# SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

# FORM F-3 REGISTRATION STATEMENT UNDER

THE SECURITIES ACT OF 1933

# PROQR THERAPEUTICS N.V.

(Exact Name of Registrant as Specified in its Charter)

Not Applicable (Translation of Registrant's Name into English)

The Netherlands

(State or other Jurisdiction of Incorporation or Organization)

Not applicable

(I.R.S. Employer Identification No.)

Zernikedreef 9 2333 CK Leiden The Netherlands +31 88 166 7000

(Address and telephone number of Registrant's principal executive offices)

Smital Shah 245 Main Street Cambridge, MA 02142 (415) 231-6431

(Name, address and telephone number of agent for service)

Copies to:

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Approximate Date of Commencement of Proposed Sale of the Securities to the Public: From time to time after the effective date of this Registration Statement.

If the only securities being registered on this Form are being offered pursuant to dividend or interest reinvestment plans, please check the following box. 

If any of the securities being registered on this Form are to be offered on a delayed or continuous basis pursuant to Rule 415 under the Securities Act of 1933, please check the following box.

If this Form is filed to register additional securities for an offering pursuant to Rule 462(b) under the Securities Act, please check the following box and list the Securities Act registration statement number of the earlier effective registration statement for the same offering.  $\Box$ 

If this Form is a post-effective amendment filed pursuant to Rule 462(c) under the Securities Act, check the following box and list the Securities Act registration statement number of the earlier effective registration statement for the same offering.

If this Form is a registration statement pursuant to General Instruction I.C. or a post-effective amendment thereto that shall become effective upon filing with the Commission pursuant to Rule 462(e) under the Securities Act, check the following box.

If this Form is a post-effective amendment to a registration statement filed pursuant to General Instruction I.C. filed to register additional securities or additional classes of securities pursuant to Rule 413(b) under the Securities Act, check the following box.  $\Box$ 

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is an emerging growth company as defined in Rule 405 of the Securities Act of 1933.

Emerging growth company

If an emerging growth company that prepares its financial statements in accordance with U.S. GAAP, 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 7(a)(2)(B) of the Securities Act. 

† The term "new or revised financial accounting standard" refers to any update issued by the Financial Accounting Standards Board to its Accounting Standards Codification after April 5, 2012.

# CALCULATION OF REGISTRATION FEE

Title of each class of securities to be registered	Amount to be registered <sup>(1)</sup>	Proposed Maximum Offering Price per Unit <sup>(2)</sup>	Proposed Maximum Aggregate Offering Price <sup>(3)</sup>	Amount of Registration Fee <sup>(3)</sup>
Ordinary Shares, nominal value €0.04 per share <sup>(4)</sup>				
Warrants				
Units				
Total	\$300,000,000	N/A	\$300,000,000	\$27,810

- (1) An indeterminate aggregate initial offering price or number of the securities of each identified class is being registered as may be sold from time to time at indeterminate prices, with any initial offering price not to exceed \$300,000,000. Separate consideration may or may not be received for securities that are issuable on exercise, conversion or exchange of other securities or that are issued in units. Any separate consideration received for securities that are issuable upon exercise, conversion, or exchange of other securities or that are issued in units is included in, and subject to, the maximum aggregate offering price of all securities sold pursuant to this registration statement of \$300,000,000.
- (2) The proposed maximum aggregate offering price of each class of securities will be determined from time to time by the registrant in connection with the issuance by the registrant of the securities registered hereunder and is not specified as to each class of securities pursuant to the General Instruction II.C. of Form F-3 under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended (the "Securities Act").
- (3) Estimated solely for the purpose of calculating the registration fee pursuant to Rule 457(o) under the Securities Act. In no event will the aggregate offering price of all securities sold by the registrant from time to time pursuant to this Registration Statement exceed \$300,000,000.
- (4) Subject to the maximum aggregate offering price of all securities sold hereunder set forth above, there is being registered hereunder an indeterminate number of shares of ordinary shares as may from time to time be sold at indeterminate prices hereunder, and an indeterminate number of shares of ordinary shares as may from time to time be issued upon conversion of convertible securities and upon exercise of warrants and rights, which may be sold hereunder.

The Registrant hereby amends this Registration Statement on such date or dates as may be necessary to delay its effective date until the Registrant shall file a further amendment which specifically states that this Registration Statement shall thereafter become effective in accordance with Section 8(a) of the Securities Act or until the Registration Statement shall become effective on such date as the Commission, acting pursuant to said Section 8(a), may determine.

# **EXPLANATORY NOTE**

This registration statement contains two prospectuses:

- a base prospectus which covers the offering, issuance and sale of up to \$300,000,000 of the registrant's ordinary shares, warrants and units; and
- a sales agreement prospectus covering the offering, issuance and sale of up to \$75,000,000 of shares
  of the registrant's ordinary shares that may be issued and sold under the Controlled Equity
  Offering<sup>SM</sup> Sales Agreement, dated November 4, 2021 (the "Sales Agreement"), between the
  registrant and Cantor Fitzgerald & Co.

The base prospectus immediately follows this explanatory note. The specific terms of any securities to be offered pursuant to the base prospectus will be specified in a prospectus supplement to the base prospectus. The sales agreement prospectus immediately follows the base prospectus.

The ordinary shares that may be offered, issued and sold under the sales agreement prospectus is included in the \$300,000,000 of securities that may be offered, issued and sold by the registrant under the base prospectus. Upon termination of the Sales Agreement, any portion of the \$75,000,000 included in the sales agreement prospectus that is not sold pursuant to the Sales Agreement will be available for sale in other offerings pursuant to the base prospectus.

#### **PROSPECTUS**



# \$300,000,000

# ORDINARY SHARES WARRANTS UNITS

We may offer and sell our ordinary shares, warrants and/or units from time to time. We may also offer securities of the types listed above that are convertible or exchangeable into one or more of the other securities so listed. When we decide to sell a particular class or series of securities, we will provide specific terms of the offered securities in a prospectus supplement. The securities offered by us pursuant to this prospectus will have an aggregate public offering price of up to \$300,000,000.

The securities covered by this prospectus may be offered and sold from time to time in one or more offerings, which may be through one or more underwriters, dealers and agents, or directly to purchasers. The names of any underwriters, dealers or agents, if any, will be included in a supplement to this prospectus. For general information about the distribution of securities offered, see "*Plan of Distribution*" beginning on page 40 of this prospectus.

This prospectus describes some of the general terms that may apply to these securities and the general manner in which they may be offered. The specific terms of any securities to be offered, and the specific manner in which they may be offered, will be described in one or more supplements to this prospectus.

Our ordinary shares are listed on the Nasdaq Global Market under the symbol "PRQR." On November 1, 2021, the last reported sale price of our ordinary shares on the Nasdaq Global Market was \$8.13 per share.

ProQR Therapeutics N.V. is a public company with limited liability (*naamloze vennootschap*) incorporated under the laws of the Netherlands. Our principal executive offices are located at Zernikedreef 9, 2333 CK Leiden, The Netherlands. Our telephone number at such address is +31 88 166 7000.

Investing in our securities involves a high degree of risk. See the section entitled "Risk Factors" beginning on page § of this prospectus as well as those contained in the applicable prospectus supplement and any related free writing prospectus, and in the other documents that are incorporated by reference into this prospectus or the applicable prospectus supplement.

Neither the Securities and Exchange Commission nor any state or other securities commission has approved or disapproved of these securities or determined if this prospectus is truthful or complete. Any representation to the contrary is a criminal offense.

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# SPECIAL NOTE REGARDING FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS

This prospectus and any applicable prospectus supplement or free writing prospectus, including the documents that we incorporate by reference herein, includes forward-looking statements within the meaning of Section 27A of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, or the "Securities Act," and Section 21E of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, or the "Exchange Act." For this purpose, any statements contained herein, other than statements of historical fact, including statements regarding: our clinical development plans or our future financial performance, our development programs, including timing, plans, results and therapeutic potential with respect to our product candidates, our business operations, including timing of commencing clinical trials and enrollment of patients therein, our RNA editing programs, the expected impact of the COVID-19 on our business operations, including our research and development plans and timelines and the supply chain for our clinical and development programs; and any other statements about management's future expectations, beliefs, goals, plans or prospects constitute forwardlooking statements. We may, in some cases, use words such as "anticipate," "believe," "could," "estimate," "expect," "intend," "may," "plan," "project," "should," "target," "will," "would" or other words that convey uncertainty of future events or outcomes to identify these forward-looking statements. Actual results may differ materially from those indicated by such forward-looking statements as a result of various important factors, including the risks described under the heading "Risk Factors" in this prospectus and our most recent Annual Report on Form 20-F, as well as any amendments thereto reflected in subsequent filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission, or the "SEC." If one or more of these factors materialize, or if any underlying assumptions prove incorrect, our actual results, performance or achievements may vary materially from any future results, performance or achievements expressed or implied by these forwardlooking statements. Our forward-looking statements do not reflect the potential impact of any acquisitions, mergers, dispositions, business development transactions, joint ventures or investments we may enter into or make in the future.

You should rely only on information contained, or incorporated by reference, in this prospectus, the registration statement of which this prospectus is a part, the documents incorporated by reference in this prospectus, and any applicable prospectus supplement or free writing prospectus and understand that our actual future results may be materially different from what we expect. We qualify all of the forward-looking statements in the foregoing documents by these cautionary statements. Although we believe that the expectations reflected in our forward-looking statements are reasonable, we cannot guarantee future results, events, levels of activity, performance or achievement. Given these uncertainties, you should not place undue reliance on these forward-looking statements. We undertake no obligation to publicly update or revise any forward-looking statements, whether as a result of new information, future events or otherwise, unless required by law. Before deciding to purchase our securities, you should carefully consider the risk factors included or incorporated herein by reference, in addition to the other information set forth in this prospectus, any accompanying prospectus supplement, any free writing prospectus and in the documents incorporated by reference.

You should rely only on the information provided in this prospectus and the accompanying prospectus supplement, as well as the information incorporated by reference. We have not authorized anyone to provide you with different information. We are not making an offer of these securities in any jurisdiction where the offer is not permitted. You should not assume that the information in this prospectus, any prospectus supplement or any documents incorporated by reference is accurate as of any date other than the date of the applicable document.

# **ABOUT THIS PROSPECTUS**

This prospectus is part of a registration statement on Form F-3 that we filed with the SEC utilizing a "shelf" registration process. Under this shelf registration process, we may, from time to time, sell any combination of the securities described in this prospectus having an aggregate public offering price of \$300,000,000 in one or more offerings. This prospectus does not contain all of the information set forth in the registration statement, certain parts of which are omitted in accordance with the rules and regulations of the SEC. Accordingly, you should refer to the registration statement and its exhibits for further information about us and our securities. Copies of the registration and its exhibits are on file with the SEC. Statements contained in this prospectus concerning the documents we have filed with the SEC are not intended to be comprehensive, and in each instance we refer you to a copy of the actual document filed as an exhibit to the registration statement or otherwise filed with the SEC.

When we sell securities, we will provide you with a prospectus supplement that will contain specific information about the terms of that offering. The prospectus supplement may also add, update or change information contained in this prospectus. You should read both this prospectus and any prospectus supplement together with any additional information described under the headings "Where You Can Find Additional Information" and "Incorporation of Certain Information By Reference" before deciding to invest in any of the securities being offered. The information contained in this prospectus and any supplement to this prospectus, or incorporated by reference herein, is accurate only as of the respective dates thereof, regardless of the time of delivery of this prospectus or of any sale of our ordinary shares. Our business, financial condition, results of operations and prospects may have changed since those dates.

You should rely only on this prospectus, the information incorporated or deemed to be incorporated by reference in this prospectus and any free writing prospectus prepared by us or on our behalf. We have not authorized anyone to provide you with information that is in addition to or different from that contained or incorporated by reference in this prospectus. If anyone provides you with different or inconsistent information, you should not rely on it. This prospectus is not an offer to sell these securities and it is not soliciting an offer to buy these securities in any jurisdiction where the offer or sale is not permitted.

Unless the context otherwise indicates, references in this prospectus to the "Company," "we," "ours," "our," and "us" refer to ProQR Therapeutics N.V., a company organized under the laws of the Netherlands, and its consolidated subsidiaries.

#### **Trademarks**

We use various trademarks and trade names, including without limitation our corporate name and logo, that we use in connection with the operation of our business. This prospectus and the accompanying prospectus supplement, and the information incorporated herein or therein by reference may also contain trademarks, service marks and trade names of third parties, which are the property of their respective owners. Solely for convenience, the trademarks, service marks and trade names referred to or incorporated by reference in this prospectus and the accompanying prospectus supplement or any free writing prospectus may appear without the <sup>®</sup>, <sup>TM</sup> or <sup>SM</sup> symbols, but the omission of such references is not intended to indicate, in any way, that we will not assert, to the fullest extent under applicable law, our rights or that the applicable owner of these trademarks, service marks and trade names will not assert, to the fullest extent under applicable law, its rights.

# **Presentation of Financial Information**

Our consolidated financial statements are presented in euros and have been prepared in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards as issued by the International Accounting Standards Board ("IFRS"). In presenting and discussing our financial position, operating results and cash flows, management uses certain non-GAAP financial measures. These non-GAAP financial measures should not be viewed in isolation as alternatives to the equivalent IFRS measure and should be used in conjunction with the most directly comparable IFRS measure(s). All references in this prospectus to "U.S. dollars" or "\$" are to the legal currency of the United States, and all references to "€" or "euro" are to the currency of the European Economic and Monetary Union. Our business to date has been conducted primarily in the European Union, and we maintain our books and records in euro. We present our financial statements in

euro, which is the Company's functional currency. Unless otherwise specified in this prospectus, translations from euros to U.S. dollars were made at a rate of \$1.1578 to €1.00, the official exchange rate quoted by the European Central Bank at the close of business on November 1, 2021.

No action is being taken in any jurisdiction outside the United States to permit a public offering of the securities or possession or distribution of this prospectus in that jurisdiction. Persons who come into possession of this prospectus in jurisdictions outside the United States are required to inform themselves about and to observe any restrictions as to this offering and the distribution of this prospectus applicable to that jurisdiction.

# PROSPECTUS SUMMARY

The following summary provides a brief overview of the key aspects of ProQR Therapeutics N.V. and certain material terms of the securities that may be offered that are known as of the date of this prospectus. Before you decide to invest in our securities, you should carefully consider the risks and discussion of risks set forth under the heading "Item 3. Key Information — D. Risk Factors" in our Annual Report on Form 20-F for the year ended December 31, 2020, filed with the SEC on March 24, 2021, the subsequent Annual Reports on Form 20-F and Reports of Foreign Private Issuer on Form 6-K that we file with the SEC. For a more complete understanding of the terms of a particular issuance of offered securities, and before making your investment decision, you should carefully read:

- this prospectus, which explains the general terms of the securities that we may offer;
- the accompanying prospectus supplement for such issuance, which explains the specific terms of the securities being offered and which may update or change information in this prospectus; and
- the documents referred to in "Where You Can Find Additional Information" for information about us, including our financial statements.

# Overview

We are developing a broad pipeline of potentially life changing RNA therapies for inherited retinal diseases, a group of rare debilitating eye diseases, affecting over five million people in the world, for which there are currently no treatment options available. We believe our RNA platform based on intravitreal delivery may be suitable to repair defective RNA in the retina and stop progression or even reverse vision loss associated with the diseases. As we deepen our relationships with the community of people living with inherited retinal diseases, we believe we are well positioned to bring these medicines to patients independently, and are therefore preparing for commercialization, particularly in the Western world. Our current pipeline consists of programs in ophthalmology.

Beyond our clinical portfolio, we discovered and developed two novel proprietary RNA editing platform technologies,  $\operatorname{Axiomer}^{\circledast}$  and  $\operatorname{TRIDENT}^{\circledast}$ . Axiomer's editing oligonucleotides, or EONs, are designed to recruit endogenous Adenosine Deaminases Acting on RNA, or ADAR, enzymes to make single nucleotide changes in the RNA in a highly specific and targeted manner at a desired location. We believe our Axiomer platform may be applicable to more than 20,000 disease-causing mutations. TRIDENT is our RNA pseudouridylation platform that enables the selective suppression of nonsense mutations that cause human genetic disease.

We continuously evaluate opportunities for beneficial collaborations or partnerships to efficiently develop our investigational therapies for patients. In addition, using our discovery engine that is designed to generate a broad pipeline of product candidates, we seek to enter into strategic partnerships for programs that we believe will benefit from such a partnership.

# Implications of Being a Foreign Private Issuer

We report under the Exchange Act as a non-U.S. company with foreign private issuer status. As a foreign private issuer, we are not subject to the same requirements that are imposed upon U.S. domestic issuers by the SEC. Under the Exchange Act, we will be subject to reporting obligations that, in certain respects, are less detailed and less frequent than those of U.S. domestic reporting companies. For example, although we intend to report our financial results on a quarterly basis, we will not be required to issue quarterly reports, proxy statements that comply with the requirements applicable to U.S. domestic reporting companies, or individual executive compensation information that is as detailed as that required of U.S. domestic reporting companies. We will also have four months after the end of each fiscal year to file our annual reports with the SEC and will not be required to file current reports as frequently or promptly as U.S. domestic reporting companies. We may also present financial statements pursuant to IFRS instead of pursuant to U.S. GAAP. Furthermore, although the members of our management and supervisory boards will be required to notify the Dutch Authority for the Financial Markets of certain transactions they may undertake, including with respect to our ordinary shares, our officers, directors and principal shareholders will be exempt from the requirements to report transactions in our equity securities and from the short-swing

profit liability provisions contained in Section 16 of the Exchange Act. These exemptions and leniencies will reduce the frequency and scope of information and protections available to you in comparison to those applicable to a U.S. domestic reporting companies.

Furthermore, as a foreign private issuer, we are permitted to follow the corporate governance practices of our home country in lieu of certain provisions of the Nasdaq. We therefore follow Dutch corporate governance practices in lieu of certain Nasdaq corporate governance requirements to seek shareholder approval for a specified issuance of securities.

# **Company Information**

Our company is registered with the Dutch Trade Register of the Chamber of Commerce (handelsregister van de Kamer van Koophandel) under number 54600790. Our corporate seat is in Leiden, the Netherlands, and our registered office is at Zernikedreef 9, 2333 CK Leiden, the Netherlands, and our telephone number is +31 88 166 7000. Our website address is www.ProQR.com. Information found on, or accessible through, our website is not a part of, and is not incorporated into, this prospectus, and you should not consider it part of this prospectus. Our website address is included in this document as an inactive textual reference only.

ProQR was formed in February 2012 by Daniel de Boer, Gerard Platenburg, the late Henri Termeer and Dinko Valerio. Mr. de Boer is a passionate and driven entrepreneur and has assembled an experienced team of successful biotech executives as co-founders and early investors. ProQR's team has extensive experience in discovery, development and commercialization of RNA therapeutics. We have received grants, loans and other funding from patient organizations and government institutions supporting our programs, including from Foundation Fighting Blindness and the Dutch government under the innovation credit program. Our headquarters are located in Leiden, the Netherlands.

# Listing

Our ordinary shares are listed on the Nasdaq Global Market under the symbol "PRQR." If any other securities are to be listed or quoted on a securities exchange or quotation system, the applicable prospectus supplement will so state.

# WHERE YOU CAN FIND ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

We file reports and other information with the SEC, including Annual Reports on Form 20-F and Reports of Foreign Private Issuer on Form 6-K, which you may review at *www.sec.gov*.

This prospectus is part of a registration statement on Form F-3 that we have filed with the SEC. To see more detail, you should read the registration statement and the exhibits and schedules filed with, or incorporated by reference into, our registration statement.

This registration statement, including the exhibits contained or incorporated by reference therein, can be read at the SEC website referred to above. Any statement made or incorporated by reference in this prospectus concerning the contents of any contract, agreement or other document is only a summary of the actual contract, agreement or other document. If we have filed or incorporated by reference any contract, agreement or other document as an exhibit to the registration statement, you should read the exhibit for a more complete understanding of the document or matter involved. Each statement regarding a contract, agreement or other document is qualified in its entirety by reference to the actual document.

As required by the Securities Act, we have filed a registration statement relating to the securities offered by this prospectus with the SEC. This prospectus is a part of that registration statement, which includes additional information.

# INCORPORATION OF CERTAIN INFORMATION BY REFERENCE

The SEC allows us to incorporate by reference the information we file with the SEC, by referring you to other documents filed separately with the SEC. The information incorporated by reference is considered to be part of this prospectus. Any information that we file later with the SEC and that is deemed incorporated by reference will automatically update and supersede the information in this prospectus. In all such cases, you should rely on the later information over different information included in this prospectus or in any incorporated document. You should not assume that information in any document incorporated by reference into this prospectus or any accompanying prospectus supplement is current as of any date other than the date of that document. This prospectus will be deemed to incorporate by reference the following documents, except that we do not incorporate any document or portion of a document that was furnished and deemed by the rules of the SEC not to have been filed:

- our Annual Report on Form 20-F for the year ended December 31, 2020, filed with the SEC on March 24, 2021;
- our Reports of Foreign Private Issuer on Form 6-K filed with the SEC on <u>January 7, 2021</u>,
   February 25, 2021, <u>March 24, 2021 (two filings)</u>, <u>April 1, 2021</u>, <u>April 6, 2021</u>, <u>April 20, 2021</u>,
   <u>May 4, 2021</u>, <u>May 6, 2021</u>, <u>May 20, 2021</u>, <u>July 8, 2021</u>, <u>August 5, 2021</u>, <u>September 8, 2021</u>,
   <u>September 9, 2021</u>, and <u>October 4, 2021</u>; and
- the description of our ordinary shares contained in our registration statement on <u>Form 8-A</u>
   (<u>File No. 001-36622</u>), <u>filed with the SEC on September 16</u>, <u>2014</u>, including any other amendments or reports filed for the purpose of updating such description (other than any portion of such filings that are furnished under applicable SEC rules rather than filed).

We will also incorporate by reference any future filings made with the SEC under the Exchange Act after (i) the date of the initial registration statement and prior to the effectiveness of the registration statement and (ii) the date of this prospectus and before the completion of the offering of the securities under the registration statement. In addition, we will incorporate by reference certain future materials furnished to the SEC on Reports of Foreign Private Issuer on Form 6-K after the date of the initial registration statement, but only to the extent specifically indicated in those submissions or in a future prospectus supplement. Each subsequently filed Annual Report should be deemed to supersede entirely each earlier filed Annual Report and Reports of Foreign Private Issuer on Form 6-K containing our quarterly earnings releases and, unless explicitly stated otherwise, such earlier reports should not be deemed to be part of this prospectus or any accompanying prospectus supplement and you should not rely upon statements made in those earlier periodic reports.

You may request a copy of these filings, at no cost, by writing, telephoning or emailing us at the following address:

Zernikedreef 9
2333 CK Leiden
The Netherlands
Attention: Company Secretary
Tel.: +31 88 166 7000
IR@progr.com

# RISK FACTORS

Investing in our securities involves a high degree of risk. Before investing in our securities, you should carefully consider the risks described in the "Risk Factors" section of our Annual Report on Form 20-F for the year ended December 31, 2020, filed with the SEC on March 24, 2021, as updated or superseded by the risks and uncertainties described under similar headings in the other documents that are filed after the date hereof and incorporated by reference into this prospectus, together with all of the other information contained in this prospectus and incorporated by reference herein, and any free writing prospectus that we may authorize for use in connection with an offering. Some of these factors relate principally to our business and the industry in which we operate. Other factors relate principally to your investment in our securities. The risks and uncertainties described therein and below are not the only risks facing us. Additional risks and uncertainties not presently known to us or that we currently deem immaterial may also materially and adversely affect our business and operations. If any of the matters included in the following risks were to occur, our business, financial condition, results of operations, cash flows or prospects could be materially and adversely affected. In such case, you may lose all or part of your investment. See the sections titled "Where You Can Find Additional Information" and "Incorporation of Certain Information By Reference" in this prospectus for additional information.

# **USE OF PROCEEDS**

Unless otherwise described in a prospectus supplement or related free writing prospectus, we intend to use the net proceeds from the sale of the offered securities for general corporate purposes, which may include, but are not limited to, working capital, repayment of outstanding indebtedness, strategic acquisitions and other potential business development activities, ongoing research and development activities and capital expenditures. Pending any specific utilization, the proceeds from the sale of the offered securities may be invested in a manner designed to ensure levels of liquidity which correspond to our current and foreseeable cash needs. Such investments may include, but may not be limited to, short-term investments, including government bonds, or other interest-bearing investments.

We may raise additional funds from time to time through equity or debt financings not involving the issuance of securities described in this prospectus, including borrowings under credit facilities, to finance our business and operations and any acquisitions.

# DIVIDEND POLICY

We have never declared or paid any dividends on our ordinary shares, and we currently do not plan to declare dividends on our ordinary shares in the foreseeable future. Under Dutch law, we may only pay dividends if our shareholders' equity exceeds the sum of the paid-up and called-up share capital plus the reserves required to be maintained by Dutch law or by our articles of association. In addition, the terms of our loan facility with our senior lenders Pontifax Medison Finance and Kreos Capital preclude us from paying dividends and future debt agreements may have similar negative covenants. Under our articles of association, a (cumulative) dividend is first paid out of the profit, if available for distribution, on any preferred shares (of which we had none as of the date of this prospectus supplement). Any amount remaining out of the profit is carried to reserve as the management board determines. After reservation by the management board of any profit, the remaining profit will be at the disposal of the general meeting of shareholders. The management board is permitted, subject to certain requirements and subject to approval of the supervisory board, to declare interim dividends without the approval of the general meeting of shareholders.

# CAPITALIZATION

We intend to include information about our capitalization and indebtedness in prospectus supplements.

# **DESCRIPTION OF SECURITIES WE MAY OFFER**

#### Warrants

The following description, together with the additional information we include in any applicable prospectus supplements or free writing prospectus, summarizes the material terms and provisions of the warrants that we may offer under this prospectus, which may consist of warrants to purchase securities in one or more series. Warrants may be offered independently or together with ordinary shares or units offered by any prospectus supplement or free writing prospectus, and may be attached to or separate from those securities. While the terms we have summarized below will generally apply to any future warrants we may offer under this prospectus, we will describe the particular terms of any warrants that we may offer in more detail in the applicable prospectus supplement or free writing prospectus. The terms of any warrants we offer under a prospectus supplement or free writing prospectus may differ from the terms we describe below.

We may issue warrants to purchase our equity securities or securities of third parties or other rights, including rights to receive payment in cash or securities based on the value, rate or price of one or more specified commodities, currencies, securities or indices, or any combination of the foregoing. Warrants may be issued independently or together with any other securities and may be attached to, or separate from, such securities. A series of warrants may be issued under a separate warrant indenture between us and a warrant agent. The terms of any warrants to be issued and a description of the material provisions of any applicable warrant indenture will be set forth in the applicable prospectus supplement.

The applicable prospectus supplement will describe the following terms of any warrants in respect of which this prospectus is being delivered:

- · the title of such warrants;
- the aggregate number of such warrants;
- the price or prices at which such warrants will be issued;
- the currency or currencies, in which the price of such warrants will be payable;
- the securities or other rights, including rights to receive payment in cash or securities based on the value, rate or price of one or more specified commodities, currencies, securities or indices, or any combination of the foregoing, purchasable upon exercise of such warrants;
- the price at which and the currency or currencies, in which the securities or other rights purchasable upon exercise of such warrants may be purchased;
- the date on which the right to exercise such warrants shall commence and the date on which such right shall expire;
- if applicable, the minimum or maximum amount of such warrants which may be exercised at any one time:
- if applicable, the designation and terms of the securities with which such warrants are issued and the number of such warrants issued with each such security;
- if applicable, the date on and after which such warrants and the related securities will be separately transferable;
- · information with respect to book-entry procedures, if any;
- if applicable, a discussion of any material United States Federal income tax considerations; and
- any other terms of such warrants, including terms, procedures and limitations relating to the
  exchange and exercise of such warrants.

# Units

This section outlines some of the provisions of the units and the unit agreements. This information may not be complete in all respects and is qualified entirely by reference to the unit agreement with respect to the units of any particular series. The specific terms of any series of units will be described in the applicable prospectus

supplement or free writing prospectus. If so described in a particular prospectus supplement or free writing prospectus, the specific terms of any series of units may differ from the general description of terms presented below.

We may issue units comprised of ordinary shares and warrants in any combination. We may issue units in such amounts and in as many distinct series as we wish. This section outlines certain provisions of the units that we may issue. If we issue units, they will be issued under one or more unit agreements to be entered into between us and a bank or other financial institution, as unit agent. The information described in this section may not be complete in all respects and is qualified entirely by reference to the unit agreement with respect to the units of any particular series. The specific terms of any series of units offered will be described in the applicable prospectus supplement. If so described in a particular supplement, the specific terms of any series of units may differ from the general description of terms presented below. We urge you to read any prospectus supplement related to any series of units we may offer, as well as the complete unit agreement and unit certificate that contain the terms of the units. If we issue units, forms of unit agreements and unit certificates relating to such units will be incorporated by reference as exhibits to the registration statement, which includes this prospectus.

We may issue units consisting of one or more ordinary shares, warrants or any combination of such securities. The applicable prospectus supplement will describe:

- the terms of the units and of the securities comprising the units, including whether and under what circumstances the securities comprising the units may be traded separately;
- a description of the terms of any unit agreement governing the units; and
- a description of the provisions for the payment, settlement, transfer or exchange or the units.

# **DESCRIPTION OF SHARE CAPITAL**

This section describes the general terms of our ordinary shares that we may offer from time to time. For more detailed information, a holder of our ordinary shares should refer to our certificate of incorporation and our by-laws, copies of which are filed with the SEC as exhibits to the registration statement of which this prospectus is a part.

#### General

We were incorporated on February 21, 2012 as a private company with limited liability ('besloten vennootschap met beperkte aansprakelijkheid') under Dutch law. In connection with our initial public offering in 2014, our shareholders resolved to amend our articles of association and to convert into a public company with limited liability by means of a Deed of Amendment and Conversion, pursuant to which, we converted to a public company with limited liability ('naamloze vennootschap') under the laws of the Netherlands. In connection with this conversion, our legal name changed from ProQR Therapeutics B.V. to ProQR Therapeutics N.V. On June 22, 2016 the articles of association were amended to (i) add certain places where general meeting of shareholders may be held and (ii) amend the term 'annual report' to 'report of the Management Board' to comply with the Implementation Act Annual Accounts Directive ('Uitvoeringswet richtlijn jaarrekening') (Bulletin of Acts and Decrees ('Staatsblad') 2015, 349), pursuant to which act this term has been amended accordingly. On February 27, 2018, the articles of association were amended to (i) to increase the authorized share capital, and (ii) to delete the requirement of a deed for the issuance of shares. On June 10, 2021, the articles of association were amended to (i) combine the existing compensation committee and nominating and corporate governance committee into one committee, to be named the compensation, nominating and corporate governance committee, and to establish a new research and development committee, and (ii) to increase the authorized share capital.

Our company is registered with the Dutch Trade Register of the Chamber of Commerce ('handelsregister van de Kamer van Koophandel en Fabrieken') in Leiden, the Netherlands under number 54600790. Our corporate seat is in Leiden, the Netherlands, and our registered office is at Zernikedreef 9, 2333 CK Leiden, the Netherlands.

As of the date hereof, our authorized share capital is €13,600,000, divided into 170,000,000 ordinary shares and 170,000,000 preferred shares, each with a nominal value of €0.04. Under Dutch law, our authorized share capital is the maximum capital that we may issue without amending our articles of association.

Our ordinary shares are listed on the Nasdaq Global Market under the symbol "PRQR." We have listed our ordinary shares in registered form and our shares are not certificated. We have appointed American Stock Transfer & Trust Company, LLC as our agent to maintain our shareholders register and to act as transfer agent, registrar and paying agent for the ordinary shares. Our ordinary shares are traded on the Nasdaq Global Market in book-entry form.

# **Articles of Association and Dutch Law**

Set forth below is a summary of relevant information concerning the material provisions of our articles of association and applicable Dutch law. This summary does not constitute legal advice regarding those matters and should not be regarded as such.

# Anti-Takeover Measure

To enable us to pursue our business strategy and the successful development of our product pipeline and to protect our interests and those of our stakeholders (including shareholders, employees and patient populations), our business strategy, our continuity and our independence against actual and potential threats, we have adopted an anti-takeover measure by granting a perpetual and repeatedly exercisable call option to a protection foundation, Stichting Continuity ProQR Therapeutics. The call option confers on the protection foundation the right to acquire under certain conditions such number of preferred shares as equals, at the time of exercise of the call option, the lesser of: (i) the total number of shares equal to our issued share capital at that time, minus the number of preferred shares already held by the protection foundation at that time

(if any) or (ii) the maximum number of preferred shares that may be issued under our authorized share capital under our articles of association from time to time. The protection foundation's articles of association provide that it will act to promote and protect the best interests of us, our business and our stakeholders, including patient populations that may benefit from our products and pipeline, by opposing any influences that conflict with these interests and threaten to undermine our strategy, continuity, independence and/or identity. The board of the protection foundation is independent from us, our stakeholders and our subsidiaries.

Upon exercise of the call option, the preferred shares will be issued to the protection foundation for their nominal value, of which only 25% will be due upon issuance. The voting rights of our shares are based on nominal value and as we expect our shares to trade substantially in excess of nominal value, a foundation acquiring preferred shares issued at 25% of their nominal value can obtain significant voting power for a substantially reduced price and thus be used as a defensive measure. These preferred shares will have both a liquidation and dividend preference over our ordinary shares and will accrue cash dividends at a fixed rate with deficits in a preferred dividend being carried forward. The protection foundation may exercise the call option to acquire preferred shares in order to protect us from influences that do not serve our best interests and threaten to undermine our strategy, continuity, independence and/or identity. These influences may include a third-party acquiring a significant percentage of our ordinary shares, the announcement of a public offer for our ordinary shares, other concentration of control over our ordinary shares or any other form of pressure on us to alter our strategic policies.

#### Company's Shareholders' Register

All of our registered shares are registered in our shareholders' register. Subject to Dutch law and our articles of association, we must keep our shareholders' register accurate and up-to-date. Our shareholders' register shall be kept by our agent on behalf of the management board. Our shareholders' register includes the names and addresses and other relevant details of all holders of registered shares, and shows the date on which the shares were acquired, the date of the acknowledgement by, or notification of, us as well as the amount paid on each share. The shareholders' register also includes the names and addresses and other relevant details of those with a right of usufruct ('vruchtgebruik') or a right of pledge ('pandrecht') in respect of any shares. Our registered ordinary shares are held through DTC and therefore DTC is recorded in the shareholders register as the holder of those ordinary shares.

Shareholders, usufructuaries and pledgees whose particulars must be recorded in our shareholders' register are required to provide our management board with the necessary particulars in a timely fashion. Upon request, shareholders, usufructuaries and pledgees shall be provided with an extract of our shareholders' register in respect of their right to one or more registered shares.

# Issuance of Shares and Preemptive Rights

Under Dutch law, shares are issued and rights to subscribe for shares are granted pursuant to a resolution of the general meeting of shareholders. Our articles of association provide that our general meeting of shareholders may only adopt such resolution upon a proposal of our management board, which proposal must have been approved by our supervisory board. Our general meeting of shareholders may authorize our management board to issue new shares or grant rights to subscribe for shares. The authorization can be granted and extended, in each case for a period not exceeding five years. For as long as such authorization is effective, our general meeting of shareholders will not have the power to issue shares and rights to subscribe for shares. Pursuant to our articles of association, our management board may only exercise the power to issue shares with the approval of our supervisory board.

Under Dutch law, in the event of an issuance of ordinary shares or granting of rights to subscribe for ordinary shares, each shareholder will have a *pro rata* preemptive right in proportion to the aggregate nominal value of the ordinary shares held by such holder. A holder of ordinary shares does not have a preemptive right with respect to the issuance of, or granting of rights to subscribe for, (i) ordinary shares for consideration other than cash, or (ii) ordinary shares to our employees or employees of one of our group companies, or (iii) ordinary shares to persons exercising a previously granted right to subscribe for shares, or (iv) preferred shares.

The preemptive rights in respect of newly issued ordinary shares may be restricted or excluded by a resolution of the general meeting of shareholders. Our articles of association provide that our general meeting of shareholders may only adopt such resolution upon a proposal of our management board, which proposal must have been approved by our supervisory board. Our general meeting of shareholders may authorize our management board to restrict or exclude the preemptive rights in respect of newly issued ordinary shares. Such authorization for the management board can be granted and extended, in each case for a period not exceeding five years. For as long as such authorization is effective, our general meeting of shareholders will not have the power to limit or exclude preemptive rights and such authorization may not be revoked unless stipulated otherwise in the authorization. A resolution of the general meeting of shareholders to restrict or exclude the preemptive rights or to designate our management board as the authorized body to do so requires at least a two-thirds majority of the votes cast, if less than one half of our issued share capital is represented at the meeting.

Preferred shares do not carry preemptive rights in respect of newly issued ordinary shares or preferred shares, nor do holders of ordinary shares have preemptive rights in respect of newly issued preferred shares. The call option of the protection foundation to acquire newly issued preferred shares of the company, see "Description of Share Capital — Anti-Takeover Measure", is an irrevocable and repeatedly exercisable right to subscribe for preferred shares.

On September 15, 2014, our general meeting of shareholders adopted a resolution pursuant to which our management board will be irrevocably authorized to, following approval of our supervisory board, limit or exclude the preemptive rights of holders of ordinary shares for a period of five years from the date of such resolution.

On May 16, 2018, our general meeting of shareholders adopted a resolution pursuant to which the aforesaid authorizations to issue shares and to limit and exclude preemptive rights was renewed. In this renewed authorization the Management Board was delegated, subject to approval of the Supervisory Board, the authority for a period of 5 years from the date of the resolution of the general meeting of shareholders to, in accordance with applicable laws and Nasdaq listing rules: (a) issue an amount of ordinary shares up to 100% of the Company's authorized share capital for general purposes as reflected above and issuances under Company's stock option plans with the proviso that the issuances under stock option plans is limited to 15% of the Company's issued share capital (minus any treasury shares) at May 16, 2018; (b) grant rights to subscribe for ordinary shares as described under (a); and (c) limit or exclude the pre-emptive rights of holders of ordinary shares, which delegation shall include the authority to determine the price and further terms and conditions of any such share issuance or grants.

On June 23, 2020, our general meeting of shareholders adopted a resolution pursuant to which the aforesaid authorizations to issue shares and to limit and exclude preemptive rights was renewed. In this renewed authorization the Management Board was delegated, subject to approval of the Supervisory Board, the authority for a period of 5 years from the date of the resolution of the general meeting of shareholders to, in accordance with applicable laws and Nasdaq listing rules: (a) issue an amount of ordinary shares up to 100% of the Company's authorized share capital for general purposes as reflected above and issuances under Company's equity incentive or stock option plans with the proviso that the issuances under equity incentive or stock option plans are limited to 15% of the Company's issued share capital from time-to-time (minus any treasury shares); (b) grant rights to subscribe for ordinary shares as described under (a); and (c) limit or exclude the pre-emptive rights of holders of ordinary shares, which delegation shall include the authority to determine the price and further terms and conditions of any such share issuance or grant.

On May 19, 2021, our general meeting of shareholders adopted a resolution pursuant to which our management board, subject to approval of the supervisory board, is authorized to, in accordance with applicable laws and Nasdaq listing rules and for a period of 5 years from the date of the resolution of the general meeting of shareholders: (a) issue ordinary shares up to 100% of the Company's authorized share capital for general purposes and issuances under Company's equity incentive or stock option plans with the proviso that the issuances under equity incentive or stock option plans is limited to 15% of the Company's issued share capital from time-to-time (minus any treasury shares); (b) grant rights to subscribe for ordinary shares as described under (a); and (c) limit or exclude the pre-emptive rights of holders of ordinary shares, which delegation shall include the authority to determine the price and further terms and conditions of any such share issuance or grant.

# Repurchases of our Shares

Under Dutch law, we may not subscribe for newly issued shares in our own capital. We may acquire our shares, subject to applicable provisions and restrictions of Dutch law and our articles of association, to the extent that:

- · such shares are fully paid-up;
- such shares are acquired for no consideration or such repurchase would not cause our shareholders'
  equity to fall below an amount equal to the sum of the paid-up and called-up part of the issued share
  capital and the reserves we are required to maintain pursuant to Dutch law or our articles of
  association; and
- after the acquisition of shares, we and our subsidiaries would not hold, or would not hold as pledgees, shares having an aggregate nominal value that exceeds 50% of our issued share capital.

Other than shares acquired for no consideration or by universal succession, we may acquire shares only if our general meeting of shareholders has authorized the management board to do so. An authorization by the general meeting of shareholders for the acquisition of shares can be granted for a maximum period of 18 months. Such authorization must specify the number of shares that may be acquired, the manner in which these shares may be acquired and the price range within which the shares may be acquired. No authorization of the general meeting of shareholders is required if ordinary shares are acquired by us on Nasdaq with the intention of transferring such ordinary shares to our employees or employees of a group company pursuant to an arrangement applicable to them. Our articles of association further provide that a resolution of our management board to acquire fully paid-up shares in our share capital requires the approval of our supervisory board.

On May 10, 2017, our general meeting of shareholders adopted a resolution pursuant to which our management board is authorized to acquire up to 10% of our issued share capital plus, in case of a material reorganization of the capital structure of the Company an additional 10% on Nasdaq or by other means for an 18 month period from the date of such resolution for a price per share not exceeding 110% of the market price of the ordinary shares on Nasdaq (with the market price deemed to be the average of the closing price on each of the five consecutive days of trading preceding the three trading days prior to the date of acquisition).

On June 23, 2020 our general meeting of shareholders adopted a resolution pursuant to which the aforementioned authorization to acquire shares was renewed. In this renewed authorization the Management Board was delegated the authority to perform acquisitions by the Company of (i) up to 10% of the issued share capital of the Company plus, (ii) in case of a material reorganization of the capital structure of the Company, an additional 10% of the issued share capital of the Company, by any means, including through derivative products, purchases on any stock exchange, through any private purchase or block trade, or otherwise, for a price that is between 0.01 US Dollar and an amount which is not higher than 110% of the average market price of such ordinary shares on Nasdaq (with the market price deemed to be the average of the closing price on each of the five consecutive days of trading preceding the three trading days prior to the date of acquisition), for a period of 18 months with effect from the annual general meeting of shareholders.

On May 19, 2021, our general meeting of shareholders adopted a resolution pursuant to which our management board will be authorized to acquire (i) up to 10% of the issued share capital of the Company plus, in case of a material reorganization of the capital structure of the Company, (ii) an additional 10% of the issued share capital of the Company, by any means, including through derivative products, purchases on any stock exchange, through any private purchase or block trade, or otherwise, for a price that is between 0.01 US Dollar and an amount which is not higher than 110% of the average market price of such ordinary shares on Nasdaq (with the market price deemed to be the average of the closing price on each of the five consecutive days of trading preceding the three trading days prior to the date of acquisition), for a period of eighteen (18) months with effect from the general meeting of shareholders. In this respect, the words "issued share capital" means the Company's issued share capital from time to time. For the avoidance of doubt, the issued share capital includes treasury shares.

# Capital Reductions; Cancellation

At a general meeting of shareholders, our shareholders may resolve to reduce our issued share capital by (i) cancelling shares or (ii) reducing the nominal value of the shares by virtue of an amendment to our articles of association. In either case, this reduction would be subject to applicable statutory provisions. A resolution to cancel shares may only relate (x) to shares held by the company itself or in respect of which the company holds the depository receipts, and (y) to all preferred shares. Our articles of association provide that our general meeting of shareholders may only adopt such resolution upon a proposal of our management board, which proposal must have been approved by our supervisory board. In order to be adopted by the general meeting of shareholders, a resolution to reduce the capital requires a simple majority of the votes cast at a general meeting of shareholders if at least half the issued capital is represented at the meeting or at least two-thirds of the votes cast at the general meeting of shareholders if less than half of the issued capital is represented at the general meeting of shareholders.

A reduction of the nominal value of shares without repayment and without release from the obligation to pay up the shares must be effectuated proportionally on shares of the same class (unless all shareholders concerned agree to a disproportionate reduction). A resolution that would result in a reduction of capital requires approval of the meeting of each group of holders of shares of the same class whose rights are prejudiced by the reduction. In addition, a reduction of capital involves a two month waiting period during which creditors have the right to object to a reduction of capital under specified circumstances.

In the event that all preferred shares are cancelled, distributions shall be made to the protection foundation as sole holder of such preferred shares.

# Corporate Objectives

Under our articles of association, our corporate objectives are:

- the development, bringing to market and exploitation of products and technologies in the field of biotechnology;
- the research and development of (or the commission to research and develop) patents, know-how and intellectual and industrial property;
- to make our products available to the patient populations that may benefit from such products and to maintain a suitable pipeline of products that may be beneficial for relevant patient populations;
- to participate in, to finance, to hold any other interest in and to conduct the management or supervision of other entities, companies, partnerships and businesses;
- to furnish guarantees, to provide security, to warrant performance in any other way and to assume liability, whether jointly and severally or otherwise, in respect of obligations of group companies or other parties; and
- to do anything which, in the widest sense of the words, is connected with or may be conducive to the attainment of these objects.

# Amendment of Articles of Association

Our general meeting of shareholders, at the proposal of our management board, with the prior approval of our supervisory board, may resolve to amend our articles of association. A resolution taken by the general meeting of shareholders to amend our articles of association requires a simple majority of the votes cast.

# General Meetings of Shareholders

General meetings of shareholders can be held in Leiden, Amsterdam, Rotterdam, Schiphol Airport (municipality Haarlemmermeer), The Hague, Oegstgeest, Leidschendam, Katwijk, Noordwijk or Wassenaar, the Netherlands. All shareholders and others entitled to attend general meetings of shareholders are authorized to attend the general meeting of shareholders, to address the meeting and, in so far as they have such right, to vote, either in person or by proxy.

However, due to the COVID-19 pandemic several restrictions have been implied in the Netherlands. It is possible that we will deviate from our articles of association and/or the Dutch Civil Code and hold our general meetings virtually, as permitted under the emergency bill Temporary Measures in the Field of the Ministry of Justice and Security in connection with the Outbreak of COVID-19 (*Tijdelijke Wet COVID-19 Justitie & Veiligheid*), as extended or amended from time to time.

We must hold at least one general meeting of shareholders each year, to be held within six months after the end of our financial year. A general meeting of shareholders shall also be held within three months after our management board has considered it to be likely that the company's equity has decreased to an amount equal to or lower than half of its paid up and called up capital. If the management board and supervisory board have failed to ensure that such general meetings of shareholders as referred to in the preceding sentences are held in a timely fashion, each shareholder and other person entitled to attend shareholders' meetings may be authorized by the Dutch court to convene the general meeting of shareholders.

Our management board and our supervisory board may convene additional extraordinary general meetings of shareholders whenever they so decide. Pursuant to Dutch law, one or more shareholders and/or others entitled to attend general meetings of shareholders, alone or jointly representing at least ten percent of our issued share capital, may on their application be authorized by the Dutch court to convene a general meeting of shareholders. The Dutch court will disallow the application if it does not appear to it that the applicants have previously requested that the management board or supervisory board convenes a shareholders' meeting and neither the management board nor the supervisory board has taken the necessary steps so that the shareholders' meeting could be held within eight weeks after the request.

General meetings of shareholders are convened by a notice which includes an agenda stating the items to be discussed. For the annual general meeting of shareholders the agenda will include, among other things, the adoption of our annual accounts, the appropriation of our profits or losses and proposals relating to the composition and filling of any vacancies of the management board or supervisory board. In addition, the agenda for a general meeting of shareholders may include such items as have been included therein by our management board or our supervisory board. Pursuant to Dutch law, one or more shareholders and/or others entitled to attend general meetings of shareholders, alone or jointly representing at least 3% of the issued share capital, have the right to request the inclusion of additional items on the agenda of shareholders' meetings. Such requests must be made in writing, substantiated, or by a proposal for a resolution and received by us no later than the 60th day before the day that the relevant general meeting of shareholders is to be held. No resolutions will be adopted on items other than those which have been included in the agenda.

We will give notice of each general meeting of shareholders by publication on our website and, to the extent required by applicable law, in a Dutch daily newspaper with national distribution, and in any other manner that we may be required to follow in order to comply with Dutch law and applicable stock exchange and SEC requirements. We will observe the statutory minimum convening notice period for a general meeting of shareholders.

Pursuant to our articles of association, our management board may determine a record date ('registratiedatum') of 28 calendar days prior to a general meeting of shareholders to establish which shareholders and others with meeting rights are entitled to attend and, if applicable, vote in the general meeting of shareholders. The record date, if any, and the manner in which shareholders can register and exercise their rights will be set out in the convocation notice of the general meeting of shareholders. Our articles of association provide that a shareholder must notify the company in writing of his identity and his intention to attend (or be represented at) the general meeting of shareholders, such notice to be received by us ultimately on the seventh day prior to the general meeting of shareholders. If this requirement is not complied with or if upon direction of the company to that effect no proper identification is provided by any person wishing to enter the general meeting of shareholders, the chairperson of the general meeting of shareholders may, in his or her sole discretion, refuse entry to the shareholder or his proxy holder.

Pursuant to our articles of association, our general meeting of shareholders is chaired by the chairman of our supervisory board. If the chairman of our supervisory board is absent and has not charged another person to chair the meeting in his place, the supervisory board members present at the meeting shall appoint one of themselves to be chairperson. If no supervisory board members are present at the general meeting of shareholders, the general meeting of shareholders will be chaired by our CEO or, if our CEO is absent,

another management board member present at the meeting and, if none of them is present, the general meeting of shareholders shall appoint its own chairperson. The person who should chair the meeting may appoint another person in his or her stead.

The chairperson of the general meeting of shareholders may decide at his or her discretion to admit other persons to the meeting. The chairperson of the general meeting of shareholders shall appoint another person present at the shareholders' meeting to act as secretary and to minute the proceedings at the meeting. The chairperson of the general meeting of shareholders may instruct a civil law notary to draw up a notarial report of the proceedings at the company's expense, in which case no minutes need to be taken. The chairperson of the general meeting of shareholders is authorized to eject any person from the general meeting of shareholders if the chairperson considers that person to disrupt the orderly proceedings. The general meeting of shareholders shall be conducted in the English language.

# **Voting Rights and Quorum Requirements**

In accordance with Dutch law and our articles of association, each issued ordinary share and preferred share confers the right on the holder thereof to cast one vote at the general meeting of shareholders. The voting rights attached to any shares held by us or our direct or indirect subsidiaries are suspended as long as they are held in treasury. Dutch law does not permit cumulative voting for the election of management board members or supervisory board members.

Voting rights may be exercised by shareholders or by a duly appointed proxy holder (the written proxy being acceptable to the chairperson of the general meeting of shareholders) of a shareholder, which proxy holder need not be a shareholder. Our articles of association do not limit the number of shares that may be voted by a single shareholder.

Under our articles of association, blank votes, abstentions and invalid votes shall not be counted as votes cast. Further, shares in respect of which a blank or invalid vote has been cast and shares in respect of which the person with meeting rights who is present or represented at the meeting has abstained from voting are counted when determining the part of the issued share capital that is present or represented at a general meeting of shareholders. The chairperson of the general meeting of shareholders shall determine the manner of voting and whether voting may take place by acclamation.

In accordance with Dutch law and generally accepted business practices, our articles of association do not provide quorum requirements generally applicable to general meetings of shareholders. To this extent, our practice varies from the requirement of Nasdaq Listing Rule 5620(c), which requires an issuer to provide in its bylaws for a generally applicable quorum, and that such quorum may not be less than one-third of the outstanding voting shares.

Resolutions of the general meeting of shareholders are adopted by a simple majority of votes cast without quorum requirement, except where Dutch law or our articles of association provide for a special majority and/or quorum in relation to specified resolutions.

The chairperson of the general meeting of shareholders shall decide on the method of voting and may determine the voting procedure. The determination made by the chairperson of the general meeting of shareholders with regard to the results of a vote shall be decisive. However, where the accuracy of the chairperson's determination is contested immediately after it has been made, a new vote shall take place if the majority of the general meeting of shareholders so requires or, where the original vote did not take place by response to a roll call or in writing, if any party with voting rights present at the meeting so requires.

Our management board will keep a record of the resolutions passed at each general meeting of shareholders. The record shall be available at our office for inspection by any person entitled to attend general meetings of shareholders and upon request a copy of or extract from the record will be provided to such person at no more than the cost price.

Our articles of association and Dutch law provide that resolutions of our management board concerning a material change in the identity or character of the company or our business are subject to the approval of the general meeting of shareholders. Such changes include in any event:

• a transfer of all or materially all of our business to a third party;

- the entry into or termination of a long-lasting alliance of the company or of a subsidiary either with another entity or company, or as a fully liable partner of a limited partnership or partnership, if this alliance or termination is of significant importance for the company; and
- the acquisition or disposition of an interest in the capital of a company by the company or by a subsidiary with a value of at least one third of the value of the assets, according to the balance sheet with explanatory notes or, if the company prepares a consolidated balance sheet, according to the consolidated balance sheet with explanatory notes in the company's most recently adopted annual accounts.

# Adoption of Annual Accounts and Discharge of Management and Supervisory Liability

Pursuant to Dutch law, we are required to publish our annual accounts within eight days after adoption and ultimately within 13 months after the end of our financial year.

Each year within five months after the end of our financial year, save where this period is extended for a maximum of six months by the general meeting of shareholders on account of special circumstances, our management board will prepare the annual accounts. The annual accounts must be accompanied by an auditor's certificate, a report of the management board and certain other mandatory information and must be made available for inspection by our shareholders at our offices within the same period. Under Dutch law, the general meeting of shareholders may appoint and remove our independent auditors, as referred to in Section 2:393 Dutch Civil Code, who audit the annual accounts. If the general meeting of shareholders fails to appoint an independent auditor, the auditor will be appointed by the supervisory board or, if the supervisory board fails to do so, the management board. The annual accounts are adopted by our shareholders at the general meeting of shareholders and will be prepared in accordance with Part 9 of Book 2 of the Dutch Civil Code.

The adoption of the annual accounts by our shareholders does not release our management board members and our supervisory board members from liability for acts reflected in those documents. Any such release from liability requires a separate shareholders' resolution.

Our financial reporting will be subject to the supervision of the Dutch regulator AFM. The AFM will review the content of the financial reports and has the authority to approach us with requests for information if, on the basis of publicly available information, it has reasonable doubts as to the integrity of our financial reporting. For a more detailed description we refer to the description below under the heading "Dutch Financial Reporting Supervision Act."

# Dividends and other Distributions

We may only make distributions to our shareholders and other persons entitled to distributable profits, to the extent that our shareholders' equity exceeds the sum of the paid-up and called-up share capital plus the reserves as required to be maintained by Dutch law or by our articles of association.

Under our articles of association, a (cumulative) dividend is first paid out of the profit, if available for distribution, on any preferred shares. Any amount remaining out of the profit is carried to reserve as the management board determines. After reservation by the management board of any profit, the remaining profit will be at the disposal of the general meeting of shareholders. The management board is permitted, subject to certain requirements and subject to approval of the supervisory board, to declare interim dividends without the approval of the general meeting of shareholders.

Distributions shall be payable in such currency as determined by our management board. We intend that distributions, if any, shall be payable on such date as determined by our management board. Our management board will set the date that will be applied in order to establish which shareholders (or usufructuaries or pledgees, as the case may be) are entitled to the distribution, such date not being earlier than the date on which the distribution was announced. Claims for payment of dividends and other distributions not made within five years from the date that such dividends or distributions became payable, will lapse and any such amounts will be considered to have been forfeited to us ('verjaring').

We do not anticipate paying any dividends for the foreseeable future.

# Liquidation and Dissolution

The general meeting of shareholders may, based on a proposal by our management board, which proposal has been approved by our supervisory board, resolve to dissolve the company by a resolution passed by a simple majority of the votes cast. In the event of the company being dissolved, the liquidation shall be effected by our management board under the supervision of the supervisory board, unless the general meeting of shareholders decides otherwise.

In the event of a dissolution and liquidation, the assets remaining after payment of all of the company's debts (including any liquidation expenses) are to be distributed (i) firstly to the holders, if any, of preferred shares in the amount of the nominal value of the preferred shares (to the extent paid-up) plus unpaid accrued dividends and deficits (if any) in preferred dividends, and (ii) the balance remaining to the holders of ordinary shares in proportion to the aggregate nominal value of their ordinary shares. The liquidation and all distributions referred to in this paragraph will be made in accordance with the relevant provisions of Dutch law

# Limitations on Non-Residents and Exchange Controls

There are no limits under the laws of the Netherlands or in our articles of association on non-residents of the Netherlands holding or voting our ordinary shares. Under Dutch law, there are currently no exchange controls applicable to the transfer of dividends or other distributions with respect to, or of the proceeds from the sale of, shares in a Dutch company, to persons outside the Netherlands.

# **Netherlands Squeeze-Out Proceedings**

Pursuant to Section 2:92a of the Dutch Civil Code, a shareholder who for its own account (or together with its group companies) holds at least 95% of our issued share capital may institute proceedings against our other shareholders jointly for the transfer of their shares to it. The proceedings are held before the Enterprise Chamber of the Amsterdam Court of Appeal ('Ondernemingskamer') and can be instituted by means of a writ of summons served upon each of the minority shareholders in accordance with the provisions of the Dutch Code of Civil Procedure ('Wetboek van Burgerlijke Rechtsvordering'). The Enterprise Chamber may grant the claim for squeeze-out in relation to all minority shareholders and will determine the price to be paid for the shares, if necessary after appointment of one or three experts who will offer an opinion to the Enterprise Chamber on the value of the shares of the minority shareholders. Once the order to transfer by the Enterprise Chamber of the Amsterdam Court of Appeal becomes final and irrevocable, the majority shareholder that instituted the squeeze-out proceedings shall give written notice of the date and place of payment and the price to the holders of the shares to be acquired whose addresses are known to the majority shareholder. Unless the addresses of all minority shareholders are known to the majority shareholder acquiring the shares, the majority shareholder is required to publish the same notice in a newspaper with a national circulation.

A shareholder that holds a majority of our issued share capital, but less than the 95% required to institute the squeeze-out proceedings described above, may seek to propose and implement one or more restructuring transactions with the objective to obtain at least 95% of our issued share capital and thus to be allowed to initiate squeeze-out proceedings. Those restructuring transactions could, amongst other things, include a legal merger or demerger involving our company, a contribution of cash and/or assets against issuance of shares involving our company, and the issue of new shares to the majority shareholder while excluding any pre-emption rights of minority shareholders in relation to such issuance or an asset sale transaction.

In Dutch public takeover practice, depending on the circumstances, an asset sale transaction is sometimes used as a way to squeeze out minority shareholders (e.g. after a successful public offer, or tender offer, through which the offeror acquires a supermajority, but less than all, of the shares). In such a scenario, the business of the target company would be sold to an offeror, a buyer or a special purpose vehicle, followed by the liquidation of the target company. The purchase price would be distributed to all shareholders in proportion to their respective shareholding as liquidation proceeds, thus separating the business from the company in which minority shareholders participated.

Under our articles of association, any proposal to sell and transfer all of our assets and to dissolve and liquidate our company is subject to approval by a majority of the votes cast in our general meeting of shareholders which must be preceded by a proposal by our management board, which must be approved by our supervisory board.

# **Dutch Corporate Governance Code**

The DCGC is based on a "comply or explain" principle. Accordingly, companies are required to disclose in their annual report filed in the Netherlands whether or not they are complying with the various rules of the DCGC that are addressed to the management board and supervisory board and, if they do not apply those provisions, to give the reasons for such non-application. The DCGC contains both principles and best practice provisions for the management board, supervisory board, shareholders and general meetings of shareholders, financial reporting, auditors, disclosure, compliance and enforcement standards. The principles and best practice provisions apply to our management board and supervisory board, for example in relation to its role and composition, conflicts of interest, independence requirements for supervisory board members, supervisory board committees and compensation; shareholders and the general meeting of shareholders, for example, regarding anti-takeover protection and obligations of the company to provide information to our shareholders; and financial reporting, including external auditor and internal audit requirements.

We acknowledge the importance of good corporate governance. However, at this stage, we do not comply with all the provisions of the DCGC, to a large extent because such provisions conflict with or are inconsistent with the corporate governance rules of the Nasdaq Stock Market and U.S. securities laws that apply to us, or because such provisions do not reflect best practices of global companies listed on the Nasdaq Global Market.

The discussion below summarizes the most important differences between our governance structure and the principles and best practices of the DCGC:

- Best practice provision 4.1.3 (vii) provide that each substantial change in our corporate governance structure and in our compliance with the DCGC must be submitted to the general meeting of shareholders for discussion under a separate agenda item. As our ordinary shares will be listed on the Nasdaq Global Market only, we intend to comply with the corporate governance rules that apply to companies that are listed on the Nasdaq Global Market and therefore will not comply with this provision.
- Best practice provision 2.1.7 (i) stipulates that any one of the criteria referred to in best practice
  provision 2.1.8, sections i. to v. inclusive should be applicable to at most one supervisory board
  member. As our ordinary shares will be listed on the Nasdaq Global Market only, we intend to
  comply with the corporate governance rules that apply to companies that are listed on the Nasdaq
  Global Market, and will therefore only apply the Nasdaq criteria on independence of members of the
  supervisory board.
- Best practice provision 3.3.2 prohibits the granting of shares or rights to shares to members of the
  supervisory board as remuneration. It is common practice for companies listed on the Nasdaq Global
  Market to grant shares to the members of the supervisory board as compensation, in order to align
  the interests of the members of the supervisory board with our interests and those of our
  shareholders, and we have granted and expect to grant options to acquire ordinary shares to our
  supervisory board members.
- Pursuant to the best practice provision 3.1.2 (vi) and (vii) of the DCGC, options granted to our management board members should not be exercisable during the first three years after the date of grant; shares granted to our management board members should be retained by them for a period of at least five years. We do not intend to comply with all of the above requirements.
- Best practice provision 4.3.3 provides that the general meeting of shareholders may pass a resolution to cancel the binding nature of a nomination for the appointment of a member of the management board or of the supervisory board or a resolution to dismiss such member by an absolute majority of the votes cast. It may be provided that such majority should represent a given proportion of the

issued capital, but this proportion may not exceed one third. In addition, this best practice provision provides that if such proportion of the share capital is not represented at the meeting, but an absolute majority of the votes cast is in favor of a resolution to cancel the binding nature of the nomination, a new general meeting of shareholders will be convened where the resolution may be adopted by absolute majority, regardless of the proportion of the share capital represented at the meeting. Our articles of association will provide that these resolutions can only be adopted with at least a 2/3 majority which must represent more than 50% of our issued capital, and that no such second meeting will be convened, because we believe that the decision to overrule a nomination by the management board or the supervisory board for the appointment or dismissal of a member of our management board or of our supervisory board must be widely supported by our shareholders.

- Best practice provision 4.2.3 stipulates that meetings with analysts, presentations to analysts, presentations to investors and institutional investors and press conferences must be announced in advance on the company's website and by means of press releases. Provision must be made for all shareholders to follow these meetings and presentations in real time, for example by means of webcasting or telephone. After the meetings, the presentations must be posted on the company's website. We believe that enabling shareholders to follow in real time all the meetings with analysts, presentations to analysts and presentations to investors would create an excessive burden on our resources. We intend to post analyst presentations on our website after meetings with analysts.
- Pursuant to best practice provision 3.2.3, the remuneration of the management board in the event of
  dismissal may not exceed one year's salary. The management services agreements with our
  management board members provide for a lump-sum equal to 24 months of the individual's monthly
  gross fixed salary. Based on the risk profile of the company and to be able to attract highly skilled
  management, we assumed this period to be appropriate.

# Market Abuse

The Market Abuse section described in our other filings with the SEC, including our Annual Report on Form 20-F for the year ended December 31, 2015, and the base prospectus included in our registration statement on Form F-3 (File No. 333-207245), is no longer applicable following the EU Market Abuse Regulation, which became effective as of July 3, 2016. The EU Market Abuse Regulation has direct effect in the Netherlands and other EU member states. The EU Market Abuse Regulation replaces the provisions on market abuse, insider trading and notifications set out in the Dutch Financial Supervision Act. The EU Market Abuse Regulation does not apply to companies whose shares are not admitted to trading or are not listed on a regulated market in the EU/EEA, but only on Nasdaq. Accordingly, the provisions of the EU Market Abuse Regulation do not currently apply to us.

# **Dutch Financial Reporting Supervision Act**

Under the Dutch Financial Reporting Supervision Act (*Wet toezicht financiële verslaggeving*) (the "FRSA"), the AFM supervises the application of financial reporting standards by, among others, companies whose corporate seats are in the Netherlands and whose securities are listed on a regulated market within the EU or in a non-EU country on a system similar to a regulated market. Since our company has its corporate seat in the Netherlands and our ordinary shares are listed on the Nasdaq Global Market, the FRSA will be applicable to us.

Pursuant to the FRSA, the AFM has an independent right to (i) request an explanation from us regarding our application of the applicable financial reporting standards and (ii) recommend to us that we make available further explanations. If we do not comply with such a request or recommendation, the AFM may request that the Enterprise Chamber order us to (i) make available further explanations as recommended by the AFM, (ii) provide an explanation of the way we have applied the applicable financial reporting standards to our financial reports or (iii) prepare our financial reports in accordance with the Enterprise Chamber's instructions.

# Differences in Corporate Law

We are incorporated under the laws of the Netherlands. The following discussion summarizes material differences between the rights of holders of our ordinary shares and the rights of holders of the common

stock of a typical corporation incorporated under the laws of the state of Delaware, which result from differences in governing documents and the laws of the Netherlands and Delaware.

This discussion does not purport to be a complete statement of the rights of holders of our ordinary shares under applicable Dutch law and our articles of association or the rights of holders of the common stock of a typical corporation under applicable Delaware law and a typical certificate of incorporation and bylaws.

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# **Duties of Directors**

The board of directors of a Delaware corporation bears the ultimate responsibility for managing the business and affairs of a corporation.

In discharging this function, directors of a Delaware corporation owe fiduciary duties of care and loyalty to the corporation and to its shareholders. The duty of care generally requires that a director act in good faith, with the care that an ordinarily prudent person would exercise under similar circumstances. Under this duty, a director must inform himself of all material information reasonably available regarding a significant transaction. The duty of loyalty requires that a director act in a manner he reasonably believes to be in the best interests of the corporation. He must not use his corporate position for personal gain or advantage. In general, but subject to certain exceptions, actions of a director are presumed to have been made on an informed basis, in good faith and in the honest belief that the action taken was in the best interests of the corporation. However, this presumption may be rebutted by evidence of a breach of one of the fiduciary duties. Delaware courts have also imposed a heightened standard of conduct upon directors of a Delaware corporation who take any action designed to defeat a threatened change in control of the corporation.

In addition, under Delaware law, when the board of directors of a Delaware corporation approves the sale or break-up of a corporation, the board of directors may, in certain circumstances, have a duty to obtain the highest value reasonably available to the shareholders.

The Delaware General Corporation Law generally provides for a one-year term for directors, but permits directorships to be divided into up to three classes with up to three-year terms, with the years for each class expiring in different years, if permitted by the certificate of incorporation, an initial bylaw or a bylaw adopted by the shareholders. A director elected to serve a term on a "classified" board of directors may not be removed by shareholders without cause. There is no limit to the number of terms a director may serve.

In the Netherlands, a listed company typically has a two-tier board structure, with a management board comprising the executive directors and a supervisory board comprising the non-executive directors (although a single-tier board system may also be used).

Under Dutch law, the management board is responsible for the day-to-day management and the strategy, policy and operations of a company. The supervisory board is responsible for supervising the conduct of, and providing advice to, the management board and for supervising the company's general affairs and business. Each managing director and supervisory director has a duty to act in the corporate interest of the company and the business connected with it.

Unlike under Delaware law, under Dutch law the corporate interest extends to the interests of all corporate stakeholders, such as shareholders, creditors, employees, customers and suppliers. The duty to act in the corporate interest of the company and the business connected with it also applies in the event of a proposed sale or break-up of the company, whereby the specific circumstances generally dictate how such duty is to be applied. Any management board resolution concerning a material change in the identity or character of the company or its business requires shareholders' approval. The management board may decide in its sole discretion, within the confines of Dutch law and the articles of association, to incur additional indebtedness subject to any contractual restrictions pursuant to our existing financing arrangements.

In contrast to Delaware law, under Dutch law a supervisory board member of a listed company is generally appointed for a maximum term of four years. There is no statutory limit to the number of terms a supervisory board member may serve, although the DCGC recommends that a supervisory board member is appointed for a period of four years and may then be reappointed once for another four-year period. The supervisory board member may then subsequently be reappointed

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again for a period of two years, which appointment may be extended by at most two years. In the event of a reappointment after an eight-year period, reasons should be given in the report of the supervisory board.

A supervisory board member may be removed at any time, with or without cause, by the general meeting of shareholders. Pursuant to our articles of association, our general meeting of shareholders may only adopt a resolution to suspend or dismiss such supervisory board member by at least a two-thirds majority of the votes cast, if such majority represents more than half of the issued share capital of the company, unless the proposal was made by the supervisory board, in which case a simple majority of the votes cast is sufficient.

# **Board Vacancies**

The Delaware General Corporation Law provides that vacancies and newly created directorships may be filled by a majority of the directors then in office (even though less than a quorum) or by a sole remaining director unless (a) otherwise provided in the certificate of incorporation or by-laws of the corporation or (b) the certificate of incorporation directs that a particular class of stock is to elect such director, in which case a majority of the other directors elected by such class, or a sole remaining director elected by such class, will fill such vacancy.

Under Dutch law, management board members and supervisory board members of a company such as ours are appointed by the general meeting of shareholders, rather than appointed by the management board as is typical for a Delaware corporation.

Under our articles of association, management board members and supervisory board members are appointed by our general meeting of shareholders upon the binding nomination by our supervisory board. However, the general meeting of shareholders, may at all times overrule such binding nomination by a resolution adopted by at least a two-thirds majority of the votes cast, provided such majority represents more than half of our issued share capital, following which our supervisory board shall draw up a new binding nomination.

# Conflict-of-Interest Transactions

Under the Delaware General Corporation Law, transactions with directors must be approved by disinterested directors or by the shareholders, or otherwise proven to be fair to the company as of the time it is approved. Such transaction will be void or voidable, unless (1) the material facts of any interested directors' interests are disclosed or are known to the board of directors and the transaction is approved by the affirmative votes of a majority of the disinterested directors, even though the disinterested directors constitute less than a quorum; (2) the material facts of any interested directors' interests are disclosed or are known to the shareholders entitled to vote thereon, and the

Under Dutch law, a management board member and a supervisory board member with a direct or indirect personal interest that conflicts with the interests of the company or of the business connected with it must abstain from participating in the decision-making process (i.e., the deliberations and the decision-making) with respect to the relevant matter. A board member with such a conflict of interest must promptly notify the other directors of his or her conflict. If it becomes apparent that such member was indeed involved in the decision-making process, then such decision may be nullified.

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transaction is specifically approved in good faith by vote of the shareholders; or (3) the transaction is fair to the company as of the time it is approved.

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Our articles of association provide that if as a result of conflicts of interest no resolution of the management board can be adopted, the resolution will be adopted by our supervisory board. If as a result of a conflict of interest of supervisory board members no resolution of the supervisory board can be adopted, the resolution can nonetheless be adopted by our supervisory board as if there was no conflict of interest. In that case, each supervisory board member is entitled to participate in the discussion and decision making process and to cast a vote.

Management board members with a conflict of interest remain authorized to represent the company. However, the relevant management board members may under certain circumstances be held personally liable for any damage suffered by the company as a consequence of the transaction.

Agreements entered into with third parties contrary to the rules on decision-making in the case of a conflict of interest, may as a rule not be annulled. Only under special circumstances will a company be able to annul an agreement or claim damages, such as when a third party abuses a conflict of interest situation.

# **Proxy Voting by Directors**

A director of a Delaware corporation may not issue a proxy representing the director's voting rights as a director.

An absent management board member may issue a proxy for a specific meeting of the management board but only in writing to another management board member. An absent supervisory board member may issue a proxy for a specific meeting of the supervisory board but only in writing to another supervisory board member.

# Voting Rights

Under the Delaware General Corporation Law, each shareholder is entitled to one vote per share of stock, unless the certificate of incorporation provides otherwise. Cumulative voting for elections of directors is not permitted unless the corporation's certificate of incorporation specifically provides for it. Either the certificate of incorporation or the bylaws may specify the number of shares or the amount of other securities that must be represented at a meeting in order to constitute a quorum, but in no event will a quorum consist of less than one-third of the shares entitled to vote at a meeting, except that, where a separate vote by a class or series or classes or series is required, a quorum will consist of no less than 1/3 of the shares of such class or series or classes or series.

Under Dutch law, shares have one vote per share, provided such shares have the same nominal value. Our articles of association do not provide quorum requirements generally applicable to general meetings of shareholders. All resolutions of the general meeting of shareholders are adopted by a simple majority of votes cast without quorum requirement, except where Dutch law or our articles of association provide for a special majority and/or quorum in relation to specified resolutions. Each holder of ordinary shares may cast as many votes as it holds shares. The voting rights attached to any shares held by us or our direct or indirect subsidiaries are suspended as long as they are held in treasury. Dutch law does not permit cumulative voting for the election of management board members and supervisory board members.

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Shareholders as of the record date for the meeting are entitled to vote at the meeting, and the board of directors may fix a record date that is no more than 60 days nor less than 10 days before the date of the meeting, and if no record date is set then the record date is the close of business on the day next preceding the day on which the meeting is held. The determination of the shareholders of record entitled to notice or to vote at a meeting of shareholders shall apply to any adjournment of the meeting, but the board of directors may fix a new record date for the adjourned meeting.

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Pursuant to our articles of association, our management board may determine a record date (registratiedatum) of 28 calendar days prior to a general meeting of shareholders to establish which shareholders and others with meeting rights are entitled to attend and, if applicable, vote in the general meeting of shareholders. The record date, if any, and the manner in which shareholders can register and exercise their rights will be set out in the convocation notice of the general meeting of shareholders. There is no specific provision in Dutch law for adjournments.

# **Shareholder Proposals**

Delaware law does not provide shareholders an express right to put any proposal before a meeting of shareholders, but it provides that a corporation's bylaws may provide that if the corporation solicits proxies with respect to the election of directors, it may be required to include in its proxy solicitation materials one or more individuals nominated by a shareholder. In keeping with common law, Delaware corporations generally afford shareholders an opportunity to make proposals and nominations provided that they comply with the notice provisions in the certificate of incorporation or bylaws. Additionally, if a Delaware corporation is subject to the SEC's proxy rules, a shareholder who owns at least \$2,000 in market value or 1% of the corporation's securities entitled to vote for a continuous period of one year as of the date he submits a proposal, may propose a matter for a vote at an annual or special meeting in accordance with those rules.

Pursuant to Dutch law, one or more shareholders or others with meeting rights alone or jointly representing at least 10% of the issued share capital may on their application be authorized by the Dutch Court to convene a general meeting of shareholders if the management board and the supervisory board fail to do so in a timely manner.

The agenda for a general meeting of shareholders must contain such items as the management board, supervisory board or the person or persons convening the meeting decide. Pursuant to Dutch law, unlike under Delaware law, the agenda will also include such other items as one or more shareholders and/or others entitled to attend general meetings of shareholders, alone or jointly representing at least 3% of the issued share capital, may request of the management board in writing and substantiated or by a proposal for a resolution, received by the company no later than on the 60th day before the date of the meeting.

# Action by Written Consent

Unless otherwise provided in the corporation's certificate of incorporation, any action required or permitted to be taken at any annual or special meeting of shareholders of a corporation may be taken without a meeting, without prior notice and without a vote, if one or more consents in writing, setting forth the action to be so taken, are signed by the holders of outstanding stock having not less than the minimum number of votes that would be necessary to authorize or take such action at a meeting at which all shares entitled to vote thereon were present and voted.

Under Dutch law, shareholders' resolutions may be adopted in writing without holding a meeting of shareholders, provided (a) the articles of association expressly so allow, (b) no bearer shares or depository receipts are issued, (c) there are no persons entitled to the same rights as holders of depository receipts issued with the company's cooperation, (d) the management board and supervisory board members have been given the opportunity to give their advice on the resolution, and (e) the resolution is adopted unanimously by all shareholders that are entitled to vote.

The requirement of unanimity renders the adoption of shareholder resolutions without a meeting not feasible for publicly traded companies. Our articles Delaware The Netherlands

of association only expressly allow resolutions of the holders of preferred shares to be adopted without holding a meeting.

#### Shareholder Suits

Under the Delaware General Corporation Law, a shareholder may bring a derivative action on behalf of the corporation to enforce the rights of the corporation. An individual also may commence a class action suit on behalf of himself and other similarly situated shareholders where the requirements for maintaining a class action under Delaware law have been met. A person may institute and maintain such a suit only if that person was a shareholder at the time of the transaction which is the subject of the suit. In addition, under Delaware case law, the plaintiff normally must be a shareholder not only at the time of the transaction that is the subject of the suit, but also throughout the duration of the derivative suit. Delaware law also requires that the derivative plaintiff make a demand on the directors of the corporation to assert the corporate claim before the suit may be prosecuted by the derivative plaintiff in court, unless such a demand would be futile.

Unlike under Delaware law, in the event a third party is liable to a Dutch company, only the company itself can bring a civil action against that party. Individual shareholders do not have the right to bring an action on behalf of the company. An individual shareholder may, in its own name, have an individual right to take action against such third party in the event that the cause for the liability of that third party also constitutes a tortious act directly against that individual shareholder. The Dutch Civil Code provides for the possibility to initiate such actions collectively. A foundation or an association whose objective is to protect the rights of a group of persons having similar interests can institute a collective action. The collective action itself cannot result in an order for payment of monetary damages but may only result in a declaratory judgment (verklaring voor recht). In order to obtain compensation for damages, the foundation or association and the defendant may reach — often on the basis of such declaratory judgment — a settlement. A Dutch court may declare the settlement agreement binding upon all the injured parties with an opt-out choice for an individual injured party. An individual injured party may also itself — outside the collective action — institute a civil claim for damages.

# Repurchase of Shares

Under the Delaware General Corporation Law, a corporation may purchase or redeem its own shares unless the capital of the corporation is impaired or the purchase or redemption would cause an impairment of the capital of the corporation. A Delaware corporation may, however, purchase or redeem out of capital any of its preferred shares or, if no preferred shares are outstanding, any of its own shares if such shares will be retired upon acquisition and the capital of the corporation will be reduced in accordance with specified limitations.

Under Dutch law, a company such as ours may not subscribe for newly issued shares in its own capital. Such company may, however, repurchase its existing and outstanding shares or depository receipts if permitted under its articles of association.

We may acquire our shares, subject to applicable provisions and restrictions of Dutch law and our articles of association, to the extent that: (i) such shares are fully paid-up; (ii) such shares are acquired for no consideration or such repurchase would not cause our shareholders' equity to fall below an amount equal to the sum of the paid-up and called-up part of the issued share capital and the reserves we are required to maintain pursuant to Dutch law or our articles of association; and (iii) after the acquisition of shares, we and our subsidiaries would not hold, or would not hold as pledgees, shares having an aggregate nominal value that exceeds 50% of our issued share capital.

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Other than shares acquired for no consideration or by universal succession, our management board may acquire shares only if our general meeting of shareholders has authorized the management board to do so. An authorization by the general meeting of shareholders for the acquisition of shares can be granted for a maximum period of 18 months. Such authorization must specify the number of shares that may be acquired, the manner in which these shares may be acquired and the price range within which the shares may be acquired.

No authorization of the general meeting of shareholders is required if listed ordinary shares are acquired by us with the intention of transferring such ordinary shares to our employees under an applicable employee stock purchase plan. Our articles of association further provide that a resolution of our management board to acquire fully paid-up shares in our share capital requires the approval of our supervisory board.

On May 19, 2021, our general meeting of shareholders adopted a resolution pursuant to which our management board will be authorized to acquire (i) up to 10% of the issued share capital of the Company plus, in case of a material reorganization of the capital structure of the Company, (ii) an additional 10% of the issued share capital of the Company, by any means, including through derivative products, purchases on any stock exchange, through any private purchase or block trade, or otherwise, for a price that is between 0.01 US Dollar and an amount which is not higher than 110% of the average market price of such ordinary shares on Nasdaq (with the market price deemed to be the average of the closing price on each of the five consecutive days of trading preceding the three trading days prior to the date of acquisition), for a period of eighteen (18) months with effect from the general meeting of shareholders. In this respect, the words "issued share capital" means the Company's issued share capital from time to time. For the avoidance of doubt, the issued share capital includes treasury shares.

# **Anti-Takeover Provisions**

In addition to other aspects of Delaware law governing fiduciary duties of directors during a potential takeover, the Delaware General Corporation Law also contains a business combination statute that protects Delaware companies from hostile takeovers and from actions following the takeover by prohibiting some Under Dutch law, various protective measures are possible and permissible within the boundaries set by Dutch statutory law and Dutch case law. We have adopted several provisions that may have the effect of making a takeover of our company more difficult or less attractive, including:

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transactions once an acquirer has gained a significant holding in the corporation.

Section 203 of the Delaware General Corporation Law prohibits "business combinations," including mergers, sales and leases of assets, issuances of securities and similar transactions by a corporation or a subsidiary, with an interested shareholder that beneficially owns 15% or more of a corporation's voting stock (or which is an affiliate or associate of the corporation and owned 15% or more of the corporation's outstanding voting stock within the past three years), within three years after the person becomes an interested shareholder, unless:

- the transaction that will cause the person to become an interested shareholder is approved by the board of directors of the target prior to the transactions;
- after the completion of the transaction in which the person becomes an interested shareholder, the interested shareholder holds at least 85% of the voting stock of the corporation not including shares owned by persons who are directors and also officers of interested shareholders and shares owned by specified employee benefit plans; or
- after the person becomes an interested shareholder, the business combination is approved by the board of directors of the corporation and holders of at least 66.67% of the outstanding voting stock, excluding shares held by the interested shareholder.

A Delaware corporation may elect not to be governed by Section 203 by a provision contained in the original certificate of incorporation of the corporation or an amendment to the original certificate of incorporation or to the bylaws of the company.

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- the authorization of a class of preferred shares that may be issued to a protection foundation to which we have granted a perpetual and repeatedly exercisable call option;
- a provision that our management board members and our supervisory board members may only be appointed upon a binding nomination by our supervisory board, which can be set aside by a two-thirds majority of our shareholders representing more than half of our issued share capital;
- a provision that our management board members and supervisory board members may only be removed by our general meeting of shareholders by at least a two-thirds majority of votes cast representing more than 50% of our issued share capital (unless the removal was proposed by the supervisory board); and
- a requirement that certain matters, including an amendment of our articles of association, may only be brought to our shareholders for a vote upon a proposal by our management board that has been approved by our supervisory board.

As indicated above, we have adopted an antitakeover measure by granting a perpetual and repeatedly exercisable call option to the protection foundation, which confers upon the protection foundation the right to acquire, under certain conditions, the number of preferred shares described above. The issuance of such preferred shares will occur upon the protection foundation's exercise of the call option and will not require shareholder consent. Such a measure has the effect of making a takeover of us more difficult or less attractive and as a result, our shareholders may be unable to benefit from a change of control and realize any potential change of control premium which may materially and adversely affect the market price of our ordinary shares.

In addition, our boards need to act in the interest of ProQR, our business and take into account the interests of all our stakeholders, including by promoting the sustainable success of our business and the creation of long term value for us and our business. The boards are responsible to determine our strategy and choosing our strategic direction. In doing so and depending on the circumstances they may decide to not entertain a proposed takeover or other strategic proposal, even if the proposal is supported by the majority of our shareholders and/or would create more shareholder value. The

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boards may also use their general authority under Dutch corporate law and the DCGC to not cooperate with a proposal, e.g. by not providing due diligence and or by not cooperating with shareholder proposals to adopt resolutions in a general shareholder meeting that may change our strategy for instance by invoking the maximum 180 days response time set out in the DCGC.

As of May 1, 2021, the Statutory Reflection Period for Listed Companies came into force. The purpose is to give the management board of a listed company more time for careful policymaking to weigh the interests of the company and its stakeholders in the event of an unsolicited takeover bid or other pressure being put on the management board to change the course of the company, for example from activist shareholders. The management board of a listed company may invoke a reflection period of up to 250 days in the event of: (i) a request by one or more shareholders for consideration of a proposal to appoint, suspend or dismiss one or more members of the management of supervisory board, or (ii) when a public bid has been announced or made for the shares without agreement having been reached on the bid with the target company. The decision by the management board to invoke the reflection period is subject to supervisory board approval. In addition, to invoke the reflection period, the request under (i) and the public bid under (ii) must in the view of the management board be substantially contrary to the interest of the company and its affiliated enterprise and the reflection period should be used for careful policy making.

# Inspection of Books and Records

Under the Delaware General Corporation Law, any shareholder may inspect for any proper purpose the corporation's stock ledger, a list of its shareholders and its other books and records during the corporation's usual hours of business.

Our shareholders' register is available for inspection by the shareholders and usufructuaries and pledgees whose particulars must be registered therein.

Our management board and our supervisory board provide our shareholders, at the general meeting of shareholders, with all information that the general meeting of shareholders reasonably requests unless doing so would be contrary to an overriding interest of ours. Our management board or our supervisory board will in principle give a reason for electing not to provide such information on the basis of overriding interest.

# Removal of Directors

Under the Delaware General Corporation Law, any director or the entire board of directors may be

Under our articles of association, the general meeting of shareholders is at all times entitled to

#### Delaware

removed, with or without cause, by the holders of a majority of the shares then entitled to vote at an election of directors, except (a) unless the certificate of incorporation provides otherwise, in the case of a corporation whose board of directors is classified, shareholders may effect such removal only for cause, or (b) in the case of a corporation having cumulative voting, if less than the entire board of directors is to be removed, no director may be removed without cause if the votes cast against his removal would be sufficient to elect him if then cumulatively voted at an election of the entire board of directors, or, if there are classes of directors, at an election of the class of directors of which he is a part.

#### The Netherlands

suspend or remove a management board member or supervisory board member. The general meeting of shareholders may only adopt a resolution to suspend or remove such a member by at least a two-thirds majority of the votes cast, provided such majority represents more than half of the issued share capital of our company, unless the proposal was made by our supervisory board in which case a simple majority of the votes cast is sufficient.

#### Preemptive Rights

Under the Delaware General Corporation Law, shareholders have no preemptive rights to subscribe to additional issues of stock or to any security convertible into such stock unless, and except to the extent that, such rights are expressly provided for in the certificate of incorporation.

Under our articles of association, the preemptive rights in respect of newly issued ordinary shares may be restricted or excluded by a resolution of the general meeting of shareholders upon proposal of our management board, which proposal must have been approved by our supervisory board. Our general meeting of shareholders may authorize our management board to restrict or exclude the preemptive rights in respect of newly issued ordinary shares. Such authorization for the management board can be granted and extended, in each case for a period not exceeding five years. A resolution of the general meeting of shareholders to restrict or exclude the preemptive rights or to designate our management board as the authorized body to do so requires at least a two-thirds majority of the votes cast, if less than one half of our issued share capital is represented at the meeting.

On May 19, 2021, our general meeting of shareholders adopted a resolution pursuant to which our management board, subject to approval of the supervisory board, is authorized to, in accordance with applicable laws and Nasdaq listing rules and for a period of 5 years from the date of the resolution of the general meeting of shareholders: (a) issue ordinary shares up to 100% of the Company's authorized share capital for general purposes and issuances under Company's stock option plans with the proviso that the issuances under stock option plans is limited to 15% of the Company's issued share capital from time-to-time (minus any treasury shares); (b) grant rights to subscribe for ordinary shares as described under (a); and (c) limit or exclude the pre-emptive rights of holders of ordinary shares, which delegation shall

Delaware The Netherlands

include the authority to determine the price and further terms and conditions of any such share issuance or grant.

No preemptive rights apply in respect of preferred shares

#### Dividends

Under the Delaware General Corporation Law, a Delaware corporation may, subject to any restrictions contained in its certificate of incorporation, pay dividends out of its surplus (the excess of net assets over capital), or in case there is no surplus, out of its net profits for the fiscal year in which the dividend is declared or the preceding fiscal year (provided that the amount of the capital of the corporation is not less than the aggregate amount of the capital represented by the issued and outstanding stock of all classes having a preference upon the distribution of assets). In determining the amount of surplus of a Delaware corporation, the assets of the corporation, including stock of subsidiaries owned by the corporation, must be valued at their fair market value as determined by the board of directors, without regard to their historical book value. Dividends may be paid in the form of ordinary shares, property or cash.

Dutch law provides that dividends may only be distributed after adoption of the annual accounts by the general meeting of shareholders from which it appears that such dividend distribution is allowed. Moreover, dividends may be distributed only to the extent the shareholders' equity exceeds the sum of the paid-up and called-up share capital and the reserves that must be maintained under Dutch law or the articles of association. Interim dividends may be declared as provided in the articles of association and may be distributed to the extent that the shareholders' equity exceeds the paid-up and calledup share capital and the reserves that must be maintained under Dutch law or the articles of association as apparent from an (interim) financial statement. Interim dividends should be regarded as advances on the final dividend to be declared with respect to the financial year in which the interim dividends have been declared. Should it be determined after adoption of the annual accounts with respect to the relevant financial year that the distribution was not permissible, the company may reclaim the paid interim dividends as unduly paid.

Under our articles of association, a (cumulative) dividend is first paid out of the profit, if available for distribution, on any preferred shares, of which none are outstanding. Any amount remaining out of the profit is carried to reserve as the management board determines. After reservation by the management board of any profit, the remaining profit will be at the disposal of the general meeting of shareholders.

Dividends shall be payable in such currency and on such date as determined by the management board. Claims for payment of dividends not made within five years from the date that such dividends became payable will lapse and any such amounts will be considered to have been forfeited to us.

Delaware The Netherlands

#### Appraisal Rights and Shareholder Vote on Certain Reorganizations

Under the Delaware General Corporation Law, the vote of a majority of the outstanding shares of capital stock entitled to vote thereon generally is necessary to approve a merger or consolidation or the sale of substantially all of the assets of a corporation. The Delaware General Corporation Law permits a corporation to include in its certificate of incorporation a provision requiring for any corporate action the vote of a larger portion of the stock or of any class or series of stock than would otherwise be required.

The Delaware General Corporation Law provides for stockholder appraisal rights, or the right to demand payment in cash of the judicially determined fair value of the stockholder's shares, in connection with certain mergers and consolidations. Under Dutch law, resolutions of the management board concerning a material change in the identity or character of the company or its business are subject to the approval of the general meeting of shareholders. Such changes include in any event:

- a transfer of all or materially all of our business to a third party;
- the entry into or termination of a long-lasting alliance of the company or of a subsidiary either with another entity or company, or as a fully liable partner of a limited partnership or partnership, if this alliance or termination is of significant importance for the company; and
- the acquisition or disposition of an interest in the capital of a company by the company or by a subsidiary with a value of at least one third of the value of the assets, according to the balance sheet with explanatory notes or, if the company prepares a consolidated balance sheet, according to the consolidated balance sheet with explanatory notes in the company's most recently adopted annual accounts.

The concept of appraisal rights does not exist under Dutch law. However, pursuant to Dutch law, a shareholder who for its own account (or together with its group companies) holds at least 95% of the company's issued capital may institute proceedings against the company's other shareholders jointly for the transfer of their shares to that shareholder. The proceedings are held before the Enterprise Chamber of the Amsterdam Court of Appeal (Ondernemingskamer), which may grant the claim for squeeze-out in relation to all minority shareholders and will determine the price to be paid for the shares, if necessary after appointment of one or three experts who will offer an opinion to the Enterprise Chamber on the value of the shares to be transferred.

Furthermore, Dutch law provides that, to the extent the acquiring company in a cross-border merger is organized under the laws of another EU member state, a shareholder of a Dutch disappearing company who has voted against the cross-border merger may file a claim with the Dutch company for compensation. The compensation is to be determined by one or more independent experts.

Delaware The Netherlands

#### Compensation of Directors

Under the Delaware General Corporation Law, the shareholders do not generally have the right to approve the compensation policy for the board of directors or the senior management of the corporation, although certain aspects of the compensation policy may be subject to shareholder vote due to the provisions of federal securities and tax law.

In contrast to Delaware law, under Dutch law and our articles of association, the general meeting of shareholders must upon the proposal of our supervisory board adopt the compensation policy for the management board, which includes the outlines of the compensation of any members who serve on our management board. The supervisory board determines the compensation of the management board members in accordance with the compensation policy. A proposal by the supervisory board with respect to compensation schemes in the form of shares or rights to shares is submitted for approval by the supervisory board to the general meeting of shareholders. Such proposal must set out at least the maximum number of shares or rights to shares to be granted to the management board and the criteria for granting such shares.

The general meeting of shareholders may determine the compensation of supervisory board members. The supervisory directors will be reimbursed for their expenses.

#### **Registration Rights**

#### Registration Rights Agreement

In connection with a convertible debt financing in July 2020, we entered into a registration rights agreement with certain investors party thereto, pursuant to which we agreed to file and keep effective one or more registration statements with the SEC for the purpose of registering for resale the shares issuable upon conversion of certain term loans and/or exercise of certain warrants. In August 2020, we entered into a joinder and first amendment to the loan agreement and joinder to registration rights agreement to expand our loan facility and accommodate the participation of an additional lender, pursuant to which such additional lender became party to the registration rights agreement.

#### Share Purchase Agreement

In connection with a private placement in September 2021, we entered into a share purchase agreement with Eli Lilly and Company ("Lilly"), pursuant to which we agreed to issue and sell to Lilly 3,989,976 shares of our ordinary shares (the "Lilly Shares"). The issuance of the Lilly Shares occurred concurrently with the entry into a collaboration agreement. Pursuant to the terms of the share purchase agreement, Lilly may not, subject to certain limited exceptions, dispose of any of the Lilly Shares for a period commencing on September 3, 2021 until the earlier of (i) March 3, 2022 and (ii) the date that the collaboration agreement is terminated. Under the terms of the share purchase agreement, Lilly may participate in some public offerings and private placements of the Company, subject to share ownership requirements and other limitations. Additionally, we also granted Lilly certain customary registration rights with respect to the Lilly Shares, including registering such shares for resale on or prior to the expiration of the lockup agreement described above.

#### FORM, EXCHANGE AND TRANSFER

We will issue securities only in registered form; no securities will be issued in bearer form. We will issue each security in book-entry form only, unless otherwise specified in the applicable prospectus supplement. Securities in book-entry form will be represented by a global security registered in the name of a depositary, which will be the holder of all the securities represented by the global security. Those who own beneficial interests in a global security will do so through participants in the depositary's system, and the rights of these indirect owners will be governed solely by the applicable procedures of the depositary and its participants. Only the depositary will be entitled to transfer or exchange a security in global form, since it will be the sole holder of the security. These book-entry securities are described below under "Book-Entry Procedures and Settlement."

If any securities are issued in non-global form or cease to be book-entry securities (in the circumstances described in the next section), the following will apply to them:

- The securities will be issued in fully registered form in denominations stated in the prospectus supplement. You may exchange securities for securities of the same series in smaller denominations or combined into fewer securities of the same series of larger denominations, as long as the total amount is not changed.
- You may exchange, transfer, present for payment or exercise securities at the office of the relevant indenture trustee or agent indicated in the prospectus supplement. You may also replace lost, stolen, destroyed or mutilated securities at that office. We may appoint another entity to perform these functions or we may perform them ourselves.
- You will not be required to pay a service charge to transfer or exchange your securities, but you may
  be required to pay any tax or other governmental charge associated with the transfer or exchange.
  The transfer or exchange, and any replacement, will be made only if our transfer agent is satisfied
  with your proof of legal ownership. The transfer agent may also require an indemnity before
  replacing any securities.
- If we have the right to redeem, accelerate or settle any securities before their maturity or expiration, and we exercise that right as to less than all those securities, we may block the transfer or exchange of those securities during the period beginning 15 days before the day we mail the notice of exercise and ending on the day of that mailing, in order to freeze the list of holders to prepare the mailing. We may also refuse to register transfers of or exchange any security selected for early settlement, except that we will continue to permit transfers and exchanges of the unsettled portion of any security being partially settled.
- If fewer than all of the securities represented by a certificate that are payable or exercisable in part are presented for payment or exercise, a new certificate will be issued for the remaining amount of securities

#### **BOOK-ENTRY PROCEDURES AND SETTLEMENT**

Most offered securities will be book-entry (global) securities. Upon issuance, all book-entry securities will be represented by one or more fully registered global securities, without coupons. Each global security will be deposited with, or on behalf of, The Depository Trust & Clearing Corporation, or DTC, a securities depositary, and will be registered in the name of Cede & Co. or another nominee of DTC. DTC, Cede & Co., or such nominee, will thus be the only registered holder of these securities. Except as set forth below, the registered global securities may be transferred, in whole but not in part, only to Cede & Co., another nominee of DTC or to a successor of DTC or its nominee.

Purchasers of securities may only hold interests in the global securities through DTC if they are participants in the DTC system. Individual certificates in respect of the securities will not be issued in exchange for the registered global securities, except in very limited circumstances. Purchasers may also hold interests through a securities intermediary — banks, brokerage houses and other institutions that maintain securities accounts for customers — that has an account with DTC or its nominee. DTC will maintain accounts showing the security holdings of its participants, and these participants will in turn maintain accounts showing the security holdings of their customers. Some of these customers may themselves be securities intermediaries holding securities for their customers. Thus, each beneficial owner of a book-entry security will hold that security indirectly through a hierarchy of intermediaries, with DTC at the top and the beneficial owner's own securities intermediary at the bottom.

The securities of each beneficial owner of a book-entry security will be evidenced solely by entries on the books of the beneficial owner's securities intermediary. The actual purchaser of the securities will generally not be entitled to have the securities represented by the global securities registered in its name and will not be considered the owner under the declaration. In most cases, a beneficial owner will also not be able to obtain a paper certificate evidencing the holder's ownership of securities. The book-entry system for holding securities eliminates the need for physical movement of certificates and is the system through which most publicly traded common stock is held in the United States. However, the laws of some jurisdictions require some purchasers of securities to take physical delivery of their securities in definitive form. These laws may impair the ability to transfer book-entry securities.

Title to book-entry interests in the securities will pass by book-entry registration of the transfer within the records of DTC in accordance with its procedures.

If DTC notifies us that it is unwilling or unable to continue as a clearing system in connection with the registered global securities or ceases to be a clearing agency registered under the Exchange Act, and a successor clearing system is not appointed by us within 90 days after receiving that notice from DTC or upon becoming aware that DTC is no longer so registered, we will issue or cause to be issued individual certificates in registered form on registration of transfer of, or in exchange for, book-entry interests in the securities represented by registered global securities upon delivery of those registered global securities for cancellation. We may also permit beneficial owners of book-entry securities represented by a global security to exchange their beneficial interests for definitive (paper) securities if, in our sole discretion, we decide to allow some or all book-entry securities to be exchangeable for definitive securities in registered form.

Unless we indicate otherwise, any global security that is exchangeable will be exchangeable in whole for definitive securities in registered form, with the same terms and of an equal aggregate principal amount. Definitive securities will be registered in the name or names of the person or persons specified by DTC in a written instruction to the registrar of the securities. DTC may base its written instruction upon directions that it receives from its participants.

In this prospectus, for book-entry securities, references to actions taken by security holders will mean actions taken by DTC upon instructions from its participants, and references to payments and notices of redemption to security holders will mean payments and notices of redemption to DTC as the registered holder of the securities for distribution to participants in accordance with DTC's procedures.

Initial settlement for the securities offered on a global basis through DTC will be made in immediately available funds. Secondary market trading between DTC's participants will occur in the ordinary way in accordance with DTC's rules and will be settled in immediately available funds using DTC's Same-Day Funds Settlement System.

Although DTC has agreed to the foregoing procedures in order to facilitate transfers of interests in the securities among participants thereof, it is under no obligation to perform or continue to perform the foregoing procedures and these procedures may be changed or discontinued at any time.

DTC is a limited purpose trust company organized under the laws of the State of New York, a member of the Federal Reserve System, a clearing corporation within the meaning of the New York Uniform Commercial Code and a clearing agency registered under section 17A of the Exchange Act. The rules applicable to DTC and its participants are on file with the SEC.

We will not have any responsibility or liability for any aspect of the records relating to, or payments made on account of, beneficial ownership interest in the book-entry securities or for maintaining, supervising or reviewing any records relating to the beneficial ownership interests.

#### PLAN OF DISTRIBUTION

We may sell the securities in and outside the United States (a) through underwriters or dealers, (b) directly to purchasers, including our affiliates, (c) through agents or (d) through a combination of any of these methods. The applicable prospectus supplement or free writing prospectus will include the following information:

- the terms of the offering;
- · the names of any underwriters or agents;
- · the name or names of any managing underwriter or underwriters;
- the purchase price of the securities;
- the net proceeds from the sale of the securities;
- any delayed delivery arrangements;
- any underwriting discounts, commissions and other items constituting underwriters' compensation;
- any initial public offering price;
- · any discounts or concessions allowed or reallowed or paid to dealers; and
- any commissions paid to agents.

The sale of the securities may be effected in transactions (a) on any national or international securities exchange or quotation service on which the securities may be listed or quoted at the time of sale, (b) in the over-the-counter market, (c) in transactions otherwise than on such exchanges or in the over-the-counter market or (d) through the writing of options.

The distribution of offered securities may be effected from time to time in one or more transactions at a fixed price or prices, which may be changed, at market prices prevailing at the time of sale, at prices related to the market prices, or at negotiated prices.

#### **Sale Through Underwriters or Dealers**

If underwriters are used in the sale of any of these securities, the underwriters will acquire the securities for their own account. The underwriters may resell the securities from time to time in one or more transactions, including negotiated transactions, at a fixed public offering price or at varying prices determined at the time of sale. Underwriters may offer securities to the public either through underwriting syndicates represented by one or more managing underwriters or directly by one or more firms acting as underwriters. Unless we inform you otherwise in any prospectus supplement or free writing prospectus, the obligations of the underwriters to purchase the securities will be subject to certain conditions, and the underwriters will be obligated to purchase all the offered securities if they purchase any of them. We may grant underwriters an option to purchase additional securities to cover over-allotment, if any, or otherwise in connection with the distribution. The underwriters may change from time to time any initial public offering price and any discounts or concessions allowed or reallowed or paid to dealers.

Any underwriter may engage in overallotment, stabilizing transactions, short covering transactions and penalty bids in accordance with Regulation M under the Exchange Act. Overallotment involves sales in excess of the offering size, which create a short position. Stabilizing transactions permit bids to purchase the underlying security so long as the stabilizing bids do not exceed a specified maximum. Short covering transactions involve purchases of the securities in the open market after the distribution is completed to cover short positions. Penalty bids permit the underwriters to reclaim a selling concession from a dealer when the securities originally sold by the dealer are purchased in a covering transaction to cover short positions. Those activities may cause the price of the securities to be higher than it would otherwise be. If commenced, the underwriters may discontinue any of the activities at any time.

Any underwriters who are qualified market makers on Nasdaq (or any exchange or quotation system on which our securities are listed) may engage in passive market making transactions in our ordinary shares, warrants or units, as applicable, on Nasdaq in accordance with Rule 103 of Regulation M, during the

business day prior to the pricing of the offering, before the commencement of offers or sales of the securities. Passive market makers must comply with applicable volume and price limitations and must be identified as passive market makers. In general, a passive market maker must display its bid at a price not in excess of the highest independent bid for such security; if all independent bids are lowered below the passive market maker's bid, however, the passive market maker's bid must then be lowered when certain purchase limits are exceeded.

Some or all of the securities that we offer though this prospectus may be new issues of securities with no established trading market. Any underwriters to whom we sell these securities for public offering and sale may make a market in those securities, but they will not be obligated to and they may discontinue any market making at any time without notice. Accordingly, we cannot assure you of the liquidity of, or continued trading markets for, any securities that we offer.

If dealers are used in the sale of securities, we will sell the securities to them as principals. They may then resell those securities to the public at varying prices determined by the dealers at the time of resale. We will include in the prospectus supplement or free writing prospectus the names of the dealers and the terms of the transaction.

#### **Direct Sales and Sales Through Agents**

We may sell the securities directly, and not through underwriters or agents. We may also sell the securities through agents designated from time to time. In the prospectus supplement or free writing prospectus, we will name any agent involved in the offer or sale of the offered securities, and we will describe any commissions payable to the agent. Unless we inform you otherwise in the prospectus supplement or free writing prospectus, any agent will agree to use its reasonable best efforts to solicit purchases for the period of its appointment.

We may sell the securities directly to institutional investors or others who may be deemed to be underwriters within the meaning of the Securities Act with respect to any sale of those securities. We will describe the terms of any such sales in the prospectus supplement or free writing prospectus.

We may enter into derivative transactions with third parties, or sell securities not covered by this prospectus to third parties in privately negotiated transactions. If the applicable prospectus supplement or free writing prospectus indicates, in connection with those derivatives, the third parties may sell securities covered by this prospectus and the applicable prospectus supplement or free writing prospectus, including in short sale transactions. If so, the third party may use securities pledged by us or borrowed from us or others to settle those sales or to close out any related open borrowings of stock, and may use securities received from us in settlement of those derivatives to close out any related open borrowings of stock. The third party in such sale transactions will be an underwriter and, if not identified in this prospectus, will be identified in the applicable prospectus supplement or free writing prospectus (or a post-effective amendment).

#### **Delayed Delivery Contracts**

If we so indicate in the prospectus supplement or free writing prospectus, we may authorize agents, underwriters or dealers to solicit offers from certain types of institutions to purchase securities from us at the public offering price under delayed delivery contracts. These contracts would provide for payment and delivery on a specified date in the future. The contracts would be subject only to those conditions described in the prospectus supplement or free writing prospectus. The prospectus supplement or free writing prospectus will describe any commission payable for solicitation of those contracts.

#### **Subscription Offerings**

Direct sales to investors or our shareholders may be accomplished through subscription offerings or through subscription rights distributed to shareholders. In connection with subscription offerings or the distribution of subscription rights to shareholders, if all of the underlying securities are not subscribed for, we may sell any unsubscribed securities to third parties directly or through underwriters or agents. In addition, whether or not all of the underlying securities are subscribed for, we may concurrently offer additional securities to third parties directly or through underwriters or agents. If securities are to be sold through

subscription rights, the subscription rights will be distributed as a dividend to the shareholders for which they will pay no separate consideration.

#### **General Information**

We may have agreements with the agents, dealers and underwriters to indemnify them against certain civil liabilities, including liabilities under the Securities Act, or to contribute with respect to payments that the agents, dealers or underwriters may be required to make. Agents, dealers and underwriters may be customers of, engage in transactions with or perform services for us in the ordinary course of their businesses.

#### **LEGAL MATTERS**

Legal matters with respect to U.S. federal and New York law in connection with this offering will be passed upon for us by Goodwin Procter LLP, Boston, Massachusetts. Certain legal matters with respect to Dutch law in connection with the validity of the ordinary shares being offered by this prospectus and other legal matters will be passed upon for us by Allen & Overy LLP, Amsterdam, the Netherlands. Additional legal matters may be passed upon for us or any underwriters, dealers or agents by counsel that we will name in the applicable prospectus supplement.

#### **EXPERTS**

The consolidated financial statements, incorporated in this prospectus by reference from the Company's Annual Report on Form 20-F for the year ended December 31, 2020 have been audited by Deloitte Accountants B.V., an independent registered public accounting firm as stated in their report, which is incorporated herein by reference. Such financial statements are included in reliance upon the report of such firm, given upon their authority as experts in auditing and accounting.

#### CHANGE IN REGISTRANT'S CERTIFYING ACCOUNTANT

On May 25, 2020, our audit committee recommended the termination of the engagement of Deloitte Accountants B.V. ("Deloitte") as the Company's independent public accountant, and to engage KPMG Accountants N.V. ("KPMG") as the Company's independent public accountant for the year ending December 31, 2021. The annual general meeting of shareholders approved this recommendation on June 23, 2020. Please refer to the relevant disclosure reported under the heading "Change in Registrant's Certifying Accountant" of our Annual Report on Form 20-F for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2020, filed with the SEC on March 24, 2021, and to the accompanying Exhibit 16.1 of such Annual Report on Form 20-F (File No. 333-36622).

#### SERVICE OF PROCESS AND ENFORCEMENT OF LIABILITIES

We are incorporated under the laws of the Netherlands. Substantially all of our business is conducted, and substantially all of our assets are located, in the Netherlands. Most of our directors and the experts named in this prospectus are residents of, and most of their assets are located in, jurisdictions outside the United States. As a result, it may be difficult for you to serve process on us or these persons within the United States or to enforce against us or these persons in courts in the United States, judgments of these courts predicated upon the civil liability provisions of U.S. securities laws. In addition, it is not clear whether a Dutch court would impose civil liability on us, members of our management board, supervisory board or any of the experts named in this prospectus in an original action based solely upon the federal securities laws of the United States brought in a court of competent jurisdiction in the Netherlands. We have appointed Smital Shah as our agent for service of process in the United States with respect to any action brought against us in the United States District Court for the Southern District of New York under the securities laws of the United States or any State of the United States or any action brought against us in the Supreme Court of the State of New York in the County of New York under the securities laws of the State of New York in the County of New York under the securities laws of the State of New York.

As there is no treaty on the reciprocal recognition and enforcement of judgments in civil and commercial matters between the United States and the Netherlands, courts in the Netherlands will not automatically recognize and enforce a final judgment rendered by a U.S. court. In order to obtain a judgment enforceable in the Netherlands, claimants must obtain from a Dutch court leave to enforce the judgment rendered by a U.S. court. Under current practice, however, a Dutch court may be expected to render a judgment in accordance with the judgment rendered by the U.S. court, without a review on the merits of the underlying claim, if it finds that:

- the jurisdiction of the U.S. court has been based on grounds that are internationally acceptable;
- the final judgment has not been rendered in violation of the elementary principles of fair trial in the Netherlands;
- the final judgment does not contravene public policy of the Netherlands; and
- the final judgment is not incompatible with (a) a prior judgment of a Netherlands court rendered in a dispute between the same parties, or (b) a prior judgment of a foreign court rendered in a dispute between the same parties, concerning the same subject matter and based on the same cause of action, provided that such prior judgment is capable of being recognized in the Netherlands.

In the event directors or other third parties are liable towards a Dutch company, only the company itself can bring a civil action against those parties. The individual shareholders do not have the right to bring an action on behalf of the company. Only in the event that the cause for the liability of a third party to the company also constitutes a tortious act directly against a shareholder does that shareholder have an individual right of action against such third party in its own name. The Dutch Civil Code does provide for the possibility to initiate such actions collectively. A foundation or an association whose objective is to protect the rights of a group of persons having similar interests can institute a collective action. The collective action itself cannot result in an order for payment of monetary damages but may only result in a declaratory judgment (*verklaring voor recht*). To obtain compensation for damages, individual claimants can base their claim on the declaratory judgment obtained by the foundation or association but they still need to individually sue the defendant for damages. Alternatively, in order to obtain compensation for damages, the foundation or association and the defendant may reach — often on the basis of such declaratory judgment — a settlement. A Dutch court may declare the settlement agreement binding upon all the injured parties with an opt-out choice for an individual injured party. An individual injured party may also itself institute a civil claim for damages.

#### **EXPENSES**

The following table sets forth the expenses (other than underwriting discounts and commissions or agency fees and other items constituting underwriters' or agents' compensation, if any) expected to be incurred by us in connection with a possible offering of \$300 million of the securities registered under this registration statement. All amounts other than the SEC registration fee and filing fee are estimates.

SEC registration fee	\$27,810
Nasdaq fees	*
Printing and engraving expenses	*
Legal fees and expenses	*
Accountants' fees and expenses	*
Trustee's fees and expenses	*
Miscellaneous costs	*
Total	\$ *

<sup>\*</sup> To be provided by a prospectus supplement or as an exhibit to a Report of Foreign Private Issuer on Form 6-K that is incorporated by reference into this prospectus.



\$300,000,000

# ORDINARY SHARES WARRANTS UNITS

**PROSPECTUS** 

, 2021

#### **PROSPECTUS**



#### Up to \$75,000,000

#### **Ordinary Shares**

We have entered into a Controlled Equity Offering  $^{SM}$  Sales Agreement (the "sales agreement") with Cantor Fitzgerald & Co. ("Cantor Fitzgerald" or the "Agent"), relating to the sale of our ordinary shares, nominal value  $\{0.04$  per share, offered by this prospectus. In accordance with the terms of the sales agreement, under this prospectus we may offer and sell our ordinary shares having an aggregate offering price of up to \$75,000,000 from time to time through the Agent.

Sales of our ordinary shares, if any, under this prospectus may be made in sales deemed to be "at the market offerings" as defined in Rule 415(a)(4) promulgated under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended (the "Securities Act"), including sales made directly on or through the Nasdaq Global Market, the existing trading market for our ordinary shares, sales made to or through a market maker other than on an exchange or otherwise, in negotiated transactions at market prices prevailing at the time of sale or at prices related to such prevailing market prices, and/or any other method permitted by law. Subject to the terms of the sales agreement, the Agent is not required to sell any specific number or dollar amount of our ordinary shares but will act as sales agent on a best efforts basis and use commercially reasonable efforts consistent with its normal trading and sales practices, on mutually agreed terms between the Agent and us. There is no arrangement for funds to be received in any escrow, trust or similar arrangement.

The Agent will be entitled to compensation under the terms of the sales agreement at a fixed commission rate equal to 3.0% of the gross sales price per share sold. In connection with the sale of our ordinary shares on our behalf, the Agent will be deemed to be an "underwriter" within the meaning of the Securities Act, and the compensation of the Agent will be deemed to be underwriting commissions or discounts. We have also agreed to provide indemnification and contribution to the Agent with respect to certain liabilities, including civil liabilities under the Securities Act or the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the "Exchange Act"). See "Plan of Distribution" beginning on page 25 for additional information regarding the compensation to be paid to the Agent.

Our ordinary shares are listed on the Nasdaq Global Market under the symbol "PRQR." On November 1, 2021, the last reported sale price of our ordinary shares on the Nasdaq Global Market was \$8.13 per share.

Investing in our ordinary shares involves a high degree of risk. Before making an investment decision, you should carefully review the risks and uncertainties described under the heading "Risk Factors" beginning on page 7 of this prospectus and under similar headings in the other documents that are incorporated by reference

Neither the Securities and Exchange Commission nor any state securities commission has approved or disapproved of these securities or passed upon the adequacy or the accuracy of this prospectus. Any representation to the contrary is a criminal offense.

#### Cantor

The date of this prospectus is

, 2021.

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#### **ABOUT THIS PROSPECTUS**

This prospectus relates to the offering of our ordinary shares. Before buying any of the ordinary shares that we are offering, we urge you to carefully read this prospectus, together with the information incorporated by reference in this prospectus, and any free writing prospectus or prospectus supplement that we have authorized for use in connection with this offering when making your investment decision. You should also read and consider the information in the documents we have referred you to under the headings "Where You Can Find More Information" and "Incorporation of Certain Documents by Reference." These documents contain important information that you should consider when making your investment decision. We have filed or incorporated by reference exhibits to the registration statement of which this prospectus forms a part. You should read the exhibits carefully for provisions that may be important to you.

This prospectus describes the specific terms of this offering and also adds to, updates and, where applicable, modifies or supersedes information contained in the documents incorporated by reference into this prospectus. To the extent there is a conflict between the information contained in this prospectus, on the one hand, and the information contained in any document incorporated by reference into this prospectus that was filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission, or the SEC, before the date of this prospectus, on the other hand, you should rely on the information in this prospectus. If any statement in one of these documents is inconsistent with a statement in another document having a later date — for example, a document incorporated by reference into this prospectus — the statement in the document having the later date modifies or supersedes the earlier statement.

You should rely only on the information contained in, or incorporated by reference into, this prospectus and any free writing prospectus or prospectus supplement that we have authorized for use in connection with this offering. We have not, and the Agent has not, authorized anyone to provide you with different information. If anyone provides you with different or inconsistent information, you should not rely on it. We and the Agent take no responsibility for, and can provide no assurance as to the reliability of, any other information that others may give you.

We are not, and the Agent is not, making an offer to sell or soliciting an offer to buy our ordinary shares in any jurisdiction where an offer or solicitation is not authorized or in which the person making that offer or solicitation is not qualified to do so or to anyone to whom it is unlawful to make an offer or solicitation in such jurisdiction. Persons who come into possession of this prospectus are advised to inform themselves about, and observe any restrictions relating to, the offering of our ordinary shares and the distribution of this prospectus.

You should assume that the information appearing in this prospectus, the documents incorporated by reference in this prospectus, and any free writing prospectus or prospectus supplement that we have authorized for use in connection with this offering, is accurate only as of the date of those respective documents, as applicable, regardless of the time of delivery of this prospectus and any related free writing prospectus, or any sale of our ordinary shares. Our business, financial condition, results of operations and prospects may have changed since those dates. You should read this prospectus, the documents incorporated by reference in this prospectus, and any free writing prospectus or prospectus supplement that we have authorized for use in connection with this offering, in their entirety before making an investment decision.

Unless the context otherwise indicates, references in this prospectus to the "Company," "we," "ours," "our," "us" and similar designations refer to ProQR Therapeutics N.V., a company organized under the laws of the Netherlands, and, where appropriate, our consolidated subsidiaries. We use various trademarks and trade names, including without limitation our corporate name and logo, that we use in connection with the operation of our business. This prospectus, any applicable prospectus supplement and the information incorporated herein or therein by reference may also contain trademarks, service marks and trade names of third parties, which are the property of their respective owners. Solely for convenience, the trademarks, service marks and trade names referred to or incorporated by reference in this prospectus, any applicable prospectus supplement or any free writing prospectus may appear without the <sup>®</sup>, <sup>TM</sup> or <sup>SM</sup> symbols, but the omission of such references is not intended to indicate, in any way, that we will not assert, to the fullest extent under applicable law, our rights or that the applicable law, its rights.

Our consolidated financial statements are presented in euros and have been prepared in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards as issued by the International Accounting Standards Board ("IFRS"). In presenting and discussing our financial position, operating results and cash flows, management uses certain non-GAAP financial measures. These non-GAAP financial measures should not be viewed in isolation as alternatives to the equivalent IFRS measure and should be used in conjunction with the most directly comparable IFRS measure(s).

All references in this prospectus to "U.S. dollars" or "\$" are to the legal currency of the United States, and all references to "€" or "euro" are to the currency of the European Economic and Monetary Union. Our business to date has been conducted primarily in the European Union, and we maintain our books and records in euro. We present our financial statements in euro, which is the Company's functional currency. Unless otherwise specified in this prospectus, translations from euros to U.S. dollars were made at a rate of \$1.1578 to €1.00, the official exchange rate quoted by the European Central Bank at the close of business on November 1, 2021.

No action is being taken in any jurisdiction outside the United States to permit a public offering of the securities or possession or distribution of this prospectus in that jurisdiction. Persons who come into possession of this prospectus in jurisdictions outside the United States are required to inform themselves about and to observe any restrictions as to this offering and the distribution of this prospectus applicable to that jurisdiction.

#### CAUTIONARY NOTE REGARDING FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS

This prospectus and any applicable prospectus supplement or free writing prospectus, including the documents that we incorporate by reference herein, includes forward-looking statements within the meaning of Section 27A of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, or the "Securities Act," and Section 21E of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, or the "Exchange Act." For this purpose, any statements contained herein, other than statements of historical fact, including statements regarding: our clinical development plans or our future financial performance, our development programs, including timing, plans, results and therapeutic potential with respect to our product candidates, our business operations, including timing of commencing clinical trials and enrollment of patients therein, our RNA editing programs, the expected impact of the COVID-19 on our business operations, including our research and development plans and timelines and the supply chain for our clinical and development programs; and any other statements about management's future expectations, beliefs, goals, plans or prospects constitute forwardlooking statements. We may, in some cases, use words such as "anticipate," "believe," "could," "estimate," "expect," "intend," "may," "plan," "project," "should," "target," "will," "would" or other words that convey uncertainty of future events or outcomes to identify these forward-looking statements. Actual results may differ materially from those indicated by such forward-looking statements as a result of various important factors, including the risks described under the heading "Risk Factors" in this prospectus and our most recent Annual Report on Form 20-F, as well as any amendments thereto reflected in subsequent filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission, or the SEC. If one or more of these factors materialize, or if any underlying assumptions prove incorrect, our actual results, performance or achievements may vary materially from any future results, performance or achievements expressed or implied by these forwardlooking statements. Our forward-looking statements do not reflect the potential impact of any acquisitions, mergers, dispositions, business development transactions, joint ventures or investments we may enter into or make in the future.

You should rely only on information contained, or incorporated by reference, in this prospectus, the registration statement of which this prospectus is a part, the documents incorporated by reference in this prospectus, and any applicable prospectus supplement or free writing prospectus and understand that our actual future results may be materially different from what we expect. We qualify all of the forward-looking statements in the foregoing documents by these cautionary statements. Although we believe that the expectations reflected in our forward-looking statements are reasonable, we cannot guarantee future results, events, levels of activity, performance or achievement. Given these uncertainties, you should not place undue reliance on these forward-looking statements. We undertake no obligation to publicly update or revise any forward-looking statements, whether as a result of new information, future events or otherwise, unless required by law. Before deciding to purchase our securities, you should carefully consider the risk factors included or incorporated herein by reference, in addition to the other information set forth in this prospectus, any accompanying prospectus supplement, any free writing prospectus and in the documents incorporated by reference.

#### PROSPECTUS SUMMARY

This summary highlights certain information about us, this offering and selected information contained elsewhere in or incorporated by reference into this prospectus. This summary does not contain all the information you should consider before investing in our ordinary shares. You should carefully read this entire prospectus, including the documents incorporated by reference, particularly the risks and discussion of risks in the "Risk Factors" beginning on page Z of this prospectus and the "Operating and Financial Review and Prospects" section and our consolidated financial statements and related notes contained in our Annual Report on Form 20-F for the year ended December 31, 2020, filed with the SEC on March 24, 2021, as well as the information included in any free writing prospectus that we have authorized for use in connection with this offering. This summary contains forward-looking statements that involve risks and uncertainties. Our actual results may differ significantly from the results stated in or suggested by such forward-looking statements due to a variety of factors, including those set forth in the "Risk Factors" and "Cautionary Note Regarding Forward-Looking Statements" sections.

#### Overview

We are developing a broad pipeline of potentially life changing RNA therapies for inherited retinal diseases, a group of rare debilitating eye diseases, affecting over five million people in the world, for which there are currently no treatment options available. We believe our RNA platform based on intravitreal delivery may be suitable to repair defective RNA in the retina and stop progression or even reverse vision loss associated with the diseases. As we deepen our relationships with the community of people living with inherited retinal diseases, we believe we are well positioned to bring these medicines to patients independently, and are therefore preparing for commercialization, particularly in the Western world. Our current pipeline consists of programs in ophthalmology.

Beyond our clinical portfolio, we discovered and developed two novel proprietary RNA editing platform technologies, Axiomer® and TRIDENT®. Axiomer's editing oligonucleotides, or EONs, are designed to recruit endogenous Adenosine Deaminases Acting on RNA, or ADAR, enzymes to make single nucleotide changes in the RNA in a highly specific and targeted manner at a desired location. We believe our Axiomer platform may be applicable to more than 20,000 disease-causing mutations. TRIDENT is our RNA pseudouridylation platform that enables the selective suppression of nonsense mutations that cause human genetic disease.

We continuously evaluate opportunities for beneficial collaborations or partnerships to efficiently develop our investigational therapies for patients. In addition, using our discovery engine that is designed to generate a broad pipeline of product candidates, we seek to enter into strategic partnerships for programs that we believe will benefit from such a partnership.

#### Implications of Being a Foreign Private Issuer

We report under the Exchange Act as a non-U.S. company with foreign private issuer status. As a foreign private issuer, we are not subject to the same requirements that are imposed upon U.S. domestic issuers by the SEC. Under the Exchange Act, we will be subject to reporting obligations that, in certain respects, are less detailed and less frequent than those of U.S. domestic reporting companies. For example, although we intend to report our financial results on a quarterly basis, we will not be required to issue quarterly reports, proxy statements that comply with the requirements applicable to U.S. domestic reporting companies, or individual executive compensation information that is as detailed as that required of U.S. domestic reporting companies. We will also have four months after the end of each fiscal year to file our annual reports with the SEC and will not be required to file current reports as frequently or promptly as U.S. domestic reporting companies. We may also present financial statements pursuant to IFRS instead of pursuant to U.S. GAAP. Furthermore, although the members of our management and supervisory boards will be required to notify the Dutch Authority for the Financial Markets of certain transactions they may undertake, including with respect to our ordinary shares, our officers, directors and principal shareholders will be exempt from the requirements to report transactions in our equity securities and from the shortswing profit liability provisions contained in Section 16 of the Exchange Act. These exemptions and leniencies will reduce the frequency and scope of information and protections available to you in comparison to those applicable to a U.S. domestic reporting companies.

Furthermore, as a foreign private issuer, we are permitted to follow the corporate governance practices of our home country in lieu of certain provisions of the Nasdaq. We therefore follow Dutch corporate governance practices in lieu of certain Nasdaq corporate governance requirements to seek shareholder approval for a specified issuance of securities.

#### **Company Information**

Our company is registered with the Dutch Trade Register of the Chamber of Commerce (handelsregister van de Kamer van Koophandel) under number 54600790. Our corporate seat is in Leiden, the Netherlands, and our registered office is at Zernikedreef 9, 2333 CK Leiden, the Netherlands, and our telephone number is +31 88 166 7000. Our website address is www.ProQR.com. Information found on, or accessible through, our website is not a part of, and is not incorporated into, this prospectus, and you should not consider it part of this prospectus or part of any prospectus supplement. Our website address is included in this document as an inactive textual reference only. Our ordinary shares are traded on the Nasdaq Global Market under the symbol "PRQR."

ProQR was formed in February 2012 by Daniel de Boer, Gerard Platenburg, the late Henri Termeer and Dinko Valerio. Mr. de Boer is a passionate and driven entrepreneur and has assembled an experienced team of successful biotech executives as co-founders and early investors. ProQR's team has extensive experience in discovery, development and commercialization of RNA therapeutics. To date, we had raised €392 million in gross proceeds from our public offerings of shares and private placements of equity securities, as well as €14 million in convertible debt. In addition, we have received grants, loans and other funding from patient organizations and government institutions supporting our programs, including from Foundation Fighting Blindness and the Dutch government under the innovation credit program. Our headquarters are located in Leiden, the Netherlands.

#### THE OFFERING

Ordinary shares offered by us

Ordinary shares having an aggregate offering price of up to \$75,000,000.

Ordinary shares to be outstanding after this offering

Up to 80,379,663 ordinary shares (as more fully described in the notes following this table), assuming sales of 9,225,092 ordinary shares in this offering at an offering price of \$8.13 per share, which was the last reported sale price of our ordinary shares on the Nasdaq Global Market on November 1, 2021. The actual number of ordinary shares issued will vary depending on the sales price under this offering.

Plan of Distribution

"At the market offerings" that may be made from time to time through our Agent. See "Plan of Distribution."

Use of Proceeds

Our management will retain broad discretion regarding the allocation and use of the net proceeds. We currently intend to use the net proceeds from this offering, if any, together with our existing cash and cash equivalents, for general corporate purposes, which may include, but are not limited to, working capital, strategic acquisitions and other potential business development activities, ongoing research and development activities and capital expenditures. See "Use of Proceeds."

Risk Factors

Investing in our ordinary shares involves a high degree of risk. Please read the information contained in and incorporated by reference under the heading "Risk Factors" in this prospectus and under similar headings in the other documents that are filed after the date hereof and incorporated by reference into this prospectus, together with the other information included in or incorporated by reference into this prospectus, before deciding whether to invest in our ordinary shares.

Nasdaq Global Market symbol

PRQR

The number of ordinary shares expected to be outstanding after this offering and, unless otherwise indicated, the information in this prospectus are based on 71,154,571 ordinary shares outstanding as of September 30, 2021 and assumes the sale and issuance of 9,225,092 of ordinary shares at \$8.13 per share, the last reported sale price of our ordinary shares on the Nasdaq Global Market on November 1, 2021, and axcludes:

- up to 302,676 ordinary shares issuable upon exercise of warrants to purchase ordinary shares at an exercise price of \$7.88 per share;
- the conversion from time to time of outstanding loans under our debt facilities with Pontifax Medison Financing and Kreos Capital into our ordinary shares at a conversion price of \$7.88 per ordinary share. As of September 30, 2021, we had drawn down amounts under these facilities totaling approximately €14 million;
- 2,556,566 ordinary shares that we issued to a Dutch foundation named Stichting Bewaarneming Aandelen ProQR for the administration of option exercises or vesting and settlement of restricted stock units under our equity incentive plans. Such shares are held by the aforementioned foundation until they are transferred to a grantee upon the exercise of options or vesting and settlement of restricted stock units. As of September 30, 2021, (i) 7,588,054 options have been granted by us with a weighted average exercise price of €5.94 per share and (ii) 458,237 restricted stock units have been granted by us with a weighted average grant date fair value of €4.34 per share; and
- 1,152,244 treasury shares held by us, which had been reserved to transfer ordinary shares to grantees upon exercise of awards under our equity incentive plans as of September 30, 2021.

#### RISK FACTORS

Investing in our ordinary shares involves a high degree of risk. Before deciding whether to invest in our ordinary shares, you should carefully consider the risks described below and in the "Risk Factors" section of our Annual Report on Form 20-F for the year ended December 31, 2020, which are incorporated by reference into this prospectus in their entirety, as updated or superseded by the risks and uncertainties described under similar headings in the other documents that are filed after the date hereof and incorporated by reference into this prospectus, together with the other information in this prospectus, the documents incorporated by reference and any free writing prospectus that we may authorize for use in connection with this offering. Some of these factors relate principally to our business and the industry in which we operate. Other factors relate principally to your investment in our securities. The risks and uncertainties described therein and below are not the only risks facing us. Additional risks and uncertainties not presently known to us or that we currently deem immaterial may also materially and adversely affect our business and operations. If any of the matters included in the following risks were to occur, our business, financial condition, results of operations, cash flows or prospects could be materially and adversely affected. In such case, you may lose all or part of your investment. Certain statements in this prospectus are forward-looking statements. Please also see the section entitled "Cautionary Note Regarding Forward-Looking Statements.

#### Risks Related to this Offering and Ownership of our Ordinary Shares

We cannot predict what the market price of our ordinary shares will be. As a result, it may be difficult for investors to sell our ordinary shares at or above the price at which they purchased them.

An active trading market for our shares may not be sustained. The market value of our ordinary shares may decrease from time to time. As a result of these and other factors, investors may be unable to resell our shares at or above the price at which they purchased them. The lack of an active market may impair investors' ability to sell our shares at the time they wish to sell them or at a price that they consider reasonable. The lack of an active market may also reduce the fair market value of our shares. Further, an inactive market may also impair our ability to raise capital by selling our ordinary shares and may impair our ability to enter into strategic partnerships or acquire companies or products by using our ordinary shares as consideration. The market price of our shares may be volatile and investors could lose all or part of their investment.

The trading price of our ordinary shares is likely to be highly volatile and could be subject to wide fluctuations in response to various factors, some of which are beyond our control. For example, the price of our ordinary shares, which reached its high record of \$27.60 per share at the close of the trading on March 16, 2015, decreased as low as \$2.75 per share at the close of the trading on December 12, 2017. In addition to the factors discussed in this "Risk Factors" section and elsewhere in our Annual Report on Form 20-F for the year ended December 31, 2020, these factors include:

- the presentation of data at industry conferences by us and/or our competitors;
- the responses to any of our IND applications with the FDA and any of our CTA applications with the EMA;
- any current or future preclinical studies or clinical trials of our product candidates, including any delays in enrollment rates or timing of these trials and any correspondence from the applicable regulatory authorities;
- regulatory actions with respect to our product candidates or our competitors' products or product candidates;
- the recruitment or departure of key personnel;
- announcements by us or our competitors of significant acquisitions, strategic partnerships, joint ventures, collaborations or capital commitments;
- our ability to establish and maintain collaborations for our product candidates, and to realize the intended benefits from those collaborations;
- results of clinical trials conducted by us, our partners or our competitors;

- the success of competitive products or technologies;
- actual or anticipated changes in our growth rate relative to our competitors;
- regulatory or legal developments in the United States, the European Union and other jurisdictions;
- developments or disputes concerning patent applications, issued patents or other proprietary rights;
- the level of expenses related to any of our product candidates or preclinical or clinical development programs;
- actual or anticipated changes in estimates as to financial results, development timelines or recommendations by securities analysts;
- · variations in our financial results or those of companies that are perceived to be similar to us;
- fluctuations in the valuation of companies perceived by investors to be comparable to us;
- share price and volume fluctuations attributable to inconsistent trading volume levels of our shares;
- announcement or expectation of additional financing efforts;
- sales of our ordinary shares by us, our insiders or our other shareholders;
- changes in the structure of healthcare payment systems;
- · market conditions in the pharmaceutical and biotechnology sectors; and
- general economic, industry and market conditions.

In addition, the stock market in general, and shares of pharmaceutical and biotechnology companies in particular, have experienced extreme price and volume fluctuations that have sometimes been unrelated or disproportionate to the operating performance of these companies. Broad market and industry factors may negatively affect the market price of our ordinary shares, regardless of our actual operating performance. The realization of any of the above risks or any of a broad range of other risks, including those described in these "Risk Factors," and in the "Risk Factors" section of our Annual Report on Form 20-F for the year ended December 31, 2020 could have a dramatic and material adverse impact on the market price of our ordinary shares.

### If securities or industry analysts publish inaccurate or unfavorable research or cease to publish research about our business, our share price and trading volume could decline.

The trading market for our ordinary shares depends in part on the research and reports that securities or industry analysts publish about us or our business. In the event securities or industry analysts who cover us downgrade our ordinary shares, or publish inaccurate or unfavorable research about our business, our share price would likely decline. In addition, if one or more of these analysts cease coverage of our company or fail to publish reports on us regularly, demand for our ordinary shares could decrease, which might cause our share price and trading volume to decline.

### Management will have broad discretion as to the use of the proceeds from this offering, and may not use the proceeds effectively.

Our management will have broad discretion in the application of the net proceeds from this offering and could spend the proceeds in ways that do not improve our results of operations or enhance the value of our ordinary shares. Our failure to apply these funds effectively could have a material adverse effect on our business, delay the development of our product candidates, and cause the price of our ordinary shares to decline.

Members of our management board and supervisory board and our principal shareholders and their affiliates have significant control over our company, which will limit other stakeholders' ability to influence corporate matters and could delay or prevent a change in corporate control.

The holdings of the members of our management board and supervisory board and our principal shareholders and their affiliates, represent significant ownership, in the aggregate, of our outstanding

ordinary shares. As a result, these shareholders, if they act together, will be able to influence our management and affairs and control the outcome of matters submitted to our shareholders for approval, including the election of members of our management board and supervisory board and any sale, merger, consolidation, or sale of all or substantially all of our assets. These shareholders may have interests, with respect to their ordinary shares, that are different from other investors and the concentration of voting power among these shareholders may have an adverse effect on the price of our ordinary shares. In addition, this concentration of ownership might adversely affect the market price of our ordinary shares by:

- delaying, deferring or preventing a change of control of our Company;
- impeding a merger, consolidation, takeover or other business combination involving our Company;
- discouraging a potential acquirer from making a tender offer or otherwise attempting to obtain control of our Company.

### If you purchase the ordinary shares sold in this offering, you will experience immediate and substantial dilution in your investment. You will experience further dilution if we issue additional equity securities in the future.

The offering price per share in this offering may exceed the net tangible book value per share of our ordinary shares outstanding prior to this offering. Based on a public offering price of \$8.13 per share you will experience immediate dilution of \$5.38 (€4.64) per share, representing the difference between the public offering price and our as adjusted net tangible book value per share as of September 30, 2021 after giving effect to this offering. The exercise of outstanding share options or vesting and settlement of outstanding restricted stock units may result in further dilution of your investment. See the section entitled "Dilution" below for a more detailed illustration of the dilution you would incur if you participate in this offering.

In addition, we have a significant number of additional securities outstanding, including share options, restricted stock units, warrants to purchase ordinary shares and convertible loans. To the extent ordinary shares are issued in the future, investors purchasing our ordinary shares in this offering may experience further dilution.

## Raising additional capital may cause dilution to our existing shareholders. Further, any future financing arrangements, as well as existing debt financing, may restrict our operations or require us to relinquish rights to our technologies or product candidates.

We may seek additional capital due to market conditions or strategic considerations even if we believe we have sufficient funds for our current or future operating plans through a combination of private and public equity offerings, debt financings, strategic partnerships and alliances and licensing arrangements. To the extent that we raise additional capital through the sale of equity or convertible debt securities, existing ownership interests may be diluted and the terms of such financings may include liquidation or other preferences that adversely affect the rights of existing shareholders. For instance, the debt financing we entered into in the third quarter of 2020 was coupled with equity conversion options and warrants to purchase shares, which could result in dilution of our existing shareholders' ownership. As of the date of this prospectus, we have drawn down €14 million in indebtedness under this facility, which can be converted at a conversion rate of \$7.88.

In addition, such indebtedness also results in increased fixed payment obligations and certain restrictive covenants, such as limitations on our ability to incur additional debt, limitations on our ability to acquire or license intellectual property rights and other operating restrictions that could adversely impact our ability to conduct our business and may result in liens being placed on our assets and intellectual property. If we were to default on such indebtedness, we could lose such assets and intellectual property. Also, if we raise additional funds through strategic partnerships and alliances and licensing arrangements with third parties, we may have to relinquish valuable rights to our product candidates, or grant licenses on terms that are not favorable to us.

### Sales of a substantial number of our ordinary shares by our existing shareholders in the public market could cause our share price to fall.

If our existing shareholders sell, or indicate an intention to sell, substantial amounts of our ordinary shares in the public market, the trading price of our ordinary shares could decline. In addition, a substantial

number of ordinary shares subject to outstanding options, issuable upon vesting of outstanding restricted stock units, or reserved for future issuance under our equity incentive plans are or will become eligible for sale in the public market to the extent permitted by the provisions of various vesting schedules. If these additional ordinary shares are sold, or if it is perceived that they will be sold, in the public market, the trading price of our ordinary shares could decline. As of September 30, 2021, we had outstanding 71,154,571 shares of our ordinary shares, options to purchase 7,588,054 shares of our ordinary shares (of which 4,233,929 were exercisable as of that date) and 458,237 shares of our ordinary shares issuable upon the vesting and settlement of outstanding restricted stock units. The sale or the availability for sale of a large number of shares of our ordinary shares in the public market could cause the price of our ordinary shares to decline.

### The ordinary shares offered in this offering will be sold in "at the market offerings." Investors who purchase our ordinary shares in this offering at different times will likely pay different prices.

Investors who purchase our ordinary shares in this offering at different times will likely pay different prices, and so may experience different outcomes in their investment results. We will have discretion, subject to market demand, to vary the timing, prices and numbers of ordinary shares sold, and subject to certain limitations in the sales agreement, there is no minimum or maximum sales price. Investors may experience a decline in the value of their ordinary shares and dilution as a result of sales made at prices lower than the prices they paid.

### The actual number of ordinary shares we will issue under the sales agreement, at any one time or in total, is uncertain.

Subject to certain limitations in the sales agreement and compliance with applicable law, we have the discretion to deliver placement notices to the Agent at any time throughout the term of the sales agreement. The number of ordinary shares that are sold by the Agent after we deliver a placement notice will fluctuate based on the market price of our ordinary shares during the sales period and limits we set in the placement notice. Because the price per share of each share sold will fluctuate based on the market price of our ordinary shares during the sales period, it is not possible at this stage to predict the number of ordinary shares that will be ultimately issued or the resulting gross proceeds.

#### **CAPITALIZATION**

The following table sets forth our cash and cash equivalents and capitalization as of September 30, 2021:

- · on an actual basis; and
- on an as adjusted basis to give effect to the sale of 9,225,092 ordinary shares by us in this offering, at the offering price of \$8.13 per ordinary share, which was the last reported sale price of our ordinary shares on the Nasdaq Global Market on November 1, 2021, for aggregate gross proceeds of \$75,000,000, after deducting commissions and estimated offering expenses payable by us.

As of September 30, 2021

		(Unaudited)	
	Actual	As Adjusted	
	(€ in thousands, except si	(€ in thousands, except share and per share data)	
Cash and cash equivalents	€ 156,141	€ 218,976	
Total debt:			
Lease liability	15,109	15,109	
Borrowings	17,513	17,513	
Total debt	32,622	32,622	
Shareholders' equity:			
Ordinary share capital	2,995	3,364	
Share premium	397,946	460,217	
Equity settled employee benefit reserve	27,048	27,048	
Option Premium on convertible loan	280	280	
Translation reserve	272	272	
Accumulated deficit	(299,935)	(299,935)	
Minority interest	(585)	(585)	
Total shareholders' equity	128,021	190,661	
Total capitalization	€ 160,643	€ 223,283	

#### The table above excludes:

- up to 302,676 ordinary shares issuable upon exercise of warrants to purchase ordinary shares at an exercise price of \$7.88 per share;
- the conversion from time to time of outstanding loans under our debt facilities with Pontifax Medison Financing and Kreos Capital into our ordinary shares at a conversion price of \$7.88 per ordinary share. As of September 30, 2021, we had drawn down amounts under these facilities totaling approximately €14 million;
- 2,556,566 ordinary shares that we issued to a Dutch foundation named Stichting Bewaarneming Aandelen ProQR for the administration of option exercises or vesting and settlement of restricted stock units under our equity incentive plans. Such shares are held by the aforementioned foundation until they are transferred to a grantee upon the exercise of options or vesting and settlement of restricted stock units. As of September 30, 2021, (i) 7,588,054 options have been granted by us with a weighted average exercise price of €5.94 per share and (ii) 458,237 restricted stock units have been granted by us with a weighted average grant date fair value of €4.34 per share; and
- 1,152,244 treasury shares held by us, which had been reserved to transfer ordinary shares to grantees upon exercise of awards under our equity incentive plans as of September 30, 2021.

#### **USE OF PROCEEDS**

We may offer and sell our ordinary shares having aggregate gross sales proceeds of up to \$75,000,000 from time to time pursuant to this prospectus. Because there is no minimum offering amount required as a condition to close this offering, the actual total public offering amount, sales agent fees and proceeds to us, if any, are not determinable at this time. We estimate that the net proceeds we will receive from this offering, if we sell all the ordinary shares that we are offering, may be up to \$72,525,000 million, after deducting the sales agent fees and estimated offering expenses payable by us.

We intend to use the net proceeds from this offering, if any, together with our existing cash and cash equivalents, to advance clinical development of our product candidates, including sepofarsen, QR-421a, QR-1123 and QR-504a, to progress our other pipeline candidates, to fund additional preclinical and discovery programs, including Axiomer and TRIDENT RNA editing platform technologies, and for general corporate and working capital purposes. From time to time, we may evaluate the possibility of acquiring businesses, products, equipment tools and technologies, and we may use a portion of the proceeds as consideration for such acquisitions. Until we use net proceeds for these purposes, we may invest them in interest-bearing securities.

These expected uses of the net proceeds from this offering represent our intentions based upon our present plans and business conditions, which could change in the future as our plans and business conditions evolve. For example, we may use a portion of the net proceeds for the acquisition of businesses or technologies to continue to build our pipeline, our research and development capabilities and our intellectual property position. We cannot predict with certainty all of the particular uses for the net proceeds to be received upon the completion of this offering or the amounts that we will actually spend on the uses set forth above. The amounts and timing of our actual expenditures may vary significantly depending on numerous factors, including the progress of our research and development efforts, the status of and results from clinical trials, as well as any collaborations that we may enter into with third parties for our product candidates and any unforeseen cash needs. As a result, our management will retain broad discretion over the allocation of the net proceeds from this offering.

Pending the use of the net proceeds from this offering, we intend to invest the net proceeds in a variety of capital preservation investments, including term deposits, short-term, investment-grade, interest-bearing instruments and U.S. government securities.

#### DIVIDEND POLICY

We have never declared or paid any dividends on our ordinary shares, and we currently do not plan to declare dividends on our ordinary shares in the foreseeable future. Under Dutch law, we may only pay dividends if our shareholders' equity exceeds the sum of the paid-up and called-up share capital plus the reserves required to be maintained by Dutch law or by our articles of association. In addition, the terms of our loan facility with our senior lenders Pontifax Medison Finance and Kreos Capital preclude us from paying dividends and future debt agreements may have similar negative covenants. Under our articles of association, a (cumulative) dividend is first paid out of the profit, if available for distribution, on any preferred shares (of which we had none as of the date of this prospectus). Any amount remaining out of the profit is carried to reserve as the management board determines. After reservation by the management board of any profit, the remaining profit will be at the disposal of the general meeting of shareholders. The management board is permitted, subject to certain requirements and subject to approval of the supervisory board, to declare interim dividends without the approval of the general meeting of shareholders.

#### **DILUTION**

If you invest in this offering, your ownership interest will be diluted to the extent of the difference between the public offering price per share and the as adjusted net tangible book value per share after giving effect to this offering. We calculate net tangible book value per share by dividing the net tangible book value, which is tangible assets less total liabilities, by the number of our outstanding ordinary shares. Dilution represents the difference between the portion of the amount per share paid by purchasers of shares in this offering and the as adjusted net tangible book value per share of our ordinary shares immediately after giving effect to this offering. Our net tangible book value as of September 30, 2021, was \$148.9 million (€128.6 million), or \$2.09 (€1.81) per share.

After giving effect to the sale of our ordinary shares pursuant to this prospectus in the aggregate amount of \$75,000,000 at an assumed offering price of \$8.13 per share, the last reported sale price of our ordinary shares on the Nasdaq Global Market on November 1, 2021, and after deducting commissions and estimated aggregate offering expenses payable by us, our net tangible book value as of September 30, 2021 would have been \$221.6 million ( $\epsilon$ 191.4 million), or \$2.75 ( $\epsilon$ 2.38) per ordinary share. This represents an immediate increase in the net tangible book value of \$0.66 ( $\epsilon$ 0.57) per share to our existing shareholders and an immediate dilution in net tangible book value of \$5.38 ( $\epsilon$ 4.64) per share to new investors. The following table illustrates this per share dilution:

Assumed offering price per share	\$8.13	€7.02
Net tangible book value per share as of September 30, 2021	2.09	1.81
Increase per share attributable to new investors	0.66	0.57
As adjusted net tangible book value per share as of September 30, 2021, after		
giving effect to this offering	2.75	2.38
Dilution per share to new investors purchasing shares in this offering	5.38	4.64

The table above assumes for illustrative purposes that an aggregate of 9,225,092 of our ordinary shares are sold pursuant to this prospectus at a price of \$8.13 per share, the last reported sale price of our ordinary shares on the Nasdaq Global Market on November 1, 2021, for aggregate gross proceeds of \$75,000,000. The shares are being sold from time to time at various prices pursuant to the sales agreement with the Agent. An increase of \$1.00 per share in the price at which the shares are sold from the assumed offering price of \$8.13 per share shown in the table above, assuming all of our ordinary shares in the aggregate amount of \$75,000,000 is sold at that price, would increase our adjusted net tangible book value per share after the offering to \$2.79 (€2.41) per share and would increase the dilution in net tangible book value per share to new investors in this offering to \$6.34 (€5.48) per share, after deducting commissions and estimated aggregate offering expenses payable by us. A decrease of \$1.00 per share in the price at which the shares are sold from the assumed offering price of \$8.13 per share shown in the table above, assuming all of our ordinary shares in the aggregate amount of \$75,000,000 is sold at that price, would decrease our adjusted net tangible book value per share after the offering to \$2.71 (€2.34) per share and would decrease the dilution in net tangible book value per share to new investors in this offering to \$4.42 (€3.82) per share, after deducting commissions and estimated aggregate offering expenses payable by us. This information is supplied for illustrative purposes only.

The above discussion and table are based on 71,154,571 ordinary shares issued and outstanding as of September 30, 2021, and excludes:

- up to 302,676 ordinary shares issuable upon exercise of warrants to purchase ordinary shares at an exercise price of \$7.88 per share;
- the conversion from time to time of outstanding loans under our debt facilities with Pontifax Medison Financing and Kreos Capital into our ordinary shares at a conversion price of \$7.88 per ordinary share. As of September 30, 2021, we had drawn down amounts under these facilities totaling approximately €14 million;
- 2,556,566 ordinary shares that we issued to a Dutch foundation named Stichting Bewaarneming Aandelen ProQR for the administration of option exercises or vesting and settlement of restricted stock units under our equity incentive plans. Such shares are held by the aforementioned foundation

until they are transferred to a grantee upon the exercise of options or vesting and settlement of restricted stock units. As of September 30, 2021, (i) 7,588,054 options have been granted by us with a weighted average exercise price of €5.94 per share and (ii) 458,237 restricted stock units have been granted by us with a weighted average grant date fair value of €4.34 per share; and

• 1,152,244 treasury shares held by us, which had been reserved to transfer ordinary shares to grantees upon exercise of awards under our equity incentive plans as of September 30, 2021.

To the extent that any of these options or warrants are exercised, any restricted stock units vest and are settled, any new equity awards are issued under our equity incentive plans, or we otherwise issue additional shares of ordinary shares in the future (including shares issued in connection with strategic and other transactions), investors purchasing shares in this offering could experience further dilution. In addition, we may choose to raise additional capital due to market conditions or strategic considerations, even if we believe we have sufficient funds for our current or future operating plans. To the extent that additional capital is raised through the sale of equity or convertible debt securities, the issuance of these securities could result in further dilution to our shareholders.

#### **TAXATION**

#### Taxation in the Netherlands

#### General

The following is a general summary of certain material Dutch tax consequences of the holding and disposal of the ordinary shares. This summary does not purport to describe all possible tax considerations or consequences that may be relevant to all categories of investors, some of which may be subject to special treatment under applicable law (such as trusts or other similar arrangements), and in view of its general nature, it should be treated with corresponding caution. Holders should consult with their tax advisors with regard to the tax consequences of investing in the ordinary shares in their particular circumstances. The discussion below is included for general information purposes only.

Please note that this summary does not describe the tax considerations for:

- (i) holders of ordinary shares if such holders, and in the case of individuals, his/her partner or certain of their relatives by blood or marriage in the direct line (including foster children), have a substantial interest or deemed substantial interest in us under the Dutch Income Tax Act 2001 (in Dutch: 'Wet inkomstenbelasting 2001'). Generally speaking, a holder of securities in a company is considered to hold a substantial interest in such company, if such holder alone or, in the case of individuals, together with his/her partner (statutorily defined term), directly or indirectly, holds (i) an interest of 5% or more of the total issued and outstanding capital of that company or of 5% or more of the issued and outstanding capital of a certain class of shares of that company; or (ii) rights to acquire, directly or indirectly, such interest; or (iii) certain profit sharing rights in that company that relate to 5% or more of the company's annual profits and/or to 5% or more of the company's liquidation proceeds. A deemed substantial interest may arise if a substantial interest (or part thereof) in a company has been disposed of, or is deemed to have been disposed of, on a non-recognition basis;
- (ii) holders of ordinary shares in us that qualify or qualified as a participation for purposes of the Dutch Corporate Income Tax Act 1969 (in Dutch: 'Wet op de vennootschapsbelasting 1969'). Generally, a taxpayer's shareholding of 5% or more in a company's nominal paid-up share capital qualifies as a participation. A holder may also have a participation if such holder does not have a 5% shareholding but a related entity (statutorily defined term) has a participation or if the company in which the shares are held is a related entity (statutorily defined term);
- (iii) holders of ordinary shares who are individuals for whom the ordinary shares or any benefit derived from the ordinary shares are compensation or deemed to be compensation for employment activities, including deemed employment activities performed by such holders or certain individuals related to such holders (as defined in the Dutch Income Tax Act 2001) or statutory directors ('bestuurders') or supervisory directors ('commissarissen') of a company resident in the Netherlands; and
- (iv) pension funds, investment institutions (in Dutch: 'fiscale beleggingsinstellingen'), exempt investment institutions (in Dutch: 'vrijgestelde beleggingsinstellingen') and other entities that are, in whole or in part, not subject to or exempt from corporate income tax in the Netherlands, as well as entities that are exempt from corporate income tax in their country of residence, such country of residence being another state of the European Union, Norway, Liechtenstein, Iceland or any other state with which the Netherlands have agreed to exchange information in line with international standards.

Except as otherwise indicated, this summary only addresses national tax legislation and published regulations in the Netherlands, whereby the Netherlands means the part of the Kingdom of the Netherlands located in Europe, as in effect on the date hereof and as interpreted in published case law until this date, without prejudice to any amendment introduced at a later date and implemented with or without retroactive effect.

#### **Dividend Withholding Tax**

#### General

Dividends distributed by us generally are subject to Dutch dividend withholding tax at a rate of 15%. The expression "dividends distributed" includes, among other things:

- distributions in cash or in kind, deemed and constructive distributions and repayments of paid-in capital not recognized for Dutch dividend withholding tax purposes;
- liquidation proceeds, proceeds of redemption of ordinary shares, or proceeds of the repurchase of
  ordinary shares by us or one of our subsidiaries to the extent such proceeds exceed the average paidin capital of those shares as recognized for purposes of Dutch dividend withholding tax;
- an amount equal to the par value of ordinary shares issued or an increase of the par value of ordinary shares, to the extent that it does not appear that a contribution, recognized for purposes of Dutch dividend withholding tax, has been made or will be made; and
- partial repayment of the paid-in capital, recognized for purposes of Dutch dividend withholding tax, if and to the extent that we have net profits (in Dutch: 'zuivere winst'), unless the holders of ordinary shares have resolved in advance at a general meeting to make such repayment and the par value of the ordinary shares concerned has been reduced by an equal amount by way of an amendment of our articles of association.

If a holder of ordinary shares is resident in a country other than the Netherlands and if a double taxation convention is in effect between the Netherlands and such other country, such holder of ordinary shares may, depending on the terms of that double taxation convention, be eligible for a full or partial exemption from, or refund of, Dutch dividend withholding tax.

Individuals and corporate legal entities who are resident or deemed to be resident in the Netherlands for Dutch tax purposes ('Dutch Resident Individuals' and 'Dutch Resident Entities' as the case may be), can generally credit the Dutch dividend withholding tax against their personal income tax or corporate income tax liability. The same generally applies to holders of ordinary shares that are neither resident nor deemed to be resident of the Netherlands if the ordinary shares are attributable to a Dutch permanent establishment of such non-resident holder.

In general, we will be required to remit all amounts withheld as Dutch dividend withholding tax to the Dutch tax authorities. However, under certain circumstances, we are allowed to reduce the amount to be remitted to the Dutch tax authorities by the lesser of:

- 3% of the portion of the distribution paid by us that is subject to Dutch dividend withholding tax; and
- 3% of the dividends and profit distributions, before deduction of foreign withholding taxes, received by us from qualifying foreign subsidiaries in the current calendar year (up to the date of the distribution by us) and the two preceding calendar years, as far as such dividends and profit distributions have not yet been taken into account for purposes of establishing the above mentioned reduction. For purposes of the preceding sentence, qualifying foreign subsidiaries are entities established in Aruba, Curacao, St. Maarten, Bonaire, St. Estatius or Saba or in a state which has concluded a double tax treaty with the Netherlands.

Although this reduction reduces the amount of Dutch dividend withholding tax that we are required to remit to the Dutch tax authorities, it does not reduce the amount of tax that we are required to withhold on dividends distributed.

Pursuant to legislation to counteract "dividend stripping", a reduction, exemption, credit or refund of Dutch dividend withholding tax is denied if the recipient of the dividend is not the beneficial owner as described in the Dutch Dividend Withholding Tax Act 1965 (in Dutch: 'Wet op de dividendbelasting 1965'). This legislation generally targets situations in which a shareholder retains its economic interest in shares but reduces the withholding tax costs on dividends by a transaction with another party. It is not required for these rules to apply that the recipient of the dividends is aware that a dividend stripping transaction took

place. The Dutch State Secretary of Finance takes the position that the definition of beneficial ownership introduced by this legislation will also be applied in the context of a double taxation convention.

#### **Taxes on Income and Capital Gains**

#### **Dutch Resident Individuals**

If a holder of ordinary shares is a Dutch Resident Individual, any benefit derived or deemed to be derived from the ordinary shares is taxable at the progressive income tax rates (with a maximum of 49.50%) (2021), if:

- (a) the ordinary shares are attributable to an enterprise from which the Dutch Resident Individual derives a share of the profit, whether as an entrepreneur (in Dutch: 'ondernemer') or as a person who has a co-entitlement to the net worth (in Dutch: 'medegerechtigd tot het vermogen') of such enterprise, without being an entrepreneur or a shareholder, as defined in the Dutch Income Tax Act 2001; or
- (b) the holder of the ordinary shares is considered to perform activities with respect to the ordinary shares that go beyond ordinary asset management (in Dutch: 'normaal, actief vermogensbeheer') or derives benefits from the ordinary shares that are taxable as benefits from other activities (in Dutch 'resultaat uit overige werkzaamheden').

If the above-mentioned conditions (a) and (b) do not apply to the individual holder of ordinary shares, the ordinary shares are recognized as investment assets and included as such in such holder's net investment asset base (in Dutch: 'rendementsgrondslag'). Irrespective of the actual income and capital gains realized, the annual taxable benefit of all the assets and allowable liabilities of a Dutch Resident Individual holder of ordinary shares who is taxed under this regime is set at a deemed return based on the fair market value of the assets reduced by the allowable liabilities on January 1 of each year. The deemed return percentages to be applied to the yield basis increases progressively depending on the amount of the yield basis. The deemed return on savings and investments is taxed at a rate of 31% (2021).

#### **Dutch Resident Entities**

Any benefit derived or deemed to be derived from the ordinary shares held by Dutch Resident Entities, including any capital gains realized on the disposal thereof, will generally be subject to Dutch corporate income tax at a rate of 25% (a corporate income tax rate of 15% applies with respect to taxable profits up to € 245,000) (2021).

#### Non-Residents of the Netherlands

A holder of ordinary shares that is not resident or deemed to be resident in the Netherlands will not be subject to Netherlands taxes on income or on capital gains in respect of any payment under the ordinary shares or any gain realized on the disposal or deemed disposal of the ordinary shares, provided that:

- (a) if such holder is an individual, such holder does not qualify for the application of the rules of the Dutch Income Tax Act 2001 as they apply to residents of the Netherlands;
- (b) such holder does not have an interest in an enterprise or a deemed enterprise (statutorily defined term) which, in whole or in part, is either effectively managed in the Netherlands or is carried out through a permanent establishment, a deemed permanent establishment or a permanent representative in the Netherlands and to which enterprise or part of an enterprise the ordinary shares are attributable or deemed attributable or has a deemed enterprise for activities performed as statutory director ('bestuurder') or supervisory director ('commissaris') of a company resident of the Netherlands; and
- (c) in the event such holder is an individual, such holder does not carry out any activities in the Netherlands with respect to the ordinary shares that go beyond ordinary asset management and does not derive benefits from the ordinary shares that are taxable as benefits from other activities in the Netherlands.

If the above-mentioned condition (b) applies and the holder is a corporation, such holder will generally be subject to regular Dutch corporate income tax at a rate of 25% (a corporate income tax rate of 15% applies with respect to taxable profits up to &245,000) (2021).

#### **Gift and Inheritance Taxes**

#### Residents of the Netherlands

Gift and inheritance taxes will arise in the Netherlands with respect to a transfer of the ordinary shares by way of a gift by, or on the death of, a holder of ordinary shares who is resident or deemed to be resident in the Netherlands at the time of the gift or his/her death.

#### Non-residents of the Netherlands

No Dutch gift or inheritance taxes will arise on the transfer of the ordinary shares by way of gift by, or on the death of, a holder of ordinary shares who is neither resident nor deemed to be resident in the Netherlands, unless:

- (a) in the case of a gift of ordinary shares by an individual who at the date of the gift was neither resident nor deemed to be resident in the Netherlands, such individual dies within 180 days after the date of the gift, while being resident or deemed to be resident in the Netherlands; or
- (b) the transfer is otherwise construed as a gift or inheritance made by, or on behalf of, a person who, at the time of the gift or death, is or is deemed to be resident in the Netherlands.

For purposes of Dutch gift and inheritance taxes, amongst others, a person that holds the Dutch nationality will be deemed to be resident in the Netherlands if such person has been resident in the Netherlands at any time during the ten years preceding the date of the gift or his/her death. Additionally, for purposes of Dutch gift tax, amongst others, a person not holding the Dutch nationality will be deemed to be resident in the Netherlands if such person has been resident in the Netherlands at any time during the twelve months preceding the date of the gift. Applicable tax treaties may override deemed residency.

#### Value Added Tax and Other Taxes and Duties

No Dutch VAT and no Dutch registration tax, stamp duty or any other similar documentary tax or duty will be payable by a holder of ordinary shares on any payment in consideration for the holding or disposal of the ordinary shares.

#### Residence

A shareholder will not become resident or deemed resident in the Netherlands for tax purposes by reason only of holding the ordinary shares.

#### Certain Material U.S. Federal Income Tax Considerations

The following is a summary of certain material U.S. federal income tax considerations relating to the acquisition, ownership and disposition of our ordinary shares by a U.S. holder (as defined below). This summary addresses only the U.S. federal income tax considerations for U.S. holders that are initial purchasers of our ordinary shares pursuant to the offering and that will hold our ordinary shares as capital assets for U.S. federal income tax purposes within the meaning of Section 1221 of the Code. This summary does not address all U.S. federal income tax matters that may be relevant to a particular U.S. holder. This summary does not address tax considerations applicable to a holder of ordinary shares that may be subject to special tax rules including, without limitation, the following:

- banks, financial institutions or insurance companies;
- brokers, dealers or traders in securities, currencies, commodities, or notional principal contracts;
- tax-exempt entities or organizations, including an "individual retirement account" or "Roth IRA" as
  defined in Section 408 or 408A of the Code (as defined below), respectively;

- real estate investment trusts, regulated investment companies, or grantor trusts;
- persons that hold the ordinary shares as part of a "hedging," "integrated", or "conversion" transaction or as a position in a "straddle" for U.S. federal income tax purposes;
- partnerships (including entities or arrangements classified as partnerships for U.S. federal income tax purposes) or other pass-through entities (including S corporations), or persons that will hold our shares through such an entity;
- certain former citizens or long-term residents of the United States;
- persons that received our shares as compensation for the performance of services;
- persons that acquire ordinary shares as a result of holding or owning our preferred shares;
- holders that own directly, indirectly, or through attribution 10% or more of the voting power or value of our shares; and
- holders that have a "functional currency" other than the U.S. dollar.

Further, this summary does not address the U.S. federal estate, gift, or alternative minimum tax considerations, or any U.S. state, local, or non-U.S. tax considerations (other than the Dutch tax considerations discussed above) of the acquisition, ownership and disposition of our ordinary shares.

This description is based on the U.S. Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended, or the Code, existing, proposed, and temporary U.S. Treasury Regulations promulgated thereunder, and administrative and judicial interpretations thereof, in each case as in effect on the date hereof. All the foregoing is subject to change, which change could apply retroactively, and to differing interpretations, all of which could affect the tax considerations described below. There can be no assurances that the U.S. Internal Revenue Service, or the IRS, will not take a contrary position concerning the tax consequences of the acquisition, ownership and disposition of our ordinary shares or that such a position would not be sustained. Holders should consult their own tax advisers concerning the U.S. federal, state, local, and non-U.S. tax consequences of owning and disposing of our ordinary shares in their particular circumstances.

For purposes of this summary, a "U.S. holder" is a beneficial owner of ordinary shares that is (or is treated as), for U.S. federal income tax purposes:

- a citizen or resident of the United States;
- a corporation, or other entity that is treated as a corporation for U.S. federal income tax purposes, created or organized in or under the laws of the United States, any state thereof, or the District of Columbia:
- · an estate, the income of which is subject to U.S. federal income taxation regardless of its source; or
- a trust, if a court within the United States is able to exercise primary supervision over its administration and one or more U.S. persons have the authority to control all of the substantial decisions of such trust, or if the trust has a valid election in effect under applicable U.S. Treasury Regulations to be treated as a United States person.

If a partnership (or any other entity treated as a partnership for U.S. federal income tax purposes) holds ordinary shares, the U.S. federal income tax consequences relating to an investment in our ordinary shares will depend in part upon the status of the partner and the activities of the partnership. Such a partner or partnership should consult its tax advisor regarding the U.S. federal income tax considerations of owning and disposing of our ordinary shares in its particular circumstances.

As indicated below, this discussion is subject to U.S. federal income tax rules applicable to a "passive foreign investment company," or a PFIC.

Persons considering an investment in our ordinary shares should consult their own tax advisors as to the particular tax consequences applicable to them relating to the acquisition, ownership and disposition of our ordinary shares, including the applicability of U.S. federal, state and local tax laws and non-U.S. tax laws.

#### Distributions

Subject to the discussion under "Passive Foreign Investment Company Considerations," below, the gross amount of any distribution (including any amounts withheld in respect of Dutch withholding tax) actually or constructively received by a U.S. holder with respect to an ordinary share will be taxable to the U.S. holder as a dividend to the extent the distribution is made out of our current and accumulated earnings and profits as determined under U.S. federal income tax principles. Distributions in excess of earnings and profits will be non-taxable to the U.S. holder to the extent of, and will be applied against and reduce, the U.S. holder's adjusted tax basis in each such ordinary share. Distributions in excess of earnings and profits and such adjusted tax basis will generally be taxable to the U.S. holder as either long-term or short-term capital gain, depending upon whether the U.S. holder has held our ordinary shares for more than one year as of the time such distribution is received. However, since we do not calculate our earnings and profits under U.S. federal income tax principles, it is expected that all distributions will be reported as dividends, even if a distribution would otherwise be treated as a non-taxable return of capital or as capital gain under the rules described above.

Non-corporate U.S. holders may qualify for the preferential rates of taxation with respect to dividends on ordinary shares applicable to long-term capital gains (i.e., gains from the sale of capital assets held for more than one year) applicable to qualified dividend income (as discussed below). The Company, which is incorporated under the laws of the Kingdom of the Netherlands, believes that it qualifies as a resident of the Netherlands for purposes of, and is eligible for the benefits of, the Convention between the United States of America and the Kingdom of the Netherlands for the Avoidance of Double Taxation and the Prevention of Fiscal Evasion with respect to Taxes on Income, signed on December 18, 1992, as amended and currently in force, or the U.S.-Netherlands Tax Treaty, although there can be no assurance in this regard. Further, the IRS has determined that the U.S.-Netherlands Tax Treaty is satisfactory for purposes of the qualified dividend rules and that it includes an exchange-of-information program. Therefore, subject to the discussion under "Passive Foreign Investment Company Considerations," below, if the U.S.-Netherlands Tax Treaty is applicable, such dividends will generally be "qualified dividend income" in the hands of individual U.S. holders, provided that certain conditions are met, including the holding period requirement as well as the absence of certain risk reduction transactions. The dividends will not be eligible for the dividends-received deduction generally allowed to corporate U.S. holders.

A U.S. holder generally may claim the amount of Dutch income withholding tax withheld as either a deduction from gross income or a credit against U.S. federal income tax liability. However, the foreign tax credit is subject to numerous complex limitations that must be determined and applied on a case-by-case basis. Each U.S. holder should consult its own tax advisors regarding the foreign tax credit rules.

In general, the amount of a distribution paid to a U.S. holder in a foreign currency will be the dollar value of the foreign currency calculated by reference to the spot exchange rate on the day the U.S. holder receives the distribution, regardless of whether the foreign currency is converted into U.S. dollars at that time. Any foreign currency gain or loss a U.S. holder realizes on a subsequent conversion of foreign currency into U.S. dollars will be U.S. source ordinary income or loss. If dividends received in a foreign currency are converted into U.S. dollars on the day they are received, a U.S. holder should not be required to recognize foreign currency gain or loss in respect of the dividend.

Sale, exchange or other taxable disposition of our ordinary shares

A U.S. holder will generally recognize gain or loss for U.S. federal income tax purposes upon the sale, exchange, or other taxable disposition of an ordinary share in an amount equal to the difference between the U.S. dollar value of the amount realized from such sale or exchange and the U.S. holder's tax basis in that ordinary share. Subject to the discussion under "Passive Foreign Investment Company Considerations" below, this gain or loss will generally be a capital gain or loss and will generally be treated as from sources within the United States. The adjusted tax basis in an ordinary share generally will equal the cost of such ordinary share. Capital gain from the sale, exchange, or other taxable disposition of ordinary shares by a non-corporate U.S. holder is generally eligible for a preferential rate of taxation applicable to capital gains, if the non-corporate U.S. holder's holding period determined at the time of such sale, exchange, or other taxable disposition for such ordinary share exceeds one year (i.e., such gain is long-term taxable gain). The deductibility of capital losses for U.S. federal income tax purposes is subject to limitations under the Code.

Any such gain or loss that a U.S. holder recognizes generally will be treated as U.S. source income or loss for foreign tax credit limitation purposes.

For a cash basis taxpayer, units of foreign currency paid or received are translated into U.S. dollars at the spot rate on the settlement date of the purchase or sale. In that case, no foreign currency exchange gain or loss will result from currency fluctuations between the trade date and the settlement date of such a purchase or sale. An accrual basis taxpayer, however, may elect the same treatment required of cash basis taxpayers with respect to purchases and sales of our ordinary shares that are traded on an established securities market, provided the election is applied consistently from year to year. Such election may not be changed without the consent of the IRS. For an accrual basis taxpayer that does not make such an election, units of foreign currency paid or received are translated into U.S. dollars at the spot rate on the trade date of the purchase or sale. Such an accrual basis taxpayer may recognize exchange gain or loss based on currency fluctuations between the trade date and the settlement date. Any foreign currency gain or loss a U.S. holder realizes will be U.S. source ordinary income or loss.

#### Net Investment Income Tax

Certain U.S. holders that are individuals, estates or trusts are subject to a 3.8% tax on all or a portion of their "net investment income," which may include all or a portion of their dividend income and net gains from the disposition of ordinary shares. Each U.S. holder that is an individual, estate or trust is urged to consult its tax advisors regarding the applicability of the Net Investment Income Tax to its income and gains in respect of its investment in our ordinary shares.

#### Passive foreign investment company considerations

If we are classified as a passive foreign investment company, or PFIC, in any taxable year, a U.S. holder would be subject to special rules generally intended to reduce or eliminate any benefits from the deferral of U.S. federal income tax that a U.S. holder could derive from investing in a non-U.S. company that does not distribute all its earnings on a current basis. We will inform our shareholders in our Annual Report on Form 20-F if we determine that we are a PFIC.

A corporation organized outside the United States generally will be classified as a PFIC for U.S. federal income tax purposes in any taxable year in which, after applying certain look-through rules with respect to the income and assets of its subsidiaries, either: (i) at least 75% of its gross income is "passive income" or (ii) at least 50% of the average quarterly value of its total gross assets (for which purpose, assuming we are treated as a publicly traded company pursuant to Section 1297(e)(3) of the Code, the total value of our assets may be determined in part by reference to the market value of our ordinary shares, which is subject to change) is attributable to assets that produce "passive income" or are held for the production of "passive income."

Passive income for this purpose generally includes dividends, interest, royalties, rents, gains from commodities and securities transactions, the excess of gains over losses from the disposition of assets which produce passive income, and amounts derived by reason of the temporary investment of cash, including the funds raised in offerings of our ordinary shares. For purposes of the PFIC tests, gross income and gross assets of a corporation include its proportionate share of the gross income and gross assets of any other corporation of which it owns directly or indirectly at least 25% by value of the stock. If a non-U.S. corporation owns less than 25% by value of the stock of another corporation, the stock of such other corporation in the hands of the non-U.S. corporation is treated as a passive asset for purposes of the PFIC tests.

If we are classified as a PFIC in any year with respect to which a U.S. holder owns our ordinary shares, we will continue to be treated as a PFIC with respect to such U.S. holder in all succeeding years during which the U.S. holder owns our ordinary shares, regardless of whether we continue to meet the tests described above, unless the U.S. holder makes a purging election, which allows a shareholder to purge the continuing PFIC taint by either making a deemed sale election or, under certain conditions, a deemed dividend election. In addition, if we are classified as a PFIC, then a U.S. holder of our shares will be deemed to own, proportionately, shares we own of lower-tier corporations. If any such lower-tier corporation is a PFIC, then a U.S. holder will be treated as an (indirect) shareholder of that lower-tier PFIC.

Based on the average value of our gross assets and the composition of our income, we believe that we were not a PFIC during the 2020 taxable year. Our status for any taxable year will depend on our assets and activities in each year, and because this is a factual determination made annually after the end of each taxable year, there can be no assurance that we will not be considered a PFIC for the current taxable year or any future taxable year. The market value of our assets may be determined in large part by reference to the market price of our ordinary shares, which is likely to fluctuate. In addition, based on the foregoing, we do not anticipate that we will be classified as a PFIC for the current taxable year based upon the expected value of our assets, including any goodwill, and the expected composition of our income and assets. However, as previously mentioned, we cannot provide any assurances regarding our PFIC status for the current, prior or future taxable years. For example, it is possible we may be a PFIC for the current or any future taxable year based on the market price of our ordinary shares and/or our minority equity interest in Wings Therapeutics, Inc., a privately held company for which the fair market value is highly speculative.

If we are a PFIC, and you are a U.S. holder, then a special tax regime will apply unless you make a mark-to-market election (described below). We do not currently intend to provide the information necessary for U.S. holders to make qualified electing fund elections if we are treated as a PFIC for any taxable year. That special tax regime will apply to any "excess distribution" by us to you (generally, your portion of distributions in any year which are greater than 125% of the average annual distribution received by you in the shorter of the three preceding years or your holding period for our ordinary shares). That special regime will also apply to any gain realized on the sale or other disposition of the ordinary shares. Under this special regime, any excess distribution and realized gain will be treated as ordinary income and will be subject to tax as if (a) the excess distribution or gain had been realized ratably over your holding period, (b) the amount deemed realized in each year had been subject to tax in each year of that holding period at the highest marginal rate for such year applicable to you (other than income allocated to the current period or any taxable period before we became a PFIC, which would be subject to tax at the U.S. holder's regular ordinary income rate for the current year and would not be subject to the interest charge discussed below), and (c) the interest charge generally applicable to underpayments of tax had been imposed on the taxes deemed to have been payable in those years. In addition, dividend distributions made to you will not qualify for the lower rates of taxation applicable to long-term capital gains discussed above under "Distributions."

A U.S. holder may elect mark-to-market treatment, which may alleviate some of the adverse consequences of PFIC status. If a U.S. holder makes the mark-to-market election, the U.S. holder generally will recognize as ordinary income any excess of the fair market value of the ordinary shares at the end of each taxable year over their adjusted tax basis, and will recognize an ordinary loss in respect of any excess of the adjusted tax basis of the ordinary shares over their fair market value at the end of the taxable year, but only to the extent of the net amount of income previously included as a result of the mark-to-market election and not offset by prior mark-to market losses. If a U.S. holder makes the election, the U.S. holder's tax basis in the ordinary shares will be adjusted to reflect these income or loss amounts. Any gain recognized on the sale or other disposition of ordinary shares in a year when we are a PFIC will be treated as ordinary income, and any loss will be treated as an ordinary loss (but only to the extent of the net amount of income previously included as a result of the mark-to-market election). The mark-to-market election is available only if we are a PFIC and our ordinary shares are "regularly traded" on a "qualified exchange." Our ordinary shares will be treated as "regularly traded" in any calendar year in which more than a de minimis quantity of the ordinary shares are traded on a qualified exchange on at least 15 days during each calendar quarter (subject to the rule that trades that have as one of their principle purposes the meeting of the trading requirement are disregarded). The NASDAQ Global Market is a qualified exchange for this purpose and, consequently, if the ordinary shares are regularly traded on that market, the mark-to-market election will be available to a U.S. holder. U.S. holders should consult their tax advisors to determine whether the mark-tomarket election would be available and, if so, what the consequences of making that election would be in their particular circumstances.

If we are a PFIC, the general tax treatment for U.S. holders described in this section would apply to indirect distributions and gains deemed to be realized by U.S. holders who are indirect shareholders of lower-tier PFICs, as discussed above.

If a U.S. holder owns ordinary shares during any taxable year in which we are a PFIC, the U.S. holder generally will be required to file an IRS Form 8621 (Information Return by a Shareholder of a Passive Foreign

Investment Company or Qualified Electing Fund) with respect to us (and with respect to any lower-tier PFICs in which we hold an interest) with the U.S. holder's federal income tax return for that year. If we were a PFIC for a given taxable year, then you should consult your tax advisor concerning your annual filing requirements.

The U.S. federal income tax rules relating to PFICs are complex. U.S. investors are urged to consult their own tax advisers with respect to the acquisition, ownership and disposition of our ordinary shares, the consequences to them of an investment in a PFIC, any elections available with respect to our ordinary shares, and the IRS information reporting obligations with respect to the acquisition, ownership and disposition of our ordinary share.

Backup Withholding and Information Reporting

U.S. holders generally will be subject to information reporting requirements with respect to dividends on ordinary shares and on the proceeds from the sale, exchange, or disposition of ordinary shares that are paid within the United States or through U.S.-related financial intermediaries, unless the U.S. holder is an "exempt recipient." In addition, U.S. holders may be subject to backup withholding on such payments, unless the U.S. holder provides a taxpayer identification number and a duly executed IRS Form W-9 or otherwise establishes an exemption. Backup withholding is not an additional tax, and the amount of any backup withholding will be allowed as a credit against a U.S. holder's U.S. federal income tax liability and may entitle such holder to a refund, provided that the required information is timely furnished to the IRS.

## Foreign Asset Reporting

Certain U.S. holders who are individuals are required to report information relating to an interest in our ordinary shares, subject to certain exceptions (including an exception for shares held in accounts maintained by U.S. financial institutions) by filing IRS Form 8938 (Statement of Specified Foreign Financial Assets) with their federal income tax return. U.S. holders are urged to consult their tax advisors regarding their information reporting obligations, if any, with respect to their acquisition, ownership and disposition of our ordinary shares.

THE DISCUSSION SET OUT ABOVE IS INCLUDED FOR GENERAL INFORMATION ONLY AND MAY NOT BE APPLICABLE DEPENDING UPON A HOLDER'S PARTICULAR SITUATION. IT DOES NOT COVER ALL TAX MATTERS THAT MAY BE RELEVANT TO A HOLDER. EACH HOLDER IS URGED TO CONSULT THEIR TAX ADVISOR WITH RESPECT TO THE TAX CONSEQUENCES OF THE ACQUISITION, OWNERSHIP AND DISPOSITION OF THE SHARES INCLUDING TAX CONSEQUENCES UNDER STATE, LOCAL AND OTHER TAX LAWS AND THE POSSIBLE TAX EFFECTS OF CHANGES IN THE UNITED STATES FEDERAL AND OTHER TAX LAWS.

#### PLAN OF DISTRIBUTION

We have entered into a Controlled Equity Offering SM Sales Agreement (the "sales agreement") with Cantor Fitzgerald & Co. ("Cantor Fitzgerald" or the "Agent"), under which we may offer and sell our ordinary shares having an aggregate offering price of up to \$75,000,000 from time to time through the Agent. Sales of our ordinary shares, if any, under this prospectus will be made at market prices by any method that is deemed to be an "at the market offering" as defined in Rule 415(a)(4) under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended (the "Securities Act"), including sales made directly on or through the Nasdaq Global Market, or any other trading market for our ordinary shares. The Agent will not engage in any transactions that stabilize the price of our ordinary shares. A copy of the sales agreement that we entered into with the Agent is filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission (the "SEC") as an exhibit to the registration statement of which this prospectus is a part.

Upon delivery of a placement notice and subject to the terms and conditions of the sales agreement, the Agent may offer our ordinary shares on a daily basis or as otherwise agreed upon by us and the Agent. We will designate the maximum amount of ordinary shares to be sold through the Agent on a daily basis or otherwise as we and the Agent agree, and the minimum price per share at which such ordinary shares may be sold. We may instruct the Agent not to sell any ordinary shares if the sales cannot be effected at or above the price designated by us in any such instruction. We or the Agent may suspend or terminate the offering of ordinary shares at any time and from time to time by notifying the other party and subject to other conditions.

If shares of our ordinary shares are sold by the Agent in an at the market offering, the Agent will provide written confirmation to us no later than the opening of trading on the Nasdaq Global Market immediately following the trading day on which shares of our ordinary shares are sold under the sales agreement. Each confirmation will include the number of shares of our ordinary shares sold on the preceding day, the gross sales price, the net proceeds to us and the compensation payable by us to the Agent in connection with the sales.

We will pay the Agent commissions, in cash, for its services in acting as sales agent in the sale of our ordinary shares. The Agent will be entitled to a commission rate equal to 3.0% of the gross sales price per share sold under the sales agreement. Because there is no minimum offering amount required as a condition to close this offering, the actual total public offering amount, commissions and proceeds to us, if any, are not determinable at this time. In addition, we have agreed to reimburse a portion of the Agent's expenses, including legal fees, in connection with this offering up to a maximum of \$50,000. We estimate that the total expenses payable by us in connection with the establishment of the program to offer ordinary shares described in this prospectus, excluding commissions and expense reimbursement payable to the Agent under the terms of the sales agreement, will be approximately \$225,000. The remaining sale proceeds, after deducting any other transaction fees, will equal our net proceeds from the sale of such shares.

Settlement for sales of our ordinary shares under the sales agreement will occur on the second trading day following the date on which any sales are made (or such earlier day as is industry practice for regular-way trading), or on some other date that is agreed upon by us and the Agent in connection with a particular transaction, in return for payment of the net proceeds to us. Sales of our ordinary shares as contemplated in this prospectus will be settled through the facilities of The Depository Trust Company or by such other means as we and the Agent may agree upon. There is no arrangement for funds to be received in an escrow, trust or similar arrangement.

Subject to the terms of the sales agreement, the Agent is not required to sell any specific number or dollar amount of our ordinary shares but will act as our sales agent using commercially reasonable efforts consistent with its normal trading and sales practices, on mutually agreed terms between the Agent and us. In connection with the sale of our ordinary shares on our behalf, the Agent will be deemed to be an "underwriter" within the meaning of the Securities Act, and the compensation paid to the Agent will be deemed to be underwriting commissions or discounts. We have agreed to provide indemnification and contribution to the Agent against certain liabilities, including civil liabilities under the Securities Act.

The offering of our ordinary shares pursuant to the sales agreement will terminate upon the earlier of (1) the sale of all of our ordinary shares subject to the sales agreement, or (2) termination of the sales

agreement as permitted therein. We and the Agent may each terminate the sales agreement at any time upon ten days' prior notice.

The Agent is a full service financial institution engaged in various activities, which may include securities trading, commercial and investment banking, financial advisory, investment management, principal investment, hedging, financing and brokerage activities. The Agent and its affiliates have in the past performed commercial banking, investment banking and advisory services for us from time to time for which they have received no more than customary fees and reimbursement of expenses and may, from time to time, engage in transactions with and perform services for us in the ordinary course of their business for which they may receive customary fees and reimbursement of expenses. In the ordinary course of its various business activities, the Agent and its affiliates may make or hold a broad array of investments and actively trade debt and equity securities (or related derivative securities) and financial instruments (which may include bank loans and/or credit default swaps) for their own account and for the accounts of their customers and may at any time hold long and short positions in such securities and instruments. Such investments and securities activities may involve securities and/or instruments of ours or our affiliates. The Agent and its affiliates may also make investment recommendations and/or publish or express independent research views in respect of such securities or financial instruments and may hold, or recommend to clients that they acquire, long and/or short positions in such securities and instruments. To the extent required by Regulation M, the Agent will not engage in any market making activities involving our ordinary shares while the offering is ongoing under this prospectus.

This prospectus in electronic format may be made available on a website maintained by the Agent and the Agent may distribute this prospectus electronically.

#### **LEGAL MATTERS**

Legal matters with respect to U.S. federal and New York law in connection with this offering will be passed upon for us by Goodwin Procter LLP, Boston, Massachusetts. Certain legal matters with respect to Dutch law in connection with the validity of the ordinary shares being offered by this prospectus and other legal matters will be passed upon for us by Allen & Overy LLP, Amsterdam, the Netherlands. Cooley LLP, New York, New York, is counsel to the Agent in connection with this offering with respect to U.S. federal law and New York law. Stibbe N.V., Amsterdam, the Netherlands, is counsel to the Agent with respect to Dutch law.

#### **EXPERTS**

The financial statements, incorporated by reference in this prospectus and the effectiveness of the Company's internal control over financial reporting have been audited by Deloitte Accountants B.V., an independent registered public accounting firm as stated in their reports. Such financial statements are included in reliance upon the report of such firm, given upon their authority as experts in auditing and accounting.

### DOCUMENTS INCORPORATED BY REFERENCE

We have filed a registration statement on Form F-3 with the SEC in connection with this offering. The SEC allows us to incorporate by reference the information we file with the SEC, by referring you to other documents filed separately with the SEC. The information incorporated by reference is considered to be part of this prospectus. Any information that we file later with the SEC and that is deemed incorporated by reference will automatically update and supersede the information in this prospectus. In all such cases, you should rely on the later information over different information included in this prospectus or in any incorporated document. You should not assume that information in any document incorporated by reference into this prospectus is current as of any date other than the date of that document. This prospectus will be deemed to incorporate by reference the following documents, except that we do not incorporate any document or portion of a document that was furnished and deemed by the rules of the SEC not to have been filed:

- our Annual Report on Form 20-F for the year ended December 31, 2020, filed with the SEC on March 24, 2021;
- our Reports of Foreign Private Issuer on Form 6-K filed with the SEC on <u>January 7, 2021</u>, <u>February 25, 2021</u>, <u>March 24, 2021</u> (two filings), <u>April 1, 2021</u>, <u>April 6, 2021</u>, <u>April 20, 2021</u>, <u>May 4, 2021</u>, <u>May 6, 2021</u>, <u>May 20, 2021</u>, <u>July 8, 2021</u>, <u>August 5, 2021</u>, <u>September 8, 2021</u>, <u>September 9, 2021</u>, and <u>October 4, 2021</u>; and
- the description of our ordinary shares contained in our registration statement on <a href="Form 8-A">Form 8-A</a>
  (File No. 001-36622), filed with the SEC on September 16, 2014, including any other amendments or reports filed for the purpose of updating such description (other than any portion of such filings that are furnished under applicable SEC rules rather than filed).

We will also incorporate by reference any future filings made with the SEC under the Exchange Act after (i) the date of the initial registration statement and prior to the effectiveness of the registration statement and (ii) the date of this prospectus and before the completion of the offering of the securities under the registration statement. In addition, we will incorporate by reference certain future materials furnished to the SEC on Form 6-K after the date of the initial registration statement, but only to the extent specifically indicated in those submissions or in a future prospectus supplement. Each subsequently filed Annual Report should be deemed to supersede entirely each earlier filed Annual Report and Reports of Foreign Private Issuer on Form 6-K containing our quarterly earnings releases and, unless explicitly stated otherwise, such earlier reports should not be deemed to be part of this prospectus or any accompanying prospectus supplement and you should not rely upon statements made in those earlier periodic reports.

You may request a copy of these filings, at no cost, by writing, telephoning or emailing us at the following address:

Zernikedreef 9
2333 CK Leiden
The Netherlands
Attention: Company Secretary
Tel.: +31 88 166 7000
IR@progr.com

## WHERE YOU CAN FIND MORE INFORMATION

This prospectus is part of a registration statement on Form F-3 that we have filed with the SEC. This prospectus does not contain all of the information set forth in the registration statement and the exhibits to the registration statement. To see more detail, you should read the registration statement and the exhibits and schedules filed with, or incorporated by reference into, our registration statement.

We file reports, proxy statements and other information with the SEC under the Exchange Act. The SEC maintains a website that contains reports, proxy and information statements and other information regarding registrants, like us, that file electronically with the SEC. You may obtain documents that we file with the SEC at <a href="https://www.sec.gov">www.sec.gov</a>. The address of the SEC's Internet site is <a href="https://www.sec.gov">www.sec.gov</a>. We also make these documents available on our website at <a href="https://www.ProQR.com">www.ProQR.com</a>. Our website and the information contained or connected to our website is not incorporated by reference in this prospectus or any prospectus supplement, and you should not consider it part of this prospectus or any prospectus supplement.

This registration statement, including the exhibits contained or incorporated by reference therein, can be read at the SEC website referred to above. Any statement made or incorporated by reference in this prospectus concerning the contents of any contract, agreement or other document is only a summary of the actual contract, agreement or other document. If we have filed or incorporated by reference any contract, agreement or other document as an exhibit to the registration statement, you should read the exhibit for a more complete understanding of the document or matter involved. Each statement regarding a contract, agreement or other document is qualified in its entirety by reference to the actual document.



Up to \$75,000,000 Ordinary Shares

**PROSPECTUS** 

**Cantor** 

, 2021

# PART II INFORMATION NOT REQUIRED IN PROSPECTUS

## ITEM 8. INDEMNIFICATION OF DIRECTORS AND OFFICERS

Although Dutch law does not expressly provide for the indemnification of directors, the concept of indemnification of directors of a company for liabilities arising from their actions as members of the management board and supervisory board is, in principle, accepted in the Netherlands. Our articles of association provide that we will indemnify our management board members, supervisory board members, former management board members and former supervisory board members against (i) any financial losses or damages incurred by such indemnified person and (ii) any expense reasonably paid or incurred by such indemnified person in connection with any threatened, pending or completed suit, claim, action or legal proceedings, whether civil, criminal, administrative or investigative and whether formal or informal, in which he becomes involved, to the extent this relates to his position with the company, in each case to the fullest extent permitted by applicable law. No indemnification shall be given to an indemnified person (a) if a Dutch court has established, without possibility for appeal, that the acts or omissions of such indemnified person that led to the financial losses, damages, suit, claim, action or legal proceedings result from either an improper performance of his duties as an officer of the company or an unlawful or illegal act and (b) to the extent that his financial losses, damages and expenses are covered by an insurance and the insurer has settled these financial losses, damages and expenses (or has indicated that it would do so). Our supervisory board may stipulate additional terms, conditions and restrictions in relation to such indemnification.

Insofar as indemnification for liabilities arising under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended (the "Securities Act"), may be permitted to directors, officers or persons controlling us pursuant to the foregoing provisions, we have been informed that in the opinion of the Securities and Exchange Commission (the "SEC") such indemnification is against public policy as expressed in the Securities Act and is, therefore, unenforceable.

#### ITEM 9. EXHIBITS

The exhibit index set forth immediately prior to the signature page is incorporated herein by reference.

#### ITEM 10. UNDERTAKINGS

The undersigned registrant hereby undertakes:

- (1) to file, during any period in which offers or sales are being made, a post-effective amendment to this registration statement:
  - (i) to include any prospectus required by Section 10(a)(3) of the Securities Act;
  - (ii) to reflect in the prospectus any facts or events arising after the effective date of the registration statement (or the most recent post-effective amendment thereof) which, individually or in the aggregate, represent a fundamental change in the information set forth in the registration statement. Notwithstanding the foregoing, any increase or decrease in volume of securities offered (if the total dollar value of securities offered would not exceed that which was registered) and any deviation from the low or high end of the estimated maximum offering range may be reflected in the form of prospectus filed with the SEC pursuant to Rule 424(b) if, in the aggregate, the changes in volume and price represent no more than a 20 percent change in the maximum aggregate offering price set forth in the "Calculation of Registration Fee" table in the effective registration statement; and
  - (iii) to include any material information with respect to the plan of distribution not previously disclosed in the registration statement or any material change to such information set forth in the registration statement;

*provided*, *however*, that paragraphs (1)(i), (1)(ii) and (1)(iii) do not apply if the information required to be included in a post-effective amendment by those paragraphs is contained in periodic reports filed with or furnished to the Commission by the registrant pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities

Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the "Exchange Act") that are incorporated by reference in this registration statement, or is contained in a form of prospectus filed pursuant to Rule 424(b) that is part of the registration statement.

- (2) that, for the purpose of determining any liability under the Securities Act, each such post-effective amendment shall be deemed to be a new registration statement relating to the securities offered therein, and the offering of such securities at that time shall be deemed to be the initial *bona fide* offering thereof;
- (3) to remove from registration by means of a post-effective amendment any of the securities being registered which remain unsold at the termination of the offering;
- (4) to file a post-effective amendment to the registration statement to include any financial statements required by Item 8.A of Form 20-F at the start of any delayed offering or throughout a continuous offering. Financial statements and information otherwise required by Section 10(a)(3) of the Securities Act need not be furnished, provided, that the registrant includes in the prospectus, by means of a post-effective amendment, financial statements required pursuant to this paragraph (4) and other information necessary to ensure that all other information in the prospectus is at least as current as the date of those financial statements. Notwithstanding the foregoing, a post-effective amendment need not be filed to include financial statements and information required by Section 10(a)(3) of the Securities Act or Rule 3-19 of Regulation S-X if such financial statements and information are contained in periodic reports filed with or furnished to the SEC by the registrant pursuant to Section 13 or Section 15(d) of the Exchange Act that are incorporated by reference in this registration statement;
  - (5) that, for the purpose of determining liability under the Securities Act to any purchaser:
    - (i) if the registrant is relying on Rule 430B (Section 230.430B of this chapter):
    - (A) each prospectus filed by each registrant pursuant to Rule 424(b)(3) shall be deemed to be part of the registration statement as of the date the filed prospectus was deemed part of and included in the registration statement; and
    - (B) each prospectus required to be filed pursuant to Rule 424(b)(2), (b)(5), or (b)(7) as part of a registration statement in reliance on Rule 430B relating to an offering made pursuant to Rule 415(a)(1)(i), (vii), or (x) for the purpose of providing the information required by Section 10(a) of the Securities Act shall be deemed to be part of and included in the registration statement as of the earlier of the date such form of prospectus is first used after effectiveness or the date of the first contract of sale of securities in the offering described in the prospectus. As provided in Rule 430B, for liability purposes of the issuer and any person that is at that date an underwriter, such date shall be deemed to be a new effective date of the registration statement relating to the securities in the registration statement to which that prospectus relates, and the offering of such securities at that time shall be deemed to be the initial bona fide offering thereof. Provided, however, that no statement made in this registration statement or a prospectus that is part of this registration statement or made in a document incorporated or deemed incorporated by reference into this registration statement or a prospectus that is part of this registration statement will, as to a purchaser with a time of contract of sale prior to such effective date, supersede or modify any statement that was made in this registration statement or a prospectus that was part of this registration statement or made in any such document immediately prior to such effective date.
- (6) that, for the purpose of determining liability of a registrant under the Securities Act to any purchaser in the initial distribution of the securities: The undersigned registrant undertakes that in a primary offering of securities of an undersigned registrant pursuant to this registration statement, regardless of the underwriting method used to sell the securities to the purchaser, if the securities are offered or sold to such purchaser by means of any of the following communications, the undersigned registrant will be a seller to the purchaser and will be considered to offer or sell such securities to such purchaser:

- (i) any preliminary prospectus or prospectus of an undersigned registrant relating to the offering required to be filed pursuant to Rule 424;
- (ii) any free writing prospectus relating to the offering prepared by or on behalf of an undersigned registrant or used or referred to by an undersigned registrant;
- (iii) the portion of any other free writing prospectus relating to the offering containing material information about an undersigned registrant or its securities provided by or on behalf of an undersigned registrant; and
- (iv) any other communication that is an offer in the offering made by an undersigned registrant to the purchaser.

The undersigned registrant hereby undertakes that, for purposes of determining any liability under the Securities Act, each filing of the registrant's annual report pursuant to Section 13(a) or 15(d) of the Exchange Act (and, where applicable, each filing of an employee benefit plan's annual report pursuant to Section 15(d) of the Exchange Act) that is incorporated by reference in the registration statement shall be deemed to be a new registration statement relating to the securities offered therein, and the offering of such securities at that time shall be deemed to be the initial *bona fide* offering thereof.

Insofar as indemnification for liabilities arising under the Securities Act may be permitted to directors, officers and controlling persons of the registrant pursuant to the foregoing provisions, or otherwise, the registrant has been advised that in the opinion of the SEC such indemnification is against public policy as expressed in the Securities Act and is, therefore, unenforceable. In the event that a claim for indemnification against such liabilities (other than the payment by the registrant of expenses incurred or paid by a director, officer or controlling person of the registrant in the successful defense of any action, suit or proceeding) is asserted by such director, officer or controlling person in connection with the securities being registered, the registrant will, unless in the opinion of its counsel the matter has been settled by controlling precedent, submit to a court of appropriate jurisdiction the question whether such indemnification by it is against public policy as expressed in the Securities Act and will be governed by the final adjudication of such issue.

# EXHIBIT INDEX

Exhibit No.	Description		
1.1	Form of underwriting agreement (to be filed as an exhibit to a Report of Foreign Private Issuer on Form 6-K and incorporated herein by reference).		
1.2	Controlled Equity Offering SM Sales Agreement, dated November 4, 2021, by and between ProQR Therapeutics N.V. and Cantor Fitzgerald & Co.		
3.1	Amended Articles of Association of the Registrant (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 1.1 to the Registrant's Report of Foreign Private Issuer on Form 6-K (File No. 001-36622) filed on July 8, 2021)		
4.1	Form of warrant agreement (to be filed as an exhibit to a Report of Foreign Private Issuer on Form 6-K and incorporated herein by reference).		
4.2	Form of warrant (to be filed as an exhibit to a Report of Foreign Private Issuer on Form 6-K and incorporated herein by reference).		
4.3	Form of unit certificate (to be filed as an exhibit to a Report of Foreign Private Issuer on Form 6-K and incorporated herein by reference).		
5.1	Opinion of Allen & Overy LLP (Dutch counsel to the Company) relating to the base prospectus (filed herewith).		
5.2	Opinion of Goodwin Procter LLP (United States counsel to the Company) relating to the base prospectus (filed herewith).		
5.3	Opinion of Allen & Overy LLP (Dutch counsel to the Company) relating to the sales agreement prospectus (filed herewith).		
23.1	Consent of Deloitte Accountants B.V. (filed herewith).		
23.2	Consent of Allen & Overy LLP (included in Exhibit 5.1).		
23.3	Consent of Goodwin Procter LLP (included in Exhibit 5.2).		
23.4	Consent of Allen & Overy LLP (included in Exhibit 5.3).		
24.1	Power of Attorney (included in signature page to this Registration Statement).		

#### **SIGNATURES**

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Act of 1933, the undersigned Registrant certifies that it has reasonable grounds to believe that it meets all of the requirements for filing on Form F-3 and has duly caused this Registration Statement to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned, thereunto duly authorized, in the City of Leiden, the Netherlands, on November 4, 2021.

# PROQR THERAPEUTICS N.V.

By: /s/ DANIEL DE BOER

Name: Daniel de Boer Title: *Chief Executive Officer* 

## POWER OF ATTORNEY

Each person whose signature appears below hereby constitutes and appoints each of Daniel de Boer and Smital Shah his or her true and lawful attorney-in-fact and agent, with full power of substitution and resubstitution for him and in his name, place and stead, in any and all capacities, to sign any or all amendments or supplements to this Registration Statement, whether pre-effective or post-effective and any and all additional registration statements pursuant to Rule 462(b) of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, and to file the same with all exhibits thereto and other documents in connection therewith, with the Securities and Exchange Commission, granting unto said attorney-in-fact and agent full power and authority to do and perform each and every act and thing necessary or appropriate to be done with respect to this Registration Statement or any amendments or supplements hereto or any and all additional registration statements pursuant to Rule 462(b) of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, in the premises, as fully to all intents and purposes as he might or could do in person, hereby ratifying and confirming all that said attorney-in-fact and agent, or his substitute or substitutes, may lawfully do or cause to be done by virtue thereof.

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Act of 1933, this Registration Statement has been signed below by the following persons in the capacities indicated on November 4, 2021.

SIGNATURES	TITLE	DATE
/s/ DANIEL DE BOER Daniel de Boer	Chief Executive Officer and Director,  Management Board  (Principal Executive Officer)	November 4, 2021
/s/ SMITAL SHAH Smital Shah	Chief Business and Financial Officer (Principal Financial and Accounting Officer)	November 4, 2021
/s/ DINKO VALERIO Dinko Valerio	Chairman, Supervisory Board	November 4, 2021
/s/ ANTOINE BENJAMIN PAPIERNIK Antoine Benjamin Papiernik	Director, Supervisory Board	November 4, 2021
/s/ JAMES SHANNON James Shannon	Director, Supervisory Board	November 4, 2021
/s/ ALISON LAWTON Alison Lawton	Director, Supervisory Board	November 4, 2021
/s/ BART FILIUS Bart Filius	Director, Supervisory Board	November 4, 2021

## AUTHORIZED UNITED STATES REPRESENTATIVE

Pursuant to the requirement of the Securities Act of 1933, the undersigned, the duly authorized representative in the United States of the aforementioned Registrant, has signed this Registration Statement on November 4, 2021.

Smital Shah Authorized Representative in the United States

By: /s/ SMITAL SHAH November 4, 2021

Name: Smital Shah

#### PROOR THERAPEUTICS N.V.

Ordinary Shares (nominal value €0.04 per share)

#### **Sales Agreement**

November 4, 2021

Cantor Fitzgerald & Co. 499 Park Avenue New York, NY 10022

Ladies and Gentlemen:

ProQR Therapeutics N.V., a Dutch public company with limited liability (the "<u>Company</u>"), confirms its agreement (this "<u>Agreement</u>") with Cantor Fitzgerald & Co. (the "<u>Agent</u>"), as follows:

1. <u>Issuance and Sale of Shares</u>. The Company agrees that, from time to time during the term of this Agreement, on the terms and subject to the conditions set forth herein, it may issue and sell through the Agent ordinary shares (the "<u>Placement Shares</u>") of the Company, nominal value €0.04 per share (the "<u>Ordinary Shares</u>"); *provided, however*, that in no event shall the Company issue or sell through the Agent such number or dollar amount of Placement Shares that would (a) exceed the number or dollar amount of shares of Ordinary Shares registered on the effective Registration Statement (defined below) pursuant to which the offering is being made, (b) exceed the number of shares the Company's board of directors is authorized to issue pursuant to a resolution of the general meeting of shareholders and following approval of the Company's supervisory board, (c) exceed the number or dollar amount of Ordinary Shares permitted to be sold under Form F-3 (including General Instruction I.B.5 thereof, if applicable) or (d) exceed the number or dollar amount of Ordinary Shares for which the Company has filed a Prospectus Supplement (defined below) (the lesser of (a), (b), (c) and (d), the "<u>Maximum Amount</u>"). Notwithstanding anything to the contrary contained herein, the parties hereto agree that compliance with the limitations set forth in this <u>Section 1</u> on the amount of Placement Shares issued and sold under this Agreement shall be the sole responsibility of the Company and that the Agent shall have no obligation in connection with such compliance. The issuance and sale of Placement Shares through the Agent will be effected pursuant to the Registration Statement (as defined below) filed by the Company and which has been declared effective by the Securities and Exchange Commission (the "<u>Commission</u>"), although nothing in this Agreement shall be construed as requiring the Company to use the Registration Statement to issue any Placement Shares.

The Company has filed, in accordance with the provisions of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended (the "Securities Act") and the rules and regulations thereunder (the "Securities Act Regulations"), with the Commission a registration statement on Form F-3, including a base prospectus, relating to certain securities, including the Placement Shares to be issued from time to time by the Company, and which incorporates by reference documents that the Company has filed or will file in accordance with the provisions of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the "Exchange Act"), and the rules and regulations thereunder. The Company has prepared a prospectus or a prospectus supplement to the base prospectus included as part of the registration statement, which prospectus or prospectus supplement relates to the Placement Shares to be issued from time to time by the Company (the "Prospectus Supplement"). The Company will furnish to the Agent, for use by the Agent, copies of the prospectus included as part of such registration statement, as supplemented, by the Prospectus Supplement, relating to the Placement Shares to be issued from time to time by the Company. The Company may file one or more additional registration statements from time to time that will contain a base prospectus and related prospectus or prospectus supplement, if applicable (which shall be a Prospectus Supplement), with respect to the Placement Shares. Except where the context otherwise requires, such registration statement(s), including all documents filed as part thereof or incorporated by reference therein, and including any information contained in a Prospectus (as defined below) subsequently filed with the Commission pursuant to Rule 424(b) under the Securities Act Regulations or deemed to be a part of such registration statement pursuant to Rule 430B of the Securities Act Regulations, is herein called the "Registration Statement." The base prospectus or base prospectuses, including all documents incorporated therein by reference, included in the Registration Statement, as it may be supplemented, if necessary, by the Prospectus Supplement, in the form in which such prospectus or prospectuses and/or Prospectus Supplement have most recently been filed by the Company with the Commission pursuant to Rule 424(b) under the Securities Act Regulations, together with the then issued Issuer Free Writing Prospectus(es), is herein called the "Prospectus."

Any reference herein to the Registration Statement, any Prospectus Supplement, Prospectus or any Issuer Free Writing Prospectus (defined below) shall be deemed to refer to and include the documents, if any, incorporated by reference therein (the "Incorporated Documents"), including, unless the context otherwise requires, the documents, if any, filed as exhibits to such Incorporated Documents. Any reference herein to the terms "amend," "amendment" or "supplement" with respect to the Registration Statement, any Prospectus Supplement, the Prospectus or any Issuer Free Writing Prospectus shall be deemed to refer to and include the filing of any document under the Exchange Act on or after the most-recent effective date of the Registration Statement, or the date of the Prospectus Supplement, Prospectus or such Issuer Free Writing Prospectus, as the case may be, and incorporated therein by reference. For purposes of this Agreement, all references to the Registration Statement, the Prospectus or to any amendment or supplement thereto shall be deemed to include the most recent copy filed with the Commission pursuant to its Electronic Data Gathering Analysis and Retrieval system, or if applicable, the Interactive Data Electronic Application system when used by the Commission (collectively, "EDGAR").

- 2. Placements. Each time that the Company wishes to issue and sell Placement Shares hereunder (each, a "Placement"), it will notify the Agent by email notice (or other method mutually agreed to in writing by the parties) of the number or dollar amount of Placement Shares to be issued, the time period during which sales are requested to be made, any limitation on the number of Placement Shares that may be sold in any one day and any minimum price below which sales may not be made (a "Placement Notice"), the form of which is attached hereto as Schedule 1. The Placement Notice shall originate from any of the individuals from the Company set forth on Schedule 3 (with a copy to each of the other individuals from the Company listed on such schedule), and shall be addressed to each of the individuals from the Agent set forth on Schedule 3, as such Schedule 3 may be amended from time to time. The Placement Notice shall be effective unless and until (i) the Agent declines to accept the terms contained therein for any reason, in its sole discretion, in which case the Agent shall, within two Business Days after delivery of the Placement Notice to the Agent, notify the Company, (ii) the entire amount of the Placement Shares thereunder have been sold, (iii) the Company suspends or terminates the Placement Notice or (iv) this Agreement has been terminated under the provisions of Section 12. The amount of any discount, commission or other compensation to be paid by the Company to the Agent in connection with the sale of the Placement Shares shall be calculated in accordance with the terms set forth in Schedule 2. It is expressly acknowledged and agreed that neither the Company nor the Agent will have any obligation whatsoever with respect to a Placement or any Placement Shares unless and until the Company delivers a Placement Notice to the Agent and the Agent does not decline such Placement Notice pursuant to the terms set forth above, and then only upon the terms specified therein and herein. In the event of a conflict betwe
- 3. <u>Sale of Placement Shares by the Agent.</u> Subject to the provisions of <u>Section 5(a)</u>, the Agent, for the period specified in the Placement Notice, will use its commercially reasonable efforts consistent with its normal trading and sales practices and applicable state and federal laws, rules and regulations and the rules of the Nasdaq Global Market (the "<u>Exchange</u>"), to sell the Placement Shares up to the amount specified, and otherwise in accordance with the terms of such Placement Notice. The Agent will provide written confirmation to the Company no later than the opening of the Trading Day (as defined below) immediately following the Trading Day on which it has made sales of Placement Shares hereunder setting forth the number of Placement Shares sold on such day, the compensation payable by the Company to the Agent pursuant to <u>Section 2</u> with respect to such sales, and the Net Proceeds (as defined below) payable to the Company, with an itemization of the deductions made by the Agent (as set forth in <u>Section 5(b)</u>) from the gross proceeds that it receives from such sales. Subject to the terms of the Placement Notice, the Agent may sell Placement Shares by any method permitted by law deemed to be an "at the market offering" as defined in Rule 415(a)(4) of the Securities Act Regulations, including sales made directly on or through the Exchange or any other existing trading market for the Ordinary Shares, in negotiated transactions at market prices prevailing at the time of sale or at prices related to such prevailing market prices and/or any other method permitted by law. "<u>Trading Day</u>" means any day on which Ordinary Shares are traded on the Exchange.

# 4. <u>Suspension of Sales</u>.

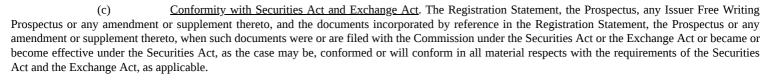
- (a) The Company or the Agent may, upon notice to the other party in writing (including by email correspondence to each of the individuals of the other party set forth on Schedule 3, if receipt of such correspondence is actually acknowledged by any of the individuals to whom the notice is sent, other than via auto-reply) or by telephone (confirmed immediately by verifiable facsimile transmission or email correspondence to each of the individuals of the other party set forth on Schedule 3), suspend any sale of Placement Shares (a "Suspension"); provided, however, that such Suspension shall not affect or impair any party's obligations with respect to any Placement Shares sold hereunder prior to the receipt of such notice. While a Suspension is in effect any obligation under Sections 7(1), 7(m), and 7(n) with respect to the delivery of certificates, opinions, or comfort letters to the Agent, shall be waived. Each of the parties agrees that no such notice under this Section 4 shall be effective against any other party unless it is made to one of the individuals named on Schedule 3 hereto, as such Schedule may be amended from time to time.
- (b) If either party has reason to believe that the exemptive provisions set forth in Rule 101(c)(1) of Regulation M under the Exchange Act are not satisfied with respect to the Placement Shares, it shall promptly notify the other party and the Agent may, at its sole discretion, suspend sales of the Placement Shares under this Agreement.
- (c) Notwithstanding any other provision of this Agreement, during any period in which the Company is in possession of material non-public information, the Company and the Agent agree that (i) no sale of Placement Shares will take place, (ii) the Company shall not request the sale of any Placement Shares, and (iii) the Agent shall not be obligated to sell or offer to sell any Placement Shares.

# 5. <u>Sale and Delivery to the Agent; Settlement.</u>

(a) <u>Sale of Placement Shares.</u> On the basis of the representations and warranties herein contained and subject to the terms and conditions herein set forth, upon the Agent's acceptance of the terms of a Placement Notice, and unless the sale of the Placement Shares described therein has been declined, suspended, or otherwise terminated in accordance with the terms of this Agreement, the Agent, for the period specified in the Placement Notice, will use its commercially reasonable efforts consistent with its normal trading and sales practices and applicable law and regulations to sell such Placement Shares up to the amount specified, and otherwise in accordance with the terms of such Placement Notice. The Company acknowledges and agrees that (i) there can be no assurance that the Agent will be successful in selling Placement Shares, (ii) the Agent will incur no liability or obligation to the Company or any other person or entity if it does not sell Placement Shares for any reason other than a failure by the Agent to use its commercially reasonable efforts consistent with its normal trading and sales practices and applicable law and regulations to sell such Placement Shares as required under this Agreement and (iii) the Agent shall be under no obligation to purchase Placement Shares on a principal basis pursuant to this Agreement, except as otherwise agreed by the Agent and the Company.

- (b) <u>Settlement of Placement Shares</u>. Unless otherwise specified in the applicable Placement Notice, settlement for sales of Placement Shares will occur on the second (2<sup>nd</sup>) Trading Day following the date on which such sales are made (each, a "<u>Settlement Date</u>"). The Agent shall notify the Company of each sale of Placement Shares no later than the opening of the Trading Day immediately following the Trading Day on which it has made sales of Placement Shares hereunder. The amount of proceeds to be delivered to the Company on a Settlement Date against receipt of the Placement Shares sold (the "<u>Net Proceeds</u>") will be equal to the aggregate sales price received by the Agent, after deduction for (i) the Agent's commission, discount or other compensation for such sales payable by the Company pursuant to <u>Section 2</u> hereof, and (ii) any transaction fees imposed by any governmental or self-regulatory organization in respect of such sales.
- (c) <u>Delivery of Placement Shares</u>. On or before each Settlement Date, the Company will, or will cause its transfer agent to, electronically transfer the Placement Shares being sold by crediting the Agent's or its designee's account (provided the Agent shall have given the Company written notice of such designee at least one Trading Day prior to the Settlement Date) at The Depository Trust Company through its Deposit and Withdrawal at Custodian System or by such other means of delivery as may be mutually agreed upon by the parties hereto which in all cases shall be freely tradable, transferable, registered shares in good deliverable form. On each Settlement Date, the Agent will deliver the related Net Proceeds in same day funds to an account designated by the Company on, or prior to, the Settlement Date. If the Company, or its transfer agent (if applicable), defaults in its obligation to deliver Placement Shares on a Settlement Date, the Company agrees that in addition to and in no way limiting the rights and obligations set forth in Section 10(a) hereto, it will (i) hold the Agent harmless against any loss, claim, damage, or expense (including reasonable legal fees and expenses), as incurred, arising out of or in connection with such default by the Company or its transfer agent (if applicable) and (ii) pay to the Agent any commission, discount, or other compensation to which it would otherwise have been entitled absent such default.
- (d) <u>Denominations; Registration</u>. Certificates for the Placement Shares, if any, shall be in such denominations and registered in such names as the Agent may request in writing at least one full Business Day (as defined below) before the Settlement Date. The certificates for the Placement Shares, if any, will be made available by the Company for examination and packaging by the Agent in The City of New York not later than noon (New York time) on the Business Day prior to the Settlement Date.
- (e) <u>Limitations on Offering Size</u>. Under no circumstances shall the Company cause or request the offer or sale of any Placement Shares if, after giving effect to the sale of such Placement Shares, the number or dollar amount of Placement Shares sold pursuant to this Agreement would exceed the lesser of (A) together with all sales of Placement Shares under this Agreement, the Maximum Amount, (B) the amount available for offer and sale under the currently effective Registration Statement and (C) the number authorized from time to time to be issued and sold under this Agreement by the Company's board of directors or a duly authorized committee thereof and the Company's supervisory board or a duly authorized committee thereof, and notified to the Agent in writing. Under no circumstances shall the Company's board of directors or a duly authorized committee thereof and the Company's supervisory board or a duly authorized committee thereof and the Company's supervisory board or a duly authorized committee thereof, and notified to the Agent in writing. Further, under no circumstances shall the Company cause or permit the aggregate offering amount of Placement Shares sold pursuant to this Agreement to exceed the Maximum Amount.

- 6. <u>Representations and Warranties of the Company</u>. The Company represents and warrants to, and agrees with the Agent that as of the date of this Agreement and, unless otherwise specified, as of each Applicable Time (as defined below):
- Registration Statement and Prospectus. The Company and the transactions contemplated by this Agreement meet the requirements for and comply with the applicable conditions set forth in Form F-3 (including General Instruction I.A and I.B) under the Securities Act. As of the date hereof, the Company is a "foreign private issuer" as such term is defined in Rule 3b-4 under the Exchange Act. The Registration Statement has been or will be filed with the Commission and will be declared effective by the Commission under the Securities Act prior to the issuance of any Placement Notices by the Company. The Prospectus Supplement will name the Agent as the agent in the section entitled "Plan of Distribution." The Company has not received, and has no notice of, any order of the Commission preventing or suspending the use of the Registration Statement, or threatening or instituting proceedings for that purpose. The Registration Statement and the offer and sale of Placement Shares as contemplated hereby meet the requirements of Rule 415 under the Securities Act and comply in all material respects with said Rule. Any statutes, regulations, contracts or other documents that are required to be described in the Registration Statement or the Prospectus or to be filed as exhibits to the Registration Statement have been so described or filed. Copies of the Registration Statement, the Prospectus, and any such amendments or supplements and all documents incorporated by reference therein that were filed with the Commission on or prior to the date of this Agreement have been delivered, or are available through EDGAR, to the Agent and its counsel. The Company has not distributed and, prior to the later to occur of each Settlement Date and completion of the distribution of the Placement Shares, will not distribute any offering material in connection with the offering or sale of the Placement Shares other than the Registration Statement and the Prospectus and any Issuer Free Writing Prospectus (as defined below) to which the Agent has consented. The Ordinary Shares are registered pursuant to Section 12(b) of the Exchange Act and are currently listed on the Exchange under the trading symbol "PRQR." The Company has taken no action designed to, or likely to have the effect of, terminating the registration of the Ordinary Shares under the Exchange Act, delisting the Ordinary Shares from the Exchange, nor has the Company received any notification that the Commission or the Exchange is contemplating terminating such registration or listing. To the Company's knowledge, it is in compliance with all applicable listing requirements of the Exchange.
- (b) No Misstatement or Omission. The Registration Statement, when it became or becomes effective, and the Prospectus, and any amendment or supplement thereto, on the date of such Prospectus or amendment or supplement, conformed and will conform in all material respects with the requirements of the Securities Act. At each Settlement Date, the Registration Statement and the Prospectus, as of such date, will conform in all material respects with the requirements of the Securities Act. The Registration Statement, when it became or becomes effective, did not, and will not, contain an untrue statement of a material fact or omit to state a material fact required to be stated therein or necessary to make the statements therein not misleading. The Prospectus and any amendment and supplement thereto, on the date thereof and at each Applicable Time (defined below), did not or will not include an untrue statement of a material fact or omit to state a material fact necessary to make the statements therein, in light of the circumstances under which they were made, not misleading. The documents incorporated by reference therein will not, when filed with the Commission, contain an untrue statement of a material fact or omit to state a material fact required to be stated in such document or necessary to make the statements in such document, in light of the circumstances under which they were made, not misleading. The foregoing shall not apply to statements in, or omissions from, any such document made in reliance upon, and in conformity with, information furnished to the Company by the Agent specifically for use in the preparation thereof.



- (d) <u>Company Not Ineligible Issuer</u>. At the time of filing the Registration Statement and any post-effective amendment thereto, at the earliest time thereafter that the Company made a *bona fide* offer (within the meaning of Rule 164(h)(2) of the Securities Act Regulations) of the Securities and at the time this Agreement is executed and delivered by the parties hereto, the Company was not and is not an "ineligible issuer," as defined in Rule 405, without taking account of any determination by the Commission pursuant to Rule 405 that it is not necessary that the Company be considered an ineligible issuer.
- (e) <u>Independent Accountants</u>. Deloitte Accountants B.V., the accountants who certified the financial statements and supporting schedules, if any, included in the Registration Statement and the Prospectus, are independent public accountants as required by the Securities Act, the Securities Act Regulations and the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board.
- (f) <u>Financial Statements</u>. The financial statements included in the Registration Statement and the Prospectus, together with the related schedules and notes, present fairly, the financial position of the Company at the dates indicated and the statement of operations, shareholders' equity (eigen vermogen) and cash flows of the Company for the periods specified; said financial statements have been prepared in conformity with International Financial Reporting Standards ("<u>IFRS</u>") as issued by the International Accounting Standards Board ("<u>IASB</u>") applied on a consistent basis throughout the periods involved, except in the case of unaudited, interim financial statements, subject to normal year-end audit adjustments and the exclusion of certain footnotes. The supporting schedules, if any, present fairly in accordance with IFRS the information required to be stated therein. The summary financial data included in the Registration Statement and the Prospectus present fairly the information shown therein and have been compiled on a basis consistent with that of the audited financial statements included therein. Except as included therein, no historical or pro forma financial statements or supporting schedules are required to be included or incorporated by reference in the Registration Statement or the Prospectus under the Securities Act or the Securities Act Regulations.
- (g) No Material Adverse Change in Business. Except as otherwise stated therein, since the respective dates as of which information is given in the Registration Statement or the Prospectus, (A) there has been no material adverse change in the condition, financial or otherwise, or in the earnings, business affairs, properties or prospects of the Company and its subsidiaries, taken as a whole, whether or not arising in the ordinary course of business (a "Material Adverse Effect"), (B) there have been no transactions entered into by the Company, other than those in the ordinary course of business, which are material with respect to the Company, and (C) there has been no dividend or distribution of any kind declared, paid or made by the Company on any class of its share capital.

- (h) <u>Good Standing of the Company</u>. The Company has been duly incorporated and is validly existing as a public company with limited liability (*naamloze vennootschap*) under the laws of the Netherlands and has the power and authority to own, lease and operate its properties and to conduct its business as described in the Registration Statement and the Prospectus and to enter into and perform its obligations under this Agreement; and the Company is duly qualified to transact business and is in good standing (where such concept exists) in each jurisdiction in which such qualification is required, whether by reason of the ownership or leasing of property or the conduct of business, except where the failure so to qualify or to be in good standing would not reasonably be expected to result in a Material Adverse Effect.
- (i) <u>Capitalization</u>. The authorized and issued share capital and outstanding shares in the capital of the Company are as set forth in the Registration Statement and the Prospectus under the caption "Capitalization" (except for subsequent issuances, if any, pursuant to this Agreement, pursuant to reservations, agreements or employee benefit plans referred to in the Registration Statement and the Prospectus or pursuant to the exercise of convertible securities or options referred to in the Registration Statement and the Prospectus). All of the ordinary shares in the capital of the Company existing as of the date of this Agreement have been duly authorized and validly issued and are fully paid. None of the outstanding shares in the capital of the Company were issued in violation of the preemptive or other similar rights of any shareholder of the Company.
- Subsidiaries. Each of the Company's "subsidiaries" (for purposes of this Agreement, as defined in Rule 405 under the Securities Act) has been duly organized and is validly existing in good standing (where such concept exists) under the laws of the jurisdiction of its organization and has the power and authority to own, lease and operate its properties and to conduct its business as described in the Registration Statement and the Prospectus. Each of the Company's subsidiaries is duly qualified to transact business and is in good standing (where such concept exists) in each jurisdiction in which such qualification is required, whether by reason of the ownership or leasing of property or the conduct of business, except where failure to be so qualified or in good standing could not reasonably be expected, individually or in the aggregate, to have a Material Adverse Effect. All of the issued and outstanding share capital or other equity or ownership interests of each of the Company's subsidiaries has been duly authorized and validly issued, is fully paid and nonassessable (where such concept exists) and is owned by the Company, directly or through subsidiaries, free and clear of any security interest, mortgage, pledge, lien, encumbrance or adverse claim, except as disclosed in the Registration Statement and the Prospectus. The Company does not own or control, directly or indirectly, any corporation, association or other entity other than the subsidiaries listed in or on an exhibit to the Registration Statement.
  - (k) <u>Authorization of Agreement</u>. This Agreement has been duly authorized, executed and delivered by the Company.
- (l) <u>Authorization and Description of Securities</u>. The Securities to be purchased by the Agent from the Company have been duly authorized for issuance and sale to the Agent pursuant to this Agreement and, when issued and delivered by the Company pursuant to this Agreement against payment of the consideration set forth herein, will be validly issued and fully paid; and the issuance of the Securities is not subject to any preemptive or other similar rights. The Ordinary Shares conform, in all material respects, to all statements relating thereto contained in the Registration Statement and the Prospectus and such description conforms, in all material respects, to the rights set forth in the instruments defining the same. No holder of Securities will be subject to personal liability by reason of being such a holder, except for being subject to pay up the Securities acquired by them in full.
- (m) <u>Registration Rights</u>. There are no persons with registration rights or other similar rights to have any securities registered for sale pursuant to the Registration Statement or otherwise registered for sale or sold by the Company under the Securities Act pursuant to this Agreement, other than those rights that have been disclosed in the Registration Statement and the Prospectus.

- Absence of Violations, Defaults and Conflicts. The Company is not (A) in violation of its articles of association, (B) in (n) default in the performance or observance of any obligation, agreement, covenant or condition contained in any contract, indenture, mortgage, deed of trust, loan or credit agreement, note, lease or other agreement or instrument to which the Company is a party or by which it may be bound or to which any of the properties or assets of the Company is subject (collectively, "Agreements and Instruments"), except, in the case of (B), for such defaults as would not, singly or in the aggregate, reasonably be expected to result in a Material Adverse Effect, or (C) in violation of any law (including in the case of the Company and for the avoidance of doubt, the Exchange Act), statute, rule, regulation (including in the case of the Company and for the avoidance of doubt, the rules and regulations of the Commission under the Exchange Act (the "Exchange Act Regulations")), judgment, order, writ or decree of any arbitrator, court, governmental body, regulatory body, administrative agency or other authority, body or agency having jurisdiction over the Company or any of its respective properties, assets or operations (each, a "Governmental Entity"), except, in the case of (C), for such violations as would not, singly or in the aggregate, reasonably be expected to result in a Material Adverse Effect. The execution, delivery and performance of this Agreement and the consummation of the transactions contemplated herein and in the Registration Statement and the Prospectus (including the issuance and sale of the Securities and the use of the proceeds from the sale of the Securities as described therein under the caption "Use of Proceeds") and compliance by the Company with its obligations hereunder have been duly authorized by all necessary corporate action and do not and will not, whether with or without the giving of notice or passage of time or both, conflict with or constitute a breach of, or default or Repayment Event (as defined below) under, or result in the creation or imposition of any lien, charge or encumbrance upon any properties or assets of the Company pursuant to, the Agreements and Instruments (except for such conflicts, breaches, defaults or Repayment Events or liens, charges or encumbrances as would not, singly or in the aggregate, reasonably be expected to result in a Material Adverse Effect), nor will such action result in any violation of the provisions of the articles of association of the Company or any law, statute, rule, regulation, judgment, order, writ or decree of any Governmental Entity, except for such violations as would not, singly or in the aggregate, result in a Material Adverse Effect. As used herein, a "Repayment Event" means any event or condition which gives the holder of any note, debenture or other evidence of indebtedness (or any person acting on such holder's behalf) the right to require the repurchase, redemption or repayment of all or a portion of such indebtedness by the Company.
- (o) <u>Absence of Labor Dispute</u>. No material labor dispute with the employees of the Company exists or, to the knowledge of the Company, is imminent, and the Company is not aware of any material existing or imminent labor disturbance by the employees of any of its principal suppliers, manufacturers, customers or contractors.
- (p) Absence of Proceedings. There is no action, suit, proceeding, inquiry or investigation before or brought by any Governmental Entity now pending or, to the knowledge of the Company, threatened, against or affecting the Company, which would reasonably be expected to result in a Material Adverse Effect, or which would reasonably be expected to materially and adversely affect its respective properties or assets or the consummation of the transactions contemplated in this Agreement or the performance by the Company of its obligations hereunder; and the aggregate of all pending legal or governmental proceedings to which the Company is a party or of which its properties or assets are the subject, including ordinary routine litigation incidental to the business, if determined adversely to the Company, would not reasonably be expected to result in a Material Adverse Effect.
- (q) <u>Accuracy of Exhibits</u>. There are no contracts or documents which are required to be described in the Registration Statement or the Prospectus or to be filed as exhibits to the Registration Statement which have not been so described and filed as required.
- (r) <u>Absence of Further Requirements</u>. No filing with, or authorization, approval, consent, license, order, registration, qualification or decree of, any Governmental Entity is necessary or required for the performance by the Company of its obligations hereunder, in connection with the offering, issuance or sale of the Placement Shares hereunder or the consummation of the transactions contemplated by this Agreement, except such as have been already obtained or as may be required under the Securities Act, the Securities Act Regulations, the rules of the Nasdaq Stock Market LLC ("Nasdaq"), U.S. state securities laws or the rules of FINRA.

- Possession of Licenses and Permits. The Company possesses such permits, licenses, approvals, consents and other (s)authorizations (collectively, "Governmental Licenses") issued by the appropriate Governmental Entities necessary to conduct the business now operated by it, including without limitation, all such permits, licenses, approvals, consents and other authorizations required by the United States Food and Drug Administration (the "FDA"), the European Medicines Agency (the "EMA"), or any other federal, state, local or foreign agencies or bodies engaged in the regulation of clinical trials, pharmaceuticals, biologics or biohazardous substances or materials, except where the failure so to possess such Governmental Licenses would not, singly or in the aggregate, reasonably be expected to result in a Material Adverse Effect. The Company is in compliance with the terms and conditions of all Governmental Licenses, except where the failure so to comply would not, singly or in the aggregate, reasonably be expected to result in a Material Adverse Effect. All of the Governmental Licenses are valid and in full force and effect, except where the invalidity of such Governmental Licenses or the failure of such Governmental Licenses to be in full force and effect would not, singly or in the aggregate, reasonably be expected to result in a Material Adverse Effect. The Company has not received any written notice of proceedings relating to the actual revocation or modification of any Governmental Licenses, which, singly or in the aggregate, if the subject of an unfavorable decision, ruling or finding, would reasonably be expected to result in a Material Adverse Effect. To the extent required by applicable laws and regulations of the FDA, the Company has submitted to the FDA an Investigational New Drug Application or amendment or supplement thereto for each clinical trial it has conducted or sponsored or is conducting or sponsoring in the United States; all such submissions, if any, were in material compliance with applicable laws and regulations when submitted and no material deficiencies have been asserted by the FDA with respect to any such submissions. To the extent required by applicable laws and regulations of countries within the European Union, the Company has submitted to the national medicinal agencies of such countries a Clinical Trial Authorization application or amendment or supplement thereto for each clinical trial it has conducted or sponsored or is conducting or sponsoring in such countries; all such submissions, if any, were in material compliance with applicable laws and regulations when submitted and no material deficiencies have been asserted by the national medicinal agencies with respect to any such submissions.
- (t) <u>Title to Property.</u> The Company does not own real property. The Company has good and marketable title to all personal and other properties owned by it (excluding for the purpose of this Section 6(t), Intellectual Property (as defined below)), in each case, free and clear of all mortgages, pledges, liens, security interests, claims, restrictions or encumbrances of any kind except such as (A) are described in the Registration Statement and the Prospectus or (B) do not, singly or in the aggregate, materially affect the value of such property and do not materially interfere with the use made and proposed to be made of such property by the Company; and all of the leases and subleases material to the business of the Company and under which the Company holds properties described in the Registration Statement or the Prospectus, are in full force and effect, and the Company has no notice of any material claim of any sort that has been asserted by anyone adverse to the rights of the Company under any of the leases or subleases mentioned above, or affecting or questioning the rights of the Company to the continued possession of the leased or subleased premises under any such lease or sublease.

Intellectual Property, The Company owns, or has obtained valid, binding and enforceable licenses for the right to use, patents, (u) patent applications, inventions, copyrights, know how (including trade secrets and other unpatented and/or unpatentable proprietary or confidential information, systems or procedures), trademarks, service marks, trade names or other intellectual property (collectively, "Intellectual Property") necessary to carry on the business of the Company as now conducted and as proposed to be conducted, insofar as such Intellectual Property is described in the Registration Statement and the Prospectus (collectively, the "Company Intellectual Property"), except where failure to own, license or have such rights would not, individually or in the aggregate, have a Material Adverse Effect; and to the knowledge of the Company, the patents, trademarks, and copyrights, if any, included within the Company Intellectual Property are valid, enforceable, and subsisting. Other than as disclosed in the Registration Statement and the Prospectus, (A) the Company is not obligated to pay a material royalty, grant a license, or provide other material consideration to any third party in connection with the Company Intellectual Property, (B) the Company has not received any notice of any claim of infringement, misappropriation or conflict with any Intellectual Property rights of others with respect to any of the Company's product candidates or processes or the Company Intellectual Property, (C) to the knowledge of the Company, neither the manufacture nor the sale or use of any of the product candidates or processes of the Company referred to in the Registration Statement or the Prospectus do or will infringe, misappropriate or violate any existing, non-patent Intellectual Property right or any existing valid, granted patent claim of any third party, (D) to the knowledge of the Company, no third party has any ownership rights in or to any Intellectual Property that is owned by the Company and, to the knowledge of the Company, no third party has any ownership right in or to any Intellectual Property that is exclusively licensed to the Company in any field of use other than any licensor to the Company of such Intellectual Property, (E) there is no pending or, to the knowledge of the Company, threatened action, suit, proceeding or claim by others challenging the Company's rights in or to any Company Intellectual Property, (F) to the Company's knowledge, no employee of the Company is or has been in violation of any term of any employment contract, patent disclosure agreement, invention assignment agreement, non-competition agreement, non-solicitation agreement, nondisclosure agreement or any restrictive covenant to or with a former employer where the basis of such violation relates to such employee's employment with the Company, and (G) to the knowledge of the Company, the Company has complied with the terms of each agreement pursuant to which Intellectual Property has been licensed to the Company, except where failure to comply would not, individually or in the aggregate, have a Material Adverse Effect, and, to the knowledge of the Company, all such agreements are in full force and effect. The statements relating to the Company's intellectual property rights contained in the Registration Statement and the Prospectus are complete and accurate in all material respects. The Registration Statement and the Prospectus did not and do not contain any untrue statement of a material fact or omit to state a material fact required to be stated therein or necessary to make the intellectual property statements, in light of the circumstance under which they were made, not misleading.

(v) Patents and Patent Applications. All patents and patent applications owned by or licensed to the Company or under which the Company has rights have, to the knowledge of the Company, been duly and properly filed and maintained; except for routine *ex parte* patents prosecution activities before patent offices, there is no pending or, to the knowledge of the Company, threatened legal proceeding, including, but not limited to, any government or patent office proceeding, such as inter partes review, reexamination, opposition, or other patent office proceeding, in any jurisdiction challenging the validity, enforceability, or scope of any patents and/or pending patent applications owned by or licensed to the Company; to the knowledge of the Company, each individual associated with the filing and prosecution of such patents and applications has complied with their duty of candor and disclosure to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office (the "USPTO") in connection with such patents and applications; and the Company is not aware of any information required to be disclosed to the USPTO that was not disclosed to the USPTO in connection with the prosecution of the aforementioned patents and applications.

- Except as would not, singly or in the aggregate, reasonably be expected to result in a Material Adverse Effect, (A) the Company is not in violation of any applicable federal, state, local or foreign statute, law, rule, regulation, ordinance, code, policy or rule of common law or any judicial or administrative interpretation thereof, including any judicial or administrative order, consent, decree or judgment, relating to pollution or protection of human health, the environment (including, without limitation, ambient air, surface water, groundwater, land surface or subsurface strata) or wildlife, including, without limitation, laws and regulations relating to the release or threatened release of chemicals, pollutants, contaminants, wastes, toxic substances, hazardous substances, petroleum or petroleum products, asbestos-containing materials or mold (collectively, "Hazardous Materials") or to the manufacture, processing, distribution, use, treatment, storage, disposal, transport or handling of Hazardous Materials (collectively, "Environmental Laws"), (B) the Company has all permits, authorizations and approvals required for its operations under any applicable Environmental Laws and is in compliance with its requirements, (C) there are no pending or, to the knowledge of the Company, threatened, administrative, regulatory or judicial actions, suits, demands, demand letters, claims, liens, notices of noncompliance or violation, investigation or proceedings relating to any Environmental Law against the Company and (D) to the knowledge of the Company, there are no events or circumstances that would reasonably be expected to form the basis of an order for clean-up or remediation, or an action, suit or proceeding by any private party or Governmental Entity, against or affecting the Company relating to Hazardous Materials or any Environmental Laws.
- (x) Accounting Controls. The Company maintains an effective system of "internal control over financial reporting" (as defined under Rule 13-a15(f) and 15d-15(f) under the Exchange Act Regulations) that complies with the requirements of the Exchange Act and a system of internal accounting controls sufficient to provide reasonable assurances that (A) transactions are executed in accordance with management's general or specific authorization; (B) transactions are recorded as necessary to permit preparation of financial statements in conformity with IFRS as issued by the IASB and to maintain accountability for assets; (C) access to assets is permitted only in accordance with management's general or specific authorization; (D) the recorded accountability for assets is compared with the existing assets at reasonable intervals and appropriate action is taken with respect to any differences; and (E) the interactive data in XBRL included or incorporated by reference in the Registration Statement or the Prospectus is in compliance with the SEC's published rules, regulations and guidelines applicable thereto. Since the end of the Company's most recent audited fiscal year, there has been no material weakness in the Company's internal control over financial reporting (whether or not remediated) and except as described in the Registration Statement and the Prospectus, there has been no change in the Company's internal control over financial reporting that has materially adversely affected, or is reasonably likely to materially adversely affect, the Company's internal control over financial reporting.
- (y) <u>Disclosure Controls</u>. The Company has established "disclosure controls and procedures" (as defined in Rules 13a-15(e) and 15d-15(e) of the Exchange Act Regulations) that complies with the requirements of the Exchange Act; the Company's "disclosure controls and procedures" are reasonably designed to ensure that all information (both financial and non-financial) required to be disclosed by the Company in the reports that it files or submits under the Exchange Act is recorded, processed, summarized and reported within the time periods specified in the rules and regulations under the Exchange Act, and that all such information will be accumulated and communicated to the Company's management as appropriate to allow timely decisions regarding required disclosure and to make the certifications of the Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer of the Company required under the Exchange Act with respect to such reports.

- (z) Preclinical and Clinical Data and Regulatory Compliance. The preclinical tests and clinical trials that are described in, or the results of which are referred to in, the Registration Statement or the Prospectus (collectively, "Studies") were and, if still pending, are being conducted in all material respects in accordance with the protocols, procedures and controls designed and approved for such Studies and with standard medical and scientific research procedures; each description of the results of such Studies is accurate and complete in all material respects and fairly presents the data derived from such Studies; and the Company has no knowledge of any other Studies the results of which are inconsistent with, or otherwise call into question, the results described or referred to in the Registration Statement or the Prospectus. Except as described in the Registration Statement and the Prospectus, the Company has not received any written notice of, or correspondence from, any Governmental Entity requiring the termination, suspension or material modification of any Studies. The Company has operated and currently is in compliance with the United States Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (21 U.S.C. §301 et seq.), all applicable regulations of the FDA (collectively, the "FDCA"), the EMA and other federal, state, local and foreign governmental bodies exercising comparable authority, except where the failure to so operate or be in compliance would not have a Material Adverse Effect.
- Compliance with Health Care Laws. The Company is, and at all times has been, in material compliance with all applicable Health Care Laws. For purposes of this Agreement, "Health Care Laws" means: (i) the FDCA and the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. § 201 et seq.); (ii) all applicable federal, state, local and all applicable foreign health care related fraud and abuse laws, including, without limitation, the federal Anti-Kickback Statute (42 U.S.C. § 1320a-7b(b)), the federal criminal false claims law (42 U.S.C. § 1320a-7b(a)), the federal civil monetary penalties law (42 U.S.C. § 1320a-7a), the federal Civil False Claims Act (31 U.S.C. § 3729 et seq.), the exclusions law (42 U.S.C. § 1320a-7), the Physician Payments Sunshine Act (42 U.S.C. § 1320a-7h), federal criminal laws relating to health care fraud and abuse, including but not limited to, 18 U.S.C. §§ 286, 287, 1347 and 1349, the health care fraud criminal provisions under the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996 ("HIPAA") (42 U.S.C. § 1320d et seq.), and the regulations promulgated pursuant to such statutes; (iii) HIPAA as amended by the Health Information Technology for Economic and Clinical Health Act ("HITECH Act") (42 U.S.C. § 17921 et seq.), each as amended, and their implementing regulations; (iv) Medicare (Title XVIII of the Social Security Act) and Medicaid (Title XIX of the Social Security Act), and the regulations promulgated pursuant to such statutes; (v) the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act of 2010 (Public Law 111-148), as amended by the Health Care and Education Reconciliation Act of 2010 (Public Law 111-152), and the regulations promulgated thereunder; and (vi) all other local, state, federal, national, supranational and foreign health care laws relating to the regulation of the Company. The Company: (a) has not received written notice of any claim, action, suit, proceeding, hearing, enforcement, investigation, arbitration or other action from any Governmental Entity or other party alleging that any operation or activity is in violation of any Health Care Laws (collectively, "Action"); (b) has no knowledge that any Action is threatened; and (c) has no knowledge of any event or condition that would reasonably be expected to result in an Action. The Company has filed, maintained and submitted all material reports, documents, forms, notices, applications, records, claims, submissions and supplements or amendments as required by any Health Care Laws, and all such reports, documents, forms, notices, applications, records, claims, submissions and supplements or amendments were complete and accurate on the date filed in all material respects (or were corrected or supplemented by a subsequent submission). Neither the Company nor any of their employees, officers, directors or agents is a party to any corporate integrity agreements, plans of correction, monitoring agreements, consent decrees, settlement orders, or similar agreements with or imposed by any Governmental Entity regarding any Health Care Laws. Additionally, neither the Company nor any of their employees, officers, directors or agents has been excluded, suspended or debarred from participation in any U.S. federal health care program or human clinical research or, to the knowledge of the Company, is subject to a governmental inquiry, investigation, proceeding, or other similar action that could reasonably be expected to result in debarment, suspension, or exclusion.

- Payment of Taxes. The Company has filed all necessary Dutch and United States national, federal, state and foreign income (bb) and franchise tax returns that are required to have been filed by it pursuant to applicable national, federal, state, local, foreign or other law except insofar as the failure to file such returns would not reasonably be expected to result in a Material Adverse Effect, and has paid all taxes required to be paid by any of them pursuant to such returns or pursuant to any assessment received by the Company, except for such taxes, if any, as are being contested in good faith and as to which adequate reserves have been established by the Company or except insofar as the failure to pay such taxes would not reasonably be expected to result in a Material Adverse Effect. The charges, accruals and reserves on the books of the Company in respect of any income and corporation tax liability for any years not finally determined are adequate to meet any assessments or re-assessments for additional income and corporation tax for any years not finally determined, except to the extent of any inadequacy that would not reasonably be expected to result in a Material Adverse Effect. The Company is not involved in any current material dispute with any tax authority and the Company is currently not subject to any material investigation or audit from any tax authority. To the Company's knowledge, except for any net (corporate) income taxes imposed on the Agent by the Netherlands or any political subdivision or taxing authority thereof or therein as a result of any present or former connection between any Agent and the Netherlands, no transaction, value added ("VAT"), stamp, capital or other issuance, registration, transaction, transfer or withholding tax or duty is payable in the Netherlands by or on behalf of the Agent to any taxing authority in connection with (i) the issuance, sale and delivery of the Securities by the Company in the manner contemplated herein; (ii) the purchase from the Company, and the initial sale and delivery by the Agent of the Securities to purchasers thereof as contemplated herein; or (iii) the execution and delivery of this Agreement or any other document to be furnished hereunder.
- (cc) <u>Insurance</u>. The Company carries or is entitled to the benefits of insurance, with financially sound and reputable insurers, in such amounts and covering such risks as is customary and adequate for the conduct of its business, and all such insurance is in full force and effect. The Company has not received any notice that it will not be able (A) to renew its existing insurance coverage as and when such policies expire or (B) to obtain comparable coverage from similar institutions as may be necessary or appropriate to conduct its business as now conducted and at a cost that would not reasonably be expected to result in a Material Adverse Effect. The Company has not been denied any insurance coverage which it has sought or for which it has applied.
- (dd) <u>Investment Company Act</u>. The Company is not required, and upon the issuance and sale of the Securities as herein contemplated and the application of the net proceeds therefrom as described in the Registration Statement and the Prospectus will not be required, to register as an "investment company" under the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended (the "1940 Act").
- (ee) <u>Absence of Manipulation</u>. Neither the Company nor, to the Company's knowledge, any affiliate of the Company has taken, nor will the Company or any affiliate take, directly or indirectly any action which is designed, or would reasonably be expected, to cause or result in, or which constitutes, the stabilization or manipulation of the price of any security of the Company to facilitate the sale or resale of the Securities or to result in a violation of Regulation M under the Exchange Act.
- (ff) FCPA. Neither the Company nor any of its subsidiaries nor, to the knowledge of the Company, any director, officer, agent, employee, affiliate or other person acting on behalf of the Company or any of its subsidiaries is aware of or has taken any action, directly or indirectly, that would result in a violation or a sanction for violation by such persons of the Foreign Corrupt Practices Act of 1977 or the U.K. Bribery Act 2010, each as may be amended, or similar law of any other relevant jurisdiction, or the rules or regulations thereunder; and the Company and its subsidiaries have instituted and maintain policies and procedures to ensure compliance therewith. No part of the proceeds of the offering of the Placement Shares will be used, directly or indirectly, in violation of the Foreign Corrupt Practices Act of 1977 or the U.K. Bribery Act 2010, each as may be amended, or similar law of any other relevant jurisdiction, or the rules or regulations thereunder.

- (gg) AML. The operations of the Company and its subsidiaries are and have been conducted at all times in compliance with applicable financial recordkeeping and reporting requirements and the money laundering statutes and the rules and regulations thereunder and any related or similar rules, regulations or guidelines, issued, administered or enforced by any governmental agency (collectively, the "Money Laundering Laws") and no action, suit or proceeding by or before any court or governmental agency, authority or body or any arbitrator involving the Company or any of its subsidiaries with respect to the Money Laundering Laws is pending or, to the best knowledge of the Company, threatened.
- (hh) Sanctions. Neither the Company nor any of its subsidiaries nor, to the knowledge of the Company, any director, officer, agent, employee or affiliate of the Company or any of its subsidiaries (i) is, or is controlled or 50% or more owned in the aggregate by or is acting on behalf of, one or more individuals or entities that are currently the subject of any sanctions administered or enforced by the United States (including any administered or enforced by the Office of Foreign Assets Control of the U.S. Department of the Treasury, the U.S. Department of State or the Bureau of Industry and Security of the U.S. Department of Commerce), the United Nations Security Council, the European Union, a member state of the European Union (including sanctions administered or enforced by Her Majesty's Treasury of the United Kingdom) or other relevant sanctions authority (collectively, "Sanctions" and such persons, "Sanctioned Persons" and each such person, a "Sanctioned Person"), (ii) is located, organized or resident in a country or territory that is, or whose government is, the subject of Sanctions that broadly prohibit dealings with that country or territory (collectively, "Sanctioned Countries" and each, a "Sanctioned Country,") or (iii) will, directly or indirectly, use the proceeds of this offering, or lend, contribute or otherwise make available such proceeds to any subsidiary, joint venture partner or other individual or entity in any manner that would result in a violation of any Sanctions by, or could result in the imposition of Sanctions against, any individual or entity (including any individual or entity participating in the offering, whether as underwriter, advisor, investor or otherwise). Neither the Company nor any of its subsidiaries has engaged in any dealings or transactions with or for the benefit of a Sanctioned Person, or with or in a Sanctioned Country.
- (ii) <u>Lending Relationships</u>. Except as disclosed in the Registration Statement and the Prospectus, the Company (i) does not have any material lending or other relationship with any banking or lending affiliate of the Agent and (ii) does not intend to use any of the proceeds from the sale of the Securities to repay any outstanding debt owed to any affiliate of the Agent.
- (jj) <u>Statistical and Market-Related Data</u>. Any statistical and market-related data included in the Registration Statement or the Prospectus are based on or derived from sources that the Company believes, after reasonable inquiry, to be reliable and accurate and, to the extent required, the Company has obtained the written consent to the use of such data from such sources.

- (kk) <u>Listing Approval</u>. The Ordinary Shares are registered pursuant to Section 12(b) of the Exchange Act. The Company has filed a Notice of Listing of Additional Shares with The Nasdaq Global Market, and the Company has taken no action designed to, or likely to have the effect of, terminating the registration of the Ordinary Shares under the Exchange Act or delisting the Securities from the Nasdaq Global Market, nor has the Company received any written notification that the Commission or the Nasdaq Global Market is contemplating terminating such registration or listing. The Company is in compliance with all applicable listing requirements of the Nasdaq Global Market, except to the extent as would not reasonably be expected to result in a Material Adverse Effect.
- (ll) <u>FINRA Matters</u>. There are no affiliations or associations between any member of FINRA and any of the Company's officers, directors or 5% or greater shareholders. There are no relationships, direct or indirect, or related-party transactions involving the Company or any other person required to be described in the Registration Statement and the Prospectus which have not been described in such documents as required.
- (mm) <u>Finder's Fees</u>. Neither the Company nor any of the Subsidiaries has incurred any liability for any finder's fees, brokerage commissions or similar payments in connection with the transactions herein contemplated, except as may otherwise exist with respect to the Agent pursuant to this Agreement.
- (nn) <u>Submission to Jurisdiction</u>. The Company has the power to submit, and pursuant to Section 18 of this Agreement, has legally, validly, effectively and irrevocably submitted, to the personal jurisdiction of each United States federal court and New York state court located in the City and County of New York, Borough of Manhattan, State of New York, U.S.A., and the Company has the power to designate and pursuant to Section 18 of this Agreement, has legally, validly, effectively and irrevocably designated the notice address provided in Section 11 of this Agreement for the effective service of process in any action arising out of or relating to this Agreement or the Securities in any of the above courts, and service of process effected on such address will be effective to confer valid personal jurisdiction over the Company as provided in Section 18 hereof.
- (oo) No Rights of Immunity. Except as provided by laws or statutes generally applicable to transactions of the type described in this Agreement, neither the Company nor any of its respective properties, assets or revenues has any right of immunity under the laws of the Netherlands, New York State law or United States federal law, from any legal action, suit or proceeding, from the giving of any relief in any such legal action, suit or proceeding, from set-off or counterclaim, from the jurisdiction of any Dutch, New York or United States federal court, from service of process, attachment upon or prior to judgment, or attachment in aid of execution of judgment, or from execution of a judgment, or other legal process or proceeding for the giving of any relief or for the enforcement of a judgment, in any such court, with respect to its obligations, liabilities or any other matter under or arising out of or in connection with this Agreement. To the extent that the Company or any of its respective properties, assets or revenues may have or may hereafter become entitled to any such right of immunity in any such court in which proceedings may at any time be commenced, the Company waives or will waive such right to the extent permitted by law and has consented to such relief and enforcement as provided in Section 17 and Section 18 of this Agreement.

- (pp) <u>Agent Purchases</u>. The Company acknowledges and agrees that Agent has informed the Company that the Agent may, to the extent permitted under the Securities Act and the Exchange Act, purchase and sell Ordinary Shares for its own accounts while this <u>Agreement</u> is in effect, *provided*, that the Company shall not be deemed to have authorized or consented to any such purchases or sales by the Agent.
- (qq) Forward-Looking Statements. Each financial or operational projection or other "forward-looking statement" (as defined by Section 27A of the Securities Act or Section 21E of the Exchange Act, as applicable) contained in the Registration Statement or the Prospectus (i) was so included by the Company in good faith and with reasonable basis after due consideration by the Company of the underlying assumptions, estimates and other applicable facts and circumstances and (ii) is accompanied by meaningful cautionary statements identifying those factors that could cause actual results to differ materially from those in such forward-looking statement. No such statement was made with the knowledge of a director or senior manager of the Company that was false or misleading.
- (rr) XBRL. The interactive data in the eXtensible Business Reporting Language ("XBRL") included as an exhibit or incorporated by reference to the Registration Statement fairly presents the information called for in all material respects and has been prepared in accordance with the SEC's rules and guidelines applicable thereto.
- (ss) Data Privacy and Security Laws. The Company and its subsidiaries are, and at all prior times were, in material compliance with all applicable data privacy and security laws and regulations, including without limitation HIPAA, HITECH Act, and the European Union General Data Protection Regulation ("GDPR") (EU 2016/679) (and all other applicable laws and regulations with respect to Personal Data (defined below) that have been announced as of the date hereof as becoming effective within 12 months after the date hereof, and for which any non-compliance with same would be reasonably likely to create a material liability) (collectively, the "Privacy Laws"). To ensure compliance with the Privacy Laws, the Company and its subsidiaries have in place, comply with, and take appropriate steps reasonably designed to ensure compliance in all material respects with their policies and procedures relating to data privacy and security and the collection, storage, use, disclosure, handling, and analysis of Personal Data (the "Policies"). The Company provides accurate notice of its Policies then in effect to its customers, employees, third party vendors and representatives in material compliance with Privacy Laws. Each of the Company Policies provides accurate and sufficient notice of the Company's privacy practices relating to its subject matter and such Company Policies do not contain any material omissions of the Company's privacy practices. "Personal Data" means (i) a natural person's name, street address, telephone number, e-mail address, photograph, social security number or tax identification number, driver's license number, passport number, credit card number, bank information, or customer or account number; (ii) any information which would qualify as "personally identifying information" under the Federal Trade Commission Act, as amended; (iii) Protected Health Information as defined by HIPAA; (iv) "personal data" as defined by GDPR, and (v) any other piece of information that allows the identification of such natural person, or his or her family, or permits the collection or analysis of any data related to an identified person's health or sexual orientation. The execution, delivery and performance of this Agreement or any other agreement referred to in this Agreement will not result in a breach of violation of any Privacy Laws or Policies. The Company further certifies that neither it nor any subsidiary: (i) has received notice of any actual or potential material liability under or relating to, or actual or potential violation of, any of the Privacy Laws; (ii) is currently conducting or paying for, in whole or in part, any investigation, remediation, or other corrective action pursuant to any Privacy Law; or (iii) is a party to any order, decree, or agreement that imposes any obligation or liability under any Privacy Law.

- Cybersecurity; Data Protection. The Company and its subsidiaries' information technology and computer systems and assets, (tt) networks, hardware, software, websites, applications, databases (including all Personal Data, and sensitive, confidential or regulated data, and the data of their respective customers, employees, suppliers, vendors and any third party data maintained by or on behalf of them), equipment or technology (collectively, "IT Systems and Data") are adequate for, and operate and perform in all material respects as required in connection with the operation of the business of the Company and its subsidiaries as currently conducted, free and clear of all material bugs, errors, defects, Trojan horses, time bombs, malware and other corruptants. The Company and its subsidiaries have implemented and maintained commercially reasonable controls, policies, procedures, and safeguards to maintain and protect their material confidential information and the integrity, continuous operation, redundancy and security of all IT Systems and Data used in connection with their businesses. (i) Except as may be included or incorporated by reference in the Registration Statement and the Prospectus, (x) to the Company's knowledge, the Company has not had any material security breach, violations, outages or unauthorized uses of or accesses to same, or other material compromise of or relating to any of the Company's or its subsidiaries' IT Systems and Data, and (y) the Company and its subsidiaries have not been notified of, and have no knowledge of any event or condition that would reasonably be expected to result in, any material security breach or other material compromise to their IT Systems and Data; (ii) the Company and its subsidiaries are presently in compliance with all applicable laws or statutes and all judgments, orders, rules and regulations of any court or arbitrator or governmental or regulatory authority, internal policies and contractual obligations relating to the privacy and security of IT Systems and Data and to the protection of such IT Systems and Data from unauthorized use, access, misappropriation or modification, except as would not, in the case of this clause (ii), individually or in the aggregate, have a Material Adverse Effect; and (iii) the Company and its subsidiaries have implemented backup and disaster recovery technology consistent with industry standards and practices.
- (uu) <u>Compliance with ERISA</u>. The Company does not maintain any "employee benefit plan" subject to Title IV of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974, as amended ("ERISA"), or the regulations and published interpretations thereunder.
- (vv) Stock Transfer Taxes. On each Settlement Date, all stock transfer or other taxes (other than income taxes) which are required to be paid in connection with the sale and transfer of the Placement Shares to be sold hereunder will be, or will have been, fully paid or provided for by the Company and all laws imposing such taxes will be or will have been fully complied with.
- (ww) <u>Underwriter Agreements</u>. The Company is not a party to any agreement with an agent or underwriter for any other "at the market" or continuous equity transaction.

(xx) <u>Margin Rules</u>. Neither the issuance, sale and delivery of the Placement Shares nor the application of the proceeds thereof by the Company as described in the Registration Statement and the Prospectus will violate Regulation T, U or X of the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System or any other regulation of such Board of Governors.

Any certificate signed by an officer of the Company and delivered to the Agent or to counsel for the Agent pursuant to or in connection with this Agreement shall be deemed to be a representation and warranty by the Company, as applicable, to the Agent as to the matters set forth therein.

# 7. <u>Covenants of the Company</u>. The Company covenants and agrees with the Agent that:

Registration Statement Amendments. After the date of this Agreement and during any period in which a Prospectus relating (a) to any Placement Shares is required to be delivered by the Agent under the Securities Act (including in circumstances where such requirement may be satisfied pursuant to Rule 172 under the Securities Act or similar rule), (i) the Company will notify the Agent promptly of the time when any subsequent amendment to the Registration Statement, other than documents incorporated by reference, has been filed with the Commission and/or has become effective or any subsequent supplement to the Prospectus has been filed and of any request by the Commission for any amendment or supplement to the Registration Statement or Prospectus or for additional information, (ii) the Company will prepare and file with the Commission, promptly upon the Agent's request, any amendments or supplements to the Registration Statement or Prospectus that, in the Agent's reasonable opinion, may be necessary or advisable in connection with the distribution of the Placement Shares by the Agent (provided, however, that the failure of the Agent to make such request shall not relieve the Company of any obligation or liability hereunder, or affect the Agent's right to rely on the representations and warranties made by the Company in this Agreement and provided, further, that the only remedy the Agent shall have with respect to the failure to make such filing shall be to cease making sales under this Agreement until such amendment or supplement is filed); (iii) the Company will not file any amendment or supplement to the Registration Statement or Prospectus relating to the Placement Shares or a security convertible into the Placement Shares unless a copy thereof has been submitted to the Agent within a reasonable period of time before the filing and the Agent has not objected thereto (provided, however, that the failure of the Agent to make such objection shall not relieve the Company of any obligation or liability hereunder, or affect the Agent's right to rely on the representations and warranties made by the Company in this Agreement and provided, further, that the only remedy the Agent shall have with respect to the failure by the Company to obtain such consent shall be to cease making sales under this Agreement) and the Company will furnish to the Agent at the time of filing thereof a copy of any document that upon filing is deemed to be incorporated by reference into the Registration Statement or Prospectus, except for those documents available via EDGAR; and (iv) the Company will cause each amendment or supplement to the Prospectus to be filed with the Commission as required pursuant to the applicable paragraph of Rule 424(b) of the Securities Act or, in the case of any document to be incorporated therein by reference, to be filed with the Commission as required pursuant to the Exchange Act, within the time period prescribed (the determination to file or not file any amendment or supplement with the Commission under this Section 7(a), based on the Company's reasonable opinion or reasonable objections, shall be made exclusively by the Company). Notwithstanding anything to the contrary herein, the Company has no obligation to provide the Agent any advanced copy of any supplement to the Prospectus if such supplement does not relate to the Placement Shares or to the transactions contemplated by this Agreement.

- (b) Notice of Commission Stop Orders. The Company will advise the Agent, promptly after it receives notice or obtains knowledge thereof, of the issuance or threatened issuance by the Commission of any stop order suspending the effectiveness of the Registration Statement, of the suspension of the qualification of the Placement Shares for offering or sale in any jurisdiction, or of the initiation or threatening of any proceeding for any such purpose; and it will promptly use its commercially reasonable efforts to prevent the issuance of any stop order or to obtain its withdrawal if such a stop order should be issued. The Company will advise the Agent promptly after it receives any request by the Commission for any amendments to the Registration Statement or any amendment or supplements to the Prospectus or any Issuer Free Writing Prospectus or any Issuer Free Writing Prospectus or any Issuer Free Writing Prospectus.
- Delivery of Prospectus; Subsequent Changes. During any period in which a Prospectus relating to the Placement Shares is required to be delivered by the Agent under the Securities Act with respect to the offer and sale of the Placement Shares, (including in circumstances where such requirement may be satisfied pursuant to Rule 172 under the Securities Act or similar rule), the Company will comply with all requirements imposed upon it by the Securities Act, as from time to time in force, and to file on or before their respective due dates all reports and any definitive proxy or information statements required to be filed by the Company with the Commission pursuant to Sections 13(a), 13(c), 14, 15(d) or any other provision of or under the Exchange Act. If the Company has omitted any information from the Registration Statement pursuant to Rule 430B under the Securities Act, it will use its best efforts to comply with the provisions of and make all requisite filings with the Commission pursuant to said Rule 430B and to notify the Agent promptly of all such filings. If during such period any event occurs as a result of which the Prospectus as then amended or supplemented would include an untrue statement of a material fact or omit to state a material fact necessary to make the statements therein, in the light of the circumstances then existing, not misleading, or if during such period it is necessary to amend or supplement the Registration Statement or Prospectus to comply with the Securities Act, the Company will promptly notify the Agent to suspend the offering of Placement Shares during such period and the Company will promptly amend or supplement the Registration Statement or omission or effect such compliance.
- (d) <u>Listing of Placement Shares</u>. During any period in which the Prospectus relating to the Placement Shares is required to be delivered by the Agent under the Securities Act with respect to the offer and sale of the Placement Shares, the Company will use its reasonable best efforts to cause the Placement Shares to be listed on the Exchange.
- (e) <u>Delivery of Registration Statement and Prospectus</u>. The Company will furnish to the Agent and its counsel (at the expense of the Company) copies of the Registration Statement, the Prospectus (including all documents incorporated by reference therein) and all amendments and supplements to the Registration Statement or Prospectus that are filed with the Commission during any period in which a Prospectus relating to the Placement Shares is required to be delivered under the Securities Act (including all documents filed with the Commission during such period that are deemed to be incorporated by reference therein), in each case as soon as reasonably practicable and in such quantities as the Agent may from time to time reasonably request and, at the Agent's request, will also furnish copies of the Prospectus to each exchange or market on which sales of the Placement Shares may be made; *provided*, *however*, that the Company shall not be required to furnish any document (other than the Prospectus) to the Agent to the extent such document is available on EDGAR.
- (f) <u>Earning Statement</u>. The Company will make generally available to its security holders as soon as practicable, but in any event not later than 15 months after the end of the Company's current fiscal quarter, an earning statement covering a 12-month period that satisfies the provisions of Section 11(a) and Rule 158 of the Securities Act.
- (g) <u>Use of Proceeds</u>. The Company will use the Net Proceeds as described in the Prospectus in the section entitled "Use of Proceeds."
- Notice of Other Sales. Without the prior written consent of the Agent, the Company will not, directly or indirectly, offer to sell, sell, contract to sell, grant any option to sell or otherwise dispose of any Ordinary Shares (other than the Placement Shares offered pursuant to this Agreement) or securities convertible into or exchangeable for Ordinary Shares, warrants or any rights to purchase or acquire, Ordinary Shares during the period beginning on the fifth (5th) Trading Day immediately prior to the date on which any Placement Notice is delivered to the Agent hereunder and ending on the fifth (5th) Trading Day immediately following the final Settlement Date with respect to Placement Shares sold pursuant to such Placement Notice (or, if the Placement Notice has been terminated or suspended prior to the sale of all Placement Shares covered by a Placement Notice, the date of such suspension or termination); and will not directly or indirectly in any other "at the market" or continuous equity transaction offer to sell, sell, contract to sell, grant any option to sell or otherwise dispose of any Ordinary Shares (other than the Placement Shares offered pursuant to this Agreement) or securities convertible into or exchangeable for Ordinary Shares, warrants or any rights to purchase or acquire, Ordinary Shares prior to the later of the termination of this Agreement and the sixtieth (60th) day immediately following the final Settlement Date with respect to Placement Shares sold pursuant to such Placement Notice; provided, however, that such restrictions will not be required in connection with the Company's issuance or sale of (i) Ordinary Shares, options to purchase Ordinary Shares or Ordinary Shares issuable upon the exercise of options or other compensatory share awards, pursuant to any employee, director or similar stock option or benefits plan, stock ownership plan or dividend reinvestment plan (but not Ordinary Shares subject to a waiver to exceed plan limits in its dividend reinvestment plan) of the Company whether now in effect or hereafter implemented, (ii) Ordinary Shares issuable upon conversion of securities or the exercise of warrants, options or other rights in effect or outstanding, and disclosed in filings by the Company available on EDGAR or otherwise in writing to the Agent and (iii) Ordinary Shares or securities convertible into or exchangeable for shares of Ordinary Shares as consideration for mergers, acquisitions, other business combinations, strategic alliances, collaborations, partnerships, joint ventures or similar transactions occurring after the date of this Agreement which are not issued primarily for capital raising purposes.

- (i) <u>Change of Circumstances</u>. The Company will, at any time during the pendency of a Placement Notice advise the Agent promptly after it shall have received notice or obtained knowledge thereof, of any information or fact that would alter or affect in any material respect any opinion, certificate, letter or other document required to be provided to the Agent pursuant to this Agreement.
- (j) <u>Due Diligence Cooperation</u>. The Company will cooperate with any reasonable due diligence review conducted by the Agent or its representatives in connection with the transactions contemplated hereby, including, without limitation, providing information and making available documents and senior corporate officers, during regular business hours and at the Company's principal offices, as the Agent may reasonably request.
- (k) Required Filings Relating to Placement of Placement Shares. The Company shall disclose, in its reports on Form 6-K containing its quarterly or semi-annual financial statements and in its annual report on Form 20-F to be filed by the Company with the Commission from time to time, the number of the Placement Shares sold through the Agent under this Agreement, and the net proceeds to the Company from the sale of the Placement Shares pursuant to this Agreement during the relevant quarter or, in the case of an annual report on Form 20-F, during the fiscal year covered by such annual report and the fourth quarter of such fiscal year. The Company agrees that on such dates as the Securities Act shall require, the Company will (i) file a prospectus supplement with the Commission under the applicable paragraph of Rule 424(b) under the Securities Act (each and every filing date under Rule 424(b), a "Filing Date"), which prospectus supplement will set forth, within the relevant period, the amount of Placement Shares sold through the Agent, the Net Proceeds to the Company and the compensation payable by the Company to the Agent with respect to such Placement Shares, and (ii) deliver such number of copies of each such prospectus supplement to each exchange or market on which such sales were effected as may be required by the rules or regulations of such exchange or market.
  - (l) <u>Representation Dates; Certificate</u>. (1) Prior to the date of the first Placement Notice and (2) each time the Company:
  - (i) files the Prospectus relating to the Placement Shares or amends or supplements (other than a prospectus supplement relating solely to an offering of securities other than the Placement Shares) the Registration Statement or the Prospectus relating to the Placement Shares by means of a post-effective amendment, sticker, or supplement but not by means of incorporation of documents by reference into the Registration Statement or the Prospectus relating to the Placement Shares;
  - (ii) files an annual report on Form 20-F under the Exchange Act (including any Form 20-F/A containing amended financial information or a material amendment to the previously filed Form 20-F);
  - (iii) files a report on Form 6-K under the Exchange Act containing its quarterly or semi-annual financial statements; or
  - (iv) files a report on Form 6-K containing amended financial information under the Exchange Act (each date of filing of one or more of the documents referred to in clauses (i) through (iv) shall be a "Representation Date");

the Company shall furnish the Agent (but in the case of clause (iv) above only if the Agent reasonably determines that the information contained in such Form 6-K is material) with a certificate dated the Representation Date, in the form and substance satisfactory to the Agent and its counsel, substantially similar to the form previously provided to the Agent and its counsel, modified, as necessary, to relate to the Registration Statement and the Prospectus as amended or supplemented. The requirement to provide a certificate under this Section 7(1) shall be waived for any Representation Date occurring at a time a Suspension is in effect, which waiver shall continue until the earlier to occur of the date the Company delivers instructions for the sale of Placement Shares hereunder (which for such calendar quarter shall be considered a Representation Date) and the next occurring Representation Date. Notwithstanding the foregoing, if the Company subsequently decides to sell Placement Shares following a Representation Date when a Suspension was in effect and did not provide the Agent with a certificate under this Section 7(1), then before the Company delivers the instructions for the sale of Placement Shares or the Agent sells any Placement Shares pursuant to such instructions, the Company shall provide the Agent with a certificate in conformity with this Section 7(1) dated as of the date that the instructions for the sale of Placement Shares are issued.

- Representation Date with respect to which the Company is obligated to deliver a certificate pursuant to Section 7(1) for which no waiver is applicable and excluding the date of this Agreement, the Company shall cause to be furnished to the Agent a written opinion of Goodwin Procter LLP, U.S. counsel to the Company, and Allen & Overy LLP, Dutch counsel for the Company (together, "Company Counsel"), or other counsel satisfactory to the Agent, in form and substance satisfactory to the Agent and its counsel, substantially similar to a form previously provided to the Agent and its counsel, modified, as necessary, to relate to the Registration Statement and the Prospectus as then amended or supplemented; provided, however, the Company shall be required to furnish to Agent no more than one opinion hereunder per calendar quarter; provided, further, that in lieu of such opinions for subsequent periodic filings under the Exchange Act, counsel may furnish the Agent with a letter (a "Reliance Letter") to the effect that the Agent may rely on a prior opinion delivered under this Section 7(m) to the same extent as if it were dated the date of such letter (except that statements in such prior opinion shall be deemed to relate to the Registration Statement and the Prospectus as amended or supplemented as of the date of the Reliance Letter).
- (n) Comfort Letter. (1) Prior to the date of the first Placement Notice and (2) within five (5) Trading Days of each Representation Date with respect to which the Company is obligated to deliver a certificate pursuant to Section 7(1) for which no waiver is applicable and excluding the date of this Agreement, the Company shall cause its independent registered public accounting firm to furnish the Agent letters (the "Comfort Letters"), dated the date the Comfort Letter is delivered, which shall meet the requirements set forth in this Section 7(n); provided, that if requested by the Agent, the Company shall cause a Comfort Letter to be furnished to the Agent within ten (10) Trading Days of the date of occurrence of any material transaction or event, including the restatement of the Company's financial statements. The Comfort Letter from the Company's independent registered public accounting firm shall be in a form and substance satisfactory to the Agent, (i) confirming that they are an independent registered public accounting firm within the meaning of the Securities Act and the PCAOB, (ii) stating, as of such date, the conclusions and findings of such firm with respect to the financial information and other matters ordinarily covered by accountants' "comfort letters" to underwriters in connection with registered public offerings (the first such letter, the "Initial Comfort Letter") and (iii) updating the Initial Comfort Letter with any information that would have been included in the Initial Comfort Letter had it been given on such date and modified as necessary to relate to the Registration Statement and the Prospectus, as amended and supplemented to the date of such letter.

- (o) <u>Market Activities</u>. The Company will not, directly or indirectly, (i) take any action designed to cause or result in, or that constitutes or might reasonably be expected to constitute, the stabilization or manipulation of the price of any security of the Company to facilitate the sale or resale of Ordinary Shares or (ii) sell, bid for, or purchase Ordinary Shares in violation of Regulation M, or pay anyone any compensation for soliciting purchases of the Placement Shares other than the Agent.
- (p) <u>Investment Company Act</u>. The Company will conduct its affairs in such a manner so as to reasonably ensure that neither it nor any of its Subsidiaries will be or become, at any time prior to the termination of this Agreement, required to register as an "investment company," as such term is defined in the Investment Company Act.
- (q) No Offer to Sell. Other than an Issuer Free Writing Prospectus approved in advance by the Company and the Agent in its capacity as agent hereunder, neither the Agent nor the Company (including its agents and representatives, other than the Agent in its capacity as such) will make, use, prepare, authorize, approve or refer to any written communication (as defined in Rule 405 under the Securities Act), required to be filed with the Commission, that constitutes an offer to sell or solicitation of an offer to buy Placement Shares hereunder.
- (r) <u>Blue Sky and Other Qualifications</u>. The Company will use its commercially reasonable efforts, in cooperation with the Agent, to qualify the Placement Shares for offering and sale, or to obtain an exemption for the Placement Shares to be offered and sold, under the applicable securities laws of such states and other jurisdictions (domestic or foreign) as the Agent may designate and to maintain such qualifications and exemptions in effect for so long as required for the distribution of the Placement Shares (but in no event for less than one year from the date of this Agreement); provided, however, that the Company shall not be obligated to file any general consent to service of process or to qualify as a foreign corporation or as a dealer in securities in any jurisdiction in which it is not otherwise so subject. In each jurisdiction in which the Placement Shares have been so qualified or exempt, the Company will file such statements and reports as may be required by the laws of such jurisdiction to continue such qualification or exemption, as the case may be, in effect for so long as required for the distribution of the Placement Shares (but in no event for less than one year from the date of this Agreement).
- Sarbanes-Oxley Act. The Company and the Subsidiaries will maintain and keep accurate books and records reflecting their assets and maintain internal accounting controls in a manner designed to provide reasonable assurance regarding the reliability of financial reporting and the preparation of financial statements for external purposes in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles and including those policies and procedures that (i) pertain to the maintenance of records that in reasonable detail accurately and fairly reflect the transactions and dispositions of the assets of the Company, (ii) provide reasonable assurance that transactions are recorded as necessary to permit the preparation of the Company's consolidated financial statements in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles, (iii) that receipts and expenditures of the Company are being made only in accordance with management's and the Company's directors' authorization, and (iv) provide reasonable assurance regarding prevention or timely detection of unauthorized acquisition, use or disposition of the Company's assets that could have a material effect on its financial statements. The Company and the Subsidiaries will maintain such controls and other procedures, including, without limitation, those required by Sections 302 and 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act, and the applicable regulations thereunder that are designed to ensure that information required to be disclosed by the Company in the reports that it files or submits under the Exchange Act is recorded, processed, summarized and reported, within the time periods specified in the Commission's rules and forms, including, without limitation, controls and procedures designed to ensure that information required to be disclosed by the Company in the reports that it files or submits under the Exchange Act is accumulated and communicated to the Company's management, including its principal executive officer and principal financial officer, or persons performing similar functions, as appropriate to allow timely decisions regarding required disclosure and to ensure that material information relating to the Company or the Subsidiaries is made known to them by others within those entities, particularly during the period in which such periodic reports are being prepared.

- (t) <u>Certificate; Further Documentation.</u> Prior to the date of the first Placement Notice, the Company shall deliver to the Agent a certificate of a member of the Company's board of directors, dated as of such date, certifying as to (i) the articles of association of the Company, (ii) the resolutions of the board of directors and the supervisory board of the Company authorizing the execution, delivery and performance of this Agreement and the issuance of the Placement Shares and (iii) the incumbency of the representatives of the Company duly authorized to execute this Agreement and the other documents contemplated by this Agreement. Within five (5) Trading Days of each Representation Date, the Company shall have furnished to the Agent such further information, certificates and documents as the Agent may reasonably request.
  - (u) Intentionally omitted.
- 8. Payment of Expenses. The Company will pay all expenses incident to the performance of its obligations under this Agreement, including (i) the preparation and filing of the Registration Statement, including any fees required by the Commission, and the printing or electronic delivery of the Prospectus as originally filed and of each amendment and supplement thereto, in such number as the Agent shall deem necessary, (ii) the printing and delivery to the Agent of this Agreement and such other documents as may be required in connection with the offering, purchase, sale, issuance or delivery of the Placement Shares, (iii) the preparation, issuance and delivery of the certificates, if any, for the Placement Shares to the Agent, including any stock or other transfer taxes and any capital duties, stamp duties or other similar duties or taxes payable upon the sale, issuance or delivery of the Placement Shares to the Agent, (iv) the fees and disbursements of the counsel, accountants and other advisors to the Company, (v) the fees and expenses of Agent including but not limited to the fees and expenses of the counsel to the Agent, payable upon the execution of this Agreement, in an amount not to exceed \$50,000, (vi) the qualification or exemption of the Placement Shares under state securities laws in accordance with the provisions of Section 7(r) hereof, including filing fees, but excluding fees of the Agent's counsel, (vii) the printing and delivery to the Agent of copies of any Permitted Issuer Free Writing Prospectus and the Prospectus and any amendments or supplements thereto in such number as the Agent shall deem necessary, (viii) the preparation, printing and delivery to the Agent of copies of the blue sky survey, (ix) the fees and expenses of the transfer agent and registrar for the Ordinary Shares, (x) the filing and other fees incident to any review by FINRA of the terms of the sale of the Placement Shares including the fees of the Agent's counsel (subject to the cap, set forth in clause (v) above), and (xi) th

- 9. <u>Conditions to Agent's Obligations</u>. The obligations of the Agent hereunder with respect to a Placement will be subject to the continuing accuracy and completeness of the representations and warranties made by the Company herein, to the due performance by the Company of its obligations hereunder, to the completion by the Agent of a due diligence review satisfactory to it in its reasonable judgment, and to the continuing satisfaction (or waiver by the Agent in its sole discretion) of the following additional conditions:
- (a) <u>Registration Statement Effective</u>. The Registration Statement shall have become effective and shall be available for the (i) resale of all Placement Shares issued to the Agent and not yet sold by the Agent and (ii) sale of all Placement Shares contemplated to be issued by any Placement Notice.
- (b) No Material Notices. None of the following events shall have occurred and be continuing: (i) receipt by the Company of any request for additional information from the Commission or any other federal or state Governmental Entity during the period of effectiveness of the Registration Statement, the response to which would require any post-effective amendments or supplements to the Registration Statement or the Prospectus; (ii) the issuance by the Commission or any other federal or state Governmental Entity of any stop order suspending the effectiveness of the Registration Statement or the initiation of any proceedings for that purpose; (iii) receipt by the Company of any notification with respect to the suspension of the qualification or exemption from qualification of any of the Placement Shares for sale in any jurisdiction or the initiation or threatening of any proceeding for such purpose; or (iv) the occurrence of any event that makes any statement of a material fact made in the Registration Statement or the Prospectus or any document incorporated or deemed to be incorporated therein by reference untrue or that requires the making of any changes in the Registration Statement, the Prospectus or documents so that, in the case of the Registration Statement, it will not contain an untrue statement of a material fact or omit to state any material fact required to be stated therein or necessary to make the statements therein not misleading and, that in the case of the Prospectus, it will not contain an untrue statement of a material fact required to be stated therein or necessary to make the statements therein, in the light of the circumstances under which they were made, not misleading.
- (c) <u>No Misstatement or Material Omission</u>. The Agent shall not have advised the Company that the Registration Statement or Prospectus, or any amendment or supplement thereto, contains an untrue statement of fact that in the Agent's reasonable opinion is material, or omits to state a fact that in the Agent's reasonable opinion is material and is required to be stated therein or is necessary to make the statements therein not misleading.
- (d) <u>Material Changes</u>. Except as contemplated in the Prospectus, or disclosed in the Company's reports filed with the Commission, there shall not have been any material adverse change in the authorized capital stock of the Company or any Material Adverse Effect or any development that could cause a Material Adverse Effect, or a downgrading in or withdrawal of the rating assigned to any of the Company's securities (other than asset backed securities) by any rating organization or a public announcement by any rating organization that it has under surveillance or review its rating of any of the Company's securities (other than asset backed securities), the effect of which, in the case of any such action by a rating organization described above, in the reasonable judgment of the Agent (without relieving the Company of any obligation or liability it may otherwise have), is so material as to make it impracticable or inadvisable to proceed with the offering of the Placement Shares on the terms and in the manner contemplated in the Prospectus.

(e)	Legal Opinions. The Agent shall have received the opinions of Company Counsel required to be delivered pursuant to
Section $7(m)$ on or before the da	te on which such delivery of such opinion is required pursuant to <u>Section 7(m)</u> .

- (f) <u>Comfort Letter</u>. The Agent shall have received the Comfort Letter required to be delivered pursuant to <u>Section 7(n)</u> on or before the date on which such delivery of such Comfort Letter is required pursuant to <u>Section 7(n)</u>.
- (g) Representation Certificate. The Agent shall have received the certificate required to be delivered pursuant to Section 7(l) on or before the date on which delivery of such certificate is required pursuant to Section 7(l).
- (h) <u>No Suspension</u>. Trading in the Ordinary Shares shall not have been suspended on the Exchange and the Ordinary Shares shall not have been delisted from the Exchange.
- (i) Other Materials. On each date on which the Company is required to deliver a certificate pursuant to Section 7(l), the Company shall have furnished to the Agent such appropriate further information, opinions, certificates, letters and other documents as the Agent may reasonably request. All such opinions, certificates, letters and other documents will be in compliance with the provisions hereof.
- (j) <u>Securities Act Filings Made</u>. All filings with the Commission required by Rule 424 under the Securities Act to have been filed prior to the issuance of any Placement Notice hereunder shall have been made within the applicable time period prescribed for such filing by Rule 424.
- (k) <u>Approval for Listing</u>. The Placement Shares shall either have been (i) approved for listing on the Exchange, subject only to notice of issuance, or (ii) the Company shall have filed an application for listing of the Placement Shares on the Exchange at, or prior to, the issuance of any Placement Notice and the Exchange shall have reviewed such application and not provided any objections thereto.
- (l) <u>FINRA</u>. If applicable, FINRA shall have raised no objection to the terms of this offering and the amount of compensation allowable or payable to the Agent as described in the Prospectus.

(m) No Termination Event. There shall not have occurred any event that would permit the Agent to terminate this Agreement pursuant to Section 12(a).

# 10. <u>Indemnification and Contribution.</u>

- (a) <u>Company Indemnification</u>. The Company agrees to indemnify and hold harmless the Agent, its partners, members, directors, officers, employees and agents and each person, if any, who controls the Agent within the meaning of Section 15 of the Securities Act or Section 20 of the Exchange Act as follows:
- (i) against any and all loss, liability, claim, damage and expense whatsoever, as incurred, arising out of or based upon any untrue statement or alleged untrue statement of a material fact contained in the Registration Statement (or any amendment thereto), or the omission or alleged omission therefrom of a material fact required to be stated therein or necessary to make the statements therein not misleading, or arising out of any untrue statement or alleged untrue statement of a material fact included in any related Issuer Free Writing Prospectus or the Prospectus (or any amendment or supplement thereto), or the omission or alleged omission therefrom of a material fact necessary in order to make the statements therein, in the light of the circumstances under which they were made, not misleading;
- (ii) against any and all loss, liability, claim, damage and expense whatsoever, as incurred, to the extent of the aggregate amount paid in settlement of any litigation, or any investigation or proceeding by any governmental agency or body, commenced or threatened, or of any claim whatsoever based upon any such untrue statement or omission, or any such alleged untrue statement or omission; provided that (subject to Section  $10(\underline{d})$  below) any such settlement is effected with the written consent of the Company, which consent shall not unreasonably be delayed or withheld; and
- (iii) against any and all expense whatsoever, as incurred (including the fees and disbursements of counsel), reasonably incurred in investigating, preparing or defending against any litigation, or any investigation or proceeding by any governmental agency or body, commenced or threatened, or any claim whatsoever based upon any such untrue statement or omission, or any such alleged untrue statement or omission, to the extent that any such expense is not paid under (i) or (ii) above,

provided, however, that this indemnity agreement shall not apply to any loss, liability, claim, damage or expense to the extent arising out of any untrue statement or omission or alleged untrue statement or omission made solely in reliance upon and in conformity with written information furnished to the Company by the Agent expressly for use in the Registration Statement (or any amendment thereto), or in any related Issuer Free Writing Prospectus or the Prospectus (or any amendment or supplement thereto).

(b) Agent Indemnification. The Agent agrees to indemnify and hold harmless the Company and its directors and each officer of the Company who signed the Registration Statement, and each person, if any, who controls the Company within the meaning of Section 15 of the Securities Act or Section 20 of the Exchange Act against any and all loss, liability, claim, damage and expense described in the indemnity contained in Section 10(a), as incurred, but only with respect to untrue statements or omissions, or alleged untrue statements or omissions, made in the Registration Statement (or any amendments thereto) or the Prospectus (or any amendment or supplement thereto) in reliance upon and in conformity with information relating to the Agent and furnished to the Company in writing by the Agent expressly for use therein. The Company hereby acknowledges that the only information that the Agent has furnished to the Company expressly for use in the Registration Statement, the Prospectus or any Issuer Free Writing Prospectus (or any amendment or supplement thereto) are the statements set forth in the last sentence of the first paragraph under "Plan of Distribution" and the name and contact information of the Agent in the Prospectus.

Procedure. Any party that proposes to assert the right to be indemnified under this Section 10 will, promptly after receipt of (c) notice of commencement of any action against such party in respect of which a claim is to be made against an indemnifying party or parties under this Section 10, notify each such indemnifying party of the commencement of such action, enclosing a copy of all papers served, but the omission so to notify such indemnifying party will not relieve the indemnifying party from (i) any liability that it might have to any indemnified party otherwise than under this Section 10 and (ii) any liability that it may have to any indemnified party under the foregoing provision of this Section 10 unless, and only to the extent that, such omission results in the forfeiture of substantive rights or defenses by the indemnifying party. If any such action is brought against any indemnified party and it notifies the indemnifying party of its commencement, the indemnifying party will be entitled to participate in and, to the extent that it elects by delivering written notice to the indemnified party promptly after receiving notice of the commencement of the action from the indemnified party, jointly with any other indemnifying party similarly notified, to assume the defense of the action, with counsel reasonably satisfactory to the indemnified party, and after notice from the indemnifying party to the indemnified party of its election to assume the defense, the indemnifying party will not be liable to the indemnified party for any other legal expenses except as provided below and except for the reasonable costs of investigation subsequently incurred by the indemnified party in connection with the defense. The indemnified party will have the right to employ its own counsel in any such action, but the fees, expenses and other charges of such counsel will be at the expense of such indemnified party unless (1) the employment of counsel by the indemnified party has been authorized in writing by the indemnifying party, (2) the indemnified party has reasonably concluded (based on advice of counsel) that there may be legal defenses available to it or other indemnified parties that are different from or in addition to those available to the indemnifying party, (3) a conflict or potential conflict exists (based on advice of counsel to the indemnified party) between the indemnified party and the indemnifying party (in which case the indemnifying party will not have the right to direct the defense of such action on behalf of the indemnified party) or (4) the indemnifying party has not in fact employed counsel to assume the defense of such action within a reasonable time after receiving notice of the commencement of the action, in each of which cases the reasonable fees, disbursements and other charges of counsel will be at the expense of the indemnifying party or parties. It is understood that the indemnifying party or parties shall not, in connection with any proceeding or related proceedings in the same jurisdiction, be liable for the reasonable fees, disbursements and other charges of more than one separate firm admitted to practice in such jurisdiction at any one time for all such indemnified party or parties. All such fees, disbursements and other charges will be reimbursed by the indemnifying party promptly as they are incurred. An indemnifying party will not, in any event, be liable for any settlement of any action or claim effected without its written consent. No indemnifying party shall, without the prior written consent of each indemnified party, settle or compromise or consent to the entry of any judgment in any pending or threatened claim, action or proceeding relating to the matters contemplated by this Section 10 (whether or not any indemnified party is a party thereto), unless such settlement, compromise or consent (1) includes an unconditional release of each indemnified party from all liability arising out of such litigation, investigation, proceeding or claim and (2) does not include a statement as to or an admission of fault, culpability or a failure to act by or on behalf of any indemnified party.

- (d) Settlement Without Consent if Failure to Reimburse. If an indemnified party shall have requested an indemnifying party to reimburse the indemnified party for reasonable fees and expenses of counsel, such indemnifying party agrees that it shall be liable for any settlement of the nature contemplated by Section 10(a)(ii) effected without its written consent if (1) such settlement is entered into more than 45 days after receipt by such indemnifying party of the aforesaid request, (2) such indemnifying party shall have received notice of the terms of such settlement at least 30 days prior to such settlement being entered into and (3) such indemnifying party shall not have reimbursed such indemnified party in accordance with such request prior to the date of such settlement.
- Contribution. In order to provide for just and equitable contribution in circumstances in which the indemnification provided for in the foregoing paragraphs of this Section 10 is applicable in accordance with its terms but for any reason is held to be unavailable or insufficient from the Company or the Agent, the Company and the Agent will contribute to the total losses, claims, liabilities, expenses and damages (including any investigative, legal and other expenses reasonably incurred in connection with, and any amount paid in settlement of, any action, suit or proceeding or any claim asserted) to which the Company and the Agent may be subject in such proportion as shall be appropriate to reflect the relative benefits received by the Company on the one hand and the Agent on the other hand. The relative benefits received by the Company on the one hand and the Agent on the other hand shall be deemed to be in the same proportion as the total net proceeds from the sale of the Placement Shares (before deducting expenses) received by the Company bear to the total compensation received by the Agent from the sale of Placement Shares on behalf of the Company. If, but only if, the allocation provided by the foregoing sentence is not permitted by applicable law, the allocation of contribution shall be made in such proportion as is appropriate to reflect not only the relative benefits referred to in the foregoing sentence but also the relative fault of the Company, on the one hand, and the Agent, on the other hand, with respect to the statements or omission that resulted in such loss, claim, liability, expense or damage, or action in respect thereof, as well as any other relevant equitable considerations with respect to such offering. Such relative fault shall be determined by reference to, among other things, whether the untrue or alleged untrue statement of a material fact or omission or alleged omission to state a material fact relates to information supplied by the Company or the Agent, the intent of the parties and their relative knowledge, access to information and opportunity to correct or prevent such statement or omission. The Company and the Agent agree that it would not be just and equitable if contributions pursuant to this Section 10(e) were to be determined by pro rata allocation or by any other method of allocation that does not take into account the equitable considerations referred to herein. The amount paid or payable by an indemnified party as a result of the loss, claim, liability, expense, or damage, or action in respect thereof, referred to above in this Section 10(e) shall be deemed to include, for the purpose of this Section 10(e), any legal or other expenses reasonably incurred by such indemnified party in connection with investigating or defending any such action or claim to the extent consistent with Section 10(c) hereof. Notwithstanding the foregoing provisions of this Section 10(e), the Agent shall be not required to contribute any amount in excess of the commissions received by it under this Agreement and no person found guilty of fraudulent misrepresentation (within the meaning of Section 11(f) of the Securities Act) will be entitled to contribution from any person who was not guilty of such fraudulent misrepresentation. For purposes of this Section 10(e), any person who controls a party to this Agreement within the meaning of the Securities Act, and any officers, directors, partners, employees or agents of the Agent, will have the same rights to contribution as that party, and each director of the Company and each officer of the Company who signed the Registration Statement will have the same rights to contribution as the Company, subject in each case to the provisions hereof. Any party entitled to contribution, promptly after receipt of notice of commencement of any action against such party in respect of which a claim for contribution may be made under this Section 10(e), will notify any such party or parties from whom contribution may be sought, but the omission to so notify will not relieve that party or parties from whom contribution may be sought from any other obligation it or they may have under this Section 10(e) except to the extent that the failure to so notify such other party materially prejudiced the substantive rights or defenses of the party from whom contribution is sought. Except for a settlement entered into pursuant to the last sentence of Section 10(c) hereof, no party will be liable for contribution with respect to any action or claim settled without its written consent if such consent is required pursuant to <u>Section 10(c)</u> hereof.

11. Representations and Agreements to Survive Delivery. The indemnity and contribution agreements contained in Section 10 of this Agreement and all representations and warranties of the Company herein or in certificates delivered pursuant hereto shall survive, as of their respective dates, regardless of (i) any investigation made by or on behalf of any Agent, any controlling persons, or the Company (or any of their respective officers, directors, employees or controlling persons), (ii) delivery and acceptance of the Placement Shares and payment therefor or (iii) any termination of this Agreement.

## 12. <u>Termination</u>.

The Agent may terminate this Agreement, by notice to the Company, as hereinafter specified at any time (1) if there has been, since the time of execution of this Agreement or since the date as of which information is given in the Prospectus, any change, or any development or event involving a prospective change, in the condition, financial or otherwise, or in the business, properties, earnings, results of operations or prospects of the Company and its Subsidiaries considered as one enterprise, whether or not arising in the ordinary course of business, which individually or in the aggregate, in the sole judgment of the Agent is material and adverse and makes it impractical or inadvisable to market the Placement Shares or to enforce contracts for the sale of the Placement Shares, (2) if there has occurred any material adverse change in the financial markets in the United States or the international financial markets, any outbreak of hostilities or escalation thereof or other calamity or crisis or any change or development involving a prospective change in national or international political, financial or economic conditions, in each case the effect of which is such as to make it, in the judgment of the Agent, impracticable or inadvisable to market the Placement Shares or to enforce contracts for the sale of the Placement Shares, (3) if trading in the Ordinary Shares has been suspended or limited by the Commission or the Exchange, or if trading generally on the Exchange has been suspended or limited, or minimum prices for trading have been fixed on the Exchange, (4) if any suspension of trading of any securities of the Company on any exchange or in the over-the-counter market shall have occurred and be continuing, (5) if a major disruption of securities settlements or clearance services in the United States shall have occurred and be continuing, or (6) if a banking moratorium has been declared by either U.S. Federal or New York authorities. Any such termination shall be without liability of any party to any other party except that the provisions of Section 8 (Payment of Expenses), Section 10 (Indemnification and Contribution), Section 11 (Representations and Agreements to Survive Delivery), Section 17 (Governing Law and Time; Waiver of Jury Trial), Section 18 (Consent to Jurisdiction), Section 19 (Recognition of the U.S. Special Resolution Regimes), Section 20 (Appointment of Agent for Service) and Section 21 (Judgment Currency) hereof shall remain in full force and effect notwithstanding such termination. If the Agent elects to terminate this Agreement as provided in this Section 12(a), the Agent shall provide the required notice as specified in Section 13 (Notices).

- (b) The Company shall have the right, by giving ten (10) days' notice as hereinafter specified to terminate this Agreement in its sole discretion at any time after the date of this Agreement. Any such termination shall be without liability of any party to any other party except that the provisions of Section 8, Section 10, Section 11, Section 18, Section 19, Section 20 and Section 21 hereof shall remain in full force and effect notwithstanding such termination.
- (c) The Agent shall have the right, by giving ten (10) days' notice as hereinafter specified to terminate this Agreement in its sole discretion at any time after the date of this Agreement. Any such termination shall be without liability of any party to any other party except that the provisions of Section 8, Section 10, Section 11, Section 18, Section 19, Section 20 and Section 21 hereof shall remain in full force and effect notwithstanding such termination.
- (d) This Agreement shall remain in full force and effect unless terminated pursuant to <u>Sections 12(a)</u>, (<u>b</u>), or (<u>c</u>) above or otherwise by mutual agreement of the parties; *provided*, *however*, that any such termination by mutual agreement shall in all cases be deemed to provide that <u>Section 8</u>, <u>Section 10</u>, <u>Section 11</u>, <u>Section 18</u>, <u>Section 19</u>, <u>Section 20</u> and <u>Section 21</u> shall remain in full force and effect.
- (e) Any termination of this Agreement shall be effective on the date specified in such notice of termination; *provided*, *however*, that such termination shall not be effective until the close of business on the date of receipt of such notice by the Agent or the Company, as the case may be. If such termination shall occur prior to the Settlement Date for any sale of Placement Shares, such Placement Shares shall settle in accordance with the provisions of this Agreement.
- 13. <u>Notices</u>. All notices or other communications required or permitted to be given by any party to any other party pursuant to the terms of this Agreement shall be in writing, unless otherwise specified, and if sent to the Agent, shall be delivered to:

Cantor Fitzgerald & Co. 499 Park Avenue
New York, NY 10022

Attention: Capital Markets Facsimile: (212) 307-3730

with a copy to:

Cantor Fitzgerald & Co. 499 Park Avenue New York, NY 10022 Attention: General Counsel

Facsimile: (212) 829-4708

and with a copy to (such copy not to constitute notice):

Cooley LLP 55 Hudson Yards New York, NY 10001-2157 Attention: Daniel I. Goldberg, Esq. Email: dgoldberg@cooley.com

and if to the Company, shall be delivered to:

ProQR Therapeutics N.V. Zernikedreef 9 2333 CK Leiden The Netherlands Attention: Daniel de Boer Email: DdeBoer@proqr.com

with a copy to (such copy not to constitute notice):

Goodwin Procter LLP 100 Northern Avenue Boston, MA 02210

Attention: Mitchell S. Bloom, Esq. and Danielle M. Lauzon, Esq. Email: mbloom@goodwinlaw.com; dlauzon@goodwinlaw.com

Each party to this Agreement may change such address for notices by sending to the parties to this Agreement written notice of a new address for such purpose. Each such notice or other communication shall be deemed given (i) when delivered personally or by verifiable facsimile transmission (with an original to follow) on or before 4:30 p.m., New York City time, on a Business Day or, if such day is not a Business Day, on the next succeeding Business Day, (ii) on the next Business Day after timely delivery to a nationally-recognized overnight courier and (iii) on the Business Day actually received if deposited in the U.S. mail (certified or registered mail, return receipt requested, postage prepaid). For purposes of this Agreement, "Business Day." shall mean any day on which the Exchange and commercial banks in the City of New York are open for business.

An electronic communication ("<u>Electronic Notice</u>") shall be deemed written notice for purposes of this Section 13 if sent to the electronic mail address specified by the receiving party under separate cover or as specified above by Company. Electronic Notice shall be deemed received at the time the party sending Electronic Notice receives verification of receipt by the receiving party. Any party receiving Electronic Notice may request and shall be entitled to receive the notice on paper, in a nonelectronic form ("<u>Nonelectronic Notice</u>") which shall be sent to the requesting party within ten (10) days of receipt of the written request for Nonelectronic Notice.

- 14. <u>Successors and Assigns</u>. This Agreement shall inure to the benefit of and be binding upon the Company and the Agent and their respective successors and the parties referred to in Section 10 hereof. References to any of the parties contained in this Agreement shall be deemed to include the successors and permitted assigns of such party. Nothing in this Agreement, express or implied, is intended to confer upon any party other than the parties hereto or their respective successors and permitted assigns any rights, remedies, obligations or liabilities under or by reason of this Agreement, except as expressly provided in this Agreement. Neither party may assign its rights or obligations under this Agreement without the prior written consent of the other party; *provided*, *however*, that the Agent may assign its rights and obligations hereunder to an affiliate thereof who is a registered broker dealer without obtaining the Company's consent.
- 15. <u>Adjustments for Stock Splits</u>. The parties acknowledge and agree that all share-related numbers contained in this Agreement shall be adjusted to take into account any stock split, stock dividend or similar event effected with respect to the Placement Shares.
- 16. Entire Agreement; Amendment; Severability. This Agreement (including all schedules and exhibits attached hereto and Placement Notices issued pursuant hereto) constitutes the entire agreement and supersedes all other prior and contemporaneous agreements and undertakings, both written and oral, among the parties hereto with regard to the subject matter hereof. Neither this Agreement nor any term hereof may be amended except pursuant to a written instrument executed by the Company and the Agent. In the event that any one or more of the provisions contained herein, or the application thereof in any circumstance, is held invalid, illegal or unenforceable as written by a court of competent jurisdiction, then such provision shall be given full force and effect to the fullest possible extent that it is valid, legal and enforceable, and the remainder of the terms and provisions herein shall be construed as if such invalid, illegal or unenforceable term or provision was not contained herein, but only to the extent that giving effect to such provision and the remainder of the terms and provisions hereof shall be in accordance with the intent of the parties as reflected in this Agreement. No implied waiver by a party shall arise in the absence of a waiver in writing signed by such party. No failure or delay in exercising any right, power, or privilege hereunder shall operate as a waiver thereof, nor shall any single or partial exercise thereof preclude any other or further exercise thereof or the exercise of any right, power, or privilege hereunder.
- 17. GOVERNING LAW AND TIME; WAIVER OF JURY TRIAL. THIS AGREEMENT SHALL BE GOVERNED BY AND CONSTRUED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE LAWS OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK WITHOUT REGARD TO THE PRINCIPLES OF CONFLICTS OF LAWS. SPECIFIED TIMES OF DAY REFER TO NEW YORK CITY TIME. EACH PARTY HEREBY IRREVOCABLY WAIVES, TO THE FULLEST EXTENT PERMITTED BY APPLICABLE LAW, ANY AND ALL RIGHT TO TRIAL BY JURY IN ANY LEGAL PROCEEDING ARISING OUT OF OR RELATING TO THIS AGREEMENT OR THE TRANSACTIONS CONTEMPLATED HEREBY.

CONSENT TO JURISDICTION. EACH PARTY HEREBY IRREVOCABLY SUBMITS TO THE NON-EXCLUSIVE 18. JURISDICTION OF THE STATE AND FEDERAL COURTS SITTING IN THE CITY OF NEW YORK, BOROUGH OF MANHATTAN, FOR THE ADJUDICATION OF ANY DISPUTE HEREUNDER OR IN CONNECTION WITH ANY TRANSACTION CONTEMPLATED HEREBY, AND HEREBY IRREVOCABLY WAIVES, AND AGREES NOT TO ASSERT IN ANY SUIT, ACTION OR PROCEEDING, ANY CLAIM THAT IT IS NOT PERSONALLY SUBJECT TO THE JURISDICTION OF ANY SUCH COURT, THAT SUCH SUIT, ACTION OR PROCEEDING IS BROUGHT IN AN INCONVENIENT FORUM OR THAT THE VENUE OF SUCH SUIT, ACTION OR PROCEEDING IS IMPROPER. EACH PARTY HEREBY IRREVOCABLY WAIVES PERSONAL SERVICE OF PROCESS AND CONSENTS TO PROCESS BEING SERVED IN ANY SUCH SUIT, ACTION OR PROCEEDING BY MAILING A COPY THEREOF (CERTIFIED OR REGISTERED MAIL, RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED) TO SUCH PARTY AT THE ADDRESS IN EFFECT FOR NOTICES TO IT UNDER THIS AGREEMENT AND AGREES THAT SUCH SERVICE SHALL CONSTITUTE GOOD AND SUFFICIENT SERVICE OF PROCESS AND NOTICE THEREOF. NOTHING CONTAINED HEREIN SHALL BE DEEMED TO LIMIT IN ANY WAY ANY RIGHT TO SERVE PROCESS IN ANY MANNER PERMITTED BY LAW. NOTHING CONTAINED HEREIN SHALL BE DEEMED TO LIMIT IN ANY WAY ANY RIGHT TO SERVE PROCESS IN ANY MANNER PERMITTED BY LAW. TO THE EXTENT THAT THE COMPANY HAS OR HEREAFTER MAY ACQUIRE ANY IMMUNITY (ON THE GROUNDS OF SOVEREIGNTY OR OTHERWISE) FROM THE JURISDICTION OF ANY COURT OR FROM ANY LEGAL PROCESS WITH RESPECT TO ITSELF OR ITS PROPERTY, THE COMPANY IRREVOCABLY WAIVES, TO THE FULLEST EXTENT PERMITTED BY LAW, SUCH IMMUNITY IN RESPECT OF ANY SUCH SUIT, ACTION OR PROCEEDING.

## 19. Recognition of the U.S. Special Resolution Regimes.

- (a) In the event that any Agent that is a Covered Entity becomes subject to a proceeding under a U.S. Special Resolution Regime, the transfer from the Agent of this Agreement, and any interest and obligation in or under this Agreement, will be effective to the same extent as the transfer would be effective under the U.S. Special Resolution Regime if this Agreement, and any such interest and obligation, were governed by the laws of the United States or a state of the United States.
- (b) In the event that any Agent that is a Covered Entity or a BHC Act Affiliate of such Underwriter becomes subject to a proceeding under a U.S. Special Resolution Regime, Default Rights under this Agreement that may be exercised against such Underwriter are permitted to be exercised to no greater extent than such Default Rights could be exercised under the U.S. Special Resolution Regime if this Agreement were governed by the laws of the United States or a state of the United States.

As used in this Section 19, "BHC Act Affiliate" has the meaning assigned to the term "affiliate" in, and shall be interpreted in accordance with, 12 U.S.C. § 1841(k); "Covered Entity" means any of the following: (i) a "covered entity" as that term is defined in, and interpreted in accordance with, 12 C.F.R. § 252.82(b), (ii) a "covered bank" as that term is defined in, and interpreted in accordance with, 12 C.F.R. § 382.2(b); "Default Right" has the meaning assigned to that term in, and shall be interpreted in accordance with, 12 C.F.R. §§ 252.81, 47.2 or 382.1, as applicable; and "U.S. Special Resolution Regime" means each of (i) the Federal Deposit Insurance Act and the regulations promulgated thereunder and (ii) Title II of the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act and the regulations promulgated thereunder.

- Appointment of Agent for Service. The Company hereby irrevocably appoints Smital Shah, with offices at 245 Main Street, Cambridge, MA 02142 as its agent for service of process in any suit, action or proceeding described in Section 18 and agrees that service of process in any such suit, action or proceeding may be made upon it at the office of such agent. The Company waives, to the fullest extent permitted by law, any other requirements of or objections to personal jurisdiction with respect thereto. The Company represents and warrants that such agent has agreed to act as the Company's agent for service of process, and the Company agrees to take any and all action, including the filing of any and all documents and instruments, that may be necessary to continue such appointment in full force and effect.
- 21. <u>Judgment Currency</u>. If for the purposes of obtaining judgment in any court it is necessary to convert a sum due hereunder into any currency other than United States dollars, the parties hereto agree, to the fullest extent permitted by law, that the rate of exchange used shall be the rate at which in accordance with normal banking procedures the Agent could purchase United States dollars with such other currency in The City of New York on the Business Day preceding that on which final judgment is given. The obligation of the Company with respect to any sum due from it to the Agent or any person controlling the Agent shall, notwithstanding any judgment in a currency other than United States dollars, not be discharged until the first Business Day following receipt by the Agent or any person controlling the Agent of any sum in such other currency, and only to the extent that the Agent or controlling person may in accordance with normal banking procedures purchase United States dollars with such other currency. If the United States dollars so purchased are less than the sum originally due to the Agent or controlling person hereunder, the Company agrees as a separate obligation and notwithstanding any such judgment, to indemnify the Agent or controlling person against such loss. If the United States dollars so purchased are greater than the sum originally due to the Agent or controlling person agrees to pay to the Company an amount equal to the excess of the dollars so purchased over the sum originally due to the Agent or controlling person hereunder.
- 22. <u>Counterparts</u>. This Agreement may be executed in two or more counterparts, each of which shall be deemed an original, but all of which together shall constitute one and the same instrument. Delivery of an executed Agreement by one party to the other may be made by facsimile or by electronic delivery of a portable document format (PDF) file (including any electronic signature covered by the U.S. federal ESIGN Act of 2000, Uniform Electronic Transactions Act, the Electronic Signatures and Records Act or other applicable law, e.g., www.docusign.com).
- 23. <u>Construction</u>. The section and exhibit headings herein are for convenience only and shall not affect the construction hereof. References herein to any law, statute, ordinance, code, regulation, rule or other requirement of any Governmental Entity shall be deemed to refer to such law, statute, ordinance, code, regulation, rule or other requirement of any Governmental Entity as amended, reenacted, supplemented or superseded in whole or in part and in effect from time to time and also to all rules and regulations promulgated thereunder.

24. <u>Permitted Free Writing Prospectuses</u> . The Company represents, warrants and agrees that, unless it obtains the prior consent of the Agent
and the Agent represents, warrants and agrees that, unless it obtains the prior consent of the Company, it has not made and will not make any offer relating
to the Placement Shares that would constitute an Issuer Free Writing Prospectus, or that would otherwise constitute a "free writing prospectus," as defined
in Rule 405, required to be filed with the Commission. Any such free writing prospectus consented to by the Agent or by the Company, as the case may be
is hereinafter referred to as a "Permitted Free Writing Prospectus." The Company represents and warrants that it has treated and agrees that it will treat each
Permitted Free Writing Prospectus as an "issuer free writing prospectus," as defined in Rule 433, and has complied and will comply with the requirements
of Rule 433 applicable to any Permitted Free Writing Prospectus, including timely filing with the Commission where required, legending and record
keeping. For the purposes of clarity, the parties hereto agree that all free writing prospectuses, if any, listed in Exhibit 24 hereto are Permitted Free Writing
Prospectuses.

## 25. <u>Absence of Fiduciary Relationship</u>. The Company acknowledges and agrees that:

- (a) the Agent is acting solely as agent in connection with the public offering of the Placement Shares and in connection with each transaction contemplated by this Agreement and the process leading to such transactions, and no fiduciary or advisory relationship between the Company or any of its respective affiliates, stockholders (or other equity holders), creditors or employees or any other party, on the one hand, and the Agent, on the other hand, has been or will be created in respect of any of the transactions contemplated by this Agreement, irrespective of whether or not the Agent has advised or is advising the Company on other matters, and the Agent has no obligation to the Company with respect to the transactions contemplated by this Agreement except the obligations expressly set forth in this Agreement;
- (b) it is capable of evaluating and understanding, and understands and accepts, the terms, risks and conditions of the transactions contemplated by this Agreement;
- (c) neither the Agent nor its affiliates have provided any legal, accounting, regulatory or tax advice with respect to the transactions contemplated by this Agreement and it has consulted its own legal, accounting, regulatory and tax advisors to the extent it has deemed appropriate;
- (d) it is aware that the Agent and its affiliates are engaged in a broad range of transactions which may involve interests that differ from those of the Company and the Agent and its affiliates have no obligation to disclose such interests and transactions to the Company by virtue of any fiduciary, advisory or agency relationship or otherwise; and
- (e) it waives, to the fullest extent permitted by law, any claims it may have against the Agent or its affiliates for breach of fiduciary duty or alleged breach of fiduciary duty in connection with the sale of Placement Shares under this Agreement and agrees that the Agent and its affiliates shall not have any liability (whether direct or indirect, in contract, tort or otherwise) to it in respect of such a fiduciary duty claim or to any person asserting a fiduciary duty claim on its behalf or in right of it or the Company, employees or creditors of Company.

26. <u>Definitions</u>. As used in this Agreement, the following terms have the respective meanings set forth below:

"Applicable Time" means (i) each Representation Date, (ii) the time of each sale of any Placement Shares pursuant to this Agreement and (iii) each Settlement Date.

"Issuer Free Writing Prospectus" means any "issuer free writing prospectus," as defined in Rule 433, relating to the Placement Shares that (1) is required to be filed with the Commission by the Company, (2) is a "road show" that is a "written communication" within the meaning of Rule 433(d)(8)(i) whether or not required to be filed with the Commission, or (3) is exempt from filing pursuant to Rule 433(d)(5)(i) because it contains a description of the Placement Shares or of the offering that does not reflect the final terms, in each case in the form filed or required to be filed with the Commission or, if not required to be filed, in the form retained in the Company's records pursuant to Rule 433(g) under the Securities Act Regulations.

"Rule 164," "Rule 172," "Rule 405," "Rule 415," "Rule 424," "Rule 424(b)," "Rule 430B," and "Rule 433" refer to such rules under the Securities Act Regulations.

All references in this Agreement to financial statements and schedules and other information that is "contained," "included" or "stated" in the Registration Statement or the Prospectus (and all other references of like import) shall be deemed to mean and include all such financial statements and schedules and other information that is incorporated by reference in the Registration Statement or the Prospectus, as the case may be.

All references in this Agreement to the Registration Statement, the Prospectus or any amendment or supplement to any of the foregoing shall be deemed to include the copy filed with the Commission pursuant to EDGAR; all references in this Agreement to any Issuer Free Writing Prospectus (other than any Issuer Free Writing Prospectuses that, pursuant to Rule 433, are not required to be filed with the Commission) shall be deemed to include the copy thereof filed with the Commission pursuant to EDGAR; and all references in this Agreement to "supplements" to the Prospectus shall include, without limitation, any supplements, "wrappers" or similar materials prepared in connection with any offering, sale or private placement of any Placement Shares by the Agent outside of the United States.

[Signature Page Follows]

If the foregoing correctly sets forth the understanding between the Company and the Agent, please so indicate in the space provided below for that purpose, whereupon this letter shall constitute a binding agreement between the Company and the Agent.

Very truly yours,

# PROQR THERAPEUTICS N.V.

By: /s/ Daniel de Boer

Name: Daniel de Boer

Title: CEO

ACCEPTED as of the date first-above written:

Cantor Fitzgerald & Co.

By: /s/ Sage Kelly

Name: Sage Kelly

Title: Head of Investment Banking

## **SCHEDULE 1**

# **Form of Placement Notice**

From: ProQR Therapeutics N.V.

To: Cantor Fitzgerald & Co.

499 Park Avenue New York, NY 10022 Attention: Capital Markets

Subject: Placement Notice

Date: [●], 202[1]

Ladies and Gentlemen:

Pursuant to the terms and subject to the conditions contained in the Sales Agreement between ProQR Therapeutics N.V., a Dutch public company with limited liability (the "<u>Company</u>") and Cantor Fitzgerald & Co. (the "<u>Agent</u>"), dated November 4, 2021, the Company hereby requests that the Agent sell up to \$75.0 million of the Company's ordinary shares, nominal value €0.04 per share, at a minimum market price of \$[•] per share, during the time period beginning [month, day, time] and ending [month, day, time].

SCHEDULE 2
Compensation

The Company shall pay to the Agent in cash, upon each sale of Placement Shares pursuant to this Agreement, an amount equal to 3.0% of the aggregate gross proceeds from each sale of Placement Shares.

SCHEDULE 3	_
Notice Parties	

The Company

Smital Shah (sshah@proqr.com)

Daniel de Boer (DdeBoer@proqr.com)

Cantor Fitzgerald & Co.

Sameer Vasudev (svasudev@cantor.com)

With copies to: CFControlledEquityOffering@cantor.com

# SCHEDULE 4 Subsidiaries

ProQR Therapeutics Holding B.V. (the Netherlands)

ProQR Therapeutics I B.V. (the Netherlands)

ProQR Therapeutics II B.V. (the Netherlands)

ProQR Therapeutics III B.V. (the Netherlands)

ProQR Therapeutics IV B.V. (the Netherlands)

ProQR Therapeutics V B.V. (the Netherlands)

ProQR Therapeutics VI B.V. (the Netherlands)

ProQR Therapeutics VII B.V. (the Netherlands)

ProQR Therapeutics VIII B.V. (the Netherlands)

ProQR Therapeutics IX B.V. (the Netherlands)

Amylon Therapeutics B.V. (the Netherlands)

ProQR Therapeutics I Inc. (Delaware, United States)

# Exhibit 24

# **Permitted Free Writing Prospectus**

None.

Tο

ProQR Therapeutics N.V.

Zernikedreef 9 2333 CK Leiden The Netherlands Allen & Overy LLP

Apollolaan 15 1077 AB Amsterdam The Netherlands

PO Box 75440 1070 AK Amsterdam The Netherlands

Tel +31 20 674 1000 Fax +31 20 674 1111

Amsterdam, 4 November 2021 Subject **5.1 Dutch legal opinion** 

Our ref 0117407-0000001 EUO3: 2006205333.4

Dear Sirs, Madam,

1. We have acted as legal counsel to you, ProQR Therapeutics N.V., a public limited liability company (*naamloze vennootschap*) incorporated under the laws of the Netherlands, with its corporate seat in Leiden (the Netherlands) (the **Company**) on matters of Dutch law in connection with your filing of a registration statement on Form F-3 (the **Registration Statement**) with the U.S. Securities Exchange Commission (the **SEC**) in connection with the registration of the ordinary shares, nominal value of EUR 0.04 each, in the Company's share capital, to be issued after the date hereof, not exceeding the limitations referred to in the Registration Statement (the **Future Shares**).

This legal opinion is rendered to you in order to be filed as an exhibit to the Registration Statement.

- 2. We have examined and relied upon the following documents in rendering this legal opinion:
  - (a) a draft of the Registration Statement dated 4 November 2021;
  - (b) an electronic copy of the registration of the Company in the trade register of the Chamber of Commerce (**Trade Register**, *Handelsregister*) dated 4 November 2021, and confirmed to us by telephone by the Trade Register to be correct on 4 November 2021 (the **Excerpt**);
  - (c) a pdf copy of the written resolution of the Company's supervisory board (the **Supervisory Board**) dated 3 November 2021 (the **Supervisory Board Resolution**);
  - (d) a pdf copy of the written resolution of the Management Board dated 2 November 2021 (the Management Board Resolution);
  - (e) a pdf copy of the internal rules for the Management Board adopted by the Management Board on 23 September 2014 (the **Management Board Rules**);
  - (f) a pdf copy of the internal rules for the Supervisory Board adopted by the Supervisory Board on 23 September 2014 (the **Supervisory Board Rules**);

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Allen & Overy LLP or an affiliated undertaking has an office in each of: Abu Dhabi, Amsterdam, Antwerp, Athens, Bangkok, Beijing, Belfast, Bratislava, Brussels, Bucharest (associated office), Budapest, Casablanca, Doha, Dubai, Düsseldorf, Frankfurt, Hamburg, Hanoi, Ho Chi Minh City, Hong Kong, Istanbul, Jakarta (associated office), London, Luxembourg, Madrid, Mannheim, Milan, Moscow, Munich, New York, Paris, Perth, Prague, Riyadh (associated office), Rome, São Paulo, Shanghai, Singapore, Sydney, Tokyo, Warsaw and Washington, D.C. and Yangon.

- (g) a pdf copy of the recent articles of association (*statuten*) of the Company dated 10 June 2021 (the **Articles of Association**);
- (h) a pdf copy of the deed of incorporation (*akte van oprichting*) of the Company (the **Deed of Incorporation**), as executed by a civil-law notary on 21 February 2012;
- (i) a pdf copy of the deed of conversion and amendment to the articles of association of the Company, pursuant to which deed the Company converted from a B.V. to a N.V. (the **Deed of Conversion**); and
- (j) a copy of the Company's shareholders' register within the meaning of Article 2:85 of the Dutch Civil Code (the **Shareholders' Register**).

The documents (c) and (d) are collectively referred to as the **Resolutions**.

Unless explicitly stated in this legal opinion, we have not examined any other agreement, deed or document entered into by or affecting the Company or any other corporate records of the Company and have not made any other inquiry concerning it.

# 3. We assume:

- (a) the genuineness of all signatures on the documents referred to in paragraph 2 above;
- (b) the authenticity and completeness of all documents submitted to us as originals and the completeness and conformity to originals of all documents submitted to us as copies or by electronic means;
- (c) that the Registration Statement has been or shall be filed with the SEC, and shall become effective, in the form referred to in this legal opinion;
- (d) (i) that the Management Board Rules and the Supervisory Board Rules are the regulations as in force on the date hereof; and (ii) the Articles of Association of the Company are its articles of association (*statuten*) currently in force. Although not constituting conclusive evidence thereof, the Extract supports item (ii) of this assumption;
- (e) that at the time of issue of the Future Shares, the Company has not been dissolved (*ontbonden*), granted a moratorium (*surseance verleend*) or declared bankrupt (*failliet verklaard*) (although not constituting conclusive evidence thereof, this assumption is supported by (a) the contents of the Excerpt, (b) an online search in the central insolvency register on 4 November 2021 and (c) information obtained by telephone on 4 November 2021 from the insolvency office (*afdeling insolventie*) of the court in The Hague, the Netherlands);
- (f) that the Deed of Incorporation is a valid notarial deed (*authentieke akte*), the contents thereof complied with the statutory requirements at the date of incorporation and there were no defects in the incorporation of the Company (not appearing on the face of the Deed of Incorporation) on the basis of which a court might dissolve the Company or deem it never to have existed;
- (g) that the Deed of Conversion is a valid notarial deed (*authentieke akte*), the contents thereof complied with the statutory requirements at the date of conversion and there were no defects in the conversion of the Company from a B.V. into a N.V. (not appearing on the face of the Deed of Conversion) on the basis of which a court might nullify the conversion of the Company;

- (h) the Resolutions, including any power of attorney therein have not been and will not be annulled, modified, revoked or rescinded and are in full force and effect as at the date hereof and that the Resolutions have been made with due observance of the statutory requirements and the provisions of the Articles of Association relating to the convening of meetings and the making of resolutions (although not constituting conclusive evidence thereof, failure to observe such provisions is not apparent on the face thereof) and that each factual confirmation and statement in the Resolutions (including any confirmation or statement on conflict of interest (tegenstrijdig belang)) is correct;
- (i) that at the time of issue of the Future Shares, the Company will have taken all necessary corporate action required by (i) the Company's articles of association; and (ii) applicable laws of the Netherlands, to (a) issue of the Future Shares and (b) exclude any pre-emption rights with respect to such issuance;
- (j) that at the time of issue of the Future Shares, the authorised share capital of the Company will allow such issue of Future Shares (or the granting of any rights to subscribe for such Future Shares);
- (k) that at the time of issue of the Future Shares, the Future Shares will be issued in the form and manner required by applicable law, the Company's articles of association and its other internal rules and regulations at the time of issue, and otherwise offered to, issued to and accepted by their subscribers in accordance with all applicable laws (including, for the avoidance of doubt, Dutch law);
- (l) that at the time of issue of the Future Shares, the Future Shares will be paid for with due observance of the relevant formalities under all applicable laws (including, for the avoidance of doubt, Dutch law);
- (m) none of the opinions stated in this opinion letter will be affected by any foreign law; and
- (n) that the documents referred to in paragraph 1 above were at their date (where applicable), and have through the date hereof remained, valid, accurate and in full force and effect.
- 4. This legal opinion is limited to the laws of the Netherlands currently in force (unpublished case law not included), excluding tax law (except as specifically referred to herein), the laws of the EU (insofar as not implemented in Dutch law or directly applicable in the Netherlands), market abuse laws and competition or procurement laws.

No undertaking is assumed on our part to revise, update or amend this opinion letter in connection with or to notify or inform you of, any developments and/or changes of Dutch law subsequent to the date hereof.

We express no opinion as to matters of fact in this legal opinion. We assume that there are no facts not disclosed to us, which could affect the conclusions in this legal opinion.

Our willingness to render this opinion letter is based on the condition that you accept and agree that (i) the competent courts at Amsterdam, the Netherlands have exclusive jurisdiction to settle any issues of interpretation or liability arising out of or in connection with this opinion letter, (ii) all matters related to the legal relationship between yourself and Allen & Overy LLP and all individuals associated with Allen & Overy LLP, including the above submission to jurisdiction, are governed by Dutch law and the general terms and conditions of Allen & Overy LLP, (iii) any liability arising out of or in connection with this opinion letter shall be limited to the amount which is paid out under the insurance policy of Allen & Overy LLP in the matter concerned and (iv) no person other than Allen & Overy LLP may be held liable in connection with this legal opinion.

This legal opinion is strictly limited to the matters stated in it and does not relate to any other agreement or matter and may not be read as extending by implication to any matters not specifically referred to. Nothing in this opinion should be taken as expressing an opinion in respect of any representation, warranty or other statement or other information as to factual matters contained in any document referred to herein or examined in connection with this opinion except as expressly confirmed herein.

- 5. Based on the foregoing and subject to the qualifications set out below, we are of the opinion that:
  - (a) **Future Shares:** When issued, the Future Shares will have been validly issued, will have been fully paid and will be non-assessable.
- 6. This legal opinion is subject to the following qualifications:
  - (a) The opinions expressed in this legal opinion may be affected or limited by (i) the general defences available to obligors under Netherlands law in respect of the validity and enforceability of agreements; and (ii) the provisions of any applicable bankruptcy (faillissement), insolvency, moratorium (surseance van betaling), fraudulent conveyance (Actio Pauliana), reorganisation and other or similar laws of general application now or hereafter in effect, relating to or affecting the enforcement or protection of creditors' rights.
  - (b) As used in the opinions in paragraph 4 of this opinion letter, the term "non-assessable" which term has no equivalent in Dutch means that a holder of a share will not by reason of merely being such a holder, be subject to assessment or calls by the Company or its creditors for further payment on such share.
  - (c) Under Dutch law, each power of attorney (*volmacht*) or mandate (*lastgeving*), whether or not irrevocable, granted by the Company will terminate by force of law and without notice, upon bankruptcy of the Company. To the extent that the appointment by the Company of a process agent would be deemed to constitute a power of attorney or a mandate, this qualification would apply.
  - (d) This opinion letter does not purport to express any opinion or view on the operational rules and procedures of any clearing or settlement system or agency.
- 7. In this opinion, Dutch legal concepts are expressed in English terms and not in their original Dutch terms. The concepts concerned may not always be identical to the concepts described by the English terms as such terms may be understood under the laws of other jurisdictions. This legal opinion is given on the express basis, accepted by each person who is entitled to rely on it, that this legal opinion and all rights, obligations or liability in relation to it are governed by Dutch law.
- 8. This legal opinion is given exclusively in connection with our representation of the Company and for no other purpose.
- 9. Notwithstanding the previous sentence, this opinion may be disclosed, quoted, or referred to without our written express consent (i) if such disclosure, quotation or reference without our written consent is required by law, court order or any competent regulatory authority, *provided* that you shall notify us immediately or as soon as otherwise possible after such disclosure, quotation or reference or (ii) to the extent that such disclosure, quotation or reference is required (a) to any of your insurers in respect of any claim or potential claim against you or (b) for evidence in court or similar proceedings in which you are a defendant, *provided*, in each of the events referred to in (a) and (b), that you shall notify us prior to any such disclosure, reference or quotation being made.
- 10. We consent to the filing of this opinion letter as an exhibit to the Registration Statement and also consent to the reference to Allen & Overy LLP in the Registration Statement under the caption "Legal Matters".

Yours faithfully,

/s/ Allen & Overy LLP

Allen & Overy LLP

November 4, 2021

ProQR Therapeutics N.V. Zernikedreef 9 2333 CK Leiden The Netherlands

Re: <u>Securities Being Registered under Registration Statement on Form F-3</u>

We have acted as United States counsel to you in connection with your filing of a Registration Statement on Form F-3 (as amended or supplemented, the "Registration Statement") filed on November 4, 2021 with the Securities and Exchange Commission (the "Commission") pursuant to the Securities Act of 1933, as amended (the "Securities Act"), relating to the registration of the offering by ProQR Therapeutics N.V., a public company with limited liability incorporated under the laws of the Netherlands (the "Company"), of up to \$300,000,000 of any combination of (i) ordinary shares, nominal value €0.04 per share ("Ordinary Shares"), of the Company, (ii) warrants to purchase Ordinary Shares or Units (as defined below) ("Warrants") or (iii) units comprised of Ordinary Shares, Warrants and other securities in any combination ("Units"). The Ordinary Shares, Warrants and Units are sometimes referred to collectively herein as the "Securities." Securities may be issued in an unspecified number. The Registration Statement provides that the Securities may be offered separately or together, in separate series, in amounts, at prices and on terms to be set forth in one or more prospectus supplements (each a "Prospectus Supplement") to the prospectus contained in the Registration Statement.

We have reviewed such documents and made such examination of law as we have deemed appropriate to give the opinions set forth below. We have relied, without independent verification, on certificates of public officials and, as to matters of fact material to the opinions set forth below, on certificates of officers of the Company.

The opinions set forth below are limited to the law of New York.

For purposes of the opinions set forth below, without limiting any other exceptions or qualifications set forth herein, we have assumed that (i) each of the Warrants and Units, and the warrant agreements, unit agreements and other agreements governing Securities offered pursuant to the Registration Statement will be governed by the internal law of New York and (ii) after the issuance of any Securities offered pursuant to the Registration Statement, the total number of issued Ordinary Shares together with the total number of shares of such share capital issuable upon the exercise, exchange, conversion or settlement, as the case may be, of any exercisable, exchangeable or convertible security (including without limitation any Unit), as the case may be, then outstanding, will not exceed the total number of authorized Ordinary Shares under the Company's articles of incorporation as then in effect (the "Charter").

ProQR Therapeutics N.V. November 4, 2021 Page 2

For purposes of the opinions set forth below, we refer to the following as the "Future Authorization and Issuance" of Securities:

- · with respect to any of the Securities, (a) the authorization by the Company of the amount, terms and issuance of such Securities (the "Authorization") and (b) the issuance of such Securities in accordance with the Authorization therefor upon the receipt by the Company of the consideration to be paid therefor in accordance with the Authorization; and
- · with respect to Warrants or Units, (a) the authorization, execution and delivery by the Company and the other parties thereto of any agreement under which such Securities are to be issued and (b) the establishment of the terms of such Securities, and the execution and delivery of such Securities, in conformity with any applicable agreement under which such Securities are to be issued and applicable law.

Based upon the foregoing, and subject to the additional qualifications set forth below, we are of the opinion that:

- 1. Upon the Future Authorization and Issuance of Warrants, such Warrants will be valid and binding obligations of the Company.
- 2. Upon the Future Authorization and Issuance of Units, such Units will be valid and binding obligations of the Company.

The opinions expressed above are subject to bankruptcy, insolvency, fraudulent transfer, reorganization, moratorium and other similar laws of general application affecting the rights and remedies of creditors and to general principles of equity.

This opinion letter and the opinions it contains shall be interpreted in accordance with the Core Opinion Principles as published in 74 Business Lawyer 815 (Summer 2019).

We hereby consent to the inclusion of this opinion as Exhibit 5.2 to the Registration Statement and to the references to our firm under the caption "Legal Matters" in the Registration Statement. In giving our consent, we do not admit that we are in the category of persons whose consent is required under Section 7 of the Securities Act or the rules and regulations thereunder.

Very truly yours,

/s/ Goodwin Procter LLP

GOODWIN PROCTER LLP

To

ProQR Therapeutics N.V.

Zernikedreef 9 2333 CK Leiden The Netherlands Allen & Overy LLP

Apollolaan 15 1077 AB Amsterdam The Netherlands

PO Box 75440 1070 AK Amsterdam The Netherlands

Tel +31 20 674 1000 Fax +31 20 674 1111

Amsterdam, 4 November 2021

Subject 5.3 Dutch law legal opinion

Dear Sirs, Madam,

1. We have acted as legal counsel to you, ProQR Therapeutics N.V., a public limited liability company (*naamloze vennootschap*) incorporated under the laws of the Netherlands, with its corporate seat in Leiden (the Netherlands) (the **Company**) on matters of Dutch law in connection with the issuance of up to USD 75,000,000 ordinary shares, with a nominal value of EUR 0.04 each (the **Future Shares**), in the Company's share capital, to be issued after the date hereof to Cantor Fitzgerald & Co. pursuant to a Prospectus (as defined below) incorporated into the Registration Statement (as defined below) under a sales agreement between the Company and Cantor Fitzgerald & Co. (the **Sales Agreement**).

On 4 November 2021, the Company filed a registration statement on Form F-3 (File No. 333-228251) with the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission (the **SEC**) relating to the registration by the Company of up to \$300,000,000 of any combination of securities of the types specified therein (the **Registration Statement**), and the form of prospectus included in it relating to the Sales Agreement (the **Prospectus**).

This legal opinion is rendered to you in order to be filed as an exhibit to the Registration Statement.

- 2. We have examined and relied upon the following documents in rendering this legal opinion:
  - (a) a pdf copy of the Registration Statement;
  - (b) a pdf copy of the Prospectus;
  - (c) a pdf copy of the executed Sales Agreement;
  - (d) an electronic copy of the registration of the Company in the trade register of the Chamber of Commerce (**Trade Register**, *Handelsregister*) dated 4 November 2021 (the **Excerpt**);
  - (e) a pdf copy of the written resolution of the Company's supervisory board (the **Supervisory Board**) dated 3 November 2021 (the **Supervisory Board Resolution**);

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Allen & Overy LLP or an affiliated undertaking has an office in each of: Abu Dhabi, Amsterdam, Antwerp, Athens, Bangkok, Beijing, Belfast, Bratislava, Brussels, Bucharest (associated office), Budapest, Casablanca, Doha, Dubai, Düsseldorf, Frankfurt, Hamburg, Hanoi, Ho Chi Minh City, Hong Kong, Istanbul, Jakarta (associated office), London, Luxembourg, Madrid, Mannheim, Milan, Moscow, Munich, New York, Paris, Perth, Prague, Riyadh (associated office), Rome, São Paulo, Shanghai, Singapore, Sydney, Tokyo, Warsaw and Washington, D.C. and Yangon.

- (f) a pdf copy of the written resolution of the Management Board dated 2 November 2021 (the **Management Board Resolution**);
- (g) a pdf copy of the internal rules for the Management Board adopted by the Management Board on 23 September 2014 (the **Management Board Rules**);
- (h) a pdf copy of the internal rules for the Supervisory Board adopted by the Supervisory Board on 23 September 2014 (the **Supervisory Board Rules**);
- (i) a pdf copy of the recent articles of association (*statuten*) of the Company dated 10 June 2021 (the **Articles of Association**);
- a pdf copy of the deed of incorporation (*akte van oprichting*) of the Company (the **Deed of Incorporation**), as executed by a civil-law notary on 21 February 2012;
- (k) a pdf copy of the deed of conversion and amendment to the articles of association of the Company, pursuant to which deed the Company converted from a B.V. to a N.V. (the **Deed of Conversion**); and
- (l) a copy of the Company's shareholders' register within the meaning of Article 2:85 of the Dutch Civil Code (the **Shareholders' Register**).

The documents (e) and (f) are collectively referred to as the **Resolutions**.

Unless explicitly stated in this legal opinion, we have not examined any other agreement, deed or document entered into by or affecting the Company or any other corporate records of the Company and have not made any other inquiry concerning it.

#### 3. We assume:

- (a) the genuineness of all signatures on the documents referred to in paragraph 1 above;
- (b) the authenticity and completeness of all documents submitted to us as originals and the completeness and conformity to originals of all documents submitted to us as copies or by electronic means;
- (c) that the Registration Statement has been or shall be filed with the SEC, and shall become effective, in the form referred to in this legal opinion;
- (d) (i) that the Management Board Rules and the Supervisory Board Rules are the regulations as in force on the date hereof; and (ii) the Articles of Association of the Company are its articles of association (*statuten*) currently in force. Although not constituting conclusive evidence thereof, the Extract supports item (ii) of this assumption;
- (e) that at the time of issue of the Future Shares, the Company has not been dissolved (*ontbonden*), granted a moratorium (*surseance verleend*) or declared bankrupt (*failliet verklaard*) (although not constituting conclusive evidence thereof, this assumption is supported by (a) the contents of the Excerpt, and (b) an online search in the central insolvency register on 4 November 2021;
- (f) that the Deed of Incorporation is a valid notarial deed (*authentieke akte*), the contents thereof complied with the statutory requirements at the date of incorporation and there were no defects in the incorporation of the Company (not appearing on the face of the Deed of Incorporation) on the basis of which a court might dissolve the Company or deem it never to have existed;

- (g) that the Deed of Conversion is a valid notarial deed (*authentieke akte*), the contents thereof complied with the statutory requirements at the date of conversion and there were no defects in the conversion of the Company from a B.V. into a N.V. (not appearing on the face of the Deed of Conversion) on the basis of which a court might nullify the conversion of the Company;
- (h) the Resolutions, including any power of attorney therein have not been and will not be annulled, modified, revoked or rescinded and are in full force and effect as at the date hereof and that the Resolutions have been made with due observance of the statutory requirements and the provisions of the Articles of Association relating to the convening of meetings and the making of resolutions (although not constituting conclusive evidence thereof, failure to observe such provisions is not apparent on the face thereof) and that each factual confirmation and statement in the Resolutions (including any confirmation or statement on conflict of interest (tegenstrijdig belang)) is correct;
- (i) that at the time of issue of the Future Shares, the Company will have taken all necessary corporate action required by (i) the Company's articles of association; and (ii) applicable laws of the Netherlands, to (a) issue of the Future Shares and (b) exclude any pre-emption rights with respect to such issuance;
- (j) that at the time of issue of the Future Shares, the authorised share capital of the Company will allow such issue of Future Shares (or the granting of any rights to subscribe for such Future Shares);
- (k) that at the time of issue of the Future Shares, the Future Shares will be issued in the form and manner required by applicable law, the Company's articles of association and its other internal rules and regulations at the time of issue, and otherwise offered to, issued to and accepted by their subscribers in accordance with all applicable laws (including, for the avoidance of doubt, Dutch law);
- (l) that at the time of issue of the Future Shares, the Future Shares will be paid for with due observance of the relevant formalities under all applicable laws (including, for the avoidance of doubt, Dutch law);
- (m) none of the opinions stated in this opinion letter will be affected by any foreign law; and
- (n) that the documents referred to in paragraph 1 above were at their date (where applicable), and have through the date hereof remained, valid, accurate and in full force and effect.
- 4. This legal opinion is limited to the laws of the Netherlands currently in force (unpublished case law not included), excluding tax law (except as specifically referred to herein), the laws of the EU (insofar as not implemented in Dutch law or directly applicable in the Netherlands), market abuse laws and competition or procurement laws.

No undertaking is assumed on our part to revise, update or amend this opinion letter in connection with or to notify or inform you of, any developments and/or changes of Dutch law subsequent to the date hereof.

We express no opinion as to matters of fact in this legal opinion. We assume that there are no facts not disclosed to us, which could affect the conclusions in this legal opinion.

Our willingness to render this opinion letter is based on the condition that you accept and agree that (i) the competent courts at Amsterdam, the Netherlands have exclusive jurisdiction to settle any issues of interpretation or liability arising out of or in connection with this opinion letter, (ii) all matters related to the legal relationship between yourself and Allen & Overy LLP and all individuals associated with Allen & Overy LLP, including the above submission to jurisdiction, are governed by Dutch law and the general terms and conditions of Allen & Overy LLP, (iii) any liability arising out of or in connection with this opinion letter shall be limited to the amount which is paid out under the insurance policy of Allen & Overy LLP in the matter concerned and (iv) no person other than Allen & Overy LLP may be held liable in connection with this legal opinion.

This legal opinion is strictly limited to the matters stated in it and does not relate to any other agreement or matter and may not be read as extending by implication to any matters not specifically referred to. Nothing in this opinion should be taken as expressing an opinion in respect of any representation, warranty or other statement or other information as to factual matters contained in any document referred to herein or examined in connection with this opinion except as expressly confirmed herein.

- 5. Based on the foregoing and subject to the qualifications set out below, we are of the opinion that:
  - (a) **Future Shares:** When issued, the Future Shares will have been validly issued, will have been fully paid and will be non-assessable.
- 6. This legal opinion is subject to the following qualifications:
  - (a) The opinions expressed in this legal opinion may be affected or limited by (i) the general defences available to obligors under Netherlands law in respect of the validity and enforceability of agreements; and (ii) the provisions of any applicable bankruptcy (faillissement), insolvency, moratorium (surseance van betaling), fraudulent conveyance (Actio Pauliana), reorganisation and other or similar laws of general application now or hereafter in effect, relating to or affecting the enforcement or protection of creditors' rights.
  - (b) As used in the opinions in paragraph 5 of this opinion letter, the term "non-assessable" which term has no equivalent in Dutch means that a holder of a share will not by reason of merely being such a holder, be subject to assessment or calls by the Company or its creditors for further payment on such share.
  - (c) Under Dutch law, each power of attorney (*volmacht*) or mandate (*lastgeving*), whether or not irrevocable, granted by the Company will terminate by force of law and without notice, upon bankruptcy of the Company. To the extent that the appointment by the Company of a process agent would be deemed to constitute a power of attorney or a mandate, this qualification would apply.
  - (d) This opinion letter does not purport to express any opinion or view on the operational rules and procedures of any clearing or settlement system or agency.
- 7. In this opinion, Dutch legal concepts are expressed in English terms and not in their original Dutch terms. The concepts concerned may not always be identical to the concepts described by the English terms as such terms may be understood under the laws of other jurisdictions. This legal opinion is given on the express basis, accepted by each person who is entitled to rely on it, that this legal opinion and all rights, obligations or liability in relation to it are governed by Dutch law.
- 8. This legal opinion is given exclusively in connection with our representation of the Company and for no other purpose.
- 9. Notwithstanding the previous sentence, this opinion may be disclosed, quoted, or referred to without our written express consent (i) if such disclosure, quotation or reference without our written consent is required by law, court order or any competent regulatory authority, *provided* that you shall notify us immediately or as soon as otherwise possible after such disclosure, quotation or reference or (ii) to the extent that such disclosure, quotation or reference is required (a) to any of your insurers in respect of any claim or potential claim against you or (b) for evidence in court or similar proceedings in which you are a defendant, *provided*, in each of the events referred to in (a) and (b), that you shall notify us prior to any such disclosure, reference or quotation being made.
- 10. We consent to the filing of this opinion letter as an exhibit to the Registration Statement and also consent to the reference to Allen & Overy LLP in the Registration Statement under the caption "Legal Matters".

Yours faithfully,

/s/ Allen & Overy LLP

Allen & Overy LLP

# CONSENT OF INDEPENDENT REGISTERED PUBLIC ACCOUNTING FIRM

We consent to the incorporation by reference in this Registration Statement on Form F-3 of our reports dated March 24, 2021 relating to the financial statements of ProQR Therapeutics N.V. and the effectiveness of ProQR Therapeutics N.V.'s internal control over financial reporting, appearing in the Annual Report on Form 20-F of ProQR Therapeutics N.V. for the year ended December 31, 2020. We also, consent to the reference to us under the heading "Experts" in such Registration Statement.

/s/ Deloitte Accountants B.V.

Amsterdam, The Netherlands

November 4, 2021