US Equity Research

8 January 2015

BUY

unchanged

PRICE TARGET US\$52.00↑

from US\$36.00

Price (8-Jan) US\$32.17 Ticker ZFGN-NASDAQ

52-Week Range (US\$): 16.51 - 32.17

Avg Daily Vol (M): 115.2

Shares Out. (M): 22.7

Market Cap (US\$M): 730

Enterprise Value (US\$M): 388

Average Price Target (US\$): 36.75

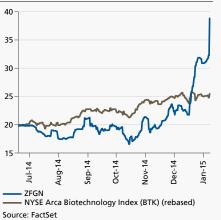
Cash (US\$M): 127.03

of analysts: 4

FYE Dec	2013A	2014E	2015E
Sales (US\$M)	0.0	0.0	0.0
EPS Adj&Dil (US\$)	(3.06)	(1.86)	(2.26)

Quarterly Sales	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
2013A	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
2014E	0.0A	0.0A	0.0A	0.0
2015F				

Quarterly EPS Adj&Dil	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
2013A	(0.77)	-	-	-
2014E	(0.29)A	(0.28)A	(0.65)A	(0.65)
2015E	-	-	-	



Zafgen has identified a cutting edge mechanism and molecule for severe obesity disorders entering Phase 3, and could have efficacy rivaling surgical procedures.

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Raising Target Price

HIAO-5-Oh; raising target to \$52

Investment recommendation

Yesterday, Zafgen reported that the eight-week hypothalamic injury-associated obesity (HIAO) trial met its primary efficacy endpoint of weight reduction. Patients in the beloranib group experienced weight loss of 3.4kg and 6.2kg after four and eight weeks of treatment respectively, in line with our extrapolations based on data from the Ph2 Prader-Willi Syndrome (PWS) study. We find this incredibly impressive given the short time frame and the consistency across all animal and human studies to date. And we think this will be very predictive of the longer-term pivotal trials. Given that HIAO patients are very hard to treat, we think the positive outcome confirms the following: 1) although beloranib crosses the blood-brain-barrier, it acts peripherally on the liver to affect overall fat metabolism; 2) high efficacy; and 3) extremely fast onset. We also find it fascinating that although the hypothalamus is believed to play central role in weight control, the fact the drug worked so well in individuals with no hypothalamic function is proof that weight can be controlled through peripheral mechanisms – at least with beloranib. 20% weight loss at 6 months would be a home run for this drug if confirmed in pivotal trials, in our opinion.

Investment highlights

- You'll lose weight faster if you're heavier? Since HIAO and PWS patients generally have BMIs above 40, naysayers may argue that it's easier for them to shed weight in the first place. However this isn't the case as it's well-documented that such patients have hard times losing weight albeit being so obese.
- Everything else is on track. Enrollment of the Ph3 PWS trial is going as planned, with 6-month data expected by the end of the year. There's also been tremendous interest in the Ph2 diabetic obesity trial that was just initiated, with 6-month results also expected by year end. We expect enrollment updates to be provided during the 2014YE earnings call.

Valuation/risks

We raise our price target from \$36 to \$52 by changing the discount period from 6.5 to 6 years and lowering the discount rate from 25% to 20%. We use a discounted P/E model and a 20x multiple to our 2021 EPS estimate of \$7.75. Risks include: slow recruitment to clinical trials, hitting an efficacy plateau in trials beyond 24 weeks, and/or failure to gain FDA approval.

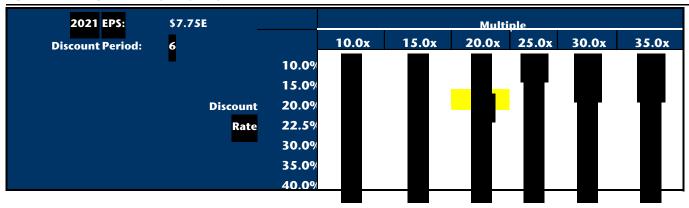
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VALUATION

Figure 1: Price target sensitivity analysis by multiple and discount rate



Source: Canaccord Genuity Estimates



Figure 2: Zafgen summary P&L

(\$ In millions, except per s hare amount)

Year End: December 31	2012	2013	1Q14	2Q14	3Q14	4Q14E	2014E	2015E	2016E	2017E	2018E	2019E	2020E	2021E	2022E
Beloranib										\$0.0	\$121.8	\$365.2	\$474.9	\$562.5	\$660.1
Total Revenue										\$0.0	\$121.8	\$365.2	\$669.3	\$978.9	\$1,329.1
Gross Profit										\$0.0	\$109.6	\$328.7	\$602.4	\$881.0	\$1,196.2
Gross Margin										0.0%	90.0%	90.0%	90.0%	90.0%	90.0%
SG&A	\$2.2	\$4.2	\$1.2	\$1.3	\$2.3	\$2.5	\$7.3	\$12.0	\$15.0	\$20.0	\$25.0	\$50.0	\$200.0	\$250.0	\$275.0
R&D	\$11.5	\$9.6	\$3.3	\$4.7	\$12.1	\$8.0	\$28.0	\$40.0	\$45.0	\$65.0	\$100.0	\$150.0	\$165.0	\$132.0	\$118.8
Adj. Operating Income	(13.8)	(13.8)	(4.5)	(6.0)	(14.4)	(10.5)	(35.4)	(52.0)	(60.0)	(85.0)	(15.4)	128.7	237.4	499.0	802.4
Adj. Operating Margin												35.2%	35.5%	51.0%	60.4%
Non-Op	(0.1)	(0.2)	0.0	(0.5)	(0.3)	0.1	(0.7)	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1
Tax Rate														38.0%	38.0%
GAAP Net Income	(13.9)	(14.0)	(4.5)	(6.4)	(14.7)	(10.4)	(36.1)	(51.9)	(59.9)	(84.9)	(15.3)	128.7	237.5	309.4	497.5
Adj. Net Income	(13.8)	(13.6)	(4.5)	(6.4)	(14.7)	(10.4)	(36.1)	(51.9)	(59.9)	(84.9)	(15.3)	128.7	237.5	309.4	497.5
Net Margin												35.2%	35.5%	31.6%	37.4%
GAAP EPS (diluted)	(\$3.11)	(\$3.06)	(\$0.29)	(\$0.28)	(\$0.65)	(\$0.65)	(\$1.86)	(\$2.26)	(\$2.13)	(\$2.54)	(\$0.40)	\$3.29	\$6.00	\$7.75	\$12.33
Adjus ted EPS (diluted)	(\$3.09)	(\$2.98)	(\$0.29)	(\$0.28)	(\$0.65)	(\$0.65)	(\$1.86)	(\$2.26)	(\$2.13)	(\$2.54)	(\$0.40)	\$3.29	\$6.00	\$7.75	\$12.33
Diluted Shares (M)	4.5	4.6	15.8	22.7	22.7	22.7	21.0	22.9	28.2	33.4	38.8	39.2	39.6	40.0	40.4
Year-over-Year Growth															
Beloranib												200%	30%	18%	17%
Total Revenue												200%	83%	46%	36%
Gross Profit											0%	200%	83%	46%	36%
SG&A			40%	0%	28%	0%	74%	64%	25%	33%	25%	100%	300%	25%	10%
R &D			24%	0%	40%	0%	193%	43%	13%	44%	54%	50%	10%	-20%	-10%
Operating Income													85%	110%	61%
Net Income													84%	30%	61%
Adj. EPS													83%	29%	59%

Source: Canaccord Genuity Estimates



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Target Price / Valuation Methodology:

Zafgen - ZFGN:

We use a discounted P/E model to derive our \$52 target; we apply a 20x multiple to our 2021 EPS estimate of \$7.75 discounted at 20% for 6 years.

Risks to achieving Target Price / Valuation:

Zafgen - ZFGN:

Delays in any of its three main programs due to regulatory concerns or logistical hurdles. Failure of beloranib in the Prader-Willi Syndrome Phase 3 program (due Q4 2015), the Phase 2 craniopharyngioma program (due Q1 2015), or the severe obesity P2b program (due Q4 2015). Failure to ultimately obtain FDA approval for beloranib in one or more of the three indications. Unforeseen safety signals that pop up due to beloranib's not-fully-understood mechanism and pleiotropic effects that create the potential for off-target interactions leading to unpredictable side effects. Failure to properly manufacture a more commercially viable injection presentation than the form currently used in clinical trials. Failure to obtain additional funding to finish development and commercialize beloranib.

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Global Stock Ratings (as of 01/08/15)

Rating	Coverage	Coverage Universe				
	#	%	%			
Buy	654	60.72%	32.87%			
Hold	328	30.45%	12.20%			
Sell	43	3.99%	0%			
Speculative Buy	52	4.83%	59.62%			
	1077*	100.0%				

^{*}Total includes stocks that are Under Review

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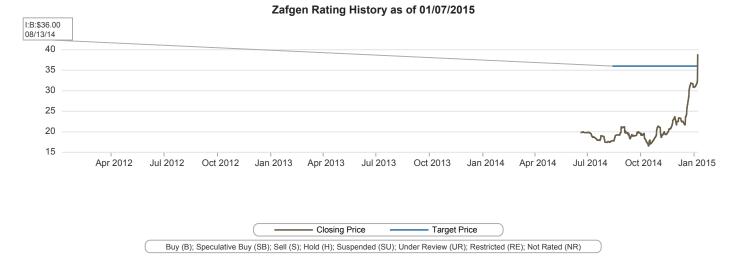
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