

Mast Therapeutics, Inc.  
Form 425  
March 06, 2017

UNITED STATES

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20549

FORM 8-K

CURRENT REPORT

Pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934

Date of Report (Date of earliest event reported): March 6, 2017

Mast Therapeutics, Inc.

(Exact name of Registrant as Specified in Its Charter)

Delaware  
(State or Other Jurisdiction

001-32157

84-1318182  
(IRS Employer

of Incorporation)

(Commission File Number) Identification No.)

3611 Valley Centre Drive, Suite 500,

San Diego, CA  
(Address of Principal Executive Offices)

92130  
(Zip Code)

Registrant's Telephone Number, Including Area Code: (858) 552-0866

Not Applicable

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(Former Name or Former Address, if Changed Since Last Report)

Check the appropriate box below if the Form 8-K filing is intended to simultaneously satisfy the filing obligation of the registrant under any of the following provisions (see General Instructions A.2. below):

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

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

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

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

Item 7.01 Regulation FD Disclosure.

As previously announced, on January 6, 2017, Mast Therapeutics, Inc. (“Mast” or the “Company”), Victoria Merger Corp., a Delaware corporation and a wholly-owned subsidiary of Mast (“Merger Sub”), and Savara Inc., a privately-held Delaware corporation focused on the development and commercialization of novel therapies for the treatment serious or life-threatening rare respiratory diseases (“Savara”), entered into an Agreement and Plan of Merger and Reorganization (the “Merger Agreement”), pursuant to which, among other things, subject to approval of the stockholders of Mast and Savara and the satisfaction or waiver of the other conditions set forth in the Merger Agreement, Merger Sub will merge with and into Savara, with Savara becoming a wholly-owned subsidiary of the Company (the “Merger”).

The information furnished in Exhibit 99.1 to this report, which relates to Savara and its development programs, may be presented from time to time by Savara at various meetings with securities market participants. Mast has not independently verified the material in this presentation. The presentation shall not be deemed “filed” for any purpose, including for the purposes of Section 18 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the “Exchange Act”), or otherwise subject to the liabilities of that Section.

The information in this Item 7.01, including Exhibit 99.1, shall not be deemed incorporated by reference into any filing under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, or the Exchange Act, regardless of any general incorporation language in the filing.

By furnishing the information in this Item 7.01 of this Current Report on Form 8-K, including Exhibit 99.1, the Company makes no admission as to the materiality of such information. The information contained herein is intended to be considered in the context of the Company’s filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission (“SEC”) and other public announcements that the Company makes, by press release or otherwise, from time to time. The Company undertakes no duty or obligation to publicly update or revise the information contained in this report, although it may do so from time to time as its management believes is appropriate. Any such updating may be made through the filing of other reports or documents with the SEC, through press releases or through other public disclosure.

Item 8.01 Other Events.

On March 6, 2017, the Company issued a press release announcing an investigator-sponsored Phase 1/2 clinical study of its lead product candidate, AIR001, for the treatment of Pseudomonas aeruginosa infection in cystic fibrosis patients. A copy of the press release is attached hereto as Exhibit 99.2 and is incorporated by reference herein.

Additional Information about the Merger and Where to Find It

In connection with the Merger, the Company has filed relevant materials with the SEC, including a registration statement on Form S-4 that contains a prospectus, proxy statement and information statement. Investors and security holders of the Company and Savara are urged to read these materials when the registration statement becomes effective because they contain important information about the Company, Savara and the Merger. The proxy statement/prospectus/information statement and any other documents filed by the Company with the SEC may be obtained free of charge at the SEC web site at [www.sec.gov](http://www.sec.gov). In addition, investors and security holders may obtain free copies of the documents filed with the SEC by the Company by directing a written request to: Mast Therapeutics, Inc., 3611 Valley Centre Drive, Suite 500, San Diego, CA 92130, Attention: Investor Relations. Investors and security holders are urged to read the proxy statement/prospectus/information statement and the other relevant materials when they become available before making any voting or investment decision with respect to the Merger.

This communication shall not constitute an offer to sell or the solicitation of an offer to sell or the solicitation of an offer to buy any securities, nor shall there be any sale of securities in any jurisdiction in which such offer, solicitation or sale would be unlawful prior to registration or qualification under the securities laws of any such jurisdiction. No offering of securities shall be made except by means of a prospectus meeting the requirements of Section 10 of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended.

#### Participants in the Solicitation

The Company and its directors and executive officers and Savara and its directors and executive officers may be deemed to be participants in the solicitation of proxies from the stockholders of the Company in connection with the proposed transaction. Information regarding the special interests of these directors and executive officers in the merger will be included in the proxy statement/prospectus/information statement referred to above. Additional information regarding the directors and executive officers of the Company is also included in the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2015 and the proxy statement for the Company's 2016 Annual Meeting of Stockholders. These documents are available free of charge at the SEC web site ([www.sec.gov](http://www.sec.gov)) and from the Company, Attn: Investor Relations, at the address described above.

#### Item 9.01 Financial Statements and Exhibits.

Reference is made to the Exhibit Index included with this Current Report on Form 8-K.

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 hereunto duly authorized.

Mast Therapeutics, Inc.

Date: March 6, 2017 By: /s/ Brandi L. Roberts  
Brandi L. Roberts  
Chief Financial Officer and Senior Vice President

Exhibit Index

Exhibit

Number Description

99.1 Savara Inc. corporate presentation, March 2017

99.2 Mast Therapeutics, Inc. press release, dated March 6, 2017

