UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION Washington, D.C. 20549

FORM 8-K

CURRENT REPORT Pursuant to Section 13 OR 15 (d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934

Date of Report (Date of earliest event reported): December 12, 2022

SESEN BIO, INC.

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Delaware (State or other jurisdiction of incorporation)

001-36296 (Commission File Number)

245 First Street, Suite 1800 Cambridge, MA (Address of principal executive offices) 26-2025616 (I.R.S. Employer Identification No.)

> 02142 (Zip Code)

Registrant's telephone number, including area code: (617) 444-8550

Not Applicable (Former name or former address, if changed since last report.)

Check the appropriate box below if the Form 8-K filing is intended to simultaneously satisfy the filing obligation of the registrant under any of the following provisions:

Written communications pursuant to Rule 425 under the Securities Act (17 CFR 230.425)

Soliciting material pursuant to Rule 14a–12 under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14a–12)

Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 14d-2(b) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14d-2(b))

Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 13e-4(c) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.13e-4(c))

Title of each class		Name of each exchange on which registered
Common Stock, par value \$0.001	SESN	The Nasdaq Stock Market LLC

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is an emerging growth company as defined in Rule 405 of the Securities Act of 1933 (§230.405 of this chapter) or Rule 12b-2 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (§240.12b-2 of this chapter).

If an emerging growth company, indicate by check mark if the registrant has elected not to use the extended transition period for complying with any new or revised financial accounting standards provided pursuant to Section 13(a) of the Exchange Act.

Item 8.01 - Other Events.

As previously announced, on September 20, 2022, Sesen Bio, Inc., a Delaware corporation ("Sesen Bio"), entered into a definitive merger agreement with CARISMA Therapeutics Inc., a Delaware corporation ("Carisma"), pursuant to which a wholly-owned subsidiary of Sesen Bio will merge with and into Carisma (the "merger"), with Carisma surviving as a wholly-owned subsidiary of Sesen Bio. The merger is currently expected to close in the next one to two months, subject to approval by Sesen Bio's stockholders and other customary closing conditions.

On December 12, 2022, Carisma posted an updated corporate presentation on its website, which is furnished as Exhibit 99.1 to this Current Report on Form 8-K and is incorporated herein by reference. Among other items, the primary updates to Carisma's corporate presentation include updated interim data for Study 101 of Carisma's lead asset CT-0508, which further supports the safety profile and tumor infiltration observed by Carisma to date, and an updated timeline for Carisma's anticipated value inflection points over the next 18 months, including six pre-clinical and clinical development milestones Carisma expects in 2023.

Cautionary Note on Forward-Looking Statements

Any statements in this Current Report on Form 8-K about future expectations, plans and prospects for Sesen Bio, Inc. (Sesen Bio), CARISMA Therapeutics Inc. (Carisma Therapeutics) or the combined company, Sesen Bio's, Carisma Therapeutics' or the combined company is strategy or future operations, and other statements containing the words "anticipate," "contemplate," "expect," "intend," "may," "plan," "predict," "target," "potential," "possible," "will, " "sould," "could," "should," should," "should," should," should,

related to the inability of the combined company to obtain sufficient additional capital to continue to advance its product candidates and its preclinical programs; (xx) legislative, regulatory, political and economic developments; and (xxi) other factors discussed in the "Risk Factors" section of Sesen Bio's Annual Report on Form 10-K, Quarterly Reports on Form 10-Q and other reports filed with the Securities Exchange Commission (SEC). In addition, the forward-looking statements included in this communication represent Sesen Bio's and Carisma Therapeutics' views as of the date hereof. Sesen Bio and Carisma Therapeutics anticipate that subsequent events and developments will cause the respective company's views to change. However, while Sesen Bio may elect to update these forward-looking statements at some point in the future, Sesen Bio specifically disclaims any obligation to do so, except as required under applicable law. These forward-looking statements.

Important Additional Information

In connection with the proposed transaction between Carisma Therapeutics and Sesen Bio, Sesen Bio filed with the SEC a registration statement on Form S-4 on October 14, 2022 and Amendment No. 1 to the Form S-4 on November 21, 2022 (as amended, the Form S-4). The Form S-4 includes a preliminary proxy statement/Prospectus is not final and nay be constitutes a prospectus of Sesen Bio with respect to shares of Sesen Bio's common stock to be issued in the proposed transaction (Preliminary Proxy Statement/Prospectus). The Preliminary Proxy Statement/Prospectus is not final and may be further amended. The definitive proxy statement/prospectus (if and when available) will be delivered to Sesen Bio's tockholders. Sesen Bio may also file other relevant documents regarding the proposed transaction with the SEC. INVESTORS AND SECURITY HOLDERS ARE URGED TO READ THESE MATERIALS, INCLUDING THE REGISTRATION STATEMENT, THE DEFINITIVE PROXY STATEMENT/PROSPECTUS, AND ALL OTHER RELEVANT DOCUMENTS THAT ARE OR WILL BE FILED WITH THE SEC IN CONNECTION WITH THE PROPOSED TRANSACTION, INCLUDING ANY AMENDMENTS OR SUPPLEMENTS TO THESE MATERIALS, BECAUSE THEY CONTAIN OR WILL CONTAIN IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT THE PROPOSED TRANSACTION AND THE PROPOSED TRANSACTION. Investors and security holders are able to obtain the Preliminary Proxy Statement/prospectus, the definitive proxy statement/prospectus (when it becomes available) and other documents that are filed or will be filed by Sesen Bio with the SEC free of charge from the SEC's website at www.sec.gov or from Sesen Bio at the SEC Filings section of www.sesenbio.com.

No Offer or Solicitation

This Current Report on Form 8-K shall not constitute an offer to sell or the solicitation of an offer to buy any securities, nor shall there be any sale of securities in any jurisdiction in which such offer, solicitation or sale would be unlawful prior to registration or qualification under the securities laws of any such jurisdiction. No offering of securities shall be made except by means of a prospectus meeting the requirements of Section 10 of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended. Subject to certain exceptions to be approved by the relevant regulators or certain facts to be ascertained, a public offer will not be made directly or indirectly, in or into any jurisdiction where to do so would constitute a violation of the laws of such jurisdiction, or by use of the mails or by any means or instrumentality (including without limitation, facsimile transmission, telephone or internet) of interstate or foreign commerce, or any facility of a national securities exchange, of any such jurisdiction.

Participants in the Solicitation

Sesen Bio and Carisma Therapeutics and their respective directors, executive officers and other members of management may be deemed to be participants in the solicitation of proxies in respect of the proposed transaction. Information about Sesen Bio's directors and executive officers is available in Sesen Bio's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2021, its definitive proxy statement dated April 28, 2022 for its 2022 Annual Meeting of Stockholders and its Current Report on Form 8-K filed with the SEC on August 31, 2022. Other information regarding the participants in the proxy solicitation and a description of their interests in the proposed transaction, by security holdings or otherwise, is included in the Preliminary Proxy Statement/Prospectus and other relevant materials that are or will be filed with the SEC regarding the proposed transaction. Investors should read the definitive proxy statement/prospectus carefully (when it becomes available) before making any voting or investment decisions. You may obtain free copies of these documents from Sesen Bio or the SEC's website as indicated above.

Item 9.01 – Financial Statements and Exhibits.

 99.1
 Carisma Corporate Presentation dated December 2022

 104
 Cover Page Interactive Data File (embedded within the Inline XBRL document)

SIGNATURE

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned hereunto duly authorized.

Date: December 12, 2022

Sesen Bio, Inc.

By:

<u>/s/ Thomas R. Cannell, D.V.M.</u> Thomas R. Cannell, D.V.M. President and Chief Executive Officer



Cautionary Note Regarding Forward-Looking Statements Regarding Carisma

Statements in this presentation regarding Carisma about future expectations, plans, and prospects, as well as any other statements regarding matters that are not historical facts, may constitute "forward-looking statements." These statements include, but are not limited to, statements relating to the timing and expectations of Carisma's ongoing and planned clinical trials, research and development programs and collaborations, approval of pending patent applications, the availability of data from clinical trials, the potential benefits of CT-0508, including in combination with other drugs, and the expansion of Carisma's ex-vivo autologous approach into other modalities. The words "anticipate," "believe," continue," "could," "estimate," "expect," "intend," "may," "plan," "potential," "predict," "project," "should," "target," "will," "would," and similar expressions are intended to identify forward-looking statements, although not all forward-looking statements contain these identifying words. Any forward-looking statements are based on management's current expectations of future events and are subject to a number of risks and uncertainties that could cause actual results to differ materially and adversely from those set forth in, or implied by, such forward-looking statements. These risks and uncertainties include, but are not limited to, risks associated with Carisma's ability to conduct its ongoing Phase 1 clinical trial of CT-0508 and related combination therapy programs; realize the anticipated benefits of its research and development programs, strategic partnerships, research and licensing programs and academic and other collaborations; obtain and maintain necessary approvals from the FDA and other regulatory authorities; continue to advance its product candidates in preclinical studies and clinical trials; replicate in later clinical trials positive results found in preclinical studies and early-stage clinical trials of its product candidates; advance the development of its product candidates under the timelines it anticipates in planned and future clinical trials; obtain, maintain, and protect intellectual property rights related to its product candidates; manage expenses; raise the substantial additional capital needed to achieve its business objectives; consummate the proposed merger between Carisma, Seahawk Merger Sub, Inc. and Sesen Bio, Inc. ("Sesen"), including completing the pre-closing financing transaction; and realize the anticipated benefits of the proposed merger, including with respect to future financial and operating results. For a discussion of other risks and uncertainties, and other important factors, any of which could cause Carisma's actual results to differ from those contained in the forward-looking statements, see the "Risk Factors" section of Exhibit 99.2 furnished with Sesen's Current Report on Form 8-K filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on September 21, 2022. In addition, the forward-looking statements included in this presentation represent Carisma's views as of the date hereof and should not be relied upon as representing Carisma's views as of any date subsequent to the date hereof. Carisma anticipates that subsequent events and developments will cause its views to change. However, while Carisma may elect to update these forward-looking statements at some point in the future, Carisma specifically disclaims any obligation to do so.



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Carisma is Positioned for Success

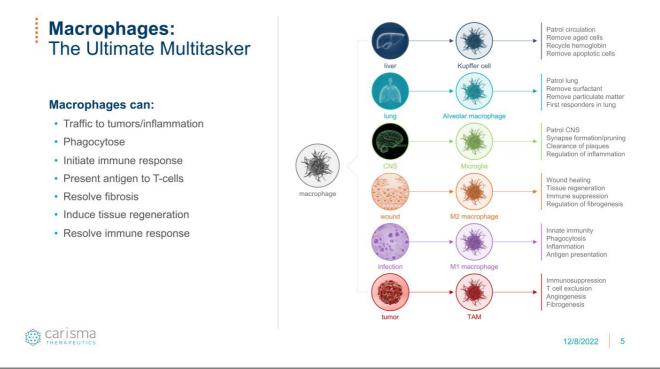
Rapid progress with significant opportunity to become a breakthrough therapeutics company



COMPANY HIGHLIGHTS:

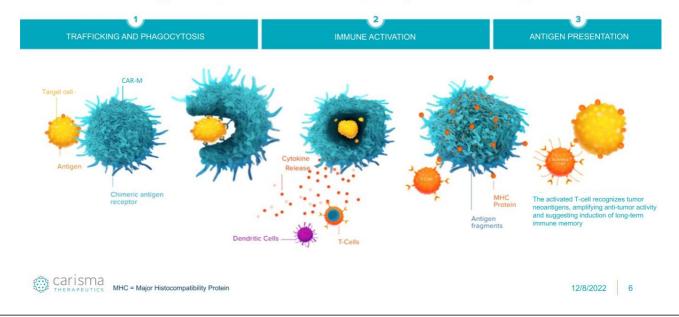
Outting edge research and bioengineering:

- Proprietary platform for macrophage targeted therapies
- Autologous/ allogeneic/ in-vivo modalities
- o Broad potential therapeutic applications, in oncology & beyond
- Strong patent position covering all CAR-M therapies
- Early clinical data for lead program demonstrating feasibility, tolerability, and MoA in HER2+ solid tumors
- Validating partnership with Moderna to develop up to 12 in-vivo cancer therapies with \$80M upfront (\$45M cash plus \$35M equity in a convertible note), full R&D funding, and potential significant milestones and royalties
- Multiple potential value inflection points over the next 18 months



CAR-M Mechanism of Action: Multi-Pronged Attack on Cancer Carisma's technology has the potential to address the key challenges involved in treating solid tumors

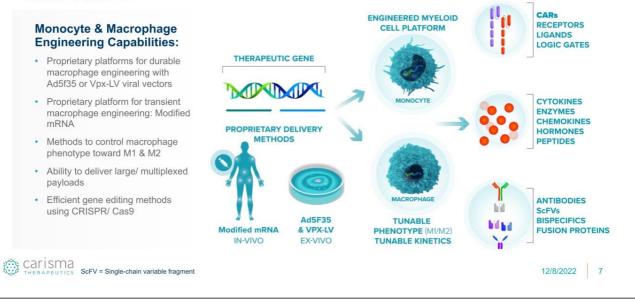
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Carisma's Broad Myeloid Cell Engineering Platform

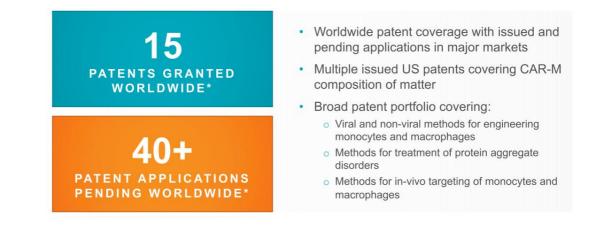
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Proprietary technology, leading macrophage engineering know-how, and strong IP portfolio ensure leadership position



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Strong Patent Position Broad Coverage for Monocyte and Macrophage Targeted Therapies



Carisma

Carisma's Strategic Approach to Platform Expansion Initial focus on ex-vivo autologous approach expected to drive expansion into higher risk/reward modalities

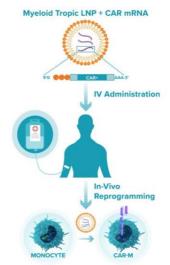
	Autologous	Allogeneic	In-Vivo Delivery
Oncology • Solid Tumors • Heme Malignancy			Carisma Heraeutriss + moderna
Non-Oncology Liver Fibrosis Neurodegeneration Autoimmune 			

Moderna Partnership Validates Approach and Provides Significant Potential Value Inflection Points

Broad partnership to develop mRNA based *in vivo* CAR-M for oncology

- Multi-year collaboration with options for up to 12 oncology targets
- Carisma receives \$45 million upfront cash and \$35 million equity in a convertible note
- Moderna provides full research funding, technology & expertise
- Carisma eligible for significant milestone and royalty payments





Promising data emerging with rapid execution on lead programs

- Multiple development programs initiated, with goal of adding 2-3 new programs/year
- LNP delivery demonstrating high specificity to myeloid cells and ability to re-dose
- High CAR expression, viability, and CAR-M function
- Animal studies initiated with PoC data expected in Q1 2023



6 B

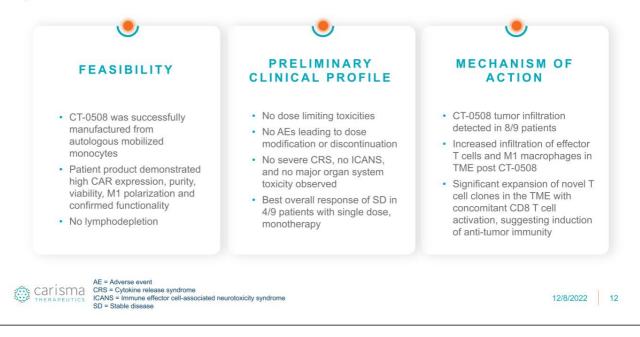
Platform Enhancements Drive First-in-Class Pipeline Multiple value inflection points with significant partner support/funding

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CT-0508 Study 101 Interim Data Supports CAR-M Hypothesis

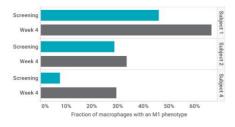
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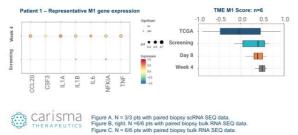
CT-0508 Treatment Led to Increased Myeloid Activation in TME

A. Increased fraction of M1 macrophages in TME

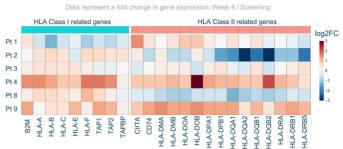
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B. Upregulation of M1 associated gene expression in TME



C. Increased Antigen Presentation Machinery in TME



Summary: CT-0508 treatment led to increased effector M1 macrophage frequency within the TME (Figure A). Representative data from Patient 1's TME scRNA Seq analysis demonstrate induction of pro-inflammatory genes in the tumor infiltrating myeloid compartment (Figure B, left). The overall M1 signature in the TME increased on treatment (Figure B, right) and antigen presentation machinery was upregulated within the tumor (Figure C).

CT-0508 Shown to Induce Adaptive Anti-Tumor Immunity



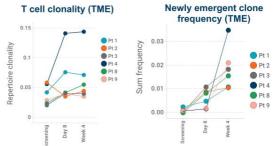


C. Increased T Cell Activation in TME



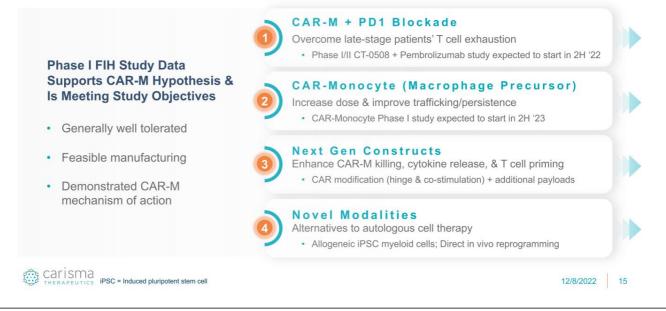
Figure A. N = 3/3 pts with paired biopsy scRNA SEQ data. Figure B. N = 6/6 pts with paired biopsy TCR SEQ data. Figure C. N = 6/6 pts with paired biopsy bulk RNA SEQ data.

B. Accumulation of peripherally expanded clones in the TME

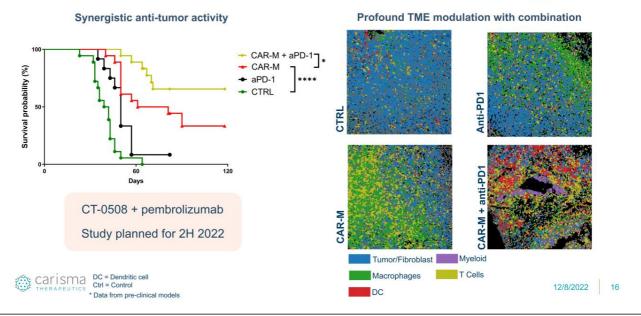


Summary: CT-0508 treatment led to increased effector T cell infiltration of the TME (Figure A). T cell clonality increased within the TME (Figure B, left). Newly emergent, previously undetectable T cell clones accumulated within the TME over time (Figure B, right). T cell activation markers were upregulated within the TME following CT-0508 treatment (Figure C). Together, these data suggest induction of anti-tumor immunity.

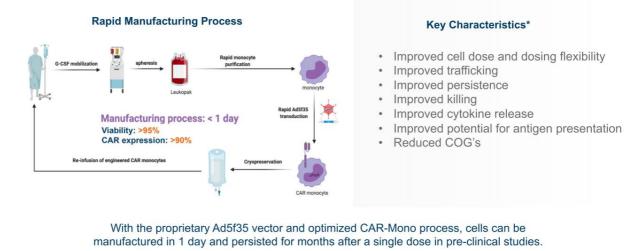
CAR-M Platform Development Strategy Four parallel approaches to unlock the therapeutic potential of CAR-M cell therapy



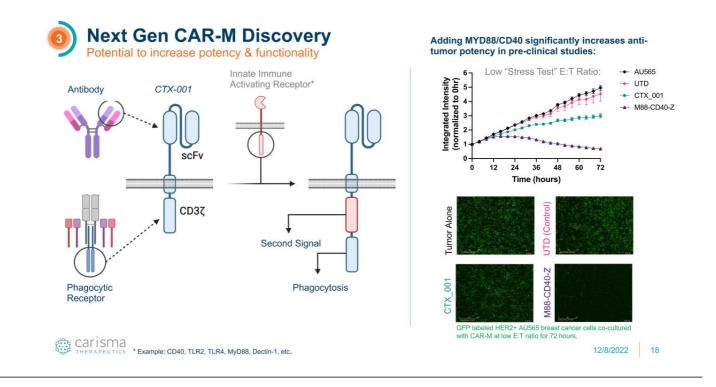
OT-0508 Has Potential to Reverse Immune Checkpoint Blockade Resistance and Demonstrates Robust Synergy*

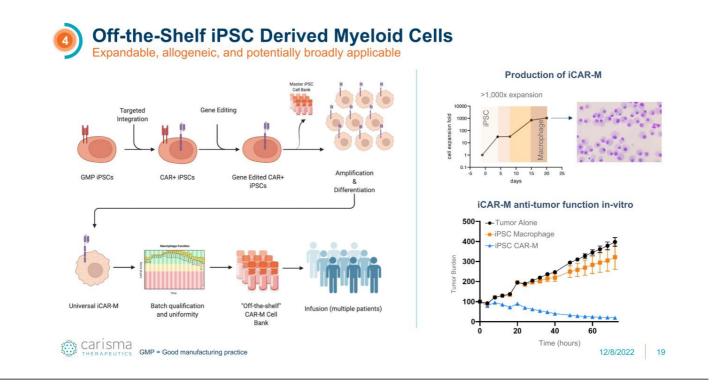




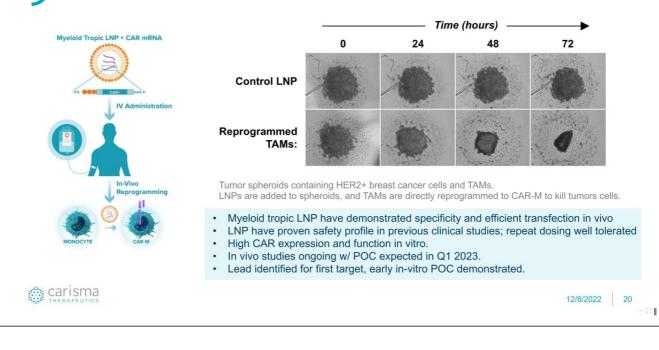


Carisma * Compared to macrophage cells





Directly Reprogramming Myeloid Cells In Vivo with mRNA/LNP



Platform Enables Potential Non-Oncology Applications Significant opportunity for strategic partnerships

THERAPEUTIC GENE THERAPEUTIC GENE PROPRIETARY DELIVERY METHODS MODIFIED	 Anti-inflammatory, anti-fibrotic macrophages: Modality: Auto/Allo Cell Therapy Potential indication: Liver Fibrosis Payload: Immunosuppressive cytokine + anti-fibrotic enzyme In vivo reprogrammed microglia: Modality: In vivo reprogramming (LNP) Potential indication: Alzheimer's, Parkinson's Payload: Anti-Aβ CAR, Anti-αSyn CAR, Anti-Tau CAR Switch receptors for inflammatory disease: Modality: Auto/Allo Cell Therapy Potential field: Immunologic/Transplant Pouload: Proprietory M1 and Switch receptors
	12/8/2022 21

Strong Leadership Team and Advisors

Deep research, clinical and operational expertise in cell and gene therapy and oncology

Management





PHD

Co-Founder & CSO

Chief Technology & Development Officer

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Chief Financial Officer

Key Advisors
Saar Gill, MD, PhD – Penn (Co-Founder, Co-Inventor)
Carl June, MD – Penn (Co-Inventor)
Hy Levitsky, MD – Century Tx
Lisa Coussens, PhD – OHSU
Prasad S. Adusamilli, MD FACS – MSKCC
Nina Bhardwaj, MD, PhD – Mt Sinai
Nina Amed, MD, Bruter College of Medicine

Nabil Ahmed, MD - Baylor College of Medicine



TOM WILTON Chief Business Officer

Board of Directors

- Sanford Zweifach Chairperson Briggs Morrison Independent Director Margarita Chavez AbbVie Ventures Bjorn Odlander HealthCap Regina Hodits Wellington Partners Chidozie Ugwumba SymBiosis ٠ .
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Operating Plan and Corporate Milestones Capital efficient R&D program designed to reach significant value inflection points over next 18 months



Corporate Summary Significant opportunity to become a breakthrough therapeutics company Proprietary engineered macrophage platform TATA Emerging pipeline of oncology CAR-Ms Carisma is <u>the leader</u> in engineered macrophage technology with broad Validating partnership and clinical data 8-0-0 potential therapeutic applications in cancer and beyond Experienced leadership team and advisors 1 Multiple potential value catalysts over next 18 months 🔅 carisma 12/8/2022 24