Pacira Pharmaceuticals, Inc.
Form 10-K
February 25, 2014
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UNITED STATES
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
Washington, D.C. 20549

FORM 10-K

(Mark One)

x ANNUAL REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934

For the Fiscal Year Ended: December 31, 2013

Or

.. TRANSITION REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934

For the transition period from to

Commission File Number: 001-35060

PACIRA PHARMACEUTICALS, INC.
(Exact Name of Registrant as Specified in its Charter)

Delaware	51-0619477
(State or Other Jurisdiction of Incorporation or Organization)	(I.R.S. Employer Identification No.)

5 Sylvan Way, Suite 100
Parsippany, New Jersey 07054
(Address of Principal Executive Offices) (Zip Code)

Registrant's Telephone Number, Including Area Code (973) 254-3560
Securities registered pursuant to Section 12(b) of the Act:

Title of each class	Name of each exchange on which registered
Common Stock, $0.001 par value	The NASDAQ Global Select Market

Securities registered pursuant to Section 12(g) of the Act: None
Indicate by check mark if the registrant is a well-known seasoned issuer, as defined in Rule 405 of the Securities Act. Yes o No x
Indicate by check mark if the registrant is not required to file reports pursuant to Section 13 or Section 15(d) of the Act. Yes o No x
Indicate by check mark whether the registrant (1) has filed all reports required to be filed by Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 during the preceding 12 months (or for such shorter period that the registrant was required to file such reports), and (2) has been subject to such filing requirements for the past 90 days. Yes x No o
Indicate by check mark whether the registrant has submitted electronically and posted on its corporate Web site, if any, every Interactive Data File required to be submitted and posted pursuant to Rule 405 of Regulation S-T (§232.405 of this chapter) during the preceding 12 months (or for such shorter period that the registrant was required to submit and post such files). Yes x No o

Indicate by check mark if disclosure of delinquent filers pursuant to Item 405 of Regulation S-K (§229.405) is not contained herein, and will not be contained, to the best of registrant's knowledge, in definitive proxy or information statements incorporated by reference in Part III of this Form 10-K or any amendment to this Form 10-K. x

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

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

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a shell company (as defined in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act). Yes o No x

The aggregate market value of 20,909,360 shares of voting stock held by non-affiliates of the registrant, based upon the closing sale price of the common stock as reported on the NASDAQ on June 28, 2013, the last business day of the registrant's most recently completed second fiscal quarter, of $29.00 per share was $606,371,440. Shares of common stock held by each director and executive officer (and their respective affiliates) and by each person who owns 10 percent or more of the outstanding common stock or who is otherwise believed by the registrant to be in a control position have been excluded. This determination of affiliate status is not necessarily a conclusive determination for other purposes.

As of February 14, 2014, 33,714,015 shares of the registrant's common stock, $0.001 par value per share, were outstanding.

DOCUMENTS INCORPORATED BY REFERENCE

Part III of this Annual Report on Form 10-K incorporates certain information by reference from the registrant's proxy statement for the 2014 annual meeting of stockholders to be filed no later than 120 days after the end of the registrant's fiscal year ended December 31, 2013.

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Forward-Looking Statements

This Annual Report on Form 10-K and certain other communications made by us contains forward-looking statements within the meaning of Section 21E of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (the “Exchange Act”), including statements about our growth and future operating results, discovery and development of products, strategic alliances and intellectual property. For this purpose, any statement that is not a statement of historical fact should be considered a forward-looking statement. We often use the words “believe,” “anticipate,” “plan,” “expect,” “intend,” “may,” and similar expressions to help identify forward-looking statements. We cannot assure you that our estimates, assumptions and expectations will prove to have been correct. These forward-looking statements include, among others, statements about: the success of our sales and manufacturing efforts in support of the commercialization of EXPAREL; the rate and degree of market acceptance of EXPAREL; the size and growth of the potential markets for EXPAREL and our ability to serve those markets; the Company’s plans to expand the indications of EXPAREL, including nerve block and the related timing and success of a supplemental U.S. Food and Drug Administration New Drug Application; the Company’s plans to evaluate and pursue additional DepoFoam-based product candidates; clinical studies in support of an existing or potential DepoFoam based product; the Company’s plans to continue to manufacture and provide support services for its commercial partners who have licensed DepoCyt(e); and our commercialization and marketing capabilities. Important factors could cause our actual results to differ materially from those indicated or implied by forward-looking statements, including those discussed below in Part I-Item 1A. Risk Factors. We undertake no intention or obligation to update or revise any forward-looking statements, whether as a result of new information, future events or otherwise and readers should not rely on the forward-looking statements as representing the

Company’s views as of any date subsequent to the date of the filing of this Annual Report on Form 10-K.
These forward-looking statements involve known and unknown risks, uncertainties and other factors that may cause our actual results, levels of activity, performance, or achievements to differ materially from those expressed or implied by these statements. These factors include the matters discussed and referenced in Part I-Item 1A. Risk Factors.

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PART I

Item 1. Business

References

Pacira Pharmaceuticals, Inc. is the holding company for our California operating subsidiary of the same name, which we refer to as PPI-California. In March 2007, we acquired PPI-California from SkyePharma Holding, Inc. (referred to in this Annual Report on Form 10-K as the "Acquisition"). Unless the context requires otherwise, references to "Pacira," "we," the "company," "us" and "our" in this Annual Report on Form 10-K refers to Pacira Pharmaceuticals, Inc., and its subsidiaries. In addition, references in this Annual Report on Form 10-K to DepoCyt(e) mean DepoCyt when discussed in the context of the United States and Canada and DepoCyte when discussed in the context of Europe.

Corporate Information

We were incorporated in Delaware under the name Blue Acquisition Corp. in December 2006 and changed our name to Pacira, Inc. in June 2007. In October 2010, we changed our name to Pacira Pharmaceuticals, Inc. Our principal executive offices are located at 5 Sylvan Way, Suite 100, Parsippany, New Jersey 07054, and our telephone number is (973) 254-3560.

Pacira®, DepoFoam®, DepoCyt® (U.S. registration), DepoCyte® (EU registration), EXPAREL®, the Pacira logo and other trademarks or service marks of Pacira appearing in this Annual Report on Form 10-K are the property of Pacira. This Annual Report on Form 10-K contains additional trade names, trademarks and service marks of other companies.

Overview

We are a specialty pharmaceutical company focused on the development, commercialization and manufacture of pharmaceutical products, based on our proprietary DepoFoam® drug delivery technology, for use primarily in hospitals and ambulatory surgery centers. We operate in one reportable segment. On October 28, 2011, the United States Food and Drug Administration, or FDA, approved our New Drug Application, or NDA, for our lead product candidate, EXPAREL®, a liposome injection of bupivacaine, an amide-type local anesthetic indicated for infiltration into the surgical site to produce postsurgical analgesia for up to 72 hours. We believe EXPAREL addresses a significant unmet medical need for a long-acting non-opioid postsurgical analgesic, resulting in simplified postsurgical pain management and reduced opioid consumption, leading to improved patient outcomes and enhanced hospital economics. We have developed an internal sales force entirely dedicated to commercializing EXPAREL, which we commercially launched in April 2012. In addition, following a pilot program, effective October 1, 2013, we appointed CrossLink BioScience, LLC, or CrossLink, for a term of five years as the exclusive third-party distributor to promote and sell EXPAREL for orthopedic and spine surgeries in the United States, with the exception of certain geographical areas and accounts subject to change and adjustments by mutual agreement.

Our net sales for EXPAREL in 2013 were $76.2 million, and our net sales for EXPAREL in our fiscal quarter ended December 31, 2013, which was the seventh quarter of our launch, were $30.5 million. A total of 2,106 accounts have ordered EXPAREL since launch through December 31, 2013, with approximately 250 accounts having ordered more than $100,000 of EXPAREL by the end of 2013. During the fourth quarter of 2013, we added 374 new accounts, averaging 29 new accounts per week. We believe EXPAREL will ultimately become a major hospital pharmaceutical brand.

In addition to EXPAREL, DepoFoam is also the basis for our other FDA-approved commercial product, DepoCyt(e), which we manufacture for our commercial partners, as well as our other product candidates. For the years ended December 31, 2013, 2012 and 2011 sales of EXPAREL accounted for 89%, 37% and 0% of total revenues and Depocyt(e) 10%, 15% and 66%, respectively.

Our current product portfolio and product candidate pipeline is summarized in the table below:

Product(s)/Product Candidate(s)	Primary Indication(s)	Status	Commercialization Rights
EXPAREL	Postsurgical analgesia by infiltration	Marketed in U.S.	Pacira (worldwide)
	Postsurgical analgesia-nerve block	Phase 3	Pacira (worldwide)
		Filed INAD	

Bupivacaine Liposome Injectable Suspension	Veterinary postsurgical analgesia	Aratana Therapeutics, Inc. (worldwide)

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Product(s)/Product Candidate(s)	Primary Indication(s)	Status	Commercialization Rights
DepoCyt(e)	Lymphomatous meningitis	Marketed in U.S.	Sigma-Tau Pharmaceuticals
		Marketed in E.U.	Mundipharma International
DepoNSAID	Acute pain	Preclinical	Pacira (worldwide)
DepoMethotrexate	Oncology	Preclinical	Pacira (worldwide)

Our Strategy

Our goal is to be a leading specialty pharmaceutical company focused on the development, commercialization and manufacture of proprietary pharmaceutical products principally for use in hospitals and ambulatory surgery centers. We plan to achieve this by:

- commercializing EXPAREL in the United States for postsurgical analgesia by infiltration;
- building a streamlined commercial organization concentrating on major hospitals and ambulatory surgery centers in the United States and targeting surgeons, anesthesiologists, pharmacists and nurses;
- demonstrating the economic benefits of EXPAREL, working directly with managed care payers, quality improvement organizations, Key Opinion Leaders, or KOLs, in the field of postsurgical pain management and leading influence hospitals in conducting Phase 4 retrospective and prospective trials and drug utilization evaluations;
- servicing the commercial audiences that are rapidly adopting EXPAREL in local infiltration procedures, including not only the soft tissue surgical audiences that were the focus of the launch, but more recently expanding our education to audiences including the orthopedic, spine, and anesthesia (infiltration into the transverse abdominus plane—iTAP) who require similar education and training to ensure consistent, proper and safe use of the product;
- obtaining FDA approval for nerve block indication for EXPAREL;
- leveraging the development success of EXPAREL in the animal health market through our commercial partner for Bupivacaine Liposome Injectable Suspension to serve the companion animal market;
- manufacturing all our DepoFoam-based products, including EXPAREL, in facilities compliant with current Good Manufacturing Practices, or cGMP;
- continuing to expand our marketed product portfolio through development of additional DepoFoam-based hospital products utilizing a 505(b)(2) strategy, which permits us to rely upon the FDA's previous findings of safety and effectiveness for an approved product. A 505(b)(2) strategy may not succeed if there are successful challenges to the FDA's interpretation of Section 505(b)(2); and
- continuing research and development partnerships to provide DepoFoam-based products to enhance the duration of action and patient compliance for partner products.

EXPAREL-Our Lead Product

Based on our clinical data, EXPAREL provides continuous and extended postsurgical analgesia for up to 72 hours and reduces the consumption of opioid medications. We believe EXPAREL will simplify postsurgical pain management, minimize breakthrough episodes of pain and has the potential to result in improved patient outcomes and enhanced hospital economics.

Our EXPAREL strategy has several principal elements:

1) Replace the use of bupivacaine via elastomeric pumps as the foundation of a multimodal regimen for long-acting postsurgical pain management. Based on our clinical data, EXPAREL:

- extends postsurgical analgesia for up to 72 hours, from approximately eight hours or less;

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- utilizes existing postsurgical infiltration administration techniques;
- dilutes easily with saline to reach desired volume;
- is a ready-to-use formulation; and
- facilitates treatment of both small and large surgical sites.

2) Become the foundation of a long- acting postsurgical pain management regimen in order to reduce and delay opioid usage. Based on the clinical data from our Phase 3 hemorrhoidectomy trial as well as our retrospective health outcomes studies data, EXPAREL:

- significantly delays and reduces opioid usage while improving postsurgical pain management;
- delays first opioid usage to approximately 14 hours post-surgery, compared to approximately one hour for placebo;
- significantly increases the percentage of patients requiring no opioid rescue medication through 72 hours post-surgery, to 28% compared to 10% for placebo;
- results in 45% less opioid usage at 72 hours post-surgery compared to placebo; and
- increases the percentage of patients who are pain free at 24 hours post-surgery compared to placebo.

3) Improve patient satisfaction and outcomes. We believe EXPAREL:

- provides effective pain control without the need for expensive and difficult-to-use delivery technologies that extend the duration of action for bupivacaine, such as elastomeric bags, or opioids administered through patient-controlled analgesia, or PCA, when considered as part of a multimodal postsurgical pain regimen;
- reduces the need for patients to be constrained by elastomeric bags and PCA systems, which are clumsy, difficult to use and may introduce catheter-related issues, including infection;
- promotes maintenance of early postsurgical pain management, which may reduce the time spent in the intensive care unit; and

4) Develop and seek approval of additional indications for EXPAREL, including for nerve block administration. We believe the nerve block indication for EXPAREL:

- presents a low-cost opportunity for clinical development; and
- enables us to fully leverage our manufacturing and sales infrastructure.

EXPAREL Health Economic Benefits

In addition to being efficacious and safe, we believe that EXPAREL provides health economic benefits that play an important role in formulary decision-making and that these health economic benefits are an often over-looked factor in planning for the commercial success of a pharmaceutical product. Several members of our management team have extensive experience applying health economic outcomes research to support the launch of successful commercial products. Our strategy is to work directly with our hospital C-suite customers, group purchasing organizations, integrated health networks, quality improvement organizations, KOLs in the field of postsurgical pain management and leading influence hospitals and to provide them with retrospective and prospective studies to demonstrate the economic benefits of EXPAREL.

Our national, regional, and local analyses assessing retrospective health outcomes, conducted in conjunction with hospital customer groups utilizing their own hospital databases, revealed that the use of opioids for postsurgical pain control is a significant driver of hospital resource consumption, including higher hospitalization costs, longer length of stay, and higher readmission rates.

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Phase 4 Clinical Studies

We recently completed our IMPROVE program, a series of open-label prospective Phase 4 clinical studies evaluating the differences in postsurgical opioid use and health economic outcomes in patients undergoing open colectomy, ileostomy reversal, and lap colectomy. Findings consistently showed reduction in median length of hospital stay, mean hospitalization costs, and mean opioid consumption.

Additionally, we conducted a Phase 4 study (the "TRANSCEND" trial) in patients undergoing gynecologic or colorectal surgery. Prior to surgery, patients received either EXPAREL or sham (normal saline) iTAP as part of a multimodal pain regimen. The study goal was to demonstrate the utility of EXPAREL by achieving either co-primary endpoint of Day 3 Overall Benefit of Analgesia Score (OBAS) or total opioid rescue. A pre-planned interim analysis was performed on the first 39 patients recruited, which revealed a signal in one of the co-primary endpoints (OBAS), but poor compliance with the algorithm for total opioid rescue in the protocol and no signal for that co-primary endpoint. As a result, the decision was made not to continue the trial, but rather to analyze all of the patients recruited up to that point (n=67). In this analysis, the total opioid rescue continued to show no signal (with only 35 percent of patients protocol compliant), while the OBAS demonstrated an advantage for EXPAREL ($P<0.05$) compared to the sham-treated group.

EXPAREL Regulatory Plan

The NDA for EXPAREL was approved on October 28, 2011, using a 505(b)(2) application. The initial FDA approval of EXPAREL is for single-dose infiltration into the surgical site to produce postsurgical analgesia.

EXPAREL consists of bupivacaine encapsulated in DepoFoam, both of which are used in FDA-approved products:

- Bupivacaine, a well-characterized generic anesthetic/analgesic, has an established safety profile and over 20 years of use in the United States.

- DepoFoam, modified to meet the requirements of each product, is used to extend the release of the active drug substances in the products DepoCyt(e) and the no-longer marketed DepoDur.

The FDA, as a condition of EXPAREL approval, has required us to study EXPAREL in pediatric patients. We have agreed to a trial timeline where, over several years, we will study pediatric patient populations in descending order starting with 12 to 18 year olds and ending with children under two years of age.

Additional Indications

We are pursuing several additional indications for EXPAREL and expect to submit a supplemental U.S. Food and Drug Administration New Drug Application, or sNDA, for nerve block administration. We believe that this additional indication for EXPAREL presents a low-cost opportunity for clinical development and will allow us to fully leverage our manufacturing and commercial infrastructure.

Nerve block is a general term used to refer to the injection of local anesthetic onto or near nerves for control of pain. Nerve blocks can be single injections but have limited duration of action. When extended pain management is required, a catheter is used to deliver bupivacaine continuously using an external pump. According to Thomson Data, over eight million nerve block procedures were conducted in the United States in 2008, with over four million of these procedures utilizing bupivacaine. EXPAREL is designed to provide extended pain management with a single injection utilizing a narrow gauge needle.

In 2012, we initiated two pivotal nerve block trials comparing the effect of EXPAREL versus placebo through a femoral nerve block study for total knee arthroplasty and an intercostal block study for posterolateral thoracotomy procedures. In May 2013, we reported positive findings from the first part of our femoral nerve block study for total knee arthroplasty; the final part of this study is still ongoing. In August 2013, we reported that the intercostal nerve block study for posterolateral thoracotomy did not achieve its primary endpoint. The FDA has previously indicated to us at its end of Phase 2 meeting that a single pivotal trial meeting its primary endpoint would be sufficient to gain approval for the nerve block indication, assuming demonstration of adequate safety. We plan to submit data from the ongoing femoral nerve block study to demonstrate efficacy and safety, as well as safety data from the intercostal nerve block study, for an sNDA, anticipated in early 2014. We believe that this new indication will present an alternative long-term method of pain control with a single injection, replacing the costly and cumbersome standard of care

requiring a perineural catheter, drug reservoir and pump needed to continuously deliver bupivacaine.

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Sales and Marketing

We have built our marketing and sales organization to commercialize EXPAREL and our product candidates in the United States. We intend to out-license commercialization rights for other territories. Our goal is to retain significant control over the development process and commercial execution for our product candidates, while participating in a meaningful way in the economics of all products that we bring to the market.

Our commercial team, consisting of both sales representatives and scientific and medical affairs professionals, executes on a full range of activities for EXPAREL, including:

- providing publications and abstracts showing the EXPAREL clinical program efficacy and safety, health outcomes program and review articles on pain management;

- working in tandem with hospital staff, such as registered nurses, surgeons, heads of quality, pharmacists and C-level executives, to provide access and resources for drug utilization (DUE) or medication use evaluations (MUE), and Health Outcomes Studies, which provide retrospective and prospective analyses for our hospital customers using their own hospital data to demonstrate the true cost of opioid-based postsurgical pain control;

- working with KOLs and advisory boards to address topics of best practice techniques as well as guidelines and protocols for the use of EXPAREL, meeting the educational and training needs of our physician, surgeon, anesthesiologist, pharmacist and registered nurse customers; and

- undertaking education initiatives such as center of excellence programs, preceptorship programs, pain protocols and predictive models for enhanced patient care, interactive discussion forums, web-based training and virtual launch programs.

Initially at launch, we outsourced our dedicated commercial sales force through our relationship with Quintiles Commercial US, Inc., or Quintiles. On January 28, 2013, this sales force transitioned from Quintiles employees to Pacira employees. They are supported by our current marketing team as well as teams of healthcare professionals, including medical affairs, scientific affairs and nursing teams, who support our formulary approval and customer education initiatives. Additionally, on October 1, 2013, we entered into an agreement with CrossLink to act as a local agent and lead partner in collaboration with additional distributors to promote and sell EXPAREL in select territories in the United States for postsurgical pain management following orthopedic and spine procedures.

In order to increase the speed with which we address market segments, or to increase our access to market segments that we are currently not addressing, we may expand our sales resources in the future directly or by developing additional relationships with third parties that agree to sell our product.

The primary target audience for EXPAREL is healthcare practitioners who influence pain management decisions, including surgeons, anesthesiologists, pharmacists and nurses.

DepoFoam-Our Proprietary Drug Delivery Technology

Our current product development activities utilize our proprietary DepoFoam drug delivery technology. DepoFoam consists of microscopic spherical particles composed of a honeycomb-like structure of numerous internal aqueous chambers containing an active drug ingredient. Each chamber is separated from adjacent chambers by lipid membranes. Following injection, the DepoFoam particles release drug over an extended period of time by erosion and/or reorganization of the particles' lipid membranes. Release rates are determined by the choice and relative amounts of lipids in the formulation.

We believe DepoFoam formulation provides several technical, regulatory and commercial advantages over competitive technologies, including:

- Convenience. Our DepoFoam products are ready to use and do not require reconstitution or mixing with another solution, and can be used with patient-friendly narrow gauge needles and pen systems;

- Multiple regulatory precedents. Our current and past DepoFoam products, including DepoCyt(e) and DepoDur, have been approved in the United States and Europe, making regulatory authorities familiar with our DepoFoam

technology;

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- Extensive safety history. Our DepoFoam products have over ten years of safety data as DepoCyt(e) has been sold in the United States since 1999;

- Proven manufacturing capabilities. We make the DepoFoam-based products, EXPAREL and DepoCyt(e) in our cGMP facilities;

- Flexible time release. Encapsulated drug releases over a desired period of time, from 1 to 30 days;

- Favorable pharmacokinetics. Decrease in adverse events associated with high peak blood levels, thereby improving the utility of the product;

- Shortened development timeline. Does not alter the native molecule, potentially enabling the filing of a 505(b)(2) application; and

- Aseptic manufacturing and filling. Enables use with proteins, peptides, nucleic acids, vaccines and small molecules.

Other Products

DepoCyt(e)

DepoCyt(e) is a sustained-release liposomal formulation of the chemotherapeutic agent cytarabine utilizing our DepoFoam technology. DepoCyt(e) is indicated for the intrathecal treatment of lymphomatous meningitis, a life-threatening complication of lymphoma, a cancer of the immune system. Lymphomatous meningitis can be controlled with conventional cytarabine, but because of the drug's short half-life, a spinal injection is required twice per week, whereas DepoCyt(e) is dosed once every two weeks in an outpatient setting. DepoCyt(e) was granted accelerated approval by the FDA in 1999 and full approval in 2007. We recognized revenue from DepoCyt(e) of $8.4 million from our commercial partners in 2013.

Product Candidates

DepoNSAID

Our preclinical product candidates, extended release formulations of NSAIDs, are designed to provide the benefits of injectable NSAIDs with a prolonged duration of action in order to improve patient care and ease of use in the acute pain environment. Currently available injectable systemic products provide a four to six hour duration of action. We believe that there is an unmet medical need for a product which could provide a local infiltration since the mode of action for NSAIDs is by local activity. A product developed for local infiltration should provide pain relief with a much lower dose of NSAID and potentially avoid the side effects commonly associated with the systemic use of these agents. We have DepoFoam formulations for several NSAIDs, and we expect to select a lead product candidate in 2014.

Commercial Partners and Agreements

SkyePharma Holdings, Inc.

In connection with the stock purchase agreement related to the Acquisition, we agreed to pay SkyePharma Holdings, Inc., or Skyepharma, specified contingent milestone payments related to EXPAREL sales as set forth below:

(i)$10.0 million upon first commercial sale in the United States;
(ii)$4.0 million upon first commercial sale in a major EU country (United Kingdom, France, Germany, Italy and Spain);
(iii)$8.0 million when annual net sales collected reach $100.0 million;
(iv)$8.0 million when annual net sales collected reach $250.0 million; and
(v)$32.0 million when annual net sales collected reach $500.0 million.

The first contingency was resolved in April 2012, resulting in a $10.0 million payment to Skyepharma. Additionally, we agreed to pay to Skyepharma 3% of net sales of EXPAREL collected in the United States, Japan, the United Kingdom, France, Germany, Italy and Spain. Such obligations to make percentage payments will continue for

the term in which such sales related to EXPAREL are covered by a valid claim in certain patent rights related to EXPAREL and other

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biologics products. The expiration date of the last valid claim will occur in 2018. Cumulatively through December 31, 2013, Skyepharma has earned $2.4 million of percentage payments on net sales of EXPAREL collected. We have the right to cease paying the 3% percentage payments in the event that Skyepharma breaches certain covenants not to compete contained in the stock purchase agreement. In the event that we cease to sell EXPAREL and begin marketing a similar replacement product for EXPAREL, we would no longer be obligated to make percentage payments, but we may be required to make certain milestone payments upon reaching certain sales milestones.

For additional information related to the Skyepharma agreement, please refer to Note 6, Goodwill and Intangible Assets, in the Consolidated Financial Statements.

Research Development Foundation

Pursuant to an agreement with one of our stockholders, the Research Development Foundation, or RDF, we are required to pay RDF a low single-digit royalty on the collection of revenues from our DepoFoam-based products, for as long as certain patents assigned to us under the agreement remain valid. RDF has the right to terminate the agreement for an uncured material breach by us, in connection with our bankruptcy or insolvency or if we directly or indirectly oppose or dispute the validity of the assigned patent rights.

Sigma-Tau Pharmaceuticals, Inc.

In December 2002, we entered into a supply and distribution agreement with Enzon Pharmaceuticals Inc. regarding the sale of DepoCyt. Pursuant to the agreement, Enzon was appointed the exclusive distributor of DepoCyt in the United States and Canada for a ten-year term. In January 2010, Sigma-Tau Pharmaceuticals, Inc., or Sigma-Tau, acquired the rights to sell DepoCyt from Enzon Pharmaceuticals for the United States and Canada. Under the supply and distribution agreement, we supply unlabeled DepoCyt vials to Sigma-Tau for finished packaging. Under these agreements, we receive a fixed payment for manufacturing the vials of DepoCyt and an additional royalty payment, if Sigma-Tau's quarterly net sales exceed a certain amount, which brings total payments in the thirty percent range on sales by Sigma-Tau in the United States and Canada.

We and Sigma-Tau have the right to terminate the agreement for an uncured material breach by the other party or in the event that a generic pharmaceutical product that is therapeutically equivalent to DepoCyt is commercialized. We may terminate the agreement if certain minimum sales targets are not met by Sigma-Tau. Sigma-Tau may terminate the agreement if, as a result of a settlement or a final court or regulatory action, the manufacture, use or sale of DepoCyt in the United States is prohibited.

Mundipharma International Holdings Limited

In June 2003, we entered into an agreement granting Mundipharma International Holdings Limited, or Mundipharma, exclusive marketing and distribution rights to DepoCyte in the European Union and certain other European countries. This agreement has a term of 15 years, and after that term expires, continues year to year unless terminated by us or by Mundipharma upon no less than 12 months written notice.

Under the agreement, as amended, and a separate supply agreement, we receive a fixed payment for manufacturing the vials of DepoCyte, as well as a royalty in addition to the fixed sum per vial supplied to Mundipharma, if Mundipharma's quarterly net sales exceed a certain amount, and a mid single-digit royalty on all annual sales exceeding a certain amount. We are also entitled to receive up to €10.0 million in milestone payments from Mundipharma upon the achievement by Mundipharma of certain milestone events, of which we have already received €2.5 million and we do not expect to receive the remaining €7.5 million.

We and Mundipharma have the right to terminate the agreement for an uncured material breach by the other party, in connection with the other party's bankruptcy or insolvency or the repossession of all or any material part of the other party's business or assets. Mundipharma has the right to terminate the agreement if its marketing authorization is cancelled or withdrawn for a certain period, or if it is prevented from selling DepoCyte in any three countries in the territory covered in the agreement by a final non-appealable judgment in respect of infringement by DepoCyte of any third party intellectual property rights.

Paul Capital Advisors LLC

On March 23, 2007, we entered into an amended and restated royalty interests assignment agreement with Paul Capital Advisors LLC, or Paul Capital, pursuant to which we assigned to Paul Capital the right to receive a portion of our

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royalty payments from DepoCyt(e) and DepoDur. The original agreement was entered into prior to the Acquisition by Skyepharma in order to monetize certain royalty payments from DepoCyt(e) and DepoDur. In connection with the Acquisition, the original agreement with Paul Capital was amended and restated and the responsibility to pay the royalty interest in product sales of DepoCyt(e) and DepoDur was transferred to us and we were required to make payments to Paul Capital upon the occurrence of certain events. For additional information, see "Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations-Liquidity and Capital Resources-Royalty Interests Assignment Agreement" and "Risk Factors-Risks Related to Our Financial Condition and Capital Requirements." Under our financing arrangement with Paul Capital, upon the occurrence of certain events, Paul Capital may require us to repurchase the right to receive royalty payments that we assigned to it, or may foreclose on certain assets that secure our obligations to Paul Capital. Any exercise by Paul Capital of its right to cause us to repurchase the assigned right or any foreclosure by Paul Capital would adversely affect our results of operations and our financial condition. This financing arrangement terminates on December 31, 2014.

Aratana Therapeutics, Inc.

On December 5, 2012 we entered into an Exclusive License, Development and Commercialization Agreement and related Supply Agreement with Aratana Therapeutics, Inc. or Aratana. Under the agreements, we granted Aratana an exclusive royalty-bearing license, including the limited right to grant sublicenses, for the development and commercialization of our bupivacaine liposome injectable suspension product for animal health indications. Under the agreement, Aratana will develop and seek approval for the use of the product in veterinary surgery to manage postsurgical pain, focusing initially on developing it for cats, dogs and other companion animals.

In connection with our entry into the agreement, we received a one-time payment of $1.0 million and are eligible to receive up to an additional aggregate $42.5 million upon the achievement of development and commercial milestones, of which we received $0.5 million in 2013. Once the product has been approved by the Food and Drug Administration for sale in the United States, Aratana will pay us a tiered double digit royalty on net sales made in the United States. If the product is approved by foreign regulatory agencies for sale outside of the United States, Aratana will pay us a tiered double digit royalty on such net sales. Royalty rates will be reduced by a certain percentage upon the entry of a generic competitor for animal health indications into a jurisdiction or if Aratana must pay royalties to third parties under certain circumstances.

Either party has the right to terminate the license agreement in connection with (i) an insolvency event involving the other party that is not discharged in a specified period of time, (ii) a material breach of the agreement by the other party that remains uncured for a specified cure period or (iii) the failure to achieve a minimum annual revenue as set forth in the agreement, all on specified notice. We may terminate the agreement in connection with (i) Aratana's failure to pay any amounts due under the agreement, (ii) Aratana's failure to achieve regulatory approval in a particular jurisdiction with respect to such jurisdiction or (iii) Aratana's failure to achieve its first commercial sale within a certain amount of time on a country by country basis after receiving regulatory approval, all on specified notice. Aratana may terminate the license agreement (i) upon the entry of a generic competitor for animal health indications on a country by country basis or (ii) at any time on a country by country basis except with respect to the United States and any country in the European Union, all on specified notice. The parties may also terminate the license agreement by mutual consent. The license agreement will terminate automatically if we terminate the supply agreement. In the event that the License Agreement is terminated, all rights to the product (on a jurisdiction by jurisdiction basis) will be terminated and returned to us.

Unless terminated earlier pursuant to its terms, the license agreement is effective until December 5, 2027, after which Aratana has the option to extend the agreement for an additional five (5) year term, subject to certain requirements.

CrossLink BioScience, LLC

Effective October 1, 2013, we and CrossLink commenced a five-year arrangement for the promotion and sale of EXPAREL, pursuant to the terms of a Master Distributor Agreement (as amended, the "Agreement"). We entered into the Agreement on March 11, 2013, which provided for an initial small-scale pilot period commencing on April 1, 2013 and ending on September 30, 2013 (the "Pilot Period"), during which CrossLink was appointed as the exclusive distributor of EXPAREL for certain specified accounts. The Agreement permitted either party to terminate the Agreement within 15 days prior to the expiration of the Pilot Period, and unless such termination was effected, the

Agreement would automatically renew for a term of five years, commencing on October 1, 2013 and ending on September 30, 2018 (the “Term”). Neither party provided notice of termination, and upon the commencement of the Term, certain performance metrics and payment terms became effective, and CrossLink’s distribution territory expanded.

Under the Agreement, we appointed CrossLink as the exclusive third-party distributor during the Term to promote and sell EXPAREL for orthopedic and spine surgeries in the United States, with the exception of certain geographical areas and

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accounts (the "Territory"). The prices and purchasing terms related to sales of EXPAREL are determined by us, and all orders are subject to acceptance or rejection by us. CrossLink is entitled to receive commissions on its sales of EXPAREL in the Territory, subject to certain conditions and adjustments. CrossLink may receive additional performance-based payments if it achieves certain sales goals, and we may terminate the Agreement if CrossLink fails to meet certain minimum performance metrics.

CrossLink and any sub-distributors engaged by CrossLink pursuant to the terms of the Agreement are subject to certain obligations and restrictions, including required compliance with certain laws and regulations, confidentiality obligations and our policies. The Agreement contains customary representations and warranties and mutual indemnification obligations. In addition, CrossLink and its sub-distributors are prohibited from promoting, selling or distributing any competitive products during the Term.

Pacira and CrossLink have mutual termination rights under the Agreement, and we have additional unilateral termination rights under certain circumstances. The Agreement also permits us to terminate the Agreement without cause effective September 30, 2016, subject to certain terms and conditions set forth in the Agreement.

Significant Customers

We had three customers each comprising 10% or more of our total revenue for the year ended December 31, 2013. AmerisourceBergen Health Corporation, Cardinal Health, Inc. and McKesson Drug Company accounted for 33%, 28%, and 18% of our revenues, respectively. These customers are wholesalers that process orders for EXPAREL under a drop-ship program.

Manufacturing

We manufacture EXPAREL and DepoCyt(e) in two manufacturing facilities that we refer to as the Science Center Campus in San Diego, California. These facilities are designated as Building 1 and Building 6 and are located within two miles of each other on two separate and distinct sites. Our facilities are inspected regularly and approved for pharmaceutical manufacturing by the FDA, the European Medicines Agency, or the EMA, the Medicines and Healthcare Products Regulatory Agency, or the MHRA, the Drug Enforcement Administration, or the DEA, and the Environmental Protection Agency, or the EPA.

We purchase raw materials and components from third party suppliers in order to manufacture EXPAREL. In most instances, alternative sources of supply are available, although switching to an alternative source would, in some instances, take time and could lead to delays in manufacturing our drug candidates. We also purchase raw materials and equipment from third party suppliers, for the manufacture of DepoCyt(e). While we have not experienced shortages of our raw materials in the past, such suppliers may not sell these raw materials to us at the times that we need them or on commercially reasonable terms and we do not have any control over the process or timing of the acquisition of these raw materials from our suppliers.

All manufacturing of products, initial product release and stability testing are conducted by us in accordance with cGMP.

Building 1 is an approximately 84,000 square foot concrete structure located on a five acre site. It was custom built as a pharmaceutical R&D and manufacturing facility in August 1995. Activities in this facility include the manufacture of EXPAREL bulk pharmaceutical product candidate in a dedicated production line and its fill/finish into vials, microbiological and quality control testing, product storage, development of analytical methods, research and development, the coordination of clinical and regulatory functions, and general administrative functions. To date, the bulk manufacturing of all EXPAREL product sold to the marketplace has occurred in a manufacturing line housed in what we refer to as Suite A. We are currently working to expand our manufacturing capacity and anticipate receiving FDA approval for our newly installed manufacturing line, referred to as Suite C, in the second quarter of 2014. Combined with Suite A, we expect Suite C to significantly increase our manufacturing capacity and ability to meet the growing demand for EXPAREL. We plan to further expand our manufacturing capacity either directly or through

third parties as demand for EXPAREL increases.

Building 6 is located in a 17-acre pharmaceutical industrial park. It is a two story concrete masonry structure built in 1977 that we and our predecessors have leased since August 1993. We occupy approximately 22,000 square feet of the first floor. Building 6 houses the current manufacturing process for DepoCyt(e), the fill/finish of DepoCyt(e) into vials, a pilot plant suite for new product development and early stage clinical product production, a microbiology laboratory and miscellaneous support and maintenance areas.

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Distribution of our DepoFoam products, including EXPAREL, requires cold-chain distribution, whereby a product must be maintained between specified temperatures. We have validated processes for continuous monitoring of temperature from manufacturing through delivery to the end-user. We and our partners utilize similar cold-chain processes for DepoCyt(e).

Intellectual Property and Exclusivity

We seek to protect our product candidates and our technology through a combination of patents, trade secrets, proprietary know-how, regulatory exclusivity and contractual restrictions on disclosure.

Patents and Patent Applications

We seek to protect the proprietary position of our product candidates by, among other methods, filing U.S. and foreign patent applications related to our proprietary technology, inventions and improvements that are important to the development of our business. As of December 31, 2013, there are over 14 families of patents and patent applications relating to various aspects of the DepoFoam delivery technology. Patents have been issued in numerous countries, with an emphasis on the North American, European and Japanese markets. These patents generally have a term of 20 years from the date of the nonprovisional filing unless referring to an earlier filed application. Some of our U.S. patents have a term from 17 years from the grant date. Our issued patents expire at various dates in the future, with the last currently issued patent expiring in 2019.

In regards to patents providing protection for EXPAREL, issued patents in the United States relating to the composition of the product candidate and methods for modifying the rate of drug release of the product candidate expire in September 2018 and January 2017, respectively. A patent relating to compositions including EXPAREL, but not EXPAREL specifically, expired in November 2013. Pending U.S. applications relating to the composition of the product candidate and the process for making the product candidate, if granted, would expire in September 2018 and November 2018, respectively. In Europe, granted patents related to the composition of the product candidate expire in November 2014 and September 2018. Pending applications in Europe relating to methods of modifying the rate of drug release of the product candidate and the process for making the product candidate, if granted, would expire in January 2018 and November 2018, respectively. In April 2010, a provisional patent was filed relating to a new process to manufacture EXPAREL and other DepoFoam-based products. The process offers many advantages to the current process, including larger scale production and lower manufacturing costs. In April 2011, we filed a non-provisional patent application which, if granted, could prevent others from using this process until 2031. Furthermore, a non-exclusively licensed patent of ours relating to EXPAREL was allowed in Europe with an expiration date in October 2021 and was extended in the United States until October 2023.

Trade Secrets and Proprietary Information

Trade secrets play an important role in protecting DepoFoam-based products and provide protection beyond patents and regulatory exclusivity. The scale-up and commercial manufacture of DepoFoam products involves processes, custom equipment and in-process and release analytical techniques that we believe are unique to us. The expertise and knowledge required to understand the critical aspects of DepoFoam manufacturing steps requires knowledge of both traditional and non-traditional emulsion processing and traditional pharmaceutical production, overlaid with all of the challenges presented by aseptic manufacturing. We seek to protect our proprietary information, including our trade secrets and proprietary know-how, by requiring our employees, consultants and other advisors to execute proprietary information and confidentiality agreements upon the commencement of their employment or engagement. These agreements generally provide that all confidential information developed or made known during the course of the relationship with us be kept confidential and not be disclosed to third parties except in specific circumstances. In the case of our employees, the agreements also typically provide that all inventions resulting from work performed for us, utilizing our property or relating to our business and conceived or completed during employment shall be our exclusive property to the extent permitted by law. Where appropriate, agreements we obtain with our consultants also typically contain similar assignment of invention obligations. Further, we require confidentiality agreements from third parties that receive our confidential data or materials.

Competition

The pharmaceutical and biotechnology industries are intensely competitive and subject to rapid and significant technological change. Our competitors include organizations such as major multinational pharmaceutical companies, established biotechnology companies, specialty pharmaceutical companies and generic drug companies. Many of our competitors have greater financial and other resources than we have, such as more commercial resources, larger research and development staffs and more extensive marketing and manufacturing organizations. As a result, these companies may obtain marketing approval more rapidly than we are able and may be more effective in selling and marketing their products. Smaller

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or early stage companies may also prove to be significant competitors, particularly through collaborative arrangements with large, established companies.

Our competitors may succeed in developing, acquiring or licensing on an exclusive basis technologies and drug products that are more effective or less costly than EXPAREL or any other products that we are currently selling through partners or developing or that we may develop, which could render our products obsolete and noncompetitive. We expect any products that we develop and commercialize to compete on the basis of, among other things, efficacy, safety, convenience of administration and delivery, price and the availability of reimbursement from government and other third-party payers. We also expect to face competition in our efforts to identify appropriate collaborators or partners to help commercialize our product candidates in our target commercial markets.

EXPAREL is competing with elastomeric pump/catheter devices intended to provide bupivacaine over several days. I-FLOW Corporation (acquired by Kimberly-Clark Corporation in 2009) has marketed these medical devices in the United States since 2004. In addition, we anticipate that EXPAREL will compete with currently marketed bupivacaine and opioid analgesics such as morphine.

Government Regulation

Federal Food, Drug and Cosmetic Act

Prescription drug products are subject to extensive pre- and post-market regulation by the FDA, including regulations that govern the testing, manufacturing, distribution, safety, efficacy, approval, labeling, storage, record keeping, reporting, advertising and promotion of such products under the Federal Food, Drug and Cosmetic Act, or FDCA, and its implementing regulations, and by comparable agencies and laws in foreign countries. Failure to comply with applicable FDA or other regulatory requirements may result in, among other things, warning letters, clinical holds, civil or criminal penalties, recall or seizure of products, injunction, debarment, partial or total suspension of production or withdrawal of the product from the market. The FDA must approve any new drug, including a new dosage form or new use of a previously approved drug, prior to marketing in the United States. All applications for FDA approval must contain, among other things, information relating to safety and efficacy, pharmaceutical formulation, stability, manufacturing, processing, packaging, labeling and quality control.

New Drug Applications

Generally, the FDA must approve any new drug before marketing of the drug occurs in the United States. This process generally involves:

- completion of preclinical laboratory and animal testing and formulation studies in compliance with the FDA's Good Laboratory Practice, or GLP, regulations;

- submission to the FDA of an IND application for human clinical testing, which must become effective before human clinical trials may begin in the United States;

- approval by an independent institutional review board, or IRB, at each clinical trial site before each trial may be initiated;

- performance of human clinical trials, including adequate and well-controlled clinical trials in accordance with good clinical practices, or GCP, to establish the safety and efficacy of the proposed drug product for each intended use;

- submission of an NDA to the FDA;

- satisfactory completion of an FDA pre-approval inspection of the product's manufacturing facility or facilities to assess compliance with the FDA's cGMP regulations, and to ensure that the facilities, methods and controls are adequate to preserve the drug's identity, quality and purity;

- satisfactory completion of an FDA advisory committee review, if applicable; and

- approval by the FDA of the NDA.

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The preclinical and clinical testing and approval process requires substantial time, effort and financial resources, and we cannot be certain that the FDA will grant approvals for any of our product candidates on a timely basis, if at all. Preclinical tests include laboratory evaluation of product chemistry, formulation and stability, as well as studies to evaluate toxicity in animals. The results of preclinical tests, together with manufacturing information, analytical data and a proposed clinical trial protocol and other information, are submitted as part of an IND application to the FDA. The IND automatically becomes effective 30 days after receipt by the FDA, unless the FDA, within the 30-day time period, places the trial on a clinical hold because of, among other things, concerns about the conduct of the clinical trial or about exposure of human research subjects to unreasonable health risks. In such a case, the IND sponsor and the FDA must resolve any outstanding concerns before the clinical trial can begin. Our submission of an IND may not result in FDA authorization to commence a clinical trial. In addition, the FDA requires to amend an existing IND for each successive clinical trial conducted during product development. Further, an independent institutional review board, or IRB, covering each medical center proposing to conduct the clinical trial must review and approve the plan for any clinical trial and informed consent information for subjects before the clinical trial commences at that center, and it must monitor the clinical trial until completed. The FDA, the IRB or the sponsor may suspend a clinical trial at any time, or from time to time, on various grounds, including a finding that the subjects or patients are being exposed to an unacceptable health risk.

Clinical trials involve the administration of the investigational new drug to human subjects under the supervision of qualified investigators in accordance with GCP requirements, which include the requirement that all research subjects provide their informed consent for their participation in any clinical trial. For purposes of an NDA submission and approval, typically, the conduct of human clinical trials occurs in the following three pre-market sequential phases, which may overlap:

- Phase 1: sponsors initially conduct clinical trials in a limited population to test the product candidate for safety, dose tolerance, absorption, metabolism, distribution and excretion in healthy humans or, on occasion, in patients, such as cancer patients.

- Phase 2: sponsors conduct clinical trials generally in a limited patient population to identify possible adverse effects and safety risks, to determine the efficacy of the product for specific targeted indications and to determine dose tolerance and optimal dosage. Sponsors may conduct multiple Phase 2 clinical trials to obtain information prior to beginning larger and more extensive Phase 3 clinical trials.

- Phase 3: these include expanded controlled and uncontrolled trials, including pivotal clinical trials. When Phase 2 evaluations suggest the effectiveness of a dose range of the product and acceptability of such product's safety profile, sponsors undertake Phase 3 clinical trials in larger patient populations to obtain additional information needed to evaluate the overall benefit and risk balance of the drug and to provide an adequate basis to develop labeling.

In addition, sponsors may elect to conduct, or be required by the FDA to conduct, post-approval clinical trials to further assess the drug's safety or effectiveness after NDA approval. Such post approval trials are typically referred to as Phase 4 clinical trials.

Sponsors submit the results of product development, preclinical studies and clinical trials to the FDA as part of an NDA. NDAs must also contain extensive information relating to the product's pharmacology, chemistry, manufacture, controls and proposed labeling, among other things. In addition, 505(b)(2) applications must contain a patent certification for each patent listed in FDA's "Orange Book" that covers the drug referenced in the application and upon which the third-party studies were conducted. For some drugs, the FDA may require risk evaluation and mitigation strategies, or REMS, which could include medication guides, physician communication plans, or restrictions on distribution and use, such as limitations on who may prescribe the drug or where it may be dispensed or administered. Upon receipt, the FDA has 60 days to determine whether the NDA is sufficiently complete to initiate a substantive review. If the FDA identifies deficiencies that would preclude substantive review, the FDA will refuse to accept the NDA and will inform the sponsor of the deficiencies that must be corrected prior to resubmission. If the FDA accepts the submission for substantive review, the FDA typically reviews the NDA in accordance with established

timeframes. Under PDUFA, the FDA agrees to specific goals for NDA review time through a two-tiered classification system, Priority Review and Standard Review. A Priority Review designation is given to drugs that offer major advances in treatment, or provide a treatment where no adequate therapy exists. For a Priority Review application, the FDA aims to complete the initial review cycle for New Molecular Entities , or NMEs, within six months of the 60 day filing date, and for Non-NMEs within six months of the date of receipt. Standard Review applies to all applications that are not eligible for Priority Review. The FDA aims to complete Standard Review NDAs for NMEs within ten-months of the 60 day filing date, and for Non-NMEs within ten months of the date of receipt. Review processes often extend significantly beyond anticipated completion dates due to FDA requests for additional information or clarification, difficulties scheduling an advisory committee meeting, negotiations regarding REMS, or FDA workload issues. The FDA may refer the application to an advisory committee

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for review, evaluation and recommendation as to the application's approval. The recommendations of an advisory committee do not bind the FDA, but the FDA generally follows such recommendations.

Under PDUFA, NDA applicants must pay significant NDA user fees upon submission. In addition, manufacturers of approved prescription drug products must pay annual establishment and product user fees.

Before approving an NDA, the FDA may inspect the facility or facilities where the product is manufactured. The FDA will not approve an application unless it determines that the manufacturing processes and facilities are in compliance with cGMP requirements and are adequate to ensure consistent production of the product within required specifications. Additionally, the FDA will typically inspect one or more clinical sites to ensure compliance with GCP before approving an NDA.

After the FDA evaluates the NDA and the manufacturing facilities, it may issue an approval letter or a Complete Response Letter, or CRL, to indicate that the review cycle for an application is complete and that the application is not ready for approval. CRLs generally outline the deficiencies in the submission and may require substantial additional testing or information in order for the FDA to reconsider the application. Even if such additional information is submitted, the FDA may ultimately decide that the NDA does not satisfy the criteria for approval. Data from clinical trials are not always conclusive and the FDA may interpret data differently than we do. The FDA could also require a REMS plan to mitigate risks, which could include medication guides, physician communication plans, or elements to assure safe use, such as restricted distribution methods, patient registries and other risk minimization tools. The FDA also may condition approval on, among other things, changes to proposed labeling, a commitment to conduct one or more post-market studies or clinical trials and the correction of identified manufacturing deficiencies, including the development of adequate controls and specifications. If and when the deficiencies have been addressed to the FDA's satisfaction, the FDA will typically issue an approval letter. An approval letter authorizes commercial marketing of the drug with specific prescribing information for specific indications.

Section 505(b)(2) New Drug Applications

As an alternate path to FDA approval, particularly for modifications to drug products previously approved by the FDA, an applicant may submit an NDA under Section 505(b)(2) of the FDCA. Section 505(b)(2) was enacted as part of the Drug Price Competition and Patent Term Restoration Act of 1984, also known as the Hatch-Waxman Act, and permits the submission of an NDA where at least some of the information required for approval comes from clinical trials not conducted by or for the applicant and for which the applicant has not obtained a right of reference. The FDA interprets Section 505(b)(2) of the FDCA to permit the applicant to rely upon the FDA's previous findings of safety and effectiveness for an approved product. The FDA may also require companies to perform additional clinical trials or measurements to support any change from the previously approved product. The FDA may then approve the new product candidate for all or some of the label indications for which the referenced product has been approved, as well as for any new indication sought by the Section 505(b)(2) applicant.

Section 505(b)(2) applications are subject to any non-patent exclusivity period applicable to the referenced product, which may delay approval of the 505(b)(2) application even if FDA has completed its substantive review and determined the drug should be approved. In addition, 505(b)(2) applications must include patent certifications to any patents listed in the Orange Book as covering the referenced product. If the 505(b)(2) applicant seeks to obtain approval before the expiration of an applicable listed patent, the 505(b)(2) applicant must provide notice to the patent owner and NDA holder of the referenced product. If the patent owner or NDA holder bring a patent infringement lawsuit within 45 days of such notice, the 505(b)(2) application cannot be approved for 30 months or until the 505(b)(2) applicant prevails, whichever is sooner. If the 505(b)(2) applicant loses the patent infringement suit, FDA may not approve the 505(b)(2) application until the patent expires, plus any period of pediatric exclusivity.

In the NDA submissions for our product candidates, we intend to follow the development and approval pathway permitted under the FDCA that we believe will maximize the commercial opportunities for these product candidates.

Post-Approval Requirements

After approval, the NDA sponsor must comply with comprehensive requirements governing, among other things, drug listing, recordkeeping, manufacturing, marketing activities, product sampling and distribution, annual reporting and adverse event reporting. There are also extensive U.S. Drug Enforcement Agency, or DEA, regulations applicable to marketed controlled substances.

If new safety issues are identified following approval, the FDA can require the NDA sponsor to revise the approved labeling to reflect the new safety information; conduct post-market studies or clinical trials to assess the new safety

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information; and implement a REMS program to mitigate newly-identified risks. The FDA may also require post-approval testing, including Phase 4 studies, and surveillance programs to monitor the effect of approved products which have been commercialized, and the FDA has the authority to prevent or limit further marketing of a product based on the results of these post-marketing programs. Drugs may be marketed only for approved indications and in accordance with the provisions of the approved label. Further, if we modify a drug, including any changes in indications, labeling or manufacturing processes or facilities, the FDA may require us to submit and obtain FDA approval of a new or supplemental NDA, which may require us to develop additional data or conduct additional preclinical studies and clinical trials.

In addition, drug manufacturers and other entities involved in the manufacture and distribution of approved drugs are required to register their establishments with the FDA and state agencies, and are subject to periodic unannounced inspections by the FDA and these state agencies for compliance with cGMP requirements. Changes to the manufacturing process are strictly regulated and often require prior FDA approval before being implemented. FDA regulations also require investigation and correction of any deviations from cGMP and impose reporting and documentation requirements upon us and any third-party manufacturers that we may decide to use.

If after approval the FDA determines that the product does not meet applicable regulatory requirements or poses unacceptable safety risks, the FDA may take other regulatory actions, including initiating suspension or withdrawal of the NDA approval. Later discovery of previously unknown problems with a product, including adverse events of unanticipated severity or frequency, or with manufacturing processes, or failure to comply with regulatory requirements, may result in, among other things:

- restrictions on the marketing or manufacturing of the product, complete withdrawal of the product from the market or product recalls;
- fines, warning letters or holds on post-approval clinical trials;
- refusal of the FDA to approve pending applications or supplements to approved applications, or suspension or revocation of product license approvals;
- product seizure or detention, or refusal to permit the import or export of products; or
- injunctions or the imposition of civil or criminal penalties.

The FDA strictly regulates marketing, labeling, advertising and promotion of products that are placed on the market. These regulations include standards and restrictions for direct-to-consumer advertising, industry-sponsored scientific and educational activities, promotional activities involving the internet, and off-label promotion. While physicians may prescribe for off-label uses, manufacturers may only promote for the approved indications and in accordance with the provisions of the approved label. The FDA has very broad enforcement authority under the FDCA, and failure to abide by these regulations can result in penalties, including the issuance of a warning letter directing entities to correct deviations from FDA standards, a requirement that future advertising and promotional materials be pre-cleared by the FDA, and state and federal civil and criminal investigations and prosecutions.

In addition, the distribution of prescription pharmaceutical products is subject to the Prescription Drug Marketing Act, or PDMA, which regulates the distribution of drugs and drug samples at the federal level, and sets minimum standards for the registration and regulation of drug distributors by the states. Both the PDMA and state laws limit the distribution of prescription pharmaceutical product samples and impose requirements to ensure accountability in distribution, including a drug pedigree which tracks the distribution of prescription drugs.

International Regulation

In addition to regulations in the United States, we are subject to a variety of foreign regulations governing clinical trials and the commercial sales and distribution of our products. Whether or not we obtain FDA approval for a product, we must obtain approval by the comparable regulatory authorities of foreign countries before we can

commence clinical trials or marketing of the product in those countries. The approval process varies from country to country, and the time may be longer or shorter than that required for FDA approval. The requirements governing the conduct of clinical trials, product licensing, pricing and reimbursement vary greatly from country to country.

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For example, in the European Economic Area, or EEA (which is comprised of the 27 Member States of the EU plus Norway, Iceland and Liechtenstein), medicinal products can only be commercialized after obtaining a Marketing Authorization, or MA. There are two types of marketing authorizations:

- The Community MA, which is issued by the European Commission through the Centralized Procedure, based on the opinion of the Committee for Medicinal Products for Human Use, or CHMP, of the EMA, and which is valid throughout the entire territory of the EEA. The Centralized Procedure is mandatory for certain types of products, such as biotechnology medicinal products, orphan medicinal products, and medicinal products containing a new active substance indicated for the treatment of AIDS, cancer, neurodegenerative disorders, diabetes, auto-immune and viral diseases. The Centralized Procedure is optional for products containing a new active substance not yet authorized in the EEA, or for products that constitute a significant therapeutic, scientific or technical innovation or which are in the interest of public health in the EU.

- National MAs, which are issued by the competent authorities of the Member States of the EEA and only cover their respective territory, are available for products not falling within the mandatory scope of the Centralized Procedure. Where a product has already been authorized for marketing in a Member State of the EEA (the Reference Member State, or RMS), this National MA can be recognized in other Member States (the Concerned Member States, or CMS) through the Mutual Recognition Procedure. If the product has not received a National MA in any Member State at the time of application, it can be approved simultaneously in various Member States through the Decentralized Procedure. Under the Decentralized Procedure, an identical dossier is submitted to the competent authorities of each of the Member States in which the MA is sought, one of which is selected by the applicant as the RMS. The competent authority of the RMS prepares a draft assessment report, a draft summary of the product characteristics, or SPC, and a draft of the labeling and package leaflet, which are sent to the CMS for their approval. If the CMS raise no objections, based on a potential serious risk to public health, to the assessment, SPC, labeling, or packaging proposed by the RMS, the product is subsequently granted a national MA in all the Member States (i.e. in the RMS and the CMS). If one or more CMS raise objections based on a potential serious risk to public health, the application is referred to the Coordination group for Mutual recognition and Decentralized procedure for human medicinal products, or CMDh, which is composed of representatives of the EEA Member States. If a consensus cannot be reached within the CMDh the matters is referred for arbitration to the CHMP, which can reach a final decision binding on all EEA Member States. A similar process applies to disputes between the RMS and the CMS in the Mutual Recognition Procedure.

As with FDA approval, we may not be able to secure regulatory approvals in Europe in a timely manner, if at all. Additionally, as in the United States, post-approval regulatory requirements, such as those regarding product manufacture, marketing, or distribution, would apply to any product that is approved in Europe, and failure to comply with such obligations could have a material adverse effect on our ability to successfully commercialize any product.

The conduct of clinical trials in the EU is governed by the EU Clinical Trials Directive (Directive 2001/20/EC of 4 April 2001, of the European Parliament and of the Council on the approximation of the laws, regulations and administrative provisions of the Member States relating to implementation of good clinical practice in the conduct of clinical trials on medicinal products for human use). The provisions of the EU Clinical Trials Directive were required to be implemented and applied by the EEA Member States before May 2004. The EU Clinical Trials Directive harmonizes the regulatory requirements of the Member States of the EEA for the conduct of clinical trials in their respective territories. The EU Clinical Trials Directive requires sponsors of clinical trials to submit formal applications to, and to obtain the approval of, national ethics committees and regulatory authorities prior to the initiation of clinical trials.

In addition to regulations in Europe and the United States, we will be subject to a variety of foreign regulations governing clinical trials and commercial distribution of any future products.

Third Party Payer Coverage and Reimbursement

The commercial success of our products and product candidates will depend, in part, upon the availability of coverage and reimbursement from third-party payers at the federal, state and private levels. Government payer programs, including Medicare and Medicaid, private health care insurance companies and managed care plans may deny

coverage or reimbursement for a product or therapy in whole or in part if they determine that the product or therapy is not medically appropriate or necessary. Also, third-party payers have attempted to control costs by limiting coverage and the amount of reimbursement for particular procedures or drug treatments. The United States Congress and state legislatures from time to time propose and adopt

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initiatives aimed at cost containment, which could impact our ability to sell our products at a price level high enough to realize an appropriate return on our investment.

For example, in March 2010, President Obama signed into law the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act, as amended by the Health Care and Education Affordability Reconciliation Act, which we refer to collectively as the Health Care Reform Law, a sweeping law intended to broaden access to health insurance, reduce or constrain the growth of healthcare spending, enhance remedies against fraud and abuse, add new transparency requirements for healthcare and health insurance industries, impose new taxes and fees on the health industry and impose additional health policy reforms. The Health Care Reform Law revised the definition of "average manufacturer price" for reporting purposes, which could increase the amount of Medicaid drug rebates owed to states by pharmaceutical manufacturers for covered outpatient drugs. The Health Reform Law also established a new Medicare Part D coverage gap discount program, in which drug manufacturers must provide 50% point-of-sale discounts on products covered under Part D beginning in 2011. Further, also beginning in 2011, the new law imposed a significant annual, nondeductible fee on companies that manufacture or import branded prescription drug products. Substantial new provisions affecting compliance have also been enacted, which may require us to modify our business practices with healthcare practitioners. Some details of the Health Care Reform Law are yet to be determined, as applicable federal and state agencies must issue regulations or guidance under the new law. Although it is too early to determine the effect of the Health Care Reform Law, the new law appears likely to continue the pressure on pharmaceutical pricing, especially under the Medicare program, and may also increase our regulatory burdens and operating costs. Moreover, in the coming years, additional changes could be made to governmental healthcare programs that could significantly impact the success of our products.

In addition, other legislative changes have been proposed and adopted since the Health Care Reform Law was enacted, which could result in reductions in Medicare payments to providers. The full impact on our business of these legislative actions is uncertain. Nor is it clear whether other legislative changes will be adopted, if any, or how such changes would affect the demand for our products.

The cost of pharmaceuticals continues to generate substantial governmental and third-party payer interest. We expect that the pharmaceutical industry will experience pricing pressures due to the trend toward managed healthcare, the increasing influence of managed care organizations and additional legislative proposals. Our results of operations could be adversely affected by current and future healthcare reforms. Ongoing federal and state government initiatives directed at lowering the total cost of health care will likely continue to focus on health care reform, the cost of prescription pharmaceuticals and on the reform of the Medicare and Medicaid payment systems. Examples of how limits on drug coverage and reimbursement in the United States may cause reduced payments for drugs in the future include:

- changing Medicare reimbursement methodologies;
- fluctuating decisions on which drugs to include in formularies;
- revising covered outpatient drug rebate calculations under the Medicaid program; and
- reforming drug importation laws.

Some third-party payers also require pre-approval of coverage for new or innovative devices or drug therapies before they will reimburse healthcare providers that use such therapies or place limits on the amount of reimbursement. While we cannot predict whether any proposed cost-containment measures will be adopted or otherwise implemented in the future, the announcement or adoption of these proposals could have a material adverse effect on our ability to obtain adequate prices for our product candidates and to operate at a reasonable return on investment.

In international markets, reimbursement and healthcare payment systems vary significantly by country, and many countries have instituted price ceilings on specific products and therapies. There can be no assurance that our products will be considered medically reasonable and necessary for a specific indication, that our products will be considered cost-effective by third-party payers, or that an adequate level or reimbursement will be available so that the third-party

payers' reimbursement policies will not adversely affect our ability to sell our products profitably.

Marketing/Data Exclusivity

The FDA may grant three or five years of marketing exclusivity in the United States for the approval of new or supplemental NDAs, including Section 505(b)(2) NDAs, for, among other things, new indications, dosages or dosage forms of an existing drug, if new clinical investigations that were conducted or sponsored by the applicant are essential to the approval

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of the application. Additionally, six months of marketing exclusivity in the United States is available under Section 505A of the FDCA if, in response to a written request from the FDA, a sponsor submits and the agency accepts requested information relating to the use of the approved drug in the pediatric population. This six month pediatric exclusivity period is not a standalone exclusivity period, but rather is added to any existing patent or non-patent exclusivity period for which the drug product is eligible. Based on our clinical trial program for EXPAREL, FDA granted three years of marketing exclusivity to EXPAREL, which expires on October 28, 2014.

Manufacturing Requirements

We must comply with applicable FDA regulations relating to the FDA's cGMP regulations. The cGMP regulations include requirements relating to organization of personnel, buildings and facilities, equipment, control of components and drug product containers and closures, production and process controls, packaging and labeling controls, holding and distribution, laboratory controls, records and reports, and returned or salvaged products. The manufacturing facilities for our products must meet cGMP requirements to the satisfaction of the FDA pursuant to a pre-approval inspection before we can use them to manufacture our products. We and any third-party manufacturers are also subject to periodic inspections of facilities by the FDA and other authorities, including procedures and operations used in the testing and manufacture of our products to assess our compliance with applicable regulations. Failure to comply with these and other statutory and regulatory requirements subjects a manufacturer to possible legal or regulatory action, including warning letters, the seizure or recall of products, injunctions, consent decrees placing significant restrictions on or suspending manufacturing operations and civil and criminal penalties. Adverse experiences with the product must be reported to the FDA and could result in the imposition of market restrictions through labeling changes or in product removal. Product approvals may be withdrawn if compliance with regulatory requirements is not maintained or if problems concerning safety or efficacy of the product occur following approval.

Healthcare Fraud and Abuse Laws

We are subject to various federal, state and local laws targeting fraud and abuse in the healthcare industry. For example, in the United States, there are federal and state anti-kickback laws that prohibit the offer, payment or receipt of kickbacks, bribes or other remuneration intended to induce the purchase or recommendation of healthcare products and services or reward purchases or recommendations. Violations of these laws can lead to civil and criminal penalties, including fines, imprisonment and exclusion from participation in federal healthcare programs. These laws are potentially applicable to manufacturers of products regulated by the FDA and reimbursed by federal healthcare programs, such as us, and to hospitals, physicians and other potential purchasers of such products.

In particular, the federal Anti-Kickback Statute prohibits persons from knowingly and willfully soliciting, receiving, offering or providing remuneration, directly or indirectly, to induce either the referral of an individual, or the furnishing, recommending, or arranging for a good or service, for which payment may be made under a federal healthcare program such as the Medicare and Medicaid programs. The term "remuneration" is not defined in the federal Anti-Kickback Statute and has been broadly interpreted to include anything of value, including gifts, discounts, the provision of goods and services, the furnishing of supplies or equipment, credit arrangements, payments of cash, waivers of payments, ownership interests and providing anything at less than its fair market value. In addition, the Health Care Reform Law, among other things, amends the intent requirement of the federal Anti-Kickback Statute and the applicable criminal healthcare fraud statutes contained within 42 U.S.C. § 1320a-7b. Pursuant to the statutory amendment, a person or entity no longer needs to have actual knowledge of this statute or specific intent to violate it in order to have committed a violation. In addition, the Health Care Reform Law provides that the federal government may assert that a reimbursement claim for items or services resulting from a violation of 42 U.S.C. § 1320a-7b constitutes a false or fraudulent claim for purposes of the civil False Claims Act (discussed below) or the civil monetary penalties statute, which imposes a penalty of $5,000 against any person who is determined to have presented or caused to be presented claims to a federal health care program that the person knows or should know is for an item or service that was not provided as claimed or is false or fraudulent. Moreover, the lack of uniform court interpretation of the Anti-Kickback Statute makes compliance with the law difficult.

Recognizing that the federal Anti-Kickback Statute is broad and may prohibit innocuous or beneficial arrangements within the healthcare industry, the statute establishes certain exemptions from the statutory prohibition and authorizes additional exemptions by regulation. Pursuant to this authority, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services'

Office of Inspector General, or OIG, issued regulations in July of 1991, and periodically since that time, which the OIG refers to as “safe harbors.” These safe harbor regulations set forth certain provisions which, if met in form and substance, will assure pharmaceutical companies, healthcare providers and other parties that they will not be prosecuted under the federal Anti-Kickback Statute. Although full compliance with these provisions ensures against prosecution under the federal Anti-Kickback Statute, the failure of a transaction or arrangement to fit within a specific safe harbor does not necessarily mean that the transaction or arrangement is illegal or that prosecution under the federal Anti-Kickback Statute will be pursued. However,

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conduct and business arrangements that do not fully satisfy an applicable safe harbor may result in increased scrutiny by government enforcement authorities, such as the OIG or federal prosecutors. Additionally, there are certain statutory exceptions to the federal Anti-Kickback Statute, one or more of which could be used to protect a business arrangement, although we understand that OIG is of the view that an arrangement that does not meet the requirements of a regulatory safe harbor does not satisfy the corresponding statutory exception, if any, under the federal Anti-Kickback Statute.

Additionally, many states have adopted laws similar to the federal Anti-Kickback Statute. Some of these state prohibitions apply to referral of patients for healthcare items or services reimbursed by any third-party payer, not only the Medicare and Medicaid programs, and do not contain identical safe harbors. Government officials have focused their enforcement efforts on marketing of healthcare services and products, among other activities, and have brought cases against numerous pharmaceutical and medical device companies, and certain sales and marketing personnel for allegedly offering unlawful inducements to potential or existing customers in an attempt to procure their business or reward past purchases or recommendations.

Another development affecting the healthcare industry is the increased use of the federal civil False Claims Act and, in particular, actions brought pursuant to the False Claims Act's "whistleblower" or "qui tam" provisions. The civil False Claims Act imposes liability on any person or entity who, among other things, knowingly presents, or causes to be presented, a false or fraudulent claim for payment by a federal healthcare program. The qui tam provisions of the False Claims Act allow a private individual to bring civil actions on behalf of the federal government alleging that the defendant has submitted a false claim to the federal government, and to share in any monetary recovery. In recent years, the number of suits brought by private individuals has increased dramatically. In addition, various states have enacted false claim laws analogous to the False Claims Act. When an entity is determined to have violated the False Claims Act, it may be required to pay up to three times the actual damages sustained by the government, plus civil penalties of $5,500 to $11,000 for each separate false claim. There are many potential bases for liability under the False Claims Act. Liability arises, primarily, when an entity knowingly submits, or causes another to submit, a false claim for reimbursement to the federal government. The False Claims Act has been used to assert liability on the basis of inadequate care, kickbacks and other improper referrals, improperly reported government pricing metrics such as Best Price or Average Manufacturer Price, improper use of Medicare numbers when detailing the provider of services, improper promotion of off-label uses (i.e., uses not expressly approved by the FDA in a drug's label), and allegations as to misrepresentations with respect to the services rendered. Our activities relating to the reporting of discount and rebate information and other information affecting federal, state and third-party reimbursement of our products, and the sale and marketing of our products and our service arrangements or data purchases, among other activities, may be subject to scrutiny under these laws. We are unable to predict whether we would be subject to actions under the False Claims Act or a similar state law, or the impact of such actions. However, the cost of defending such claims, as well as any sanctions imposed, could adversely affect our financial performance.

Also, the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996, or HIPAA, created several new federal crimes, including health care fraud, and false statements relating to health care matters. The health care fraud statute prohibits knowingly and willfully executing a scheme to defraud any health care benefit program, including private third-party payers. The false statements statute prohibits knowingly and willfully falsifying, concealing or covering up a material fact or making any materially false, fictitious or fraudulent statement in connection with the delivery of or payment for health care benefits, items or services.

In addition, under California law, pharmaceutical companies must adopt a comprehensive compliance program that is in accordance with both the April 2003 Office of Inspector General Compliance Program Guidance for Pharmaceutical Manufacturers, or OIG Guidance, and the Pharmaceutical Research and Manufacturers of America Code on Interactions with Healthcare Professionals, or the PhRMA Code. The PhRMA Code seeks to promote transparency in relationships between health care professionals and the pharmaceutical industry and to ensure that pharmaceutical marketing activities comport with the highest ethical standards. The PhRMA Code contains strict limitations on certain interactions between health care professionals and the pharmaceutical industry relating to gifts, meals, entertainment and speaker programs, among others. Also, certain states, such as Massachusetts, Minnesota, Vermont and others, have imposed restrictions on the types of interactions that pharmaceutical and medical device

companies or their agents (e.g., sales representatives) may have with health care professionals, including bans or strict limitations on the provision of meals, entertainment, hospitality, travel and lodging expenses, and other financial support, including funding for continuing medical education activities.

Healthcare Privacy and Security Laws

We may be subject to, or our marketing activities may be limited by, HIPAA, and its implementing regulations, which established uniform standards for certain “covered entities” (healthcare providers, health plans and healthcare clearinghouses) governing the conduct of certain electronic healthcare transactions and protecting the security and privacy of protected health

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information. The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009, commonly referred to as the economic stimulus package, included sweeping expansion of HIPAA's privacy and security standards called the Health Information Technology for Economic and Clinical Health Act, or HITECH, which became effective on February 17, 2010. Among other things, the new law makes HIPAA's privacy and security standards directly applicable to "business associates"-independent contractors or agents of covered entities that receive or obtain protected health information in connection with providing a service on behalf of a covered entity. HITECH also increased the civil and criminal penalties that may be imposed against covered entities, business associates and possibly other persons, and gave state attorneys general new authority to file civil actions for damages or injunctions in federal courts to enforce the federal HIPAA laws and seek attorney's fees and costs associated with pursuing federal civil actions.

Environmental Matters

Our research and development processes and our manufacturing processes involve the controlled use of hazardous materials, chemicals and produce waste products. We are subject to federal, state and local laws and regulations governing the use, manufacture, storage, handling and disposal of hazardous materials and waste products. We do not expect the cost of complying with these laws and regulations to be material. While we believe we are in compliance with applicable environmental regulations, the failure to fully comply with any such regulations could result in the imposition of penalties, fines and/or sanctions which could have a material adverse effect on our business.

Employees

As of December 31, 2013, we had 310 employees, of which two were part-time. All of our employees are located in the United States. None of our employees are represented by a labor union, and we consider our current employee relations to be good.

Available Information

We file reports and other information with the SEC as required by the Exchange Act. We make available free of charge through our website (http://www.pacira.com) our annual report on Form 10-K, quarterly reports on Form 10-Q, current reports on Form 8-K and amendments to those reports filed or furnished pursuant to Sections 13(a) and 15(d) of the Exchange Act. We make these reports available through our website as soon as reasonably practicable after we electronically file such reports with, or furnish such reports to, the SEC. In addition, we regularly use our website to post information regarding our business, product development programs and governance, and we encourage investors to use our website, particularly the information in the section entitled "Investors & Media," as a source of information about us. The foregoing references to our website are not intended to, nor shall they be deemed to, incorporate information on our website into this Annual Report on Form 10-K by reference.

Item 1A. Risk Factors

In addition to the other information in this Annual Report on Form 10-K, any of the factors set forth below could significantly and negatively affect our business, financial condition, results of operations or prospects. The trading price of our common stock may decline due to these risks. This section contains forward-looking statements. You should refer to the explanation of the qualifications and limitations on forward-looking statements beginning on page 1.

Risks Related to the Development and Commercialization of Our Product Candidates

Our success depends on our ability to successfully commercialize EXPAREL.

We have invested a significant portion of our efforts and financial resources in the development and commercialization of our lead product, EXPAREL, which was approved by the FDA on October 28, 2011 and commercially launched in April 2012. During 2013, sales of EXPAREL constituted a significant portion of our total revenue, and our success depends on our ability to continue to effectively commercialize EXPAREL. Our ability to effectively generate revenues from EXPAREL will depend on our ability to, among other things:

- create market demand for EXPAREL through our marketing and sales activities and other arrangements established for the promotion of EXPAREL;
- train, deploy and support a qualified sales force;
- secure formulary approvals for EXPAREL at a substantial number of targeted hospitals;
- manufacture EXPAREL in sufficient quantities in compliance with requirements of the FDA and similar foreign regulatory agencies and at acceptable quality and pricing levels in order to meet commercial demand;

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- implement and maintain agreements with wholesalers, distributors and group purchasing organizations on commercially reasonable terms;
- receive adequate levels of coverage and reimbursement for EXPAREL from commercial health plans and governmental health programs;
- maintain compliance with regulatory requirements;
- obtain regulatory approvals for additional indications for the use of EXPAREL;
- ensure that our entire supply chain efficiently and consistently delivers EXPAREL to our customers; and
- maintain and defend our patent protection and regulatory exclusivity for EXPAREL.

Any disruption in our ability to generate revenues from the sale of EXPAREL will have a material and adverse impact on our results of operations.

Our efforts to successfully commercialize EXPAREL are subject to many internal and external challenges and if we cannot overcome these challenges in a timely manner, our future revenues and profits could be materially and adversely impacted.

EXPAREL has been a marketed drug for less than two years. As a result, we continue to expend significant time and resources to train the sales force to be credible and persuasive in convincing physicians and hospitals to use EXPAREL. In addition, we also must train the sales force to ensure that a consistent and appropriate message about EXPAREL is delivered to our potential customers. If we are unable to effectively train the sales force and equip them with effective materials, including medical and sales literature to help them inform and educate potential customers about the benefits and risks of EXPAREL and its proper administration, our efforts to successfully commercialize EXPAREL could be put in jeopardy, which could have a material adverse effect on our future revenues and profits.

In addition to our extensive internal efforts, the successful commercialization of EXPAREL will require many third parties, over whom we have no control, to choose to utilize EXPAREL. These third parties include physicians and hospital pharmacy and therapeutics committees, which we refer to as P&T committees. Generally, before we can attempt to sell EXPAREL in a hospital, EXPAREL must be approved for addition to that hospital's list of approved drugs, or formulary list, by the hospital's P&T committee. A hospital's P&T committee typically governs all matters pertaining to the use of medications within the institution, including the review of medication formulary data and recommendations for the appropriate use of drugs within the institution to the medical staff. The frequency of P&T committee meetings at hospitals varies considerably, and P&T committees often require additional information to aid in their decision-making process. Therefore, we may experience substantial delays in obtaining formulary approvals. Additionally, hospital pharmacists may be concerned that the cost of acquiring EXPAREL for use in their institutions will adversely impact their overall pharmacy budgets, which could cause pharmacists to resist efforts to add EXPAREL to the formulary, or to implement restrictions on the usage of EXPAREL in order to control costs. We cannot guarantee that we will be successful in obtaining the approvals we need from enough P&T committees quickly enough to optimize hospital sales of EXPAREL.

Even if we obtain hospital formulary approval for EXPAREL, physicians must still prescribe EXPAREL for its commercialization to be successful. Because EXPAREL is a relatively new drug with a limited track record of sales in the United States, any inability to timely supply EXPAREL to our customers, or any unexpected side effects that develop from use of the drug, particularly early in product launch, may lead physicians to not accept EXPAREL as a viable treatment alternative.

If EXPAREL does not achieve broad market acceptance, the revenues that we generate from its sales will be limited. The degree of market acceptance of EXPAREL also depends on a number of other factors, including:

- changes in the standard of care for the targeted indications for EXPAREL, which could reduce the marketing impact of any claims that we can make;
- the relative efficacy, convenience and ease of administration of EXPAREL;
- the prevalence and severity of adverse events associated with EXPAREL;
- cost of treatment versus economic and clinical benefit, both in absolute terms and in relation to alternative treatments;
- the availability of adequate coverage or reimbursement by third parties, such as insurance companies and other healthcare payers, and by government healthcare programs, including Medicare and Medicaid;
- the extent and strength of our marketing and distribution of EXPAREL;

- the safety, efficacy and other potential advantages over, and availability of, alternative treatments, including, in the case of EXPAREL, a number of products already used to treat pain in the hospital setting; and
- distribution and use restrictions imposed by the FDA or to which we agree as part of a mandatory risk evaluation and mitigation strategy or voluntary risk management plan.

Our ability to effectively promote and sell EXPAREL and any product candidates that we may develop, license or acquire in the hospital marketplace will also depend on pricing and cost effectiveness, including our ability to produce a product at a competitive price and therefore achieve acceptance of the product onto hospital formularies, and our ability to obtain sufficient third-party coverage or reimbursement. Since many hospitals are members of group purchasing organizations, which leverage

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the purchasing power of a group of entities to obtain discounts based on the collective buying power of the group, our ability to attract customers in the hospital marketplace will also depend on our ability to effectively promote our product candidates to group purchasing organizations. We will also need to demonstrate acceptable evidence of safety and efficacy, as well as relative convenience and ease of administration. Market acceptance could be further limited depending on the prevalence and severity of any expected or unexpected adverse side effects associated with our product candidates.

In addition, the labeling approved by the FDA does not contain claims that EXPAREL is safer or more effective than competitive products and does not permit us to promote EXPAREL as being superior to competing products. Further, the availability of inexpensive generic forms of postsurgical pain management products may also limit acceptance of EXPAREL among physicians, patients and third-party payers. If EXPAREL does not achieve an adequate level of acceptance among physicians, patients and third-party payers, we may not generate meaningful revenues from EXPAREL and we may not become profitable.

We face significant competition from other pharmaceutical and biotechnology companies. Our operating results will suffer if we fail to compete effectively.

The pharmaceutical and biotechnology industries are intensely competitive and subject to rapid and significant technological change. Our major competitors include organizations such as major multinational pharmaceutical companies, established biotechnology companies and specialty pharmaceutical and generic drug companies. Many of our competitors have greater financial and other resources than we have, such as larger research and development staff, more extensive marketing, distribution, sales and manufacturing organizations and experience, more extensive clinical trial and regulatory experience, expertise in prosecution of intellectual property rights and access to development resources like personnel and technology. As a result, these companies may obtain regulatory approval more rapidly than we are able to and may be more effective in selling and marketing their products. Smaller or early stage companies may also prove to be significant competitors, particularly through collaborative arrangements with large, established companies. Our competitors may succeed in developing, acquiring or licensing on an exclusive basis technologies and drug products that are more effective or less costly than EXPAREL or any product candidate that we are currently developing or that we may develop, which could render our products obsolete and noncompetitive or significantly harm the commercial opportunity for EXPAREL or our product candidates.

As a result of these factors, our competitors may obtain patent protection or other intellectual property rights that may limit our ability to develop other indications for, or commercialize, EXPAREL. Our competitors may also develop drugs that are safer, more effective, useful or less costly than ours and may be more successful than us in manufacturing and marketing their products.

EXPAREL competes with well-established products with similar indications. Competing products available for postsurgical pain management include opioids such as morphine, fentanyl, meperidine and hydromorphone, each of which is available generically from several manufacturers, and several of which are available as proprietary products using novel delivery systems. Ketorolac, an injectable non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drug, or NSAID, is also available generically in the United States from several manufacturers, and Caldolor (ibuprofen for injection), an NSAID, has been approved by the FDA for pain management and fever in adults. In addition, EXPAREL competes with non-opioid products such as bupivacaine, marcaine, ropivacaine and other anesthetics/analgesics, all of which are also used in the treatment of postsurgical pain and are available as either oral tablets, injectable dosage forms or administered using novel delivery systems. Additional products may be developed for the treatment of acute pain, including new injectable NSAIDs, novel opioids, new formulations of currently available opioids and NSAIDs, long-acting local anesthetics and new chemical entities as well as alternative delivery forms of various opioids and NSAIDs.

EXPAREL also competes with elastomeric bag/catheter devices intended to provide bupivacaine over several days. I-FLOW Corporation (acquired by Kimberly-Clark Corporation in 2009) has marketed these medical devices in the United States since 2004.

If we are unable to establish and maintain effective marketing and sales capabilities or enter into agreements with third parties to market and sell EXPAREL, we may be unable to generate product revenues.

We are continuing to build our commercial infrastructure for the marketing, sale and distribution of pharmaceutical products. In order to continue commercializing EXPAREL effectively, we must continue to build our marketing, sales and distribution capabilities. We entered into an agreement with Quintiles for the outsourcing of our specialty sales force, which we then hired as direct employees in January 2013. The establishment, development and training of our sales force and related compliance plans to market EXPAREL is expensive and time consuming. In the event we are not successful in developing our marketing and sales infrastructure, we may not be able to successfully commercialize EXPAREL, which would limit our ability to generate product revenues.

In addition to our internal marketing and sales efforts, we have entered into agreements with third party distributors to promote and sell EXPAREL in certain territories. For example, following a pilot program, effective October 1, 2013, we appointed CrossLink as our exclusive third-party distributor to promote and sell EXPAREL for orthopedic and spine surgeries

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in the U.S., with the exception of certain geographical areas and accounts, for a five year term. We may seek additional distribution arrangements in the future, including arrangements with third party distributors to commercialize and sell EXPAREL in certain foreign countries. The use of distributors involves certain risks, including risks that such distributors will:

- not effectively distribute or support our products;
- not provide us with accurate or timely information regarding their inventories, the number of accounts using our products or complaints about our products;