

ALIMERA SCIENCES INC
Form S-3
October 20, 2017

As filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on October 20, 2017
Registration No. 333-

UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
Washington, D.C. 20549
Form S-3
REGISTRATION STATEMENT
UNDER
THE SECURITIES ACT OF 1933
Alimera Sciences, Inc.
(Exact name of Registrant as specified in its charter)

Delaware 20-0028718
(State or other jurisdiction of (I.R.S. Employer
incorporation or organization) Identification Number)

6120 Windward Parkway,
Suite 290
Alpharetta, GA 30005
(678) 990-5740
(Address, including zip code, and telephone number, including area code, of Registrant's principal executive offices)
C. Daniel Myers
Chief Executive Officer
6120 Windward Parkway
Suite 290
Alpharetta, GA 30005
(678) 990-5740
(Name, address, including zip code, and telephone number, including area code, of agent for service)

Copies to:

Jeffrey W. Burris, Esq. Vice President, General Counsel Alimera Sciences, Inc. 6120 Windward Parkway Suite 290 Alpharetta, GA 30005 Telephone: (678) 990-5740 Telecopy: (678) 990-5742	Gregg A. Griner, Esq. Keith J. Scherer, Esq. Albert W. Vanderlaan, Esq. Gunderson Dettmer Stough Villeneuve Franklin & Hachigian, LLP One Marina Park Drive Boston, MA 02210 Telephone: (617) 648-9100 Telecopy: (617) 648-9199
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Approximate date of commencement of proposed sale to the public: From time to time after this Registration Statement becomes effective.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

CALCULATION OF REGISTRATION FEE

Title of Each Class of Securities to be Registered	Amount to be Registered (1)	Proposed Maximum Offering Price Per Share (2)	Proposed Maximum Aggregate Offering Price (2)	Amount of Registration Fee (3)
Common Stock, par value \$0.01 per share			\$100,000,000	\$12,450
Preferred Stock, par value \$0.01 per share				
Debt Securities				
Warrants				
Units				
Total			\$100,000,000	\$12,450

Such indeterminate amount or number of shares of common stock; shares of preferred stock; warrants to purchase any combination of shares of common stock, shares of preferred stock or debt securities; debt securities; rights to purchase any combination of shares of common stock, shares of preferred stock, debt securities or units; and units representing an interest in a combination of one or more of the securities registered hereunder, as may from time to time be issued at indeterminate prices, with an aggregate initial offering price not to exceed \$100,000,000. If any debt securities are issued at an original issue discount, then the issue price, and not the principal amount of such debt securities shall be used for purposes of calculating the aggregate initial offering price of all securities

- (1) issued. Securities registered hereunder may be sold separately, together or as units with other securities registered hereunder. The securities also include such indeterminate number of shares of preferred stock, shares of common stock or principal amounts of debt securities as may be issued upon conversion or exchange for debt securities that provide for conversion or exchange, upon exercise of warrants to purchase preferred stock, common stock or debt securities, upon conversion of shares of preferred stock or pursuant to the anti-dilution provisions of any such securities. In addition, pursuant to Rule 416 under the Securities Act, the shares being registered hereunder include such indeterminate number of shares of common stock and preferred stock as may be issuable with respect to the shares being registered hereunder as a result of stock splits, stock dividends or similar transactions.

The proposed maximum aggregate offering price per class of security will be determined from time to time by the

- (2) Registrant in connection with the issuance by the Registrant of the securities registered hereunder and is not specified as to each class of security pursuant to General Instruction II.D. of Form S-3 under the Securities Act.
- (3) Calculated pursuant to Rule 457(o) under the Securities Act.

The Registrant hereby amends this Registration Statement on such date or dates as may be necessary to delay its effective date until the Registrant shall file a further amendment that specifically states that the Registration Statement shall thereafter become effective in accordance with Section 8(a) of the Securities Act or until the Registration Statement shall become effective on such date as the Securities and Exchange Commission, acting pursuant to said Section 8(a), may determine.

EXPLANATORY NOTE

This registration statement contains:

a base prospectus which covers the offering, issuance and sale by the registrant of up to a maximum aggregate offering price of \$100,000,000 of the registrant's common stock, preferred stock, debt securities, warrants and/or units; and

a sales agreement prospectus covering the offering, issuance and sale by the registrant of up to a maximum aggregate offering price of \$25,000,000 of the registrant's common stock that may be issued and sold from time to time under a sales agreement with H.C. Wainwright & Co., LLC.

The base prospectus immediately follows this explanatory note. The specific terms of any securities to be offered pursuant to the base prospectus will be specified in a prospectus supplement to the base prospectus. The sales agreement prospectus immediately follows the base prospectus. The \$25,000,000 of common stock that may be offered, issued and sold by the registrant under the sales agreement prospectus is included in the \$100,000,000 of securities that may be offered, issued and sold by the registrant under the base prospectus.

THE INFORMATION IN THIS PROSPECTUS IS NOT COMPLETE AND MAY BE CHANGED. THESE SECURITIES MAY NOT BE SOLD UNTIL THE REGISTRATION STATEMENT FILED WITH THE SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION IS EFFECTIVE. THIS PROSPECTUS IS NOT AN OFFER TO SELL THESE SECURITIES AND IS NOT AN OFFER TO BUY THESE SECURITIES IN ANY STATE WHERE THE OFFER OR SALE IS NOT PERMITTED.

SUBJECT TO COMPLETION, DATED OCTOBER 20, 2017

PROSPECTUS

\$100,000,000

Preferred Stock

Common Stock

Debt Securities

Warrants

Units

From time to time, we may offer and sell shares of preferred stock, common stock, debt securities or warrants to purchase preferred stock, common stock or any combination of these securities, either separately or in units, in one or more offerings in amounts, at prices and on terms that we will determine at the time of the offering. The debt securities and warrants may be convertible into or exercisable or exchangeable for preferred stock, common stock or debt securities and the preferred stock may be convertible into or exchangeable for common stock. The aggregate initial offering price of all securities sold by us under this prospectus will not exceed \$100,000,000.

Each time we offer securities, we will provide you with specific terms of the securities offered in supplements to this prospectus. The prospectus supplement may also add, update or change information contained in this prospectus. You should read this prospectus, the information incorporated by reference in this prospectus, any applicable prospectus supplement and the additional information described below under the heading "Where You Can Find More Information" carefully before you invest in any securities.

The securities offered by this prospectus may be sold directly by us to investors, through agents designated from time to time or to or through underwriters or dealers. We will set forth the names of any underwriters or agents in an accompanying prospectus supplement. For additional information on the methods of sale, you should refer to the section entitled "Plan of Distribution." The price to the public of such securities and the net proceeds we expect to receive from such sale will also be set forth in a prospectus supplement.

Our common stock is listed on The NASDAQ Global Market under the symbol "ALIM". The last reported sale price of our common stock on October 19, 2017 was \$1.38 per share.

INVESTING IN OUR SECURITIES INVOLVES A HIGH DEGREE OF RISKS. SEE "RISK FACTORS" ON PAGE 6 OF THIS PROSPECTUS AND IN THE OTHER DOCUMENTS INCORPORATED BY REFERENCE IN THIS PROSPECTUS AND THE APPLICABLE PROSPECTUS SUPPLEMENT TO READ ABOUT FACTORS YOU SHOULD CONSIDER BEFORE BUYING OUR SECURITIES.

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

The date of this prospectus is , 2017

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You should rely only on the information contained or incorporated by reference in this prospectus or any applicable prospectus supplement. We have not authorized anyone to provide you with information in addition to or different from that contained in this prospectus or any applicable prospectus supplement. We will be offering to sell, and seeking offers to buy, the securities only in jurisdictions where offers and sales are permitted. You should not assume that the information in this prospectus or any applicable prospectus supplement is accurate as of any date other than the date on the front of those documents.

Unless the context otherwise requires, throughout this prospectus and any applicable prospectus supplement, the words “Alimera” “we,” “us,” the “registrant” or the “Company” refer to Alimera Sciences, Inc. and its subsidiaries (as applicable); the term “securities” refers collectively to our preferred stock, common stock, debt securities or warrants to purchase preferred stock, common stock or debt securities, or any combination of the foregoing securities.

ABOUT THIS PROSPECTUS

This prospectus is part of a registration statement that we filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission, or the SEC, using a “shelf” registration process. Using this process, we may, from time to time, sell any combination of the securities described in this prospectus in one or more offering transactions up to a total dollar amount of \$100,000,000. This prospectus provides you with a general description of the securities we may offer. Each time we sell any securities under this prospectus, we will provide a prospectus supplement that will contain more specific information about the specific terms of that particular offering. Each such prospectus supplement may also add, update or change information contained in this prospectus or in documents we have incorporated by reference into this prospectus. To the extent that any statements that we make in a prospectus supplement are inconsistent with statements made in this prospectus, the statements made in this prospectus will be deemed modified or superseded by those made in the prospectus supplement. This prospectus, together with the applicable prospectus supplements and the documents incorporated by reference into this prospectus, includes all material information relating to the offering of the securities described in this prospectus. The information contained in this prospectus is accurate only as of the date of this prospectus, regardless of the time of delivery of this prospectus or any sales of securities. To obtain additional information that may be important to you, you should read the exhibits filed by us with the registration statement of which this prospectus is a part or our other filings with the SEC. You should read this prospectus, any applicable prospectus supplement and the additional information described below under “Where You Can Find More Information” before making any investment decision with respect to the securities offered hereby.

WHERE YOU CAN FIND MORE INFORMATION

We have filed with the SEC a registration statement on Form S-3 under the Securities Act with respect to the securities offered by this prospectus. This prospectus, which is part of the registration statement, omits certain information, exhibits, schedules and undertakings set forth in the registration statement, as permitted by the SEC. For further information pertaining to us and the securities offered in this prospectus, reference is made to that registration statement and the exhibits and schedules to the registration statement. Statements contained in this prospectus as to the contents or provisions of any documents referred to in this prospectus are not necessarily complete, and in each instance where a copy of the document has been filed as an exhibit to the registration statement, reference is made to the exhibit for a more complete description of the matters involved.

We file annual, quarterly and current reports, proxy statements and other information with the SEC. Our SEC filings can be read and copied at the SEC’s Public Reference Room at 100 F Street, N.E., Washington, D.C. 20549. The public may obtain information on the operation of the public reference room by calling the SEC at 1-800-SEC-0330. Also, the SEC maintains an Internet website at www.sec.gov that contains reports, proxy and information statements and other information regarding issuers that file electronically with the SEC, including us.

Our common stock is listed on The NASDAQ Global Market under the symbol “ALIM.” General information about our company, including our Annual Report on Form 10-K, Quarterly Reports on Form 10-Q and Current Reports on Form 8-K, as well as any amendments and exhibits to those reports, are available free of charge through our website at www.alimerasciences.com as soon as reasonably practicable after we file them with, or furnish them to, the SEC. Information on, or that can be accessed through, our website is not incorporated into this prospectus or other securities filings and is not a part of these filings.

INCORPORATION OF CERTAIN INFORMATION BY REFERENCE

The SEC allows us to “incorporate by reference” into this prospectus the information we file with it, which means that we can disclose important information to you by referring you to those documents. The information we incorporate by reference is an important part of this prospectus, and later information that we file with the SEC will automatically update and supersede some of this information. We incorporate by reference the documents listed below and any future filings we make with the SEC under Section 13(a), 13(c), 14 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the “Exchange Act”) (other than Current Reports on Form 8-K containing only information furnished under Item 2.02 or Item 7.01 of Form 8-K, unless otherwise indicated therein), including filings made after the date of the initial registration statement, until we sell all of the securities covered by this prospectus or the sale of securities by us pursuant to this prospectus is terminated. The documents we incorporate by reference are:

- our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2016 filed with the SEC on March 3, 2017;
- our Quarterly Reports on Form 10-Q for the quarters ended March 31, 2017 and June 30, 2017 filed with the SEC on May 11, 2017 and August 10, 2017, respectively;
- our amended and restated Proxy Statement on Amendment No. 1 to Schedule 14A filed with the SEC on May 3, 2017 to the extent incorporated by reference in Part III of the Form 10-K;
- our Current Reports on Form 8-K filed on June 23, 2017, July 10, 2017 and October 20, 2017, in each case only to the extent filed and not furnished; and

the description of our common stock contained in our registration statement on Form 8-A (File No. 001-34703)

- filed under the Exchange Act on April 19, 2010, including any amendment or reports filed for the purpose of updating such descriptions.

Any statement contained in a document incorporated or deemed to be incorporated by reference into this prospectus will be deemed to be modified or superseded for purposes of this prospectus to the extent that a statement contained in this prospectus or any other subsequently filed document that is deemed to be incorporated by reference into this prospectus modifies or supersedes the statement. Any statement so modified or superseded will not be deemed, except as so modified or superseded, to constitute a part of this prospectus.

We will provide each person to whom a prospectus is delivered a copy of all of the information that has been incorporated by reference in this prospectus but not delivered with the prospectus. You may obtain copies of these filings, at no cost, through the “Investor Relations” section of our website (www.alimerasciences.com) and you may request a copy of these filings (other than an exhibit to any filing unless we have specifically incorporated that exhibit by reference into the filing), at no cost, by writing or telephoning us at the following address:

Corporate Secretary
Alimera Sciences, Inc.
6120 Windward Parkway, Suite 290
Alpharetta, GA 30005
(678) 990-5740

Information on, or that can be accessed through, our website is not incorporated into this prospectus or other securities filings and is not a part of these filings.

SPECIAL NOTE REGARDING FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS

This prospectus, any applicable prospectus supplement and the documents incorporated by reference contain “forward-looking statements” within the meaning of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. Forward-looking statements involve substantial risks and uncertainties. All statements, other than statements of historical facts, included in this prospectus, any applicable prospectus supplement and the documents incorporate by reference regarding our strategy, future operations, future financial position, future revenues, projected costs, prospects, plans and objectives of management are forward-looking statements. These statements are subject to risks and uncertainties and are based on information currently available to our management. Words such as, but not limited to, “anticipate,” “believe,” “estimate,” “expect,” “intend,” “may,” “plan,” “contemplates,” “predict,” “project,” “target,” “likely,” “continue,” “ongoing,” “will,” “would,” “should,” “could,” or the negative of these terms and similar expressions or words, identify forward-looking statements. The events and circumstances reflected in our forward-looking statements may not occur and actual results could differ materially from those projected in our forward-looking statements. Meaningful factors which could cause actual results to differ include, but are not limited to:

- uncertainty as to our ability to achieve profitability and positive cash flow through the commercialization of ILUVIEN® in the European Economic Area (EEA), the United States (U.S.) and other regions of the world where we sell ILUVIEN;

- our ability to operate our business in compliance with the covenants and restrictions that we are subject to under our credit facility;

- dependence on third-party manufacturers to manufacture ILUVIEN or any future products or product candidates in sufficient quantities and quality;

- our ability to raise sufficient additional funding and our need to raise such funds;

- uncertainty as to the pricing and reimbursement guidelines for ILUVIEN or any future products or product candidates, including ILUVIEN;

- our ability to successfully commercialize ILUVIEN following regulatory approval in additional markets;

- delay in or failure to obtain regulatory approval of ILUVIEN in additional countries or any future products or product candidates; and

- the extent of government regulations.

All written and verbal forward-looking statements attributable to us or any person acting on our behalf are expressly qualified in their entirety by the cautionary statements contained or referred to in this section. We caution investors not to rely too heavily on the forward-looking statements we make or that are made on our behalf. Although we believe that the expectations reflected in the forward-looking statements are reasonable, we cannot guarantee future results, level of activity, performance or achievements. Any forward-looking statement made by us in this prospectus speaks only as of the date of this prospectus. Except as required by law, we disclaim any duty to update any of these forward-looking statements after the date of such statements are made, or to update the reasons actual results could differ materially from those anticipated in these forward-looking statements, even if new information becomes available in the future.

You should read this prospectus and the documents that we reference in this prospectus and have been filed as exhibits to the registration statement of which this prospectus is a part completely and with the understanding that our actual future results may be materially different from what we expect.

In addition, you should refer to the section of this prospectus entitled “Risk Factors” as well as the documents we have incorporated by reference for a discussion of other important factors that may cause our actual results to differ materially from those expressed or implied by our forward-looking statements. As a result of these factors, we cannot

assure you that the forward-looking statements in this prospectus will prove to be accurate. Furthermore, if our forward-looking statements prove to be inaccurate, the inaccuracy may be material. In light of the significant uncertainties in these forward-looking statements, you should not regard these statements as a representation or warranty by us or any other person that we will achieve our objectives and plans in any specified time frame, or at all.

THE COMPANY

Alimera is a pharmaceutical company that specializes in the commercialization and development of prescription ophthalmic pharmaceuticals. We are presently focused on diseases affecting the back of the eye, or retina, because these diseases are not well treated with current therapies and will affect millions of people in aging populations. Our commitment to retina specialists and their patients is manifest in our product and development portfolio designed to treat early- and late-stage diseases.

Our only commercial product is ILUVIEN®, which is approved to treat diabetic macular edema (DME). DME is a disease of the retina that affects individuals with diabetes and can lead to severe vision loss and blindness. ILUVIEN has received marketing authorization in the United States (U.S.), Austria, Belgium, the Czech Republic, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Ireland, Italy, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Spain, Sweden and the United Kingdom. In the U.S., ILUVIEN is indicated for the treatment of DME in patients who have been previously treated with a course of corticosteroids and did not have a clinically significant rise in intraocular pressure (IOP). In the European Economic Area (EEA) countries in which ILUVIEN has received marketing authorization, it is indicated for the treatment of vision impairment associated with DME considered insufficiently responsive to available therapies.

As part of the approval process for DME in Europe, we committed to conduct a five-year, post-authorization, open label registry study in 800 patients treated with ILUVIEN. In the fourth quarter of 2016, we requested approval to modify our protocol to cap enrollment in the study due to our post market safety surveillance not showing any unexpected safety signals. As of June 30, 2017, 562 patients were enrolled in this study. We received regulatory approval from the Medicines & Healthcare products Regulatory Agency (MHRA) in July 2017 to cease enrollment. In July 2017, we amended our license for the technology underlying ILUVIEN to include the treatment of non-infectious posterior uveitis (NIPU) in Europe, the Middle East and Africa from pSivida US, Inc. (pSivida). NIPU is an inflammatory disease of the uveal tract, which is comprised of the iris, ciliary body and choroid, that can lead to severe vision loss and blindness. We plan to file an application for a new indication for ILUVIEN for NIPU in the 17 EEA countries where ILUVIEN is currently approved for the treatment of DME.

We launched ILUVIEN in Germany and the United Kingdom in the second quarter of 2013, in the U.S. and Portugal in the first quarter of 2015. ILUVIEN became available in Austria in the first quarter of 2017. In September 2017, we announced that ILUVIEN became available in Ireland.

In addition, we have entered into various agreements under which distributors will provide regulatory, reimbursement or sales and marketing support for future commercialization of ILUVIEN in numerous countries in the Middle East, Italy, Spain, Australia, New Zealand and Canada. In the third quarter of 2016, our Middle East distributor launched ILUVIEN and initiated named patient sales in the United Arab Emirates. Our Italian distributor launched ILUVIEN in Italy in the second quarter of 2017. As of June 30, 2017, we have recognized sales of ILUVIEN to our distributors in the Middle East, Italy and Spain.

We commenced operations in June 2003. Since our inception we have incurred significant losses. As of June 30, 2017, we have accumulated a deficit of \$386.6 million. We expect to continue to incur losses as we:

- continue the commercialization of ILUVIEN in the U.S. and the EEA;
- seek the regulatory approval of ILUVIEN for NIPU in Europe, the Middle East and Africa;
- continue to seek regulatory approval of ILUVIEN for DME in other jurisdictions;
- evaluate the use of ILUVIEN for the treatment of other diseases; and
- advance the clinical development of any future products or product candidates either currently in our pipeline, or that we may license or acquire in the future.

As of June 30, 2017, we had approximately \$26.9 million in cash and cash equivalents.

As a result of the limited revenue generated by ILUVIEN to date, our negative cash flow from operations and accumulated deficit raise substantial doubt about our ability to continue as a going concern. Our interim financial statements incorporated by reference herein do not include any adjustments that might result from the outcome of this uncertainty. We believe that we have sufficient funds to allow us to become cash flow positive in the countries in which we sell ILUVIEN. However, it is possible that we may determine that we may need to raise additional funds in the future in order to support our business in these countries, to expand ILUVIEN into new geographies, to allow us to expand the indication of ILUVIEN, to maintain compliance with our debt covenants or other business development

activities. We cannot be sure that additional financing will be available when needed or that, if available, the additional financing will be obtained on terms favorable to us or our stockholders.

OUR CORPORATE INFORMATION

We were incorporated in Delaware in June 2003 and commenced operations on that date. Our principal executive office is located at 6120 Windward Parkway, Suite 290, Alpharetta, Georgia 30005 and our telephone number is (678) 990-5740. Our website address is www.alimerasciences.com. The information contained on, or that can be accessed through, our website is not part of this prospectus.

“Alimera Sciences” and “ILUVIEN” are trademarks of Alimera Sciences, Inc. This prospectus may also include other registered and unregistered trademarks of Alimera Sciences, Inc. and other persons.

RISK FACTORS

Investing in our securities involves risk. You should carefully consider the specific risks discussed or incorporated by reference into this prospectus and the applicable prospectus supplement, together with all the other information contained in this prospectus and the applicable prospectus supplement or incorporated by reference into this prospectus and the applicable prospectus supplement, including the risks, uncertainties and assumptions discussed under the caption “Risk Factors” in documents we file from time to time with the SEC, specifically our most recent Annual Report on Form 10-K, our Quarterly Reports on Form 10-Q, our Current Reports on Form 8-K and in subsequent filings. These risk factors may be amended, supplemented or superseded from time to time by other reports we file with the SEC in the future or by a prospectus supplement relating to a particular offering of our securities. These risks and uncertainties are not the only risks and uncertainties we face. Additional risks and uncertainties not presently known to us, or that we currently view as immaterial, may also impair our business. If any of the risks or uncertainties described in our SEC filings or any prospectus supplement or any additional risks and uncertainties actually occur, our business, financial condition and results of operations could be materially and adversely affected. In that case, the trading price of our securities could decline and you might lose all or part of your investment.

DESCRIPTION OF SECURITIES

PREFERRED STOCK

General

We currently have authorized 10,000,000 shares of preferred stock, par value \$0.01, the rights and preferences of which may be established from time to time by our board of directors.

Under Delaware law and our restated certificate of incorporation, our board of directors is authorized, without stockholder approval, to issue shares of preferred stock from time to time in one or more series. Subject to limitations prescribed by Delaware law and our restated certificate of incorporation and by-laws, the board of directors can determine the number of shares constituting each series of preferred stock and the designation, preferences, voting powers, qualifications, and special or relative rights or privileges of that series. These may include provisions concerning voting, redemption, dividends, dissolution or the distribution of assets, conversion or exchange, and other subjects or matters as may be fixed by resolution of the board or an authorized committee of the board. The preferred stock offered by this prospectus will, when issued, be fully paid and nonassessable.

Our board of directors could authorize the issuance of shares of preferred stock with terms and conditions which could have the effect of discouraging a takeover or other transaction which holders of some, or a majority, of our common stock might believe to be in their best interests or in which holders of some, or a majority, of our common stock might receive a premium for their shares over the then market price of those shares.

If we offer a specific series of preferred stock under this prospectus, we will describe the terms of the preferred stock in the prospectus supplement for such offering and will file a copy of the certificate establishing the terms of the preferred stock with the SEC. To the extent required, this description will include:

- the title and stated value;
- the number of shares offered, the liquidation preference per share, and the purchase price;
- the dividend rate(s), period(s), and/or payment date(s), or method(s) of calculation for such dividends;
- whether dividends will be cumulative or non-cumulative and, if cumulative, the date from which dividends will accumulate;
- the procedures for any auction and remarketing, if any;
- the provisions for a sinking fund, if any;
- any listing of the preferred stock on any securities exchange or market;
- whether the preferred stock will be convertible into Alimera common stock, and, if applicable, the conversion price (or how it will be calculated) and conversion period;
- whether the preferred stock will be exchangeable into debt securities, and, if applicable, the exchange price (or how it will be calculated) and exchange period;
- voting rights, if any, of the preferred stock;
- a discussion of any material and/or special U.S. federal income tax considerations applicable to the preferred stock;
- the relative ranking and preferences of the preferred stock as to dividend rights and rights upon liquidation, dissolution, or winding up of the affairs of Alimera; and
- any material limitations on issuance of any class or series of preferred stock ranking senior to or on a parity with the series of preferred stock as to dividend rights and rights upon liquidation, dissolution, or winding up of Alimera.

The transfer agent and registrar for any series or class of preferred stock will be set forth in the applicable prospectus supplement.

Series A Convertible Preferred Stock

On October 2, 2012, we filed a certificate of designation which designated 1,300,000 shares of our preferred stock as “Series A Convertible Preferred Stock.” As of June 30, 2017, there were 600,000 shares of Series A Convertible Preferred Stock and warrants to purchase 300,000 shares of Series A Convertible Preferred Stock outstanding. The warrants to purchase 300,000 shares of Series A Convertible Preferred Stock expired on October 2, 2017.

Conversion. Each share of Series A Convertible Preferred Stock, including any shares of Series A Convertible Preferred Stock issued upon exercise of the warrants, is convertible into shares of Alimera’s common stock at any time at the option of the holder at the rate (conversion rate) equal to \$40.00 (original purchase price) divided by a conversion price of \$2.66 (conversion price).

Each share of Series A Convertible Preferred Stock shall automatically be converted into shares of common stock at the conversion price upon the date on which we consummate an equity financing transaction pursuant to which we sell to one or more third party investors either (a) shares of common stock or (b) other equity securities that are convertible into shares of common stock and that have rights, preference or privileges, senior to or on a parity with, the Series A Convertible Preferred Stock, in each case having an as-converted per share of common stock price of not less than \$10.00 (adjusted for stock splits, combinations, stock dividends, recapitalizations and the like with respect to the Series A Convertible Preferred Stock) and that results in total gross proceeds to us of at least \$30,000,000. The Series A Convertible Preferred Stock is not convertible at our option.

All conversion prices and adjustments to the conversion price of the Series A Convertible Preferred Stock shall be appropriately adjusted in the event of stock splits, combinations, stock dividends, recapitalizations and the like with respect to the Series A Convertible Preferred Stock.

Liquidation Preference. In the event of a Liquidation Transaction, as defined below, holders of the Series A Convertible Preferred Stock will receive, before any proceeds are distributed to the holders of common stock or any other stock or equity security, a payment equal to the

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greater of (i) the original purchase price (as adjusted for stock dividends, splits, combinations and similar events with respect to the Series A Convertible Preferred Stock), plus any declared and unpaid dividends, per share of Series A Convertible Preferred Stock and (ii) the amount each holder of a share of Series A Convertible Preferred Stock would be entitled to receive all shares of Series A Convertible Preferred Stock been converted into shares of common stock at the then-effective conversion rate immediately prior to such Liquidation Transaction. Unless waived by the holders of at least 70% of the then outstanding shares of Series A Convertible Preferred Stock, voting together as a separate class, the following shall be deemed to constitute a Liquidation Transaction: (a) our acquisition by means of merger, consolidation, stock sale, tender offer, exchange offer or other form of corporate reorganization in which our outstanding shares are exchanged or sold, in one transaction or a series of related transactions, for cash, securities, property or other consideration issued, or caused to be issued, by the acquiring entity or its subsidiary, or any other person or group of affiliated persons and in which the holders of our capital stock hold less than a majority of the voting power of the surviving entity and (b) any sale, transfer, exclusive license or lease of all or substantially all of the properties or assets of us or our subsidiaries (each of such transactions in clause (a) and (b), together with our actual liquidation, dissolution or winding up, a Liquidation Transaction), provided that none of the following shall be deemed to constitute a Liquidation Transaction: (x) a transaction for which the sole purpose is to change the state of our incorporation, (y) a transaction for which the sole purpose is to create a holding company that will hold no assets other than our shares and that will have securities with rights, preferences, privileges and restrictions substantially similar to ours and that are owned in substantially the same proportions by the persons who held such of our securities, in each case immediately prior to such transaction or (z) our entry into a license transaction for the purpose of developing and/or commercializing one or more of our products, so long as such license transaction would not be reasonably considered to be a sale or license of all or substantially all of our assets.

Voting Rights. Except as otherwise set forth in the certificate of designation, the Series A Convertible Preferred Stock will vote together with the common stock on an as converted basis based on a deemed conversion price of \$2.95 (adjusted for stock splits, combinations, stock dividends, recapitalizations and the like with respect to the Series A Convertible Preferred Stock).

In addition, for so long as at least 37.5% of the shares of Series A Convertible Preferred Stock issued to the selling stockholders at the closing of our Series A Convertible Preferred Stock financing are held by the initial selling stockholders or their affiliates, we may not without first obtaining approval of the holders of at least 70% of the then outstanding shares of Series A Convertible Preferred Stock, voting together as a separate class: (i) increase or decrease the authorized number of shares of Series A Convertible Preferred Stock; (ii) authorize, create, issue or obligate ourselves to issue (by reclassification, merger or otherwise) any security (or any class or series thereof) or any indebtedness, in each case that has any rights, preferences or privileges senior to, or on a parity with, the Series A Convertible Preferred Stock, or any security convertible into or exercisable for any such security or indebtedness (other than the issuance of (a) up to an aggregate of \$35,000,000 of indebtedness pursuant to our Credit Facility, as the same may be amended, refinanced or resyndicated from time to time or (b) up to an aggregate of \$500,000 of indebtedness pursuant to operating, capital or equipment leases entered into in the ordinary course of business (such indebtedness being the Permitted Indebtedness)); (iii) amend our certificate of incorporation (including by filing any new certificate of designation or elimination) or the certificate of designation, in each case in a manner that adversely affects the rights, preference or privileges of the Series A Convertible Preferred Stock; (iv) redeem, purchase or otherwise acquire (or pay into or set aside for a sinking fund for such purpose) any shares of common stock or preferred stock; provided, however, that this restriction shall not apply to (a) the redemption of rights issued pursuant to any “poison pill” rights plan or similar plan we adopt after the closing of our Series A Convertible Preferred Stock financing or (b) the repurchases of stock from former employees, officers, directors or consultants who performed services for us in connection with the cessation of such employment or service pursuant to the terms of existing agreements with such individuals; (v) declare or pay any dividend or distribution on any shares of capital stock; provided, however, that this restriction shall not apply to (a) dividends payable to holders of common stock that consist solely of shares of common stock for which adjustment to the conversion price of the Series A Convertible Preferred Stock is made pursuant to the certificate of designation or (b) dividends or distributions issued pro rata to all holders of capital stock (on an as-converted basis) in connection with our the implementation of a “poison pill” rights plan or similar plan; (vi) authorize or approve any increase to the number of aggregate shares of capital stock reserved

for issuance pursuant to our stock option, stock purchase plans or other equity incentive plans such that the total aggregate number of shares issued under such plans and reserved for issuance under such plans (on an as-converted basis) exceeds the number of shares issued and reserved for issuance under such plans (on an as-converted basis) on the date of the closing of the Series A Convertible Preferred Stock financing by more than 20% (adjusted for stock splits, combinations, stock dividends, recapitalizations and the like), provided that any increases resulting solely from the annual increases resulting from the “evergreen” provisions of our equity incentive plans in effect on the date of the closing of the offering shall not be subject to this restriction and shall not be included for purposes of determining whether such 20% increase has occurred; (vii) issue stock or other equity securities of any of our subsidiaries (other than to us or another wholly-owned subsidiary) or declare or pay any dividend or other distribution of cash, shares or other assets or redemption or repurchase of shares of any subsidiary; or (viii) incur any secured indebtedness other than any Permitted Indebtedness.

In connection with the Series A Convertible Preferred Stock financing, our board of directors approved an amendment to our bylaws, effective as of October 2, 2012, to provide that the holders of Series A Convertible Preferred Stock may take any exclusive action required or permitted to be taken by the stockholders holding Series A Convertible Preferred Stock pursuant to the certificate of designation by written consent at any time.

Dividends. The Series A Convertible Preferred Stock does not accrue dividends. The holders of Series A Convertible Preferred Stock will be entitled to receive dividends and other distributions on a pari passu basis with the holders of common stock on an as-converted basis.

Redemption. The Series A Convertible Preferred Stock is not redeemable.

The certificate of designation was filed as Exhibit 3.5 to our current report on Form 8-K dated July 18, 2012. The foregoing description of the certificate of designation and the Series A Convertible Preferred Stock does not purport to be complete and is qualified in its entirety by reference to such exhibit.

Series B Convertible Preferred Stock

On December 12, 2014, we filed a certificate of designation which designated 8,417 shares of our preferred stock as “Series B Convertible Preferred Stock.”

On December 12, 2014, we closed a preferred stock financing in which we sold 8,291.873 shares of Series B Convertible Preferred Stock for a purchase price of \$6,030.00 per share, or an aggregate purchase price of \$50,000,000, prior to the payment of approximately \$432,000 of related issuance costs. We also agreed to issue the purchasers an additional 124.378 shares of Series B Convertible Preferred Stock as a subscription premium. The powers, preferences and rights of the Series B Convertible Preferred Stock are set forth in the certificate of designation filed with the Secretary of State of the State of Delaware. Each share of Series B Convertible Preferred Stock is convertible into 1,000 shares of our common stock at any time at the option of the holder, provided that the holder will be prohibited from converting Series B Convertible Preferred Stock into shares of our common stock if, as a result of such conversion, the holder, together with its affiliates, would own more than 9.98% of the total number of shares of our common stock then issued and outstanding. The Series B Convertible Preferred Stock ranks junior to the Series A Convertible Preferred Stock, and senior to our common stock, with respect to rights upon liquidation. The Series B Convertible Preferred Stock ranks junior to all existing and future indebtedness. Except as otherwise required by law (or with respect to approval of certain actions), the Series B Convertible Preferred Stock does not have voting rights. The Series B Preferred Stock is not redeemable at the option of the holder. The Series B Convertible Preferred Stock is not subject to any price-based or other anti-dilution protections and does not provide for any accruing dividends.

In connection with the Series B Convertible Preferred Stock financing, our board of directors approved an amendment to our bylaws, effective as of December 12, 2014, to provide that the holders of Series B Convertible Preferred Stock may take any exclusive action required or permitted to be taken by the stockholders holding Series B Convertible Preferred Stock pursuant to the certificate of designation by written consent at any time.

The certificate of designation was filed as Exhibit 3.6 to our current report on Form 8-K dated December 15, 2014.

The foregoing description of the certificate of designation and the Series B Convertible Preferred Stock does not purport to be complete and is qualified in its entirety by reference to such exhibit.

COMMON STOCK

We currently have authorized 150,000,000 shares of common stock, par value \$0.01 per share. As of October 19, 2017, there were 69,105,380 shares of common stock outstanding held of record by 32 stockholders. Holders of our common stock have no preemptive rights and no right to convert their common stock into any other securities. There are no redemption or sinking fund provisions applicable to the common stock. All outstanding shares of our common stock are fully paid and nonassessable.

The following summary of the terms of our common stock is subject to and qualified in its entirety by reference to our restated certificate of incorporation and by-laws, copies of which are on file with the SEC as exhibits to previous SEC filings. Please refer to the section entitled “Where You Can Find More Information” for directions on obtaining these documents.

Voting Rights. The holders of our common stock are entitled to one vote for each share held of record on all matters submitted to a vote of stockholders, including, without limitation, the election of our board of directors. Our stockholders have no right to cumulate their votes in the election of directors.

Dividends. Subject to preferences that may apply to shares of preferred stock outstanding at the time, the holders of our common stock are entitled to receive ratably those dividends declared from time to time by the board of directors.

Rights Upon Liquidation. Subject to preferences that may apply to shares of preferred stock outstanding at the time, in the event of liquidation, dissolution or winding up, holders of our common stock are entitled to share ratably in assets remaining after payment of liabilities.

Anti-Takeover Effects of Our Restated Certificate of Incorporation, Bylaws and Delaware Law. Some provisions of Delaware law and our restated certificate of incorporation and bylaws could make the following transactions more

difficult: our acquisition by means of a tender offer; our acquisition by means of a proxy contest or otherwise; or removal of our incumbent officers and directors.

Section 203 of the Delaware General Corporation Law is applicable to takeovers of Delaware corporations. Subject to exceptions enumerated in Section 203, Section 203 provides that a corporation shall not engage in any business combination with any “interested stockholder” for a three-year period following the date that the stockholder becomes an interested stockholder unless:

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- prior to that date, the board of directors of the corporation approved either the business combination or the transaction that resulted in the stockholder becoming an interested stockholder;
- upon consummation of the transaction that resulted in the stockholder becoming an interested stockholder, the interested stockholder owned at least 85% of the voting stock of the corporation outstanding at the time the transaction commenced, though some shares may be excluded from the calculation; and
- on or subsequent to that date, the business combination is approved by the board of directors of the corporation and by the affirmative votes of holders of at least two-thirds of the outstanding voting stock that is not owned by the interested stockholder.

Except as specified in Section 203, an interested stockholder is generally defined to include any person who, together with any affiliates or associates of that person, beneficially owns, directly or indirectly, 15% or more of the outstanding voting stock of the corporation, or is an affiliate or associate of the corporation and was the owner of 15% or more of the outstanding voting stock of the corporation, any time within three years immediately prior to the relevant date. Under certain circumstances, Section 203 makes it more difficult for an interested stockholder to effect various business combinations with a corporation for a three-year period, although the stockholders may elect not to be governed by this section, by adopting an amendment to the certificate of incorporation or by-laws, effective 12 months after adoption. Our restated certificate of incorporation and by-laws do not opt out from the restrictions imposed under Section 203. We anticipate that the provisions of Section 203 may encourage companies interested in acquiring us to negotiate in advance with the board because the stockholder approval requirement would be avoided if a majority of the directors then in office excluding an interested stockholder approve either the business combination or the transaction that resulted in the stockholder becoming an interested stockholder. These provisions may have the effect of deterring hostile takeovers or delaying changes in control, which could depress the market price of our common stock and deprive stockholders of opportunities to realize a premium on shares of common stock held by them.

In addition to our board of directors' ability to issue shares of preferred stock, our restated certificate of incorporation and by-laws contain provisions that may discourage, delay or prevent a change in our management or control over us that stockholders may consider favorable. Our restated certificate of incorporation and bylaws:

- authorize the issuance of "blank check" preferred stock that could be issued by our board of directors to thwart a takeover attempt;
- do not provide for cumulative voting in the election of directors, which would allow holders of less than a majority of the stock to elect some directors;
- establish a classified board of directors, as a result of which the successors to the directors whose terms have expired will be elected to serve from the time of election and qualification until the third annual meeting following their election;
- require that directors only be removed from office for cause;
- provide that vacancies on the board of directors, including newly-created directorships, may be filled only by a majority vote of directors then in office;
- limit who may call special meetings of stockholders;
- prohibit stockholder action by written consent, requiring all actions to be taken at a meeting of the stockholders; and
- establish advance notice requirements for nominating candidates for election to the board of directors or for proposing matters that can be acted upon by stockholders at stockholder meetings.

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

Listing. Our common stock is listed on The NASDAQ Global Market under the symbol "ALIM."

DEBT SECURITIES

We may issue, from time to time, debt securities in one or more series that will consist of either senior debt or subordinated debt under one or more trust indentures to be executed by us and a specified trustee. The terms of the debt securities will include those stated in the indenture and those made a part of the indenture (before any supplements) by reference to the Trust Indenture Act of 1939. The indentures will be qualified under the Trust Indenture Act. Debt securities, whether senior or subordinated, may be issued as convertible debt securities or exchangeable debt securities.

The following description sets forth certain anticipated general terms and provisions of the debt securities to which any prospectus supplement may relate. The particular terms of the debt securities offered by any prospectus supplement (which terms may be different than those stated

below) and the extent, if any, to which such general provisions may apply to the debt securities so offered will be described in the prospectus supplement relating to such debt securities. Accordingly, for a description of the terms of a particular issue of debt securities, investors should review both the prospectus supplement relating thereto and the following description. Forms of the senior indenture (as discussed herein) and the subordinated indenture (as discussed herein) are included as exhibits to the registration statement of which this prospectus is a part.

General

The debt securities will be our direct obligations and may be either senior debt securities or subordinated debt securities. The indebtedness represented by subordinated securities will be subordinated in right of payment to the prior payment in full of our senior debt (as defined in the applicable indenture). Senior securities and subordinated securities will be issued pursuant to separate indentures (respectively, a senior indenture and a subordinated indenture), in each case between us and a trustee.

Except as set forth in the applicable indenture and described in a prospectus supplement relating thereto, the debt securities may be issued without limit as to aggregate principal amount, in one or more series, secured or unsecured, in each case as established from time to time in or pursuant to authority granted by a resolution of our board of directors or as established in the applicable indenture. All debt securities of one series need not be issued at the time and, unless otherwise provided, a series may be reopened, without the consent of the holders of the debt securities of such series, for issuance of additional debt securities of such series. The applicable indenture may provide that we may issue debt securities in any currency or currency unit designated by us. Except for any limitations on consolidation, merger and sale of all or substantially all of our assets that may be contained in the applicable indenture, the terms of such indenture will not contain any covenants or other provisions designed to afford holders of any debt securities protection with respect to our operations, financial condition or transactions involving us.

The prospectus supplement relating to any series of debt securities being offered will contain the specific terms thereof, including, without limitation:

- the title of such debt securities and whether such debt securities are senior securities or subordinated securities and the terms of any such subordination;
- the aggregate principal amount of such debt securities and any limit on such aggregate principal amount;

- the percentage of the principal amount at which such debt securities will be issued and, if other than the principal amount thereof, the portion of the principal amount thereof payable upon declaration of acceleration of the maturity thereof, or (if applicable) the portion of the principal amount of such debt securities which is convertible into common stock or preferred stock, or the method by which any such portion shall be determined;

- the date or dates, or the method for determining the date or dates, on which the principal of such debt securities will be payable;

- the rate or rates (which may be fixed or variable), or the method by which the rate or rates shall be determined, at which such debt securities will bear interest, if any;

- the date or dates, or the method for determining such date or dates, from which any interest will accrue, the interest payment dates on which any such interest will be payable, the regular record dates for such interest payment dates, or the method by which any such date shall be determined, the person to whom such interest shall be payable, and the basis upon which interest shall be calculated if other than that of a 360-day year of twelve 30-day months;

- the right, if any, to extend the interest payment periods and the duration of the extensions;

- the place or places where the principal of (and premium, if any) and interest, if any, on such debt securities will be payable, such debt securities may be surrendered for conversion or registration of transfer or exchange and notices or demands to or upon us in respect of such debt securities and the applicable indenture may be served;

- the period or periods within which, the price or prices at which and the terms and conditions upon which such debt securities may be redeemed, as a whole or in part, at our option, if we have such an option;

- our obligation, if any, to redeem, repay or purchase such debt securities pursuant to any sinking fund or analogous provision or at the option of a holder thereof, and the period or periods within which, the price or prices at which and the terms and conditions upon which such debt securities will be redeemed, repaid or purchased, as a whole or in part, pursuant to such obligation;

- if other than U.S. dollars, the currency or currencies in which such debt securities are denominated and payable, which may be a foreign currency or units of two or more foreign currencies or a composite currency or currencies, and the terms and conditions relating thereto;

- whether the amount of payments of principal of (and premium, if any) or interest, if any, on such debt securities may be determined with reference to an index, formula or other method (which index, formula or method may, but need not be, based on a currency, currencies, currency unit or units or composite currencies) and the manner in which such amounts shall be determined;

- any additions to, modifications of or deletions from the terms of such debt securities with respect to the events of default or covenants set forth in the indenture;
- any provisions for collateral security for repayment of such debt securities;
- whether such debt securities will be issued in certificated and/or book-entry form;
- whether such debt securities will be in registered or bearer form and, if in registered form, the denominations thereof if other than \$1,000 and any integral multiple thereof and, if in bearer form, the denominations thereof and terms and conditions relating thereto;
- whether issued in the form of one or more global securities and whether all or a portion of the principal amount of the debt securities is represented thereby;
- if other than the entire principal amount of the debt securities when issued, the portion of the principal amount payable upon acceleration of maturity, and the terms and conditions of any acceleration;
- if applicable, covenants affording holders of debt protection with respect to our operations, financial condition or transactions involving us;
- the applicability, if any, of defeasance and covenant defeasance provisions of the applicable indenture;
- the terms, if any, upon which such debt securities may be convertible into our common stock or preferred stock and the terms and conditions upon which such conversion will be effected, including, without limitation, the initial conversion price or rate and the conversion period;
- if applicable, any limitations on the ownership or transferability of the common stock or preferred stock into which such debt securities are convertible;
- whether and under what circumstances we will pay additional amounts as contemplated in the indenture on such debt securities in respect of any tax, assessment or governmental charge and, if so, whether we will have the option to redeem such debt securities in lieu of making such payment; and
- any other material terms of such debt securities.

The debt securities may provide for less than the entire principal amount thereof to be payable upon declaration of acceleration of the maturity thereof. Special federal income tax, accounting and other considerations applicable to these original issue discount securities will be described in the applicable prospectus supplement. The applicable prospectus supplement will set forth material U.S. federal income tax considerations for holders of any debt securities and the securities exchange or quotation system on which any debt securities are listed or quoted, if any.

The applicable indenture may contain provisions that would limit our ability to incur indebtedness or that would afford holders of debt securities protection in the event of a highly leveraged or similar transaction involving us or in the event of a change of control.

Senior Debt Securities

Payment of the principal of premium, if any, and interest on senior debt securities will rank on parity with all of our other senior unsecured and unsubordinated debt.

Subordinated Debt Securities

Payment of the principal of, premium, if any, and interest on subordinated debt securities will be subordinated and junior in right of payment to the prior payment in full of all of our senior debt. We will set forth in the applicable prospectus supplement relating to any subordinated debt securities the subordination terms of such securities as well as the aggregate amount of outstanding indebtedness, as of the most recent practicable date, that by its terms would be

senior to the subordinated debt securities. We will also set forth in such prospectus supplement limitations, if any, on issuance of additional senior debt.

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Merger, Consolidation or Sale

The applicable indenture will provide that we may consolidate with, or sell, lease or convey all or substantially all of our assets to, or merge with or into, any other corporation, provided that:

either we shall be the continuing corporation, or the successor corporation (if other than the Company) formed by or resulting from any such consolidation or merger or which shall have received the transfer of such assets shall

- expressly assume payment of the principal of (and premium, if any), and interest on, all of the applicable debt securities and the due and punctual performance and observance of all of the covenants and conditions contained in the applicable indenture;

immediately after giving effect to such transaction and treating any indebtedness which becomes our obligation or an obligation of one of our subsidiaries as a result thereof as having been incurred by us or such subsidiary at the

- time of such transaction, no event of default under the applicable indenture, and no event which, after notice or the lapse of time, or both, would become such an event of default, shall have occurred and be continuing; and
- an officer's certificate and legal opinion covering such conditions shall be delivered to the applicable trustee.

Covenants

The applicable indenture will contain covenants requiring us to take certain actions and prohibiting us from taking certain actions. The covenants with respect to any series of debt securities will be described in the prospectus supplement relating thereto.

Events of Default, Notice and Waiver

Each indenture will describe specific "events of default" with respect to any series of debt securities issued thereunder. Such "events of default" are likely to include (with grace and cure periods):

- default in the payment of any installment of interest on any debt security of such series;
- default in the payment of principal of (or premium, if any, on) any debt security of such series at its maturity or upon any redemption, by declaration or otherwise;
- default in making any required sinking fund payment for any debt security of such series;

default in the performance or breach of any other covenant or warranty of the Company contained in the applicable indenture (other than a covenant added to the indenture solely for the benefit of a series of debt securities issued

- thereunder other than such series), continued for a specified period of days after written notice as provided in the applicable indenture;
- default in the payment of specified amounts of indebtedness of the Company or any mortgage, indenture or other instrument under which such indebtedness is issued or by which such indebtedness is secured, such default having occurred after the expiration of any applicable grace period and having resulted in the acceleration of the maturity of such indebtedness, but only if such indebtedness is not discharged or such acceleration is not rescinded or annulled;
- certain events of bankruptcy, insolvency or reorganization, or court appointment of a receiver, liquidator or trustee of the Company or any of our significant subsidiaries or their property; and
- any other event of default provided in the applicable resolution of our board of directors or the supplemental indenture under which we issue series of debt securities.

An event of default for a particular series of debt securities does not necessarily constitute an event of default for any other series of debt securities issued under the indenture. Unless otherwise indicated in the applicable prospectus supplement, if an event of default under any indenture with respect to debt securities of any series at the time outstanding occurs and is continuing, then the applicable trustee or the holders of not less than a majority of the

principal amount of the outstanding debt securities of that series may declare the principal amount (or, if the debt securities of that series are original issue discount securities or indexed securities, such portion of the principal amounts may be specified in the terms thereof) of all the debt securities of that series to be due and payable immediately by written notice thereof to us (and to the applicable trustee if given by the holders). However, at any time after such a declaration of acceleration with respect to debt securities of such series (or of all debt securities then outstanding under any indenture, as the case may be) has been made, but before a judgment or decree for payment of the money due has been obtained by the applicable trustee, the holders of not less than a majority in principal amount of outstanding debt securities of such series (or of all debt securities then outstanding under the applicable indenture, as the case may be) may rescind and annul such declaration and its consequences if:

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we shall have deposited with the applicable trustee all required payments of the principal of (and premium, if any) and interest on the debt securities of such series (or of all debt securities then outstanding under the applicable indenture, as the case may be), plus certain fees, expenses, disbursements and advances of the applicable trustee; and

all events of default, other than the non-payment of accelerated principal (or specified portion thereof), with respect to debt securities of such series (or of all debt securities then outstanding under the applicable indenture, as the case may be) have been cured or waived as provided in such indenture.

If an event of default relating to events of bankruptcy, insolvency or reorganization of the Company occurs and is continuing, then the principal amount of all of the debt securities outstanding, and any accrued interest, will automatically become due and payable immediately, without any declaration or other act by the trustee or any holder.

Each indenture also will provide that the holders of not less than a majority in principal amount of the outstanding debt securities of any series (or of all debt securities then outstanding under the applicable indenture, as the case may be) may waive any past default with respect to such series and its consequences, except a default:

- in the payment of the principal of (or premium, if any) or interest on any debt security of such series; or
- in respect of a covenant or provision contained in the applicable indenture that cannot be modified or amended without the consent of the holder of each outstanding debt security affected thereby.

Each trustee will be required to give notice to the holders of debt securities within 90 days of a default under the applicable indenture unless such default shall have been cured or waived; provided, however, that such trustee may withhold notice to the holders of any series of debt securities of any default with respect to such series (except a default in the payment of the principal of (or premium, if any) or interest on any debt security of such series or in the payment of any sinking fund installment in respect of any debt security of such series) if specified responsible officers of such trustee consider such withholding to be in the interest of such holders.

Each indenture will provide that no holders of debt securities of any series may institute any proceedings, judicial or otherwise, with respect to such indenture or for any remedy thereunder, except in the case of failure of the applicable trustee, for 60 days, to act after it has received a written request to institute proceedings in respect of an event of default from the holders of not less than 25% in principal amount of the outstanding debt securities of such series, as well as an offer of indemnity reasonably satisfactory to it. This provision will not prevent, however, any holder of debt securities from instituting suit for the enforcement of payment of the principal of (and premium, if any) and interest on such debt securities at the respective due dates thereof.

Each indenture provides that in case an event of default shall occur and be known to any trustee and not be cured, the trustee must use the same degree of care as a prudent person would use in the conduct of his or her own affairs in the exercise of the trustee's power. Subject to provisions in each indenture relating to its duties in case of default, no trustee will be under any obligation to exercise any of its rights or powers under an indenture at the request or direction of any holders of any series of debt securities then outstanding under such indenture, unless such holders shall have offered to the trustee thereunder reasonable security or indemnity. The holders of not less than a majority in principal amount of the outstanding debt securities of any series (or of all debt securities then outstanding under an indenture, as the case may be) shall have the right to direct the time, method and place of conducting any proceeding for any remedy available to the applicable trustee, or of exercising any trust or power conferred upon such trustee. However, a trustee may refuse to follow any direction which is in conflict with any law or the applicable indenture, which may involve such trustee in personal liability or which may be unduly prejudicial to the holders of debt securities of such series not joining therein.

Within 120 days after the close of each fiscal year, we will be required to deliver to each trustee a certificate, signed by one of several specified officers, stating whether or not such officer has knowledge of any default under the applicable indenture and, if so, specifying each such default and the nature and status thereof.

Modification of the Indenture

Each indenture provides that we and the trustee may enter into supplemental indentures without the consent of the holders of debt securities to:

- secure any debt securities;
- evidence the assumption by a successor corporation of our obligations;
- add covenants for the protection of the holders of debt securities;
- cure any ambiguity or correct any inconsistency in the indenture;
- establish the forms or terms of debt securities of any series; and
- evidence and provide for the acceptance of appointment by a successor trustee.

It is anticipated that modifications and amendments of an indenture may be made by us and the trustee, with the consent of the holders of not less than a majority in principal amount of each series of the outstanding debt securities issued under the indenture that are affected by the modification or amendment, provided that no such modification or amendment may, without the consent of each holder of such debt securities affected thereby:

- change the stated maturity date of the principal of (or premium, if any) or any installment of interest, if any, on any such debt security;
- reduce the principal amount of (or premium, if any) or the interest, if any, on any such debt security or the principal amount due upon acceleration of an original issue discount security;
- change the time or place or currency of payment of principal of (or premium, if any) or interest, if any, on any such debt security;
- impair the right to institute suit for the enforcement of any such payment on or with respect to any such debt security;
- reduce any amount payable on redemption;
- modify any of the subordination provisions or the definition of senior indebtedness applicable to any subordinated debt securities in a manner adverse to the holders of those securities;
- reduce the above-stated percentage of holders of debt securities necessary to modify or amend the indenture; or
- modify the foregoing requirements or reduce the percentage of outstanding debt securities necessary to waive compliance with certain provisions of the indenture or for waiver of certain defaults.

A record date may be set for any act of the holders with respect to consenting to any amendment. The holders of not less than a majority in principal amount of outstanding debt securities of each series affected thereby will have the right to waive our compliance with certain covenants in such indenture. Each indenture will contain provisions for convening meetings of the holders of debt securities of a series to take permitted action.

A prospectus supplement may set forth modifications or additions to these provisions with respect to a particular series of debt securities.

Conversion or Exchange Rights

A prospectus supplement will describe the terms, if any, on which a series of debt securities may be convertible into or exchangeable for our common stock, preferred stock or other securities. These terms will also include

provisions as to whether conversion or exchange is mandatory, at the option of the holder or at our option. Such provisions will also include the conversion or exchange price (or manner or calculation thereof), the conversion or exchange period, the events requiring an adjustment of the conversion or exchange price, and provisions affecting conversion or exchange in the event of the redemption of such series of debt securities.

Registered Global Securities

We may issue the debt securities of a series in whole or in part in the form of one or more fully registered global securities that we will deposit with a depositary or with a nominee for a depositary identified in the applicable prospectus supplement and registered in the name of such depositary or nominee. In such case, we will issue one or more registered global securities denominated in an amount equal to the aggregate principal amount of all of the debt securities of the series to be issued and represented by such registered global security or securities.

Unless and until it is exchanged in whole or in part for debt securities in definitive registered form, a registered global security may not be transferred except as a whole:

- by the depositary for such registered global security to its nominee;
- by a nominee of the depositary to the depositary or another nominee of the depositary; or
- by the depositary or its nominee to a successor of the depositary or a nominee of the successor.

The prospectus supplement relating to a series of debt securities will describe the specific terms of the depositary arrangement with respect to any portion of such series represented by a registered global security. We anticipate that the following provisions will apply to all depositary arrangements for debt securities:

ownership of beneficial interests in a registered global security will be limited to persons that have accounts with

- the depositary for the registered global security, those persons being referred to as “participants,” or persons that may hold interests through participants;

upon the issuance of a registered global security, the depositary for the registered global security will credit, on its

- book-entry registration and transfer system, the participants’ accounts with the respective principal amounts of the debt securities represented by the registered global security beneficially owned by the participants;

- any dealers, underwriters, or agents participating in the distribution of the debt securities will designate the accounts to be credited; and

ownership of any beneficial interest in the registered global security will be shown on, and the transfer of any

- ownership interest will be effected only through, records maintained by the depositary for the registered global security (with respect to interests of participants) and on the records of participants (with respect to interests of persons holding through participants).

The laws of some states may require that certain purchasers of securities take physical delivery of the securities in definitive form. These laws may limit the ability of those persons to own, transfer or pledge beneficial interests in registered global securities.

So long as the depositary for a registered global security, or its nominee, is the registered owner of the registered global security, the depositary or the nominee, as the case may be, will be considered the sole owner or holder of the debt securities represented by the registered global security for all purposes under the indenture. Except as set forth below, owners of beneficial interests in a registered global security:

- will not be entitled to have the debt securities represented by a registered global security registered in their names;
- will not receive or be entitled to receive physical delivery of the debt securities in the definitive form; and
- will not be considered the owners or holders of the debt securities under the indenture.

Accordingly, each person owning a beneficial interest in a registered global security must rely on the procedures of the depositary for the registered global security and, if the person is not a participant, on the procedures of a participant through which the person owns its interest, to exercise any rights of a holder under the indenture.

We understand that under existing industry practices, if we request any action of holders or if an owner of a beneficial interest in a registered global security desires to give or take any action that a holder is entitled to give or take under the indenture, the depositary for the registered global security would authorize the participants holding the relevant beneficial interests to give or take the action, and those participants would authorize beneficial owners

owning through those participants to give or take the action or would otherwise act upon the instructions of beneficial owners holding through them.

We will make payments of principal and premium, if any, and interest, if any, on debt securities represented by a registered global security registered in the name of a depositary or its nominee to the depositary or its nominee, as the case may be, as the registered owners of the registered global security. None of the Company, the trustee or any other agent of the Company or the trustee will be responsible or liable for any aspect of the records relating to, or payments made on account of, beneficial ownership interests in the registered global security or for maintaining, supervising or reviewing any records relating to the beneficial ownership interests.

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We expect that the depositary for any debt securities represented by a registered global security, upon receipt of any payments of principal and premium, if any, and interest, if any, in respect of the registered global security, will immediately credit participants' accounts with payments in amounts proportionate to their respective beneficial interests in the registered global security as shown on the records of the depositary. We also expect that standing customer instructions and customary practices will govern payments by participants to owners of beneficial interests in the registered global security held through the participants, as is now the case with the securities held for the accounts of customers in bearer form or registered in "street name." We also expect that any of these payments will be the responsibility of the participants.

If the depositary for any debt securities represented by a registered global security is at any time unwilling or unable to continue as depositary or ceases to be a clearing agency registered under the Exchange Act, we will appoint an eligible successor depositary. If we fail to appoint an eligible successor depositary within 90 days, we will issue the debt securities in definitive form in exchange for the registered global security. In addition, we may at any time and in our sole discretion decide not to have any of the debt securities of a series represented by one or more registered global securities. In such event, we will issue debt securities of that series in a definitive form in exchange for all of the registered global securities representing the debt securities. The trustee will register any debt securities issued in definitive form in exchange for a registered global security in such name or names as the depositary, based upon instructions from its participants, shall instruct the trustee.

We may also issue bearer debt securities of a series in the form of one or more global securities, referred to as "bearer global securities." We will deposit these bearer global securities with a common depositary for Euroclear System and Clearstream Bank Luxembourg, Societe Anonyme, or with a nominee for the depositary identified in the prospectus supplement relating to that series. The prospectus supplement relating to a series of debt securities represented by a bearer global security will describe the specific terms and procedures, including the specific terms of the depositary arrangement and any specific procedures for the issuance of debt securities in definitive form in exchange for a bearer global security, with respect to the position of the series represented by a bearer global security. Discharge, Defeasance and Covenant Defeasance

We can discharge or defease our obligations under the indenture as set forth below. Unless otherwise set forth in the applicable prospectus supplement, the subordination provisions applicable to any subordinated debt securities will be expressly subject to the discharge and defeasance provisions of the indenture.

We may discharge some of our obligations to holders of any series of debt securities that have not already been delivered to the trustee for cancellation and that have either become due and payable or are by their terms to become due and payable within one year (or are scheduled for redemption within one year). We may effect a discharge by irrevocably depositing with the trustee cash or U.S. government obligations, as trust funds, in an amount certified to be sufficient to pay when due, whether at maturity, upon redemption or otherwise, the principal of, premium, if any, and interest on the debt securities and any mandatory sinking fund payments.

Unless otherwise provided in the applicable prospectus supplement, we may also discharge any and all of our obligations to holders of any series of debt securities at any time ("defeasance"). We also may be released from the obligations imposed by any covenants of any outstanding series of debt securities and provisions of the indenture, and we may omit to comply with those covenants without creating an event of default ("covenant defeasance"). We may effect defeasance and covenant defeasance only if, among other things:

- we irrevocably deposit with the trustee cash or U.S. government obligations, as trust funds, in an amount certified to be sufficient to pay at maturity (or upon redemption) the principal, premium, if any, and interest on all outstanding debt securities of the series; and

- we deliver to the trustee an opinion of counsel from a nationally recognized law firm to the effect that the holders of the series of debt securities will not recognize income, gain or loss for U.S. federal income tax purposes as a result of the defeasance or covenant defeasance and that defeasance or covenant defeasance will not otherwise alter the holders' U.S. federal income tax treatment of principal, premium, if any, and interest payments on the series of debt securities, which opinion, in the case of legal defeasance, must be based on a ruling of the Internal Revenue Service issued, or a change in U.S. federal income tax law.

Although we may discharge or defease our obligations under the indenture as described in the two preceding paragraphs, we may not avoid, among other things, our duty to register the transfer or exchange of any series of debt securities, to replace any temporary, mutilated, destroyed, lost or stolen series of debt securities or to maintain an office or agency in respect of any series of debt securities.

Redemption of Securities

Debt securities may also be subject to optional or mandatory redemption on terms and conditions described in the applicable prospectus supplement.

From and after notice has been given as provided in the applicable indenture, if funds for the redemption of any debt securities called for redemption shall have been made available on such redemption date, such debt securities will cease to bear interest on the date fixed for such redemption specified in such notice, and the only right of the holders of the debt securities will be to receive payment of the redemption price.

Notices

Holders of our debt securities will receive notices by mail at their addresses as they appear in the security register.

Title

We may treat the person in whose name a debt security is registered on the applicable record date as the owner of the debt security for all purposes, whether or not it is overdue.

Governing Law

Unless otherwise set forth in the applicable prospectus supplement, New York law will govern the indentures and the debt securities, without regard to its conflicts of law principles.

Concerning the Trustee

Each indenture provides that there may be more than one trustee under the indenture, each with respect to one or more series of debt securities. If there are different trustees for different series of debt securities, each trustee will be a trustee of a trust under the indenture separate and apart from the trust administered by any other trustee under the indenture. Except as otherwise indicated in this prospectus or any prospectus supplement, any action permitted to be taken by a trustee may be taken by such trustee only with respect to the one or more series of debt securities for which it is the trustee under the indenture. Any trustee under the indenture may resign or be removed with respect to one or more series of debt securities. All payments of principal of, premium, if any, and interest on, and all registration, transfer, exchange, authentication and delivery (including authentication and delivery on original issuance of the debt securities) of, the debt securities of a series will be effected by the trustee with respect to that series at an office designated by the trustee in New York, New York.

Each indenture contains limitations on the right of the trustee, should it become a creditor of the Company, to obtain payment of claims in some cases or to realize on certain property received in respect of any such claim as security or otherwise. The trustee may engage in other transactions. If it acquires any conflicting interest relating to any duties with respect to the debt securities, however, it must eliminate the conflict or resign as trustee.

WARRANTS

We may issue warrants for the purchase of debt securities, preferred stock, common stock, or any combination thereof. We may issue warrants independently or together with any other securities offered by any prospectus supplement and may be attached to or separate from the other offered securities. Each series of warrants will be issued under a separate warrant agreement to be entered into by us with a warrant agent. The warrant agent will act solely as our agent in connection with the warrants and will not assume any obligation or relationship of agency or trust for or with any holders or beneficial owners of warrants. Further terms of the warrants and the applicable warrant agreements will be set forth in the applicable prospectus supplement.

The applicable prospectus supplement relating to any particular issue of warrants will describe the terms of the warrants, including, as applicable, the following:

- the title of the warrants;
- the aggregate number of the warrants;
- the price or prices at which the warrants will be issued;
- the designation, terms and number of shares of preferred stock or common stock or principal amount of debt securities purchasable upon exercise of the warrants;
- the designation and terms of the offered securities, if any, with which the warrants are issued and the number of the warrants issued with each offered security;
- the date, if any, on and after which the warrants and the related debt securities, preferred stock or common stock will be separately transferable;
- the price at which each share of preferred stock, common stock or underlying debt securities purchasable upon exercise of the warrants may be purchased or the manner of determining such price;
- the date on which the right to exercise the warrants shall commence and the date on which that right shall expire;
- the minimum or maximum amount of the warrants which may be exercised at any one time;
- information with respect to book-entry procedures, if any;
- a discussion of certain federal income tax considerations; and
- any other material terms of the warrants, including terms, procedures and limitations relating to the exchange and exercise of the warrants.

We and the warrant agent may amend or supplement the warrant agreement for a series of warrants without the consent of the holders of the warrants issued thereunder to effect changes that are not inconsistent with the provisions of the warrants and that do not materially and adversely affect the interests of the holders of the warrants.

UNITS

We may issue units comprising one or more securities described in this prospectus in any combination. The following description sets forth certain general terms and provisions of the units that we may offer pursuant to this prospectus. The particular terms of the units and the extent, if any, to which the general terms and provisions may apply to the units so offered will be described in the applicable prospectus supplement.

Each unit will be issued so that the holder of the unit also is the holder of each security included in the unit. Thus, the unit will have the rights and obligations of a holder of each included security. Units will be issued pursuant to the terms of a unit agreement, which may provide that the securities included in the unit may not be held or transferred separately at any time or at any time before a specified date. A copy of the forms of the unit agreement and the unit certificate relating to any particular issue of units will be filed with the SEC each time we issue units, and you should read those documents for provisions that may be important to you. For more information on how you can obtain copies of the forms of the unit agreement and the related unit certificate, see “Where You Can Find More Information.”

The prospectus supplement relating to any particular issuance of units will describe the terms of those units, including, to the extent applicable, the following:

- the designation and terms of the units and the securities comprising the units, including whether and under what circumstances those securities may be held or transferred separately;
- any provision for the issuance, payment, settlement, transfer or exchange of the units or of the securities comprising the units; and
- whether the units will be issued in fully registered or global form.

USE OF PROCEEDS

We currently intend to use the net proceeds from the sale of our securities for general corporate purposes, which may include commercial launch activities, sales and marketing expenditures, funding of clinical trials, research and development, regulatory activities, acquisitions of companies, products, intellectual property or other technology, investments, capital expenditures, and for any other purposes that we may specify in any prospectus supplement. While we have no current plans for any specific acquisitions at this time, we believe opportunities may exist from time to time to expand our current business through strategic alliances or acquisitions of other companies, products or compounds. We have not yet determined the amount of net proceeds to be used specifically for any of the foregoing purposes. Accordingly, our management will have significant discretion and flexibility in applying the net proceeds from the sale of these securities. Pending any use, as described above, we intend to invest the net proceeds in high-quality, short-term, interest-bearing securities. Our plans to use the estimated net proceeds from the sale of these securities may change, and if they do, we will update this information in a prospectus supplement.

RATIO OF FIXED CHARGES AND PREFERENCE DIVIDENDS TO EARNINGS

Our ratio of combined fixed charges and preference dividends to earnings for each of the five most recently completed fiscal years and any required interim periods will each be specified in a prospectus supplement or in a document that we file with the SEC and incorporate by reference pertaining to the issuance, if any, by us of preference securities in the future.

DIVIDEND POLICY

We have not declared or paid cash dividends on our common stock since our inception. We currently intend to retain all available funds and any future earnings for use in the operation of our business and do not anticipate paying any cash dividends in the foreseeable future. Any future determination to declare cash dividends will be made at the discretion of our board of directors, subject to compliance with certain covenants under our credit facilities (including our currently outstanding Credit Facility), which restrict or limit our ability to declare or pay dividends, and will depend on our financial condition, results of operations, capital requirements, general business conditions and other factors that our board of directors may deem relevant. Consequently, stockholders will need to sell our securities to realize a return on their investment, if any.

PLAN OF DISTRIBUTION

We may sell the securities from time to time pursuant to underwritten public offerings, negotiated transactions, block trades or a combination of these methods. We may sell the securities to or through underwriters or dealers, through agents, or directly to one or more purchasers. We may distribute securities from time to time in one or more transactions:

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

We may also sell equity securities covered by this registration statement in an “at-the-market offering” as defined in Rule 415 under the Securities Act. Such offering may be made into an existing trading market for such securities in transactions at other than a fixed price, either:

- on or through the facilities of The Nasdaq Global Market or any other securities exchange or quotation or trading service on which such securities may be listed, quoted or traded at the time of sale; and/or
- to or through a market maker otherwise than on The Nasdaq Global Market or such other securities exchanges or quotation or trading services.

Such at-the-market offerings, if any, may be conducted by underwriters acting as principal or agent.

A prospectus supplement or supplements (and any related free writing prospectus that we may authorize to be provided to you) will describe the terms of the offering of the securities, including, to the extent applicable:

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

Only underwriters named in the prospectus supplement are underwriters of the securities offered by the prospectus supplement.

If underwriters are used in the sale, they will acquire the securities for their own account and may resell the securities from time to time in one or more transactions at a fixed public offering price or at varying prices determined at the time of sale. The obligations of the underwriters to purchase the securities will be subject to the conditions set forth in the applicable underwriting agreement. We may offer the securities to the public through underwriting syndicates represented by managing underwriters or by underwriters without a syndicate. Subject to certain conditions, the underwriters will be obligated to purchase all of the securities offered by the prospectus supplement. Any public offering price and any discounts or concessions allowed or reallocated or paid to dealers may change from time to time. We may use underwriters with whom we have a material relationship. We will describe in the prospectus supplement, naming the underwriter, the nature of any such relationship.

We may sell securities directly or through agents we designate from time to time. We will name any agent involved in the offering and sale of securities, and we will describe any commissions we will pay the agent in the prospectus supplement. Unless the prospectus supplement states otherwise, our agent will act on a best-efforts basis for the period of its appointment.

We may authorize agents or underwriters to solicit offers by certain types of institutional investors to purchase securities from us at the public offering price set forth in the prospectus supplement pursuant to delayed delivery contracts providing for payment and delivery on a specified date in the future. We will describe the conditions to these contracts and the commissions we must pay for solicitation of these contracts in the prospectus supplement.

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

All securities we offer, other than common stock, will be new issues of securities with no established trading market. Any underwriters may make a market in these securities, but will not be obligated to do so and may discontinue any market making at any time without notice. We cannot guarantee the liquidity of the trading markets for any securities. Any underwriter may engage in overallotment, stabilizing transactions, short covering transactions and penalty bids. Overallotment involves sales in excess of the offering size, which create a short position. Stabilizing transactions permit bids to purchase the underlying security so long as the stabilizing bids do not exceed a specified maximum. Short covering transactions involve purchases of the securities in the open market after the distribution is completed to cover short positions. Penalty bids permit the underwriters to reclaim a selling concession from a dealer when the securities originally sold by the dealer are purchased in a stabilizing or covering transaction to cover short positions. Those activities may cause the price of the securities to be higher than it would otherwise be. If commenced, the underwriters may discontinue any of the activities at any time. These transactions may be effected on any exchange or over-the-counter market or otherwise.

Any underwriters who are qualified market makers on The Nasdaq Global Market may engage in passive market making transactions in the securities on The Nasdaq Global Market in accordance with Rule 103 of Regulation M, during the business day prior to the pricing of the offering, before the commencement of offers or sales of the securities. Passive market makers must comply with applicable volume and price limitations and must be identified as passive market makers. In general, a passive market maker must display its bid at a price not in excess of the highest independent bid for such security; if all independent bids are lowered below the passive market maker's bid, however, the passive market maker's bid must then be lowered when certain purchase limits are exceeded. Passive market making may stabilize the market price of the securities at a level above that which might otherwise prevail in the open market and, if commenced, may be discontinued at any time.

LEGAL MATTERS

The validity of the securities being offered hereby will be passed upon by Gunderson Dettmer Stough Villeneuve Franklin & Hachigian, LLP, Boston, Massachusetts.

EXPERTS

The audited financial statements incorporated by reference in this prospectus and elsewhere in the registration statement have been so incorporated by reference in reliance upon the report of Grant Thornton LLP, independent registered public accountants, upon the authority of said firm as experts in accounting and auditing.

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

Prospectus Subject to Completion, Dated October 20, 2017

\$25,000,000

Common Stock

Alimera Sciences, Inc. (“Alimera”) has entered into a Common Stock Sales Agreement, or the “Sales Agreement”, with H.C. Wainwright & Co., LLC (“H.C. Wainwright”), relating to shares of our common stock, \$0.01 par value per share, offered by this prospectus. In accordance with the terms of the Sales Agreement, we may offer and sell shares of our common stock having an aggregate offering price of up to \$25.0 million from time to time through H.C. Wainwright, acting as agent. Sales of our common stock, if any, under this prospectus may be made in sales deemed to be an “at the market offering” as defined in Rule 415 under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, or the Securities Act.

Our common stock trades on The NASDAQ Global Market under the symbol “ALIM”. On October 19, 2017, the last reported sale price for our common stock on The NASDAQ Global Market was \$1.38 per share.

H.C. Wainwright will act as sales agent and use commercially reasonable efforts consistent with its normal trading and sales practices and applicable law and regulations to sell on our behalf all of the shares of common stock requested to be sold by us, on mutually agreed terms between H.C. Wainwright and us. There is no arrangement for funds to be received in any escrow, trust or similar arrangement. H.C. Wainwright will be entitled to a placement fee of up to 3.0% of the gross sales price of the shares sold. In connection with the sale of our common stock on our behalf, H.C. Wainwright will be deemed to be an “underwriter” within the meaning of the Securities Act and the compensation of H.C. Wainwright will be deemed to be underwriting commissions or discounts.

Investing in our common stock involves a high degree of risk. See “Risk Factors” beginning on page S-4 of this prospectus, as well as the section captioned “Item 1A—Risk Factors” in our most recently filed annual report on Form 10-K or quarterly report on Form 10-Q which is incorporated by reference into this prospectus, for certain risks you should consider. You should read the entire prospectus carefully before you make your investment decision. Neither the Securities and Exchange Commission nor any state securities commission has approved or disapproved of these securities or determined if this prospectus and the accompanying prospectus is truthful or complete. Any representation to the contrary is a criminal offense.

H.C. Wainwright & Co.

The date of this prospectus is , 2017

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ABOUT THIS PROSPECTUS

This prospectus is part of a registration statement that we have filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission, (the “SEC”), utilizing a “shelf” registration process. Under this process, we may, from time to time, offer shares of our common stock having an aggregate offering price of up to \$25.0 million, from time to time, under this prospectus at prices and on terms to be determined by market conditions at the time of offering.

We provide information to you about this offering of shares of our common stock in two separate documents that are bound together: (1) this prospectus, which describes the specific details regarding this offering; and (2) the accompanying base prospectus, which provides general information, some of which may not apply to this offering. Generally, when we refer to this “prospectus,” we are referring to both documents combined. If information in this prospectus is inconsistent with the accompanying base prospectus, you should rely on this prospectus. However, if any statement in one of these documents is inconsistent with a statement in another document having a later date, for example, a document incorporated by reference in this prospectus, the statement in the document having the later date modifies or supersedes the earlier statement as our business, financial condition, results of operations and prospects may have changed since the earlier dates.

We further note that the representations, warranties and covenants made by us in any agreement that is filed as an exhibit to any document that is incorporated by reference herein were made solely for the benefit of the parties to such agreement, including, in some cases, for the purpose of allocating risk among the parties to such agreement, and should not be deemed to be a representation, warranty or covenant to you. Moreover, such representations, warranties or covenants were accurate only as of the date when made. Accordingly, such representations, warranties and covenants should not be relied on as accurately representing the current state of our affairs.

You should rely only on the information contained in, or incorporated by reference into, this prospectus and in any free writing prospectus that we may authorize for use in connection with this offering. We have not, and H.C. Wainwright has not, authorized any other person to provide you with different information. If anyone provides you with different or inconsistent information, you should not rely on it. We are not, and H.C. Wainwright is not, making an offer to sell or soliciting an offer to buy our securities in any jurisdiction in which an offer or solicitation is not authorized or in which the person making that offer or solicitation is not qualified to do so or to anyone to whom it is unlawful to make an offer or solicitation. You should assume that the information appearing in this prospectus, the documents incorporated by reference into this prospectus, and in any free writing prospectus that we may authorize for use in connection with this offering, is accurate only as of the date of those respective documents. Our business, financial condition, results of operations and prospects may have changed since those dates. You should read this prospectus, the documents incorporated by reference into this prospectus, and any free writing prospectus that we may authorize for use in connection with this offering, in their entirety before making an investment decision. You should also read and consider the information in the documents to which we have referred you in the sections of this prospectus entitled “Where You Can Find Additional Information” and “Incorporation of Certain Documents By Reference.”

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

Unless the context otherwise requires, throughout this prospectus and any applicable prospectus supplement, the words “Alimera” “we,” “us,” the “registrant” or the “Company” refer to Alimera Sciences, Inc. and its subsidiaries (as applicable).

Alimera Sciences” and “ILUVIEN” are trademarks of Alimera Sciences, Inc. This prospectus may also include other registered and unregistered trademarks of Alimera Sciences, Inc. and other persons.

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PROSPECTUS SUMMARY

This summary highlights selected information about us, this offering and information appearing elsewhere in this prospectus, in the accompanying prospectus and in the documents we incorporate by reference. This summary is not complete and does not contain all the information you should consider before investing in our common stock pursuant to this prospectus and the accompanying prospectus. Before making an investment decision, to fully understand this offering and its consequences to you, you should carefully read this entire prospectus and the accompanying prospectus, including “Risk Factors” beginning on page S-4 of this prospectus, the financial statements, and related notes, and the other information that we incorporated by reference herein, including our Annual Report on Form 10-K and Quarterly Reports on Form 10-Q we file from time to time.

Our Company

Alimera is a pharmaceutical company that specializes in the commercialization and development of prescription ophthalmic pharmaceuticals. We are presently focused on diseases affecting the back of the eye, or retina, because these diseases are not well treated with current therapies and will affect millions of people in aging populations. Our commitment to retina specialists and their patients is manifest in our product and development portfolio designed to treat early- and late-stage diseases.

Our only commercial product is ILUVIEN®, which is approved to treat diabetic macular edema (DME). DME is a disease of the retina that affects individuals with diabetes and can lead to severe vision loss and blindness. ILUVIEN has received marketing authorization in the United States (U.S.), Austria, Belgium, the Czech Republic, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Ireland, Italy, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Spain, Sweden and the United Kingdom. In the U.S., ILUVIEN is indicated for the treatment of DME in patients who have been previously treated with a course of corticosteroids and did not have a clinically significant rise in intraocular pressure (IOP). In the European Economic Area (EEA) countries in which ILUVIEN has received marketing authorization, it is indicated for the treatment of vision impairment associated with DME considered insufficiently responsive to available therapies.

As part of the approval process for DME in Europe, we committed to conduct a five-year, post-authorization, open label registry study in 800 patients treated with ILUVIEN. In the fourth quarter of 2016, we requested approval to modify our protocol to cap enrollment in the study due to our post market safety surveillance not showing any unexpected safety signals. As of June 30, 2017, 562 patients were enrolled in this study. We received regulatory approval from the Medicines & Healthcare products Regulatory Agency (MHRA) in July 2017 to cease enrollment. In July 2017, we amended our license for the technology underlying ILUVIEN to include the treatment of non-infectious posterior uveitis (NIPU) in Europe, the Middle East and Africa from pSivida US, Inc. (pSivida). NIPU is an inflammatory disease of the uveal tract, which is comprised of the iris, ciliary body and choroid, that can lead to severe vision loss and blindness. We plan to file an application for a new indication for ILUVIEN for NIPU in the 17 EEA countries where ILUVIEN is currently approved for the treatment of DME.

We launched ILUVIEN in Germany and the United Kingdom in the second quarter of 2013, in the U.S. and Portugal in the first quarter of 2015. In September 2017, we announced that ILUVIEN became available in Ireland.

In addition, we have entered into various agreements under which distributors will provide regulatory, reimbursement or sales and marketing support for future commercialization of ILUVIEN in numerous countries in the Middle East, Italy, Spain, Australia, New Zealand and Canada. In the third quarter of 2016, our Middle East distributor launched ILUVIEN and initiated named patient sales in the United Arab Emirates. Our Italian distributor launched ILUVIEN in Italy in the second quarter of 2017. As of June 30, 2017, we have recognized sales of ILUVIEN to our distributors in the Middle East, Italy and Spain.

Corporate Information

We were incorporated in Delaware in June 2003 and commenced operations on that date. Our principal executive office is located at 6120 Windward Parkway, Suite 290, Alpharetta, Georgia 30005 and our telephone number is (678) 990-5740. Our website address is www.alimerasciences.com. The information contained on, or that can be accessed through, our website is not part of this prospectus.

Alimera Sciences” and “ILUVIEN” are trademarks of Alimera Sciences, Inc. This prospectus may also include other registered and unregistered trademarks of Alimera Sciences, Inc. and other persons.

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The Offering

Common
stock
offered by
us

Shares having an aggregate offering price of up to \$25.0 million.

Manner of
offering

“At the market offering” that may be made from time to time through our sales agent, H.C. Wainwright. See “Plan of Distribution” on page S-9 of this prospectus.

Use of
proceeds

We currently intend to use the net proceeds from the sale of our securities for general corporate purposes, which may include commercial launch activities, sales and marketing expenditures, funding of clinical trials, research and development, regulatory activities, acquisitions of companies, products, intellectual property or other technology, investments, capital expenditures, and for any other purposes that we may specify in any prospectus supplement. While we have no current plans for any specific acquisitions at this time, we believe opportunities may exist from time to time to expand our current business through strategic alliances or acquisitions of other companies, products or compounds. We have not yet determined the amount of net proceeds to be used specifically for any of the foregoing purposes. Accordingly, our management will have significant discretion and flexibility in applying the net proceeds from the sale of these securities. Pending any use, as described above, we intend to invest the net proceeds in high-quality, short-term, interest-bearing securities. See “Use of Proceeds” on page S-7 of this prospectus.

Risk factors

This investment involves a high degree of risk. See “Risk Factors” beginning on page S-4 of this prospectus, as well as the other information included or incorporated by reference into this prospectus and the accompanying prospectus, for a discussion of risk factors that you should read and consider before investing in our common stock.

NASDAQ
Global
Market
symbol

“ALIM”

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RISK FACTORS

An investment in our common stock involves a high degree of risk. Before deciding whether to invest in our common stock, you should consider carefully the risks discussed below and under the sections captioned “Risk Factors” contained in our most recent Annual Report on Form 10-K, as revised or supplemented by our most recent quarterly report on Form 10-Q, as well as our subsequent Annual Reports on Form 10-K and Quarterly Reports on Form 10-Q, which are incorporated by reference herein in their entirety, together with other information in this prospectus and the accompanying prospectus, the information and documents incorporated by reference in this prospectus and the accompanying prospectus, and in any free writing prospectus that we have authorized for use in connection with this offering. If any of these risks actually occurs, our business, financial condition, results of operations or cash flow could be seriously harmed. This could cause the trading price of our common stock to decline, resulting in a loss of all or part of your investment.

Our business, financial condition or results of operations could be materially adversely affected by any of these risks. The trading price of our securities could decline due to any of these risks, and you may lose part or all of your investment. This prospectus, the accompanying prospectus and the incorporated documents also contain forward-looking statements that involve risks and uncertainties. Our actual results could differ materially from those anticipated in these forward-looking statements as a result of certain factors, including the risks mentioned below. Forward-looking statements included in this prospectus are based on information available to us on the date hereof, and all forward-looking statements in documents incorporated by reference are based on information available to us as of the date of such documents. We disclaim any intent to update any forward-looking statements.

Risks Related to this Offering

Resales of our common stock in the public market during this offering by our stockholders may cause the market price of our common stock to fall.

We may issue common stock from time to time in connection with this offering. This issuance from time to time of these new shares of our common stock, or our ability to issue these shares of common stock in this offering, could result in resales of our common stock by our current stockholders concerned about the potential dilution of their holdings. In turn, these resales could have the effect of depressing the market price for our common stock.

There may be future sales or other dilution of our equity, which may adversely affect the market price of our common stock.

We are generally not restricted from issuing additional common stock, including any securities that are convertible into or exchangeable for, or that represent the right to receive, common stock. The market price of our common stock could decline as a result of sales of common stock or securities that are convertible into or exchangeable for, or that represent the right to receive, common stock after this offering or the perception that such sales could occur.

We have broad discretion in how we use the net proceeds of this offering, and we may not use these proceeds effectively or in ways with which you agree.

We have not designated any portion of the net proceeds from this offering to be used for any particular purpose. Our management will have broad discretion as to the application of the net proceeds of this offering and could use them for purposes other than those contemplated at the time of this offering. Our stockholders may not agree with the manner in which our management chooses to allocate and spend the net proceeds. Moreover, our management may use the net proceeds for corporate purposes that may not increase the market price of our common stock.

Purchasers will experience immediate dilution in the book value per share of the common stock purchased in the offering.

The shares sold in this offering, if any, will be sold from time to time at various prices. However, the expected offering price of our common stock will be substantially higher than the net tangible book value per share of our outstanding common stock. After giving effect to the sale of shares of our common stock in the aggregate amount of \$25.0 million at an assumed offering price of \$1.38 per share, the last reported sale price of our common stock on October 19, 2017 on The NASDAQ Global Market, and after deducting estimated commissions and estimated offering expenses, our as-adjusted net tangible book value as of June 30, 2017 would have been approximately \$70.3 million, or approximately \$0.83 per common share. This represents an immediate increase in net tangible book value of approximately \$0.14 per common share to our existing stockholders and an immediate dilution in as-adjusted net tangible book value of approximately \$0.55 per common share to purchasers of our common stock in this offering.

In addition to this offering, subject to market conditions and other factors, we may pursue additional equity financings in the future, including future public offerings or future private placements of equity securities. Further, the exercise of outstanding options and warrants could result in further dilution to investors and any additional shares issued in connection with acquisitions will result in dilution to investors. In

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addition, the market price of our common stock could fall as a result of resales of any of these shares of common stock due to an increased number of shares available for sale in the market.

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FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS

This prospectus, the accompanying prospectus and the SEC filings that are incorporated by reference into this prospectus and the accompanying prospectus contain or incorporate by reference forward-looking statements. The Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995 has established that these statements qualify for safe harbors from liability. You can identify these statements by forward-looking words such as “anticipate,” “believe,” “estimate,” “expect,” “intend,” “may,” “plan,” “contemplates,” “predict,” “project,” “target,” “likely,” “potential,” “continue,” “ongoing,” “will,” “could,” or the negative of these terms and similar expressions or words. You should read statements that contain these words carefully because they discuss future expectations, contain projections of future results of operations or financial condition, or state other “forward-looking” information.

We believe it is important to communicate our expectations to our stockholders. However, there may be events in the future that we are not able to predict accurately or over which we have no control. The risk factors and cautionary language discussed in this prospectus and the accompanying prospectus provide examples of risks, uncertainties and events that may cause actual results to differ materially from the expectations described in the forward-looking statements, including:

- uncertainty as to our ability to achieve profitability and positive cash flow through the commercialization of ILUVIEN® in the European Economic Area (EEA), the United States (U.S.) and other regions of the world where we sell ILUVIEN;
- our ability to operate our business in compliance with the covenants and restrictions that we are subject to under our credit facility;
- dependence on third-party manufacturers to manufacture ILUVIEN or any future products or product candidates in sufficient quantities and quality;
- our ability to raise sufficient additional funding and our need to raise such funds;
- uncertainty as to the pricing and reimbursement guidelines for ILUVIEN or any future products or product candidates, including ILUVIEN;
- our ability to successfully commercialize ILUVIEN following regulatory approval in additional markets;
- delay in or failure to obtain regulatory approval of ILUVIEN in additional countries or any future products or product candidates; and
- the extent of government regulations.

All written and verbal forward-looking statements attributable to us or any person acting on our behalf are expressly qualified in their entirety by the cautionary statements contained or referred to in this section. We caution investors not to rely too heavily on the forward-looking statements we make or that are made on our behalf. Although we believe that the expectations reflected in the forward-looking statements are reasonable, we cannot guarantee future results, level of activity, performance or achievements. Any forward-looking statement made by us in this prospectus speaks only as of the date of this prospectus. Except as required by law, we disclaim any duty to update any of these forward-looking statements after the date of such statements are made, or to update the reasons actual results could differ materially from those anticipated in these forward-looking statements, even if new information becomes available in the future.

You should read this prospectus and the documents that we reference in this prospectus and have been filed as exhibits to the registration statement of which this prospectus is a part completely and with the understanding that our actual future results may be materially different from what we expect.

In addition, you should refer to the section of this prospectus entitled “Risk Factors” as well as the documents we have incorporated by reference for a discussion of other important factors that may cause our actual results to differ materially from those expressed or implied by our forward-looking statements. As a result of these factors, we cannot

assure you that the forward-looking statements in this prospectus will prove to be accurate. Furthermore, if our forward-looking statements prove to be inaccurate, the inaccuracy may be material. In light of the significant uncertainties in these forward-looking statements, you should not regard these statements as a representation or warranty by us or any other person that we will achieve our objectives and plans in any specified time frame, or at all.

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USE OF PROCEEDS

We will retain broad discretion over the use of the net proceeds from the sale of our securities offered hereby. Except as described in any free writing prospectus that we may authorize to be provided to you, we currently intend to use the net proceeds from the sale of our securities for general corporate purposes, which may include commercial launch activities, sales and marketing expenditures, funding of clinical trials, research and development, regulatory activities, acquisitions of companies, products, intellectual property or other technology, investments, capital expenditures, and for any other purposes that we may specify in any prospectus supplement. While we have no current plans for any specific acquisitions at this time, we believe opportunities may exist from time to time to expand our current business through strategic alliances or acquisitions of other companies, products or compounds. We have not yet determined the amount of net proceeds to be used specifically for any of the foregoing purposes. Accordingly, our management will have significant discretion and flexibility in applying the net proceeds from the sale of these securities.

Pending any use, as described above, we intend to invest the net proceeds in high-quality, short-term, interest-bearing securities.

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DILUTION

If you invest in our common stock, your interest will be diluted immediately to the extent of the difference between the public offering price per share and the adjusted net tangible book value per share of our common stock after this offering.

The net tangible book value of our common stock as of June 30, 2017 was approximately \$46.2 million, or approximately \$0.69 per share. Net tangible book value per share represents the amount of our total tangible assets, excluding goodwill and intangible assets, less total liabilities, divided by the total number of shares of our common stock outstanding. Dilution per share to new investors represents the difference between the amount per share paid by purchasers for each share of common stock in this offering and the net tangible book value per share of our common stock immediately following the completion of this offering.

After giving effect to the sale of shares of our common stock in the aggregate amount of \$25.0 million at an assumed offering price of \$1.38 per share, the last reported sale price of our common stock on October 19, 2017 on The NASDAQ Global Market, and after deducting estimated commissions and estimated offering expenses, our as-adjusted net tangible book value as of June 30, 2017 would have been approximately \$70.3 million, or approximately \$0.83 per common share. This represents an immediate increase in net tangible book value of approximately \$0.14 per common share to our existing stockholders and an immediate dilution in as-adjusted net tangible book value of approximately \$0.55 per common share to purchasers of our common stock in this offering, as illustrated by the following table:

Assumed public offering price per share	\$ 1.38
Net tangible book value per share as of June 30, 2017	\$0.69
Increase per share attributable to the offering	\$0.14
As-adjusted net tangible book value per share after this offering	\$0.83
Dilution per share to new investors	\$0.55

The table above assumes, for illustrative purposes only, an aggregate of 18,115,942 shares of our common stock are sold at a price of \$1.38 per share, for aggregate gross proceeds of \$25.0 million. The shares, if any, sold in this offering will be sold from time to time at various prices. An increase of \$1.00 per share in the price at which the shares are sold from the assumed offering price of \$1.38 per share shown in the table above, assuming all of our common stock in the aggregate amount of \$25.0 million is sold at that price, would increase adjusted net tangible book value per share after the offering to \$0.91 per common share and would decrease the dilution in net tangible book value per share to new investors in this offering to \$0.47 per common share, after deducting commissions and estimated aggregate offering expenses payable by us. A decrease of \$1.00 per share in the price at which the shares are sold from the assumed offering price of \$1.38 per common share shown in the table above, assuming all of our common stock in the aggregate amount of \$25.0 million is sold at that price, would decrease adjusted net tangible book value per share after the offering to \$0.53 per common share and would increase the dilution in net tangible book value per share to new investors in this offering to \$0.85 per common share, after deducting commissions and estimated aggregate offering expenses payable by us. This information is supplied for illustrative purposes only. To the extent that any options or warrants are exercised, new options are issued under our equity incentive plans or we otherwise issue additional shares of common stock in the future, there will be further dilution to new investors.

PLAN OF DISTRIBUTION

We have entered into the Sales Agreement with H.C. Wainwright, pursuant to which we may issue and sell up to an aggregate of \$25,000,000 of our common stock from time to time through H.C. Wainwright acting as agent. H.C. Wainwright may sell our shares of common stock by any method permitted by law deemed to be an “at the market offering” as defined in Rule 415 promulgated under the Securities Act.

H.C. Wainwright will offer our common stock at prevailing market prices subject to the terms and conditions of the Sales Agreement as agreed upon by us and H.C. Wainwright. We will designate the number of shares which we desire to sell, the time period during which sales are requested to be made, any limitation on the number of shares that may be sold in one day and any minimum price below which sales may not be made. Either H.C. Wainwright or we may suspend the offering of our common stock being made under the Sales Agreement upon proper notice to the other party.

We will pay H.C. Wainwright in cash, upon each sale of our shares of common stock pursuant to the Sales Agreement, a commission equal to up to 3.0% of the gross proceeds from each sale of shares of our common stock. Because there is no minimum offering amount required as a condition to this offering, the actual total public offering amount, commissions and proceeds to us, if any, are not determinable at this time. Pursuant to the terms of the Sales Agreement, we agreed to reimburse H.C. Wainwright for the documented fees and costs of its legal counsel up to \$50,000. Additionally, pursuant to the terms of the Sales Agreement, at the end of each calendar quarter during the term of the sales agreement, we have agreed to reimburse H.C. Wainwright up to \$2,500 for certain documented fees and costs of its legal counsel. We estimate that the total expenses of the offering payable by us, excluding commissions payable to H.C. Wainwright under the Sales Agreement, will be approximately \$200,000.

Settlement for sales of shares of our common stock will occur on the third trading day following the date on which any sales are made, or on some other date that is agreed upon by us and H.C. Wainwright in connection with a particular transaction, in return for payment of the net proceeds to us. There is no arrangement for funds to be received in an escrow, trust or similar arrangement. Sales of our shares of common stock as contemplated in this prospectus will be settled through the facilities of The Depository Trust Company or by such other means as we and H.C. Wainwright may agree upon.

H.C. Wainwright will act as sales agent on a commercially reasonable efforts basis consistent with its normal trading and sales practices and applicable state and federal laws, rules and regulations and the rules of The Nasdaq Stock Market LLC. In connection with the sale of the shares of common stock on our behalf, H.C. Wainwright will be deemed to be an “underwriter” within the meaning of the Securities Act and the compensation of H.C. Wainwright will be deemed to be underwriting commissions or discounts. We have agreed to provide indemnification and contribution to H.C. Wainwright against certain civil liabilities, including liabilities under the Securities Act.

The offering of our shares of common stock pursuant to the Sales Agreement will terminate upon the earlier of the (i) sale of all of our shares of common stock provided for in this prospectus, or (ii) termination of the Sales Agreement as permitted therein.

H.C. Wainwright and its affiliates may in the future provide various investment banking and other financial services for us and our affiliates, for which services they may in the future receive customary fees. To the extent required by Regulation M, H.C. Wainwright will not engage in any market making activities involving our shares of common stock while the offering is ongoing under this prospectus. This summary of the material provisions of the Sales Agreement does not purport to be a complete statement of its terms and conditions. We are filing a copy of the Sales Agreement with the SEC on a Current Report on Form 8 K concurrently with the filing of this prospectus.

DESCRIPTION OF CAPITAL STOCK

General

Our authorized capital stock consists of 100,000,000 shares of common stock, par value \$0.01 per share, and 10,000,000 shares of preferred stock, par value \$0.01 per share. 1,300,000 shares of preferred stock have been designated as "Series A Convertible Preferred Stock" and 8,417 shares of preferred stock have been designated as "Series B Convertible Preferred Stock."

Common Stock

As of October 19, 2017, there were 69,105,380 shares of common stock outstanding held of record by 32 stockholders.

Series A Convertible Preferred Stock

As of October 19, 2017, there were 600,000 shares of Series A Convertible Preferred Stock and warrants to purchase 300,000 shares of Series A Convertible Preferred Stock outstanding.

Series B Convertible Preferred Stock

As of October 19, 2017, there were 8,417 shares of Series B Convertible Preferred Stock outstanding.

LEGAL MATTERS

The validity of the shares of common stock offered by this prospectus will be passed upon for us by Gunderson Dettmer Stough Villeneuve Franklin & Hachigian, LLP, Boston, Massachusetts. H.C. Wainwright is being represented in connection with this offering by Duane Morris LLP, Newark, New Jersey.

EXPERTS

The audited financial statements incorporated by reference in this prospectus, the accompanying prospectus and elsewhere in the registration statement have been so incorporated by reference in reliance upon the report of Grant Thornton LLP, independent registered public accountants, upon the authority of said firm as experts in accounting and auditing.

WHERE YOU CAN FIND MORE INFORMATION

We have filed with the SEC a registration statement on Form S-3 under the Securities Act with respect to the securities offered by this prospectus and the accompanying prospectus. This prospectus, which is part of the registration statement, omits certain information, exhibits, schedules and undertakings set forth in the registration statement, as permitted by the SEC. For further information pertaining to us and the securities offered in this prospectus, reference is made to that registration statement and the exhibits and schedules to the registration statement. Statements contained in this prospectus as to the contents or provisions of any documents referred to in this prospectus are not necessarily complete, and in each instance where a copy of the document has been filed as an exhibit to the registration statement, reference is made to the exhibit for a more complete description of the matters involved.

We file annual, quarterly and current reports, proxy statements and other information with the SEC. Our SEC filings can be read and copied at the SEC's Public Reference Room at 100 F Street, N.E., Washington, D.C. 20549. The public may obtain information on the operation of the public reference room by calling the SEC at 1-800-SEC-0330. Also, the SEC maintains an Internet website at www.sec.gov that contains reports, proxy and information statements and other information regarding issuers that file electronically with the SEC, including us.

General information about our company, including our Annual Report on Form 10-K, Quarterly Reports on Form 10-Q and Current Reports on Form 8-K, as well as any amendments and exhibits to those reports, are available free of charge through our website at www.alimerasciences.com as soon as reasonably practicable after we file them with, or furnish them to, the SEC. Information on, or than can be accessed through, our website is not incorporated into this prospectus or other securities filings and is not a part of these filings.

INCORPORATION OF CERTAIN INFORMATION BY REFERENCE

The SEC allows us to “incorporate by reference” into this prospectus the information we file with it, which means that we can disclose important information to you by referring you to those documents. The information we incorporate by reference is an important part of this prospectus, and later information that we file with the SEC will automatically update and supersede some of this information. We incorporate by reference the documents listed below and any future filings we make with the SEC under Section 13(a), 13(c), 14 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the “Exchange Act”) (other than Current Reports on Form 8-K containing only information furnished under Item 2.02 or Item 7.01 of Form 8-K, unless otherwise indicated therein), including filings made after the date of the initial registration statement, until we sell all of the securities covered by this prospectus or the sale of securities by us pursuant to this prospectus is terminated. The documents we incorporate by reference are:

- our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2016 filed with the SEC on March 3, 2017;
- our Quarterly Reports on Form 10-Q for the quarters ended March 31, 2017 and June 30, 2017 filed with the SEC on May 11, 2017 and August 10, 2017, respectively;
- our amended and restated Proxy Statement on Amendment No. 1 to Schedule 14A filed with the SEC on May 3, 2017 to the extent incorporated by reference in Part III of the Form 10-K;
- our Current Reports on Form 8-K filed on June 23, 2017, July 10, 2017 and October 20, 2017, in each case only to the extent filed and not furnished; and

the description of our common stock contained in our registration statement on Form 8-A (File No. 001-34703)

- filed under the Exchange Act on April 19, 2010, including any amendment or reports filed for the purpose of updating such descriptions.

Any statement contained in a document incorporated or deemed to be incorporated by reference into this prospectus will be deemed to be modified or superseded for purposes of this prospectus to the extent that a statement contained in this prospectus or any other subsequently filed document that is deemed to be incorporated by reference into this prospectus modifies or supersedes the statement. Any statement so modified or superseded will not be deemed, except as so modified or superseded, to constitute a part of this prospectus.

We will provide each person to whom a prospectus is delivered a copy of all of the information that has been incorporated by reference in this prospectus but not delivered with the prospectus. You may obtain copies of these filings, at no cost, through the “Investor Relations” section of our website (www.alimerasciences.com) and you may request a copy of these filings (other than an exhibit to any filing unless we have specifically incorporated that exhibit by reference into the filing), at no cost, by writing or telephoning us at the following address:

Corporate Secretary
Alimera Sciences, Inc.
6120 Windward Parkway, Suite 290
Alpharetta, GA 30005
(678) 990-5740

Information on, or that can be accessed through, our website is not incorporated into this prospectus or other securities filings and is not a part of these filings.

\$25,000,000
Common Stock

Prospectus

H.C. Wainwright & Co.
, 2017

PART II
INFORMATION NOT REQUIRED IN PROSPECTUS

Item 14. Other Expenses of Issuance and Distribution

The following table sets forth an itemization of all estimated expenses in connection with the issuance and distribution of the securities being registered.

	Amount to be Paid by Registrant
SEC Registration Fee	\$ 12,450
Legal Fees and Expenses	*
Accounting Fees and Expenses	*
Printing and Engraving Fees	*
Blue Sky Fees and Expenses	*
Transfer Agent and Registrar Fees	*
Miscellaneous Expenses	*
Total	*

* The amount of securities and number of offerings are indeterminable and the expenses cannot be estimated at this time.

Item 15. Indemnification of Directors and Officers

The Delaware General Corporation Law and the registrant's certificate of incorporation and bylaws provide for indemnification of the registrant's directors and officers for liabilities and expenses that they may incur in such capacities. In general, directors and officers are indemnified with respect to actions taken in good faith in a manner reasonably believed to be in, or not opposed to, the best interests of the registrant, and with respect to any criminal action or proceeding, actions that the indemnitee had no reasonable cause to believe were unlawful.

The registrant has also entered into identification agreements with its directors and executive officers. These identification agreements generally require that the registrant pay, on behalf of each director and officer party thereto, all amounts that he or she is or becomes legally obligated to pay because of any claim or claims made against him or her because of any act or omission which he or she commits or suffers while acting in his or her capacity as the registrant's director and/or officer and because of his or her being a director and/or officer. Under the Delaware General Corporation Law, absent an identification agreement or a provision in a corporation's bylaws or certificate of incorporation, indemnification of a director or officer is discretionary rather than mandatory (except in the case of a proceeding in which a director or officer is successful on the merits).

The registrant currently maintains a directors' and officers' liability insurance policy.

Item 16. Exhibits

The exhibits to this registration statement are listed in the Exhibit Index to this registration statement, which Exhibit Index is hereby incorporated by reference.

Item 17. Undertakings.

(a) The undersigned registrant hereby undertakes:

(1) To file, during any period in which offers or sales are being made, a further post-effective amendment to the registration statement:

(i) To include any prospectus required by section 10(a)(3) of the Securities Act;

(ii) To reflect in the prospectus any facts or events arising after the effective date of the registration statement (or the most recent post-effective amendment thereof) which, individually or in the aggregate, represent a fundamental change in the information set forth in the registration statement. Notwithstanding the foregoing, any increase or decrease in volume of securities offered (if the total dollar value of securities offered would not exceed that which was registered) and any deviation from the low or high end of the estimated maximum offering range may be reflected in the form of prospectus filed with the SEC pursuant to Rule 424(b) if, in the aggregate,

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the changes in volume and price represent no more than a 20 percent change in the maximum aggregate offering price set forth in the "Calculation of Registration Fee" table in the effective registration statement; and

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

Provided, however, that:

(A) Paragraphs (a)(1)(i) and (a)(1)(ii) of this section do not apply if the registration statement is on Form S-8, and the information required to be included in a post-effective amendment by those paragraphs is contained in reports filed with or furnished to the SEC by the registrant pursuant to section 13 or section 15(d) of the Exchange Act that are incorporated by reference in the registration statement; and

(B) Paragraphs (a)(1)(i), (a)(1)(ii) and (a)(1)(iii) of this section do not apply if the registration statement is on Form S-3 or Form F-3 and the information required to be included in a post-effective amendment by those paragraphs is contained in reports filed with or furnished to the SEC by the registrant pursuant to section 13 or section 15(d) of the Exchange Act that are incorporated by reference in the registration statement, or is contained in a form of prospectus filed pursuant to Rule 424(b) that is part of the registration statement.

(C) Provided, further, however, that paragraphs (a)(1)(i) and (a)(1)(ii) do not apply if the registration statement is for an offering of asset-backed securities on Form S-1 or Form S-3, and the information required to be included in a post-effective amendment is provided pursuant to Item 1100(c) of Regulation AB.

(2) That, for the purpose of determining any liability under the Securities Act, each such post-effective amendment shall be deemed to be a new registration statement relating to the securities offered therein, and the offering of such securities at that time shall be deemed to be the initial bona fide offering thereof.

(3) To remove from registration by means of a post-effective amendment any of the securities being registered which remain unsold at the termination of the offering.

(4) That, for the purpose of determining liability under the Securities Act to any purchaser:

(i) If the registrant is relying on Rule 430B:

(A) Each prospectus filed by the registrant pursuant to Rule 424(b)(3) shall be deemed to be part of the registration statement as of the date the filed prospectus was deemed part of and included in the registration statement; and

(B) Each prospectus required to be filed pursuant to Rule 424(b)(2), (b)(5), or (b)(7) as part of a registration statement in reliance on Rule 430B relating to an offering made pursuant to Rule 415(a)(1)(i), (vii), or (x) for the purpose of providing the information required by section 10(a) of the Securities Act shall be deemed to be part of and included in the registration statement as of the earlier of the date such form of prospectus is first used after effectiveness or the date of the first contract of sale of securities in the offering described in the prospectus. As provided in Rule 430B, for liability purposes of the issuer and any person that is at that date an underwriter, such date shall be deemed to be a new effective date of the registration statement relating to the securities in the registration statement to which that prospectus relates, and the offering of such securities at that time shall be deemed to be the initial bona fide offering thereof. Provided, however, that no statement made in a registration statement or prospectus that is part of the registration statement or made in a document incorporated or deemed incorporated by reference into the registration statement or prospectus that is part of the registration statement will, as to a purchaser with a time of contract of sale prior to such effective date, supersede or modify any statement that was made in the registration statement or prospectus that was part of the registration statement or made in any such document immediately prior to such effective date; or

(ii) If the registrant is subject to Rule 430C, each prospectus filed pursuant to Rule 424(b) as part of a registration statement relating to an offering, other than registration statements relying on Rule 430B or other than prospectuses filed in reliance on Rule 430A, shall be deemed to be part of and included in the registration statement as of the date it is first used after effectiveness. Provided, however, that no statement made in a registration statement or prospectus that is part of the registration statement or made in a document incorporated or deemed incorporated by reference into the registration statement or prospectus that is part of the registration statement will, as to a purchaser with a time of contract of sale prior to such first use, supersede or modify any statement that was made in the registration statement or prospectus that was part of the registration statement or made in any such document immediately prior to such date of first use.

(5) That, for the purpose of determining liability of the registrant under the Securities Act to any purchaser in the initial distribution of the securities:

The undersigned registrant undertakes that in a primary offering of securities of the undersigned registrant pursuant to this registration statement, regardless of the underwriting method used to sell the securities to the purchaser, if the securities are offered or sold to such purchaser by means of any of the following communications, the undersigned registrant will be a seller to the purchaser and will be considered to offer or sell such securities to such purchaser:

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(i) Any preliminary prospectus or prospectus of the undersigned registrant relating to the offering required to be filed pursuant to Rule 424;

(ii) Any free writing prospectus relating to the offering prepared by or on behalf of the undersigned registrant or used or referred to by the undersigned registrant;

(iii) The portion of any other free writing prospectus relating to the offering containing material information about the undersigned registrant or its securities provided by or on behalf of the undersigned registrant; and

(iv) Any other communication that is an offer in the offering made by the undersigned registrant to the purchaser.

(b) The undersigned registrant hereby undertakes that, for purposes of determining any liability under the Securities Act, each filing of the registrant's annual report pursuant to Section 13(a) or 15(d) of the Exchange Act (and, where applicable, each filing of an employee benefit plan's annual report pursuant to Section 15(d) of the Exchange Act) that is incorporated by reference in the registration statement shall be deemed to be a new registration statement relating to the securities offering therein, and the offering of such securities at that time shall be deemed to be the initial bona fide offering thereof.

(c) The undersigned registrant hereby undertakes that:

(i) For purposes of determining any liability under the Securities Act, the information omitted from the form of prospectus filed as part of the registration statement in reliance upon Rule 430A and contained in the form of prospectus filed by the registrant pursuant to Rule 424(b)(1) or (4) or 497(h) under the Securities Act shall be deemed to be part of the registration statement as of the time it was declared effective.

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

(e) The undersigned registrant hereby undertakes that

(i) for purposes of determining any liability under the Securities Act, (i) the information omitted from the form of prospectus filed as part of this registration statement in reliance upon Rule 430A and contained in a form of prospectus filed by the registrant pursuant to Rule 424(b) (1) or (4) or 497(h) under the Securities Act, shall be deemed to be part of this registration statement as of the time it was declared effective, and

(ii) for the purpose of determining any liability under the Securities Act, each post-effective amendment that contains a form of prospectus shall be deemed to be a new registration statement relating to the securities offered therein, and the offering of such securities at that time shall be deemed to be the initial bona fide offering thereof.

(f) The undersigned registrant hereby undertakes to file an application for the purpose of determining the eligibility of the trustee to act under subsection (a) of Section 310 of the Trust Indenture Act of 1939 (the "TIA") in accordance with the rules and regulations prescribed by the Securities and Exchange Commission under Section 305(b)(2) of the TIA.

SIGNATURES

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Act, the Registrant certifies that it has reasonable grounds to believe that it meets all of the requirements for filing on Form S-3 and has duly caused this registration statement to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned, thereunto duly authorized, in Alpharetta, Georgia on October 20, 2017.

ALIMERA
SCIENCES, INC.

By: /s/ C.
Daniel
Myers
C. Daniel
Myers
Chief
Executive
Officer

KNOW ALL MEN BY THESE PRESENTS, that each person whose signature appears below constitutes and appoints C. Daniel Myers, Jeffrey Burris and Richard S. Eiswirth, Jr. and each of them singly, his true and lawful attorney-in-fact and agent, with full power to act separately and full power of substitution and resubstitution, for him and in his name, place and stead, in any and all capacities, to sign any and all amendments (including post-effective amendments) to this registration statement and all additional registration statements pursuant to Rule 462(b) of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, and to file the same, with all exhibits thereto, and all other documents in connection therewith, with the Securities and Exchange Commission, granting unto said attorney-in-fact and agent full power and authority to do and perform each and every act in person, hereby ratifying and confirming all that said attorney-in-fact and agent or his substitute may lawfully do or cause to be done by virtue hereof.

This Power of Attorney shall not revoke any powers of attorney previously executed by the undersigned. This Power of Attorney shall not be revoked by any subsequent power of attorney that the undersigned may execute, unless such subsequent power of attorney specifically provides that it revokes this Power of Attorney by referring to the date of the undersigned's execution of this Power of Attorney. For the avoidance of doubt, whenever two or more powers of attorney granting the powers specified herein are valid, the agents appointed on each shall act separately unless otherwise specified.

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

Signature	Title	Date
/s/ C. Daniel Myers C. Daniel Myers	Chief Executive Officer and Director (Principal Executive Officer)	October 20, 2017
/s/ Richard S. Eiswirth, Jr. Richard S. Eiswirth, Jr.	President and Chief Financial Officer (Principal Financial Officer and Principal Accounting Officer)	October 20, 2017
/s/ James R. Largent. James R. Largent	Chairman of the Board of Directors	October 20, 2017
/s/ Glen Bradley, Ph.D. Glen Bradley, Ph.D.	Director	October 20, 2017

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/s/ Mark J. Brooks	Director	October 20, 2017
Mark J. Brooks		
/s/ Brian K. Halak, Ph.D.	Director	October 20, 2017
Brian K. Halak, Ph.D.		
/s/ Garheng Kong, M.D., Ph.D.	Director	October 20, 2017
Garheng Kong, M.D., Ph.D.		
/s/ Peter J. Pizzo, III	Director	October 20, 2017
Peter J. Pizzo, III		
/s/ Calvin W. Roberts, M.D.	Director	October 20, 2017
Calvin W. Roberts, M.D.		

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EXHIBIT INDEX

Exhibit Description

- 1.1** Form of Underwriting Agreement
- 1.2 Sales Agreement dated as of October 20, 2017, between the Registrant and H.C. Wainwright & Co., LLC (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.1 to the Registrant's Current Report on Form 8-K, filed with the SEC on October 20, 2017).
- 3.1 Restated Certificate of Incorporation of Registrant, as amended on various dates (filed as Exhibit 3.2 to Amendment No. 4 to the Registrant's Registration Statement on Form S-1 (SEC File No. 333-162782), as filed on April 6, 2010, and incorporated herein by reference)
- 3.2 Amended and Restated Bylaws of the Registrant, as amended (filed as Exhibit 3.1 to the Registrant's Current Report on Form 8-K, as filed on November 5, 2015 and incorporated herein by reference)
- 3.3 Certificate of Designation of Series A Convertible Preferred Stock, thereto (filed as Exhibit 3.5 to the Registrant's Current Report on Form 8-K, as filed on October 2, 2010, and incorporated herein by reference)
- 3.4 Certificate of Designation of Preferences, Rights and Limitations of Series B Convertible Preferred Stock (filed as Exhibit 3.6 to the Registrant's Current Report on Form 8-K, as filed on December 15, 2014 and incorporated herein by reference)
- 3.5 Certificate of Amendment to the Restated Certificate of Incorporation of the Registrant (filed as Exhibit 3.5 to the Registrant's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2016, as filed on March 3, 2017 and incorporated herein by reference)
- 4.2 Form of Registrant's Common Stock Certificate (filed as Exhibit 4.2 to Amendment No. 4 to the Registrant's Registration Statement on Form S-1 (SEC File No. 333-162782), as filed on April 6, 2010, and incorporated herein by reference)
- 4.3 Second Amended and Restated Investor Rights Agreement, dated March 17, 2008, by and among the Registrant, certain stockholders and the investors listed on the signature pages thereto (filed as Exhibit 4.3 to Amendment No. 1 to the Registrant's Registration Statement on Form S-1 (SEC File No. 333-162782), as filed on December 23, 2009, and incorporated herein by reference)
- 4.5 Omnibus Amendment, dated October 25, 2009, by and among the Registrant, certain stockholders and the investors listed on the signature pages thereto (filed as Exhibit 4.5 to Amendment No. 1 to the Registrant's Registration Statement on Form S-1 (SEC File No. 333-162782), as filed on December 23, 2009, and incorporated herein by reference)
- 4.6* Form of Senior Indenture
- 4.7** Certificate of designation of Preferred Stock
- 4.8** Form of Warrant
- 4.9* Form of Subordinated Indenture

5.1* Opinion of Gunderson Dettmer Stough Villeneuve Franklin & Hachigian LLP

12.1** Computation of Ratios of Earnings to Fixed Charges and Preference Dividends

23.1* Consent of Gunderson Dettmer Stough Villeneuve Franklin & Hachigian, LLP (included in Exhibit 5.1)

23.2* Consent of Grant Thornton, LLP

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24.1* Power of Attorney (included on the signature page of this registration statement)

25.1** Statement of Eligibility under the Trust Indenture Act of 1930, as amended, of the Trustee, as Trustee under the Indenture

* Filed herewith.

To be filed, if necessary, subsequent to the effectiveness of this registration statement by an amendment to this
** registration statement or incorporated by reference pursuant to a Current Report on Form 8-K in connection with an offering of securities.

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