

February 4, 2014

Liana Moussatos, Ph.D. (415) 263-6626

Richard Lau, CFA (415) 274-6851

Relypsa (RLYP - OUTPERFORM): Phase 1 Onset-of-Action Trial Fully Enrolled; Q3:14 NDA Filing for Patiromer Remains On Track; Reiterate OUTPERFORM and \$46 PT

Price: \$32.37

12-Month Price Target: \$46

- **Relypsa announced completion of patient enrollment in the ongoing Phase 1 onset-of-action trial and expects results in H1:14.** The purpose of the trial is to evaluate the time to onset of the potassium-lowering action of patiromer in chronic kidney disease (CKD) patients with hyperkalemia (HK). The open-label, single arm trial enrolled 25 patients and the study design includes a three-day run-in period to control dietary intake of potassium followed by a 48-hour treatment period and a 7-day post treatment visit for adverse events. The change from baseline in serum potassium levels will be measured at 48 hours and at earlier time points to determine when the onset of potassium-lowering action occurs. The company expects results from the trial in H1:14, and based on the treatment period, we estimate could come in the March/April timeframe. In our view, the Phase 1 study is relatively straightforward and we see minimal clinical risk.
- **The Phase 1 onset-of-action study is the final clinical trial necessary to support an NDA filing expected in Q3:14.** We estimate an FDA advisory committee (if necessary) would occur in Q2:15, followed by potential approval in Q3:15 and U.S. launch in Q4:15.

Figure 1: ANTICIPATED MILESTONES (*our estimates)

H1:14	PATIROMER PHASE 1 ONSET-OF-ACTION RESULTS
H1:14	COMPLETION OF CMC ACTIVITIES SUPPORTIVE OF NDA
Q3:14	PATIROMER NDA SUBMISSION
Q2:15	POTENTIAL FDA ADVISORY COMMITTEE FOR PATIROMER
Q3:15	POTENTIAL FDA APPROVAL OF PATIROMER (*IF NECESSARY)
Q4:15	POTENTIAL U.S. LAUNCH OF PATIROMER
2014/2015*	POTENTIAL PATIROMER PARTERSHIP(S)

Source: Company reports and Wedbush PacGrow Life Sciences

- **We reiterate our OUTPERFORM rating and our 12-month price target of \$46.** Our price target is calculated based on sum-of-parts for each drug/indication combination using a 30% annual discount from our peak annual revenues projections and 1-10x multiple, depending on stage of development to reflect risk.

Wedbush Securities does and seeks to do business with companies covered in its research reports. Thus, 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. Please see page 3 of this report for analyst certification and important disclosure information.

Investment Thesis

Relypsa is an emerging pharmaceutical company focused on the development and commercialization of cutting-edge treatments for renal, cardiovascular, and metabolic disorders. Its polymer drug discovery platform was in-licensed from Ilypsa, Inc., a subsidiary of Amgen (AMGN). Patiromer is the lead drug candidate emerging from this platform and is a non-absorbed, optimized potassium-binding polymer which is dosed twice daily as an oral suspension powder to normalize hyperkalemia in patients with chronic kidney disease (CKD) and/or heart failure (HF). Hyperkalemia (HK), a chronic condition characterized by excessive potassium, typically occurs in CKD and HF patients due to the body's inability to properly clear potassium. Furthermore, renin-angiotensin-aldosterone system inhibitors (RAASi), the standard-of-care for CKD and HF, can actually cause hyperkalemia themselves. Due to the lack of effective, safe, and tolerable treatments for hyperkalemia, treatment guidelines recommend reducing or discontinuing RAASi therapy if hyperkalemia develops—despite their protective effects on the kidney. This situation has created an unmet medical need for CKD and HF patients. In our view, patiromer has the potential to be best-in-class and the first breakthrough treatment for hyperkalemia since 1958. Compared to the only currently approved treatment for hyperkalemia, Kayexalate (an absorbed polymer), the physical and chemical properties of patiromer confer several advantages, including better binding capacity, tolerability and compliance. In fact, Kayexalate has never shown statistically significant reductions in serum potassium levels in prospective clinical trials. In addition, its poor tolerability profile makes it unsuitable for chronic administration. In contrast, patiromer was shown to be effective at lowering serum potassium levels into the normal range while also reducing the incidence of recurrent hyperkalemia with chronic dosing in the Phase 3 and Phase 2b programs. Given the clinical profile of patiromer, we believe it has the potential to fill an unmet need for CKD and HF patients with mild or moderate-to-severe hyperkalemia as well those on a suboptimal dose of a RAASi due to recurrent hyperkalemia. In the U.S., we estimate there are about 2.4 million CKD and HF patients who would be immediately eligible for patiromer treatment, with additional opportunities to further expand and grow the market. We anticipate the company will file an NDA in Q3:14, setting the stage for potential approval and launch in H2:15. With a small specialty sales force of about 100 reps, we project peak annual sales of patiromer could reach about \$1.4 billion in the U.S. alone.

Risks to attainment of our fair value include: 1) Clinical – There is risk that results from the ongoing Phase 1 onset-of-action study are negative, but we view this is unlikely.; 2) Regulatory – Although the Phase 3 program was successful and conducted under a special protocol assessment (SPA), the FDA may fail to approve patiromer in a timely fashion, if at all.; 3) Manufacturing – Relypsa relies on third party suppliers to manufacture patiromer and there is risk that those parties may not meet their obligations. In addition, they may not be able to successfully scale up manufacturing in a timely and cost efficient manner.; 4) Commercial – As with all new product launches, initial sales of patiromer could be slower than anticipated and call into question its ultimate sales potential. Furthermore, patiromer could face competition from potential new drugs for hyperkalemia including ZS Pharma's late-stage candidate, ZS-9.; 5) Financing – The company ended Q3:13 with about \$16.5 million in cash, investments, and equivalents. With net proceeds of approximately \$77.9 million from the initial public offering (IPO), we project cash runway through Q1:15. Therefore, Relypsa will likely need to raise additional funds in order to commercially launch patiromer and to ultimately reach profitability which we model to occur in 2018.

Analyst Certification

I, Liana Moussatos, Ph.D., Richard Lau, CFA, 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.

Disclosure information regarding historical ratings and price targets is available at <http://www.wedbush.com/ResearchDisclosure/DisclosureQ413.pdf>

Investment Rating System:

Outperform: Expect the total return of the stock to outperform relative to the median total return of the analyst's (or the analyst's team) coverage universe over the next 6-12 months.

Neutral: Expect the total return of the stock to perform in-line with the median total return of the analyst's (or the analyst's team) coverage universe over the next 6-12 months.

Underperform: Expect the total return of the stock to underperform relative to the median total return of the analyst's (or the analyst's team) coverage universe over the next 6-12 months.

The Investment Ratings are based on the expected performance of a stock (based on anticipated total return to price target) relative to the other stocks in the analyst's coverage universe (or the analyst's team coverage).*

Rating Distribution (as of December 31, 2013)	Investment Banking Relationships (as of December 31, 2013)
Outperform: 54%	Outperform: 18%
Neutral: 43%	Neutral: 2%
Underperform: 3%	Underperform: 0%

The Distribution of Ratings is required by FINRA rules; however, WS' stock ratings of Outperform, Neutral, and Underperform most closely conform to Buy, Hold, and Sell, respectively. Please note, however, the definitions are not the same as WS' stock ratings are on a relative basis.

The analysts responsible for preparing research reports do not receive compensation based on specific investment banking activity. The analysts receive compensation that is based upon various factors including WS' total revenues, a portion of which are generated by WS' investment banking activities.

Wedbush Equity Research Disclosures as of February 4, 2014

Company	Disclosure
Relypsa	1,3,4,5,7

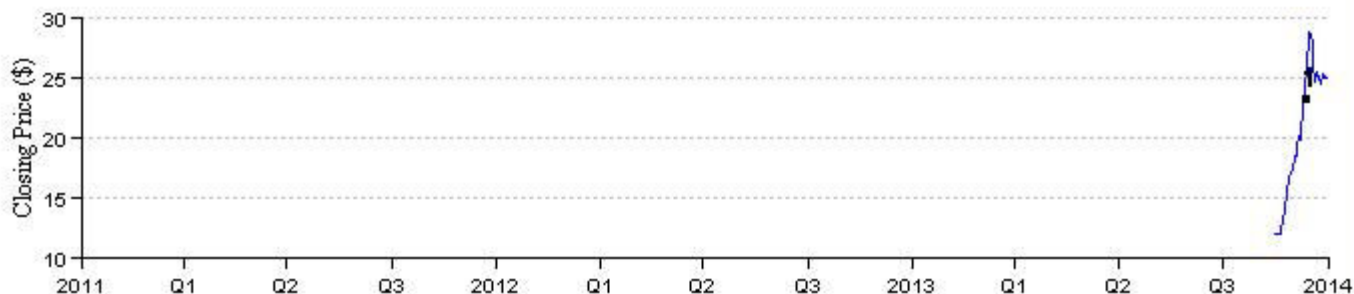
Research Disclosure Legend

1. WS makes a market in the securities of the subject company.
2. WS managed a public offering of securities within the last 12 months.
3. WS co-managed a public offering of securities within the last 12 months.
4. WS has received compensation for investment banking services within the last 12 months.
5. WS provided investment banking services within the last 12 months.
6. WS is acting as financial advisor.
7. WS expects to receive compensation for investment banking services within the next 3 months.
8. WS provided non-investment banking securities-related services within the past 12 months.
9. WS has received compensation for products and services other than investment banking services within the past 12 months.
10. The research analyst, a member of the research analyst's household, any associate of the research analyst, or any individual directly involved in the preparation of this report has a long position in the common stocks.
11. WS or one of its affiliates beneficially own 1% or more of the common equity securities.
12. The analyst maintains Contingent Value Rights that enables him/her to receive payments of cash upon the company's meeting certain clinical and regulatory milestones.

Price Charts

Wedbush disclosure price charts are updated within the first fifteen days of each new calendar quarter per FINRA regulations. Price charts for companies initiated upon in the current quarter, and rating and target price changes occurring in the current quarter, will not be displayed until the following quarter. Additional information on recommended securities is available on request.

RLYP

1) 12/10/13
OUTPERFORM \$34


* WS changed its rating system from (Strong Buy/Buy/Hold/Sell) to (Outperform/ Neutral/Underperform) on July 14, 2009.

Please access the attached hyperlink for WS' Coverage Universe: <http://www.wedbush.com/services/cmg/equities-division/research/equity-research> Applicable disclosure information is also available upon request by contacting Ellen Kang in the Research Department at (213) 688-4529, by email to ellen.kang@wedbush.com, or the Business Conduct Department at (213) 688-8090. You may also submit a written request to the following: Business Conduct Department, 1000 Wilshire Blvd., Los Angeles, CA 90017.

OTHER DISCLOSURES

RESEARCH DEPT. * (213) 688-4505 * www.wedbush.com

EQUITY TRADING Los Angeles (213) 688-4470 / (800) 421-0178 * EQUITY SALES Los Angeles (800) 444-8076

CORPORATE HEADQUARTERS (213) 688-8000

The information herein is based on sources that we consider reliable, but its accuracy is not guaranteed. The information contained herein is not a representation by this corporation, nor is any recommendation made herein based on any privileged information. This information is not intended to be nor should it be relied upon as a complete record or analysis; neither is it an offer nor a solicitation of an offer to sell or buy any security mentioned herein. This firm, Wedbush Securities, its officers, employees, and members of their families, or any one or more of them, and its discretionary and advisory accounts, may have a position in any security discussed herein or in related securities and may make, from time to time, purchases or sales thereof in the open market or otherwise. The information and expressions of opinion contained herein are subject to change without further notice. The herein mentioned securities may be sold to or bought from customers on a principal basis by this firm. Additional information with respect to the information contained herein may be obtained upon request.

WEDBUSH

EQUITY RESEARCH DEPARTMENT

(213) 688-4529

DIRECTOR OF RESEARCH

Mark D. Benson (213) 688-4435

MANAGER, RESEARCH OPERATIONS

Ellen Kang (213) 688-4529

RETAIL AND CONSUMER

Consumer Products

Rommel T. Dionisio (212) 938-9934
Kurt M. Frederick, CFA CPA (415) 274-6822
Alicia Reese (212) 938-9927

Footwear, Apparel and Accessories

Corinna Freedman (212) 668-9876

Healthy Lifestyles

Kurt M. Frederick, CFA CPA (415) 274-6822

Restaurants

Nick Setyan (213) 688-4519
Colin Radke (213) 688-6624

Specialty Retail: Hardlines

Joan L. Storms, CFA (213) 688-4537
John Garrett, CFA (213) 688-4523

Seth Basham, CFA (212) 938-9954

RETAIL/CONSUMER MARKET RESEARCH

Gabriella Santaniello (213) 688-4557

INDUSTRIAL GROWTH TECHNOLOGY

Clean Technology

Craig Irwin (212) 938-9926
Min Xu (212) 938-9925

Environmental Services / Building Products

Al Kaschalk (213) 688-4539
Taryn Kuida (213) 688-4505

Water and Renewable Energy Solutions

David Rose, CFA (213) 688-4319
James Kim (213) 688-4380

TECHNOLOGY, INTERNET, MEDIA & SOCIAL MEDIA

Communications and Application Software

Shyam Patil, CFA (213) 688-8062
Andy Cheng (213) 688-4548

Communications Equipment

Rohit Chopra (212) 668-9871
Sanjit Singh (212) 938-9922
Ryan Flanagan (212) 938-9942

Computer Services: Financial Technology

Gil B. Luria (213) 688-4501
Aaron Turner (213) 688-4429

Enterprise Software

Steve Koenig (415) 274-6801
Kevin Ikeda (213) 688-4423

Entertainment: Retail

Michael Pachter (213) 688-4474
Nick McKay (213) 688-4343
Nick Citrin (213) 688-4495

Entertainment: Software

Michael Pachter (213) 688-4474
Nick McKay (213) 688-4343
Nick Citrin (213) 688-4495

Internet: Media and Gaming

Michael Pachter (213) 688-4474
Nick McKay (213) 688-4343
Nick Citrin (213) 688-4495

Internet: Social Media, Advertising & Technology

Shyam Patil, CFA (213) 688-8062
Andy Cheng (213) 688-4548

Media

James Dix, CFA (213) 688-4315

Movies and Entertainment

Michael Pachter (213) 688-4474
Nick McKay (213) 688-4343
Nick Citrin (213) 688-4495

Semiconductors

Betsy Van Hees (415) 274-6869
Ryan Jue, CFA (415) 263-6669

LIFE SCIENCES AND HEALTH CARE

Biotechnology/Biopharmaceuticals/BioDefense

Gregory R. Wade, Ph.D. (415) 274-6863
David M. Nierengarten, Ph.D. (415) 274-6862
Christopher N. Marai, Ph.D. (415) 274-6861

Emerging Pharmaceuticals

Liana Moussatos, Ph.D. (415) 263-6626
Richard Lau, CFA (415) 274-6851

Healthcare Services - Managed Care

Sarah James (213) 688-4503

Medical Devices

Tao Levy (212) 938-9948

Medical Diagnostics and Life Sciences Tools

Zarak Khurshid (415) 274-6823

EQUITY SALES

Los Angeles (213) 688-4470 / (800) 444-8076
San Francisco (415) 274-6800
New York (212) 938-9931
Boston (617) 832-3700

EQUITY TRADING

Los Angeles (213) 688-4470 / (800) 421-0178
San Francisco (415) 274-6811
New York (212) 344-2382
Boston (617) 832-3700

CORPORATE HEADQUARTERS

1000 Wilshire Blvd., Los Angeles, CA 90017-2465

Tel: (213) 688-8000 www.wedbush.com