholder or other interested party.

A copy of any such written communication may also be forwarded to our legal counsel and a copy of such communication may be retained for a reasonable period of time. The director may discuss the matter with our legal counsel, with independent advisors, with non-employee directors or with our management, or may take other action or no action as the director determines in good faith, using reasonable judgment, and applying his or her own discretion.

Communications may be forwarded to other directors if they relate to important substantive matters and include suggestions or comments that may be important for other directors to know. In general, communications relating to corporate governance and long-term corporate strategy are more likely to be forwarded than communications relating to ordinary business affairs, personal grievances and matters as to which we receive repetitive or duplicative communications.

Our audit committee oversees the procedures for the receipt, retention, and treatment of complaints received by the Company regarding accounting, internal accounting controls or audit matters, and the confidential, anonymous submission by employees of concerns regarding questionable accounting, internal accounting controls or auditing matters.

### **Board Leadership Structure and Role in Risk Oversight**

N. Anthony Coles, M.D., our Chief Executive Officer, also serves as the chairperson of our board of directors, and Norbert Riedel, Ph.D. currently serves as our lead independent director. Our board of directors has concluded

that our current leadership structure is appropriate at this time. Our board of directors is of the view that the combined role of chairperson and chief executive officer promotes united leadership and direction and provides management a clear focus to execute our strategy and business plans. As Chief Executive Officer, Dr. Coles is best suited to ensure that critical business issues are brought before our board of directors, which enhances our board of directors' ability to develop and implement business strategies. In his role as lead independent director, Dr. Riedel presides over non-management director executive sessions and independent director executive sessions of our board of directors in which, in each case, our management, including our Chief Executive Officer, does not participate and serves as a liaison to management on behalf of the non-employee members of our board of directors. The lead independent director's duties and responsibilities also include serving as the liaison between the chairperson of our board and the independent directors, reviewing meeting agendas and schedules of meetings of the board to assure that there is sufficient time for discussion of all agenda items and having the authority to call meetings of the independent directors.

One of the key functions of our board of directors is informed oversight of our risk management process. Our board of directors administers this oversight function directly through our board of directors as a whole, as well as through various standing committees of our board of directors that address risks inherent in their respective areas of oversight. In particular, our board of directors is responsible for monitoring and assessing strategic risk exposure, and our audit committee has the responsibility to consider and discuss our major financial risk exposures and the steps our management has taken to monitor and control these exposures. The audit committee also has the responsibility to review with management the process by which risk assessment and management is undertaken, monitor compliance with legal and regulatory requirements, and review the adequacy and effectiveness of our internal controls over financial reporting. Our nominating and corporate governance committee is responsible for periodically evaluating our corporate governance policies and systems in light of the governance risks that we face and the adequacy of our policies and procedures designed to address such risks. Our compensation committee assesses and monitors whether any of our compensation policies and programs is reasonably likely to have a material adverse effect on us.

### **Code of Business Conduct and Ethics**

Our board of directors has adopted a code of business conduct and ethics that applies to all of our employees, officers and directors, including our Chief Executive Officer, Chief Financial Officer and other executive and senior financial officers. The full text of our code of business conduct and ethics is available on our website at [www.cerevel.com](http://www.cerevel.com) under the "Governance" subsection of the "Investors & Media" section of the site.

We intend to disclose future amendments to certain provisions of our code of business conduct and ethics, or waivers of certain provisions as they relate to our directors and executive officers, at the same location on our website or in public filings. The information on our website is not intended to form a part of or be incorporated by reference into this proxy statement.

## EXECUTIVE COMPENSATION

### COMPENSATION DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS

#### Executive Summary

This Compensation Discussion and Analysis explains the guiding principles and practices upon which our executive compensation program is based and the compensation paid to our named executive officers, or NEOs:



**N. Anthony Coles, M.D.**  
Chief Executive Officer and Chairperson of the Board of Directors



**Mark Bodenrader**  
Interim Chief Financial Officer; Vice President, Finance and Chief Accounting Officer



**Abraham Ceesay, M.B.A.**  
President



**Raymond Sanchez, M.D.**  
Chief Medical Officer



**Scott Akamine, J.D.**  
Chief Legal Officer and Corporate Secretary

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\* Our NEOs for 2021 also include Kathy Yi, our former Chief Financial Officer, who stepped down from her role as Chief Financial Officer and principal financial officer in September 2021 and departed from the Company in November 2021.

We are a team of dedicated and diverse leaders who are anchored in our core values of trust, courage, respect, curiosity and compassion. We seek to unravel the mysteries of the brain by taking a targeted approach to neuroscience. Our mission is to push boundaries, develop solutions and transform the lives of patients living with some of the most vexing neuroscience diseases, including schizophrenia, epilepsy and Parkinson's disease.

Our executive compensation program is closely linked to the achievement of our company performance goals and aligned with stakeholder interests. As summarized below, our performance was strong in 2021, including positive Phase 1b topline data for emraclidine, over \$500 million of innovative dealmaking and significant progress on our corporate citizenship goals. As such, we achieved a significant majority of our company performance goals that we set in the beginning of the year under our annual incentive plan and, accordingly, the payouts under these plans for 2021 were above target. With regard to long-term incentives, we continued to grant stock options which have realized in-the-money value due to our positive value-creating milestones in 2021 despite a generally challenging market backdrop for biotechnology and pharmaceutical companies.

## Company Performance Highlights



### Positive Data Readouts

- **Emraclidine Positive Phase 1b Topline Data in Schizophrenia and Planned Phase 2 Program.** Emraclidine is a positive allosteric modulator, or PAM, that selectively targets the muscarinic acetylcholine 4, or M4, receptor subtype. In June 2021, we announced positive topline results for a two-part 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.

The results of the emraclidine Phase 1b trial supported the advancement of emraclidine into a comprehensive Phase 2 program in schizophrenia to bring this therapy to patients as quickly as possible. In January 2022, we announced the full details of the planned Phase 2 program in schizophrenia, which will consist of two adequately-powered placebo-controlled Phase 2 trials to enable the full exploration of the therapeutic dose range and a 52-week open-label extension trial to begin development of the required safety database. Trials will be initiated by the middle of 2022, with data for the Phase 2 trials expected in the first half of 2024.

- **Darigabat Positive Phase 1 Topline Data in Acute Anxiety.** Darigabat is a PAM that selectively targets the alpha-2/3/5 subunits of the GABA<sub>A</sub> receptor. 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. Darigabat was generally well-tolerated, with no serious adverse events and no discontinuations in the darigabat cohorts. This trial demonstrated, for the first time, proof of principle in the clinic that a compound that targets alpha-2/3/5 and spares alpha-1 can generate anxiolytic activity while reducing the side effects that limit benzodiazepines to episodic use. We intend to pursue development of darigabat in anxiety-related disorders.

### **Financial Performance**

- **Positive Stock Price Performance.** Based on the closing price of our common stock on December 31, 2021, our stock price grew approximately 96% year-over-year, as compared to an approximately 1% year-over-year decline in the Nasdaq Biotechnology Index.
- **Over \$500 Million of Innovative Dealmaking.**
  - In April 2021, we announced a non-dilutive financing transaction with NovaQuest and Bain Capital to provide up to \$125 million of funding to support the Phase 3 development program for tavapadon in Parkinson's disease.
  - In July 2021, we raised approximately \$328 million in net proceeds from a follow-on offering of common stock following the announcement of our positive emraclidine Phase 1b data.
  - In August 2021, we received proceeds totaling approximately \$55 million from the exercise and redemption of our outstanding public warrants.
- **Well-Funded with Cash Runway into 2024.** Cash, cash equivalents and marketable securities as of December 31, 2021 totaled approximately \$618 million, and we expect that our available financial resources will enable us to support operations into 2024.

### **Leadership Team**

As we move into our next phase of growth, we have refined and enhanced the composition of our leadership team to reflect the breadth of skills and capabilities required to achieve our mission. It is the excellence of our people that differentiates us and drives our performance, and our leadership team reflects that same standard. We have assembled a seasoned team with an extensive track record of drug development, approval and commercialization who all bring the agility and focus on results required in a fast-growing organization. In 2021, we appointed Abraham Ceesay as our President and Scott Akamine as our Chief Legal Officer:

- **Abraham Ceesay appointed as President in May 2021.** Mr. Ceesay has nearly two decades of experience in leading biopharmaceutical companies. Mr. Ceesay previously served as the chief executive officer at Tiburio Therapeutics Inc. Prior to Tiburio, he was the chief operating officer at scPharmaceuticals Inc. and head of commercial (sales, marketing and commercial operations) at Keryx Biopharmaceuticals, Inc. Mr. Ceesay's experience commercializing innovative therapeutic products provides the deep expertise we need to bring our pipeline of neuroscience therapies to patients.
- **Scott Akamine appointed as Chief Legal Officer in May 2021.** Mr. Akamine joined us from AEON Biopharma, Inc., a privately-held biopharmaceutical company, where he served as general counsel and corporate secretary. Prior to AEON, Mr. Akamine was the associate general counsel and interim general counsel at CoreLogic, Inc. and general counsel and corporate secretary at Incipio, LLC. Mr. Akamine's legal experience in the biopharmaceutical industry will give us additional breadth and depth of expertise across the leadership team.

### **Corporate Citizenship**

At Cerevel, we embrace a mosaic vision in which we recognize the strength and innovation that comes from diversity, equity and inclusion where everyone can bring their best selves to work. To ensure that these values are knitted into the fiber of our organization, we have implemented initiatives across our entire workforce, including company-wide workshops, targeted hiring and internship objectives, supplier and vendor diversity programs and inclusivity plans for ongoing and new clinical studies. Our 2021 annual incentive plan included goals and achievements in these areas. See “—2021 AIP Company Performance Goals and Results” below. Among our key programs were the following:

- **Partnership with the Posse Foundation.** Creating a culture of antiracism at Cerevel is central to achieving our purpose, mission, vision and values. Accordingly, in partnership with the Posse








Foundation, we conducted numerous workshops for all employees to examine the history of racism in the United States and enable small groups to engage in deep conversations at all levels. Together, our aspiration is to build heartfelt personal connections, challenge ourselves as individuals and become better equipped to navigate discussions and take appropriate actions.

- **Diversity in Clinical Trials.** Each of our Phase 2 and Phase 3 clinical trials includes an inclusivity plan that addresses staff training, outreach and impact metric development, and new clinical trials will include engagement with minority-focused advocacy groups and selection of sites that foster a more diverse trial population. A cross-functional team at Cerevel developed a diversity, equity and inclusion guidebook for our clinical trials to address potential barriers that may impact clinical trial participation. This guidebook serves as a resource for our teams across all programs and enables teams to consider implementing diversity, equity and inclusion approaches as early as possible in the clinical trial lifecycle. We presented a poster entitled “*Operationalizing the Enhancement of Diversity in Clinical Trials*” at the CNS Summit, the premier gathering of industry and other stakeholders committed to advancing innovation in the neuroscience space, highlighting our clinical trial diversity efforts.
- **Cerevel InSPiRE (Internship for Scholars in Pharmaceutical Research & Entrepreneurship) Internship.** We created and launched the InSPiRE internship program to diversify and expand the talent base in the scientific community and provide a positive impact on students entering the field. We sought to provide real-world experience, offer a broad view of potential career paths within the industry and present an opportunity for building a professional network. Interns had mentors and worked on their own individual projects, which were presented to our organization at the conclusion of the program. Our interns worked in medicinal chemistry, genetics and biomarkers, *in vivo* pharmacology, safety assessment, search and evaluation and research operations.
- **Cambridge Crossing Headquarters Sustainability Efforts.** In 2021, we announced the grand opening of our state-of-the-art Cambridge Crossing headquarters, which include laboratory facilities to enable greater drug discovery flexibility and speed for our internal discovery and clinical-stage programs. In alignment with our commitment to environmental sustainability, our headquarters is located in a facility which is USGBC LEED BD+C: Core and Shell Gold certified with a storm water reclamation system that provides irrigation for the entire Cambridge Crossing campus.

## 2021 Executive Compensation Results

In alignment with our strong performance in 2021, the table set forth below shows the total direct compensation for each of our NEOs in 2021 with a clear emphasis on incentive-based compensation:

	T. Coles	M. Bodenrader	A. Ceesay	R. Sanchez	S. Akamine
					
Base Salary <sup>(1)</sup>	\$ 621,000	\$ 310,500	\$ 500,000	\$ 481,275	\$ 425,000
Annual Incentive <sup>(2)</sup>	\$ 390,635	\$ 114,643	\$ 172,264	\$ 220,176	\$ 118,907
Long-term Incentive <sup>(3)</sup>	\$ 7,100,000	\$ 872,100	\$ 4,500,000	\$ 2,700,000	\$ 2,750,000
1x Special Payment <sup>(4)</sup>	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 250,000	\$ 0	\$ 50,000
Other <sup>(5)</sup>	\$ 0	\$ 17,400	\$ 19,124	\$ 17,400	\$ 15,300
<b>Total Direct Compensation</b>	<b>\$ 8,111,635</b>	<b>\$ 1,314,643</b>	<b>\$ 5,441,388</b>	<b>\$ 3,418,851</b>	<b>\$ 3,359,207</b>

(1) Represents base salaries following salary adjustments effective March 2021.

(2) Represents 2021 annual incentive plan awards paid in 2022.

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- (3) Reflects planned award amounts, which may differ slightly from actual grant date fair values; grants for Mr. Ceesay and Mr. Akamine reflect one-time new hire grants.
- (4) Reflects new hire cash sign-on bonuses for Mr. Ceesay and Mr. Akamine.
- (5) Includes 401(k) company match and reimbursement of legal fees, if applicable.

The charts above include two newly hired executive officers and our interim Chief Financial Officer. The details for each are as follows:

- Messrs. Ceesay and Akamine were both hired in 2021 as President and Chief Legal Officer, respectively. Consistent with our pay philosophy and guiding principles, the compensation committee of our board of directors considered the market data of other peer companies with similar positions, the level of leadership, experience and depth of skills needed for the role, as well as the compensation needed to incentivize Messrs. Ceesay and Akamine to join us, including the compensation that would be forfeited by leaving their prior employers. Based on these factors and the highly competitive talent market, the compensation committee (i) granted Mr. Ceesay a one-time cash sign-on bonus of \$250,000, and a long-term incentive award of 461,065 non-qualified stock options with a grant date fair value of approximately \$4.5 million and (ii) granted Mr. Akamine a one-time cash sign-on bonus of \$50,000, and a long-term incentive award of 281,762 non-qualified stock options with a grant date fair value of approximately \$2.75 million. If the executive resigns without good reason or is terminated for cause, the cash sign-on bonuses are subject to 100% repayment within the first year of employment and 50% repayment within the second year of employment. The non-qualified stock options are subject to the same vesting schedule as all other new hires in the Company: 25% on the first anniversary of the grant date and monthly in the three following years, subject to continued service.
- Mr. Bodenrader is currently operating as our interim Chief Financial Officer since September 2021. Kathy Yi, our former Chief Financial Officer, stepped down from her role as Chief Financial Officer and principal financial officer in September 2021 and departed from the Company in November 2021. In connection with her departure, she received a payment of \$222,525, representing salary continuation for a period of six months following her departure, along with a payment of \$155,768, representing her prorated target bonus for 2021.

## **Governance Roles & Responsibilities**

### ***Role of our Compensation Committee***

Our compensation committee, which is comprised of three independent directors, oversees and administers our executive compensation programs. In making executive compensation decisions, our compensation committee considers a variety of factors and data, most importantly our overall corporate performance, the performance of individual executives and the totality of compensation that may be paid. In addition, our compensation committee administers our annual incentive plan and our 2020 Equity Incentive Plan, reviews business achievements relevant to compensation levels, makes recommendations to our board of directors with respect to compensation policies and practices, seeks to ensure that total compensation paid to our executive officers is fair and aligned with stockholder interests and provides support on other compensation matters as required throughout the year. Our compensation committee retains the right to hire outside advisors as needed to assist it in reviewing and revising our executive compensation programs.

The duties and responsibilities of our compensation committee are described on page 19 and can be found in our compensation committee's written charter adopted by our board of directors, which can be found on our website, [www.cerevel.com](http://www.cerevel.com), under the "Governance" subsection of the "Investors & Media" section of the site.

### ***Role of the Independent Compensation Consultant***

Independent compensation advice is considered important in developing our executive compensation programs. As such, our compensation committee has retained Pay Governance LLC, or Pay Governance, as their independent compensation consultant.

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Pay Governance reports directly to our compensation committee, including regular interactions with the chairperson of the compensation committee. Pay Governance attends compensation committee meetings, including executive sessions without management present. Research, data analyses, survey information and design expertise on compensation matters are also provided, including guidance on market trends and data in chief executive officer, other executive and non-employee director compensation. They also review briefing materials prepared by management and advise the compensation committee independently. Pay Governance also helps to develop our compensation peer group and engages in other matters as needed and as directed by our compensation committee.

Our compensation committee assesses Pay Governance's performance and independence annually and, in accordance with applicable SEC and Nasdaq rules, confirmed in December 2021 that Pay Governance's work did not raise any conflicts of interest and remains independent. Pay Governance does not provide any other services to the Company.

### ***Role of our CEO***

At the end of each performance year, our Chief Executive Officer assesses the contributions of each executive officer and recommends to our compensation committee the compensation to be awarded based on numerous factors, including our pay philosophy, Company and individual performance, potential for future contributions, leadership abilities, external market competitiveness, internal pay comparisons, retention risk and other factors deemed relevant. The compensation committee considers this information and makes final compensation determinations for our executive officers. Our Chief Executive Officer does not participate in any deliberations regarding his own compensation.

### ***Stockholder Engagement***

We believe that aligning our pay approach with the interests of our key stakeholders, including our stockholders, is of critical importance. As a pre-commercial company, our stockholders provide us with the foundational capital we need to invest in our people and pipeline, which ultimately will enable us to deliver innovative and life-changing medicines to those who need them.

Our engagement with stockholders is unique as two stockholders own approximately 60% of our outstanding common stock and are represented on our board of directors. As a result, we are able to engage in continuous dialogue with these stockholders as we develop, design and continuously enhance our pay programs.

### ***"Say-on-Pay" Vote on Executive Compensation***

We previously were an "emerging growth company" as defined in the Jumpstart Our Business Startups Act of 2012 and were not required to hold a non-binding, advisory vote on the compensation of our NEOs, or a "Say-on-Pay" Vote. At this Annual Meeting, we will hold our first Say-on-Pay Vote as described in Proposal 2 of this proxy statement. Our compensation committee will consider the result of the Say-on-Pay vote, and the related "Say-on-Frequency" vote as well as feedback received throughout the year from our stockholders, when making compensation decisions for our executive officers.

## Executive Compensation Philosophy and Objectives

Our executive compensation programs are designed to motivate, retain and reward high performing executives for their long-term value creation for the Company. While we consider several factors in our pay structure, we are guided by the following core philosophies and principles:

Mission and Patient Focused	We are guided first and foremost in all decisions by our mission and patient focus. By doing what is right for our patients at all times, our pay programs will align with the interests of our most critical front-line stakeholder, which in turn benefits all stakeholders.
Pay for Performance	The overwhelming majority of our executive pay programs are performance-based and balance company and individual results. We strive to attract top talent with the expectation that premium performance aligns with premium pay opportunities. Our stretch performance goals directly support this principle and are aimed at enhancing long-term value creation, which in turn drives stockholder value.
Alignment with Stockholders	Our compensation programs are designed to align executives' interests with our stockholders. We are uniquely positioned in that the majority of our stockholders (approximately 60%) have direct input into our pay structure and individual executive compensation by virtue of their representation on our board of directors.
Simplicity and Transparency	One of our core values is trust and, in that spirit, keeping our programs simple, direct and transparent allows our executives and our stockholders to understand our pay programs.
Program Consistency	Our pay and benefits programs are consistently applied across all employee levels and we do not advantage one population over another. We believe that every employee at every level is critical to our patient-focused team approach.

Our executive compensation program is also designed to incorporate sound practices for compensation governance. We summarize such practices below.

### **What We Do:**

- ✓ **Maintain an Independent Compensation Committee.** Our compensation committee consists solely of independent directors.
- ✓ **Retain an Independent Compensation Advisor.** Our compensation committee engages its own compensation advisor to provide information and analysis related to annual executive compensation decisions and other advice on executive compensation independent of management.
- ✓ **Review Executive Compensation Annually.** Our compensation committee annually reviews our compensation strategy, including a review and determination of our compensation peer group used for comparative purposes.
- ✓ **Design Compensation At-Risk.** Our executive compensation program is designed so that a significant portion of our executive officer compensation is "at risk" based on our corporate performance, as well as equity-based, to align the interests of our executive officers and stockholders.
- ✓ **Use a Pay-for-Performance Philosophy.** The majority of our executive officer compensation is directly linked to corporate performance and includes a significant long-term equity component, thereby making a substantial portion of each executive officer's total compensation dependent upon our stock price.
- ✓ **Use Double Trigger Change-in-Control Protection.** Change-in-control payments and benefits to our executive officers occur only upon a qualifying termination of employment, not merely upon a change in control.
- ✓ **Adopted Stock Ownership Guidelines and Clawback Policy.** We adopted stock ownership guidelines and a clawback policy in 2021 to better align executive officer incentives with stockholders.

**What We Don't Do:**

- × **No Executive Retirement Plans.** We do not offer pension arrangements or retirement plans or arrangements to our executive officers that are different from or in addition to those offered to our other employees.
- × **No Special Perquisites.** We do not provide perquisites to our executive officers.
- × **No Special Health and Welfare Benefits.** Our executive officers participate in our health and welfare benefits programs on the same basis as our other employees.
- × **No Post-Employment Tax Payment Reimbursement.** We do not provide any tax reimbursement payments (including “gross-ups”) on any change-in-control or severance payments or benefits.
- × **No Hedging or Pledging Our Equity Securities.** We prohibit our executive officers, the members of our board of directors and other employees from hedging or pledging our securities.

**Use of Market Data**

Each year, our compensation committee reviews and approves an appropriate peer group to compare pay levels, mix, practices and plan designs. The compensation committee reviews the 25<sup>th</sup>, 50<sup>th</sup>, 60<sup>th</sup> and 75<sup>th</sup> percentiles to understand the pay levels of our peer companies. We believe that while the peer group provides one data point of context, we are not a traditional early-stage biopharmaceutical company. Our talent needs are unique given the historical genesis of our pipeline as former Pfizer neuroscience assets that were developed over more than a decade. As such, other factors are also strongly considered when setting pay, including the design of programs that will attract and incentivize those with the deep skills and proven experiences required to build and grow our company and deliver on our broad pipeline.

With that, the peer group we referenced for compensation decisions in 2021 was determined based on comparable companies in the biopharmaceutical sector that approximate our (i) stage of development (companies primarily engaged in Phase 2 and Phase 3 clinical trials) with an emphasis on neurology-focused companies, (ii) headcount projections (approximately 30 to 300 employees), (iii) market capitalization (approximately \$500 million to \$5.5 billion) and (iv) tenure on the public markets (with a preference toward companies that went public within the last five years). Each company is then qualitatively evaluated by the compensation committee's independent compensation consultant based on business focus, corporate strategy, R&D expense, cash balance and number of products in the pipeline.

The peer group approved by our compensation committee and used when determining our February 2021 compensation decisions was comprised of the following companies:

Accelaron Pharma	Intellia Therapeutics
Alector	MeiraGTx
Allogene Therapeutics	MyoKardia
Arcus Biosciences	NGM Biopharmaceuticals
Arvinas	Reata Pharmaceuticals
Axsome Therapeutics	REGENXBIO
Biohaven Pharmaceutical	Replimune Group
Denali Therapeutics	Sage Therapeutics
Dicerna Pharmaceuticals	Voyager Therapeutics
Fate Therapeutics	Zymeworks
Forma Therapeutics	

\* For 2022, BridgeBio Pharma, Karuna Therapeutics, Mirati Therapeutics and Neurocrine Biosciences were added while Axsome Therapeutics, Forma Therapeutics, MeiraGTx, MyoKardia and Voyager Therapeutics were removed.

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For our Chief Executive Officer and executive officers, we carefully review the pay levels and programs disclosed in the proxy statements of our peer group. For our executive officers, we also supplement the data with published compensation surveys where appropriate. For 2021, we used a special custom cut of the Aon Radford Global Life Sciences Survey to capture executive officer pay that is not always disclosed in peer company proxy statements. The Aon Radford Global Life Sciences Survey was selected because it is the prevailing survey for companies our size in the biopharmaceutical industry and includes numerous positions that are comparable to our executive positions.

### Compensation Elements

Based on prevalent market practice, peer group and broader survey data, and within the broader context of our business needs, our compensation committee determines the elements of compensation we provide to our executive officers. The elements of our executive compensation program and their objectives are as follows:

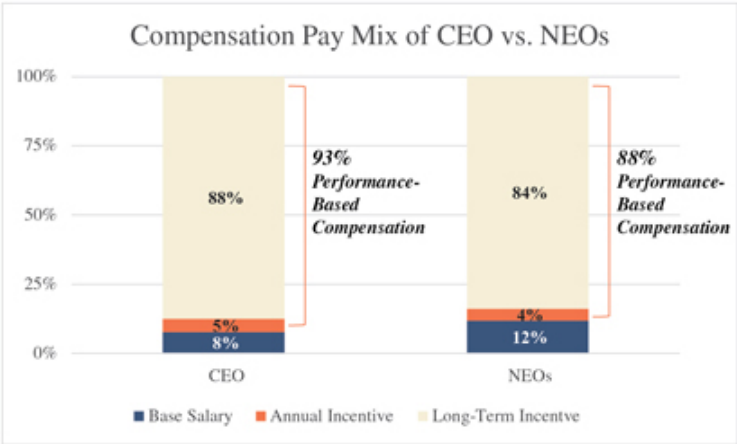
Element	Objective(s)
Base Salary	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Provides a fixed level of compensation that is competitive with the external market and reflects each executive's contributions, experience, responsibilities and potential to contribute to our future success.</li></ul>
Annual Incentive Plan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Aligns short-term compensation with the annual goals of the Company.</li><li>Motivates and rewards the achievement of annual goals that support short- and mid-term priorities.</li></ul>
Long-Term Incentives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Aligns executives' interests with the creation of long-term value for our stakeholders.</li><li>The greater pay mix emphasis on long-term incentives, or LTI, also helps to balance the need to deliver on short-term results only if that aligns with long-term company and stakeholder interests.</li><li>Promotes executive retention, an ownership mindset and focuses executives on enhancing value to patients.</li></ul>
Benefit Programs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Supports the physical, mental and emotional well-being of our executives.</li><li>Provides financial protection in the event of disability or death.</li><li>Provides tax-beneficial ways for executives to save towards their retirement and encourages savings through competitive Company paid matches to their 401(k) plan.</li></ul>

### Compensation Pay Mix

We consider pay mix to be important. While we do not target a particular pay mix across our various pay programs, our compensation committee considers the pay mix for each of our executive officers to ensure the total rewards package is market competitive, attractive and aligns with our belief that pay, beyond base salary, should be aligned to our critical short- and long-term business priorities with award payouts based on actual performance results.

Our compensation committee also believes that rewarding for results within the broad purview of an executive's line of sight is important. Because our executive officers have a direct impact on our future strategic direction, the pay of our executive officers have the greatest emphasis on performance-based compensation with an overweighting towards long-term incentives to align with the long-term impact their decisions will have on the Company.

The 2021 pay mix for Dr. Coles and our other NEOs was highly performance-based and conditional based on company results.



\* NEO data reflects Mr. Ceesay, Dr. Sanchez and Mr. Akamine. Numbers may not sum due to rounding.

Compensation and Performance Goal Setting Process

We have a robust annual compensation cycle whereby at the beginning of the year, our compensation committee approves the plan designs, the pay elements and levels and the pre-determined performance goals for our executive officers for such year. Our compensation committee monitors our progress against these goals throughout the year, and following completion of the year, our compensation committee evaluates the outcomes against these goals for our executive officers. A summary of the annual cadence is described below:

- Set Targets for New Year; Reward for Prior Year**

  - Assess prior year Company and individual contributions against pre-determined goals to determine final pay decisions for CEO and NEOs
  - Review robustness and rigor in setting goals and apply any lesson learned to new goals set for the present year
  - Finalize incentive plan designs for the present year
- Monitor Progress vs. Goals; Assess/Improve Plans for Upcoming Year**

  - Review forecast vs. current year Company goals
  - Discuss draft Company goals and AIP design for upcoming year
  - Compensation consultant conducts market pay analysis for NEOs for the committee to review
  - Finalize LTI program and guidelines for upcoming year for all non-officer employees
  - Set/recommend director compensation for full board approval
  - Without the CEO present, compensation consultant provides the relevant market data and the committee reviews/discusses preliminary thoughts
  - Review/confirm independence of the compensation consultant and others annually



- Monitor Progress vs. Goals and Market Conditions**

  - Review forecast against current year Company goals
  - Compensation consultant reviews changes to the external market landscape, including pay trends, say-on-pay results and notable proxy season trends
  - As part of the annual review, compensation committee reviews their charter and the upcoming calendar/work plan for the year
  - Assess performance of compensation consultant and review/approve engagement for current year
  - Annual compensation committee self-assessment conducted to ensure continuous improvement
- Monitor Progress vs. Goals; Assess/Improve Plans for Upcoming Year**

  - Review forecast vs. current year Company goals
  - Discuss/review any conceptual incentive plan design changes for the next year, as needed
  - Compensation consultant assesses changes in the external market and its impact on the peer group for the compensation committee to review/approve for pay decisions in the upcoming year
  - Annual compensation committee self-assessment results and action plan shared

## 2021 Base Salary

Each year, our compensation committee takes a consistent approach in reviewing the base salaries of our Chief Executive Officer and our other executive officers. We consider the salaries of comparable positions in our peer group compared to our executive officers in terms of relevant experience, proven skills and performance, future anticipated contributions, internal equity and retention factors given the heightened talent pressures in the marketplace. Resulting from this comprehensive review, effective March 2021, the following salary adjustments were made to position our NEOs appropriately relative to the market data of the peer group in 2021:

<u>Name</u>	<u>2020 Annual Salary</u>	<u>2021 Annual Salary</u>	<u>% Increase</u>
T. Coles	\$ 600,000	\$ 621,000	3.5%
K. Yi <sup>(1)</sup>	\$ 430,000	\$ 445,050	3.5%
M. Bodenrader <sup>(2)</sup>	\$ 300,000	\$ 310,500	3.5%
A. Ceesay <sup>(3)</sup>	n/a	\$ 500,000	n/a
R. Sanchez	\$ 465,000	\$ 481,275	3.5%
S. Akamine <sup>(3)</sup>	n/a	\$ 425,000	n/a

### Notes to the 2021 Annual Salary Table

- (1) Ms. Yi departed from the Company in November 2021.
- (2) Mr. Bodenrader, our Vice President, Finance and Chief Accounting Officer, is also currently serving as our interim Chief Financial Officer.
- (3) Messrs. Ceesay and Akamine were each hired in 2021.

## 2021 Performance-Based Incentive Plans

We place a strong emphasis on performance-based compensation as reflected by our cash Annual Incentive Plan, or AIP, which is governed by our Senior Executive Cash Annual Incentive Plan, and our LTI awards, which are granted under our stockholder-approved 2020 Equity Incentive Plan.

We believe that striking the right balance between medium-term focus and achievements with long-term value creation for all of our stakeholders is essential so that short-term decisions do not inadvertently undermine the longer-term success of our pipeline. As such, our AIP serves to align, motivate and reward our executives for short-term achievement with an eye towards building longer-term success.

### Annual Incentive Plan

Each year, our compensation committee reviews the 25<sup>th</sup>, 50<sup>th</sup>, 60<sup>th</sup> and 75<sup>th</sup> percentiles of bonus targets among our peer companies for positions comparable to our NEOs to ensure market competitiveness and that an appropriate emphasis is placed on medium-term results. The target AIP as a percent of salary for each of our NEOs in 2021 are as follows:

<u>Name</u>	<u>2021 Target AIP %</u>
T. Coles <sup>(1)</sup>	55%
K. Yi <sup>(2)</sup>	40%
M. Bodenrader <sup>(3)</sup>	30%
A. Ceesay	45%
R. Sanchez	40%
S. Akamine	40%

### Notes to the 2021 Annual Incentive Plan Targets Table

- (1) The compensation committee increased Dr. Coles' AIP target from 50% in 2020 to 55% for 2021 in order to maintain market competitiveness.



- (2) Ms. Yi departed from the Company in November 2021. In connection with her departure, she was paid a prorated portion of her target AIP payout.
- (3) Mr. Bodenrader, our Vice President, Finance and Chief Accounting Officer, is also currently serving as our interim Chief Financial Officer.

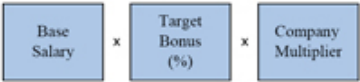
**2021 AIP Design**

Our compensation committee also approves the design of our AIP, the company performance goals and the associated reward opportunities. They set pre-determined goals at the start of each performance year and then track actual performance against these goals with a final assessment at the end of the annual performance year. Our company performance goals are consistent throughout the organization to ensure there is full alignment and clarity on the critical goals for the Company. In addition, we believe that, as leaders of the Company, it is critical for our executive officers to work collectively as a unified team in order to optimize opportunities. As such, their AIP is based 100% upon company performance. For Mr. Bodenrader, consistent with other Vice President roles, there is an individual element with a 25% weighting of their AIP award based on individual performance. The company performance multiplier ranges from 0% to 125% with a stretch upside opportunity that allows the plan to max out at 150% as follows:

Performance Multiplier	Minimum	Target	Max
Company	0%	100%	150%

\* Vice Presidents have an additional individual element that follows a similar range

The AIP award is formulaic and is calculated as follows:



\* Additional individual multiplier applies for Vice Presidents

**2021 AIP Company Performance Goals and Results**

Our 2021 company performance goals had three areas of focus. First, our priorities were heavily weighted towards important research and development achievements with emphasis on tavapadon, emraclidine, darigabat and our early portfolio. Given our pre-commercial nature, emphasis was also placed on ensuring expenses were being managed judiciously. Finally, we believe we are a stronger company and can serve our patients better by embracing inclusion, diversity and engagement as a key strategic pillar. Our compensation committee approves target and maximum levels of performance at the start of the performance period such that payouts at or above target levels are only made when company performance is particularly strong. All AIP elements are reviewed, monitored and approved by our compensation committee, including the final determination of actual performance results and payouts at the end of the performance year.

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The table below summarizes the company performance goals and weightings for our 2021 AIP, as approved by our compensation committee at the start of the year, and indicates the extent to which these goals were achieved. As described below, the company performance multiplier was 115%. This achievement multiplier was consistently applied to the AIP targets of each of our NEOs, which our compensation committee subsequently reviewed and approved.

Company Goals	Weight	Meets	Exceeds	Results	Payout
<b>RESEARCH &amp; DEVELOPMENT(1)</b>	<b>60%</b>				<b>71.5%</b>
Tavapadon—Phase 3 program enrollment	15%	Specific enrollment goals are not disclosed for competitive reasons		Exceeds	17.7%
Emraclidine—Phase 1b data timing	15%	Q3	Q2	Exceeds	18.8%
Darigabat—Phase 2 epilepsy enrollment	5%	Specific enrollment goals are not disclosed for competitive reasons		Not Achieved	0.0%
Darigabat—Phase 1 anxiety timing	5%	Dec 2021	N/A	Not Achieved	0.0%
Early portfolio—regulatory milestones (IND submissions)	20%	2 milestones by Q4	3 milestones by Q4	Exceeds	25.0%
<i>*Stretch opportunity— CVL-871 receipt of Fast Track designation (+10% only if achieved; no payout if not achieved)</i>				Stretch Achieved	10.0%
<b>CORPORATE CITIZENSHIP</b>					
<b>People</b>	<b>10%</b>				<b>11.8%</b>
Establish inclusive, anti-racist work environment: all employees attend workshops led by the Posse Organization		Dec 2021	N/A	Meets	
Increase black representation at each level below VP		5 FTEs (10%)	9 FTEs (18%)	Exceeds	
Develop and implement life science focused internship program targeting HBCU undergraduate students		2	6+	Exceeds	
Net Promoter Score		Specific net promotor score goals are not disclosed for competitive reasons		Exceeds	
<b>Partners</b>	<b>5%</b>				<b>3.8%</b>
Develop and implement a supplier diversity program		Q3	Q2	Meets	
Focus new services spend with vendors who express a commitment to diversity		60% new vendor spend	80% new vendor spend	Exceeds	
Black owned firms as our institutional shareholders		3	N/A	Not Achieved	
<b>Patients</b>	<b>5%</b>				<b>6.3%</b>
Ongoing studies will have an inclusivity plan which will include staff training, outreach and impact metrics development and new studies will add engagement with minority-focused advocacy groups, selection of sites that fosters a more diverse trial population and a higher rate of diversity which meet the objectives of the study		80% of clinical trials (P2&3) will have an inclusivity plan incorporated in 2021	100% of clinical trials (P2&3) will have an inclusivity plan incorporated in 2021	Exceeds	
<b>FINANCE</b>	<b>20%</b>				<b>20%</b>
Manage expenses of Board of Director approved plan including any Board of Director approved deviations		+/- 5% from approved plan	N/A	Meets	
<b>Weighted Company Performance Multiplier</b>					<b>115%*</b>

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\* Numbers may not sum due to rounding.

- (1) Certain stretch opportunities relating to the emraclidine, darigabat and early portfolio programs that were not achieved in 2021 have not been disclosed for competitive reasons.

### **2021 Annual Incentive Plan Awards**

Our compensation committee determined that the final awards under our 2021 annual incentive plan were as shown in the table below. The AIP award calculations factor into account prorations to salary for items such as merit awards that went into effect in March 2021 and mid-year new hires, which is referred to as “Bonusable Salary” below.

<u>Name</u>	<u>Bonusable Salary</u>	x	<u>Target Bonus %</u>	x	<u>Company Multiplier</u>	x	<u>Individual Multiplier(1)</u>	=	<u>AIP Award</u>
T. Coles	\$617,605		55%		115%		n/a		\$390,635
K. Yi(2)	n/a		40%		n/a		n/a		n/a
M. Bodenrader(1)	\$308,803		30%		115%		150%		\$114,643
A. Ceesay(3)	\$332,877		45%		115%		n/a		\$172,264
R. Sanchez	\$478,644		40%		115%		n/a		\$220,176
S. Akamine(3)	\$258,493		40%		115%		n/a		\$118,907

- (1) Mr. Bodenrader, our Vice President, Finance and Chief Accounting Officer, is also currently serving as interim Chief Financial Officer. As a Vice President, 25% of his AIP is based on the achievement of his individual goals, which consisted of managing the annual cash burn, promoting effective internal financial controls, development of the financial forecasting function and responsibilities for certain SEC disclosure and company valuation matters. In addition, he significantly exceeded his individual goals by acting as the interim Chief Financial Officer. The remaining 75% of his AIP is based on company results.
- (2) Ms. Yi departed from the Company in November 2021. In connection with her departure, she was paid a prorated portion of her target AIP payout.
- (3) Bonusable salary for Messrs. Ceesay and Akamine were prorated to reflect partial year employment with the Company.

### **Long-Term Incentive Awards**

All LTI awards granted to our executives are performance-based, as they rely upon an increase in our stock price in order to have any value and are designed to reward long-term success for the Company and all of our stakeholders.

Our executive LTI program consists of stock options. Stock options allow our executives to purchase company stock at a specified stock price during a fixed 10-year period of time. The exercise price is set at the fair market value of our stock on the date of grant. Therefore, the stock options granted to our executive officers have no benefit unless we deliver results that increase the long-term company value as reflected in an increase of the stock price.

Our LTI program is reviewed every year by our compensation committee to assess and confirm that the plan is achieving its objectives to motivate, retain and reward long-term performance. Our compensation committee reviews and determines the appropriate equity vehicle to be used and sets the planning range each year based on the best alignment with our business needs, our pay philosophy and the practices of our peer group. The actual award granted to each executive officer differs based on criticality and impact of the job on the Company, individual performance results, potential future expected contributions, skills, market competitiveness and other factors.

We review the LTI grant levels of our peer companies at 25<sup>th</sup>, 50<sup>th</sup>, 60<sup>th</sup> and 75<sup>th</sup> percentiles every year. Overall, our annual LTI grant values for our NEOs (excluding NEOs who joined in 2021 after the annual awards were

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granted) are positioned appropriately within our peer group in cases where there are comparable positions at the peer companies. Our expected regular cadence is to grant our LTI on or around the time our compensation committee meets in the first quarter of each year to review and approve any salary increases, prior year bonus payout awards and the LTI grants for the NEOs. Other LTI grants, such as those made in connection with a new hire, are generally granted on the first trading day of the month following the date of hire.

In 2021, the planned and approved LTI grant date values were as follows:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Approximate LTI Grant Date Fair Value</u>
T. Coles	\$ 7,100,000
K. Yi	\$ 2,100,000
M. Bodenrader <sup>(1)</sup>	\$ 872,100
A. Ceesay <sup>(2)</sup>	\$ 4,500,000
R. Sanchez	\$ 2,700,000
S. Akamine <sup>(2)</sup>	\$ 2,750,000

(1) Mr. Bodenrader, our Vice President, Finance and Chief Accounting Officer, is also currently serving as our interim Chief Financial Officer.

(2) Messrs. Ceesay and Akamine did not receive an annual LTI award since they joined after the annual awards were made. However, they did receive new hire LTI grants as part of their compensation package when they first joined the Company, which are reflected in the table.

### **Employment Agreements and Post-Employment Compensation**

We maintain a severance benefits policy for specified C-Suite executives under which each senior executive officer that directly reports to our CEO (other than on a temporary basis) is eligible to receive severance benefits of cash, equity acceleration and benefit continuation upon qualifying terminations in connection with a change in control. We also provide severance protection to our executive officers outside of a change in control pursuant to individual employment agreements. We provide these benefits because we believe that severance protection is necessary to help our executives maintain their focus on the best interests of the Company when providing advice and making strategic decisions about potential corporate transactions or changes in control. We believe that this severance protection encourages effective leadership in the closing and integration of significant transactions affecting the Company. The terms of these arrangements and the amounts payable under them are described below for each NEO in “Executive Compensation Tables—Potential Payments upon Termination or Change in Control.” The material terms of our employment agreement with each NEO are described in “Executive Compensation Tables—Employment Arrangements with our NEOs.”

### **Other Compensation Policies and Practices**

#### **Stock Ownership Guidelines**

In December 2021, our compensation committee approved our stock ownership guidelines, or the Guidelines. Our Chief Executive Officer (3x annual base salary), other executive officers who report directly to our Chief Executive Officer on an other than temporary basis (1x annual salary) and non-employee directors who are not affiliated with any stockholder of the Company that beneficially owns 1% or more of our outstanding common stock (3x annual cash retainer), which we refer to as Covered Individuals, are each required to own shares of our stock having at least as much value as a multiple of the Covered Individual’s annual base salary or annual base retainer, as applicable. Shares of common stock directly or indirectly beneficially owned by a Covered Individual, the net exercisable value of stock options of the Company beneficially owned by a Covered Individual and restricted stock units or restricted stock of the Company that are subject solely to time-based vesting conditions, whether vested or unvested, will count towards satisfaction of the Guidelines. Covered

Individuals are required to achieve the applicable Guidelines five years after being first subject to the Guidelines and our compensation committee will review each Covered Individual's compliance (or progress towards compliance) with the Guidelines annually. Our compensation committee may amend the Guidelines, waive or approve an exception to the Guidelines (for instance, in the event of a significant decline in our stock price, a court order such as a divorce settlement or other severe hardship) or impose such conditions, restrictions or limitations on any Covered Individual as it determines to be necessary or appropriate in order to achieve the purposes of the Guidelines.

### ***Clawback Policy***

In December 2021, our compensation committee approved our clawback policy. If we are required to prepare an accounting restatement due to (i) our material non-compliance with any financial reporting requirement and (ii) fraud or material misconduct by any Section 16 officer, or a Covered Officer, then the compensation committee may require the Covered Officer to repay to us any or all of the excess amount of incentive compensation that the Covered Officer would have received had such compensation been calculated based on the financial results reported in the restated financial statements. Incentive compensation covered under the policy includes annual performance-based cash bonus and equity incentive compensation received by the Covered Officer during the current fiscal year or the three-year period preceding the publication of the restated financial statements.

### ***Compensation Risk Assessment***

We believe that, although a large portion of the compensation provided to our executive officers is performance-based, our executive compensation program does not encourage excessive or unnecessary risk taking. Our compensation programs are designed to create a greater focus on long-term value creation while balancing the need to meet shorter-term goals. The recent addition of stock ownership guidelines further mitigates risk taking. The framework and goals of our annual performance-based incentive plan are consistent for all employees with a maximum cap for all payouts. Furthermore, all compensation decisions for our executive officers are approved by our compensation committee.

In addition, our compensation committee is responsible for reviewing and approving the design, goals and payouts under our annual incentive plan and equity incentive program for our executive officers. Our compensation committee directly engages an independent compensation consultant who advises on market competitive and best practices, as well as any potential risks related to our compensation programs, including pay mix, compensation vehicles, pay for performance alignment, performance measures and goals, payout maximums, vesting periods and compensation committee oversight and independence. Based on all the factors mentioned, we believe our compensation policies, programs and practices do not create risks that are reasonably likely to have a material adverse effect on the Company.

### ***Employee Benefit Programs***

As part of our total compensation program, all full-time employees, including our NEOs, are eligible to participate in the same benefit programs. These programs include our tax-qualified retirement plan that provides an opportunity to save for retirement on a tax-advantaged basis. Plan participants are able to defer eligible compensation subject to applicable annual limits established by the Internal Revenue Code, as amended, and any regulations promulgated thereunder, or the Code. Employees' pre-tax or Roth contributions are allocated to each participant's individual account and are then invested in selected investment alternatives according to the participants' directions. Employees are immediately and fully vested in their contributions. We match each participant's contribution up to a maximum of 6% of their eligible compensation. Our 401(k) plan is intended to be qualified under Section 401(a) of the Code with our 401(k) plan's related trust intended to be tax exempt under Section 501(a) of the Code.

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Our NEOs as well as the rest of our employee population are also eligible to participate in our employee stock purchase plan, medical, dental, vision, life and disability insurances.

We do not provide any additional perquisite or personal benefits to our NEOs or offer any non-qualified supplemental retirement plans.

### ***Insider Trading, Hedging, Pledging and Other Policy Prohibitions***

We maintain an insider trading policy that prohibits our employees, directors and contractors from engaging in pledging our securities as collateral for a loan or modifying an existing pledge, engaging in short sales of our securities, using our securities as collateral in a margin account, and/or buying or selling derivative securities of the Company or hedging transactions.

### **Tax and Accounting Implications of Compensation**

Our compensation committee considers Section 162(m) of the Code, which limits the deductibility of certain compensation to \$1.0 million per year for certain executive officers, when designing and establishing our executive compensation programs. However, our compensation committee ultimately believes that when making final compensation determinations, there are other factors that must be considered. These factors include our compensation philosophy and objectives and the ability to attract, retain and reward the executive talent needed to achieve our business goals. As such, our compensation committee may award compensation in excess of \$1.0 million that is not exempt from the deduction limitations under Section 162(m) of the Code at any given time.

We follow the Financial Accounting Standard Board's Accounting Standards Codification Topic 718, or ASC Topic 718, for our share-based compensation awards to employees and directors. ASC Topic 718 requires companies to measure the compensation expense for all share-based payment awards made to employees and directors, including stock options, based on the grant date "fair value" of these awards. This calculation is performed for accounting purposes and reported in the compensation tables included herein, even though our executive officers may never realize any value from their awards. ASC Topic 718 also requires companies to recognize the compensation cost of their share-based compensation awards in their statements of operations over the period that an employee or director is required to render service in exchange for the option or other award. Our compensation committee considers the impact of ASC Topic 718 when making share-based compensation awards, but also considers other factors as described above.

### **Compensation Committee Report**

The compensation committee has reviewed and discussed this Compensation Discussion and Analysis with our management. Based on these review and discussions, the compensation committee recommended to our board of directors that the Compensation Discussion and Analysis be included in this proxy statement and incorporated by reference into our Annual Report.

#### **Submitted by:**

Marijn Dekkers, Ph.D. (Chairperson)

Deval Patrick, J.D.

Adam Koppel, M.D., Ph.D.

## EXECUTIVE COMPENSATION TABLES

### Summary Compensation Table

The following table presents information regarding the total compensation awarded to, earned by and paid to our NEOs for services rendered to us in all capacities for the years set forth below.

Name and Principal Position	Year	Salary (\$)	Bonus \$(2)	Option Awards \$(3)	Non-Equity Incentive Compensation \$(4)	All Other Compensation \$(5)	Total (\$)
N. Anthony Coles, M.D., <i>Chairperson and Chief Executive Officer</i> (1)	2021	617,701	—	7,099,999	390,635	—	8,108,335
	2020	600,000	—	1,499,999	444,000	198,000	2,741,999
	2019	398,630	—	9,817,097	229,212	291,000	10,735,939
Mark Bodenrader, <i>Interim Chief Financial Officer, Vice President, Finance and Chief Accounting Officer</i>	2021	308,851	—	872,100	114,643	17,400	1,312,994
Kathy Yi, <i>Former Chief Financial Officer</i> (6)	2021	384,710	—	2,720,766(7)	—	395,693(8)	3,501,169
Abraham Ceesay, M.B.A. <i>President</i>	2021	335,249	250,000	4,499,994	172,264	19,124(9)	5,276,631
Raymond Sanchez, M.D. <i>Chief Medical Officer</i>	2021	478,718	—	2,699,993	220,176	17,400	3,416,287
	2020	465,000	—	1,000,000	275,280	31,657	1,771,937
	2019	449,148	400,000	1,730,076	213,900	136,487	2,929,611
Scott Akamine, J.D. <i>Chief Legal Officer and Corporate Secretary</i>	2021	260,536	50,000	2,749,997	118,907	15,300	3,194,740

- (1) In addition to serving as our Chief Executive Officer, Dr. Coles serves as the chairperson, and member, of our board of directors, but receives no additional compensation for his service in such roles.
- (2) The amounts reflect signing bonuses paid to the applicable NEO at his time of hire. Pursuant to the terms of their respective employment agreements, each of Mr. Ceesay and Mr. Akamine must repay 100% of their signing bonus if their employment is terminated by us for cause or they resign without good reason within 12 months of the effective date of their employment and 50% of their signing bonus if such termination occurs on or after the 12 month anniversary of the effective date of their employment but prior to the 24 month anniversary of the effective date of their employment. All other cash bonuses, which were based upon the achievement of performance goals under our annual performance-based cash bonus plan, are disclosed under the “Non-Equity Incentive Compensation” column.
- (3) The amounts reflect the aggregate grant date fair value of stock option awards granted in 2021, 2020 and 2019, as computed in accordance with ASC Topic 718. Such grant date fair values do not take into account any estimated forfeitures. The assumptions used in calculating the grant date fair value of the stock options reported in this column are set forth in Note 13, *Equity-Based Compensation*, to our consolidated financial statements included in our Annual Report. The amounts reported in this column reflect the accounting cost for these stock options and do not correspond to the actual economic value that may be received by the NEOs upon the exercise of the stock options or any sale of the underlying shares of common stock.
- (4) The amounts reflect the AIP amounts awarded to our NEOs for their service. Messrs. Ceesay and Akamine’s AIP awards were prorated based on the number of days they were in active service during fiscal year 2021. See “—*Annual Incentive Plan*” and “—*2021 Annual Incentive Plan Awards*” above.

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- (5) The amounts reported in 2021 for Dr. Sanchez and Messrs. Bodenrader and Akamine reflect matching contributions made by us under our 401(k) plan.
- (6) Ms. Yi stepped down from her role as Chief Financial Officer and principal financial officer in September 2021 and departed from the Company in November 2021.
- (7) The amounts reported for Ms. Yi include \$620,769 for the incremental fair value recognized upon Ms. Yi's departure associated with continued vesting of certain equity awards during her transitional period. See "Potential Payments upon Termination or Change in Control—Kathy Yi" below.
- (8) The amount reflects (i) \$17,400 for matching contributions made by us under our 401(k) plan, (ii) \$222,525 representing salary continuation for a period of six months following her departure and (iii) \$155,768 representing a prorated portion of her target AIP payment pursuant to the terms of her separation agreement. See "Potential Payments upon Termination or Change in Control—Kathy Yi" below.
- (9) The amount reflects (i) \$14,224 for matching contributions made by us under our 401(k) plan and (ii) \$4,900 for legal fees incurred in connection with the negotiation of his employment agreement.

## Grants of Plan-Based Awards

The following table sets forth certain information with respect to each grant of an award made to an NEO in the fiscal year ended December 31, 2021.

Name	Grant Date	Estimated Future Payouts Under Non-Equity Incentive Plan Awards(1)		All Other Option Awards; Number of Securities Underlying Options (#)(2)	Exercise or Base Price of Option Awards (\$/Share)(3)	Grant Date Fair Value of Stock and Option Awards \$(4)
		Target (\$)	Maximum (\$)			
N. Anthony Coles, M.D.	2/3/2021	339,683	509,524	732,714	12.70	7,099,999
Mark Bodenrader	2/3/2021	92,641	138,961	90,000	12.70	872,100
Kathy Yi(5)	2/3/2021	177,176	265,764	216,718	12.70	2,099,997
Abraham Ceesay, M.B.A.	6/1/2021	149,795	224,692	461,065	13.17	4,499,994
Raymond Sanchez, M.D.	2/3/2021	191,458	287,186	278,637	12.70	2,699,993
Scott Akamine, J.D.	6/1/2021	103,397	155,096	281,762	13.17	2,749,997

- (1) The amounts shown represent the target and maximum amount of potential cash bonus awards provided for under the AIP. The maximum amounts represent the greatest payout that could have been made if the pre-established performance level was exceeded. Under the AIP, the maximum amount payable was equal to 150% of the target amount. The AIP does not have a threshold level.
- (2) Consists of stock options to purchase shares of our common stock granted under our 2020 Equity Incentive Plan. The stock options are subject to time-based vesting, as described in the footnotes to the "Outstanding Equity Awards at 2021 Fiscal Year-End" table below.
- (3) The exercise price is equal to the closing market price of our common stock on the Nasdaq Capital Market on the date of grant.
- (4) The amounts reported represent the aggregate grant-date fair value of the stock options calculated in accordance with ASC Topic 718. Such grant-date fair value does not take into account any estimated forfeitures related to service-based vesting conditions. The assumptions used in calculating the grant-date fair value are set forth in Note 13, *Equity-Based Compensation*, to our consolidated financial statements included in our Annual Report.
- (5) Ms. Yi stepped down from her role as Chief Financial Officer and principal financial officer in September 2021 and departed from the Company in November 2021. Accordingly, she was not eligible to receive a payout under the AIP for the full fiscal year. Furthermore, she forfeited her 2021 stock option award, which had not yet vested, upon her last day of employment.



## Outstanding Equity Awards at 2021 Fiscal Year-End

The following table sets forth information concerning outstanding equity awards held by each of our NEOs as of December 31, 2021.

Name	Vesting Start Date	Option Awards <sup>(1)</sup>		Option Exercise Price (\$/share)	Option Expiration Date
		Number of Securities Underlying Unexercised Options Exercisable (#)	Number of Securities Underlying Unexercised Options Unexercisable (#)		
N. Anthony Coles, M.D.	2/3/2021	—	732,714	12.70	2/3/2031
	10/28/2020 <sup>(2)</sup>	—	196,335	9.88	10/28/2030
	11/27/2018	2,391,446	710,971	3.50	12/24/2028
	11/27/2018	797,147	236,991	10.28	12/24/2028
Mark Bodenrader	2/3/2021	—	90,000	12.70	2/3/2031
	10/28/2020 <sup>(2)</sup>	—	65,445	9.88	10/28/2030
	9/23/2019	32,720	25,450	3.50	9/23/2029
	9/23/2019	10,906	8,484	10.28	9/23/2029
Kathy Yi	6/25/2019	77,918	—	10.28	2/15/2022 <sup>(3)</sup>
Abraham Ceesay, M.B.A.	6/1/2021	—	461,065	13.17	6/1/2031
Raymond Sanchez, M.D.	2/3/2021	—	278,637	12.70	2/3/2031
	10/28/2020 <sup>(2)</sup>	—	130,890	9.88	10/28/2030
	1/14/2019	407,191	151,244	3.50	2/27/2029
	1/14/2019	135,730	50,414	10.28	2/27/2029
Scott Akamine, J.D.	6/1/2021	—	281,762	13.17	6/1/2031

- (1) Unless otherwise noted, shares of stock subject to option awards will vest, if at all, as follows: 25% of the shares subject to the option will vest on the first anniversary of the vesting start date, with the remaining 75% of the shares subject to the option to vest ratably in 36 equal monthly installments thereafter (rounded down to the nearest whole number of shares on each such date) until the award fully vests upon the fourth anniversary of the vesting start date, subject to the NEO's continued service.
- (2) This award vests with respect to 50% of the option on the second anniversary of the vesting start date, with the remainder vesting in two equal installments thereafter.
- (3) Represents the last date that this award was exercisable in light of Ms. Yi's departure in November 2021.

## Option Exercises and Stock Vested in Fiscal Year 2021

The following table sets forth the number of shares acquired and the value realized upon exercises of stock options during the fiscal year ended December 31, 2021 by each of our NEOs.

Name	Option Awards	
	Number of Shares Acquired on Exercise (#)	Value Realized on Exercise (\$)(1)
N. Anthony Coles, M.D.	—	—
Mark Bodenrader	—	—
Kathy Yi	265,716	8,043,404
Abraham Ceesay, M.B.A.	—	—
Raymond Sanchez, M.D.	—	—
Scott Akamine, J.D.	—	—

- (1) The value realized when the stock options were exercised represents (i) the excess of the closing price of a share of our common stock as reported on the Nasdaq Capital Market on the date of exercise over the per share exercise price of the stock option, multiplied by (ii) the number of option shares exercised.

### **Potential Payments upon Termination or Change in Control**

Our NEOs have entered into employment agreements with us, pursuant to which they are entitled to severance compensation in connection with certain qualifying terminations of employment.

**N. Anthony Coles, M.D.** Pursuant to Dr. Coles' employment agreement, in the case of a sale event (as defined in his employment agreement), Dr. Coles' stock option awards that are subject to time-based vesting and outstanding as of the date of a sale event will be accelerated and vest in connection with such sale event if he is in continuous service through the date of such sale event. If Dr. Coles' employment is terminated by us without cause or by him for good reason (as such terms are defined in his employment agreement), Dr. Coles will be entitled to (i) 24 months of salary continuation, (ii) a prorated amount of his annual target bonus for the year of such termination based on the number of days Dr. Coles' service during the year his employment is terminated, (iii) acceleration of an additional 12 months of vesting for his stock options and any other stock awards granted to him under our equity incentive plan and (iv) up to 24 months (dependent on COBRA eligibility for such period) of company-sponsored benefits continuation. In the case of a sale event (as defined in his employment agreement), and in lieu of the above payments and benefits, Dr. Coles' stock option awards that are subject to time-based vesting and outstanding as of the date of a sale event will be accelerated and vest in connection with such sale event if (i) he is in continuous service through the date of such sale event or (ii) within the 12 month period following a sale event his employment is (A) terminated by us without cause (as defined in, and modified for severance purposes, in his employment agreement) or (B) he resigns for good reason (as defined in his employment agreement). In the event his employment is terminated within 12 months following a sale event (as defined in his employment agreement), in addition to the accelerated vesting of his stock option awards and any other time-based equity awards described above, subject to certain limitations, he will be entitled to receive (i) 24 months of salary plus two times his target bonus payable in a lump sum, and (ii) up to 18 months (dependent on COBRA eligibility for such period) of company-sponsored benefits continuation.

**Kathy Yi.** As described above, Ms. Yi stepped down from her role as Chief Financial Officer and principal financial officer in September 2021 and departed from the Company in November 2021. In connection with her departure, Ms. Yi entered into a separation agreement dated September 19, 2021, or the Yi Separation Agreement, that provided for six months of salary continuation equal to \$222,525 and a prorated target-level bonus for 2021 equal to \$155,768, less applicable taxes and withholdings. Ms. Yi was also entitled to 12 months (dependent on COBRA eligibility for such period) of company-sponsored benefits continuation, but declined such benefits. During the transitional period until her departure in November 2021, Ms. Yi also continued to vest in her outstanding options in accordance with their terms.

**Abraham Ceesay, M.B.A.** Pursuant to Mr. Ceesay's employment agreement, if Mr. Ceesay's employment is terminated by us without cause or by him for good reason (as such terms are defined in his employment agreement), Mr. Ceesay will be entitled to (i) 12 months of salary continuation, (ii) a prorated amount of his target annual bonus and for the year of such termination based on the number of days of Mr. Ceesay's service during the year his employment is terminated and (iii) up to 12 months (dependent on COBRA eligibility for such period) of company-sponsored benefits continuation.

**Raymond Sanchez, M.D.** Pursuant to Dr. Sanchez's employment agreement, if Dr. Sanchez's employment is terminated by us without cause or by him for good reason (as such terms are defined in his employment agreement), Dr. Sanchez will be entitled to (i) 12 months of salary continuation, (ii) a prorated amount of his target annual bonus for the year of such termination based on the number of days of Dr. Sanchez's service during the year his employment is terminated and (iii) up to 12 months (dependent on COBRA eligibility for such period) of company-sponsored benefits continuation.

**Scott Akamine, J.D.** Pursuant to Mr. Akamine's employment agreement, if Mr. Akamine's employment is terminated by us without cause or by him for good reason (as such terms are defined in his employment agreement), Mr. Akamine will be entitled to (i) 12 months of salary continuation, (ii) a prorated amount of his target annual bonus for the year of such termination based on the number of days of Mr. Akamine's service during the year his employment is terminated and (iii) up to 12 months (dependent on COBRA eligibility for such period) of company-sponsored benefits continuation.

**Severance Policy.** Our severance benefits policy for specified C-suite executives, or our Severance Policy, provides for certain payments and benefits to our senior executive officers who report directly to our Chief Executive Officer (on an other than temporary basis) in the event of certain qualifying terminations of employment in connection with a change in control of the Company.

Under the Severance Policy, if an eligible employee's employment is terminated by us for a reason other than cause, death or disability, or if an eligible employee resigns for good reason, in either case within the period that begins three months prior to the occurrence of the first event constituting a sale event and ends on the first anniversary of such event (as such terms are defined in the Severance Policy), then, subject to a release requirement, the eligible employee will be entitled to receive the following severance benefits:

- an amount equal to the sum of 12 months of such eligible employee's base salary and target bonus in the year the termination of employment occurs, payable equal installments over the 12-month period following such termination;
- acceleration of the vesting of such eligible employee's outstanding time-based vesting equity awards; and
- payment of continued health coverage required under applicable law for the eligible employee and any eligible dependents that were covered under the Company's health care plans immediately prior to the termination date for up to 12 months.

We also maintain a severance policy for vice presidents that is generally identical to the Severance Policy, except that eligible employees are entitled to receive nine months of base salary, target bonus and health coverage continuation.

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The table below quantifies the potential payments and benefits that would have become due to our NEOs assuming that a qualifying termination occurred on December 31, 2021. The closing market price of a share of our common stock on December 31, 2021 was \$32.42. The value of the option vesting acceleration was calculated by multiplying the number of unvested shares underlying stock options subject to vesting acceleration as of December 31, 2021 by the difference between the closing price of our common stock as reported on the Nasdaq Capital Market on December 31, 2021 and the exercise price for such unvested stock options.

	Executive Benefits and Payment upon Termination	Termination by Company without Cause or Voluntary Resignation for Good Reason Not in Connection with a Change in Control (\$)	Termination by Company without Cause or Voluntary Resignation for Good Reason In Connection With a Change in Control (\$)
N. Anthony Coles, M.D.	Cash Severance Payments	1,581,683 <sup>(1)</sup>	1,921,366 <sup>(2)</sup>
	Healthcare Continuation	37,495 <sup>(3)</sup>	28,121 <sup>(4)</sup>
	Acceleration of Equity Award Vesting	34,643,435 <sup>(5)</sup>	44,682,773 <sup>(6)</sup>
	<b>Total</b>	<b>36,262,613</b>	<b>46,632,260</b>
Mark Bodenrader	Cash Severance Payments	232,875 <sup>(13)</sup>	302,356 <sup>(14)</sup>
	Healthcare Continuation	13,385 <sup>(10)</sup>	13,385 <sup>(10)</sup>
	Acceleration of Equity Award Vesting	—	4,173,780 <sup>(6)</sup>
	<b>Total</b>	<b>246,260</b>	<b>4,489,521</b>
Kathy Yi <sup>(9)</sup>	Cash Severance Payments	—	—
	Healthcare Continuation	—	—
	Acceleration of Equity Award Vesting	—	—
	<b>Total</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>—</b>
Abraham Ceesay, M.B.A.	Cash Severance Payments	649,795 <sup>(11)</sup>	649,795 <sup>(7)</sup>
	Healthcare Continuation	17,846 <sup>(12)</sup>	17,846 <sup>(8)</sup>
	Acceleration of Equity Award Vesting	—	8,875,501 <sup>(6)</sup>
	<b>Total</b>	<b>667,641</b>	<b>9,543,142</b>
Raymond Sanchez, M.D.	Cash Severance Payments	672,733 <sup>(11)</sup>	672,733 <sup>(7)</sup>
	Healthcare Continuation	18,747 <sup>(12)</sup>	18,747 <sup>(8)</sup>
	Acceleration of Equity Award Vesting	—	13,935,125 <sup>(6)</sup>
	<b>Total</b>	<b>691,480</b>	<b>14,626,605</b>
Scott Akamine, J.D.	Cash Severance Payments	528,397 <sup>(11)</sup>	528,397 <sup>(7)</sup>
	Healthcare Continuation	21,935 <sup>(12)</sup>	21,935 <sup>(8)</sup>
	Acceleration of Equity Award Vesting	—	5,423,919 <sup>(6)</sup>
	<b>Total</b>	<b>550,332</b>	<b>5,974,251</b>

- (1) Represents an amount equal to the sum of (i) 24 months of Dr. Coles' base salary at the rate in effect as of December 31, 2021 and (ii) a prorated target bonus.
- (2) Represents an amount equal to the sum of (i) 24 months of Dr. Coles' base salary at the rate in effect as of December 31, 2021 and (ii) two times Dr. Coles' target bonus.
- (3) Represents an amount equal to the monthly employer contribution that we would have made to provide health insurance for Dr. Coles for the 24-month period following the date of termination, based on the premiums as of the date of termination.

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- (4) Represents an amount equal to the monthly employer contribution that we would have made to provide health insurance for Dr. Coles for the 18-month period following the date of termination, based on the premiums as of the date of termination.
- (5) Represents the acceleration of vesting as to the unvested equity awards held by Dr. Coles for 12 months following December 31, 2021.
- (6) Represents the acceleration of vesting as to 100% of the unvested equity awards held by the NEO.
- (7) Represents an amount equal to the sum of 12 months of the NEO's annual base salary in effect as of December 31, 2021 and the NEO's target bonus opportunity for 2021, payable in installments over the 12-month period following the termination date.
- (8) Represents payment of continued health coverage required under applicable law for the NEO and any eligible dependents that were covered under the Company's health care plans immediately prior to the termination date for up to 12 months.
- (9) Pursuant to the Yi Separation Agreement, Ms. Yi became entitled to receive six months of salary continuation equal to \$222,525 and a prorated target-level bonus for 2021 equal to \$155,768. Ms. Yi was also entitled to 12 months of continuing healthcare benefits but declined such benefits. During the transitional period until her departure in November 2021, Ms. Yi received continued vesting of her options.
- (10) Represents nine months of continuing healthcare benefits.
- (11) Represents an amount equal to the sum of (i) salary continuation of the NEO's salary at the rate in effect as of December 31, 2021 for a period of 12 months and (ii) a prorated target bonus, payable in a lump sum.
- (12) Represents an amount equal to the monthly employer contribution that we would have made to provide health insurance for the NEO for the 12-month period following the date of termination, based on the premiums as of the date of termination.
- (13) Represents nine months of salary continuation.
- (14) Represents an amount equal to the sum of (i) salary continuation of the NEO's salary at the rate in effect as of December 31, 2021 for a period of nine months and (ii) 0.75 times a prorated target bonus, payable in a lump sum.

## **Employment Arrangements with our NEOs**

The material terms of our employment agreements with each NEO are described below.

**N. Anthony Coles, M.D.** On November 23, 2018, we entered into an employment agreement with Dr. Coles for the position of Executive Chairperson, Chairperson of our board of directors and his future appointment to Chief Executive Officer. In accordance with his employment agreement, as amended, on November 27, 2018, Dr. Coles was appointed to the position of Executive Chairperson and Chairperson of our board of directors with a base salary of \$300,000. Dr. Coles' agreement also provided for him to become Chief Executive Officer no later than March 31, 2019; however, his agreement was subsequently amended to provide for his appointment to be effective as of September 3, 2019. In connection with taking on the Chief Executive Officer role, Dr. Coles' base salary increased to \$600,000. Under his employment agreement, Dr. Coles is eligible to earn an annual target bonus equal to 50% of his base salary. His salary is subject to increase from time to time by our board of directors within its discretion. Dr. Coles was promised an equity award of stock options, a portion of which was contingent upon him becoming Chief Executive Officer no later than March 31, 2019, which deadline was extended by subsequent amendments to September 4, 2019. Dr. Coles' employment agreement provides that his stock option awards that are subject to time-based vesting and outstanding as of the date of a sale event (as defined in his employment agreement) will be accelerated and vest in connection with such sale event if (i) he is in continuous service through the date of such sale event or (ii) within the 12 month period following a sale event his employment is (A) terminated by us without cause (as defined in, and modified for severance purposes, in his employment agreement) or (B) he resigns for good reason (as defined in his employment agreement). Dr. Coles is also eligible to receive reimbursement of up to \$18,000 per month in reasonable living and commuting expenses and applicable taxes, through November 28, 2020, subject to repayment of up to 50% of such amounts if Dr. Coles' employment is terminated by us for cause or he resigns without good reason within 24 months of the effective date of his employment agreement. Dr. Coles' agreement provided for the reimbursement by us of

up to \$75,000 of legal fees incurred in connection with the negotiation of his employment agreement and related agreements. Dr. Coles is eligible to participate in the employee benefit plans generally available to all our full-time employees, subject to the terms of those plans.

Dr. Coles' employment has no specified term but can be terminated at will by either party. If Dr. Coles' employment is terminated by us without cause or by him for good reason (as such terms are defined in, and modified for severance purposes, in his employment agreement), Dr. Coles will be entitled to certain payments and benefits in addition to accrued obligations. These payments and benefits include (i) 24 months of salary continuation, (ii) a prorated amount of his annual target bonus for the year of such termination based on the number of days Dr. Coles' service during the year his employment is terminated, (iii) acceleration of an additional 12 months of vesting for his stock options and any other stock awards granted to him under our equity incentive plan and (iv) up to 24 months (dependent on COBRA eligibility for such period) of company-sponsored benefits continuation. In the event his employment is terminated within 12 months following a sale event (as defined in his employment agreement), in addition to the accelerated vesting of his stock option award and any other time-based equity awards described above, subject to certain limitations, he will be entitled to receive (i) 24 months of salary plus two times his target bonus payable in a lump sum, and (ii) up to 18 months (dependent on COBRA eligibility for such period) of company-sponsored benefits continuation.

**Mark Bodenrader.** On August 18, 2019, we entered into an offer letter agreement with Mr. Bodenrader for the position of Vice President, Finance and Chief Accounting Officer effective as of September 3, 2019. On September 20, 2021, our board of directors appointed Mr. Bodenrader as the interim Chief Financial Officer and principal financial officer, effective as of September 20, 2021. Mr. Bodenrader currently serves as the Vice President, Finance and Chief Accounting Officer and will continue in those roles while serving as the principal financial officer. Pursuant to his offer letter agreement, Mr. Bodenrader is entitled to a base salary of \$300,000 and is eligible to earn an annual target bonus equal to 25% of his annual base salary prorated for a partial initial year of employment. Mr. Bodenrader is eligible to participate in our employee benefit plans generally available to our senior employees, subject to the terms of those plans. The offer letter agreement also provided for a \$75,000 signing bonus and a promised equity award of stock options subject to the terms of an award agreement and our equity incentive plan.

Mr. Bodenrader's employment has no specified term but can be terminated at will by either party. In the event Mr. Bodenrader's employment is terminated by us for cause (as such term is defined in the offer letter agreement) or by Mr. Bodenrader without good cause (as such term is defined in the offer letter agreement) within (i) the 12-month period following his start date, Mr. Bodenrader will be required to repay us the full amount of any signing bonus or (ii) on or after the 12-month period following his start date but before the 24-month period following his start date, Mr. Bodenrader will be required to repay us 50% of the signing bonus. Any repayment must occur within the 30-day period following the date on which his employment terminates.

**Kathy Yi.** On May 9, 2019, we entered into an employment agreement with Ms. Yi for the position of Chief Financial Officer effective as of June 10, 2019. Pursuant to her employment agreement, Ms. Yi was entitled to a base salary of \$430,000 and an annual target bonus equal to 40% of her annual base salary, prorated for a partial initial year of employment. Her salary was subject to increase from time to time by our board of directors in its discretion. Ms. Yi was eligible to participate in our employee benefit plans generally available to our executive employees, subject to the terms of those plans. The employment agreement also provided for a \$200,000 signing bonus and up to a maximum amount as agreed to by the Company in relocation expenses (grossed up for any taxes imposed on the amounts reimbursed). Under her employment agreement, Ms. Yi was also promised an equity award of stock options subject to the terms of an award agreement and our equity incentive plan.

Ms. Yi's employment had no specified term but could be terminated at will by either party. If Ms. Yi's employment was terminated by us without cause, or if Ms. Yi terminated her employment for good reason (as such terms are defined in her employment agreement), Ms. Yi would be entitled to certain payments and benefits in addition to accrued obligations. These payments and benefits include (i) 12 months of salary continuation,

(ii) a prorated amount of her target annual bonus for the year of such termination based on the number of days of Ms. Yi's service during the year her employment is terminated and (iii) up to 12 months (dependent on COBRA eligibility for such period) of company-sponsored benefits continuation.

As described above, Ms. Yi stepped down from her role as Chief Financial Officer and principal financial officer, effective September 20, 2021, and provided transitional services through November 15, 2021. Ms. Yi's resignation did not constitute a termination without cause or for good reason and she did not receive the severance payments and benefits described above.

**Abraham Ceesay, M.B.A.** On April 13, 2021, we entered into an employment agreement with Mr. Ceesay for the position of President effective as of May 3, 2021. Pursuant to his employment agreement, Mr. Ceesay is entitled to a base salary of \$500,000 and is eligible to earn an annual target bonus equal to 45% of his annual base salary. His salary is subject to increase from time to time by our board of directors in its discretion. Mr. Ceesay is eligible to participate in our employee benefit plans generally available to our senior executive employees, subject to the terms of those plans. The employment agreement also provided for a one-time cash signing bonus in the amount of \$250,000 and a promised equity award of stock options subject to the terms of an award agreement and our equity incentive plan.

Mr. Ceesay's employment has no specified term but can be terminated at will by either party. If Mr. Ceesay's employment is terminated by us without cause, or if Mr. Ceesay terminates his employment for good reason (as such terms are defined in his employment agreement), Mr. Ceesay will be entitled to certain payments and benefits in addition to accrued obligations. These payments and benefits include (i) 12 months of salary continuation, (ii) a prorated amount of his target annual bonus for the year of such termination based on the number of days of Mr. Ceesay's service during the year his employment is terminated and (iii) up to 12 months (dependent on COBRA eligibility for such period) of company-sponsored benefits continuation.

**Raymond Sanchez, M.D.** On November 26, 2018, we entered into an employment agreement with Dr. Sanchez for the position of Chief Medical Officer effective as of January 14, 2019. Pursuant to his employment agreement, as amended on October 27, 2020, Dr. Sanchez is entitled to a base salary of \$465,000 and is eligible to earn an annual target bonus equal to 40% of his annual base salary. His salary is subject to increase from time to time by our board of directors in its discretion. Dr. Sanchez is eligible to participate in our employee benefit plans generally available to our senior employees, subject to the terms of those plans. Dr. Sanchez's employment agreement also provided for an initial grant of stock options, a \$400,000 signing bonus and reimbursement of relocation expenses up to \$130,000 (grossed up for any taxes imposed on the amounts reimbursed) (such signing bonus and relocation expenses being referred to herein as, the Additional Compensation). In the event Dr. Sanchez's employment is terminated by us for cause (as such term is defined in the employment agreement) or by Dr. Sanchez without good reason (as such term is defined in the employment agreement) within the 24-month period following his start date, Dr. Sanchez will be required to repay us an amount equal to 50% of his Additional Compensation within the 30-day period following the date on which his employment terminates. Pursuant to his employment agreement, Dr. Sanchez was also entitled to reimbursement by us for the cost of his and his dependents' participation in his former employer's health and welfare and life and disability insurance plans during his transition to our company, and also was provided with specific premium business and travel reimbursement entitlements.

Dr. Sanchez's employment has no specified term but can be terminated at will by either party. If Dr. Sanchez's employment is terminated by us without cause, or if Dr. Sanchez terminates his employment for good reason (as such terms are defined in his employment agreement), Dr. Sanchez will be entitled to certain payments and benefits in addition to accrued obligations. These payments and benefits include (i) 12 months of salary continuation, (ii) a prorated amount of his target annual bonus for the year of such termination based on the number of days of Mr. Ceesay's service during the year his employment is terminated and (iii) up to 12 months (dependent on COBRA eligibility for such period) of company-sponsored benefits continuation.

**Scott Akamine, J.D.** On April 20, 2021, we entered into an employment agreement with Mr. Akamine for the position of Chief Legal Officer effective as of May 24, 2021. Pursuant to his employment agreement,

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Mr. Akamine is entitled to a base salary of \$425,000 and is eligible to earn an annual target bonus equal to 40% of his annual base salary. His salary is subject to increase from time to time by our board of directors in its discretion. Mr. Akamine is eligible to participate in our employee benefit plans generally available to our senior executive employees, subject to the terms of those plans. The employment agreement also provided for a \$50,000 signing bonus and a promised equity award of stock options subject to the terms of an award agreement and our equity incentive plan.

Mr. Akamine's employment has no specified term but can be terminated at will by either party. If Mr. Akamine's employment is terminated by us without cause, or if Mr. Akamine terminates his employment for good reason (as such terms are defined in his employment agreement), Mr. Akamine will be entitled to certain payments and benefits in addition to accrued obligations. These payments and benefits include (i) 12 months of salary continuation, (ii) a prorated amount of his target annual bonus for the year of such termination based on the number of days of Mr. Akamine's service during the year his employment is terminated and (iii) up to 12 months (dependent on COBRA eligibility for such period) of company-sponsored benefits continuation.

### Indemnification Agreements

We entered into indemnification agreements with each of our directors and executive officers. Each indemnification agreement provides for indemnification and advancements by us of certain expenses and costs relating to claims, suits or proceedings arising from his or her service to us or, at our request, service to other entities, as officers or directors to the maximum extent permitted by applicable law.

### Equity Compensation Plan Information

The following table sets forth information as of December 31, 2021 regarding shares of our common stock that may be issued under our equity compensation plans.

<u>Plan Category</u>	<u>Number of securities to be issued upon exercise of outstanding options and vesting of outstanding restricted stock units</u>	<u>Weighted-average exercise price of outstanding options</u>	<u>Number of securities remaining available for future issuance under equity compensation plans (excluding securities reflected in the first column)</u>
Equity compensation plans approved by security holders <sup>(1)</sup>	16,094,604 <sup>(2)</sup>	\$ 9.92	14,307,000 <sup>(3)(4)</sup>
Equity compensation plans not approved by security holders	—	—	—
Total	<u>16,094,604</u>	<u>\$ 9.92</u>	<u>14,307,000</u>

- (1) Consists of the Cerevel Therapeutics Holdings, Inc. 2020 Equity Incentive Plan, or the 2020 Equity Incentive Plan, and the Cerevel Therapeutics Holdings, Inc. Amended and Restated Employee Stock Purchase Plan, or the ESPP.
- (2) Consists of 16,066,064 shares of common stock issuable upon the exercise of outstanding stock options and 28,540 shares of common stock issuable upon settlement of outstanding restricted stock units.
- (3) As of December 31, 2021, there were 11,464,309 shares available for grant under the 2020 Equity Incentive Plan and 2,842,691 shares available for grant under the ESPP.
- (4) The 2020 Equity Incentive Plan provides that the number of shares of common stock reserved and available for issuance under the 2020 Equity Incentive Plan shall be cumulatively increased on January 1 of each year. The number of shares of common stock increased each year will be equal to (i) 4% of the number of shares of our common stock issued and outstanding on the immediately preceding December 31 or (ii) such lesser amount as determined by our board of directors. The ESPP provides that the number of shares of common stock reserved and available for issuance under the ESPP shall be cumulatively increased on January 1 of each year. The number of shares of common stock increased each year will be equal to (i) 1% of the number of shares of our common stock issued and outstanding on the immediately preceding December 31 or (ii) such lesser amount as determined by our board of directors.



## DIRECTOR COMPENSATION

Dr. Coles, our Chief Executive Officer, does not receive any compensation from us for his services on our board of directors as chairperson and member. Dr. Coles' compensation for his service as Chief Executive Officer, is set forth above in "Executive Compensation—Executive Compensation Tables—Summary Compensation Table." Each of our remaining non-employee directors is eligible to receive any of the following forms of compensation, as applicable, under our non-employee director compensation policy.

### Non-Employee Director Compensation Policy

Pursuant to our non-employee director compensation policy currently in effect as of the date of this proxy statement, each non-employee director will receive an annual retainer of \$50,000, an additional annual retainer of \$50,000 for serving as the lead independent director, a \$15,000 annual retainer for serving as the chair of the audit committee, compensation committee, nominating and corporate governance committee or science and technology committee and a \$7,500 annual retainer for serving as a member on each such committee, to be paid quarterly in arrears and prorated based on the number of actual days served on the board of directors or applicable committee. Non-employee directors are also eligible to receive certain additional cash retainers for serving on ad hoc special committees of the board of directors. In addition, each non-employee director who will continue as a non-employee director following such meeting will receive, on the date of our annual meeting of stockholders, an annual grant of a stock option with a grant date fair value, determined in accordance with the reasonable assumptions and methodologies employed by the Company for calculating the fair value of options under ASC 718, equal to approximately \$428,000, that vests in full on the earlier of the one-year anniversary of the grant date or the next annual meeting of stockholders, and each new non-employee director will receive a stock option with a grant date fair value equal to approximately \$642,000, vesting in 36 monthly installments through the third anniversary of the grant date. The aggregate amount of compensation, including both equity compensation and cash compensation, paid to any non-employee director in a calendar year period shall not exceed \$750,000 (or \$1,000,000 for the calendar year in which the non-employee director is initially elected or appointed to the board of directors).

### Non-Employee Director Compensation Table

The following table presents the total compensation for each person who served as a non-employee director of our board of directors during fiscal year 2021.

Name	Fees Paid or Earned in Cash (\$)	Option Awards \$(1)	Total (\$)
Deborah Baron, M.B.A.(2)	—	—	—
Morris Birnbaum, M.D., Ph.D.(2)	—	—	—
Marijn Dekkers, Ph.D.	79,710	578,000(3)(4)	657,710
Doug Giordano, M.B.A.	70,069	578,000(3)(4)	648,069
Christopher Gordon, M.B.A.	65,000	427,997(3)	492,997
Adam Koppel, M.D., Ph.D.	65,000	427,997(3)	492,997
Ruth McKernan, Ph.D., CBE, FMedSci	64,300	995,624(5)	1,059,924
Deval Patrick, J.D.	54,174	855,993(6)	910,167
Norbert Riedel, Ph.D.(7)	115,887	578,000(3)(4)	693,887
Gabrielle Sulzberger, J.D., M.B.A.(8)	94,010	578,000(3)(4)	672,010

- (1) Amounts represent the aggregate grant date fair value of stock options granted in 2021 to non-employee directors, as computed in accordance with ASC 718. Such grant date fair values do not take into account any estimated forfeitures. The assumptions used in calculating the grant date fair value of the stock options reported in this column are set forth in Note 13, *Equity-Based Compensation*, to our consolidated financial statements included in our Annual Report. The amounts reported in this column reflect the accounting cost

for these stock options and do not correspond to the actual economic value that may be received by the non-executive directors upon the exercise of the stock options or any sale of the underlying shares of common stock.

- (2) Ms. Baron and Dr. Birnbaum, who are each employees of Pfizer Inc. and were nominated to our board of directors by Pfizer Inc., have declined to receive compensation for their service on our board of directors.
- (3) Includes an annual grant of stock options in June 2021 with a grant date fair value of approximately \$428,000 in accordance with our non-employee director compensation policy discussed above.
- (4) Includes a one-time supplemental grant of stock options in June 2021 with a grant date fair value of approximately \$150,000 to certain independent directors.
- (5) The aggregate compensation deemed earned by Dr. McKernan in 2021 was \$64,300, which consisted solely of cash retainers for service on our board of directors and its committees. Dr. McKernan joined our board of directors on December 4, 2020, and, in connection with her appointment, in accordance with our prior non-employee director compensation policy, was awarded an initial grant of stock options with a grant date fair value of approximately \$995,624. However, although this grant was deemed to be granted in respect of Dr. McKernan's commencement of service in 2020 and was thus counted against her 2020 limit for purposes of our limit on the aggregate annual amount of non-employee director compensation discussed above, in accordance with our equity award grant policy, this grant was not effective until January 4, 2021, the first trading day of the following month, and, accordingly, is reflected in the non-employee director compensation table for 2021 in accordance with SEC rules. Dr. McKernan did not receive an annual grant of stock options in 2021 and will next be eligible to receive an annual grant of stock options on the date of our 2022 annual meeting of stockholders.
- (6) Mr. Patrick joined our board of directors on January 20, 2021, and, in connection with his appointment, in accordance with our prior non-employee director compensation policy, was awarded an initial grant of stock options with a grant date fair value of approximately \$856,000. Mr. Patrick did not receive an annual grant of stock options in 2021 and will next be eligible to receive an annual grant of stock options on the date of our 2022 annual meeting of stockholders.
- (7) As of December 31, 2021, Dr. Riedel also held 14,270 unvested restricted stock units.
- (8) As of December 31, 2021, Ms. Sulzberger also held 14,270 unvested restricted stock units.

## SECURITY OWNERSHIP OF CERTAIN BENEFICIAL OWNERS AND MANAGEMENT

The following table sets forth certain information known to us regarding the beneficial ownership of our common stock as of March 31, 2022 (unless stated otherwise) for each of our NEOs, each of our directors, all of our executive officers and directors as a group and each person or group of affiliated persons known by us to be the beneficial owner of more than 5% of our common stock. Beneficial ownership is determined according to the rules of the SEC, which generally provide that a person has beneficial ownership of a security if he, she or it possesses sole or shared voting or investment power over that security. Under those rules, beneficial ownership includes securities that the individual or entity has the right to acquire, such as through the exercise of warrants or stock options or the vesting of restricted stock units, within 60 days of March 31, 2022. Shares subject to warrants or options that are currently exercisable or exercisable within 60 days of March 31, 2022 or subject to restricted stock units that vest within 60 days of March 31, 2022 are considered outstanding and beneficially owned by the person holding such warrants, options or restricted stock units for the purpose of computing the percentage ownership of that person but are not treated as outstanding for the purpose of computing the percentage ownership of any other person. Except as noted in the footnotes, and subject to community property laws where applicable, based on the information provided to us, we believe that the persons and entities named in the table below have sole voting and investment power with respect to all common stock shown as beneficially owned by them. Unless otherwise noted, the business address of each of our directors and executive officers is c/o Cerevel Therapeutics Holdings, Inc., 222 Jacobs Street, Suite 200, Cambridge, MA 02141. The percentage of beneficial ownership of our shares of common stock is calculated based on 148,182,798 shares of common stock outstanding as of March 31, 2022.

Name of Beneficial Owner	Number of Shares	%
<i>Greater than 5% Holders</i>		
BC Perception Holdings, LP <sup>(1)</sup>	60,632,356	40.9%
Pfizer Inc. <sup>(2)</sup>	27,349,211	18.5%
Certain funds and accounts affiliated with Fidelity <sup>(3)</sup>	19,509,813	13.2%
<i>NEOs and Directors</i>		
N. Anthony Coles, M.D. <sup>(4)</sup>	3,850,436	2.6%
Mark Bodenrader <sup>(5)</sup>	81,790	*
Abraham Ceesay, M.B.A.	—	—
Raymond Sanchez, Ph.D. <sup>(6)</sup>	707,555	*
Scott Akamine, J.D.	—	—
Kathy Yi <sup>(7)</sup>	1,277	*
Deborah Baron, M.B.A.	—	—
Morris Birnbaum, M.D., Ph.D.	—	—
Marijn Dekkers, Ph.D. <sup>(8)</sup>	676,160	*
Doug Giordano, M.B.A.	—	—
Christopher Gordon, M.B.A. <sup>(9)</sup>	—	—
Adam Koppel, M.D., Ph.D. <sup>(10)</sup>	—	—
Ruth McKernan, Ph.D., CBE, FMedSci <sup>(6)</sup>	35,975	*
Deval Patrick, J.D. <sup>(6)</sup>	37,662	*
Norbert Riedel, Ph.D. <sup>(11)</sup>	42,810	*
Gabrielle Sulzberger, J.D., M.B.A. <sup>(11)</sup>	49,624	*
<i>All directors and executive officers as a group (19 persons)</i>	6,411,060	4.3%

\* Less than 1%

(1) Based solely on an Amendment No. 2 to a Schedule 13D filed with the SEC on March 3, 2022. Bain Capital Investors, LLC is the ultimate general partner of BC Perception Holdings, LP. As a result, Bain Capital

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Investors, LLC may be deemed to exercise voting and dispositive power with respect to the shares reported in the table above. Voting and investment decisions with respect to securities held by BC Perception Holdings, LP are made by the managing directors of Bain Capital Investors, LLC, of whom there are three or more and none of whom individually has the power to direct such decisions. The address of BC Perception Holdings, LP is c/o Bain Capital Private Equity, LP, 200 Clarendon Street, Boston, Massachusetts 02116.

- (2) Based solely on an Amendment No. 3 to a Schedule 13D filed with the SEC on April 7, 2022. Ms. Baron and Dr. Birnbaum, each of whom is a member of our board of directors, are each employed by Pfizer Inc. Neither Ms. Baron nor Dr. Birnbaum has voting or dispositive power over such shares and each of them disclaims beneficial ownership of all such shares. The address of Pfizer Inc. is 235 East 42nd Street, New York, New York 10017.
- (3) Based solely on an Amendment No. 1 to a Schedule 13G filed with the SEC on February 9, 2022. The address of such entities is 245 Summer Street, Boston, Massachusetts 02210.
- (4) Consists of (i) 1,980 shares of common stock and (ii) options to purchase 3,848,456 shares of common stock exercisable within 60 days of March 31, 2022.
- (5) Consists of (i) 1,960 shares of common stock and (ii) options to purchase 79,830 shares of common stock exercisable within 60 days of March 31, 2022.
- (6) Consists solely of options exercisable within 60 days of March 31, 2022.
- (7) Ms. Yi stepped down from her role as Chief Financial Officer and principal financial officer in September 2021 and departed from the Company in November 2021.
- (8) Consists of 42,810 shares of common stock held directly by Dr. Dekkers and 633,350 shares of common stock held by Novalis LifeSciences Investments I, L.P., or Novalis LifeSciences. Dr. Dekkers, the Manager of the general partner of Novalis LifeSciences, has sole voting and dispositive power over the shares held by Novalis LifeSciences and, as a result, may be deemed to share beneficial ownership of the shares held by Novalis LifeSciences. The address of Novalis LifeSciences is 1 Liberty Lane E, Suite 100, Hampton, New Hampshire 03842.
- (9) Does not include shares of common stock held by BC Perception Holdings, LP, which is reflected elsewhere in the table. Mr. Gordon, who is a member of our board of directors, is a managing director of Bain Capital Investors, LLC, the ultimate general partner of BC Perception Holdings, LP, and as a result, and by virtue of the relationships described in footnote 1 above, may be deemed to share beneficial ownership of the shares held by BC Perception Holdings, LP. The address for Mr. Gordon is c/o Bain Capital Private Equity, LP, 200 Clarendon Street, Boston, MA 02116.
- (10) Does not include shares of common stock held by BC Perception Holdings, LP. Dr. Koppel, who is a member of our board of directors, is a managing director of Bain Capital Life Sciences Investors, LLC, which is the general partner of Bain Capital Life Sciences Fund, LP, and, as a result, may be deemed to share beneficial ownership of the shares held by BC Perception Holdings, LP. The address for Dr. Koppel is c/o Bain Capital Life Sciences, LP, 200 Clarendon Street, Boston, MA 02116.
- (11) Consists solely of common stock.

## CERTAIN RELATIONSHIPS AND RELATED PERSON TRANSACTIONS

Other than compensation and employment-related arrangements, including those described under the sections entitled “*Executive Compensation*,” “*Executive Compensation Tables*” and “*Director Compensation*” in this proxy statement, and the transactions described below, since January 1, 2021, there has not been and there is not currently proposed, any transaction or series of similar transactions to which:

- we were, or will be, a participant;
- the amount involved exceeded, or will exceed, \$120,000; and
- in which any director, executive officer, holder of 5% or more of any class of our capital stock or any member of the immediate family of, or entities affiliated with, any of the foregoing persons, had, or will have, a direct or indirect material interest.

As used in this proxy statement, the term “Business Combination” refers to the acquisition of Cerevel Therapeutics, Inc. by ARYA Sciences Acquisition Corp II pursuant to a business combination agreement dated July 29, 2020, as amended on October 2, 2020, or the Business Combination Agreement, and pursuant to which 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.

### Pfizer License Agreement

In August 2018, we entered into a license agreement with Pfizer Inc., which owns more than 5% of our common stock. We refer to the agreement in this proxy statement as the Pfizer License Agreement. Pursuant to the Pfizer License Agreement, we were granted an exclusive, sublicensable, worldwide license under certain Pfizer patent rights, and a non-exclusive, sublicensable, worldwide license under certain Pfizer know-how, to develop, manufacture and commercialize certain compounds and products, which currently constitute substantially all of our asset portfolio, in the field of treatment, prevention, diagnosis, control and maintenance of all diseases and disorders in humans, subject to the terms and conditions of the Pfizer License Agreement. For additional details regarding the Pfizer License Agreement, see “*Business—Pfizer License Agreement*” of our Annual Report.

As partial consideration for the licensed assets, we issued to Pfizer Inc., 3,833,333.33 shares of Series A-2 Preferred Stock of Cerevel Therapeutics, Inc., a predecessor entity, with an estimated fair value of \$100.4 million or \$26.20 per share. The 3,833,333.33 shares of Series A-2 Preferred Stock were converted into 26,149,211 shares of common stock upon the closing of our Business Combination. We also reimbursed Pfizer Inc. for \$11.0 million of direct expenses related to the Pfizer License Agreement, bringing the total initial consideration to \$111.4 million.

Under the terms of the Pfizer License Agreement, we are required to make regulatory approval milestone payments to Pfizer Inc., ranging from \$7.5 million to \$40.0 million on a compound-by-compound basis, upon the first regulatory approval in the United States for the first product containing or comprised of a given compound, with the amount of the payments determined by which designated group the compound falls into and with each such group generally characterized by the compounds’ stage of development. Each such regulatory approval milestone is payable only once per compound. If all of our applicable product candidates are approved in the United States, the total aggregate amount of such regulatory approval milestones payable to Pfizer Inc. would be approximately \$220.0 million.

In addition, we are required to pay Pfizer Inc. commercial milestone payments up to an aggregate of \$170.0 million per product when aggregate net sales of products under the Pfizer License Agreement in a calendar year first reach various thresholds ranging from \$500.0 million to \$2.0 billion. Each commercial milestone payment is payable only once upon first achievement of the applicable commercial milestone. If all of our applicable product candidates achieve all of the commercial milestones, the total aggregate amount of such commercial milestones payable to Pfizer Inc. would total approximately \$1.7 billion.

We are also required to pay Pfizer tiered royalties on the aggregate net sales during each calendar year, determined on a product-by-product basis with respect to products under the Pfizer License Agreement, at percentages ranging from the low-single digits to mid-teens, with the royalty rate determined by which designated group the applicable compound for such product falls into and with each such group generally characterized by the compounds' stage of development, and subject to certain royalty deductions for the expiration of patent, regulatory and data exclusivity, generic competition and third-party royalty payments as set forth in the Pfizer License Agreement.

#### **Amended and Restated Registration and Shareholder Rights Agreement**

On the closing date of the Business Combination, we entered into an Amended and Restated Registration and Shareholder Rights Agreement with BC Perception Holdings, LP, Pfizer Inc., Perceptive Life Sciences Master Fund Ltd, ARYA Sciences Holdings II and certain individual investors, which agreement was amended by a waiver dated as of January 20, 2021, or as so amended, the Registration and Shareholder Rights Agreement, pursuant to which, among other things, BC Perception Holdings, LP, Pfizer Inc., Perceptive Life Sciences Master Fund Ltd and ARYA Sciences Holdings II, or collectively, the Sponsor Holders, agreed not to effect any sale or distribution of any of our equity securities held by any of them during the lock-up period described therein and were granted certain registration rights and preemptive rights with respect to their respective shares of common stock, and BC Perception Holdings and Pfizer Inc. agreed to cast their votes such that our board of directors would be constituted as set forth in the Business Combination Agreement and the Registration and Shareholder Rights Agreement and would have certain rights to nominate directors to serve on our board of directors, in each case, on the terms and subject to the conditions therein. Pfizer Inc. and BC Perception Holdings, LP each own more than 5% of our common stock.

In particular, the Registration and Shareholder Rights Agreement provides for the following registration rights:

- *Demand registration rights.* We are required, upon the written request of any Sponsor Holder, to file a registration statement and use our reasonable best efforts to effect the registration of all or part of such Sponsor Holder's registrable securities. Promptly upon our receipt of a demand registration request from a Sponsor Holder, we are required to notify all other Sponsor Holders then holding registrable securities of such request and offer each such other Sponsor Holder the opportunity to include its registrable securities in the demand registration statement to be filed.
- *Shelf registration rights.* We are required, upon the written request of any Sponsor Holder, to file a shelf registration statement pursuant to Rule 415 under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, or the Securities Act, and use our reasonable best efforts to effect the registration of all or a portion of their registrable securities. ARYA Sciences Holdings II and Perceptive Life Sciences Master Fund Ltd were deemed to have given such a request as of the date of the Registration and Shareholder Rights Agreement with respect to all their registrable securities. Promptly upon our receipt of a shelf registration request from a Sponsor Holder, we are required to notify all other Sponsor Holders then holding registrable securities of such request and offer each such other Sponsor Holder the opportunity to include its registrable securities in the shelf registration statement to be filed. At any time that we have an effective shelf registration statement with respect to a Sponsor Holder's registrable securities, such Sponsor Holder may make a written request to effect a public offering, including pursuant to an underwritten shelf takedown. Upon our receipt of an underwritten shelf takedown request from such Sponsor Holder, we are required to notify the other Sponsor Holders with registrable securities covered by the applicable registration statement and offer each such other Sponsor Holder the opportunity to include its registrable securities in the underwritten shelf takedown.
- *Piggyback registration rights.* If we propose to file a registration statement to register any of our equity securities under the Securities Act or to conduct a public offering, either for our own account or for the account of any other person, subject to certain exceptions, the Sponsor Holders are entitled to include their registrable securities in such registration statement.

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- *Expenses and indemnification.* All fees, costs and expenses of underwritten registrations will be borne by us and underwriting discounts and selling commissions will be borne by the holders of the shares being registered. The Registration and Shareholder Rights Agreement contains customary cross-indemnification provisions, under which we are obligated to indemnify holders of registrable securities in the event of material misstatements or omissions in the registration statement attributable to us, and holders of registrable securities are obligated to indemnify us for material misstatements or omissions attributable to them.
- *Registrable Securities.* Our securities cease to be registrable securities when a registration statement with respect to the sale of such securities has become effective under the Securities Act and such securities have been disposed of in accordance with such registration statement, such securities have been transferred pursuant to Rule 144 under the Securities Act or such securities have ceased to be outstanding.
- *Lock-up.* In connection with any registration pursuant to any of the registration rights described above that is conducted as an underwritten public offering, each Sponsor Holder, we and our directors and officers will, if requested, execute and deliver a customary lock-up agreement with the underwriter(s) of such underwritten public offering, subject to certain customary exceptions.

Furthermore, under the Registration and Shareholder Rights Agreement, each of BC Perception Holdings, LP and Pfizer Inc. have agreed to cast all votes to which such entities are entitled such that our board of directors would consist of 11 directors, divided into three classes (being Class I, II and III) with Class I consisting of three directors and Class II and III each consisting of four directors.

For as long as BC Perception Holdings, LP holds an amount of our equity securities that is equal to 50% or more of the amount of securities it held at the closing of the Business Combination, it shall be entitled to nominate four directors, with such right (i) decreasing to three directors at such time when BC Perception Holdings, LP holds 35% or more but less than 50% of the amount of securities it held at the closing of the Business Combination; (ii) decreasing to two directors at such time when BC Perception Holdings, LP holds 20% or more but less than 35% of the amount of securities it held at the closing of the Business Combination; (iii) decreasing to one director at such time when BC Perception Holdings, LP holds 5% or more but less than 20% of the amount of securities it held at the closing of the Business Combination; and (iv) terminating at such time when BC Perception Holdings, LP holds less than 5% of the amount of securities it held at the closing of the Business Combination.

For as long as Pfizer Inc. holds an amount of our equity securities that is equal to 50% or more of the amount of securities it held at the closing of the Business Combination, it shall be entitled to nominate two directors, with such right (i) decreasing to one director at such time when Pfizer Inc. holds 20% or more but less than 50% of the amount of securities it held at the closing of the Business Combination; and (ii) terminating at such time when Pfizer Inc. holds less than 20% of the amount of securities it held at the closing of the Business Combination.

Additionally, for as long as BC Perception Holdings, LP holds an amount of our equity securities that is equal to 60% or more of the amount of securities it held at the closing of the Business Combination, it shall be entitled, with the prior written consent of Pfizer Inc. (which consent may not be unreasonably withheld, conditioned or delayed), to nominate two unaffiliated directors to our board of directors. Finally, for as long as Pfizer Inc. holds at least 20% of the amount of securities it held at the closing of the Business Combination, Pfizer Inc. has the right to designate one non-voting observer to attend each meeting of our board of directors or its committees.

As of the date of this proxy statement, N. Anthony Coles was nominated to serve on our board of directors as our chief executive officer; Deborah Baron and Morris Birnbaum were nominated to serve on our board of directors by Pfizer Inc.; Christopher Gordon, Adam Koppel, Ruth McKernan and Gabrielle Sulzberger were

nominated to serve on our board of directors by BC Perception Holdings, LP; Marijn Dekkers and Norbert Riedel were nominated to serve on our board of directors as unaffiliated directors by BC Perception Holdings, LP, with the prior written consent of Pfizer Inc.; and Doug Giordano was nominated to serve on our board of directors as the director mutually agreed by us and ARYA Sciences Holdings II pursuant to the Business Combination Agreement.

In addition, under the Registration and Shareholder Rights Agreement, subject to certain exceptions, in the event that we propose to issue any capital stock or rights, options or warrants to purchase capital stock or other securities convertible into or exchangeable or exercisable for capital stock, or New Securities, each Sponsor Holder has the right to purchase, in lieu of the person to whom we proposed to issue such New Securities, its pro rata proportion of such New Securities. Such preemptive rights will terminate on the earlier to occur of the seventh anniversary of the closing date of the Business Combination and (i) in the case of BC Perception Holdings, LP, the date on which BC Perception Holdings, LP beneficially owns less than 50% of the amount of securities it held at the closing of the Business Combination, (ii) in the case of Pfizer Inc., the date on which Pfizer Inc. beneficially owns less than 50% of the amount of securities it held at the closing of the Business Combination or BC Perception Holdings, LP beneficially owns less than 50% of the amount of securities it held at the closing of the Business Combination and (iii) in the case of ARYA Sciences Holdings II and Perceptive Life Sciences Master Fund Ltd, the date on which ARYA Sciences Holdings II and Perceptive Life Sciences Master Fund Ltd beneficially own less than 80% of the amount of securities they held at the closing of the Business Combination or BC Perception Holdings, LP beneficially owns less than 50% of the amount of securities it held at the closing of the Business Combination.

Finally, pursuant to the Registration and Shareholder Rights Agreement, to the fullest extent permitted by law, the doctrine of corporate opportunity and any analogous doctrine will not apply to (i) any Sponsor Holder, (ii) any member of our board of directors, non-voting observer or any officer who is not our or any of our subsidiaries' full-time employee or (iii) any affiliate, partner, advisory board member, director, officer, manager, member or shareholder of any Sponsor Holder who is not our or any of our subsidiaries' full-time employee (any such person listed in (i), (ii) or (iii) being referred to herein as an External Party). Therefore, we have renounced any interest or expectancy in, or in being offered an opportunity to participate in, business opportunities that are from time to time presented to any External Party.

### **Funding Agreement**

In April 2021, through Cerevel Therapeutics, Inc., our wholly-owned subsidiary, we entered into separate funding agreements with BC Pinnacle Holdings, LP and another investor, or collectively, the Funding Agreements, pursuant to which BC Pinnacle Holdings, LP and the other investor will provide funding to support our development of tavapadon for the treatment of Parkinson's disease. BC Pinnacle Holdings, LP is an affiliate of BC Perception Holdings, LP, a holder of 5% or more of our common stock. The funding agreement was reviewed and approved by both a special committee of our board of directors comprised solely of independent and uninterested directors and our audit committee.

Pursuant to the Funding Agreements, we will receive up to \$62.5 million in funding from each of BC Pinnacle Holdings, LP and the other investor, for a combined total of up to \$125 million in funding, or the Total Funding Commitment, of which approximately \$31.3 million (25% of the Total Funding Commitment) has been received, and \$37.5 million (30% of the Total Funding Commitment), approximately \$31.3 million (25% of the Total Funding Commitment) and \$25.0 million (20% of the Total Funding Commitment) will be received on the first, second and third anniversaries of the effective date of the Funding Agreements, respectively, subject to certain customary funding conditions.

In return we agreed to pay to BC Pinnacle Holdings, LP and the other investor (i) upon approval of tavapadon by the FDA, a combined \$187.5 million (1.5x of the Total Funding Commitment), or the Approval Milestone Payment, with 50% of the Approval Milestone Payment due within 30 days of FDA approval and



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12.5% of the Approval Milestone Payment due on each of the first four anniversaries of FDA approval, (ii) upon first reaching certain cumulative U.S. net sales thresholds, certain sales milestone payments and (iii) combined tiered, mid-single digit to low-double digit royalties on annual net sales of tavapadon in the United States.

At the time that BC Pinnacle Holdings, LP and the other investor collectively receive an aggregate of approximately \$531.3 million (4.25x of the Total Funding Commitment), our payment obligations under the Funding Agreements will be fully satisfied. We have the option to satisfy our payment obligations to BC Pinnacle Holdings, LP and the other investor upon the earlier of FDA approval or May 1, 2025, by paying an amount equal to the Total Funding Commitment multiplied by a certain factor (which will initially be 3.00x and will increase over time to a maximum of 4.25x), less amounts previously paid to BC Pinnacle Holdings, LP and the other investor.

During the term of the Funding Agreements, we will use commercially reasonable efforts to develop and commercialize tavapadon in the United States, except that, upon the occurrence of certain significant safety, efficacy and regulatory technical failures of the program, or each, a Technical Failure, we will have the right to terminate the development of tavapadon and, upon such termination, will not be obligated to make any payments to BC Pinnacle Holdings, LP and the other investor. If we suspend or terminate the development of tavapadon or fail to perform certain diligence obligations for any reason other than a Technical Failure, we will pay BC Pinnacle Holdings, LP and the other investor a combined amount equal to the total amount funded by BC Pinnacle Holdings, LP and the other investor up to the date of termination, plus 12% interest compounded annually.

The foregoing are not, and do not purport to be, complete descriptions of the Pfizer License Agreement, the Registration and Shareholder Rights Agreement and the Funding Agreements, as applicable, and are subject to, and qualified by, the full text of such agreements, as applicable, each of which agreements has been filed with the SEC.

### **Policies and Procedures for Related Person Transactions**

Our board of directors has adopted a written policy with respect to related person transactions, setting forth the policies and procedures for the review and approval or ratification of related person transactions.

For purposes of the policy, a “related person transaction” is a transaction, arrangement or relationship in which we or any of our subsidiaries was, is or will be a participant, the amount of which involved exceeds or will exceed \$120,000, and in which any related person had, has or will have a direct or indirect material interest. A “related person” means:

- any person who is, or at any time during the applicable period was, one of our executive officers or one of our directors or director nominees;
- any person who is known by us to be the beneficial owner of more than 5% of our voting stock;
- any immediate family member of any of the foregoing persons; and
- any firm, corporation or other entity in which any of the foregoing persons is a partner or principal or in a similar position or in which such person has a 10% or greater beneficial ownership interest.

An “immediate family member” means any child, stepchild, parent, stepparent, spouse, sibling, mother-in-law, father-in-law, son-in-law, daughter-in-law, brother-in-law, sister-in-law or any other person (other than a tenant or employee) sharing the household of the related person (as defined above).

Under the policy, the audit committee of our board of directors must review in advance, the material facts of all related person transactions. If advance review by our audit committee is not feasible, then the related person transaction must be reviewed at the audit committee’s next regularly scheduled meeting. In reviewing any related

person transaction, our audit committee will take into account, among other factors that it deems appropriate, whether the related person transaction is on terms no less favorable to us than terms generally available in a transaction with an unaffiliated third party under the same or similar circumstances and the extent of the related person's interest in the transaction.

Pursuant to the policy, our audit committee has reviewed certain types of related person transactions and determined that such transactions are to be deemed pre-approved. Under the policy, such transactions are not subject to further review by our audit committee. The list of applicable transactions is set forth in the policy. In connection with each regularly scheduled meeting of our audit committee, a summary of any new related person transactions deemed pre-approved (other than director and executive compensation arrangements) will be provided to audit committee for its review.

If a related person transaction will be ongoing, our audit committee may establish guidelines for our management to follow in its ongoing dealings with the related person, and thereafter, our audit committee will periodically review and assess such ongoing transaction and confirm that the ongoing dealings with the related person have been in compliance with the guidelines established by our audit committee.

#### **DELINQUENT SECTION 16(A) REPORTS**

Section 16(a) of the Exchange Act requires our directors and officers and holders of more than 10% of our common stock to file with the SEC initial reports of ownership of our common stock and other equity securities on a Form 3 and reports of changes in such ownership on a Form 4 or Form 5. Directors and officers and holders of 10% of our common stock are required by SEC regulations to furnish us with copies of all Section 16(a) forms they file. To our knowledge, based solely on a review of our records and representations made by our directors and officers regarding their filing obligations, all Section 16(a) filing requirements were satisfied with respect to 2021 except for the following: Dr. McKernan, a member of our board of directors, filed one late Form 4 on January 11, 2021 relating to an acquisition of stock options.

## AUDIT COMMITTEE REPORT

This report is submitted by the audit committee of the board of directors of the Company. The audit committee currently consists of the three directors whose names appear below. None of the members of the audit committee is an officer or employee of the Company, and the board of directors has determined that each member of the audit committee is “independent” for audit committee purposes as that term is defined under Rule 10A-3 under the Exchange Act and the applicable rules of Nasdaq. Each member of the audit committee meets the requirements for financial literacy under the applicable rules and regulations of the SEC and Nasdaq. The board of directors has designated each member of the audit committee as an “audit committee financial expert,” as defined under the applicable rules of the SEC. The audit committee operates under a written charter adopted by the board of directors.

The audit committee’s general role is to assist the board of directors in monitoring the Company’s financial reporting process and related matters. Its specific responsibilities are set forth in its charter.

The audit committee has reviewed the Company’s audited consolidated financial statements for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2021 and met with management, as well as with representatives of Ernst & Young LLP, the Company’s independent registered public accounting firm, to discuss the audited consolidated financial statements. The audit committee also discussed with members of Ernst & Young LLP the matters required to be discussed by applicable requirements of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board and the SEC.

In addition, the audit committee received the written disclosures and the letter from Ernst & Young LLP required by applicable requirements of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board regarding the independent accountant’s communications with the audit committee concerning independence, and discussed with members of Ernst & Young LLP its independence.

Based on the review and discussions referenced above, and other matters it deemed relevant, the audit committee recommended to the board of directors that the Company’s audited consolidated financial statements for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2021 be included in our Annual Report for filing with the SEC.

Respectfully submitted by the  
Audit Committee,

Gabrielle Sulzberger, J.D., M.B.A. (Chairperson)  
Doug Giordano, M.B.A.  
Norbert Riedel, Ph.D.

April 28, 2022

## **PROPOSAL 2: ADVISORY VOTE ON NAMED EXECUTIVE OFFICER COMPENSATION**

We recognize the interest our stockholders have in the compensation of our executives. In recognition of that interest and in accordance with Section 14A of the Exchange Act, our board of directors proposes that stockholders provide advisory (non-binding) approval of the compensation of our NEOs, as disclosed in this proxy statement (commonly known as a “say-on-pay” proposal). In Proposal No. 3 to this proxy statement, we are also asking stockholders in a non-binding advisory proposal to vote on the frequency of the say-on-pay proposal.

As described in detail under the heading “*Compensation Discussion and Analysis*,” our NEO compensation program is designed to motivate, retain and reward high performing executives for their long-term value creation for us. We believe our NEO compensation program also is structured appropriately to support us and our business objectives, as well as to support our culture. Our compensation committee and board of directors regularly review our compensation program for our NEOs to ensure the fulfillment of our compensation philosophy, objectives and goals.

Please read the “*Compensation Discussion and Analysis*” section and the “*Executive Compensation Tables*” for additional details about our NEO compensation program, including information about the target and earned compensation of our NEOs in the fiscal year ended December 31, 2021.

We are asking our stockholders to indicate their support for our NEO compensation in 2021 as described in this proxy statement. This vote is not intended to address any specific item of compensation, but rather the overall compensation of our NEOs and the philosophy, policies and practices described in this proxy statement. Accordingly, we will ask our stockholders to vote “FOR” the following resolution at the Annual Meeting:

“RESOLVED, that the compensation paid to the Company’s named executive officers, as disclosed in the Company’s proxy statement for its 2022 annual meeting of stockholders, including the Compensation Discussion and Analysis and the other related tables and disclosure, is hereby APPROVED.”

Advisory approval of the compensation of our NEOs will be obtained if the number of votes cast FOR exceed the votes cast AGAINST this proposal. Because abstentions and broker non-votes are neither for nor against this proposal, they will have no effect on the outcome.

The say-on-pay vote is advisory, and therefore not binding on us. We are committed to being responsive to stockholder feedback, and the results of our say-on-pay votes, along with other relevant factors, will help inform the compensation committee’s discussions about our executive compensation program.

### **Voting Requirement to Approve Proposal**

For Proposal 2, a majority of the votes properly cast is required to approve the compensation of our NEOs as disclosed in this proxy statement.

### **THE BOARD RECOMMENDS A VOTE**

### **FOR**

### **THE APPROVAL OF THE COMPENSATION OF OUR NAMED EXECUTIVE OFFICERS AS DISCLOSED IN THIS PROXY STATEMENT.**

### **(PROPOSAL 2 ON YOUR PROXY CARD)**

**PROPOSAL 3: VOTE ON THE FREQUENCY OF FUTURE ADVISORY VOTES ON NAMED EXECUTIVE OFFICERS' COMPENSATION**

In accordance with Section 14A of the Exchange Act, we are seeking an advisory, non-binding stockholder vote as to the frequency with which our stockholders would have an opportunity to provide an advisory say-on-pay vote. We are providing our stockholders the option of selecting a frequency of every one year, every two years or every three years, or abstaining. Stockholders are not voting to approve or disapprove of our board of directors' recommendation. Rather, stockholders are being asked to express their preference regarding the frequency of future say-on-pay votes.

Our board of directors recommends that our stockholders select a frequency of future say-on-pay votes of "EVERY ONE YEAR." We believe that this frequency is appropriate because it will enable our stockholders to vote, on an advisory basis, on the most recent executive compensation information that is presented in our proxy statement, leading to a more meaningful and coherent communication between us and our stockholders on the compensation of our NEOs.

Advisory approval of the frequency of future advisory votes on NEOs' compensation will be the frequency alternative (every one year, two years or three years) that receives a number of votes cast for such alternative that exceeds the number of votes cast for the other alternatives. If none of the frequency alternatives receives a majority of the votes cast, the frequency that receives the highest number of votes cast will be deemed to be the frequency recommended by the stockholders. Because abstentions and broker non-votes are not votes for any of the alternatives, they will have no effect on the outcome of the vote.

This vote is advisory, which means that this vote on the frequency of the say-on-pay vote is not binding on us, our board of directors or our compensation committee. Notwithstanding the recommendation on frequency or the outcome of the stockholder vote on this proposal, our board of directors may in the future decide to conduct advisory votes on executive compensation on a less frequent basis based on such factors as it deems best serve the Company and our stockholders, which may include, but are not limited to, discussions with stockholders, the adoption of material changes to our compensation programs or the burden or materiality of such vote.

**Voting Requirement to Approve Proposal**

For Proposal 3, a majority of the votes properly cast is required to approve a frequency alternative. If none of the frequency alternatives receives a majority of the votes cast, the frequency that receives the highest number of votes cast will be deemed to be the frequency recommended by stockholders.

**THE BOARD RECOMMENDS THAT STOCKHOLDERS SELECT**

**EVERY "ONE YEAR"**

**AS THE FREQUENCY OF FUTURE ADVISORY VOTES ON NAMED EXECUTIVE OFFICERS' COMPENSATION.**

**(PROPOSAL 3 ON YOUR PROXY CARD)**

**PROPOSAL 4: RATIFICATION OF THE APPOINTMENT OF INDEPENDENT REGISTERED PUBLIC ACCOUNTING FIRM**

The firm of Ernst & Young LLP has been appointed by our audit committee to serve as our independent registered public accounting firm for our fiscal year ending December 31, 2022. Ernst & Young LLP has served as our independent registered public accounting firm since 2019. A representative of Ernst & Young LLP is expected to virtually attend the Annual Meeting with the opportunity to make a statement if he or she desires and to respond to appropriate questions.

At the Annual Meeting, our stockholders are being asked to ratify the appointment of Ernst & Young LLP as our independent registered public accounting firm for our fiscal year ending December 31, 2022. Our organizational documents do not require that our stockholders ratify the appointment of Ernst & Young LLP as our independent registered public accounting firm. We are requesting such ratification because we value our stockholders' views on our independent registered public accounting firm and as a matter of good corporate practice. The appointment of Ernst & Young LLP as our independent registered public accounting firm will be ratified if the number of votes cast FOR exceed the votes cast AGAINST the proposal. Abstentions are not considered to be votes cast and thus will have no effect on the outcome. Brokers, bankers and other nominees generally have discretionary voting power on this matter, thus broker non-votes are not expected to result from the vote on this proposal. To the extent there are any broker non-votes, they will have no effect on the outcome.

If our stockholders do not ratify the appointment, our audit committee will reconsider whether to retain Ernst & Young LLP, but still may retain this firm. Even if the appointment is ratified, our audit committee, in its discretion, may change the appointment at any time during the year if it determines that such a change would be in the best interests of the Company and our stockholders.

**Voting Requirement to Approve Proposal**

For Proposal 4, a majority of the votes properly cast is required to ratify the appointment of Ernst & Young LLP as our independent registered public accounting firm for the fiscal year ending December 31, 2022.

**THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS UNANIMOUSLY RECOMMENDS THAT YOU VOTE****FOR****THE RATIFICATION OF THE APPOINTMENT OF ERNST & YOUNG LLP AS THE COMPANY'S INDEPENDENT REGISTERED PUBLIC ACCOUNTING FIRM FOR FISCAL YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2022.****(PROPOSAL 4 ON YOUR PROXY CARD)****Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm Fees**

The following is a summary and description of fees incurred by Ernst & Young LLP for the fiscal years ended December 31, 2021 and 2020.

Fee Category	Year ended December 31, 2021	Year ended December 31, 2020
Audit Fees(1)	\$ 1,345,747	\$ 1,548,027
Tax Fees(2)	86,800	18,200
All Other Fees(3)	1,930	2,000
Total	<u>\$ 1,434,477</u>	<u>\$ 1,568,227</u>

- (1) “Audit Fees” consist of fees for the audit of our annual consolidated financial statements and the review of our interim consolidated financial statements. The audit fees incurred also include fees relating to services performed in connection with our securities offerings, in each case including comfort letters, consents and review of documents filed with the SEC and other offering documents. The audit fees for 2021 also include Section 404 attestation services.
- (2) “Tax Fees” consist of fees billed for professional services, including permissible tax compliance, tax planning and tax advice.
- (3) “All Other Fees” consist of fees for accounting research software.

### **Pre-Approval Policies and Procedures**

Our audit committee has adopted procedures requiring the pre-approval of all non-audit services performed by our independent registered public accounting firm in order to assure that these services do not impair the auditor’s independence. These procedures generally approve the performance of specific services subject to a cost limit for all such services. This general approval is to be reviewed, and if necessary modified, at least annually. Management must obtain the specific prior approval of our audit committee for each engagement of the independent registered public accounting firm to perform other audit-related or other non-audit services. Our audit committee does not delegate its responsibility to approve services performed by the independent registered public accounting firm to any member of management.

The standard applied by our audit committee in determining whether to grant approval of any type of non-audit service, or of any specific engagement to perform a non-audit service, is whether the services to be performed, the compensation to be paid for such services and other related factors are consistent with the independent registered public accounting firm’s independence under guidelines of the SEC and applicable professional standards. Relevant considerations include whether the work product is likely to be subject to, or implicated in, audit procedures during the audit of our financial statements, whether the independent registered public accounting firm would be functioning in the role of management or in an advocacy role, whether the independent registered public accounting firm’s performance of the service would enhance our ability to manage or control risk or improve audit quality, whether such performance would increase efficiency because of the independent registered public accounting firm’s familiarity with our business, personnel, culture, systems, risk profile and other factors, and whether the amount of fees involved, or the non-audit services portion of the total fees payable to the independent registered public accounting firm in the period would tend to reduce the independent registered public accounting firm’s ability to exercise independent judgment in performing the audit.

## STOCKHOLDER PROPOSALS

### Stockholder Recommendations for Director Nominations

Our bylaws provide that, for nominations of persons for election to our board of directors or other proposals to be considered at an annual meeting of our stockholders, a stockholder must give written notice to our Corporate Secretary at Cerevel Therapeutics Holdings, Inc., 222 Jacobs Street, Suite 200, Cambridge, Massachusetts 02141, not later than the close of business on the 90<sup>th</sup> day, nor earlier than the close of business on the 120<sup>th</sup> day, prior to the first anniversary of the date of the preceding year's annual meeting. Therefore, for our 2023 annual meeting of stockholders, we must receive notice of such nomination or proposal no earlier than the close of business on February 14, 2023 and no later than the close of business on March 16, 2023.

However, our bylaws also provide that in the event the date of an annual meeting is more than 30 days before or more than 60 days after the anniversary date of the preceding year's annual meeting, notice must be delivered not later than the close of business on the later of the 90<sup>th</sup> day prior to such annual meeting or the 10<sup>th</sup> day following the day on which public announcement of the date of such meeting is first made.

Any nomination must include all information relating to the nominee that is required to be disclosed in solicitations of proxies for election of directors in election contests or is otherwise required under Regulation 14A of the Exchange Act, the person's written consent to be named in the proxy statement and to serve as a director if elected and such information as we might reasonably require to determine the eligibility of the person to serve as a director. As to other business, the notice must include a brief description of the business desired to be brought before the meeting, the reasons for conducting such business at the meeting, and any material interest of such stockholder (and the beneficial owner) in the proposal. The proposal must be a proper subject for stockholder action. In addition, to make a nomination or proposal, the stockholder must be of record at the time the notice is made and must provide certain information regarding itself (and the beneficial owner), including the name and address, as they appear on our books, of the stockholder proposing such business, the number of shares of our capital stock which are, directly or indirectly, owned beneficially or of record by the stockholder proposing such business or its affiliates or associates (as defined in Rule 12b-2 under the Exchange Act) and certain additional information.

The advance notice requirements for the Annual Meeting are as follows: a stockholder's notice shall be timely if delivered to our Corporate Secretary prior to the meeting at which the action is to be taken. Generally, to be timely, notice must be received at our principal executive offices not less than 90 days nor more than 120 days prior to the first anniversary of the date of the annual meeting for the preceding year. Our bylaws specify the requirements as to form and content of all stockholders' notices. These requirements may preclude stockholders from bringing matters before the stockholders at an annual or special meeting.

### Requirements for Stockholder Proposals to be Considered for Inclusion in the Company's Proxy Materials

In addition to the requirements stated above, any stockholder who wishes to submit a proposal for inclusion in our proxy materials must comply with Rule 14a-8 under the Exchange Act. For such proposals to be included in our proxy materials relating to our 2023 annual meeting of stockholders, all applicable requirements of Rule 14a-8 must be satisfied and we must receive such proposals no later than December 29, 2022. Such proposals must be delivered to our Corporate Secretary at Cerevel Therapeutics Holdings, Inc., 222 Jacobs Street, Suite 200, Cambridge, Massachusetts 02141.

## WHERE YOU CAN FIND MORE INFORMATION

We file annual, quarterly and current reports, proxy statements and other information with the SEC. Our SEC filings are available to the public from commercial document retrieval services and at the website maintained by the SEC at <http://www.sec.gov>. You may also access any document we file with the SEC on our website at [www.cerevel.com](http://www.cerevel.com) under the "Investors & Media" section.



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You should rely on the information contained in this document to vote your shares at the Annual Meeting. We have not authorized anyone to provide you with information that is different from what is contained in this document. This document is dated April 28, 2022. You should not assume that the information contained in this document is accurate as of any date other than that date, and the provision of this document to stockholders at any time after that date does not create an implication to the contrary. This proxy statement does not constitute a solicitation of a proxy in any jurisdiction where, or to or from any person to whom, it is unlawful to make such proxy solicitations in such jurisdiction.

### **ANNUAL REPORT**

We will provide without charge to each person to whom a copy of the proxy statement is delivered, upon the written or oral request of any such persons, additional copies of our Annual Report as filed with the SEC. Requests for such copies should be addressed to:

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

### **IMPORTANT NOTICE REGARDING DELIVERY OF STOCKHOLDER DOCUMENTS**

We have adopted a procedure called “householding,” which the SEC has approved. Under this procedure, we deliver a single copy of the Notice of Internet Availability of Proxy Materials and, if applicable, our proxy materials to multiple stockholders who share the same address, unless we have received contrary instructions from one or more of such stockholders. This procedure reduces our printing costs, mailing costs and fees. Stockholders who participate in householding will continue to be able to access and receive separate proxy cards. Upon written or oral request, we will deliver promptly a separate copy of the Notice of Internet Availability of Proxy Materials and, if applicable, our proxy materials to any stockholder at a shared address to which we delivered a single copy of any of these materials. This request may be submitted by contacting us at Cerevel Therapeutics Holdings, Inc., 222 Jacobs Street, Suite 200, Cambridge, Massachusetts 02141, (844) 304-2048, Attention: Corporate Secretary. We will deliver those documents to such stockholder promptly upon receiving the request. Any such stockholder may also contact our Corporate Secretary using the above contact information if he or she would like to receive separate proxy statements, notice of internet availability of proxy materials and annual reports in the future. If you are receiving multiple copies of our annual reports, notice of internet availability of proxy materials and proxy statements, you may request householding in the future by contacting our Corporate Secretary.





### **OTHER BUSINESS**

Our board of directors knows of no business to be brought before the Annual Meeting which is not referred to in the accompanying Notice of Annual Meeting. Should any such matters be presented, the persons named in the proxy shall have the authority to take such action in regard to such matters as in their judgment seems advisable. If you hold shares through a broker, bank or other nominee as described above, they will not be able to vote your shares on any other business that comes before the Annual Meeting unless they receive instructions from you with respect to such matter.



P.O. BOX 8016, CARY, NC 27512-9903

**YOUR VOTE IS IMPORTANT! PLEASE VOTE BY:**

	<b>INTERNET</b> Go To: <a href="http://www.proxypush.com/CERE">www.proxypush.com/CERE</a> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Cast your vote online</li><li>• <b>Have your Proxy Card ready</b></li><li>• Follow the simple instructions to record your vote</li></ul>
	<b>PHONE</b> Call 1-866-362-3908 <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Use any touch-tone telephone</li><li>• <b>Have your Proxy Card ready</b></li><li>• Follow the simple recorded instructions</li></ul>
	<b>MAIL</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Mark, sign and date your Proxy Card</li><li>• Fold and return your Proxy Card in the postage-paid envelope provided</li></ul>
	You must register to attend the meeting online and/or participate at <a href="http://www.proxydocs.com/CERE">www.proxydocs.com/CERE</a>

## Cerevel Therapeutics Holdings, Inc.

### Annual Meeting of Stockholders

For Stockholders of record as of April 18, 2022

**TIME:** Tuesday, June 14, 2022 9:00 AM, Eastern Time  
**PLACE:** Annual Meeting to be held live via the Internet - please visit [www.proxydocs.com/CERE](http://www.proxydocs.com/CERE) for more details.

#### **This proxy is being solicited on behalf of the Board of Directors**

The undersigned hereby appoints N. Anthony Coles, Scott Akamine and Mark Bodenrader (the "Named Proxies"), and each or either of them, as the true and lawful attorneys of the undersigned, with full power of substitution and revocation, and authorizes them, and each of them, to vote all the shares of capital stock of Cerevel Therapeutics Holdings, Inc. which the undersigned is entitled to vote at said meeting and any adjournment thereof upon the matters specified and upon such other matters as may be properly brought before the meeting or any adjournment thereof, conferring authority upon such true and lawful attorneys to vote in their discretion on such other matters as may properly come before the meeting and revoking any proxy heretofore given.

THE SHARES REPRESENTED BY THIS PROXY WILL BE VOTED AS DIRECTED OR, IF NO DIRECTION IS GIVEN, SHARES WILL BE VOTED IDENTICAL TO THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS' RECOMMENDATION. This proxy, when properly executed, will be voted in the manner directed herein. In their discretion, the Named Proxies are authorized to vote upon such other matters that may properly come before the meeting or any adjournment or postponement thereof.

You are encouraged to specify your choice by marking the appropriate box (SEE REVERSE SIDE) but you need not mark any box if you wish to vote in accordance with the Board of Directors' recommendation. The Named Proxies cannot vote your shares unless you sign (on the reverse side) and return this card.

PLEASE BE SURE TO SIGN AND DATE THIS PROXY CARD AND MARK ON THE REVERSE SIDE

## Cerevel Therapeutics Holdings, Inc.

### Annual Meeting of Stockholders

Please make your marks like this: ☒

#### THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS RECOMMENDS A VOTE:

**FOR** ON PROPOSALS 1, 2 AND 4

THE BOARD RECOMMENDS THAT AN ADVISORY VOTE ON THE COMPENSATION FOR NAMED EXECUTIVE OFFICERS BE HELD EVERY 1 YEAR.

PROPOSAL	YOUR VOTE				BOARD OF DIRECTORS RECOMMENDS
1. To elect four Class II director nominees to serve on the board of directors of Cerevel Therapeutics Holdings, Inc. for a three-year term expiring at the 2025 annual meeting of stockholders.	FOR	WITHHOLD			↓
1.01 Deborah Baron	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>			FOR
1.02 Doug Giordano	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>			FOR
1.03 Adam Koppel	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>			FOR
1.04 Ruth McKernan	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>			FOR
2. To approve, on a non-binding advisory basis, the compensation of our named executive officers as described in the proxy statement.	FOR <input type="checkbox"/>	AGAINST <input type="checkbox"/>	ABSTAIN <input type="checkbox"/>		FOR
3. To approve, on a non-binding advisory basis, the frequency of future advisory votes on named executive officers' compensation.	1YR <input type="checkbox"/>	2YR <input type="checkbox"/>	3YR <input type="checkbox"/>	ABSTAIN <input type="checkbox"/>	1 YEAR
4. To ratify the appointment of Ernst & Young LLP as our independent registered public accounting firm for our fiscal year ending December 31, 2022.	FOR <input type="checkbox"/>	AGAINST <input type="checkbox"/>	ABSTAIN <input type="checkbox"/>		FOR
5. To transact such other business as may properly come before the meeting.					

**You must register to attend the meeting online and/or participate at [www.proxydocs.com/CERE](http://www.proxydocs.com/CERE)**

Authorized Signatures - Must be completed for your instructions to be executed.

Please sign exactly as your name(s) appears on your account. If held in joint tenancy, all persons should sign. Trustees, administrators, etc., should include title and authority. Corporations should provide full name of corporation and title of authorized officer signing the Proxy/Vote Form.

Signature (and Title if applicable)

Date

Signature (if held jointly)

Date