

Biotechnology

4Q23 SMid-cap Biotech Earnings Preview

Earnings Preview

Setting expectations ahead of 4Q23 earnings

We highlight our expectations ahead of 4Q earnings results for our covered commercial names. We note several companies in our coverage have preannounced 4Q and FY23 revenues including ALNY, APLS, ARGX, ASND, BCRX, FOLD, PTCT, RARE and SRPT.

Acadia Pharma (ACAD, Neutral, \$33 PO) continues to monitor Daybue launch performance in RS. For 4Q, we estimate Daybue sales of \$93.1mn, ahead of company guidance (\$80-87.5mn) given positive feedback from our KOLs on current usage trends. On Nuplazid, we model 4Q sales of \$135.5mn and look for commentary regarding key future growth drivers for the franchise. We maintain our Neutral with \$33 PO.

BioNTech (BNTX, Buy, \$159 PO) will report out 4Q and FY23 revenue guidance. We model 4Q COVID revenues of €1.6bn, in line with company guidance. Mgmt has already guided to FY24 revenues of €3bn (BofAe: €2.5bn). We look for updated commentary regarding vaccine uptake in 2024+ as well as updates on their pipeline programs. We maintain our Buy with \$159 PO.

Incyte (INCY, Neutral, \$69 PO) maintains focus on ensuring strong commercial execution despite GTN headwinds. In the 4Q earnings call, we look for updates on launch performance metrics focusing on current expectations for long-term Opzelura GTN dynamics. For 4Q, we model Jakafi and Opzelura revenues of \$702mn and \$203mn, respectively. We reiterate our Buy with \$69 PO.

Neurocrine (NBIX, Buy, \$154 PO) remains focused on ensuring a strong launch for Ingrezza launch in TD. We model \$499mn in 4Q sales and look for FY24 guidance for the Ingrezza franchise during the 4Q call. We also note focus on updated timelines regarding a potential NDA filing for crinercerfont in CAH. We maintain our Buy with \$154 PO.

Rhythm Pharmaceuticals (RYTM, Buy, \$49 PO) continues to progress their Imcivree launch in rare obesity. Mgmt does not expect to provide FY24 guidance, citing the highly dynamic nature of rare disease launches. We look for updated commentary regarding current payer dynamics given our KOLs have highlighted access issues for their patients. We model 4Q Imcivree revenue of \$25.5mn. We maintain our Buy with \$49 PO.

Sage Therapeutics (SAGE, Neutral, \$30 PO) is focused on launching Zurzuvae in PPD, having recently launched in mid-December 2023. As such, we look for company commentary regarding initial launch metrics focusing on early adopters as well as early payer dynamics. We model 4Q sales of \$2.3mn (cons: \$1.6mn). We maintain our Neutral with \$30 PO.

See more inside on these and **ALNY, APLS, ARGX, ASND, BCRX, FOLD, PTCT, RARE,** and **SRPT**. See Exhibit 2 for a summary of key changes.

05 February 2024

Equity
United States
Biotechnology

Tazeen Ahmad
Research Analyst
BofAS
+1 646 855 4236
tazeen.ahmad@bofa.com

Daniel Giraldo
Research Analyst
BofAS
daniel.giraldoperez@bofa.com

Jeremiah Lorentz
Research Analyst
BofAS
jeremiah.lorentz@bofa.com

Abbreviations

BET: Bromodomain and Extra-Terminal
CAH: congenital adrenal hyperplasia
GTN: gross-to-net
HAE: hereditary angioedema
HD: Huntington's disease
KOL: key opinion leader
Mgmt: management
NDA: new drug application
PPD: post-partum depression
RS: Rett syndrome
TD: tardive dyskinesia

See Exhibit 2 on page 9 for estimate changes

BofA Securities does and seeks to do business with issuers covered in its research reports. As a result, investors should be aware that the firm may have a conflict of interest that could affect the objectivity of this report. Investors should consider this report as only a single factor in making their investment decision. Refer to important disclosures on page 15 to 18. Analyst Certification on page 14. Price Objective Basis/Risk on page 9.

12654902

Timestamp: 05 February 2024 05:00AM EST

ACAD: Long-term commercial oppy still needs de-risking

Acadia Pharmaceuticals (ACAD, Neutral, \$33 PO) reported strong 3Q Daybue revenue of \$66.9mn and provided 4Q revenue guidance of \$80-87.5mn, which we think they are likely to beat. We currently model 4Q Daybue revenue of \$93.1mn given positive feedback from our KOLs on current usage trends (see our [Daybue survey](#)). We highlight that our focus for the Daybue franchise continues to be on long-term persistence. Our KOLs estimate that roughly 50% of patients on Daybue discontinue due to lack of efficacy with the other 50% due to adverse events such as diarrhea and vomiting. Given our KOLs also highlighted they will trial Daybue efficacy for six months, we assume most of the reported discontinuations to-date are due to adverse events. As such, we note higher focus on 1H24 launch metric trends as more patients hit the six-months treatment mark (launched in April 2023) to help determine long-term Daybue opportunity. Likewise, mgmt is cognizant that the long-term opportunity for Daybue has yet to be de-risked and expects to continue to only provide only revenue guidance on a quarterly basis. We expect an upcoming slowdown of growth and conservatively estimate FY24 Daybue revenue of \$318mn. On Nuplazid, ACAD reported 3Q revenue of \$144.8mn, noting the franchise continues to be cash flow positive. Mgmt guides to prioritizing cash flow with plans to leverage the bottom line by minimizing future SG&A spending. Furthermore, given the maturity of the Nuplazid launch (approved in 2016), we look for color on key growth drivers for the franchise in the upcoming 4Q23 earnings call. We currently model 4Q23 and FY24 Nuplazid revenue of \$135.5mn and \$569mn, respectively. We maintain our Neutral with same \$33 PO given our view that long-term opportunity for the company's commercial franchises has yet to be de-risked.

Other focuses for the earnings call include: (1) expectations for the topline results of the phase 3 ADVANCE-2 trial evaluating pimavanserin for negative symptoms of schizophrenia (NSOS) expected in 1Q. If positive, management guides to submitting a supplemental new drug application (sNDA) later in the year; (2) regulatory feedback on Daybue approval paths in ex-US territories; and (3) updates on ongoing Prader-Willi syndrome and Alzheimer's disease psychosis trials.

ALNY: All eyes on HELIOS-B readout in March/April

Alnylam pharmaceuticals (ALNY, Buy, \$246 PO) pre-announced 4Q revenues for Onpattro of \$79mn (-3% q/q), Amvuttra of \$175mn (+18% q/q), Givlaari of \$59mn (+9% q/q) and Oxlumo of \$33mn (+16% q/q). The company has highlighted the strong commercial performance of the transthyretin amyloidosis (ATTR) with ~40% growth in 2023 and has noted the strong commercial uptake of Amvuttra since the launch, which they expect to continue into 2024. Management has commented they anticipate Onpattro 2024 revenues of \$200-225mn, as they expect continued cannibalization from Amvuttra in ATTR polyneuropathy. On the earnings call, we will look for additional color on these dynamics in 2024 as well as revenue guidance for the year. We highlight near-term focus remains on the highly anticipated readout of the phase 3 HELIOS-B trial evaluating vutrisiran in ATTR cardiomyopathy expected in March/April. We view vutrisiran in ATTR-CM as the largest value driver for the company. We model \$3.9bn in risk-peak sales in ATTR-CM. We maintain our Buy rating with \$246 PO.

We note the readout for the phase 2 KARDIA-2 trial evaluating zilebesiran in combination with a single agent in hypertension is also expected in early-24. The company also plans to initiate KARDIA-3 evaluating zile' with 2+ background medications in early-24. Additional near-term catalysts include: (1) supplemental new drug application (sNDA) submission for vutrisiran in ATTR-CM in mid-24; (2) initiation of phase 3 study of ALN-TTRsc04 in ATTR-CM in late-24; (3) interim phase 1b multi-dose results for ALN-APP in Alzheimer's disease (AD) in late-24; (4) initiating phase 2 studies of ALN-APP in cerebral amyloid angiopathy (CAA) and AD in early and late-24, respectively; (5) initiating phase 1b study of ALN-KHK in type 2 diabetes in early-24; (6) initiating phase 1 study of ALN-BCAT in hepatocellular carcinoma in early-24; and (7) filing three new INDs in additional programs by late-24.

APLS: Focus on competitive dynamics and EU re-examination

Apellis (APLS, Buy, \$77 PO) pre-announced 4Q23 revenues for Syfovre of \$114mn (+52% q/q) and for Empaveli of \$24mn (+1% q/q). The company noted ~62K vials of Syfovre were distributed in 4Q and a total of ~160K vials were distributed in 2023. APLS recently reported the Committee for Medicinal Products for Human Use (CHMP) adopted a negative opinion on the EU application, which was in line with expectations after the oral examination meeting in December (see our [Jan 26 note](#)). We will continue to look for color on the appeal process and expectations ahead of the decision on the re-examination expected at the April 22-25th CHMP meeting with a final European commission decision expected in July. However, we reiterate our view that the US opportunity remains the key driver of value, representing \$3.2bn of our \$3.6bn worldwide risk-adjusted peak sales estimate. On the earnings call, we will look for color on expectations for the cadence of the launch in 2024, including competitive dynamics in the GA treatment landscape. We will focus on how use of Izervay and Syfovre evolves after the permanent J-code for Izervay comes in place in April. Our key opinion leaders (KOLs) have highlighted Syfovre has significant first-to-market advantage but have noted the permanent J-code will facilitate access to Izervay, which could increase use, as this has been an issue so far. Importantly, our KOLs noted they are not planning to switch patients from Syfovre at this point and have continued to start new patients on Syfovre while also gradually increasing use of Izervay. Overall, we think physicians have become comfortable with Syfovre's risk/benefit profile and remain focused on the safety profile of Izervay as use increases. APLS also expects to report topline data from the phase 3 VALIANT study of pegcetacoplan in complement 3 glomerulopathy (C3G) and Immune Complex Membranoproliferative Glomerulonephritis (IC-MPGN) in mid-24, which could expand the commercial opportunity for Empaveli. We are encouraged by strong momentum of the Syfovre launch with clear signs of strong demand and reiterate our view that the GA market is large enough to support multiple participants. We maintain our Buy rating with \$77 PO.

ARGX: CIDP launch expected in mid-24

Argenx (ARGX, Buy, \$557 PO) pre-announced preliminary FY23 Vyvgart revenues of \$1.2bn (+197% y/y). Management highlighted continued geographic expansion of the Vyvgart franchise as well as moving into earlier lines of treatment in generalized myasthenia gravis (gMG) as key drivers of growth in 2024. Additionally, the company expects a regulatory decision for the supplemental biologics license application (sBLA) for Vyvgart Hytrulo in chronic inflammatory demyelinating polyneuropathy (CIDP) in mid-24. Given several uncertain factors in 2024, management has commented they do not plan to provide revenue guidance at this point. On the earnings call, we will look for color on uptake of Vyvgart Hytrulo and expectations for the dynamics of the intravenous and subcutaneous formulations as well as expectations for the potential launch in CIDP in 2024. We note the company plans to provide an update on the development of a prefilled syringe for the subcutaneous formulation, which could allow for self-administration, in 1H and is also working on developing a self-injector. We remain encouraged by the strong commercial uptake for Vyvgart with signs of continued strong momentum two years after the launch. We reiterate ARGX as one of our top picks for 2024, as we think the commercial opportunity in gMG and CIDP is currently undervalued and we see additional room for upside from several pipeline readouts in 2024. We maintain our Buy with \$557 PO.

On the call, we will also look for additional commentary on expectations for the phase 2 proof-of-concept readouts for efgartigimod in Sjogren's syndrome (1H), post-COVID postural orthostatic tachycardia syndrome (PC-POTS) (1H) and myositis (three subsets in 2H) (see [January 26th note](#) for more details). Additional catalysts for the company include: (1) full phase 2 data for empasiprubart in multifocal motor neuropathy (MMN) in 2024; (2) regulatory decisions for Vyvgart in gMG in Switzerland, Australia, Saudi Arabia and South Korea by YE; (3) regulatory decision for Vyvgart in immune thrombocytopenia



and for Vyvgart Hytrulo in gMG in Japan in 1Q; (4) regulatory submissions for subcutaneous efgartigimod in Japan, Europe, Canada and China by YE; (5) initiation of phase 1b/2a trials for ARGX-119 in congenital myasthenic syndrome (CMS) and amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS) in 2024; and (6) initiation of a trial in seronegative patients for Vyvgart in gMG.

ASND: All eyes on May 14th TransCon PTH PDUFA

Ascendis Pharma (ASND, Buy, \$156 PO) preannounced strong preliminary 4Q23 Skytrofa revenue of €64mn (+33% q/q) and guided to FY24 Skytrofa revenue of €320-340mn (BofAe: €325mn). We continue to be impressed by the performance of the Skytrofa launch, which we think reads positively for a launch in their second indication, hypoparathyroidism (HPT). Recall, the company announced they launched Yorvipath in Germany and Austria in January using their existing Skytrofa salesforce. On the 4Q call, we look for color on management expectations regarding the initial EU launch as well as timeline guidance for planned launches in other EU territories. Additionally, we look for color on US launch plans for TransCon PTH as we approach its prescription drug user fee act (PDUFA) date of May 14th. Management has previously commented that if positive, they will be ready to begin a US commercial launch six weeks after approval (likely early-July). We note 100% of our KOLs view a US approval as likely and anticipate ~32% of their patients to be on therapy within the first six months of launch (see [our TransCon PTH survey](#)). We currently assume an 80% likelihood-of-success for US approval and model modest FY24 risk-adjusted sales of €53.4mn (cons: €81mn) given our view that initial payer dynamics may be gating to uptake. On long-term opportunity, ASND has highlighted that the HPT opportunity could be 4-5x the size of growth hormone disease. We model peak risk-adjusted sales of €1.9bn in 2033. We maintain our Buy rating with \$156 PO ahead of the upcoming TransCon HPT May 14th PDUFA.

Other focuses for the 4Q call include: (1) color on plans to partner out their TransCon rights in obesity; (2) updates on planned sBLA (supplementary Biologics License Application) submission for Skytrofa in adult growth hormone deficient patients in 2Q; (3) expectations for several 4Q data readouts including phase 3 ApproaCH topline results evaluating TransCon CNP in achondroplasia, phase 3 topline results evaluating TransCon hGH in Turner syndrome and week-26 topline data from the COACH trial (TransCon hGH / TransCon CNP combination); (4) clinical updates on their oncology franchise; and (5) commentary on expectations for recent spinout ophthalmology company, Eyconis.

BCRX: FY24 Orladeyo y/y growth of 17-23%

Biocryst Pharmaceuticals (BCRX, Buy, \$11 PO) reported preliminary FY23 Orladeyo revenue of \$325mn (+29% y/y) and expects to exit 2023 with ~1,050 patients on therapy with 73% on paid drug. For 2024, management guides to revenue of \$380-400mn (+17-23% y/y; ours: \$390mn). The company has provided a clear track to \$800mn in US sales by 2029, expecting linear growth with ~200 annual net patients added from 2024-2029, improving proportion of patients on paid drug to 85%, as well as taking several modest price increases. We recently caught up with management who highlighted this outlook assumes impact from competitors' therapies entering the market such as Pharvaris (ticker: PHVS) and Ionis Pharmaceuticals (ticker: IONS; covered by BofA Global Research analyst Jason Gerberry). BCRX noted that the HAE market is sticky given patients are unlikely to switch therapies once they find something that works for them, which should provide market share protection from competitors entering the space. Additionally, management was clear that they still believe \$1bn in peak sales is reachable beyond 2029, noting Orladeyo composition of matter patents extend out to 2039. In our view, the \$1bn peak sales estimate still needs additional validation for future sales trends, especially as competitors enter the space. As such, we currently model peak sales of \$692mn in 2029 and look for updated management commentary on the long-term Orladeyo opportunity during the 4Q call. On pipeline, we highlight the recent R&D Analyst Day where management unveiled five new early-stage programs. On the 4Q call, we look for clarity on program timelines as well as

expectations for future proof-of-concept data readouts. Given pipeline is still early stage, we assign a \$1bn pipeline plug and await proof-of-concept data before breaking out stand-alone program value. We note Orladeyo continues to be the main driver to our valuation, contributing \$12/sh to our PO. We maintain our Buy rating with \$11 PO.

BNTX: Oncology pipeline expansion focus in 2024

BioNTech (BNTX, Buy, \$159 PO) reported 3Q23 COVID revenues of €894mn and updated its FY23 revenue guidance to €4bn. We model 4Q COVID revenues of €1.6bn (FY23: €3.97bn, 4Q cons: €1.9bn) in line with company guidance. The company also provided FY24 guidance of €3bn. We currently model €2.5bn (cons: €3.3bn). On the earnings call, we will look for color on expectations for vaccine uptake in 2024 as well as visibility on the mid- and long-term outlook for the COVID franchise. While we assume conservative uptake near-term, we reiterate our view that the potential for combination vaccines with other respiratory viruses including flu will likely be a key driver of long-term uptake and provide steady COVID revenues. We also await further color on updates for the oncology pipeline as the pipeline continues to mature. Recall, the company has highlighted their focus on expanding the oncology franchise with several late-stage trials to support potential launches starting in 2026. In our view, there is potential from additional upside at the current valuation. We maintain our Buy rating with \$159 PO.

Key data catalysts in 2024 include: (1) phase 2 data for BNT311 (anti-PD-L1/4-1BB bispecific) +/- pembrolizumab in relapsed refractory metastatic non-small cell lung cancer; (2) phase 1/2 expansion cohort data for BNT312 (anti-CD40/4-1BB bispecific), BNT316 (anti-CTLA-4) and BNT323 (anti-HER2) in multiple solid tumors. The company recently announced the phase 3 trial of BNT323 in metastatic breast cancer has initiated and is expected to enroll 532 patients; (3) phase 1/2 data for BNT325 (anti-TROP2) in multiple solid tumors; (4) phase 2 data for BNT327 (anti-PD-L1/VEGF bispecific) in multiple solid tumors. The company highlighted phase 2 data for BNT327 in combination with nab-paclitaxel in 1L triple negative breast cancer showing 78.6% objective response rate; (5) phase 2/3 data for Omicron XBB.1.5 monovalent vaccine; and (6) an update on the phase 1 trial of BNT167 (Shingles vaccine). Management commented that an update on the ongoing trial of BNT122 (iNeST) in colorectal cancer is expected in 2025.

FOLD: Looking for color on P&O launch dynamics

Amicus Therapeutics (FOLD, Buy \$19 PO) preannounced FY23 revenues for Galafold of ~\$387.8mn and Pombiliti+Opfolda (P&O) of ~\$11.6mn. The company also provided FY24 guidance for Galafold of 11-16% growth at constant exchange rate. We currently model \$439mn (+13% y/y) in Galafold revenues in 2024. On the call, we will look for additional color on the factors driving 2024 revenue to the low and high end of the guidance and expectations for the Fabry market dynamics. We will also focus on initial metrics of the P&O launch in late-onset Pompe disease, including initial uptake following transition of clinical trial and early access program patients in the US and EU, and the split between treatment-naïve and switch patients. We are encouraged by the continued growth of Galafold and strong positive metrics for the P&O launch. We maintain our Buy with \$19 PO.

INCY: Awaiting FY24 revenue guidance

Incyte (INCY, Neutral, \$69 PO) reported 3Q Jakafi revenue of \$636mn, citing inventory channel fluctuations impacting 3Q and Opzelura revenue of \$92mn. The company tightened the FY23 guidance for Jakafi to \$2.59-2.62bn. Management reported continued high Medicaid utilization volume impacting Opzelura revenues with gross-to-net (GTN) in 3Q at 54% and noted they expect it to remain around 55%. We continue to look for clarity on GTN dynamics in 2024 and long term for Opzelura. For 4Q, we model Jakafi revenue of \$702mn (+10% q/q, cons: \$697mn) and Opzelura revenue of \$103mn (+12% q/q, cons: \$104mn). See our estimates for INCY's additional products in Exhibit 2/Exhibit 2 below.



Exhibit 1: INCY 4Q23 revenue estimates vs consensus

Summary of 4Q23 estimates

Name	3Q23A	4Q23E	q/q %	Consensus 4Q23
Jakafi	\$636mm	\$702mm	10.3%	\$636mm
Opzelura	\$92mm	\$103mm	11.8%	\$92mm
Jakavi (Royalties)	\$97mm	\$100mm	3.9%	\$97mm
Iclusig	\$28mm	\$28mm	-0.1%	\$28mm
Pemazyre	\$19mm	\$23mm	20.7%	\$20mm
Olumiant (Royalties)	\$30mm	\$33mm	10.2%	\$30mm
Tabrecta (Royalties)	\$4mm	\$6mm	55.9%	\$6mm

Source: BofA Global Research estimates, Bloomberg

BofA GLOBAL RESEARCH

On the 4Q earnings call, we will focus on: (1) FY24 revenue guidance for Jakafi and expectations for competitive dynamics in myelofibrosis following the approval of Ojjaara (mometotinib); (2) color on dynamics of the launch of Opzelura in atopic dermatitis and vitiligo and real-world utilization metrics. We remain focused on commentary on gross-to-net dynamics in 2024. The company is planning to submit a supplemental new drug application for Opzelura in pediatric atopic dermatitis in mid-24 and we will look for color on the potential commercial opportunity; and (3) the company recently highlighted focus on axatilimab with an expected approval in 3L+ chronic graft-vs-host disease (cGVHD) in 2024. INCY is also planning to initiate a phase 3 trial for axa' in combination with steroids and phase 2 trial in combination with ruxolitinib both in 1L cGVHD in 2024. Additional catalysts include: (1) initiate a phase 3 trial for BET inhibitor in combination with rux' in 2H; (3) provide proof of concept data for zilurgisertib in combination with rux' by mid-24; and (4) initiate a phase 1 study for the next generation JAK inhibitor, JAK2V617F, in 1Q. We continue to look for clarity on the long-term opportunity for Opzelura and potential to expand the commercial opportunity for Jakafi.

In our DCF-based model, we roll the quarter and adjust our revenue estimates for the hematology/oncology pipeline in-line with company guidance of \$215-225mn. We also tweak our operating expense estimates based on recent trends.

NBIX: Expecting FY24 revenue guidance for Ingrezza

Neurocrine (NBIX, Buy, \$154 PO) reported 3Q Ingrezza revenue of \$486mn and raised the FY23 revenue guidance to \$1.82-1.84bn. We model 4Q Ingrezza revenues of \$499mn (cons: \$504mn) and FY23 revenues of \$1.83bn. We look for FY24 guidance including expectations for growth in tardive dyskinesia and the cadence of the launch in chorea associated with Huntington's disease. Management has commented chorea would have a modest contribution in 2023, but they expect a bigger marketing push in 2024 will help drive uptake. We remain encouraged by the strong commercial performance of Ingrezza and highlight near-term focus will be on the commercial opportunity in congenital adrenal hyperplasia (CAH) and timelines for the new drug application (NDA) filing expected in 2024. We maintain our Buy with \$154 PO.

On the 4Q earnings call, we will look for additional color on expectations for the phase 2 readout of NBI-1117568 (M4 agonist) in schizophrenia in 2H. We note the company recently highlighted the muscarinic targeting portfolio including several different mechanisms of action, which we view as an attractive commercial opportunity given strong clinical validation and potential in several large neuropsychiatric indications. Additional data catalysts for the company include: (1) phase 2 data for NBI-1065845 in inadequate response in major depressive disorder in 1H; (2) phase 2 data for luvadaxistat in cognitive impairment associated with schizophrenia in 2H; and (3) phase 2 data for Efmody in adrenal insufficiency and CAH in 1H.

PTCT: Clarity needed on 2024 commercial outlook

PTC Therapeutics (PTCT, Underperform, \$15 PO) preannounced total net revenues of \$946mn (+35% y/y) highlighting FY23 Translarna, Emflaza and Evrysdi unaudited revenues of \$355mn, \$255mn and \$278mn, respectively. For FY24, the company provided broad revenue guidance of \$600-850mn depending on the outcome of the

Translarna CHMP reexamination for EU conditional approval. Given the CHMP decided to maintain their negative opinion (see [our January 26th note](#)), we look for an updated commercial outlook on the 4Q earnings call. PTCT expects official EC ratification 67-days after the final decision (likely early-April) with subsequent Translarna removal from the EU markets. Management has previously highlighted that EU revenues account for roughly 45-48% of revenues but approval renewals in other territories like South Korea, Israel and Chile are likely dependent on EU approval, which would put these revenues also at risk. We look for clarity on the timing of these renewals as well as their relative revenue contribution. We maintain our Underperform with \$15 PO given the current shaky outlook for the company's commercial franchises and our continued view that pipeline programs still need de-risking.

Other focuses for the 4Q earnings call include: (1) color on expected impact of Emflaza loss of exclusivity in February; (2) updates on regulatory filing process for sepiapterin in phenylketonuria. PTCT last guided to submitting the marketing authorization application to the European Medicines Agency in 1Q and expects to submit a new drug application to the FDA no later than 3Q; (3) FDA feedback on a potential approval paths for Translarna in Duchenne muscular dystrophy and vatiquinone in Friedrich ataxia; (4) expectations for the interim 12-month data for the PIVOT-HD trial evaluating PTC518 in Huntington's disease in 2Q and the topline results for the phase 2 CardinALS trial evaluating utreloxastat in amyotrophic lateral sclerosis in 4Q; and (5) updates on the planned 1Q biologics license application submission for Upstaza for the treatment of aromatic L-amino acid decarboxylase deficiency.

RARE: Focus on late-stage pipeline catalysts in 2024

Ultragenyx (RARE, Buy, \$85 PO) preannounced FY23 results and provided sales guidance for 2024. The company reported preliminary 2023 total product revenue of \$430-435mn with Crysvita revenue of \$325-330mn (+17% y/y) and Dojolvi revenue of \$70-71mn (+27% y/y). For 2024, the company guided to \$500-530mn in total product revenue with Crysvita revenue guidance of \$375-400mn (ours: \$380mn) and Dojolvi revenue guidance of \$75-80mn (ours: \$77mn). We continue to be encouraged by the company's commercial performance in rare disease indications as well as their strong 2024 commercial outlook forecasting ~20% increases in revenue. Additionally, we note high focus on several upcoming pipeline updates that could offer future avenues of growth including: (1) phase 2 update for GTX-102 in Angelman syndrome in 1H. RARE's program is the furthest along in development; however, Ionis Pharmaceuticals (ticker: IONS; covered by Jason Gerberry) is close behind expecting to report out topline data from Part I of their phase 1/2a study in mid-2024. As such, we look for updated RARE timelines on program next steps noting high focus on regulatory feedback regarding a pivotal phase 3 trial design; (2) enrollment updates for the ongoing phase 3 study evaluating setrusumab in osteogenesis imperfecta (expected to complete in 1Q). Management has also guided to providing additional phase 2 data later in 2024; (3) expectations for the interim Stage 1 data evaluating UX701 in Wilson disease and phase 3 data for DTX401 in glycogen storage disease type Ia both expected in 1H; and (4) color on the value add for the upcoming WORLDSymposium presentation for UX111 in Sanfilippo syndrome. Recall, the company continues to seek an accelerated review path with the FDA. We view 2024 as an important year for the company as they look to bring their next stage of assets closer to commercialization. We maintain our Buy with \$85 PO and highlight RARE as one of our top picks of 2024.



RYTM: Focus on next gen pipeline franchise

Rhythm Pharmaceuticals (RYTM, Buy, \$49 PO) reported \$22.5mn (+17% q/q) in Imcivree revenue in 3Q. We model 4Q Imcivree sales of \$25.5mn (+13% q/q). We recently caught up with management who highlighted that they do not expect to provide FY24 Imcivree revenue guidance, citing the highly dynamic nature of a rare disease launch. Recall during the 3Q earnings call, RYTM estimated that roughly 80% of covered lives are in states with an Imcivree policy in place or in a state that has had a positive coverage decision. Furthermore, the average time for coverage approval is currently one to three months with an increased number of patients getting approval in the one-month range. Management estimates that roughly 20% of patients are on free drug with the expectation that they will tackle this population on an annual basis when payers update their policies. As such, we note higher focus on current Imcivree reimbursement dynamics given recent KOL feedback highlighting continued challenges getting Imcivree covered for their rare genetic obesity patients. Despite coverage headwinds, we continue to be encouraged by the current Imcivree commercial trajectory and note favorable payer dynamics could offer near-term upside to our current estimates. We also see potential upside within the pipeline given Imcivree expansion opportunity in hypothalamic obesity (HO; phase 3 data expected in 1H25) as well as next generation assets that could increase market share in current indications. We maintain our Buy with \$49 PO.

Additional focuses for the 4Q earnings call include: (1) updates regarding the agreement with LG Chem to acquire the global rights of LB54640 (oral MC4R agonist). Based on current timelines, RYTM expects to initiate 2 phase 2 studies in hypothalamic obesity and PPL (POMC, LEPR or PCSK1 deficiency obesity) later this year; (2) status update on the RM718 (weekly MC4R agonist) phase 1 dose finding study that is expected to initiate in 1H24; (3) expectations for phase 2 DAYBREAK Stage 2 data in 2H; and (4) clarity on timing of the supplementary new drug application submission for Imcivree in pediatric Bardet-Biedl syndrome and PPL patients expected in 1H.

SAGE: Looking for initial launch metrics for Zurzuva

Sage Therapeutics (SAGE, Neutral, \$30 PO) launched Zurzuva in post-partum depression (PPD) in mid-December 2023. The company has commented they expect a \$75mn milestone payment after achieving the first commercial sale. We currently model \$2.3mn (cons: \$1.6mn) for 4Q but note sales could be lower given the official launch occurred late in December. On the earnings call, we will look for color on initial launch metrics during the first few weeks since the launch and color on the ongoing conversations with payors to inform our estimates. Management has commented they are focusing on optimizing access to Zurzuva without the need for prior authorizations or step edits, which we think will be a key step for uptake. While we are encouraged by Zurzuva's clinical profile and high unmet need in PPD, we remain cautious on the long-term opportunity as diagnosis and treatments rates are low. We will continue to monitor for color on access and real-world use to understand better the commercial potential of Zurzuva. We maintain our Neutral with \$30 PO.

We highlight the company also has several phase readouts for dalzanemdor (SAGE-718) and SAGE423 in 2024. The company expected to present topline phase 2 data for dalzanemdor from: (1) PRECEDENT study in mild cognitive impairment associated (MCI) with Parkinson's disease in early-24 (Q1/Q2); (2) SURVEYOR study in Huntington's disease (HD) cognitive impairment in mid-24 (Q2/Q3); (3) LIGHTWAVE study in MCI and mild dementia due to Alzheimer's disease in late-24 (Q3/Q4); and (4) DIMENTION study in HD cognitive impairment in late-24. Additionally, topline data for the phase 2b KINET2 study evaluating SAGE-324 in essential tremor is expected in mid-24.

SRPT: Decision on Elevidys label expansion by August

Sarepta (SRPT, Buy, \$164 PO) pre-announced 4Q Elevidys revenues of \$131mn ahead of expectations and reported preliminary FY23 revenues for the exon skipping franchise of \$945mn ahead of guidance. We are encouraged by the strong momentum of the

Elevidys launch, highlighting the high demand and the continued growth of the exon skipping franchise. Near-term focus remains on the outcome of the regulatory decision regarding the label expansion for Elevidys in Duchenne muscular dystrophy (DMD). Recall, the company submitted the efficacy supplement in December and anticipates acceptance of the filing in March and an action date in August under standard regulatory timelines. However, the company has highlighted FDA's commitment for an expedited review. Management has noted they expect broad label inclusive for all DMD patients regardless of age or ambulatory status. We reiterate our view that a label expansion is likely based on the results from EMBARK, suggesting functional benefit based on the secondary timed functional tests. We think a label inclusive of all ambulatory patients is the most likely scenario but note recent commentary from Peter Marks (see our [Jan 9 note](#)) could indicate an all-inclusive label is not out of the question. We currently model 35% peak penetration and \$2.4bn in risk-adjusted peak sales for Elevidys but highlight there is room for additional upside under a broad label inclusive of all patients. On the earnings call, we will focus on updates on the regulatory review process for Elevidys and expectations for the cadence of the launch near term under the current label. We will also look for color on expectations for the exon skipping franchise in 2024 and beyond given the expected cannibalization from Elevidys. We reiterate SRPT as one of our top picks for 2024. We maintain our Buy rating with \$164 PO.

Exhibit 2: Summary of key changes

Summary of key changes for our covered names made in this report

Ticker		INCY	
Rating		B-2-9	
Price		\$58.22	
Estimates	Prev.	Current	
Price Obj.	\$69	\$69	
2023E EPS	2.20	2.40	
2024E EPS	2.64	2.76	
2025E EPS	3.80	3.59	

Source: BofA Global Research, Bloomberg

BofA GLOBAL RESEARCH

Exhibit 3: Stocks mentioned

List of company tickers mentioned in this report

Ticker	Company name	Rating	Price	Price Obj.
ACAD	ACADIA Pharmaceuticals Inc	C-2-9	\$25.28	\$33
ALNY	Alnylam Pharmaceuticals Inc	B-1-9	\$173.37	\$246
APLS	Apellis Pharmaceuticals Inc	C-1-9	\$62.27	\$77
ARGX	Argenx SE	C-1-9	\$378.15	\$557
ASND	Ascendis Pharma A/S	C-1-9	\$141.70	\$156
BCRX	BioCryst Pharmaceuticals Inc	C-1-9	\$5.09	\$11
BNTX	BioNTech SE	C-1-9	\$93.03	\$159
FOLD	Amicus Therapeutics Inc	C-1-9	\$12.32	\$19
INCY	Incyte Corp	B-2-9	\$58.22	\$69
NBIX	Neurocrine Biosciences Inc	B-1-9	\$142.29	\$154
PTCT	PTC Therapeutics Inc	C-3-9	\$25.30	\$15
RARE	Ultragenyx Pharmaceutical Inc	C-1-9	\$43.22	\$85
RYTM	Rhythm Pharmaceuticals Inc	C-1-9	\$44.98	\$49
SAGE	Sage Therapeutics Inc	C-2-9	\$24.72	\$30
SRPT	Sarepta Therapeutics Inc	C-1-9	\$122.79	\$164

Source: BofA Global Research, Bloomberg

BofA GLOBAL RESEARCH

Price objective basis & risk

Acadia Pharmaceuticals (ACAD)

Our DCF-derived PO of \$33 encompasses commercial drug Nuplazid in PDP at \$14/share. Daybue in Rett represents \$18/share to our PO. The remainder of our net



present value (NPV) comes from pipeline and cash. We use a weighted-average cost of capital (WACC) of 9% for PDP and Rett, consistent with how we value other drugs in similar stages of development in our coverage universe. We assume a 21% tax rate for ACAD and zero terminal value.

Downside risks to our PO are 1) slower-than-expected commercialization of Nuplazid and Daybue, 2) stronger-than-expected competition from other 5HT2A compounds and other drugs in development for the same indications as Nuplazid and Daybue, and 3) negative results in pipeline indications.

Upside risks are 1) faster-than-expected Nuplazid and Daybue uptake in the US, 2) potential for partnerships or transactions with larger pharma companies, and 3) advances of early-stage pipeline assets in pain and central nervous system (CNS) disorders.

Alnylam Pharmaceuticals (ALNY)

Our PO of \$246 for ALNY consists of \$4/share for Onpattro, \$120/share for Vutrisiran, \$25/share for Givlaari and Lumasiran, \$6/share for Leqvio, \$7/share for Fitusiran, \$20/share for ALN-AGT, \$52/sh for other pipeline and partnered assets and \$11/sh for net cash. We apply a WACC of 9% for commercial-stage assets, 10% for Vutrisiran in ATTR-CM, 10% for other late stage pipeline, and 11% for ALN-AGT.

Upside risks to our PO are 1) better-than-expected uptake of its marketed stage assets, 2) approval of Onpattro and Vutrisiran in ATTR cardiomyopathy, 3) early-stage pipeline advancing into late-stage development, and 4) positive results from partnered programs.

Downside risks to our PO are 1) slower-than-expected uptake of commercial assets, 2) unexpected safety in its siRNA-based assets, and 3) higher-than-expected expenses.

Amicus Therapeutics (FOLD)

We use a sum of the parts DCF valuation to arrive at our \$19 price objective (PO) for Amicus Therapeutics (FOLD). We value lead asset migalastat Galafold at \$10/share using a WACC of 9%, similar to how we value other assets in similar stages of development. Pombiliti in Pompe contributes \$11/sh to our DCF derived PO. We value Pombiliti using a 9% WACC. The remainder of our valuation comes from the pipeline and cash, contributing -\$2 to our PO. Our DCF goes out to 2035 and we use a zero terminal value, consistent with how we value other companies.

Upside risks to our PO are 1) stronger than expected sales of migalastat in the US, 2) identification of additional amenable mutations treatable by migalastat, 3) stronger than expected launch for Pombiliti, and 5) durability and efficacy data from the early stage gene therapy programs.

Downside risks to our PO are 1) failure of one or more of FOLD's products to reach the market, 2) slower than expected uptake for migalastat, 3) better than expected success for competing marketed and development stage drugs.

Apellis Pharmaceuticals (APLS)

Our price objective (PO) of \$77 is based on a probability-adjusted net present value (NPV) analysis that includes \$15/share for peg' in PNH and \$73/share for peg' in GA and -\$11/share for pipeline/corporate expenses and cash. The remainder of our valuation comes from pipeline and net cash.

Our discounted cash flow (DCF)-based model assumes sales out to 2036 with no terminal growth, with weighted average cost of capital (WACC) of 9% for PNH and GA, and 12% for pipeline.

Upside risks to our PO are 1) better-than-expected penetration in PNH and/or GA, 2) clarity around reports of rare events of occlusive retinal vasculitis following Syfovre injection, 3) less-than-expected neovascularization event in GA in real-world use, 34) faster-than-expected uptake of peg' in GA, and 5) positive data from other complement-related indications, such as C3G, and CAD.

Downside risks to our PO are 1) higher-than-expected neovascularization or occlusive retinal vasculitis events in GA in real-world setting, 2) better-than-expected results from competitors, 3) delay or failure to obtain regulatory approval, and 4) failure to expand into other complement-related indications.

Argenx SE (ARGX)

Our price objective of \$557 is based on our DCF-derived model with valuations assigned for efgartigimod in Myasthenia Gravis (\$307), Immune Thrombocytopenia (\$6), and Chronic Inflammatory Demyelinating Polyneuropathy (\$161), pipeline and corporate expenses (\$30) and cash. We assign 9% WACC for MG, 10% for ITP, and CIDP. Our DCF valuation is based on estimates out to 2038. We assume peak penetrations of 10%-35% in US depending on the indication.

Upside risks to our PO are (1) better-than-expected efficacy in efgartigimod indications, (2) faster-than-anticipated timeline to approval, (3) additional indications advancing in clinical development, (4) positive data from its partnerships, and (5) higher-than-expected pricing at launch.

Downside risks to our PO are (1) competitors have better-than-expected efficacy, (2) failure to achieve clinically meaningful results in ongoing studies, and (3) unexpected safety events in ongoing trials.

Ascendis Pharma (ASND)

Our \$156 price objective for ASND includes \$49 for TransCon GH, \$94 for TransCon PTH, \$8 for oncology assets, and the remainder of value coming from net cash and pipeline. We use a 9% weighted-average cost of capital (WACC) for GH and 10% WACC for PTH, consistent with how we model other drugs in a similar development stage. We assume zero terminal value for all products, also consistent with our valuation of other covered companies.

Risks to our price objective are slower TransCon GH sales, higher-than-expected competition from other long-acting therapies, failure of PTH to advance to commercialization and pushback on pricing from payors.

Biocryst Pharmaceuticals Inc (BCRX)

Our DCF-derived PO of \$11 is comprised of \$12/share for Orladeyo in preventing HAE attacks, pipeline/corporate expenses, and net cash. We assume a 9% WACC for Orladeyo and 14% WACC for pipeline expenses. We assume no terminal value.

Upside risks to our price objective are 1) Orladeyo uptake faster than we expect, 2) failure of competitor products in development for HAE, 3) increased government funding, and 4) positive outcome from BCX10013 in PNH, C3G and other complement-mediated diseases.

Downside risks to our price objective are 1) slower-than-expected Orladeyo market penetration, 2) high discontinuation rate of Orladeyo, 3) unexpected long term safety concerns, 4) stronger preference for competing products including Takhzyro, and 5) failure of pipeline products, such as BCX10013 in PNH.

BioNTech (BNTX)



Our DCF-derived PO of \$159 for BNTX consists of \$18/share for FixVac over four indications (melanoma, H&N, prostate) and \$5/share for iNeST over four indications (solid tumors). We assign \$76/share to the Comirnaty COVID vaccine and -\$15/share to BNTX's early-stage pipeline assets including intratumoral immunotherapy, RiboMabs, RiboCytokines and engineered cell therapy and antibody platforms, as well as future potential infectious disease indications. The remaining value in our PO comes from cash. We use 12-14% WACC for FixVac, 12-13% WACC for iNeST, and 8% for BNT162 (COVID vaccine). We also assume 1.5% terminal growth for FixVac and iNeST.

Upside risks to our price objective are 1) approval of COVID vaccine boosters in a broad population, 2) positive data from clinical-stage programs (FixVac and iNeST) in oncology including melanoma and other solid tumors, 3) potential to reach earlier line patient populations based on combination therapies, and 4) positive data from early stage assets from other platforms including cell therapies, antibodies and small molecule immunomodulators.

Downside risks are 1) failure to show benefit in clinical studies, 2) failure to reach optimized turnaround time for iNeST, 3) visibility needed on regulatory path forward for iNeST, 4) competition from other companies pursuing the same therapeutic modalities, and 5) challenges in scaling up to commercial manufacturing capacity.

Incyte Corporation (INCY)

Our PO of \$69 for INCY consists of \$41/share for Jakafi/Jakavi, \$19/share for Ruxolitinib cream, \$3/share for Pemazyre, -\$2/share for Monjuvi, \$3/share for Olumiant royalty, \$0.2/share for Iclusig, \$0.5/share for Tabrecta royalty, -\$13/share for pipeline, and the remainder in net cash. We apply a weighted-average cost of capital (WACC) of 9% for commercial-stage assets, 10% for late-stage clinical pipeline, and 11% for earlier-stage clinical pipeline with no terminal value.

Upside risks to our PO are 1) positive data from clinical trials in the pipeline, 2) better than expected results from its marketed assets, 3) additional updates from early-stage assets.

Downside risks to our PO are 1) failure of Jakafi or Opzelura to meet our estimates, 2) business development events that investors view negatively, or 3) negative data in clinical trials.

Neurocrine Biosciences (NBIX)

Our DCF-derived PO of \$154 consists of \$124/share for Ingrezza for tardive dyskinesia, \$6/share for chorea and \$8/share for CAH. Royalties from Orilissa for endometriosis and Oriahnn for uterine fibroids represent another \$3/share. The rest of the valuation is attributed to cash, corporate expense and pipeline assets. We use a 9% weighted-average cost of capital (WACC) for commercial assets and assume no terminal value, consistent with other companies under coverage that have commercial products, and 13% WACC for pipeline.

Downside risks to our price objective and estimates are Ingrezza not approved for chorea in Huntington's patients, pipeline setbacks, higher-than-expected operating expenses, greater-than-expected competition from other drugs, earlier-than-expected generic competition to NBIX's products, potential for future dilutive cash raises, potential for the US drug pricing environment to worsen and any unexpected management changes.

PTC Therapeutics (PTCT)

Our \$15 price objective for PTC reflects \$3 for Translarna in DMD, \$7 for Evrysdi in SMA, \$3 for Emflaza, \$8 for GT-AADC, \$5 for PKU, and the remainder of our valuation is cash and pipeline spend. We use an 10% WACC for Translarna, a 9% WACC for Emflaza

and Evrysdi, and an 10% WACC for Upstaza (PCT-AADC) and sepiapterin, consistent with how we model drugs in similar stage of development. We attach a 14% WACC to the early-stage pipeline pending presentation of data. We assume zero terminal value for all products, also consistent with our valuation of other covered companies.

Downside risks to our price objective are removal of the approval for Translarna in other ex-US territories, failure to receive approval for Translarna in the US, and slower than expected uptake for Evrysdi in SMA and Upstaza in AADC deficiency.

Upside risks to our price objective are faster-than-expected uptake of Evrysdi in SMA, higher Emflaza or Translarna sales than expected, US approval for DMD, and a successful AADC launch.

Rhythm Pharmaceuticals (RYTM)

Our DCF-derived PO of \$49/share includes \$27/share for Imcivree (setmelanotide) for treatment of POMC null, leptin receptor deficiency (LepR), Bardet-Biedl syndrome (BBS) and basket indication, and \$15/sh for hypothalamic obesity (HO). We use a 14% WACC on pipeline expenses, 11% on basket and HO, and 9% in approved indications including PPL deficiency and BBS. We assume no terminal value, consistent with other companies under coverage. The remainder of our valuation is cash and pipeline.

Downside risks to our price objective and estimates are unsuccessful clinical trials, lower-than-expected diagnosis rate, higher-than-expected operating costs, lower-than-expected market penetration, potential for dilutive cash raises in the future and any unexpected management changes.

Upside risks are faster-than-anticipated commercial uptake and progress in additional genetic obesity indications.

SAGE Therapeutics (SAGE)

Our discounted cash flow (DCF)-derived PO of \$30 for SAGE consists of \$2/share for Zulresso in PPD. Zuranolone contributes \$7/share to our PO for PPD and \$4/share in MDD. The remaining value in our PO comes from cash (\$14/sh), corporate expenses and pipeline (\$1/sh) milestones (\$2/sh). We use a 9% weighted-average cost of capital (WACC) for Zulresso, a 9% WACC for Zuranolone in PPD, and 11% WACC in MDD, and assume no terminal value for SAGE.

Upside risks to our price objective are 1) approval of zuranolone in MDD, 2) higher-than-expected penetration of zuranolone in PPD and MDD, and 3) positive data from early stage assets.

Downside risks are 1) failure of Zuranolone in MDD, 2) failure of other clinical programs, and 3) lower-than-expected penetration of zuranolone and Zulresso

Sarepta Therapeutics (SRPT)

Our \$164 PO is based on a probability-adjusted net present value (NPV) analysis that includes \$17/share for Exondys, \$8/share for Vyondys, \$22/share for Amondys, \$78/share for micro-dystrophin gene therapy, \$38/share for LGMD assets. The remainder of our valuation comes from pipeline and cash. Our discounted cash flow (DCF) analysis assumes sales out to 2035, with weighted average cost of capital (WACC) of 9-13%.

Upside risks to our PO are 1) better-than-expected market uptake from its exon skipping assets, 2) SRP-9001 US label expansion, and 3) EU approval of SRP-9001 and other assets.

Downside risks to our PO are 1) failure and delay in approval for exon skipping assets, 2)

unexpected safety or durability findings in gene therapy programs, 3) other micro dystrophin competitors, and 4) higher-than-expected royalty payments.

Ultragenyx Pharmaceuticals (RARE)

Our DCF-derived PO of \$85 for RARE consists of \$10/share for Dojolvi in LC-FAOD, \$20/share for Crysvita in XLH and TIO, \$0.5/share for Mepsevii in MPS7, \$16/share for Angelman, \$43/share for gene therapy assets and the remainder for cash and RARE's pipeline. We use a 9% WACC for approved products, 11-12% for clinical-stage products, such as gene therapy programs.

Upside risks to our price objective are: 1) better than expected uptake for its approved products, 2) positive data for clinical stage assets, and 3) accelerated approval for its drug candidates.

Downside risks are: 1) low penetration into rare disease populations, 2) negative data for clinical stage assets, 3) unexpected safety risks associated with clinical stage drug candidates, 4) unexpected generic competition.

Analyst Certification

I, Tazeen Ahmad, hereby certify that the views expressed in this research report accurately reflect my personal views about the subject securities and issuers. I also certify that no part of my compensation was, is, or will be, directly or indirectly, related to the specific recommendations or view expressed in this research report.

US - Biotechnology Coverage Cluster

Investment rating	Company	BofA Ticker	Bloomberg symbol	Analyst
BUY				
	4D Molecular Therapeutics, Inc.	FDMT	FDMT US	Tazeen Ahmad
	Alnylam Pharmaceuticals	ALNY	ALNY US	Tazeen Ahmad
	Amicus Therapeutics	FOLD	FOLD US	Tazeen Ahmad
	Annexon Biosciences	ANNX	ANNX US	Tazeen Ahmad
	Apellis Pharmaceuticals	APLS	APLS US	Tazeen Ahmad
	Argenx SE	ARGX	ARGX US	Tazeen Ahmad
	Arvinas	ARVN	ARVN US	Tazeen Ahmad
	Ascendis Pharma	ASND	ASND US	Tazeen Ahmad
	Biocryst Pharmaceuticals Inc	BCRX	BCRX US	Tazeen Ahmad
	BioNTech	BNTX	BNTX US	Tazeen Ahmad
	Denali Therapeutics	DNLI	DNLI US	Tazeen Ahmad
	Inozyme Pharma, Inc.	INZY	INZY US	Tazeen Ahmad
	Merus	MRUS	MRUS US	Tazeen Ahmad
	Neurocrine Biosciences	NBIX	NBIX US	Tazeen Ahmad
	PepGen Inc	PEPG	PEPG US	Tazeen Ahmad
	Rhythm Pharmaceuticals	RYTM	RYTM US	Tazeen Ahmad
	Sarepta Therapeutics	SRPT	SRPT US	Tazeen Ahmad
	Ultragenyx Pharmaceuticals	RARE	RARE US	Tazeen Ahmad
NEUTRAL				
	Acadia Pharmaceuticals	ACAD	ACAD US	Tazeen Ahmad
	Incyte Corporation	INCY	INCY US	Tazeen Ahmad
	Prothena Corporation	PRTA	PRTA US	Tazeen Ahmad
	SAGE Therapeutics	SAGE	SAGE US	Tazeen Ahmad
UNDERPERFORM				
	Achilles Therapeutics	ACHL	ACHL US	Tazeen Ahmad
	Fate Therapeutics	FATE	FATE US	Tazeen Ahmad
	Fulcrum Therapeutics	FULC	FULC US	Tazeen Ahmad
	Pharvaris	PHVS	PHVS US	Tazeen Ahmad
	PTC Therapeutics	PTCT	PTCT US	Tazeen Ahmad

Disclosures

Important Disclosures

Equity Investment Rating Distribution: Health Care Group (as of 31 Dec 2023)

Coverage Universe	Count	Percent	Inv. Banking Relationships ^{R1}	Count	Percent
Buy	234	60.94%	Buy	115	49.15%
Hold	80	20.83%	Hold	36	45.00%
Sell	70	18.23%	Sell	29	41.43%

Equity Investment Rating Distribution: Global Group (as of 31 Dec 2023)

Coverage Universe	Count	Percent	Inv. Banking Relationships ^{R1}	Count	Percent
Buy	1895	53.62%	Buy	1083	57.15%
Hold	832	23.54%	Hold	454	54.57%
Sell	807	22.84%	Sell	383	47.46%

^{R1} Issuers that were investment banking clients of BofA Securities or one of its affiliates within the past 12 months. For purposes of this Investment Rating Distribution, the coverage universe includes only stocks. A stock rated Neutral is included as a Hold, and a stock rated Underperform is included as a Sell.



FUNDAMENTAL EQUITY OPINION KEY: Opinions include a Volatility Risk Rating, an Investment Rating and an Income Rating. **VOLATILITY RISK RATINGS**, indicators of potential price fluctuation, are: A - Low, B - Medium and C - High. **INVESTMENT RATINGS** reflect the analyst's assessment of both a stock's absolute total return potential as well as its attractiveness for investment relative to other stocks within its Coverage Cluster (defined below). Our investment ratings are: 1 - Buy stocks are expected to have a total return of at least 10% and are the most attractive stocks in the coverage cluster; 2 - Neutral stocks are expected to remain flat or increase in value and are less attractive than Buy rated stocks and 3 - Underperform stocks are the least attractive stocks in a coverage cluster. An investment rating of 6 (No Rating) indicates that a stock is no longer trading on the basis of fundamentals. Analysts assign investment ratings considering, among other things, the 0-12 month total return expectation for a stock and the firm's guidelines for ratings dispersions (shown in the table below). The current price objective for a stock should be referenced to better understand the total return expectation at any given time. The price objective reflects the analyst's view of the potential price appreciation (depreciation).

Investment rating	Total return expectation (within 12-month period of date of initial rating)	Ratings dispersion guidelines for coverage cluster ^{R2}
Buy	≥ 10%	≤ 70%
Neutral	≥ 0%	≤ 30%
Underperform	N/A	≥ 20%

^{R2}Ratings dispersions may vary from time to time where BofA Global Research believes it better reflects the investment prospects of stocks in a Coverage Cluster.

INCOME RATINGS, indicators of potential cash dividends, are: 7 - same/higher (dividend considered to be secure), 8 - same/lower (dividend not considered to be secure) and 9 - pays no cash dividend. *Coverage Cluster* is comprised of stocks covered by a single analyst or two or more analysts sharing a common industry, sector, region or other classification(s). A stock's coverage cluster is included in the most recent BofA Global Research report referencing the stock.

Price Charts for the securities referenced in this research report are available on the [Price Charts website](#), or call 1-800-MERRILL to have them mailed.

BofAS or one of its affiliates acts as a market maker for the equity securities recommended in the report: Acadia Ph, Alnylam, Amicus Therapeutics, Apellis, Argenx, Ascendis, Biocryst Pharma, BioNTech, Incyte, Neurocrine, PTC Therapeutics, Rhythm Pharmaceu, SAGE Therapeutics, Sarepta, Ultragenyx Pharm.

BofAS or an affiliate was a manager of a public offering of securities of this issuer within the last 12 months: Argenx SE, Ultragenyx Pharmaceu.

The issuer is or was, within the last 12 months, an investment banking client of BofAS and/or one or more of its affiliates: Acadia Pharmaceutica, Alnylam Pharmaceutic, Argenx SE, Biocryst, BioNTech, Neurocrine Bioscienc, Ultragenyx Pharmaceu.

BofAS or an affiliate has received compensation from the issuer for non-investment banking services or products within the past 12 months: Acadia Pharmaceutica, Alnylam Pharmaceutic, Ascendis Pharma, Biocryst, BioNTech, Incyte, Rhythm Pharmaceutica, Sarepta Therapeutics.

The issuer is or was, within the last 12 months, a non-securities business client of BofAS and/or one or more of its affiliates: Acadia Pharmaceutica, Alnylam Pharmaceutic, Ascendis Pharma, Biocryst, BioNTech, Incyte, Rhythm Pharmaceutica, Sarepta Therapeutics.

BofAS or an affiliate has received compensation for investment banking services from this issuer within the past 12 months: Argenx SE, Biocryst, BioNTech, Neurocrine Bioscienc, Ultragenyx Pharmaceu.

BofAS or an affiliate expects to receive or intends to seek compensation for investment banking services from this issuer or an affiliate of the issuer within the next three months: Acadia Pharmaceutica, Alnylam Pharmaceutic, Argenx SE, Biocryst, BioNTech, Neurocrine Bioscienc.

BofAS together with its affiliates beneficially owns one percent or more of the common stock of this issuer. If this report was issued on or after the 9th day of the month, it reflects the ownership position on the last day of the previous month. Reports issued before the 9th day of a month reflect the ownership position at the end of the second month preceding the date of the report: Sarepta Therapeutics.

BofAS or one of its affiliates is willing to sell to, or buy from, clients the common equity of the issuer on a principal basis: Acadia Ph, Alnylam, Amicus Therapeutics, Apellis, Argenx, Ascendis, Biocryst Pharma, BioNTech, Incyte, Neurocrine, PTC Therapeutics, Rhythm Pharmaceu, SAGE Therapeutics, Sarepta, Ultragenyx Pharm.

The issuer is or was, within the last 12 months, a securities business client (non-investment banking) of BofAS and/or one or more of its affiliates: Alnylam Pharmaceutic, Ascendis Pharma, Biocryst, BioNTech, Incyte, Sarepta Therapeutics.

BofA Global Research personnel (including the analyst(s) responsible for this report) receive compensation based upon, among other factors, the overall profitability of Bank of America Corporation, including profits derived from investment banking. The analyst(s) responsible for this report may also receive compensation based upon, among other factors, the overall profitability of the Bank's sales and trading businesses relating to the class of securities or financial instruments for which such analyst is responsible.

Other Important Disclosures

From time to time research analysts conduct site visits of covered issuers. BofA Global Research policies prohibit research analysts from accepting payment or reimbursement for travel expenses from the issuer for such visits.

Prices are indicative and for information purposes only. Except as otherwise stated in the report, for any recommendation in relation to an equity security, the price referenced is the publicly traded price of the security as of close of business on the day prior to the date of the report or, if the report is published during intraday trading, the price referenced is indicative of the traded price as of the date and time of the report and in relation to a debt security (including equity preferred and CDS), prices are indicative as of the date and time of the report and are from various sources including BofA Securities trading desks.

The date and time of completion of the production of any recommendation in this report shall be the date and time of dissemination of this report as recorded in the report timestamp.

Recipients who are not institutional investors or market professionals should seek the advice of their independent financial advisor before considering information in this report in connection with any investment decision, or for a necessary explanation of its contents.

Officers of BofAS or one or more of its affiliates (other than research analysts) may have a financial interest in securities of the issuer(s) or in related investments.

Refer to [BofA Global Research policies relating to conflicts of interest](#).

"BofA Securities" includes BofA Securities, Inc. ("BofAS") and its affiliates. Investors should contact their BofA Securities representative or Merrill Global Wealth Management financial advisor if they have questions concerning this report or concerning the appropriateness of any investment idea described herein for such investor. "BofA Securities" is a global brand for BofA Global Research.

Information relating to Non-US affiliates of BofA Securities and Distribution of Affiliate Research Reports:

BofAS and/or Merrill Lynch, Pierce, Fenner & Smith Incorporated ("MLPF&S") may in the future distribute, information of the following non-US affiliates in the US (short name: legal name, regulator): Merrill Lynch (South Africa): Merrill Lynch South Africa (Pty) Ltd., regulated by The Financial Service Board; MLI (UK): Merrill Lynch International, regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority (FCA) and the Prudential Regulation Authority (PRA); BofASE (France): BofA Securities Europe SA is authorized by the Autorité de Contrôle Prudentiel et de Résolution (ACPR) and regulated by the ACPR and the Autorité des Marchés Financiers (AMF). BofA Securities Europe SA ("BofASE") with registered address at 51, rue La Boétie, 75008 Paris is registered under no 842 602 690 RCS Paris. In accordance with the provisions of French Code Monétaire et Financier (Monetary and Financial Code), BofASE is an établissement de crédit et d'investissement (credit and investment institution) that is authorised and supervised by the European Central Bank and the Autorité de Contrôle Prudentiel et de Résolution (ACPR) and regulated by the ACPR and the Autorité des Marchés Financiers. BofASE's share capital can be found at www.bofamli.com/BofASEdisclaimer; BofA Europe (Milan): Bank of America Europe Designated Activity Company, Milan Branch, regulated by the Bank of Italy, the European Central Bank (ECB) and the Central Bank of Ireland (CBI); BofA Europe (Frankfurt): Bank of America Europe Designated Activity Company, Frankfurt Branch regulated by BaFin, the ECB and the CBI; BofA Europe (Madrid): Bank of America Europe Designated Activity Company, Sucursal en España, regulated by the Bank of Spain, the ECB and the CBI; Merrill Lynch (Australia): Merrill Lynch Equities (Australia) Limited, regulated by the Australian Securities and Investments Commission; Merrill Lynch (Hong Kong): Merrill Lynch (Asia Pacific) Limited, regulated by the Hong Kong Securities and Futures Commission (HKSF); Merrill Lynch (Singapore): Merrill Lynch (Singapore) Pte Ltd, regulated by the Monetary Authority

of Singapore (MAS); Merrill Lynch (Canada): Merrill Lynch Canada Inc, regulated by the Canadian Investment Regulatory Organization; Merrill Lynch (Mexico): Merrill Lynch Mexico, SA de CV, Casa de Bolsa, regulated by the Comisión Nacional Bancaria y de Valores; Merrill Lynch (Argentina): Merrill Lynch Argentina SA, regulated by Comisión Nacional de Valores; BofA Japan: BofA Securities Japan Co., Ltd., regulated by the Financial Services Agency; Merrill Lynch (Seoul): Merrill Lynch International, LLC Seoul Branch, regulated by the Financial Supervisory Service; Merrill Lynch (Taiwan): Merrill Lynch Securities (Taiwan) Ltd., regulated by the Securities and Futures Bureau; BofA India: BofA Securities India Limited, regulated by the Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI); Merrill Lynch (Israel): Merrill Lynch Israel Limited, regulated by Israel Securities Authority; Merrill Lynch (DIFC): Merrill Lynch International (DIFC Branch), regulated by the Dubai Financial Services Authority (DFSA); Merrill Lynch (Brazil): Merrill Lynch S.A. Corretora de Títulos e Valores Mobiliários, regulated by Comissão de Valores Mobiliários; Merrill Lynch KSA Company: Merrill Lynch Kingdom of Saudi Arabia Company, regulated by the Capital Market Authority.

This information: has been approved for publication and is distributed in the United Kingdom (UK) to professional clients and eligible counterparties (as each is defined in the rules of the FCA and the PRA) by MLI (UK), which is authorized by the PRA and regulated by the FCA and the PRA - details about the extent of our regulation by the FCA and PRA are available from us on request; has been approved for publication and is distributed in the European Economic Area (EEA) by BofASE (France), which is authorized by the ACPR and regulated by the ACPR and the AMF; has been considered and distributed in Japan by BofAS Japan, a registered securities dealer under the Financial Instruments and Exchange Act in Japan, or its permitted affiliates; is issued and distributed in Hong Kong by Merrill Lynch (Hong Kong) which is regulated by HKSCF; is issued and distributed in Taiwan by Merrill Lynch (Taiwan); is issued and distributed in India by BofAS India; and is issued and distributed in Singapore to institutional investors and/or accredited investors (each as defined under the Financial Advisers Regulations) by Merrill Lynch (Singapore) (Company Registration No 198602883D). Merrill Lynch (Singapore) is regulated by MAS. Merrill Lynch Equities (Australia) Limited (ABN 65 006 276 795), AFS License 235132 (MLEA) distributes this information in Australia only to 'Wholesale' clients as defined by s.761G of the Corporations Act 2001. With the exception of Bank of America N.A., Australia Branch, neither MLEA nor any of its affiliates involved in preparing this information is an Authorised Deposit-Taking Institution under the Banking Act 1959 nor regulated by the Australian Prudential Regulation Authority. No approval is required for publication or distribution of this information in Brazil and its local distribution is by Merrill Lynch (Brazil) in accordance with applicable regulations. Merrill Lynch (DIFC) is authorized and regulated by the DFSA. Information prepared and issued by Merrill Lynch (DIFC) is done so in accordance with the requirements of the DFSA conduct of business rules. BofA Europe (Frankfurt) distributes this information in Germany and is regulated by BaFin, the ECB and the CBI. BofA Securities entities, including BofA Europe and BofASE (France), may outsource/delegate the marketing and/or provision of certain research services or aspects of research services to other branches or members of the BofA Securities group. You may be contacted by a different BofA Securities entity acting for and on behalf of your service provider where permitted by applicable law. This does not change your service provider. Please refer to the [Electronic Communications Disclaimers](#) for further information.

This information has been prepared and issued by BofAS and/or one or more of its non-US affiliates. The author(s) of this information may not be licensed to carry on regulated activities in your jurisdiction and, if not licensed, do not hold themselves out as being able to do so. BofAS and/or MLPF&S is the distributor of this information in the US and accepts full responsibility for information distributed to BofAS and/or MLPF&S clients in the US by its non-US affiliates. Any US person receiving this information and wishing to effect any transaction in any security discussed herein should do so through BofAS and/or MLPF&S and not such foreign affiliates. Hong Kong recipients of this information should contact Merrill Lynch (Asia Pacific) Limited in respect of any matters relating to dealing in securities or provision of specific advice on securities or any other matters arising from, or in connection with, this information. Singapore recipients of this information should contact Merrill Lynch (Singapore) Pte Ltd in respect of any matters arising from, or in connection with, this information. For clients that are not accredited investors, expert investors or institutional investors Merrill Lynch (Singapore) Pte Ltd accepts full responsibility for the contents of this information distributed to such clients in Singapore.

General Investment Related Disclosures:

Taiwan Readers: Neither the information nor any opinion expressed herein constitutes an offer or a solicitation of an offer to transact in any securities or other financial instrument. No part of this report may be used or reproduced or quoted in any manner whatsoever in Taiwan by the press or any other person without the express written consent of BofA Securities. This document provides general information only, and has been prepared for, and is intended for general distribution to, BofA Securities clients. Neither the information nor any opinion expressed constitutes an offer or an invitation to make an offer, to buy or sell any securities or other financial instrument or any derivative related to such securities or instruments (e.g., options, futures, warrants, and contracts for differences). This document is not intended to provide personal investment advice and it does not take into account the specific investment objectives, financial situation and the particular needs of, and is not directed to, any specific person(s). This document and its content do not constitute, and should not be considered to constitute, investment advice for purposes of ERISA, the US tax code, the Investment Advisers Act or otherwise. Investors should seek financial advice regarding the appropriateness of investing in financial instruments and implementing investment strategies discussed or recommended in this document and should understand that statements regarding future prospects may not be realized. Any decision to purchase or subscribe for securities in any offering must be based solely on existing public information on such security or the information in the prospectus or other offering document issued in connection with such offering, and not on this document.

Securities and other financial instruments referred to herein, or recommended, offered or sold by BofA Securities, are not insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation and are not deposits or other obligations of any insured depository institution (including, Bank of America, N.A.). Investments in general and, derivatives, in particular, involve numerous risks, including, among others, market risk, counterparty default risk and liquidity risk. No security, financial instrument or derivative is suitable for all investors. Digital assets are extremely speculative, volatile and are largely unregulated. In some cases, securities and other financial instruments may be difficult to value or sell and reliable information about the value or risks related to the security or financial instrument may be difficult to obtain. Investors should note that income from such securities and other financial instruments, if any, may fluctuate and that price or value of such securities and instruments may rise or fall and, in some cases, investors may lose their entire principal investment. Past performance is not necessarily a guide to future performance. Levels and basis for taxation may change.

This report may contain a short-term trading idea or recommendation, which highlights a specific near-term catalyst or event impacting the issuer or the market that is anticipated to have a short-term price impact on the equity securities of the issuer. Short-term trading ideas and recommendations are different from and do not affect a stock's fundamental equity rating, which reflects both a longer term total return expectation and attractiveness for investment relative to other stocks within its Coverage Cluster. Short-term trading ideas and recommendations may be more or less positive than a stock's fundamental equity rating.

BofA Securities is aware that the implementation of the ideas expressed in this report may depend upon an investor's ability to "short" securities or other financial instruments and that such action may be limited by regulations prohibiting or restricting "shortselling" in many jurisdictions. Investors are urged to seek advice regarding the applicability of such regulations prior to executing any short idea contained in this report.

Foreign currency rates of exchange may adversely affect the value, price or income of any security or financial instrument mentioned herein. Investors in such securities and instruments, including ADRs, effectively assume currency risk.

BofAS or one of its affiliates is a regular issuer of traded financial instruments linked to securities that may have been recommended in this report. BofAS or one of its affiliates may, at any time, hold a trading position (long or short) in the securities and financial instruments discussed in this report.

BofA Securities, through business units other than BofA Global Research, may have issued and may in the future issue trading ideas or recommendations that are inconsistent with, and reach different conclusions from, the information presented herein. Such ideas or recommendations may reflect different time frames, assumptions, views and analytical methods of the persons who prepared them, and BofA Securities is under no obligation to ensure that such other trading ideas or recommendations are brought to the attention of any recipient of this information.

In the event that the recipient received this information pursuant to a contract between the recipient and BofAS for the provision of research services for a separate fee, and in connection therewith BofAS may be deemed to be acting as an investment adviser, such status relates, if at all, solely to the person with whom BofAS has contracted directly and does not extend beyond the delivery of this report (unless otherwise agreed specifically in writing by BofAS). If such recipient uses the services of BofAS in connection with the sale or purchase of a security referred to herein, BofAS may act as principal for its own account or as agent for another person. BofAS is and continues to act solely as a broker-dealer in connection with the execution of any transactions, including transactions in any securities referred to herein.

BofA ESGMeter Methodology:

ESGMeter is a proprietary metric based on quantitative analysis and fundamental analyst inputs that reflects our assessment of a company's Environmental, Social and Governance-related attributes. The ESGMeter is intended to indicate a company's likelihood of experiencing stronger financial stability (higher return on equity and lower earnings and price volatility) over the next three years relative to peer group. There are three ESGMeter levels - Low, Medium, and High - which indicate whether a company has attributes most likely to translate into superior financial stability (in the case of a High level) or weaker financial stability (in the case of a Low level) over the next three years relative to its peer group. A Medium level suggests that a company exhibits ESG characteristics that are likely associated with financial stability results in line with its peer group over the next three years. Full details of our methodology, financial stability definition and disclaimers are available at [BofA ESGMeter methodology](#). ESGMeter is not indicative of a company's future stock price performance and is not an investment recommendation or rating. ESGMeter is independent of the BofA Global Research fundamental equity analyst's investment rating, volatility risk rating, income rating or price objective for that company.

Copyright and General Information:

Copyright 2024 Bank of America Corporation. All rights reserved. iQDatabase® is a registered service mark of Bank of America Corporation. This information is prepared for the use of BofA



Securities clients and may not be redistributed, retransmitted or disclosed, in whole or in part, or in any form or manner, without the express written consent of BofA Securities. BofA Global Research information is distributed simultaneously to internal and client websites and other portals by BofA Securities and is not publicly-available material. Any unauthorized use or disclosure is prohibited. Receipt and review of this information constitutes your agreement not to redistribute, retransmit, or disclose to others the contents, opinions, conclusion, or information contained herein (including any investment recommendations, estimates or price targets) without first obtaining express permission from an authorized officer of BofA Securities.

Materials prepared by BofA Global Research personnel are based on public information. Facts and views presented in this material have not been reviewed by, and may not reflect information known to, professionals in other business areas of BofA Securities, including investment banking personnel. BofA Securities has established information barriers between BofA Global Research and certain business groups. As a result, BofA Securities does not disclose certain client relationships with, or compensation received from, such issuers. To the extent this material discusses any legal proceeding or issues, it has not been prepared as nor is it intended to express any legal conclusion, opinion or advice. Investors should consult their own legal advisers as to issues of law relating to the subject matter of this material. BofA Global Research personnel's knowledge of legal proceedings in which any BofA Securities entity and/or its directors, officers and employees may be plaintiffs, defendants, co-defendants or co-plaintiffs with or involving issuers mentioned in this material is based on public information. Facts and views presented in this material that relate to any such proceedings have not been reviewed by, discussed with, and may not reflect information known to, professionals in other business areas of BofA Securities in connection with the legal proceedings or matters relevant to such proceedings.

This information has been prepared independently of any issuer of securities mentioned herein and not in connection with any proposed offering of securities or as agent of any issuer of any securities. None of BofAS any of its affiliates or their research analysts has any authority whatsoever to make any representation or warranty on behalf of the issuer(s). BofA Global Research policy prohibits research personnel from disclosing a recommendation, investment rating, or investment thesis for review by an issuer prior to the publication of a research report containing such rating, recommendation or investment thesis.

Any information relating to the tax status of financial instruments discussed herein is not intended to provide tax advice or to be used by anyone to provide tax advice. Investors are urged to seek tax advice based on their particular circumstances from an independent tax professional.

The information herein (other than disclosure information relating to BofA Securities and its affiliates) was obtained from various sources and we do not guarantee its accuracy. This information may contain links to third-party websites. BofA Securities is not responsible for the content of any third-party website or any linked content contained in a third-party website. Content contained on such third-party websites is not part of this information and is not incorporated by reference. The inclusion of a link does not imply any endorsement by or any affiliation with BofA Securities. Access to any third-party website is at your own risk, and you should always review the terms and privacy policies at third-party websites before submitting any personal information to them. BofA Securities is not responsible for such terms and privacy policies and expressly disclaims any liability for them.

All opinions, projections and estimates constitute the judgment of the author as of the date of publication and are subject to change without notice. Prices also are subject to change without notice. BofA Securities is under no obligation to update this information and BofA Securities ability to publish information on the subject issuer(s) in the future is subject to applicable quiet periods. You should therefore assume that BofA Securities will not update any fact, circumstance or opinion contained herein.

Subject to the quiet period applicable under laws of the various jurisdictions in which we distribute research reports and other legal and BofA Securities policy-related restrictions on the publication of research reports, fundamental equity reports are produced on a regular basis as necessary to keep the investment recommendation current.

Certain outstanding reports or investment opinions relating to securities, financial instruments and/or issuers may no longer be current. Always refer to the most recent research report relating to an issuer prior to making an investment decision.

In some cases, an issuer may be classified as Restricted or may be Under Review or Extended Review. In each case, investors should consider any investment opinion relating to such issuer (or its security and/or financial instruments) to be suspended or withdrawn and should not rely on the analyses and investment opinion(s) pertaining to such issuer (or its securities and/or financial instruments) nor should the analyses or opinion(s) be considered a solicitation of any kind. Sales persons and financial advisors affiliated with BofAS or any of its affiliates may not solicit purchases of securities or financial instruments that are Restricted or Under Review and may only solicit securities under Extended Review in accordance with firm policies.

Neither BofA Securities nor any officer or employee of BofA Securities accepts any liability whatsoever for any direct, indirect or consequential damages or losses arising from any use of this information.