

# **Quick Take**

**Hyperion Therapeutics — Outperform (1)** 

**HPTX: \$23.79** 

Quick Take: Exercises Option To Acquire Buphenyl And Ammonul

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This morning Hyperion issued an 8K announcing that it has exercised its option to acquire Buphenyl and Ammonul from Valeant. Buphenyl, like HPTX's Ravicti, is a nitrogen scavenger that is used for the chronic management of patients with urea cycle disorders and is therefore competitive with Ravicti. Ammonul is an intravenous nitrogen scavenger used in the hospital to quickly reduce ammonia levels in a patient in a hyperammonemic crisis. It is not used for the chronic management of UCD patients and is therefore not competitive with Ravicti. Under the collaboration agreement between Hyperion and Valeant, Hyperion was able to exercise the option for a period of 90 days following Ravicti's February 1, 2013 approval. This announcement is in-line with expectations as we and most investors anticipated Hyperion would purchase the assets near the end of April.

Valeant now has 20 days to formally notify Hyperion whether it intends to retain Ammonul. Given that Valeant in January 2013 increased the price of Ammunol threefold, we suspect that Valeant intends to keep the drug, so we do not include Ammunol revenues in our model. If Valeant elects to retain Ammonul, Valeant must pay Hyperion \$13MM, and Hyperion will owe milestones and royalties to Valeant. If Valeant elects to not retain Ammonul, Hyperion would make a \$22MM upfront payment to Valeant for Buphenyl and Ammonul, plus future milestones and royalties. Hyperion would be able to fund the \$22MM purchase via a loan from Valeant that is payable over 8 quarters.

Once the transaction is completed, Hyperion expects to increase Buphenyl's price so that it is nearly as high as Ravicti's. Ravicti will retain some price premium because of Hyperion's view that its efficacy profile is superior to Buphenyl's, given the observed improvement in executive function in Ravicti's clinical trials. We currently assume a gross Buphenyl price of \$200K/patient/year. The Buphenyl price increase will apply specifically to the private-pay portion of the market, as the price increases to the Medicaid portion are limited to the CPI. In fact, Hyperion expects that the Buphenyl price increase will be large enough to put the drug in a "super rebate" situation, in which the additional price increase will be rebated back to Medicaid, essentially making Buphenyl free for Medicaid patients. Therefore, our model reflects an average price of \$130K/patient to reflect the impact of the Medicaid super-rebate.

Our opinion of Hyperion is unchanged. We believe that Hyperion is undervalued based on the potential of Ravicti in urea cycle disorders alone. We think investors should take advantage of the fact that the market is giving Hyperion only modest

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credit for Ravicti's extended period of exclusivity. We expect the stock to outperform the market over the next 12 months as Ravicti is launched, Hyperion breaks into profitability, and investors better appreciate the value in Hyperion's urea cycle disorder franchise.



# **Addendum**

#### STOCKS MENTIONED IN IMPORTANT DISCLOSURES

Ticker	Company Name	
HPTX	Hyperion Therapeutics	

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(a) Assumptions: Time horizon is 12 months; S&P 500 is flat over forecast period.

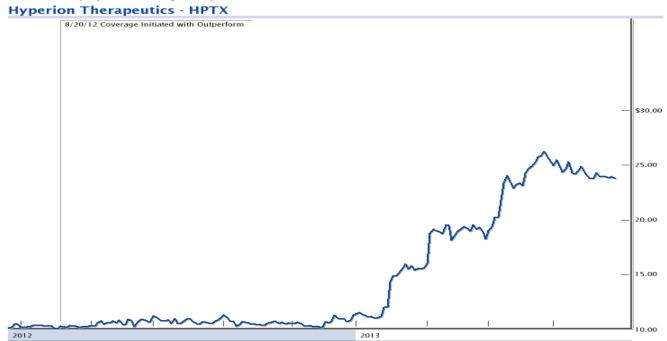
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Cowen and Company Price and Ratings History



Pricing data provided by Reuters America. Chart as of 4/29/13 in USD.

**April 30, 2013** 5