

Capstone Therapeutics Corp.
Form 10-Q
November 13, 2014

UNITED STATES
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
Washington, DC 20549

FORM 10-Q

(Mark One)

QUARTERLY REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934

For the quarterly period ended September 30, 2014

or

TRANSITION REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934

For the transition period from _____ to _____

Commission File Number: 0-21214

CAPSTONE THERAPEUTICS CORP.
(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Delaware 86-0585310
(State or other jurisdiction of incorporation or organization) (IRS Employer Identification No.)

1275 W. Washington Street, Suite 104, Tempe, Arizona 85281
(Address of principal executive offices) (Zip Code)

(602) 286-5520
(Registrant's telephone number, including area code)

(Former name, former address and former fiscal year, if changed since last report)

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant (1) has filed all reports required to be filed by Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 during the preceding 12 months (or for such shorter period that the registrant was required to file such reports), and (2) has been subject to such filing requirements for the past 90 days. x
Yes o No

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant has submitted electronically and posted on its corporate Web site, if any, every Interactive Data File required to be submitted and posted pursuant to Rule 405 of Regulation S-T (§232.405 of this chapter) during the preceding 12 months (or for such shorter period that the registrant was required to submit and post such files).
x Yes o No

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Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a large accelerated filer, an accelerated filer, a non-accelerated filer, or a smaller reporting company. See the definitions of "large accelerated filer", "accelerated filer" and "smaller reporting company" in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act. Large accelerated filer ___ Accelerated filer ___ Non-accelerated filer ___ (do not check if a smaller reporting company) Smaller reporting company

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a shell company (as defined in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act). Yes No

APPLICABLE ONLY TO CORPORATE ISSUERS:

Indicate the number of shares outstanding of each of the issuer's classes of common stock, as of the latest practicable date.

40,885,411 shares of common stock outstanding as of October 31, 2014

CAPSTONE THERAPEUTICS CORP.

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Forward Looking Statements

We may from time to time make written or oral forward-looking statements, including statements contained in our filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission and our reports to stockholders. The safe harbor for forward-looking statements contained in the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995 protects companies from liability for their forward looking statements if they comply with the requirements of that Act. This Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q should be read in conjunction with our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2013, and contains forward-looking statements made pursuant to that safe harbor. These forward-looking statements relate to future events or to our future financial performance, and involve known and unknown risks, uncertainties and other factors that may cause our actual results, levels of activity, performance, or achievements to be materially different from any future results, levels of activity, performance or achievements expressed or implied by these forward-looking statements. In some cases, you can identify forward-looking statements by the use of words such as “may,” “could,” “expect,” “intend,” “plan,” “seek,” “anticipate,” “believe,” “estimate,” “predict,” “continue,” or the negative of these terms or other comparable terminology. You should not place undue reliance on forward-looking statements since they involve known and unknown risks, uncertainties and other factors which are, in some cases, beyond our control and which could materially affect actual results, levels of activity, performance or achievements. Factors that may cause actual results to differ materially from current expectations, which we describe in more detail in our Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2013, include, but are not limited to:

- the impact of our actions to preserve cash, including the reduction from eighteen employees to two employees and additional steps taken towards a virtual operating model;
 - unfavorable results of product candidate development efforts, including through our LipimetiX joint venture;
 - unfavorable results of pre-clinical or clinical testing, including through our LipimetiX joint venture;
 - delays in obtaining, or failure to obtain FDA approvals;
 - increased regulation by the FDA and other agencies;
 - the introduction of competitive products;
 - impairment of license, patent or other proprietary rights;
 - the impact of present and future joint venture, collaborative or partnering agreements or the lack thereof;
 - failure to successfully implement our drug development strategy for AEM-28 and its analogs;
- failure to obtain additional funds required to complete clinical trials and supporting research and production efforts necessary to obtain FDA approval for product candidates or secure development agreements with pharmaceutical manufacturers;
- effect of the ongoing qui tam litigation on our stock price, liquidity, and our ability to execute corporate or other transactions, or our ability to continue operations; and
- Qui tam litigation costs or any resulting judgment could exceed our available resources, and we may be forced to liquidate before fully exploring the value that could be realized from our LipimetiX Development LLC development activities.

If one or more of these or other risks or uncertainties materialize, or if our underlying assumptions prove to be incorrect, actual results may vary significantly from what we projected. The forward-looking statements in this Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q reflect our current views with respect to future events and are subject to these and other risks, uncertainties and assumptions relating to our operations, results of operations, business strategy and liquidity. We assume no obligation to publicly update or revise these forward-looking statements for any reason, or to update the reasons actual results could differ materially from those anticipated in these forward-looking statements, even if new information becomes available in the future.

PART I – Financial Information

Item 1. Financial Statements

CAPSTONE THERAPEUTICS CORP.
CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEETS
(in thousands, except share and per share data)

| | September 30, 2014 (unaudited) | December 31, 2013 |
|---|---|----------------------|
| ASSETS | | |
| Current assets | | |
| Cash and cash equivalents, \$89 reserved at September 30, 2014 | \$ 3,111 | \$ 6,258 |
| Other current assets | 277 | 233 |
| Total current assets | 3,388 | 6,491 |
| Patent license rights, net | 705 | 823 |
| Furniture and equipment, net | - | 3 |
| Total assets | \$ 4,093 | \$ 7,317 |
| LIABILITIES AND EQUITY | | |
| Current liabilities | | |
| Accounts payable | 225 | 88 |
| Other accrued liabilities | 246 | 12 |
| Total current liabilities | 471 | 100 |
| Equity | | |
| Capstone Therapeutics Corp. Stockholders' Equity | | |
| Common Stock \$.0005 par value; 100,000,000 shares authorized; 40,885,411 shares in 2014 and 2013 issued and outstanding | 20 | 20 |
| Additional paid-in capital | 189,267 | 189,215 |
| Accumulated deficit | (185,665) | (182,018) |
| Total Capstone Therapeutics Corp. stockholders' equity | 3,622 | 7,217 |
| Noncontrolling interest | - | - |
| Total equity | 3,622 | 7,217 |
| Total liabilities and equity | \$ 4,093 | \$ 7,317 |

See notes to unaudited condensed consolidated financial statements

CAPSTONE THERAPEUTICS CORP.
CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF OPERATIONS
(in thousands, except per share data)
(Unaudited)

| | Three months ended September 30, | | Nine months ended September 30, | |
|--|-------------------------------------|--------------|------------------------------------|--------------|
| | 2014 | 2013 | 2014 | 2013 |
| OPERATING EXPENSES | | | | |
| General and administrative | \$ 373 | \$ 245 | \$ 1,047 | \$ 956 |
| Research and development | 865 | 958 | 2,667 | 2,619 |
| Total operating expenses | 1,238 | 1,203 | 3,714 | 3,575 |
| Interest and other income, net | (4) | (1) | (67) | (155) |
| Loss from continuing operations before taxes | 1,234 | 1,202 | 3,647 | 3,420 |
| Income tax benefit | - | - | - | (21) |
| NET LOSS | 1,234 | 1,202 | 3,647 | 3,399 |
| Less: Net Loss attributable to the noncontrolling interest | - | - | - | (193) |
| Net Loss attributable to Capstone Therapeutics Corp. stockholders | \$ 1,234 | \$ 1,202 | \$ 3,647 | \$ 3,206 |
| Per Share Information: | | | | |
| Net loss, basic and diluted, attributable to Capstone Therapeutic Corp. stockholders | \$ 0.03 | \$ 0.03 | \$ 0.09 | \$ 0.08 |
| Basic and diluted shares outstanding | 40,885 | 40,885 | 40,885 | 40,885 |

See notes to unaudited condensed consolidated financial statements

CAPSTONE THERAPEUTICS CORP.
 CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS
 (in thousands)
 (Unaudited)

| | Nine months ended September 30, | |
|---|------------------------------------|-----------------|
| | 2014 | 2013 |
| OPERATING ACTIVITIES | | |
| Net loss | \$ (3,647) | \$ (3,399) |
| Non cash items: | | |
| Depreciation and amortization | 121 | 132 |
| Non-cash stock compensation | 52 | 29 |
| Change in other operating items: | | |
| Interest, income taxes and other current assets | (44) | 300 |
| Accounts payable | 137 | (33) |
| Accrued liabilities | 234 | (55) |
| Cash flows used in operating activities | (3,147) | (3,026) |
| INVESTING ACTIVITIES | | |
| Proceeds from sale of assets | - | 4 |
| Cash flows provided by investing activities | - | 4 |
| FINANCING ACTIVITIES | | |
| Cash flows provided by financing activities | - | - |
| NET DECREASE IN CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS | (3,147) | (3,022) |
| CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS, BEGINNING OF PERIOD | 6,258 | 10,205 |
| CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS, END OF PERIOD | \$ 3,111 | \$ 7,183 |

See notes to unaudited condensed consolidated financial statements

CAPSTONE THERAPEUTICS CORP.

NOTES TO UNAUDITED CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
September 30, 2014

Note A. OVERVIEW OF BUSINESS

Description of the Business

Capstone Therapeutics Corp. is a biotechnology company committed to developing a pipeline of novel peptides and other molecules aimed at helping patients with under-served medical conditions. Previously, we were focused on the development and commercialization of two product platforms: AZX100 and Chrysalin (TP508). Since March 2012, we no longer have any interest in or rights to Chrysalin. In 2012 we wound down internal operations, ceased clinical development of AZX100 in dermal scarring, formerly our principal drug candidate, and moved to a more virtual operating model. In August 2014, we notified the Licensor (AzTE) of AZX100 intellectual property that we were terminating the License Agreement and returning all interest in and rights to the AZX100 intellectual property to the Licensor.

On August 3, 2012, we entered into a joint venture, LipimetiX Development, LLC, (the "JV") to develop Apo E mimetic peptide molecule AEM-28 and its analogs. The JV has a development plan to pursue regulatory approval of AEM-28 as treatment for Severe Refractory Hypercholesterolemia and Homozygous Familial Hypercholesterolemia (granted Orphan Drug Designation by FDA in 2012). The initial development plan will extend through Phase 1a and 1b/2a clinical trials and is expected to be completed in the fourth quarter of 2014. The clinical trials will have a safety primary endpoint and an efficacy endpoint targeting reduction of cholesterol and triglycerides.

The JV received allowance from regulatory authorities in Australia permitting the JV to proceed with the planned clinical trials. The Phase 1a clinical trial commenced in Australia in April 2014 and the Phase 1b/2a clinical trial commenced in Australia in June 2014. The proposed clinical trials for AEM-28 are randomized, double-blinded, placebo-controlled studies to evaluate the safety, tolerability, pharmacokinetics and pharmacodynamics of six escalating single doses (Phase 1a in healthy patients with elevated cholesterol) and multiple ascending doses of the three highest doses from Phase 1a (Phase 1b/2a in patients with Refractory Hypercholesterolemia and healthy subjects with elevated cholesterol and high Body Mass Index). The Phase 1a clinical trial consisted of 36 patients and the Phase 1b/2a is expected to consist of no more than 15 patients. The Phase 1a clinical trial was completed in August 2014 and the Medical Safety Committee, reviewing all safety-related aspects of the clinical trial, observed an acceptable safety profile. The JV may conduct future clinical trials in Australia, the USA, and other regulatory jurisdictions if regulatory approvals, additional funding, and other conditions permit. The JV may also fund research or studies to investigate Apo E mimetic molecules, including AEM-28 and analogs, for treatment of acute coronary syndrome. For a description of the JV, please refer to Note B to our financial statements included in this Form 10-Q.

The Company intends to limit its internal operations to a virtual operating model while continuing monitoring and participating in the management of LipimetiX Development LLC's AEM-28 and analogs development activities and maintaining the required level of corporate governance and reporting required to comply with Securities and Exchange Commission rules and regulations.

Description of Our Peptide Drug Candidate.

Apo E Mimetic Peptide Molecule – AEM-28 and its analogs

Apolipoprotein E is a 299 amino acid protein that plays an important role in lipoprotein metabolism. AEM-28 is a 28 amino acid mimetic of Apo E that contains a domain that anchors into a lipoprotein surface while also providing the Apo E receptor binding domain, which allows clearance through the heparan sulfate proteoglycan (HSPG) receptors (Syndecan-1) in the liver. AEM-28, as an Apo E mimetic, has the potential to restore the ability of these atherogenic lipoproteins to be cleared from the plasma, completing the reverse cholesterol transport pathway, and thereby reducing cardiovascular risk. This is an important mechanism of action for AEM-28. For patients that lack LDL receptors (Homozygous Familial Hypercholesterolemia-HoFH), or have Severe Refractory Hypercholesterolemia, AEM-28 may provide a therapeutic solution. Our joint venture has an Exclusive License Agreement with The University of Alabama Birmingham Research Foundation for AEM-28 and certain of its analogs.

Company History

Prior to November 26, 2003, we developed, manufactured and marketed proprietary, technologically advanced orthopedic products designed to promote the healing of musculoskeletal bone and tissue, with particular emphasis on fracture healing and spine repair. Our product lines, which included bone growth stimulation and fracture fixation devices, are referred to as our “Bone Device Business.”

In November 2003, we sold our Bone Device Business. Our principal business remains focused on under-served medical conditions, although through biopharmaceutical approaches rather than through the use of medical devices.

In August 2004, we purchased substantially all of the assets and intellectual property of Chrysalis Biotechnology, Inc. (“CBI”), including its exclusive worldwide license for Chrysalin for all medical indications. Subsequently, our efforts were focused on research and development of Chrysalin with the goal of commercializing our product candidates. (In March 2012, we returned all rights to the Chrysalin intellectual property and no longer have any interest in, or rights to Chrysalin.)

In February 2006, we purchased certain assets and assumed certain liabilities of AzERx, Inc. Under the terms of the transaction, we acquired an exclusive license for the core intellectual property relating to AZX100. In August 2014, we notified the Licensor (AzTE) of AZX100 intellectual property that we were terminating the License Agreement and returning all interest in and rights to the AZX100 intellectual property to the Licensor.

On August 3, 2012, we entered into a joint venture, LipimetiX Development, LLC, (see Note B below) to develop Apo E mimetic peptide molecule AEM-28 and analogs.

Our development activities represent a single operating segment as they shared the same product development path and utilized the same Company resources. As a result, we determined that it is appropriate to reflect our operations as one reportable segment.

OrthoLogic Corp. commenced doing business under the trade name of Capstone Therapeutics on October 1, 2008, and we formally changed our name from OrthoLogic Corp. to Capstone Therapeutics Corp. on May 21, 2010.

In these notes, references to “we”, “our”, “us”, the “Company”, “Capstone Therapeutics”, “Capstone”, and “OrthoLogic” refer to Capstone Therapeutics Corp. References to our joint venture refer to LipimetiX Development, LLC.

Financial Statement Presentation

In the opinion of management, the unaudited condensed interim financial statements include all adjustments necessary for the fair presentation of our financial position, results of operations, and cash flows, and all adjustments were of a normal recurring nature. The results of operations for the interim periods are not necessarily indicative of the results to be expected for the complete fiscal year. The financial statements include the consolidated results of Capstone Therapeutics Corp. and our 60% owned subsidiary, LipimetiX Development, LLC. Intercompany transactions have been eliminated.

Certain information and footnote disclosures normally included in financial statements prepared in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles have been condensed or omitted pursuant to Securities and Exchange Commission rules and regulations, although we believe that the disclosures herein are adequate to make the information presented not misleading. These unaudited condensed financial statements should be read in conjunction with the financial statements and the notes thereto included in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2013. Information presented as of December 31, 2013 is derived from audited financial statements.

Use of Estimates

The preparation of financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States requires that management make a number of assumptions and estimates that affect the reported amounts of assets, liabilities, and expenses in our financial statements and accompanying notes. Management bases its estimates on historical experience and various other assumptions believed to be reasonable. Although these estimates are based on management's assumptions regarding current events and actions that may impact us in the future, actual results may differ from these estimates and assumptions.

Legal and Other Contingencies

As discussed in Part II, Item 1 of this Form 10-Q under the heading "Legal Proceedings" and in Note C, "Contingency – Legal Proceedings" in Notes to Financial Statements, the Company is subject to legal proceedings and claims that arise in the ordinary course of business. The Company records a liability when it is probable that a loss has been incurred and the amount is reasonably estimable. There is significant judgment required in both the probability determination and as to whether an exposure can be reasonably estimated. In the opinion of management, there was not at least a reasonable possibility the Company may have incurred a material loss with respect to loss contingencies. However, the outcome of legal proceedings and claims brought against the Company are subject to significant uncertainty. Therefore, if the qui tam legal matter, as described in Note C, is resolved against the Company in excess of management's expectations, the Company's financial statements, its development plans and financial viability, could be materially adversely affected.

Joint Venture Accounting

The Company entered into a joint venture to which it has contributed \$6,000,000, and the noncontrolling interests have contributed certain patent license rights. Neither the Company nor the noncontrolling interests have an obligation to contribute additional funds to the joint venture or to assume any joint venture liabilities or to provide a guarantee of either joint venture performance or any joint venture liability. The financial position and results of operations of the joint venture are presented on a consolidated basis with the financial position and results of operations of the Company. Intercompany transactions have been eliminated. Joint venture losses were recorded on the basis of common ownership equity interests (60% Company / 40% noncontrolling interests) until common ownership equity was reduced to \$0. Subsequent joint venture losses have been allocated to the preferred ownership equity (100% Company). Subsequent to March 31, 2013, all joint venture losses have been allocated to the Company. Effective September 1, 2014, the Company entered into a revolving loan agreement to advance the joint

venture funds for operations in an amount not to exceed a net (net of expected tax credits or other funds obtained) of \$500,000, with the net amount due June 30, 2015. Losses incurred by the joint venture in excess of the capital accounts of the joint venture will be allocated to the Company to the extent of net outstanding advances.

Cash and Cash Equivalents

At September 30, 2014, cash and cash equivalents included money market accounts. Cash and cash equivalents at September 30, 2014 include \$89,000 held in, and reserved for use by, LipimetiX Development, LLC and unavailable for general use by the Company.

Recent Accounting Pronouncements

In June 2014, the Financial Accounting Standards Board issued Accounting Standard Update (“ASU”) No. 2014-10, Development Stage Entities (Topic 915): Elimination of Certain Financial Reporting Requirements, Including an Amendment to Variable Interest Entities Guidance in Topic 810, Consolidation removes the definition of a development stage entity and all incremental financial reporting requirements from U.S. GAAP for development stage entities. Topic 915 Development Stage Entities will be removed from the FASB Accounting Standards Codification™. The elimination of the development stage entity financial reporting requirements is effective for annual reporting periods beginning after December 15, 2014. A public business entity may adopt this guidance early for any annual reporting period or interim period for which financial statements have not been issued. The adoption of this accounting standard update had no impact on our condensed consolidated financial statements. We had previously presented our financial statements with development stage entity disclosures. We adopted this accounting standard update in our third quarter ending September 30, 2014, and accordingly, have omitted development stage information and disclosures from our presentation.

In August 2014, the Financial Accounting Standards Board issued Accounting Standard Update (“ASU”) No. 2014-15, Presentation of Financial Statements – Going Concern (Subtopic 205-40)(“Update”): Disclosure of Uncertainties about an Entity’s Ability to Continue as a Going Concern, providing a requirement under U.S. GAAP for an entity’s management to evaluate whether there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about the entity’s ability to continue as a going concern within one year after the date the financial statements are issued; and if those conditions exist, to disclose that fact, the conditions and the potential effects on the entity’s ability to meet its obligations. The Update will be effective for an annual period ending after December 15, 2016, with early application permitted. This accounting standard update currently has no impact on our condensed consolidated financial statements at September 30, 2014. However, the future impact of the Update, when adopted, cannot be determined at this time.

Note B. JOINT VENTURE FOR DEVELOPMENT OF APO E MIMETIC PEPTIDE MOLECULE AEM-28 AND ANALOGS

On August 3, 2012, we entered into a Contribution Agreement with LipimetiX LLC to form a joint venture, LipimetiX Development LLC (“JV”), to develop Apo E mimetic molecules, including AEM-28 and analogs. The Company contributed \$6 million, which included \$1 million for 600,000 voting common ownership units representing 60% ownership in JV, and \$5 million for 5,000,000 non-voting preferred ownership units, which have preferential distribution rights. The Contribution Agreement called for initial funding of approximately \$3.3 million and placing the remaining \$2.7 million in escrow to be released upon milestone achievement of IND allowance by the FDA or mutual agreement of both parties. At March 31, 2014, all escrow funds had been released from the escrow account.

LipimetiX LLC contributed to JV all intellectual property rights for Apo E mimetic molecules it owned and assigned its Exclusive License Agreement between The University of Alabama Birmingham Research Foundation (“UABRF”) and LipimetiX LLC, for the UABRF intellectual property related to Apo E mimetic molecules AEM-28 and analogs, in return for 400,000 voting common ownership units representing 40% ownership in JV, and \$378,000 in cash (for certain initial patent related costs and legal expenses).

LipimetiX LLC was formed by the principals of Benu BioPharma, Inc. (“Benu”) and UABRF to commercialize UABRF’s intellectual property related to Apo E mimetic molecules, including AEM-28 and analogs. Benu is composed of Dennis I. Goldberg, Ph.D., Phillip M. Friden, Ph.D. and Eric M. Morrel, Ph.D. The Exclusive License Agreement calls for payment of patent filing, maintenance and other related patent fees, as well as a royalty of 3% on Net Sales of Licensed Products during the Term of the Agreement. The Agreement terminates upon the expiration of all Valid Patent Claims within the Licensed Patents, which are currently estimated to expire between 2019 and 2033. The Agreement also calls for annual maintenance payments of \$25,000, various milestone payments of \$50,000 to \$1,000,000 and minimum royalty payments of \$1,000,000 to \$5,000,000 per year commencing on January 1 of the first calendar year following the year in which the First Commercial Sale occurs. UABRF will also receive 15% of Non Royalty Income received.

Concurrent with entering into the Contribution Agreement and the First Amendment and Consent to Assignment of Exclusive License Agreement between LipimetiX LLC, UABRF and the Company, the Company and LipimetiX LLC entered into a Limited Liability Company Agreement for JV which establishes a Joint Development Committee (“JDC”) to manage JV development activities. The JDC is composed of three members appointed by LipimetiX LLC and two members appointed by the Company. Non-development JV decisions, including the issuance of new equity, incurrence of debt, entry into strategic transactions, licenses or development agreements, sales of assets and liquidation, will be decided by a majority vote of the common ownership units.

The JV, on August 3, 2012, entered into a Management Agreement with Benu to manage JV development activities for a monthly fee of approximately \$63,000 during the twenty-seven month development period, and an Accounting Services Agreement with the Company to manage JV accounting and administrative functions. The current accounting services fee is \$1,000 a month. Commencing in November 2014, Benu will receive a reduced monthly management fee, currently estimated to be \$35,000.

The joint venture formation was as follows (\$000’s):

| | |
|--------------------------|----------|
| Patent license rights | \$ 1,045 |
| Noncontrolling interests | (667) |
| Cash paid at formation | \$ 378 |

Patent license rights were recorded at their estimated fair value and are being amortized on a straight-line basis over the key patent life of eighty months.

The financial position and results of operations of the joint venture are presented on a consolidated basis with the financial position and results of operations of the Company. Intercompany transactions have been eliminated. The joint venture agreement requires profits and losses to be allocated on the basis of common ownership equity interests (60% Company / 40% noncontrolling interests). However, for the Company’s consolidated financial statement, joint venture losses were recorded on the basis of common ownership equity interests (60% Company / 40% noncontrolling interests) until common ownership equity was reduced to \$0. Subsequent joint venture losses have been allocated to the preferred ownership equity (100% Company). Subsequent to March 31, 2013, all joint venture losses have been allocated to the Company. Effective September 1, 2014, the Company entered into a revolving loan agreement to advance the joint venture funds for operations in an amount not to exceed a net (net of expected tax credits or other funds obtained) of \$500,000, with the net amount due June 30, 2015. Losses incurred by the joint venture in excess of

the capital accounts of the joint venture will be allocated to the Company to the extent of net outstanding advances. At September 30, 2014, there were no outstanding advances.

The joint venture incurred operating expenses, prior to the elimination of intercompany transactions, of \$2,226,000 for the nine months ended September 30, 2014 and \$6,076,000 for the period from August 3, 2012 (inception) to September 30, 2014, of which \$2,226,000 and \$5,409,000, respectively, have been allocated to the Company. The joint venture operating expenses are included in research and development expenses in the condensed consolidated statements of operations.

Neither the Company nor the noncontrolling interests have an obligation to contribute additional funds to the joint venture or to assume any joint venture liabilities or to provide a guarantee of either joint venture performance or any joint venture liability. Losses allocated to the noncontrolling interests represent an additional potential loss for the Company as the noncontrolling interests are not obligated to contribute assets to the joint venture to the extent they have a negative capital account, and depending on the ultimate outcome of the joint venture, the Company could potentially absorb all losses associated with the joint venture. From formation of the joint venture, August 3, 2012, through September 30, 2014, losses totaling \$667,000 have been allocated to the noncontrolling interests.

Note C. CONTINGENCY – LEGAL PROCEEDINGS

In April 2009, we became aware of a qui tam complaint that was filed under seal by Jeffrey J. Bierman as Relator/Plaintiff on March 28, 2005 in the United States District Court for the District of Massachusetts against OrthoLogic and other companies that allegedly manufactured bone growth stimulation devices, including Orthofix International N.V., Orthofix, Inc., DJO Incorporated, Reable Therapeutics, Inc., the Blackstone Group, L.P., Biomet, Inc., EBI, L.P., EBI Holdings, Inc., EBI Medical Systems, Inc., Bioelectron, Inc., LBV Acquisition, Inc., and Smith & Nephew, Inc. By order entered on March 24, 2009, the court unsealed the amended complaint. The amended complaint alleges various causes of action under the federal False Claims Act and state and city false claims acts premised on the contention that the defendants improperly promoted the sale, as opposed to the rental, of bone growth stimulation devices. The amended complaint also includes claims against the defendants for, among other things, allegedly misleading physicians and purportedly causing them to file false claims and for allegedly violating the Anti-kickback Act by providing free products to physicians, waiving patients' insurance co-payments, and providing inducements to independent sales agents to generate business. The Relator/Plaintiff is seeking civil penalties under various state and federal laws, as well as treble damages, which, in the aggregate could exceed the financial resources of the Company.

The United States Government declined to intervene or participate in the case. On September 4, 2009, the Relator/Plaintiff served the amended complaint on the Company. We sold our bone growth stimulation business in November 2003 and have had no further activity in the bone growth stimulation business since that date. We intend, in conjunction with the other defendants, to defend this matter vigorously and believe that at all times our billing practices in our bone growth stimulation business complied with applicable laws. On December 4, 2009, the Company, in conjunction with the other defendants, moved to dismiss the amended complaint with prejudice. In response to that motion, Relator/Plaintiff filed a second amended complaint. On August 17, 2010, the Company, in conjunction with the other defendants, moved to dismiss the second amended complaint with prejudice. That motion was denied by the court on December 8, 2010. On January 28, 2011, we, in conjunction with the other defendants, filed our answer to the second amended complaint. No trial date has been set. Discovery in the case is now open.

Based upon the currently available information, we believe that the ultimate resolution of this matter will not have a material effect on our financial position, liquidity or results of operations. However, because of many questions of law and facts that may arise, the outcome of this litigation is uncertain. If we are unable to successfully defend or otherwise dispose of this litigation, and the Relator/Plaintiff is awarded the damages sought, the litigation would have a material adverse effect on our financial position, liquidity and results of operations and we would not be able to continue our business as it is presently conducted.

Note D. Australian Refundable Research & Development Credit

In March 2014, LipimetiX Development LLC, (see Note B) formed a wholly-owned Australian subsidiary, Lipimetix Australia Pty Ltd, to conduct Phase 1a and Phase1b/2a clinical trials in Australia. Currently Australian tax regulations provide for a refundable research and development tax credit equal to 43.5% of qualified expenditures. Subsequent to the end of its Australian tax year, Lipimetix Australia Pty Ltd intends to submit a claim for a refundable research and development tax credit. The transitional Australian tax periods/years granted for Lipimetix Australia Pty Ltd end on June 30, 2014, December 31, 2014 and thereafter December 31 of each succeeding year. Through September 30, 2014, Lipimetix Australia Pty Ltd has incurred AUD\$920,000 of research and development expenditures that may be qualified expenditures eligible for a 43.5% refundable tax credit. Given the complex nature of the Australian tax regulations and the uncertainty as to the eligibility of expenditures and the amount of qualified expenditures, no refundable Australian tax credits have been recorded at September 30, 2014.

Note E. Authorized Preferred Stock

We have 2,000,000 shares of authorized preferred stock, the terms of which may be fixed by our Board of Directors. We presently have no outstanding shares of preferred stock. While we have no present plans to issue any additional shares of preferred stock, our Board of Directors has the authority, without stockholder approval, to create and issue one or more series of such preferred stock and to determine the voting, dividend and other rights of holders of such preferred stock. The issuance of any of such series of preferred stock may have an adverse effect on the holders of common stock.

In connection with the Tax Benefit Preservation Plan (“Benefit Plan”) dated June 24, 2014, between the Company and Computershare (formerly Bank of New York), our Board of Directors approved the designation of 1,000,000 shares of Series A Preferred Stock. The Benefit Plan and the exercise of rights to purchase Series A Preferred Stock, pursuant to the terms thereof, may delay, defer or prevent a change in control without the approval of the Board. In addition to the anti-takeover effects of the rights granted under the Benefit Plan, the issuance of preferred stock, generally, could have a dilutive effect on our stockholders. The Benefit Plan expires June 24, 2016.

Item 2. Management’s Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations.

The following is management’s discussion of significant events in the three and nine month periods ended September 30, 2014 and factors that affected our interim financial condition and results of operations. This should be read in conjunction with our “Management’s Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations” and “Risk Factors” included in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2013.

Overview of the Business

Capstone Therapeutics Corp. is a biotechnology company committed to developing a pipeline of novel peptides and other molecules aimed at helping patients with under-served medical conditions. Previously, we were focused on the development and commercialization of two product platforms: AZX100 and Chrysalin (TP508). Since March 2012, we no longer have any interest in or rights to Chrysalin. In 2012 we wound down internal operations, ceased clinical development of AZX100 in dermal scarring, formerly our principal drug candidate, and moved to a more virtual operating model. In August 2014, we notified the Licensor (AzTE) of AZX100 intellectual property that we were terminating the License Agreement and returning all interest in and rights to the AZX100 intellectual property to the Licensor.

On August 3, 2012, we entered into a joint venture, LipimetiX Development, LLC, (the “JV”) to develop Apo E mimetic peptide molecule AEM-28 and its analogs. The JV has a development plan to pursue regulatory approval of AEM-28 as treatment for Severe Refractory Hypercholesterolemia and Homozygous Familial Hypercholesterolemia (granted Orphan Drug Designation by FDA in 2012). The initial development plan will extend through Phase 1a and 1b/2a clinical trials and is expected to be completed in the fourth quarter of 2014. The clinical trials will have a safety primary endpoint and an efficacy endpoint targeting reduction of cholesterol and triglycerides.

The JV received allowance from regulatory authorities in Australia permitting the JV to proceed with the planned clinical trials. The Phase 1a clinical trial commenced in Australia in April 2014 and the Phase 1b/2a clinical trial commenced in Australia in June 2014. The proposed clinical trials for AEM-28 are randomized, double-blinded, placebo-controlled studies to evaluate the safety, tolerability, pharmacokinetics and pharmacodynamics of six escalating single doses (Phase 1a in healthy patients with elevated cholesterol) and multiple ascending doses of the three highest doses from Phase 1a (Phase 1b/2a in patients with Refractory Hypercholesterolemia and healthy subjects with elevated cholesterol and high Body Mass Index). The Phase 1a clinical trial consisted of 36 patients and the Phase 1b/2a is expected to consist of no more than 15 patients. The Phase 1a clinical trial was completed in August 2014 and the Medical Safety Committee, reviewing all safety-related aspects of the clinical trial, observed an acceptable safety profile. The JV may conduct future clinical trials in Australia, the USA, and other regulatory jurisdictions if regulatory approvals, additional funding, and other conditions permit. The JV may also fund research or studies to investigate Apo E mimetic molecules, including AEM-28 and analogs, for treatment of acute coronary syndrome. For a description of the JV, please refer to Note B to our financial statements included in this Form 10-Q.

The Company intends to limit its internal operations to a virtual operating model while continuing monitoring and participating in the management of LipimetiX Development LLC’s AEM-28 and analogs development activities and maintaining the required level of corporate governance and reporting required to comply with Securities and Exchange Commission rules and regulations.

Description of Our Peptide Drug Candidate.

Apo E Mimetic Peptide Molecule – AEM-28 and its analogs

Apolipoprotein E is a 299 amino acid protein that plays an important role in lipoprotein metabolism. AEM-28 is a 28 amino acid mimetic of Apo E that contains a domain that anchors into a lipoprotein surface while also providing the Apo E receptor binding domain, which allows clearance through the heparan sulfate proteoglycan (HSPG) receptors (Syndecan-1) in the liver. AEM-28, as an Apo E mimetic, has the potential to restore the ability of these atherogenic lipoproteins to be cleared from the plasma, completing the reverse cholesterol transport pathway, and thereby reducing cardiovascular risk. This is an important mechanism of action for AEM-28. For patients that lack LDL receptors (Homozygous Familial Hypercholesterolemia-HoFH), or have Severe Refractory Hypercholesterolemia, AEM-28 may provide a therapeutic solution. Our joint venture has an Exclusive License Agreement with the University of

Alabama Birmingham Research Foundation for AEM-28 and certain of its analogs.

Critical Accounting Policies

Our critical accounting policies are those that affect, or could affect our financial statements materially and involve a significant level of judgment by management. The accounting policies and related risks described in our Annual Report on Form 10-K, filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on March 27, 2014, for the year ended December 31, 2013 are those that depend most heavily on these judgments and estimates. As of September 30, 2014, there have been no material changes to any of the critical accounting policies contained in our Annual Report for the year ended December 31, 2013.

Results of Operations Comparing Three-Month Period Ended September 30, 2014 to the Corresponding Period in 2013.

General and Administrative (“G&A”) Expenses: G&A expenses related to our ongoing operations were \$373,000 in the third quarter of 2014 compared to \$245,000 in the third quarter of 2013. Administration expenses increased primarily due to costs related to the qui tam litigation, but were otherwise comparable between periods, reflecting similar administrative activities.

Research and Development Expenses: Research and development expenses were \$865,000 for the third quarter of 2014 compared to \$958,000 for the third quarter of 2013. Our research and development expenses varied in the third quarter of 2014 compared to the same period in 2013 primarily due to the inclusion and fluctuation of operating expenses of LipimetiX Development, LLC, which totaled (net of intercompany transactions) \$790,000 for the three months ended September 30, 2014, and \$840,000 for the three months ended September 30, 2013.

Net Loss attributable to Capstone Therapeutics stockholders: We incurred a net loss in the third quarter of 2014 of \$1.2 million compared to a net loss of \$1.2 million in the third quarter of 2013. Net loss is affected by the inclusion of the operating expenses of LipimetiX Development, LLC, which totaled (net of intercompany transactions) \$790,000 for the three months ended September 30, 2014, and \$840,000 for the three months ended September 30, 2013.

Results of Operations Comparing Nine-Month Period Ended September 30, 2014 to the Corresponding Period in 2013.

General and Administrative (“G&A”) Expenses: G&A expenses related to our ongoing operations were \$1,047,000 in 2014 compared to \$956,000 in 2013. Administration expenses increased primarily due to costs related to the qui tam litigation, but were otherwise comparable between periods, reflecting similar administrative activities.

Research and Development Expenses: Research and development expenses were \$2,667,000 in 2014 compared to \$2,619,000 in 2013. Our research and development expenses include the operating expenses of LipimetiX Development, LLC, which totaled (net of intercompany transactions) \$2,195,000 for the nine months ended September 30, 2014, and \$2,255,000 for the nine months ended September 30, 2013.

Interest and Other Income, Net: Interest and other income, net, in 2014 and 2013 included \$60,000 and \$152,000, respectively, from the conversion of an insurance company, in which we were a policyholder, from mutual to private ownership. No additional amounts are expected to be received from the conversion.

Net Loss attributable to Capstone Therapeutics stockholders: We incurred a net loss in 2014 of \$3.6 million compared to a net loss of \$3.2 million in 2013. Net Loss includes the operating expenses of LipimetiX Development, LLC, which totaled (net of intercompany transactions) \$2,195,000 for the nine months ended September 30, 2014, and \$2,255,000 for the nine months ended September 30, 2013. The Net Loss in 2014 increased primarily due to less other income in 2014 and the allocation of 100% of the joint venture losses to the Company in 2014.

Liquidity and Capital Resources

With the sale of our Bone Device Business in November 2003, we sold all of our revenue producing operations. Since that time, we have primarily relied on our cash and investments to finance all our operations, the focus of which has been research and development of our product candidates.

On August 3, 2012, we entered into a joint venture, LipimetiX Development, LLC (“JV”) to develop Apo E mimetic peptide molecule AEM-28 and its analogs and we contributed \$6.0 million to the Joint Venture. The Joint Venture has used \$5.9 million of its cash through September 30, 2014. At September 30, 2014, we had cash and cash equivalents of \$3.1 million, of which \$0.1 million is held in, and reserved for use by, LipimetiX Development, LLC and unavailable for general use by the Company.

If we continue our plan to limit internal operations in a virtual operating model in 2014, we currently estimate that we will expend in the range of \$4.0 million in 2014, which includes approximately \$2.5 million by LipimetiX Development LLC, of which the joint venture had \$2.0 million at December 31, 2013, with the remaining \$0.5 million to be allocated from general Company funds and obtained from other sources (Including the possible Australian refundable research and development tax credit as described in Note D). Our 2014 estimated expenditures excludes litigation costs related to the qui tam action, which cannot be estimated at this time and if significant, would have a material adverse effect on our financial position and our ability to continue our development activities. Currently our planned operations in 2014 consist of continuing monitoring and participating in the management of LipimetiX Development LLC’s AEM-28 and its analogs development activities, and maintaining the required level of corporate governance and reporting required to comply with Securities and Exchange Commission rules and regulations.

Our future research and development and other expenses will vary significantly from prior periods and depend on the Company’s decisions on future LipimetiX Development LLC operations and qui tam litigation activity.

We anticipate that our cash and short-term investments at September 30, 2014 will be sufficient to meet our presently projected cash and working capital requirements for the next twelve months. However, we will require additional funds if we chose to extend the development of AEM-28 and its analogs past the initial Phase 1a and Phase 1b/2a clinical trials. We cannot currently predict the amount of funds that will be required if we chose to extend the development activities of AEM-28 and its analogs or to bring the qui tam action to a final resolution. In any event, to complete the clinical trials and supporting research and production efforts necessary to obtain FDA or comparable foreign agencies’ approval for product candidates would require us to obtain substantial additional capital. New sources of funds, including raising capital through the sales of our debt or equity securities, joint venture or other forms of joint development arrangements, sales of development rights, or licensing agreements, may not be available or may only be available on terms that would have a material adverse impact on our existing stockholders’ interests.

Item 4. Controls and Procedures

Disclosure Controls and Procedures

Our management, with the participation of our principal executive officer and principal financial and accounting officer, has reviewed and evaluated our disclosure controls and procedures (as defined in the Securities Exchange Act Rule 13a-15(e)) as of the end of the period covered by this Form 10-Q. Based on that evaluation, our management, including our principal executive officer and principal financial and accounting officer, has concluded that our disclosure controls and procedures were effective as of the end of the period covered by this Form 10-Q in ensuring that information required to be disclosed in the reports that we file or submit under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 is recorded, processed, summarized and reported within the time periods specified in the Securities and Exchange Commission's rules and forms and is accumulated and communicated to management, including our principal executive officer and principal financial and accounting officer, as appropriate, to allow timely decisions regarding required disclosure.

Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

There were no changes in our internal control over financial reporting during the fiscal quarter to which this report relates that have materially affected, or are reasonably likely to materially affect, our internal control over financial reporting.

Part II – Other Information

Item 1. Legal Proceedings

Reference is made to Item 3. Legal Proceedings in our Form 10-K filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on March 27, 2014 and to Note C to our Financial Statements included in this report, which information is incorporated in this Item 1 by reference.

Item 1A. Risk Factors

There are no material changes from the risk factors disclosed in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2013.

Item 6. Exhibits

See the Exhibit Index following this report.

SIGNATURES

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

CAPSTONE THERAPEUTICS
CORP.
(Registrant)

| Signature | Title | Date |
|--|---|-------------------|
| /s/ John M. Holliman, III John M. Holliman, III | Executive Chairman (Principal Executive Officer) | November 13, 2014 |
| /s/ Les M. Taeger Les M. Taeger | Senior Vice President and Chief Financial Officer (Principal Financial and Accounting Officer) | November 13, 2014 |

Capstone Therapeutics Corp.
 (the "Company")
 Exhibit Index to Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q
 For the Quarterly Period Ended September 30, 2014

| No. | Description | Incorporated by Reference To: | Filed Herewith |
|------|---|-------------------------------|----------------|
| 31.1 | Certification of Principal Executive Officer Pursuant to Securities Exchange Act Rule 13a-14(a), as amended. | | X |
| 31.2 | Certification of Principal Financial and Accounting Officer Pursuant to Securities Exchange Act Rule 13a-14(a), as amended. | | X |
| 32 | Certification of Principal Executive Officer and Principal Financial and Accounting Officer Pursuant to 18 U.S.C. Section 1350.* | | |
| 101 | The following financial information from our Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the third quarter of fiscal year 2014, filed with the SEC on November 13, 2014 formatted in Extensible Business Reporting Language (XBRL): (i) the Condensed Consolidated Balance Sheets as of September 30, 2014 and December 31, 2013, (ii) the Condensed Consolidated Statements of Operations for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2014 and 2013, (iii) the Condensed Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows for the nine months ended September 30, 2014 and 2013, and (iv) Notes to Unaudited Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements. | | X |

* Furnished herewith