

HEMISPHERX BIOPHARMA INC
Form 424B3
July 02, 2009

Filed Pursuant to Rule 424(b)(3)
Registration Nos. 333-136187, 333-117178,
333-119017, 333-108645, 333-111135,
333-113796 and 333-130008

HEMISPHERX BIOPHARMA, INC.

1,738,864 Shares of Common Stock

The Offering:

This prospectus relates to the sale of up to 1,738,864 shares of our common stock that may be offered and sold from time to time by selling stockholders and the persons to whom such selling stockholders may transfer their shares, consisting of: (1) 1,038,527 shares of common stock issuable upon exercise of outstanding warrants; and (2) 135% of 518,768 shares of common stock issuable upon the exercise of outstanding warrants related to our former Senior Convertible Debentures ("Debenture Warrants"). We will not receive any of the proceeds from the sale of these shares by the selling stockholders, but we will receive proceeds from the cash exercise of warrants, if any.

Our common stock is traded on the NYSE Amex under the symbol "HEB." On June 30, 2009, the last reported sale price for our common stock on the NYSE Amex was \$2.54 per share.

The selling stockholders may sell their shares from time to time on the NYSE Amex or otherwise, in one or more transactions at fixed prices, at prevailing market prices at the time of sale or at prices negotiated with purchasers. The selling stockholders will be responsible for any commissions or discounts due to brokers or dealers. We will pay substantially all expenses of registration of the shares covered by this prospectus.

Please see the risk factors beginning on page 5 to read about certain factors you should consider before buying shares of common stock.

Selling Stockholders may be deemed to be an "underwriter" within the meaning of the Securities Act of 1933.

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

The date of this prospectus is July 1, 2009

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PROSPECTUS SUMMARY

The following is a brief summary of certain information contained elsewhere in this prospectus or incorporated in this prospectus by reference. This summary is not intended to be a complete description of the matters covered in this prospectus and is qualified in its entirety by reference to the more detailed information contained or incorporated by reference in this prospectus. You are urged to read this prospectus in its entirety, including all materials incorporated in this prospectus by reference.

The registration statement that contains this prospectus, including the exhibits to the registration statement, contains additional information about us and the securities being offered under this prospectus. You should read the registration statement and the accompanying exhibits for further information. The registration statement and exhibits can be read and are available to the public over the Internet at the SEC's website at <http://www.sec.gov> as described under the heading "Where You Can Find More Information."

About Hemispherx

We are a specialty pharmaceutical company engaged in the clinical development, manufacture, marketing and distribution of new drug therapies based on natural immune system enhancing technologies for the treatment of viral and immune based chronic disorders. We were founded in the early 1970s doing contract research for the National Institutes of Health. Since that time, we have established a strong foundation of laboratory, pre-clinical, and clinical data with respect to the development of nucleic acids to enhance the natural antiviral defense system of the human body and to aid the development of therapeutic products for the treatment of certain chronic diseases.

Our current strategic focus is derived from four applications of our two core pharmaceutical technology platforms Ampligen® and Alferon N Injection®. The commercial focus for Ampligen includes application as a treatment for Chronic Fatigue Syndrome ("CFS") and as a vaccine enhancer (adjuvant) for both therapeutic and preventative vaccine development. Alferon N Injection® is an FDA approved product with an indication for refractory or recurring genital warts. Alferon LDO (Low Dose Oral) is an application currently under early stage development targeting influenza and viral diseases both as an adjuvant as well as a single entity anti-viral.

Ampligen® is an experimental drug currently undergoing clinical development for the treatment of CFS. In August 2004, we completed a Phase III clinical trial ("AMP 515") treating CFS patients with Ampligen® and we are presently in the registration process for a new drug application ("NDA") with the Food and Drug Administration ("FDA"). In July 2008, the FDA accepted for review our NDA for Ampligen® to treat CFS. On February 18, 2009, we were notified by the FDA that the originally scheduled Prescription Drug User Fee Act ("PDUFA") date of February 25, 2009 has been extended to May 25, 2009. On May 22, 2009, we were notified by the FDA that it may require up to one to two additional weeks to take action beyond the scheduled PDUFA action date of May 25, 2009. We have not heard from the FDA since then.

We own and operate a 43,000 sq. ft. FDA approved facility in New Brunswick, New Jersey primarily designed to produce Alferon N Injection®. In 2006, we completed the installation of a polymer production line to produce Ampligen® raw materials on a more reliable and consistent basis.

Our principal executive offices are located at One Penn Center, 1617 JFK Boulevard, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19103, and our telephone number is 215-988-0080. We maintain a website at "http://www.hemispherx.net." Information contained on our website is not considered to be a part of, nor incorporated by reference in, this prospectus.

Securities Offered

Common stock to be offered
by the selling stockholders 1,738,864 Shares consisting of:

- 1,038,527 shares of common stock issuable upon exercise of other outstanding warrants; and
- 135% of 518,768 shares of common stock issuable upon the exercise of outstanding warrants related to our former Senior Convertible Debentures.

Common stock outstanding
prior to this offering 118,921 ,900 Shares

Use of Proceeds We will not receive any of the proceeds from the sale of the shares of common stock because they are being offered by the selling stockholders and we are not offering any shares for sale under this prospectus, but we may receive proceeds from the exercise of warrants held by certain of the selling stockholders. We will apply such proceeds, if any, to fund commercialization of Alferon® and Ampligen® along with general corporate purposes, which may include working capital, capital expenditures, research and development expenditures, regulatory affairs expenditures, clinical trial expenditures, acquisitions of new technologies and investments, and the repayment, refinancing, redemption or repurchase of future indebtedness or capital stock. See "Use of Proceeds."

NYSE Amex symbol HEB

RISK FACTORS

The following cautionary statements identify important factors that could cause our actual results to differ materially from those projected in the forward-looking statements made in this prospectus. Among the key factors that have a direct bearing on our results of operations are:

Risks Associated With Our Business

No assurance of successful product development.

Ampligen® and related products. The development of Ampligen® and our other related products is subject to a number of significant risks. Ampligen® may be found to be ineffective or to have adverse side effects, fail to receive necessary regulatory clearances, be difficult to manufacture on a commercial scale, be uneconomical to market or be precluded from commercialization by proprietary right of third parties. Our products are in various stages of clinical and pre-clinical development and require further clinical studies and appropriate regulatory approval processes before any such products can be marketed. We do not know when, if ever, Ampligen® or our other products will be generally available for commercial sale for any indication. Generally, only a small percentage of potential therapeutic products are eventually approved by the FDA for commercial sale. Please see the next risk factor.

Alferon N Injection®. Although Alferon N Injection® is approved for marketing in the United States for the intra-lesional treatment of refractory or recurring external genital warts in patients 18 years of age or older, to date it has not been approved for other indications. We face many of the risks discussed above, with regard to developing this product for use to treat other ailments.

Our drugs and related technologies are investigational and subject to regulatory approval. If we are unable to obtain regulatory approval, our operations will be significantly adversely affected.

All of our drugs and associated technologies, other than Alferon N Injection®, are investigational and must receive prior regulatory approval by appropriate regulatory authorities for general use and are currently legally available only through clinical trials with specified disorders. At present, Alferon N Injection® is only approved for the intra-lesional treatment of refractory or recurring external genital warts in patients 18 years of age or older. Use of Alferon N Injection® for other indications will require regulatory approval.

Our products, including Ampligen®, are subject to extensive regulation by numerous governmental authorities in the U.S. and other countries, including, but not limited to, the FDA in the U.S., the Health Protection Branch (“HPB”) of Canada, and the Agency for the Evaluation of Medicinal Products (“EMA”) in Europe. Obtaining regulatory approvals is a rigorous and lengthy process and requires the expenditure of substantial resources. In order to obtain final regulatory approval of a new drug, we must demonstrate to the satisfaction of the regulatory agency that the product is safe and effective for its intended uses and that we are capable of manufacturing the product to the applicable regulatory standards. We require regulatory approval in order to market Ampligen® or any other proposed product and receive product revenues or royalties. We cannot assure you that Ampligen® will ultimately be demonstrated to be safe or efficacious. In addition, while Ampligen® is authorized for use in clinical trials including a cost recovery program in the United States and Europe, we cannot assure you that additional clinical trial approvals will be authorized in the United States or in other countries, in a timely fashion or at all, or that we will complete these clinical trials.

We filed an NDA with the FDA for treatment of CFS on October 10, 2007. On December 5, 2007 we received a Refusal to File letter from the FDA as our NDA filing was deemed “not substantially complete”. We responded to the FDA’s concerns by filing amendments to our NDA on April 25, 2008. These amendments should allow the FDA reviewers to better evaluate independently the statistical efficacy/safety conclusions of our NDA for the use of Ampligen® in treating CFS. On July 7, 2008, the FDA accepted our NDA filing for review. However, there are no assurances that upon review of the NDA that it will be approved by the FDA. On February 18, 2009, we were notified by the FDA that the originally scheduled PDUFA date of February 25, 2009 has been extended to May 25, 2009. On May 22, 2009, we were notified by the FDA that it may require up to one to two additional weeks to take action beyond the scheduled PDUFA action date of May 25, 2009. We have not heard from the FDA since then.

If Ampligen® or one of our other products does not receive regulatory approval in the U.S. or elsewhere, our operations most likely will be materially adversely affected.

Alferon® LDO is undergoing pre-clinical testing for possible prophylaxis against avian flu. Additional studies are anticipated for swine H1N1. While the studies to date have been encouraging. Preliminary testing in the laboratory and animals is not necessarily predictive of successful results in clinical testing or human treatment. No assurance can be given that similar results will be observed in clinical trials. Use of Alferon® as a possible treatment of avian flu requires prior regulatory approval. Only the FDA can determine whether a drug is safe, effective or promising for treating a specific application. As discussed in the prior risk factor, obtaining regulatory approvals is a rigorous and lengthy process.

We may continue to incur substantial losses and our future profitability is uncertain.

We began operations in 1966 and last reported net profit from 1985 through 1987. Since 1987, we have incurred substantial operating losses, as we pursued our clinical trial effort to get our experimental drug, Ampligen®, approved. As of March 31, 2009, our accumulated deficit was approximately \$200,496,000. We have not yet generated significant revenues from our products and may incur substantial and increased losses in the future. We cannot assure that we will ever achieve significant revenues from product sales or become profitable. We require, and will continue to require, the commitment of substantial resources to develop our products. We cannot assure that our product development efforts will be successfully completed or that required regulatory approvals will be obtained or that any products will be manufactured and marketed successfully, or be profitable.

We may require additional financing which may not be available.

The development of our products will require the commitment of substantial resources to conduct the time-consuming research, preclinical development, and clinical trials that are necessary to bring pharmaceutical products to market. As of March 31, 2009, we had approximately \$5,541,000 in cash and cash equivalents and short-term investments. Since then, while we have continued to spend cash on operations, we received approximately \$1,440,000 of equity funding from Fusion Capital Fund II, LLC during April and May 2009 and approximately \$28,250,000 from recent placements of shares and warrants and \$660,000 from the exercise of warrants issued in one of those placements. Given the harsh economic conditions, we have reviewed every aspect of our operations for cost and spending reductions to assure our long term survival while maintaining the resources necessary to achieve our primary objectives of commercializing Alferon N, obtaining NDA approval of Ampligen® and securing a strategic partner. Based on these actions and our recent financings, we do not anticipate that we will need additional financing in order to continue operations for the near future.

We have in place one potential source of financing - the Common Stock Purchase Agreement (the "Fusion Purchase Agreement") with Fusion Capital Fund II, LLC ("Fusion Capital") pursuant to which we have the right to sell shares of our Common Stock to Fusion Capital.

If we are unable to commercialize and sell Ampligen®, Alferon N Injection® or other products, we eventually will need to secure other sources of funding through additional equity or debt financing or from other sources in order to satisfy our working capital needs and to complete the necessary clinical trials and the regulatory approval processes including the commercializing of Ampligen® products. We anticipate, but cannot assure, that, should we need to raise additional funds, we will be able to do so from the sale of shares under the Fusion Purchase Agreement. Pursuant to the Purchase Agreement, we only have the right to receive \$120,000 every two business days unless our stock price equals or exceeds \$0.80, in which case we can sell greater amounts to Fusion Capital as the price of our common stock increases. Fusion Capital does not have the right nor the obligation to purchase any shares of our common stock on any business day that the market price of our common stock is less than \$0.40.

In addition, as of June 15, 2009, we had approximately 44,000,000 shares authorized but unissued and unreserved. At our annual stockholders' meeting held on June 24, 2009, we sought approval of an amendment to our Certificate of Incorporation to increase the number of authorized shares of Common Stock from 200,000,000 to 350,000,000. At the meeting, there were an insufficient number of votes in favor of the proposal and voting on this proposal was left open until July 28, 2009. If that approval is not obtained, the amount of proceeds we may receive from the sale of our Common Stock will be limited.

We are unable to estimate the amount, timing or nature of future sales of outstanding common stock or instruments convertible into or exercisable for our common stock. Should we require additional financing and such financing is unavailable or prohibitively expensive, our ability to develop our products or continue our operations could be materially adversely affected.

Our Alferon N Injection® Commercial Sales have halted due to lack of finished goods inventory.

Our finished goods inventory of Alferon N Injection® reached its expiration date in March 2008. As a result, we have no product to sell at this time. The FDA declined to respond to our requests for an extension of the expiration date, therefore we consider the request to be denied. Since our testing of the product indicates that it is not impaired and could be safely utilized, the finished goods inventory of 2,745 Alferon N Injection® 5ml vials may be used to produce approximately 11,000,000 sachets of Low Dose Oral Alferon (LDO) for future clinical trials.

Production of Alferon N Injection® from our work-in-progress inventory, which has an approximate expiration date of 2012, has been put on hold at this time due to the resources needed to prepare our New Brunswick facility for the FDA preapproval inspection with respect to our Ampligen® NDA. Work on the Alferon N Injection® is expected to resume in mid-2009, which means that we may not have any Alferon N Injection® product commercially available until 2010. However, if there is a significant absence of the product from the market place, no assurance can be given that sales will return to prior levels.

Although preliminary in vitro testing indicates that Ampligen® enhances the effectiveness of different drug combinations on avian influenza, preliminary testing in the laboratory is not necessarily predictive of successful results in clinical testing or human treatment.

Ampligen® is currently being tested as a vaccine adjuvant for H5N1, a pathogenic avian influenza virus (“HPAIV”) in Japan, where the preclinical data has shown activity in preventing lethal challenge with the original virus used for vaccination as well as the other related, but not identical, isolates of H5N1 virus (i.e., cross-reactivity). The clinical testing phase of Ampligen® in Japan is expected to begin in late 2009 or early 2010. The results of laboratory testing with seasonal influenza virus vaccine in Australia for the effect of Ampligen® as an adjuvant is pending. No assurance can be given that similar results will be observed in clinical trials. Use of Ampligen® in the treatment of flu requires prior regulatory approval. Only the FDA can determine whether a drug is safe, effective or promising for treating a specific application. As discussed above, obtaining regulatory approvals is a rigorous and lengthy process (see “Our drugs and related technologies are investigational and subject to regulatory approval. If we are unable to obtain regulatory approval, our operations will be significantly adversely affected” above).

We may not be profitable unless we can protect our patents and/or receive approval for additional pending patents.

We need to preserve and acquire enforceable patents covering the use of Ampligen® for a particular disease in order to obtain exclusive rights for the commercial sale of Ampligen® for such disease. We obtained all rights to Alferon N Injection®, and we plan to preserve and acquire enforceable patents covering its use for existing and potentially new diseases. Our success depends, in large part, on our ability to preserve and obtain patent protection for our products and to obtain and preserve our trade secrets and expertise. Certain of our know-how and technology is not patentable, particularly the procedures for the manufacture of our experimental drug, Ampligen®, which is carried out according to standard operating procedure manuals. We also have been issued patents on the use of Ampligen® in combination with certain other drugs for the treatment of chronic Hepatitis B virus, chronic Hepatitis C virus, and a patent which affords protection on the use of Ampligen® in patients with Chronic Fatigue Syndrome. We have not yet been issued any patents in the United States for the use of Ampligen® as a sole treatment for any of the cancers, which we have sought to target. With regard to Alferon N Injection®, we have acquired from ISI its patents for natural alpha interferon produced from human peripheral blood leukocytes and its production process and we have filed a patent application for the use of Alferon® LDO in treating viral diseases including avian influenza. We cannot assure that our competitors will not seek and obtain patents regarding the use of similar products in combination with various other agents, for a particular target indication prior to our doing such. If we cannot protect our patents covering the use of our products for a particular disease, or obtain additional patents, we may not be able to successfully market our products.

The patent position of biotechnology and pharmaceutical firms is highly uncertain and involves complex legal and factual questions.

To date, no consistent policy has emerged regarding the breadth of protection afforded by pharmaceutical and biotechnology patents. There can be no assurance that new patent applications relating to our products or technology will result in patents being issued or that, if issued, such patents will afford meaningful protection against competitors with similar technology. It is generally anticipated that there may be significant litigation in the industry regarding patent and intellectual property rights. Such litigation could require substantial resources from us and we may not have the financial resources necessary to enforce the patent rights that we hold. No assurance can be made that our patents will provide competitive advantages for our products or will not be successfully challenged by competitors. No assurance can be given that patents do not exist or could not be filed which would have a materially adverse effect on our ability to develop or market our products or to obtain or maintain any competitive position that we may achieve with respect to our products. Our patents also may not prevent others from developing competitive products using related technology.

There can be no assurance that we will be able to obtain necessary licenses if we cannot enforce patent rights we may hold. In addition, the failure of third parties from whom we currently license certain proprietary information or from whom we may be required to obtain such licenses in the future, to adequately enforce their rights to such proprietary information, could adversely affect the value of such licenses to us.

If we cannot enforce the patent rights we currently hold we may be required to obtain licenses from others to develop, manufacture or market our products. There can be no assurance that we would be able to obtain any such licenses on commercially reasonable terms, if at all. We currently license certain proprietary information from third parties, some of which may have been developed with government grants under circumstances where the government maintained certain rights with respect to the proprietary information developed. No assurances can be given that such third parties will adequately enforce any rights they may have or that the rights, if any, retained by the government will not adversely affect the value of our license.

There is no guarantee that our trade secrets will not be disclosed or known by our competitors.

To protect our rights, we require certain employees and consultants to enter into confidentiality agreements with us. There can be no assurance that these agreements will not be breached, that we would have adequate and enforceable remedies for any breach, or that any trade secrets of ours will not otherwise become known or be independently developed by competitors.

We have limited marketing and sales capability. If we are unable to obtain additional distributors and our current and future distributors do not market our products successfully, we may not generate significant revenues or become profitable.

We have limited marketing and sales capability. We are dependent upon existing and, possibly future, marketing agreements and third party distribution agreements for our products in order to generate significant revenues and become profitable. As a result, any revenues received by us will be dependent in large part on the efforts of third parties, and there is no assurance that these efforts will be successful.

Our commercialization strategy for Ampligen®-CFS may include licensing/co-marketing agreements utilizing the resources and capacities of a strategic partner(s). We are currently seeking worldwide marketing partner(s), with the goal of having a relationship in place before approval is obtained. In parallel to partnering discussions, appropriate pre-marketing activities will be undertaken. We intend to control manufacturing of Ampligen on a world-wide basis.

We cannot assure that our U.S. or foreign marketing strategy will be successful or that we will be able to establish future marketing or third party distribution agreements on terms acceptable to us, or that the cost of establishing these arrangements will not exceed any product revenues. Our inability to establish viable marketing and sales capabilities would most likely have a materially adverse effect on us.

There are no long-term agreements with suppliers of required materials. If we are unable to obtain the required raw materials, we may be required to scale back our operations or stop manufacturing Alferon N Injection® and/or Ampligen®.

A number of essential materials are used in the production of Alferon N Injection®, including human white blood cells. We do not have long-term agreements for the supply of any of such materials. There can be no assurance we can enter into long-term supply agreements covering essential materials on commercially reasonable terms, if at all.

There are a limited number of manufacturers in the United States available to provide the polymers for use in manufacturing Ampligen®. At present, we do not have any agreements with third parties for the supply of any of these polymers. We have established relevant manufacturing operations within our New Brunswick, New Jersey facility for the production of Ampligen® polymers from raw materials in order to obtain polymers on a more consistent manufacturing basis.

If we are unable to obtain or manufacture the required polymers, we may be required to scale back our operations or stop manufacturing. The costs and availability of products and materials we need for the production of Ampligen® and the commercial production of Alferon N Injection® and other products which we may commercially produce are subject to fluctuation depending on a variety of factors beyond our control, including competitive factors, changes in technology, and FDA and other governmental regulations and there can be no assurance that we will be able to obtain such products and materials on terms acceptable to us or at all.

There is no assurance that successful manufacture of a drug on a limited scale basis for investigational use will lead to a successful transition to commercial, large-scale production.

Small changes in methods of manufacturing, including commercial scale-up, may affect the chemical structure of Ampligen® and other RNA drugs, as well as their safety and efficacy, and can, among other things, require new clinical studies and affect orphan drug status, particularly, market exclusivity rights, if any, under the Orphan Drug Act. The transition from limited production of pre-clinical and clinical research quantities to production of commercial quantities of our products will involve distinct management and technical challenges and will require additional management and technical personnel and capital to the extent such manufacturing is not handled by third parties. There can be no assurance that our manufacturing will be successful or that any given product will be determined to be safe and effective, capable of being manufactured economically in commercial quantities or successfully marketed.

We have limited manufacturing experience.

Ampligen® has been produced to date only in limited quantities for use in our clinical trials and we are dependent upon a third party supplier for the manufacturing and bottling process. The failure to continue these arrangements or to achieve other such arrangements on satisfactory terms could have a material adverse affect on us. Also to be successful, our products must be manufactured in commercial quantities in compliance with regulatory requirements and at acceptable costs. To the extent we are involved in the production process, our current facilities are not adequate for the production of our proposed products for large-scale commercialization, and we currently do not have adequate personnel to conduct large-scale manufacturing. We intend to utilize third-party facilities if and when the need arises or, if we are unable to do so, to build or acquire commercial-scale manufacturing facilities. We will need to comply with regulatory requirements for such facilities, including those of the FDA pertaining to current Good Manufacturing Practices (“cGMP”) regulations. There can be no assurance that such facilities can be used, built, or acquired on commercially acceptable terms, or that such facilities, if used, built, or acquired, will be adequate for our long-term needs.

We may not be profitable unless we can produce Ampligen® or other products in commercial quantities at costs acceptable to us.

We have never produced Ampligen® or any other products in large commercial quantities. We must manufacture our products in compliance with regulatory requirements in large commercial quantities and at acceptable costs in order for us to be profitable. We intend to utilize third-party manufacturers and/or facilities if and when the need arises or, if we are unable to do so, to build or acquire commercial-scale manufacturing facilities. If we cannot manufacture commercial quantities of Ampligen® or enter into third party agreements for its manufacture at costs acceptable to us, our operations will be significantly affected. Also, each production lot of Alferon N Injection® is subject to FDA review and approval prior to releasing the lots to be sold. This review and approval process could take considerable time, which would delay our having product in inventory to sell.

Rapid technological change may render our products obsolete or non-competitive.

The pharmaceutical and biotechnology industries are subject to rapid and substantial technological change. Technological competition from pharmaceutical and biotechnology companies, universities, governmental entities and others diversifying into the field is intense and is expected to increase. Most of these entities have significantly greater research and development capabilities than us, as well as substantial marketing, financial and managerial resources, and represent significant competition for us. There can be no assurance that developments by others will not render our products or technologies obsolete or noncompetitive or that we will be able to keep pace with technological developments.

Our products may be subject to substantial competition.

Ampligen®. Competitors may be developing technologies that are, or in the future may be, the basis for competitive products. Some of these potential products may have an entirely different approach or means of accomplishing similar therapeutic effects to products being developed by us. These competing products may be more effective and less costly than our products. In addition, conventional drug therapy, surgery and other more familiar treatments may offer competition to our products. Furthermore, many of our competitors have significantly greater experience than us in pre-clinical testing and human clinical trials of pharmaceutical products and in obtaining FDA, HPB and other regulatory approvals of products. Accordingly, our competitors may succeed in obtaining FDA, HPB or other regulatory product approvals more rapidly than us. There are no drugs approved for commercial sale with respect to treating ME/CFS in the United States. The dominant competitors with drugs to treat disease indications in which we plan to address include Gilead Pharmaceutical, Pfizer, Bristol-Myers, Abbott Labs, GlaxoSmithKline, Merck and Schering-Plough Corp. These potential competitors are among the largest pharmaceutical companies in the world, are well known to the public and the medical community, and have substantially greater financial resources, product development, and manufacturing and marketing capabilities than we have. Although we believe our principal advantage is the unique mechanism of action of Ampligen® on the immune system, we cannot assure that we will be able to compete.

ALFERON N Injection®. Our competitors are among the largest pharmaceutical companies in the world, are well known to the public and the medical community, and have substantially greater financial resources, product development, and manufacturing and marketing capabilities than we have. Alferon N Injection® currently competes with Schering's injectable recombinant alpha interferon product (INTRON® A) for the treatment of genital warts. 3M Pharmaceuticals also offer competition from its immune-response modifier, Aldara®, a self-administered topical cream, for the treatment of external genital and perianal warts. In addition, Medigene has FDA approval for a self-administered ointment, Veregen™, which is indicated for the topical treatment of external genital and perianal warts. Alferon N Injection® also competes with surgical, chemical, and other methods of treating genital warts. We cannot assess the impact products developed by our competitors, or advances in other methods of the treatment of genital warts, will have on the commercial viability of Alferon N Injection®. If and when we obtain additional approvals of uses of this product, we expect to compete primarily on the basis of product performance. Our competitors have developed or may develop products (containing either alpha or beta interferon or other therapeutic compounds) or other treatment modalities for those uses. There can be no assurance that, if we are able to obtain regulatory approval of Alferon N Injection® for the treatment of new indications, we will be able to achieve any significant penetration into those markets. In addition, because certain competitive products are not dependent on a source of human blood cells, such products may be able to be produced in greater volume and at a lower cost than Alferon N Injection®. Currently, our wholesale price on a per unit basis of Alferon N Injection® is higher than that of the competitive recombinant alpha and beta interferon products.

General. Other companies may succeed in developing products earlier than we do, obtaining approvals for such products from the FDA more rapidly than we do, or developing products that are more effective than those we may develop. While we will attempt to expand our technological capabilities in order to remain competitive, there can be no assurance that research and development by others or other medical advances will not render our technology or products obsolete or non-competitive or result in treatments or cures superior to any therapy we develop.

Possible side effects from the use of Ampligen® or Alferon N Injection® could adversely affect potential revenues and physician/patient acceptability of our product.

Ampligen®. We believe that Ampligen® has been generally well tolerated with a low incidence of clinical toxicity, particularly given the severely debilitating or life threatening diseases that have been treated. A mild flushing reaction has been observed in approximately 15-20% of patients treated in our various studies. This reaction is occasionally accompanied by a rapid heart beat, a tightness of the chest, urticaria (swelling of the skin), anxiety, shortness of breath, subjective reports of "feeling hot", sweating and nausea. The reaction is usually infusion-rate related and can generally be controlled by reducing the rate of infusion. Other adverse side effects include liver enzyme level elevations, diarrhea, itching, asthma, low blood pressure, photophobia, rash, transient visual disturbances, slow or irregular heart rate, decreases in platelets and white blood cell counts, anemia, dizziness, confusion, elevation of kidney function tests, occasional temporary hair loss and various flu-like symptoms, including fever, chills, fatigue, muscular aches, joint pains, headaches, nausea and vomiting. These flu-like side effects typically subside within several months. One or more of the potential side effects might deter usage of Ampligen® in certain clinical situations and therefore, could adversely affect potential revenues and physician/patient acceptability of our product.

Alferon N Injection®. At present, Alferon N Injection® is only approved for the intra-lesional (within the lesion) treatment of refractory or recurring external genital warts in adults. In clinical trials conducted for the treatment of genital warts with Alferon N Injection®, patients did not experience serious side effects; however, there can be no assurance that unexpected or unacceptable side effects will not be found in the future for this use or other potential uses of Alferon N Injection® which could threaten or limit such product's usefulness.

We may be subject to product liability claims from the use of Ampligen®, Alferon N Injection®, or other of our products which could negatively affect our future operations. We have temporarily discontinued product liability insurance.

We face an inherent business risk of exposure to product liability claims in the event that the use of Ampligen® or other of our products results in adverse effects. This liability might result from claims made directly by patients, hospitals, clinics or other consumers, or by pharmaceutical companies or others manufacturing these products on our behalf. Our future operations may be negatively affected from the litigation costs, settlement expenses and lost product sales inherent to these claims. While we will continue to attempt to take appropriate precautions, we cannot assure that we will avoid significant product liability exposure.

On November 28, 2008, we suspended product liability insurance for Alferon® N and Ampligen® until we receive regulatory clearance for Ampligen®. We now require third parties to indemnify us in conjunction with all overseas emergency sales of Ampligen® and Alferon® LDO. We concluded that years of successfully addressing the limited number of product liability claims filed against Ampligen® and Alferon® LDO, combined with the mandatory patient waivers completed as an element of clinical trials and lack of any commercial sales since April 2008, that temporarily discontinuing the liability insurance was an acceptable risk given our financial condition and need to conserve cash.

Currently, without product liability coverage for Ampligen® and Alferon® LDO, a claim against the products could have a materially adverse effect on our business and financial condition.

The loss of services of key personnel including Dr. William A. Carter could hurt our chances for success.

Our success is dependent on the continued efforts of our staff, especially certain doctors and researchers along with the continued efforts of Dr. William A. Carter because of his position as a pioneer in the field of nucleic acid drugs, his being the co-inventor of Ampligen®, and his knowledge of our overall activities, including patents and clinical trials. The loss of the services of personnel key to our operations or Dr. Carter could have a material adverse effect on our operations and chances for success. As a cash conservation measure, we have elected to discontinue the Key Man life insurance in the amount of \$2,000,000 on the life of Dr. Carter until we receive regulatory clearance for Ampligen®. An employment agreement continues to exist with Dr. Carter that, as amended, runs until December 31, 2010. However, Dr. Carter has the right to terminate his employment upon not less than 30 days prior written notice. The loss of Dr. Carter or other personnel or the failure to recruit additional personnel as needed could have a materially adverse effect on our ability to achieve our objectives.

Uncertainty of health care reimbursement for our products.

Our ability to successfully commercialize our products will depend, in part, on the extent to which reimbursement for the cost of such products and related treatment will be available from government health administration authorities, private health coverage insurers and other organizations. Significant uncertainty exists as to the reimbursement status of newly approved health care products, and from time to time legislation is proposed, which, if adopted, could further restrict the prices charged by and/or amounts reimbursable to manufacturers of pharmaceutical products. We cannot predict what, if any, legislation will ultimately be adopted or the impact of such legislation on us. There can be no assurance that third party insurance companies will allow us to charge and receive payments for products sufficient to realize an appropriate return on our investment in product development.

There are risks of liabilities associated with handling and disposing of hazardous materials.

Our business involves the controlled use of hazardous materials, carcinogenic chemicals, flammable solvents and various radioactive compounds. Although we believe that our safety procedures for handling and disposing of such materials comply in all material respects with the standards prescribed by applicable regulations, the risk of accidental contamination or injury from these materials cannot be completely eliminated. In the event of such an accident or the failure to comply with applicable regulations, we could be held liable for any damages that result, and any such liability could be significant. We do not maintain insurance coverage against such liabilities.

Risks Associated With an Investment in Our Common Stock

The market price of our stock may be adversely affected by market volatility.

The market price of our common stock has been and is likely to be volatile. This is especially true given the current significant instability in the financial markets. In addition to general economic, political and market conditions, the price and trading volume of our stock could fluctuate widely in response to many factors, including:

- announcements of the results of clinical trials by us or our competitors;
- adverse reactions to products;
- governmental approvals, delays in expected governmental approvals or withdrawals of any prior governmental approvals or public or regulatory agency concerns regarding the safety or effectiveness of our products;
 - changes in U.S. or foreign regulatory policy during the period of product development;
- developments in patent or other proprietary rights, including any third party challenges of our intellectual property rights;
 - announcements of technological innovations by us or our competitors;
 - announcements of new products or new contracts by us or our competitors;

- actual or anticipated variations in our operating results due to the level of development expenses and other factors;
 - changes in financial estimates by securities analysts and whether our earnings meet or exceed the estimates;
 - conditions and trends in the pharmaceutical and other industries;
 - new accounting standards;
 - overall investment market fluctuation; and
 - occurrence of any of the risks described in these "Risk Factors."

Our common stock is listed for quotation on the NYSE Amex. For the 12-month period ended May 31, 2009, the closing price of our common stock has ranged from \$0.25 to \$2.03 per share. As of June 30, 2009, the last reported sale price for our common stock on the NYSE Amex was \$2.54 per share. We expect the price of our common stock to remain volatile. The average daily trading volume of our common stock varies significantly.

In the past, following periods of volatility in the market price of the securities of companies in our industry, securities class action litigation has often been instituted against companies in our industry. If we face securities litigation in the future, even if without merit or unsuccessful, it would result in substantial costs and a diversion of management attention and resources, which would negatively impact our business.

Our stock price may be adversely affected if a significant amount of shares are sold in the public market.

In May 2009 we issued an aggregate of 25,543,339 shares and warrants to purchase an additional 14,708,687 shares under a universal shelf registration statement. In connection with entering into the Purchase Agreement with Fusion Capital, we registered 21,300,000 shares in the aggregate, consisting of 20,000,000 shares which we may sell to Fusion Capital and 1,300,000 shares we have issued or may issue to Fusion Capital as a commitment fee. As of June 15, 2009, we have sold an aggregate of 6,642,632 shares to Fusion Capital under the Purchase Agreement, leaving 14,657,368 shares. The sale of a substantial number of shares of our common stock by Fusion Capital, or anticipation of such sales, could make it more difficult for us to sell equity or equity-related securities in the future at a time and at a price that we might otherwise wish to effect sales. However, we have the right to control the timing and amount of any sales of our shares to Fusion Capital and the agreement may be terminated by us at any time at our discretion without any cost to us.

This prospectus relates to the public sale of an aggregate of 1,738,864 shares issuable upon exercise of certain outstanding warrants. To the extent the exercise price of our outstanding warrants is less than the market price of the common stock, the holders of the warrants are likely to exercise them and sell the underlying shares of common stock and to the extent that the exercise price of certain of these warrants are adjusted pursuant to anti-dilution protection, the warrants could be exercisable or convertible for even more shares of common stock. We also may issue shares to be used to meet our capital requirements or use shares to compensate employees, consultants and/or directors. We are unable to estimate the amount, timing or nature of future sales of outstanding common stock or instruments convertible into or exercisable for our common stock.

Sales of substantial amounts of our common stock in the public market could cause the market price for our common stock to decrease. Furthermore, a decline in the price of our common stock would likely impede our ability to raise capital through the issuance of additional shares of common stock or other equity securities.

Provisions of our Certificate of Incorporation and Delaware law could defer a change of our management which could discourage or delay offers to acquire us.

Provisions of our Certificate of Incorporation and Delaware law may make it more difficult for someone to acquire control of us or for our stockholders to remove existing management, and might discourage a third party from offering to acquire us, even if a change in control or in management would be beneficial to our stockholders. For example, our Certificate of Incorporation allows us to issue shares of preferred stock without any vote or further action by our stockholders. Our Board of Directors has the authority to fix and determine the relative rights and preferences of preferred stock. Our Board of Directors also has the authority to issue preferred stock without further stockholder approval. As a result, our Board of Directors could authorize the issuance of a series of preferred stock that would grant to holders the preferred right to our assets upon liquidation, the right to receive dividend payments before dividends are distributed to the holders of common stock and the right to the redemption of the shares, together with a premium, prior to the redemption of our common stock. In this regard, in November 2002, we adopted a stockholder rights plan and, under the Plan, our Board of Directors declared a dividend distribution of one Right for each outstanding share of Common Stock to stockholders of record at the close of business on November 29, 2002. Each Right initially entitles holders to buy one unit of preferred stock for \$30.00. The Rights generally are not transferable apart from the common stock and will not be exercisable unless and until a person or group acquires or commences a tender or exchange offer to acquire, beneficial ownership of 15% or more of our common stock. However, for Dr. Carter, our Chief Executive Officer, who already beneficially owns 6.05% of our common stock, the Plan's threshold will be 20%, instead of 15%. The Rights will expire on November 19, 2012, and may be redeemed prior thereto at \$.01 per Right under certain circumstances.

Because the risk factors referred to above could cause actual results or outcomes to differ materially from those expressed in any forward-looking statements made by us, you should not place undue reliance on any such forward-looking statements. Further, any forward-looking statement speaks only as of the date on which it is made and we undertake no obligation to update any forward-looking statement or statements to reflect events or circumstances after the date on which such statement is made or reflect the occurrence of unanticipated events. New factors emerge from time to time, and it is not possible for us to predict which will arise. In addition, we cannot assess the impact of each factor on our business or the extent to which any factor, or combination of factors, may cause actual results to differ materially from those contained in any forward-looking statements. Our research in clinical efforts may continue for the next several years and we may continue to incur losses due to clinical costs incurred in the development of Ampligen® for commercial application. Possible losses may fluctuate from quarter to quarter as a result of differences in the timing of significant expenses incurred and receipt of licensing fees and/or cost recovery treatment revenue.

SPECIAL NOTE REGARDING FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS

Certain statements in this prospectus constitute “forwarding-looking statements” within the meaning of Section 27A of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, and Section 21E of the Securities and Exchange Act of 1995 (collectively, the “Reform Act”). Certain, but not necessarily all, of such forward-looking statements can be identified by the use of forward-looking terminology such as “believes,” “expects,” “may,” “will,” “should,” or “anticipates” or the negative thereof or other variations thereon or comparable terminology, or by discussions of strategy that involve risks and uncertainties. All statements other than statements of historical fact, included in this prospectus regarding our financial position, business strategy and plans or objectives for future operations are forward-looking statements. Without limiting the broader description of forward-looking statements above, we specifically note that statements regarding potential drugs, their potential therapeutic effect, the possibility of obtaining regulatory approval, our ability to manufacture and sell any products, market acceptance or our ability to earn a profit from sales or licenses of any drugs or our ability to discover new drugs in the future are all forward-looking in nature.

Such forward-looking statements involve known and unknown risks, uncertainties and other factors, including but not limited to, the risk factors discussed above, which may cause the actual results, performance or achievements of Hemispherx and its subsidiaries to be materially different from any future results, performance or achievements expressed or implied by such forward-looking statements and other factors referenced in this prospectus. We do not undertake and specifically decline any obligation to publicly release the results of any revisions which may be made to any forward-looking statement to reflect events or circumstances after the date of such statements or to reflect the occurrence of anticipated or unanticipated events.

BUSINESS

Our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2008, incorporated by reference into this Prospectus, contains information about us, including audited financial statements for our fiscal year ended December 31, 2008. Please refer to this report and all of our subsequent reports filed with the SEC for additional information.

SELLING STOCKHOLDERS

The following table provides information regarding the selling stockholders and the number of shares of common stock they are offering.

Unless otherwise indicated in the footnotes below, we believe that the persons and entities named in the table have sole voting and investment power with respect to all shares beneficially owned. The information regarding shares beneficially owned after the offering assumes the sale of all shares offered by each of the selling stockholders.

None of the selling stockholders has had any position, office or other material relationship with us or any of our affiliates within the past three years, other than as a stockholder, unless otherwise disclosed in the footnotes.

| Selling Stockholder | Common Stock Owned Prior To Offering | No. of Shares Being Offered | Common Stock Owned After The Offering |
|--|---|--------------------------------|---|
| Portside Growth & Opportunity Fund (1) | 700,337 | 700,337 | - |
| Christopher Chipman (2) | 5,000 | 5,000 | - |
| Mid South Capital, LLC (3) | 25,000 | 25,000 | - |
| HefCap Holdings, LLC (4) | 50,000 | 25,000 | 25,000 |
| William Mason (5) | 41,667 | 41,667 | - |
| W. Barry McDonald (5) | 41,667 | 41,667 | - |
| Wayne Pambianchi (5) | 41,667 | 41,667 | - |
| Gordon Ramseier (5) | 41,667 | 41,667 | - |
| Daniel Tripodi (5) | 41,667 | 41,667 | - |
| Michael Burrows (6) | 500,000 | 150,000 | 350,000 |
| UBS O'Connor LLC (7) | 30,000 | 30,000 | - |
| Fenmore Holdings (8) | 36,058 | 36,058 | - |
| Gemini Master Fund, Ltd. (9) | 43,269 | 43,269 | - |
| Vision Opportunity Master Fund (10) | 188,461 | 188,461 | - |
| JMG Capital Partners, LP (11) | 37,116 | 37,116 | - |
| JMG Triton Off shore Fund, Ltd. (12) | 72,116 | 72,116 | - |
| Iroquois Capital, LP (13) | 2,141,412 | 57,692 | 2,083,720 |
| Jefferies & Company, Inc. (14) | 631,618 | 150,480 | 481,138 |
| Sage Healthcare Advisors LLC (15) | 75,000 | 10,000 | 65,000 |

(1) Includes 135% of 518,768 shares of common stock issuable upon exercise of Warrants that expire in July 2009. Ramius Capital Group, LLC ("Ramius Capital") is the investment adviser of Portside Growth & Opportunity Fund ("Portside") and consequently has voting control and investment discretion over securities held by Portside. Ramius Capital disclaims beneficial ownership of the shares held by Portside. Peter A. Cohen, Morgan B. Stark, Thomas W. Strauss and Jeffrey M. Solomon are the sole managing members of C4S& Co., LLC, the sole managing member of Ramius Capital. As a result, Messrs. Cohen, Stark, Strauss and Solomon may be considered beneficial owners of any shares deemed to be beneficially owned by Ramius Capital. Messrs. Cohen, Stark, Strauss and Solomon disclaim beneficial ownership of these shares.

- (2) Consists of 5,000 shares issuable upon the exercise of warrants at \$3.60 expiring April 1, 2011. Mr. Chipman provided us with financial and accounting consulting services.
- (3) Includes up to 25,000 shares of common stock issuable upon exercise of warrants owned by Mid South Capital which are exercisable at a price of \$3.00 per share. Mark Hill and Jack Magerson are the principals of Mid South Capital and are therefore considered the beneficial owner of these securities.
- (4) Includes up to 25,000 shares of common stock issuable upon exercise of warrants owned by Hefcap Holdings, LLC which are exercisable at a price of \$2.50 per share and expiring March 31, 2010. Robert Rosenstein is the sole member of Hefcap Holdings, LLC. Accordingly, the shares beneficially owned by Hefcap Holdings are deemed to be beneficially owned by this selling stockholder.
- (5) Includes share issuable upon the exercise of outstanding options exercisable at \$1.55 per share expiring February 14, 2015. The principals of The Sage Group Inc. are Wayne Pambianchi, Daniel Tripodi, W. Barry McDonald, Gordon Ramseier, William Mason and R. Douglas Hulse. The foregoing securities were issued to The Sage Group Inc. and its principals for services provided to us. The Sage Group Inc. is affiliated by common ownership with Sage Healthcare Advisors LLC.
- (6) Consists of shares issuable upon exercise of 150,000 options issued in 2005 to purchase common stock at \$2.00 per share expiring September 23, 2015. Mr. Burrows is a former member of the Board of Directors.

- (7) Shares offered and owned include 30,000 shares issuable upon exercise of warrants issued in the Private Placement. The shares are beneficially owned by O'Connor PIPES Corporate Strategies Master Ltd. UBS O'Connor LLC is the investment manager for O'Connor PIPES Corporate Strategies Master Ltd. UBS O'Connor LLC is a wholly owned subsidiary of UBS AG, which is traded on the NYSE.
- (8) Shares offered and owned includes 36,058 shares issuable upon exercise of warrants issued in the Private Placement. The selling stockholder has identified Mark Nordlicht, as a natural person with voting and investment control over shares of our common stock beneficially owned by the selling stockholder. Mr. Nordlicht disclaims beneficial ownership of the securities held by Fennmore.
- (9) Shares offered and owned includes 43,269 shares issuable upon exercise of warrants issued in the Private Placement, of which 36,058 warrants were acquired from Provident Premier Master Fund, Ltd and 7,211 warrants were acquired from Gemini Master Fund, Ltd.. The Managing Members of Gemini Investment Strategies, LLC is Mr. Steven W. Winters. Mr. Winters disclaims beneficial ownership of such shares.
- (10) Shares offered and owned includes 188,461 shares issuable upon exercise of warrants issued in the Private Placement. The selling stockholder has identified Adam Benowitz, as a natural person with voting and investment control over shares of our common stock beneficially owned by the selling stockholder. Mr. Benowitz disclaims beneficial ownership of the securities held by Vision Opportunity Master Fund.
- (11) Shares offered and owned includes 37,116 shares issuable upon exercise of warrants issued in the Private Placement. Shares listed as owned and offered excludes shares beneficially owned by JMG Triton Offshore Fund, Ltd. JMG Capital Partners, L.P. ("JMG Partners") is a California limited partnership. Its general partner is JMG Capital Management, LLC (the "Manager"), a Delaware limited liability company and an investment adviser registered with the Securities and Exchange Commission. The Manager has voting and dispositive power over JMG Partners' investments, including the Registrable Securities. The equity interests of the Manager are owned by JMG Capital Management, Inc., ("JMG Capital") a Delaware corporation. Jonathan M. Glaser is the Executive Officer and Director of JMG Capital and has sole investment discretion over JMG Partners' portfolio holdings.
- (12) Shares offered and owned includes 72,116 shares issuable upon exercise of warrants issued in the Private Placement. Shares listed as owned and offered excludes shares beneficially owned by JMG Capital Partners, L.P. JMG Triton Offshore Fund, Ltd. (The "Fund") is an international business company under the laws of the British Virgin Islands. The Fund's investment manager is Pacific Assets Management LLC, a Delaware limited liability company (the "Manager"). The Manager is an investment adviser registered with the Securities and Exchange Commission and has voting and dispositive power over the Fund's investments, including the Registrable Securities. The equity interests of the Manager are owned by Pacific Capital Management, Inc., a Delaware company ("the Pacific. The equity interests of Pacific are owned by Messrs. Roger Richter, Jonathan M. Glaser and Daniel A. David and Messrs. Glaser and Richter have sole investment discretion over the fund's portfolio holdings.

- (13) Shares offered and owned include 57,692 shares issuable upon exercise of warrants issued in the Private Placement. The selling stockholder has identified Joshua Silverman, as a natural person with voting and investment control over shares of our common stock beneficially owned by the selling stockholder. Shares owned also includes 2,083,720 shares issuable upon exercise of warrants issued in the May 18, 2009 Private placement to Iroquois Master Fund, Ltd. Iroquois Master Fund Ltd. is affiliated with Iroquois Capital, L.P. Mr. Silverman manages both funds. Mr. Silverman disclaims beneficial ownership of the shares held by Iroquois Capital, LP.
- (14) Includes 150,480 shares issuable upon exercise of warrants. Jefferies acted as the sole placement agent in the financing and is a registered broker-dealer. Based upon representations made to us by Jefferies, the warrant to purchase common stock were acquired in the ordinary course of its business for its own account for investment purposes only and not with a view to, or for, distributing the warrant or the shares of common stock issuable upon exercise thereof. Jefferies does not have any agreements, plans or understandings, directly or indirectly, with any person or entity to distribute the warrant to purchase common stock or the shares of common stock issuable upon exercise of the warrant.
- (15) Reflects 10,000 options to purchase common stock at \$2.46 per share expiring December 8, 2010. The principals of Sage Healthcare Advisors LLC are Wayne Pambianchi, Daniel Tripodi, W. Barry McDonald, Gordon Ramseier, William Mason and R. Douglas Hulse. The foregoing securities were issued to Sage Healthcare Advisors LLC and its principals for services provided to us. Sage Healthcare Advisors LLC is affiliated by common ownership with The Sage Group Inc.

PLAN OF DISTRIBUTION

The common stock offered by this prospectus is being offered by the selling stockholders. The selling stockholders may sell their shares of common stock from time to time in various ways and at various prices. The shares may be sold in one or more transactions at fixed prices, at prevailing market prices at the time of the sale, at varying prices determined at the time of sale, or at negotiated prices. These sales may be affected in transactions that may involve crosses or block transactions. Some of the methods by which the selling stockholders may sell the shares include:

- on any national securities exchange or quotation service on which the shares may be listed or quoted at the time of sale;

- in the over-the-counter market;
- in transactions otherwise than on these exchanges or systems or in the over-the-counter market;
- through the writing of options, whether such options are listed on an options exchange or otherwise;
- ordinary brokerage transactions and transactions in which the broker solicits purchasers;
- privately negotiated transactions;
- block trades in which the broker or dealer will attempt to sell the shares as agent but may position and resell a portion of the block as principal to facilitate the transaction;
- purchases by a broker or dealer as principal and resale by that broker or dealer for the selling stockholder's account under this prospectus;
- sales under Rule 144 rather than by using this prospectus;
- through the settlement of short sales;
- a combination of any of these methods of sale; or
- any other legally permitted method.

In connection with sales of the shares or otherwise, the selling stockholders may enter into hedging transactions with broker-dealers, which may in turn engage in short sales of the shares in the course of hedging in positions they assume. The selling stockholders may also sell shares short and deliver shares to close out short positions, provided that the selling stockholders may not close out short positions entered into prior to the effective date of the registration statement of which this prospectus is a part with any shares included in this prospectus. The selling stockholders may also pledge their shares as collateral for a margin loan under their customer agreements with their brokers. If there is a default by the selling stockholders, the brokers may offer and sell the pledged shares from time to time under this prospectus or an amendment to this prospectus under Rule 424(b)(3) or other applicable provisions of the Securities Act amending the list of selling stockholders to include the pledgee, transferee or other successors in interest as selling stockholders under this prospectus.

Brokers or dealers may receive commissions or discounts from the selling stockholders (or, if the broker-dealer acts as agent for the purchaser of the shares, from that purchaser) in amounts to be negotiated. These commissions may exceed those customary in the types of transactions involved.

We cannot estimate at the present time the amount of commissions or discounts, if any, that will be paid by the selling stockholders in connection with sales of the shares.

The selling stockholders and any broker-dealers or agents that participate with the selling stockholders in sales of the shares may be deemed to be "underwriters" within the meaning of the Securities Act in connection with such sales. In that event, any commissions received by the broker-dealers or agents and any profit on the resale of the shares purchased by them may be deemed to be underwriting commissions or discounts under the Securities Act. The selling stockholders have advised us that they have not entered into any agreements, understandings or arrangements with any underwriters or broker-dealers regarding the sale of the shares. There is no underwriter or coordinating broker acting in connection with the proposed sale of shares by the selling stockholders. In addition, each of the selling stockholders who is a registered broker-dealer or is affiliated with a registered broker-dealer has advised us that:

- it purchased the shares in the ordinary course of business; and
- at the time of the purchase of the shares to be resold, it had no agreements or understandings, directly or indirectly, with any person to distribute the shares.

Under the securities laws of certain states, the shares may be sold in those states only through registered or licensed broker-dealers. In addition, the shares may not be sold unless they have been registered or qualified for sale in the relevant state or unless they qualify for an exemption from registration or qualification.

We do not know whether any selling stockholder will sell any or all of the shares registered by the registration statement of which this prospectus forms a part.

We have agreed to pay all fees and expenses incident to the registration of the shares, including certain fees and disbursements of counsel to certain of the selling stockholders. We have agreed to indemnify the selling stockholders against certain losses, claims, damages and liabilities, including liabilities under the Securities Act.

Certain of the selling stockholders have also agreed to indemnify us, our directors, officers, agents and representatives against certain liabilities, including certain liabilities under the Securities Act.

The selling stockholders and other persons participating in the distribution of the shares offered under this prospectus are subject to the applicable requirements of Regulation M promulgated under the Exchange Act in connection with sales of the shares. With certain exceptions, Regulation M precludes the selling stockholders, any affiliated purchasers, and any broker-dealer or other person who participates in the distribution from bidding for or purchasing, or attempting to induce any person to bid for or purchase any security which is the subject of the distribution until the entire distribution is complete. Regulation M also prohibits any bids or purchases made in order to stabilize the price of a security in connection with the distribution of that security. All of the foregoing may affect the marketability of the shares offered hereby this Prospectus.

We have agreed with the selling stockholders to keep the registration statement of which this prospectus is a part effective until all the shares registered under the registration statement have been resold.

This offering will terminate on the date that all shares offered by this Prospectus have been sold by the selling stockholders.

USE OF PROCEEDS

We will not receive any proceeds from the sale of the shares of common stock offered by the selling stockholders. We will receive proceeds from the exercising of the Warrants, if any. We will apply such proceeds, if any, to fund commercialization of Alferon® and Ampligen® along with general corporate purposes, which may include working capital, capital expenditures, research and development expenditures, regulatory affairs expenditures, clinical trial expenditures, acquisitions of new technologies and investments, and the repayment, refinancing, redemption or repurchase of future indebtedness or capital stock.

SEC POSITION ON INDEMNIFICATION FOR SECURITIES ACT LIABILITIES

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

LEGAL MATTERS

The validity of the common stock offered in this prospectus has been passed upon for us by Silverman Sclar Shin & Byrne PLLC, 381 Park Avenue South, Suite 1601, New York, New York 10016.

EXPERTS

The financial statements, the related financial statement schedule, and the effectiveness of internal control over financial reporting incorporated by reference in this Prospectus and Registration Statement have been audited by McGladrey & Pullen, LLP, an independent registered public accounting firm, as stated in their report incorporated herein by reference, and are incorporated in reliance upon such report and upon the authority of such firm as experts in accounting and auditing.

WHERE YOU CAN FIND MORE INFORMATION

This prospectus is part of a registration statement on Form S-3 that we filed with the SEC. This prospectus does not contain all of the information included in the registration statement. For further information about us and our securities, you should refer to the registration statement and the exhibits filed with the registration statement.

We are subject to the information requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 and file annual, quarterly and current reports, proxy statements and other information with the SEC. You can read our SEC filings, including the registration statement, over the Internet at the SEC's website at www.sec.gov or through our website at www.hemispherx.net. Information contained on our website is not considered to be a part of, nor incorporated by reference in, this prospectus. You may also read and copy any document we file with the SEC at its Public Reference Room at 100 F Street, NE, Washington, D.C. 20549.

You may also obtain copies of the documents at prescribed rates by writing to the Public Reference Room of the SEC at 100 F Street, NE, Washington, D.C. 20549. Please call the SEC at 1-800-SEC-0330 for further information on the operation of the Public Reference Room.

INFORMATION INCORPORATED BY REFERENCE

The SEC allows us to “incorporate by reference” the information that we file with them, which means that we can disclose important information to you by referring you to those documents. The information incorporated by reference is considered to be an important part of this prospectus, and later information that we file with the SEC will automatically update and supersede this information. We incorporate by reference the following documents and any future filing made with the SEC under Sections 13(a), 13(c), 14 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 prior to the termination of the offering:

- (a) Our annual report on Form 10-K for our fiscal year ended December 31, 2008, SEC File No. 1-13441.
- (b) Our quarterly report on Form 10-Q for the period ended March 31, 2009, SEC File No. 1-13441.
- (c) Our current reports on Form 8-K, SEC File No. 1-13441 filed with the SEC on June 24, 2009, June 17, 2009, May 27, 2009, May 26, 2009, May 19, 2009 and February 19, 2009.
- (d) Our proxy statement on schedule 14A for our 2009 annual meeting, SEC File No. 1-13441.

You may request a copy of these filings, at no cost, by writing or telephoning us at the following address: Hemispherx Biopharma, Inc., 1617 JFK Boulevard, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19103, telephone number 215-988-0080.

You should rely only on the information incorporated by reference or provided in this prospectus or any supplement. We have not authorized anyone else to provide you with different information. We will not make offers to sell these shares in any state where the offer is not permitted. You should not assume that the information in this prospectus or any supplement is accurate as of any date other than the date on the front of those documents.

No dealer, salesman or any other person is authorized to give any information or to represent anything not contained in this prospectus. You must not rely on any unauthorized information or representations. This prospectus is an offer to sell these securities and it is not a solicitation of an offer to buy these securities in any state where the offer or sale is not permitted. The information contained in this Prospectus is current only as of this date.

HEMISPHERX BIOPHARMA, INC.

1,738,864 Shares of Common Stock

PROSPECTUS

July 1, 2009
