

PTC Therapeutics (PTCT)

Q1:14 Update - New Ataluren Indications Coming, Roche SMA Partnership to Yield Derisking by YE:14

- PTCT reported Q1:14 results, ending the quarter with \$247M in cash and equivalents which are expected to fund PTCT into 2016, beyond significant Phase III data readouts from ataluren's Phase III trial. Q1 EPS was (\$0.58) and revenues of \$9.2M vs. our (\$0.49) and \$8.5M. We est. 2014 cash burn of \$78M.
- New indications for ataluren's clinical development are to be selected in 2014 and may offer rapid routes into the clinic with derisking proof-of-concept trials read-outs potentially ahead of its Phase III trial for ataluren in DMD expected in H1:15. (page 4-7). PTCT highlighted work in choroideremia and Hurler's syndrome (MPS I) and published research provides promising evidence for ataluren's efficacy in aniridia, a rare, non-sense mutation-based condition that severely limits the vision of ~5,000 pts in the U.S (page 6).
- The next event for PTCT is an update on a conditional approval opinion from the EMA in Q2:14 and the start of enrollment in a Phase III trial for ataluren in cystic fibrosis (nmCF) anticipated in the first half of 2014. We note that regardless of a conditional approval decision by the EMA (potentially May 19), it is possible that PTCT will market ataluren on a named-patient basis in the EU and other territories starting in early 2015.
- We anticipate that data from a Phase I trial of RG7800 potentially by YE:14 may, in addition to safety and PK data, confirm mechanistic action through the measurement SMN transcript levels in the blood plasma of healthy patients. An ongoing natural history study could potentially validate surrogate endpoints in SMA, offering a rapid clinical path for RG7800 in this area of unmet medical need.
- Recall, Isis (ISIS – Not Covered) recently presented data from their antisense SMA program ([replay](#), [slide deck](#)) demonstrating promising improvements on HFMSE in children and CHOP-INTEND in infants (pg 3). We highlight that Isis's compound is administered intrathecally, vs. the oral RG7800, complicating IRB approval, clinical trial design, enrollment and commercial strategy. RG7800 potentially has a more rapid path through the clinic and could be used earlier in disease progression, a time during which animal models suggest maximum benefit.
- We reiterate our OUTPERFORM rating and 12-month price target of \$55/share. Our \$55 price target is derived by applying an 8X multiple to estimated 2017 revenues for ataluren in nmDMD and nmCF, discounted 25% and 35% annually, respectively.

May 7, 2014

Price
\$17.44

Rating
OUTPERFORM

12-Month Price Target
\$55

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Company Information

Shares Outst (M)	30.1
Market Cap (M)	\$525.4
52-Wk Range	\$13.04 - \$34.65
Book Value/sh	\$5.74
Cash/sh	\$8.18
Enterprise Value (M)	\$278.8
LT Debt/Cap %	0.0
Cash Burn (M)	\$78.4
Current Cash (M)	\$246.6

Company Description

PTC Therapeutics is a biopharmaceutical company focused on the development of orally administered, proprietary, small molecule drugs that target post-transcriptional control processes for orphan disorders including DMD and CF.



Source: Thomson Reuters

FYE Dec	2013E	2014E			2015E		
REV	ACTUAL	CURR.	PREV.	CONS.	CURR.	PREV.	CONS.
Q1 Mar	\$7.1A	\$9.2A	\$8.5E	\$10.9E	\$1.0E		\$7.0E
Q2 Jun	6.9A	1.0E		\$3.3E	1.0E		\$2.0E
Q3 Sep	16.3A	1.0E		\$3.3E	1.0E		\$2.0E
Q4 Dec	4.4E	\$1.0E		\$3.2E	\$1.0E		\$2.0E
Year*	\$34.7E	\$12.2E	\$11.5E	\$20.7E	\$4.0E		\$15.8E
Change	--	--			--		
EPS	ACTUAL	CURR.	PREV.	CONS.	CURR.	PREV.	CONS.
Q1 Mar	(3,244.59)A	(\$0.58)E	(\$0.49)E	(\$0.46)E	(\$0.73)E		(\$0.62)E
Q2 Jun	(5.51)A	(\$0.70)E		(\$0.70)E	(\$0.66)E		(\$0.76)E
Q3 Sep	(0.19)A	(\$0.71)E		(\$0.73)E	(\$0.65)E		(\$0.74)E
Q4 Dec	(0.75)E	(\$0.73)E		(\$0.76)E	(\$0.68)E		(\$0.76)E
Year*	(\$15.18)E	(\$2.73)E	(\$2.64)E	(\$2.67)E	(\$2.72)E		(\$2.87)E
P/E	--	--			--		
Change	--	--			--		

Consensus estimates are from Thomson First Call.
* Numbers may not add up due to rounding.

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Risks to the attainment of our price target include 1) failure of ataluren in the clinic in DMD or CF; 2) regulatory failure of ataluren; and 3) inability to fund the development or execute on the commercializing of ataluren globally

Investment Thesis

PTC is a biotechnology company focused on the development of ataluren, a molecularly targeted, orally delivered treatment for rare and ultra-rare diseases, including Duchenne muscular dystrophy and cystic fibrosis caused by nonsense mutations. Ataluren may also be effective in treating 2500 other rare diseases and certain cancers caused by nonsense mutations since its mechanism of action is broadly applicable to these molecular lesions. PTC is also developing a candidate for spinal muscle atrophy a fatal and rare disease that most severely impacts infants. We believe that ataluren will be shown to be safe and efficacious in ongoing Phase III trials in nmDMD as well as those set to begin (H1:14) in nmCF. In our opinion, the Street is overly discounting their lead Phase III program for ataluren in nmDMD, which showed mixed results overall in a Phase II trial, but positive trends and nominal statistically significant benefit in the current subgroups being evaluated in the Phase III trial. We believe that, given lessons learned from prior pioneering trials of ataluren in DMD, PTC has enriched their Phase III trial for success and that it is highly likely to show positive results in mid-2015. Final read-outs from a soon to be initiated (H1:14) trial for ataluren CF are anticipated by mid-2016. PTCT's SMA program, partnered with Roche, remains additional upside to our estimates. We believe that this program likely be accelerated through the clinic due to significant unmet medical need in this devastating disease and that breakthrough results in Phase I/II trials could form the basis for a registration filing as early as 2015.

Valuation Methodology

Our \$55 price target is derived by applying an 8X multiple to estimated 2017 revenues for ataluren in nmDMD and nmCF, discounted 25% and 35% annually, respectively. Conditional approval of ataluren in the EU by Q1:14 remains upside to our price target and we estimate would yield a 12-month price target of \$75/share. We project that approval and commercialization of ataluren could generate ~\$550 million in annual worldwide revenues in 2017 (our valuation year) in nmDMD and nmCF and potential peak global sales of >\$1.5 billion. Success of PTC/Roche's SMA candidate RG7800 remains upside to our estimates. Similarly we arrive at our \$55 price target by applying a 15x multiple to PTCT's fully taxed EPS in 2017 discounted back 20% annually.

Upcoming Milestones

May 19-22	CHMP meeting: potential feedback from CHMP SAG meeting regarding request for reconsideration of conditional approval for ataluren for nmDMD in the EU
June 23-26	CHMP meeting: potential feedback from CHMP SAG meeting regarding request for reconsideration of conditional approval for ataluren for nmDMD in the EU
Q2:14	Potential MAA filing for conditional approval of ataluren for nmCF in the EU
Q2:14	Potential new opinion following a re-examination of the negative opinion regarding conditional approval of ataluren for nmDMD in the EU
Q2:14	Full enrollment in the confirmatory Phase III trial of ataluren in nmDMD
June 12-14	Update on SMA program (likely preclinical results) potentially at the International SMA Research Group Meeting, National Harbor, MD
H1:14	Initiation of a Phase III trial of ataluren in nmCF
H2:14	Potential data from the Phase IIb open-label extension study of ataluren in the EU
2014	Nomination of one or two new indications for ataluren (likely Aniridia and/or MPS I)
2014	Open label trial updates for ataluren in nmDMD at a scientific conference (US study safety only, EU efficacy at 0, 6, 12, 18 months)
YE:14	Potential conditional approval of ataluren for nmCF in the EU
YE:14/Q1:15	Potential start of proof-of-concept Phase II trials (potentially pivotal) for ataluren in one or two indications (ahead of ataluren in nmDMD)
YE:14/Q1:15	Potential top-line data and biomarker data from Roche/PTCT's Phase I healthy volunteers study of SMA candidate RG7800
H1:15	Top-line data from the confirmatory Phase III trial of ataluren in nmDMD
H2:15	FDA and MAA filing for full approval of ataluren for nmDMD
H2:15	Top-line data from the confirmatory Phase III trial of ataluren in nmCF
2015	Potential first commercial (named patient/compassionate use) sales of ataluren nmDMD in EU (or ROW) markets
2015	Potential initiation of pivotal Phase II/III trials RG7800 in patients with SMA
H1:16	FDA and MAA filing for full approval of ataluren for nmCF
2016	First commercial sales of ataluren following potential approval on Phase III data

Isis's SMNrx – April Data Update

The data show that SMNrx treatment resulted in a mean increase of 8.3 points on the CHOP-INTEND motor function test in infants at 3 months compared to a natural history study indicating an average decline of 1.27 points / year. 6/7 subjects had a ≥ 5 point increase, 1 pt had a small (~ 1 pt) decrease.

In 7 infants evaluable for efficacy in the 12 mg cohort, just 2 (29%) have had a death/ventilation event at a median age at death/ventilation or April 7 (cut-off date) of 9.6 months. This qualitatively compares to 40-50% death/ventilation rate by 9.5 months in a previous natural history study in infants with 2 copies of SMN2. We highlight several differences between the natural history study and the SMNrx trial including differences in copy number: 2 in a subset of the natural history study, a mix in the SMNrx trial; care received: the natural history study included patients who only received palliative care, the SMNrx trial used more aggressive interventions; and the very small number of patients in the SMNrx trial. The death/ventilation endpoint is either death or ≥ 16 hours/day of ventilation continuously for > 2 weeks without an acute reversible illness.

In 18 children with SMA, SMNrx treatment resulted in a mean increase of 2.5 points on the HFMSE scale at 9 months. This compares to natural history data indicating a 0.34 point decline in the first 2 years and a 1.26 point decline in 3 years after screening. Increases on SMNrx were both dose and time dependent.

We believe that ISIS's results validate SMN2 splicing as a target in SMA, while highlighting the advantages of PTC/Roche's oral compound, RG7800. Both compounds increase the inclusion of exon 7 in the SMN2 transcript, which is normally excised in $\sim 90\%$ of SMN2 transcripts. The inclusion of exon 7 produces normal SMN protein. ISIS will run a sham-procedure controlled pivotal trial, because ISIS cannot ethically perform a spinal tap procedure on an infant to deliver placebo.

We note that PTCT/Roche's SMA Candidate RG7800 demonstrated a nearly 3-fold increase in SMN protein levels in the brain in early animal models, enough to nearly achieve healthy heterozygote protein levels. Although slightly lower than the levels caused by ISIS-SMNRX in preclinical models, this is encouraging data. We highlight that the ease and safety of systemic delivery of RG7800 may be preferential the intrathecally delivered SMNrx and may better facilitate delivery very early in life, a time during which animal models of SMA suggest maximum therapeutic benefit may be conferred.

Additional Indications Could Expand the Market for Ataluren

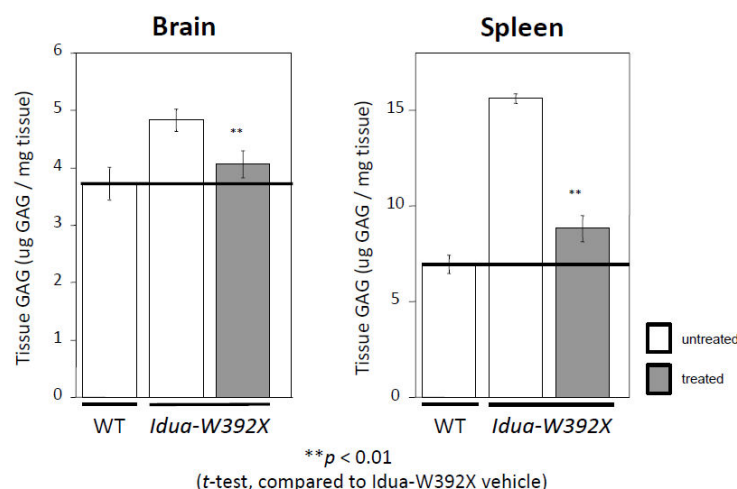
Figure 1: Additional Indications Under Study

Author	Indication
Wang (2010)	Miyoshi myopathy
Yu (2014)	Long QT syndrome
Sarker (2011)	Infantile neuronal ceroid lipofuscinosis (INCL)
Miller (2013)	(Late) infantile neuronal ceroid lipofuscinosis (INCL)
Du (2013)	Ataxia telangiectasia
Goldman (2011, 2012)	Usher syndrome (USCH1C)
Zhou (2013)	Pseudoxanthoma elasticum
Kuschal (2013)	Xeroderma pigmentosum
Moosajee (unpublished)	Choroideremia
Gregory-Evans (2014)	Aniridia
Drake (2013)	Heritable pulmonary arterial hypertension
Tan (2011)	Carnitine palmitoyltransferase 1A deficiency
Buck (2012)	Methylmalonic aciduria (MMA)
Sanchez-Alcudia (2012)	Propionic acidemia (PA)
Bartolomeo (2013)	Maroteaux-Lamy syndrome (MPS VI)
Keeling (unpublished)	Hurler's syndrome (MPS I)

Source: Company data, Wedbush Securities, Inc.

Hurler's syndrome (MPS I) is a severe disease caused by a lack of lysosomal α -L-iduronidase which helps break down glycosaminoglycans (GAG's). GAG's accumulate and cause organ damage, particularly in the heart and brain. In mouse models, ataluren inhibits the accumulation of GAG's in both the brain and the spleen.

Figure 2: Ataluren has a Promising Effect in Mouse Models of Hurler's Syndrome



Source: Company data, Wedbush Securities, Inc.

Hurler's syndrome is treated with bone marrow transplants (BMT) and Aldurazyme (Genzyme/BioMarin), an IV-delivered enzyme replacement therapy approved on a single 26-week pivotal trial enrolling 45 patients with endpoints of FVC and 6MWT. Naglazyme (BioMarin) is a similar IV delivered enzyme replacement therapy also approved on a small pivotal trial in MPS VI.

Figure 3: Clinical Trial's Submitted with BLA Applications for Aldurazyme (MPS I) and Naglazyme (MPS VI)

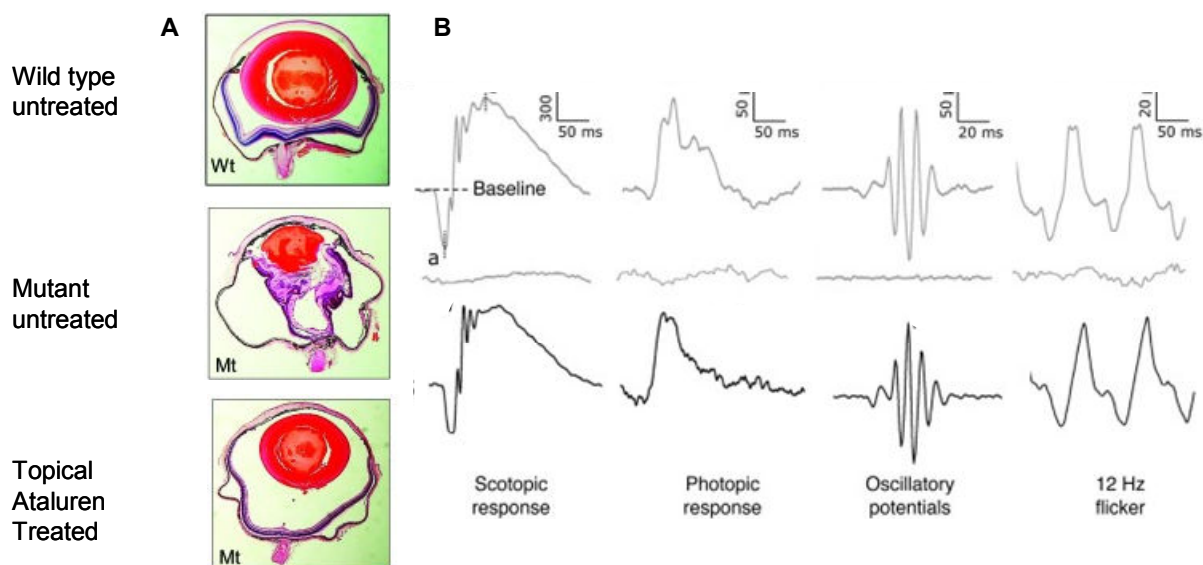
	N	Length	Primary Endpoints	Design	NCT
Aldurazyme Phase I/II	10	2 years (extended)	Urinary GAG excretion, liver and spleen size	Open-label	NCT01173016
Aldurazyme pivotal	45 (1:1)	26 weeks	FVC and 6MWT	RCT	NCT00912925
Aldurazyme long-term extension	45	24 weeks	FVC and 6MWT	Open-label	NCT00146770
Naglazyme Phase I/II	7	24 weeks	Urinary GAG secretion, 6MWT	Open-label	NCT00048620
Naglazyme Phase II	10	48 weeks	Urinary GAG secretion, 12MWT	open-label	NCT00048711
Naglazyme pivotal	39 (1:1)	24 weeks	12MWT	RCT	NCT00067470

Source: Company data, Wedbush Securities, Inc.

Aniridia is an eye disorder characterized by complete or partial absence of the iris caused by mutations in the *PAX6* gene. *PAX6* protein is involved in the early development of the eyes, brain, spinal cord and pancreas. Without *PAX6*, patients develop involuntary eye movements and underdevelopment of the fovea, responsible for sharp central vision.

Gregory-Evans et al. (2014) investigated the use of ataluren in a mouse model with a nonsense mutation in the *PAX6* gene. Mutant mouse eyes demonstrated significant deformation and ERG abnormalities. A topical formulation of ataluren dubbed, START, was developed to increase viscosity and thus surface contact time and reduce the irritation associated with water based eye drops. START application was initiated 14 days after birth (when the eyes open), and continued until sacrifice and analysis at day 60. Ataluren treatment normalizes eye histology (Figure 4A) and nerve response as assessed by ERG after light pulse (Figure 4B) and brings the amplitude of the low-light (scotopic) and high light (photopic) responses up to levels not significantly different from wild type mice.

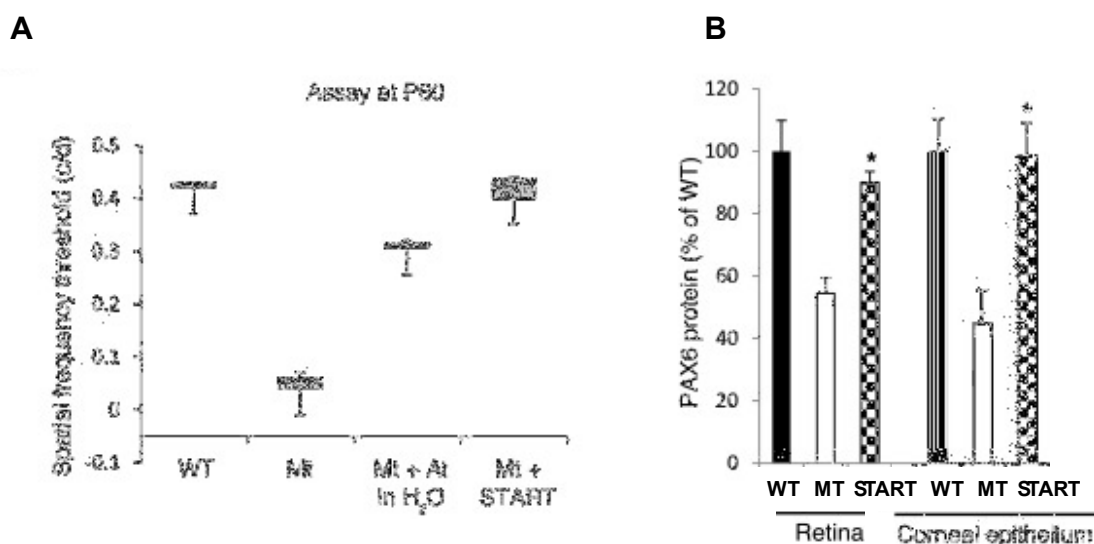
Figure 4: Ataluren Normalizes Nerve Firing in a Mouse Model of Nonsense Mutation Aniridia



Source: Gregory-Evans et al. *J Clin Invest.* Jan 2, 2014; 124(1): 111–116.

The researchers measured optokinetic tracking response in a virtual reality system to approximate visual acuity. Ataluren treated mice had much better tracking response than mutant (Mt) or ataluren in water treated mice (Figure 5A) and were not significantly different from responses seen in wild type animals ($p = 0.42$). Mice treated with Ataluren had increased levels of PAX6 protein in the retina and corneal epithelium (Figure 5B).

Figure 5: Ataluren Increased Nerve Amplitude and PAX6 Protein Expression



Source: Gregory-Evans et al. *J Clin Invest.* Jan 2, 2014; 124(1): 111–116.

Aniridia is a rare disease with no current treatment options. It could potentially be approved on a single pivotal trial, supported by PTC's large safety database. Although an optical formulation is technically not comparable to systemic formulation, it is reasonable to propose that an optical formulation with low systemic exposure would have a lower safety risk than a systemic administration. We highlight previous trials in rare eye disorders, though we note that Ligneous Conjunctivitis is an extremely rare disease with roughly 200 cases ever reported.

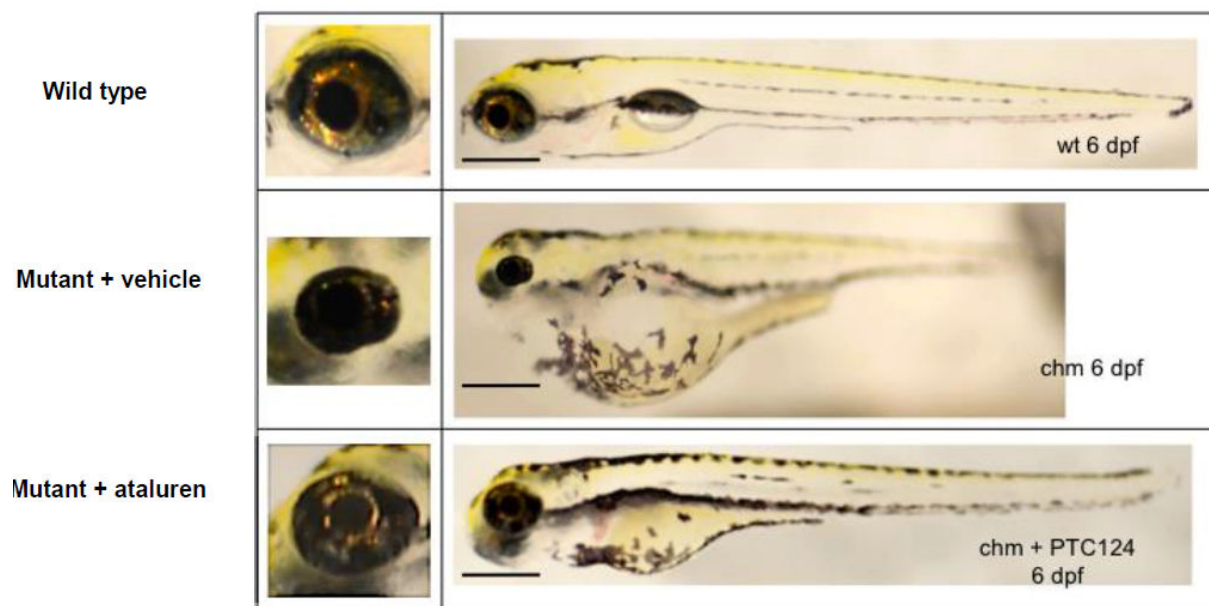
Figure 6: Current Trials in Rare Eye Disorders Highlight a Path Forward for Ataluren in Aniridia or Choroideremia

	Gene Therapy Trial in Choroideremia	Human Plasminogen in Ligneous Conjunctivitis
Phase	Phase I	Phase III
N	12	10
Efficacy Length	6 months	12 weeks
Safety Length	24 months	26 weeks
Primary Endpoint	Visual acuity	# of eyes with recurrent ligneous membranes, # of eyes with reduction of overall membrane surface area
Secondary endpoints	Microperimetry, OCT and fundus autofluorescence	Safety
Inclusion criteria	Vision 6/60 or better in the study eye, male aged ≥18 years, diagnosed with choroideraemia	Diagnosed with ligneous conjunctivitis associated with Type I plasminogen deficiency
Status	Ongoing	Ongoing
NCT	NCT02077361	NCT01554956

Source: Company data, Wedbush Securities, Inc.

Choroideremia is an X-linked disease caused by mutations in the *CHM* gene leading to progressive vision loss. Vision problems are due to an ongoing loss of cells in the retina and nearby network of blood vessels leading to complete blindness in late adulthood. Ataluren normalized eye morphology in a zebrafish model.

Figure 7: Ataluren Normalized Eye Morphology in Nonsense Mutation Choroideremia



Source: Company data, Wedbush Securities, Inc.

Financial Model



Christopher N. Marai Ph.D.

5/7/2014

PTC Therapeutics, Inc.

Annual Financial Results & Projections

(\$ in thousands except per share data)

Ticker: PTCT (Nasdaq)

	FY:13A	Q1:14E	Q2:14E	Q3:14E	Q4:14E	FY:14E	FY:15E	FY:16E	FY:17E	FY:18E	FY:19E
Revenue:											
Ataluren Sales US - DMD	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	49,618	216,553	313,599	335,577
Ataluren Sales EU - DMD	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	35,543	185,637	310,494	345,451
Ataluren Sales ROW - DMD	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	715	10,692	47,266	93,713
Ataluren Sales US - CF	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	94,984	267,911	344,683
Ataluren Sales EU - CF	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	37,354	185,142	367,238
Ataluren Sales ROW - CF	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1,010	12,187
Grant and other revenues	3,370	70	1,000	1,000	1,000	3,070	4,000	0	0	0	0
Collaboration revenue	31,326	9,147	0	0	0	9,147	0	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
Total Revenues	\$34,696	\$9,217	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$12,217	\$4,000	\$86,876	\$546,221	\$1,126,423	\$1,499,849
Cost and Expenses:											
Costs of goods sold	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	8,588	54,522	112,542	149,885
Research and Development	54,875	15,889	15,250	15,500	16,000	62,639	59,500	62,305	66,497	67,837	69,204
Sales, General and Administrative	25,219	7,540	7,540	7,540	7,540	30,160	31,500	43,000	52,000	53,313	55,478
Other	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Costs and Expenses	\$80,094	\$23,429	\$22,790	\$23,040	\$23,540	\$92,799	\$91,000	\$113,893	\$173,019	\$233,692	\$274,566
Operating Income (loss)	(45,398)	(14,212)	(21,790)	(22,040)	(22,540)	(80,582)	(87,000)	(27,017)	373,202	892,731	1,225,283
Net Interest Income (Expense)	(6,083)	171	740	676	612	2,199	2,049	2,577	3,834	9,769	19,188
Other income / (Expense)	(92)	(57)	0	0	0	(57)	0	0	0	0	0
Income Before Income Taxes	(51,574)	(14,098)	(21,050)	(21,364)	(21,928)	(78,440)	(84,951)	(24,439)	377,036	902,500	1,244,470
Net Income	(\$51,574)	(\$14,098)	(\$21,050)	(\$21,364)	(\$21,928)	(\$78,440)	(\$84,951)	(\$24,439)	\$351,377	\$708,087	\$933,353
GAAP Net Income	(\$66,432)	(\$14,098)	(\$21,050)	(\$21,364)	(\$21,928)	(\$78,440)	(\$84,951)	(\$24,439)	\$341,377	\$698,087	\$923,353
GAAP Basic EPS with sFAS123	(5.18)	(0.58)	(0.70)	(0.71)	(0.73)	(2.73)	(2.72)	(0.76)	10.83	21.76	28.60
GAAP Diluted EPS with sFAS123	(5.29)	(0.58)	(0.70)	(0.71)	(0.73)	(2.73)	(2.72)	(0.76)	10.83	21.76	28.60
Weighted shares outstanding	12,829	24,492	30,127	30,152	30,177	24,492	31,240	32,340	32,440	32,540	32,640
Fully diluted shares outstanding	12,565	24,492	30,127	30,152	30,177	28,737	31,240	32,340	32,440	32,540	32,640
Cash Burn	(51,574)	(14,098)	(21,050)	(21,364)	(21,928)	(78,440)	(84,951)	(24,439)	-	-	-
Cash Balance	142,468	246,585	225,425	204,061	182,133	182,133	178,623	238,622	574,123	1,267,424	2,193,489

Source: Wedbush Securities and PacGrow Life Sciences

Analyst Biography

Chris Marai is an Analyst covering the Biotechnology/Biopharmaceuticals/BioDefense sector. Prior to Wedbush PacGrow Life Sciences, Dr. Marai was at Morgan Stanley where he specialized in quantitative modeling; he has also consulted for structure-based drug design companies and biotechnology startups.

Dr. Marai holds a B.S. in Chemistry from Trinity College, University of Toronto and a Ph.D. in Biochemistry and Structural Biology from Stony Brook University, New York.

Christopher's Edge: Dr. Marai has a strong quantitative background and has covered a wide range of disease areas including gastrointestinal, CNS, oncology and rare diseases. His quantitative background has translated into an exceptional track record predicting binary events and assessing risk as a sell-side analyst.

Analyst Certification

I, Christopher N. Marai, Ph.D., Gregory R. Wade, Ph.D., David M. Nierengarten, Ph.D., certify that the views expressed in this report accurately reflect my personal opinion and that I have not and will not, directly or indirectly, receive compensation or other payments in connection with my specific recommendations or views contained in this report.

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Neutral: 43%	Neutral: 2%
Underperform: 3%	Underperform: 0%

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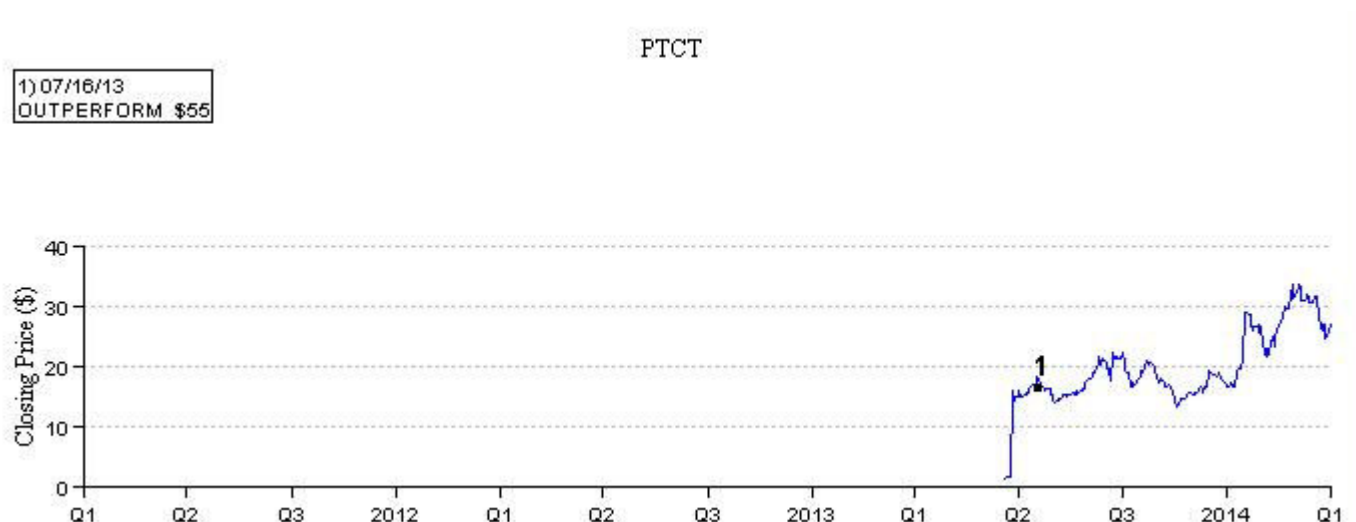
Company	Disclosure
PTC Therapeutics	1,3,4,5,7

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