

MAP Pharmaceuticals, Inc.
Form 424B5
September 29, 2010
Table of Contents

The information in this preliminary prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus, relating to an effective registration statement under the Securities Act of 1933, is not complete and may be changed. This preliminary prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus are not an offer to sell these securities and we are not soliciting an offer to buy these securities in any jurisdiction where the offer or sale is not permitted.

Subject to Completion, Dated September 29, 2010

Filed Pursuant to Rule 424(b)(5)

Registration No. 333-164894

Preliminary Prospectus Supplement

(to Prospectus Dated April 16, 2010)

MAP Pharmaceuticals, Inc.

3,000,000 Shares of Common Stock

We are offering 3,000,000 shares of our common stock.

Our common stock is listed on The Nasdaq Global Market under the symbol MAPP. The last reported sales price of our common stock on September 28, 2010 was \$15.19 per share.

Investing in our common stock involves significant risks. See Risk Factors beginning on page S-5 of this prospectus supplement and page 1 of the accompanying prospectus.

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

	Per Share	Total
Public Offering price	\$	\$
Underwriting discounts and commissions	\$	\$
Proceeds, before expenses, to us	\$	\$

Edgar Filing: MAP Pharmaceuticals, Inc. - Form 424B5

We estimate the total expenses of this offering, excluding the underwriting discounts and commissions, will be approximately \$450,000. The underwriter may also purchase up to an additional 450,000 of our common shares from us at the public offering price, less underwriting discounts and commissions, to cover over-allotments, if any, within 30 days of the date of this prospectus supplement.

We anticipate that delivery of the shares of our common stock will be made through the facilities of the Depository Trust Company on or about October , 2010, subject to customary closing conditions.

Sole Book-Running Manager

Lazard Capital Markets

Prospectus supplement dated September , 2010.

Table of Contents

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Prospectus Supplement

	Page
<u>ABOUT THIS PROSPECTUS SUPPLEMENT</u>	S-ii
<u>PROSPECTUS SUPPLEMENT SUMMARY</u>	S-1
<u>FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS</u>	S-4
<u>RISK FACTORS</u>	S-5
<u>USE OF PROCEEDS</u>	S-28
<u>PRICE RANGE OF COMMON STOCK</u>	S-28
<u>DILUTION</u>	S-28
<u>DIVIDEND POLICY</u>	S-29
<u>CAPITALIZATION</u>	S-30
<u>DESCRIPTION OF COMMON STOCK</u>	S-31
<u>CERTAIN MATERIAL UNITED STATES FEDERAL INCOME TAX CONSEQUENCES TO NON-U.S. HOLDERS</u>	S-33
<u>UNDERWRITING</u>	S-36
<u>LEGAL MATTERS</u>	S-40
<u>EXPERTS</u>	S-40
<u>WHERE YOU CAN FIND MORE INFORMATION</u>	S-40
<u>INCORPORATION OF CERTAIN INFORMATION BY REFERENCE</u>	S-40

Prospectus

<u>ABOUT THIS PROSPECTUS</u>	ii
<u>FORWARD LOOKING STATEMENTS</u>	ii
<u>WHERE YOU CAN FIND MORE INFORMATION</u>	ii
<u>MAP PHARMACEUTICALS, INC.</u>	1
<u>RISK FACTORS</u>	1
<u>USE OF PROCEEDS</u>	1
<u>RATIO OF EARNINGS TO FIXED CHARGES</u>	2
<u>DESCRIPTION OF DEBT SECURITIES</u>	3
<u>DESCRIPTION OF CAPITAL STOCK</u>	9
<u>DESCRIPTION OF WARRANTS</u>	13
<u>PLAN OF DISTRIBUTION</u>	15
<u>EXPERTS</u>	16
<u>VALIDITY OF THE SECURITIES</u>	16

Table of Contents

ABOUT THIS PROSPECTUS SUPPLEMENT

This prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus are part of a registration statement that we filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission (the "SEC") using a shelf registration process. Under the registration statement, we registered the offering by us of up to \$100,000,000 of common shares, warrants, preference shares and debt securities for sale from time to time in one or more offerings. This prospectus supplement provides specific information about the offering by us of 3,000,000 of our common shares under the shelf registration statement, in addition to information concerning the over-allotment option granted by us.

Both this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus include or incorporate by reference important information about us, our common stock and other information you should know before investing. You should read both this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus as well as additional information described under "Where You Can Find More Information" elsewhere in this prospectus supplement.

You should rely only on the information contained or incorporated by reference in this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus. We have not authorized anyone to provide you with information that is different. This prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus do not constitute an offer to sell or a solicitation of an offer to buy by anyone in any jurisdiction in which such offer or solicitation is not authorized, or in which the person is not qualified to do so or to any person to whom it is unlawful to make such offer or solicitation. Neither the delivery of this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus nor any sale hereunder shall, under any circumstances, create any implication that there has been no change in our affairs since the date of this prospectus supplement, that the information contained herein is correct as of any time subsequent to the date hereof or that any information incorporated or deemed to be incorporated by reference herein is correct as of any time subsequent to the date hereof.

This document is in two parts. The first part is the prospectus supplement, which adds to, updates or may change information contained in the accompanying prospectus. The second part, the accompanying prospectus, provides more general information, some of which may not apply to this offering. Generally, when we refer to this prospectus, we are referring to both parts of this document combined. If information in this prospectus supplement is inconsistent with information in the accompanying prospectus, this prospectus supplement will apply and will supersede that information in the accompanying prospectus.

Information contained on our website does not constitute part of this prospectus supplement.

Unless the context indicates otherwise, references in this prospectus supplement to "MAP Pharmaceuticals," "we," "us," and "our" and the company to MAP Pharmaceuticals, Inc., its predecessors and its consolidated subsidiaries.

Table of Contents

PROSPECTUS SUPPLEMENT SUMMARY

The following summary includes basic information about our company, this offering and information appearing elsewhere in this prospectus supplement and in the accompanying prospectus and in the documents we incorporate by reference. This summary is not complete and may not contain all of the information that you should consider before investing in our common shares. For a more complete understanding of our company and this offering, we encourage you to read carefully this entire prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus, including the Risk Factors contained in this prospectus supplement, the accompanying prospectus and the financial documents and notes incorporated by reference in this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus, before making an investment decision. This prospectus supplement may add to, update or change information in the accompanying prospectus.

The Company

Our goal is to use proprietary inhalation technologies to enhance the therapeutic benefits and commercial attractiveness of proven drugs while minimizing risk by capitalizing on their known safety, efficacy and commercialization history. We have proprietary product candidates in development that address large market opportunities, including our most advanced product candidate, LEVADEX, formerly known as MAP0004, our proprietary orally inhaled version of dihydroergotamine, or DHE, for the potential treatment of migraine. LEVADEX is designed to provide faster onset and longer lasting pain relief than triptans, the class of drugs most often prescribed for treating migraine.

For our LEVADEX migraine program, we expect to submit a new drug application, or NDA, to the U.S. Food and Drug Administration, or the FDA, in the first half of 2011. We initiated a Phase 3 clinical program in July 2008. In May 2009, we announced results of the efficacy portion of our first Phase 3 clinical trial of LEVADEX. We announced that the clinical trial met its four primary endpoints, pain relief and being nausea, phonophobia and photophobia free as reported two hours after dosing. Additional endpoints showed that LEVADEX provided rapid and sustained pain relief for up to 48 hours after dosing. In January 2010, the FDA informed us that a second pivotal efficacy study is not required for our LEVADEX NDA submission for the acute treatment of migraine if the topline efficacy results we submitted are confirmed during the review of our NDA. In order to obtain regulatory approval for LEVADEX, we will need to complete our remaining clinical studies, including our ongoing 12 month open-label safety extension of our Phase 3 clinical study and the analysis of the results of a thorough QT study.

The following summarizes the status of our LEVADEX clinical development program:

Open-label safety trial: This 12 month open-label, long-term safety extension of our Phase 3 FREEDOM-301 trial is designed to evaluate overall safety of LEVADEX in at least 300 patients for six months and 150 patients for 12 months, including asthmatics. To date, more than 400 patients have completed at least six months of treatment and more than 200 patients have completed twelve months of treatment. All non-asthmatic patients and a subset of asthmatic patients have completed treatment. The remaining patients are expected to complete treatment in 2010. We, along with an independent data monitoring committee, or DMC, recently completed an interim safety review of all patients, including asthmatics. In this trial, LEVADEX has been well tolerated and no drug-related serious adverse events have been reported. To date, no clinically significant trends have been reported for LEVADEX in the evaluation of cardiovascular measurements (as measured by electrocardiogram, echocardiogram and chest x-ray) and pulmonary function (as measured by DLco and FEV1).

Thorough QT trial: We have completed treatment in a randomized, double-blind, placebo-controlled, three-way, crossover trial of approximately 54 healthy adults that will evaluate whether LEVADEX has an effect on QT interval as measured by electrocardiogram. The objectives of the trial are to compare the acute effect of LEVADEX, moxifloxacin and placebo on the QT interval and assess the tolerability of a suprathreshold dose of LEVADEX. We anticipate releasing results from this trial in the fourth quarter of 2010.

Pharmacodynamics (PD) trial: This completed trial showed that there was no statistically significant difference between the LEVADEX orally inhaled migraine therapy and placebo groups in the primary endpoint of pulmonary artery pressure over two hours after administration. Pulmonary artery pressure in the intravenous DHE, or IV DHE, group was higher than both the LEVADEX and placebo groups. The PD trial was a randomized, double blind, placebo controlled, three-way, crossover trial in healthy adults, comparing the acute effects of LEVADEX, IV DHE and placebo on pulmonary artery pressure.

Table of Contents

Pharmacokinetics (PK) trial: This completed trial showed that the systemic absorption of LEVADEX was not higher and systemic exposure to DHE was not greater in smokers than in non-smokers. This single dose, open-label, crossover trial compared the PK of LEVADEX to IV DHE in both smokers and non-smokers.

We hold worldwide commercialization rights for LEVADEX and our goal is to market LEVADEX in the United States through our own focused sales force targeting neurologists and headache specialists. We may establish partnerships with pharmaceutical companies to market and sell to primary care physicians and specialists both inside and outside of the United States.

MAP Pharmaceuticals, Inc., incorporated in the state of Delaware, was originally formed as a limited liability company on July 3, 2003 and converted to a corporation on December 11, 2003. Our principal executive offices are located at 2400 Bayshore Parkway, Suite 200, Mountain View, CA 94043, and our telephone number at that address is (650) 386-3100. Our website can be found at www.mapharma.com. The information contained in, or that can be accessed through, our website is not part of this prospectus supplement or any accompanying prospectus supplement.

Table of Contents

The Offering

The following summary is qualified in its entirety by reference to the more detailed information appearing elsewhere in this prospectus supplement. For more information concerning our common stock, see Description of Common Stock.

Issuer	MAP Pharmaceuticals, Inc.
The Nasdaq Global Market Symbol	MAPP
Common Stock Offered by us	3,000,000 shares (or 3,450,000 shares if the underwriter exercises in full its over-allotment option to purchase additional shares)
Common Stock to be Outstanding Immediately After this Offering (1)	29,674,034 shares (or 30,124,034 shares if the underwriter exercises in full its over-allotment option to purchase additional shares)
Risk Factors	See Risk Factors beginning on page S-5 of this prospectus supplement and on page 1 of the accompanying prospectus for a discussion of the factors you should carefully consider before deciding to invest in our common stock.
Use of Proceeds	We estimate that the net proceeds from this offering, after deducting underwriting discounts and commissions and before estimated offering expenses, will be approximately \$43.3 million (or approximately \$49.8 million if the underwriter exercises in full its over-allotment option to purchase additional shares), based on an assumed offering price of \$15.19 per share (which was the closing price on September 28, 2010). We intend to apply the net proceeds from this offering for general corporate purposes, focusing on clinical development of LEVADEX. For more information, see Use of Proceeds.
Certain Material United States Federal Income Tax Consequences to Non-U.S. Holders	You should consult with your tax advisor with respect to the U.S. federal income tax considerations of owning our common stock in light of your own particular situation and with respect to any tax considerations arising under the laws of any state, local, foreign or other taxing jurisdiction. See Certain Material United States Federal Income Tax Consequences to Non-U.S. Holders.

(1) The number of shares of our common stock to be outstanding immediately after this offering as shown above is based on shares outstanding as of September 28, 2010. This number excludes 4,033,889 shares of common stock issuable upon the exercise of outstanding stock options, and warrants to purchase shares of our common stock, 98,000 performance-based restricted stock units and 450,000 shares subject to the underwriter's over-allotment option.

Table of Contents

FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS

All statements included or incorporated by reference into this prospectus supplement, the accompanying prospectus and the documents incorporated by reference into this prospectus supplement, other than statements of historical facts, that address activities, events or developments that we intend, expect, project, believe or anticipate will or may occur in the future are forward looking statements within the meaning of Section 27A of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, and Section 21E of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, or the Exchange Act, which are subject to the "safe harbor" created by those sections. This prospectus supplement, the accompanying prospectus and the documents incorporated by reference into this prospectus supplement contain forward looking statements that are based on current expectations, estimates, forecasts and projections about us, our future performance, our business or others on our behalf, our beliefs and our management's assumptions. In some cases you can identify forward-looking statements by words such as may, will, should, could, would, expects, plan, anticipates, believes, estimates, projects, predicts, potential and similar expressions intended to identify forward-looking statements. Examples of these statements include, but are not limited to, statements regarding:

governmental regulation and approval;

the implications of interim or final results of our clinical trials, the progress of our research programs, including clinical testing;

the extent to which our issued and pending patents may protect our products and technology;

our ability to identify new product candidates;

the potential of such product candidates to lead to the development of commercial products;

our anticipated timing for initiation or completion of our clinical trials for any of our product candidates;

our future operating expenses;

our future losses;

our future expenditures for research and development; and

the sufficiency of our cash resources.

Our actual results could differ materially from those anticipated in these forward-looking statements for many reasons, including the risks faced by us and described in "Risk Factors" elsewhere in this prospectus supplement. You should not place undue reliance on these forward-looking statements, which apply only as of the date of this prospectus supplement. These cautionary statements should be considered in connection with any written or oral forward looking statements that we may issue in the future. Except as required by law, we assume no obligation to update these forward-looking statements, whether as a result of new information, future events or otherwise.

Table of Contents

RISK FACTORS

An investment in our common stock involves a high degree of risk. You should carefully consider the following risk factors in addition to the remainder of this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus, including the information incorporated by reference, before making an investment decision. In addition, you should carefully consider, among other things, the matters discussed under Risk Factors in our Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the quarterly period ended June 30, 2010, and in other documents that we subsequently file with the SEC, all of which are incorporated by reference into this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus. The risks and uncertainties described in such incorporated documents and described below are not the only risks and uncertainties we face. Additional risks and uncertainties not presently known to us or that we currently deem immaterial may also impair our business operations. If any of those risks actually occurs, our business, financial condition and results of operations would suffer. In that event, the trading price of our common stock could decline, and you may lose all or part of your investment in our common stock. The risks discussed below also include forward-looking statements and our actual results may differ substantially from those discussed in these forward-looking statements. See Forward-Looking Statements.

Risks Relating to Our Financial Position and Need for Additional Capital

We have a history of net losses. Currently, we have no products approved for commercial sale, and to date we have not generated any product revenue. As a result, we expect to continue to incur substantial and increasing net losses for the foreseeable future, and we may never achieve or maintain profitability.

We are not profitable and do not expect to be profitable in the foreseeable future. We have incurred significant net losses and negative cash flow in each year since our inception, including net losses of approximately \$40.1 million, \$72.9 million and \$9.0 million, for the years ended December 31, 2007, 2008 and 2009, respectively and \$12.5 million and \$26.5 million for the quarter and six months ended June 30, 2010, respectively. As of June 30, 2010, we had a deficit accumulated during development stage of approximately \$211.4 million. We have devoted most of our financial resources to research and development, including our pre-clinical development activities and clinical trials. We have not completed development of, or commercialized any product candidate and have therefore not generated any product revenues. In that regard, we expect to have substantial expenses as we continue with our Phase 3 clinical program for LEVADEX, our most advanced product candidate, and conduct other clinical trials. In addition, if we are required by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration, or the FDA, to perform studies in addition to those we currently anticipate, our expenses will increase beyond expectations and the timing of any potential product approval may be delayed. We also expect an increase in our expenses associated with our manufacturing work and with preparing for commercialization. In addition, we expect to continue to incur costs to support operations as a public company. As a result, we may continue to incur substantial net losses and negative cash flow for the foreseeable future. These losses and negative cash flows have had, and will continue to have, an adverse effect on our stockholders' equity and working capital.

Because of the numerous risks and uncertainties associated with pharmaceutical product development, we are unable to accurately predict the timing or amount of substantial expenses or when, or if, we will be able to achieve or maintain profitability. We have financed our operations primarily through the sale of equity securities, collaboration payments and debt financings. The size of our future net losses will depend, in part, on the rate of growth of our expenses and the rate of growth, if any, of our revenues. Revenues from potential strategic partnerships are uncertain because we may not enter into any additional strategic partnerships. On July 8, 2009, we received a notice of termination of our license agreement with AstraZeneca AB, or the AstraZeneca Agreement, related to our Unit Dose Budesonide, or UDB, product candidate. Under the AstraZeneca Agreement, AstraZeneca had agreed to fund our remaining development activities for UDB and to reimburse us for costs we incur with respect to future development activities conducted for the U.S. registration of our UDB product candidate, subject to the terms and conditions of the AstraZeneca Agreement. Following the termination of the AstraZeneca Agreement, we suspended development of UDB. If we are unable to develop and commercialize our other product candidates, including pursuant to strategic partnerships, or if sales revenue from any product candidate that receives marketing approval is insufficient, we will not achieve profitability. Even if we do achieve profitability, we may not be able to sustain or increase profitability.

Table of Contents

We have a limited operating history, and we expect a number of factors to cause our operating results to fluctuate on a quarterly and annual basis, which may make it difficult to predict our future performance.

Our operations to date have been primarily limited to organizing and staffing our company, developing our technology and undertaking pre-clinical studies and clinical trials of our product candidates. We have not yet obtained regulatory approvals for any of our product candidates. Consequently, any predictions you make about our future success or viability may not be as accurate as they could be if we had a longer operating history. Specifically, our financial condition and operating results have varied significantly in the past and will continue to fluctuate from quarter-to-quarter and year-to-year in the future due to a variety of factors, many of which are beyond our control. Factors relating to our business that may contribute to these fluctuations include the following factors, among others:

our ability to obtain additional funding to develop our product candidates;

the need to obtain regulatory approval of our most advanced product candidate, LEVADEX for the potential treatment of migraine;

potential risks related to any collaborations we may enter into for our product candidates, including LEVADEX;

delays in the commencement, enrollment and completion of clinical testing, as well as the analysis and reporting of results from such clinical testing;

the success of clinical trials of our LEVADEX product candidate or future product candidates;

any delays in regulatory review and approval of product candidates in development;

our ability to receive regulatory approval or commercialize our product candidates;

our ability to rely on Section 505(b)(2) of the Federal Food, Drug and Cosmetic Act, or FFDC, to seek FDA marketing approval of our product candidates;

market acceptance of our product candidates for which we obtain regulatory approval;

our ability, and our partners' ability, to establish an effective sales and marketing infrastructure;

competition from existing products or new products that may emerge;

the impact of competition, including generics, in the migraine market on our ability to commercialize LEVADEX;

the ability of patients to obtain coverage of or sufficient reimbursement for our products;

Edgar Filing: MAP Pharmaceuticals, Inc. - Form 424B5

the ability to receive regulatory approval or commercialize our products outside of the United States;

potential side effects of our future products that could delay or prevent commercialization or cause an approved drug to be taken off the market;

regulatory difficulties relating to products that have already received regulatory approval;

guidelines and recommendations of therapies published by various organizations;

S-6

Table of Contents

potential product liability claims;

potential liabilities associated with hazardous materials;

our ability to maintain adequate insurance policies;

our dependency on third-party manufacturers to supply or manufacture our products;

our ability to establish or maintain collaborations, licensing or other arrangements;

our ability, our partners' abilities, and third parties' abilities to protect and assert intellectual property rights;

costs related to and outcomes of potential intellectual property litigation;

compliance with obligations under intellectual property licenses with third parties;

our ability to adequately support future growth; and

our ability to attract and retain key personnel to manage our business effectively.

Due to the various factors mentioned above, and others, the results of any prior quarterly or annual periods should not be relied upon as indications of our future operating performance.

We will need substantial additional funding and if we are unable to raise capital when needed, we would be forced to delay, reduce or eliminate our product development programs.

Developing biopharmaceutical products, including conducting pre-clinical studies and clinical trials and establishing manufacturing capabilities, is expensive. We expect to have substantial research and development expenses in connection with our ongoing activities, particularly as we focus on and proceed with our Phase 3 clinical program of LEVADEX, our most advanced product candidate. In addition, our expenses could increase beyond expectations if the FDA requires that we perform additional studies to those that we currently anticipate, in which case the timing of any potential product approval may be delayed. We believe that our existing cash and cash equivalents will be sufficient to fund our projected operating requirements for at least 12 months. We will need substantial additional capital in the future in order to complete the development and commercialization of LEVADEX and to fund the development and commercialization of future product candidates. Until we can generate a sufficient amount of product revenue, if ever, we expect to finance future cash needs through public or private equity offerings, debt financings or corporate collaboration and licensing arrangements. Such funding, if needed, may not be available on favorable terms, if at all. In the event we are unable to obtain additional capital, we may delay or reduce the scope of our current research and development programs and other expenses

If adequate funds are not available, we may be required to delay, reduce the scope of or eliminate one or more of our research or development programs or our commercialization efforts. To the extent that we raise additional funds by issuing equity securities, our stockholders may experience additional significant dilution, and debt financing, if available, may involve restrictive covenants. To the extent that we raise additional funds through collaboration and licensing arrangements, it may be necessary to relinquish some rights to our technologies or our product candidates or to grant licenses on terms that may not be favorable to us. We may seek to access the public or private capital markets whenever conditions are favorable, even if we do not have an immediate need for additional capital at that time.

Edgar Filing: MAP Pharmaceuticals, Inc. - Form 424B5

Our forecast of the period of time through which our financial resources will be adequate to support our operations is a forward-looking statement and involves risks and uncertainties, and actual results could vary as a result of a number of factors, including the factors discussed elsewhere in this Risk Factors section. We have based this estimate on assumptions that may prove to be wrong, and we could utilize our available capital resources sooner than we currently expect. Our future funding requirements will depend on many factors, including, but not limited to:

the scope, rate of progress and cost of our clinical trials and other research and development activities;

S-7

Table of Contents

the costs and timing of regulatory approval;

the costs of filing, prosecuting, defending and enforcing any patent claims and other intellectual property rights;

the effect of competing technological and market developments;

the terms and timing of any collaboration, licensing or other arrangements that we may establish;

the cost and timing of completion of clinical and commercial-scale manufacturing activities; and

the costs of establishing sales, marketing and distribution capabilities for any product candidates for which we may receive regulatory approval.

Risks Relating to the Development, Regulatory Approval and

Commercialization of Our Product Candidates

We are largely dependent on the success of one product candidate, and we cannot be certain that this product candidate will receive regulatory approval.

We have invested a significant portion of our efforts and financial resources in the development of LEVADEX and UDB. In February 2009, we announced top-line results from our first Phase 3 trial of UDB, indicating that the trial did not meet its co-primary endpoints in either dose evaluated when compared to placebo. In July 2009, we announced that we were suspending development of UDB, after our partner AstraZeneca terminated our license agreement. We are now largely dependent on the success of one product candidate, LEVADEX, for which we are conducting a Phase 3 clinical development program. Our ability to generate product revenue, which we do not expect will occur for at least the next several years, if ever, will depend heavily on the successful development, regulatory approval and commercialization of this product candidate. We may have inadequate financial or other resources to advance LEVADEX through the clinical trial process, depending on the requirements of the FDA. In May 2009, we announced top-line results from the efficacy portion of our first Phase 3 trial of LEVADEX, indicating that the trial met all its co-primary endpoints when LEVADEX was compared to placebo. A long-term safety extension of the trial is ongoing. Although we had planned to initiate a second Phase 3 efficacy study in the first quarter of 2010, we have been informed by the FDA that a second pivotal efficacy study is not required for submission of our NDA if the topline efficacy results we submitted in 2009 are confirmed during the NDA review. We have completed a pharmacokinetics trial in 23 adult smokers comparing them to 24 adult non-smokers. The trial was designed to measure whether the systemic absorption of LEVADEX is higher and exposure to dihydroergotamine mesylate, or DHE, is greater in smokers than in non-smokers. In the trial, the systemic absorption of LEVADEX was not higher and systemic exposure to DHE was not greater in smokers than in non-smokers. We also have completed a pharmacodynamics trial evaluating pulmonary artery pressure in approximately 24 healthy volunteers using echocardiograms. The trial compared the acute effects on pulmonary artery pressure of LEVADEX, DHE administered intravenously and placebo. In the trial, there was no statistically significant difference between the LEVADEX and placebo groups in the primary endpoint of pulmonary artery pressure over two hours after administration. In addition we have completed patient treatment in a thorough QT trial evaluating whether LEVADEX has an effect on QT interval as measured by electrocardiograms in support of our application to the FDA for regulatory approval. We expect treatment in our remaining LEVADEX clinical trials to be completed in 2010. Our clinical development program for LEVADEX may not lead to regulatory approval from the FDA and similar foreign regulatory agencies if we fail to demonstrate that the product candidate is safe and effective in our planned clinical trials, and we may therefore fail to commercialize LEVADEX. Any failure to obtain regulatory approval of LEVADEX would have a material and adverse impact on our business.

Table of Contents

With the suspension of development for our UDB product candidate, LEVADEX is our only current product candidate in late stage development. Our drug development efforts may not produce any other proprietary product candidates. We cannot be certain that we will be able to acquire or in-license other product candidates or develop a next generation budesonide therapy for the treatment of asthma in children, should we pursue these activities. Our failure to develop product candidates will limit our ability to generate additional revenue.

We currently have no approved drug products for sale and we cannot guarantee that we will ever have marketable drug products. The research, testing, manufacturing, labeling, approval, selling, marketing and distribution of drug products are subject to extensive regulation by the FDA and other regulatory authorities in the United States and other countries, with regulations differing from country to country. We are not permitted to market our product candidates in the United States until we receive approval of an NDA from the FDA for each product candidate. We have not submitted an NDA or received marketing approval for any of our product candidates. Obtaining approval of an NDA is a lengthy, expensive and uncertain process. Markets outside of the United States also have requirements for approval of drug candidates which we must comply with prior to marketing.

We may enter into collaborations with third parties to develop and commercialize our product candidates, including LEVADEX. These collaborations may place the development of our product candidates outside our control, may require us to relinquish important rights or may otherwise be on terms unfavorable to us.

We may enter into collaborations with third parties to develop and commercialize our product candidates, including LEVADEX. Our dependence on future partners for development and commercialization of our product candidates will subject us to a number of risks, including:

we may not be able to control the amount and timing of resources that our partners may devote to the development or commercialization of product candidates or to their marketing and distribution;

partners may delay clinical trials, provide insufficient funding for a clinical trial program, stop a clinical trial or abandon a product candidate, repeat or conduct new clinical trials or require a new formulation of a product candidate for clinical testing;

disputes may arise between us and our partners that result in the delay or termination of the research, development or commercialization of our product candidates or that result in costly litigation or arbitration that diverts management's attention and resources;

partners may experience financial difficulties;

partners may not properly maintain or defend our intellectual property rights, or may use our proprietary information, in such a way as to invite litigation that could jeopardize or invalidate our intellectual property rights or proprietary information or expose us to potential litigation;

business combinations or significant changes in a partner's business strategy may adversely affect a partner's willingness or ability to meet its obligations under any arrangement;

a partner could independently move forward with a competing product candidate developed either independently or in collaboration with others, including our competitors; and

the collaborations with our partners may be terminated or allowed to expire, which would delay the development and may increase the cost of developing our product candidates.

Table of Contents

Delays in the commencement, enrollment and completion of clinical testing could result in increased costs to us and delay or limit our ability to obtain regulatory approval for our product candidates.

Delays in the commencement, enrollment and completion of clinical testing could significantly affect our product development costs. We do not know whether planned clinical trials for LEVADEX will be completed on schedule, if at all. The commencement and completion of clinical trials requires us to identify and maintain a sufficient number of trial sites, many of which may already be engaged in other clinical trial programs for the same indication as our product candidates or may be required to withdraw from our clinical trial as a result of changing standards of care or may become ineligible to participate in clinical studies. The commencement, enrollment and completion of clinical trials can be delayed for a variety of other reasons, including delays related to:

reaching agreements on acceptable terms with prospective contract research organizations, or CROs, and trial sites, the terms of which can be subject to extensive negotiation and may vary significantly among different CROs and trial sites;

obtaining regulatory approval to commence a clinical trial;

obtaining institutional review board, or IRB, approval to conduct a clinical trial at numerous prospective sites;

recruiting and enrolling patients to participate in clinical trials for a variety of reasons, including meeting the enrollment criteria for our study and competition from other clinical trial programs for the same indication as our product candidates;

retaining patients who have initiated a clinical trial but may be prone to withdraw due to the treatment protocol, lack of efficacy, personal issues or side effects from the therapy or who are lost to further follow-up;

maintaining and supplying clinical trial material on a timely basis; and

collecting, analyzing and reporting final data from the clinical trials.

In addition, a clinical trial may be suspended or terminated by us, the FDA or other regulatory authorities due to a number of factors, including:

failure to conduct the clinical trial in accordance with regulatory requirements or our clinical protocols;

inspection of the clinical trial operations or trial sites by the FDA or other regulatory authorities resulting in the imposition of a clinical hold;

unforeseen safety issues or any determination that a trial presents unacceptable health risks; and

lack of adequate funding to continue the clinical trial, including the incurrence of unforeseen costs due to enrollment delays, requirements to conduct additional trials and studies and increased expenses associated with the services of our CROs and other third parties.

We are conducting a Phase 3 clinical program to support our NDA for LEVADEX. In October 2009, we submitted our topline efficacy results for the double-blind efficacy portion of our pivotal Phase 3 study. We recently completed a pharmacokinetics trial in healthy adult smokers and

Edgar Filing: MAP Pharmaceuticals, Inc. - Form 424B5

non-smokers and a pharmacodynamics trial measuring pulmonary artery pressure in healthy adults. We are currently completing the long-term safety extension of our pivotal Phase 3 trial and have completed treatment in a thorough QT trial in support of our NDA for LEVADEX. FDA communicated its agreement with the design, execution, and analyses for our pivotal Phase 3 trial, which we submitted to the Agency under the Special Protocol Assessment, or SPA, process and modified as suggested by FDA. Under a SPA, the FDA agrees to not later alter its position with respect to adequacy of the design, execution, or analyses of the clinical trial intended to form the primary basis of an effectiveness claim in an NDA, without the sponsor's agreement unless the FDA identifies a substantial scientific issue essential to determining the safety or efficacy of the drug after testing begins. In March 2010, we held a pre-NDA meeting with the FDA to discuss the clinical portion of our anticipated NDA filing. The FDA's minutes of that meeting state that, while the FDA did not have a record of a formal SPA, the FDA concurred with the selection of our co-primary endpoints and confirmed that a second pivotal efficacy study was not necessary if topline efficacy results were confirmed during the NDA review. We believe that our prior written correspondence and interactions with the FDA under the SPA process constitute an SPA with the agency. The FDA may take a different view and could request additional safety and efficacy studies without having to identify a substantial scientific issue with our Phase 3 trial that is essential to determining the safety and efficacy of LEVADEX. If we are required to conduct additional clinical trials or other testing of our LEVADEX product candidate beyond those that we currently contemplate, we may be delayed in obtaining, or may not be able to obtain, marketing approval for this product candidate. We may not be able to obtain approval for indications that are as broad as intended or we may obtain approval for indications different than those indications for which we seek approval. Furthermore we may not be able to obtain approval for any of our other product candidates.

S-10

Table of Contents

Additionally, changes in regulatory requirements and guidance may occur and we may need to amend clinical trial protocols to reflect these changes with appropriate regulatory authorities. Amendments may require us to resubmit our clinical trial protocols to IRBs for re-examination, which may impact the costs, timing or successful completion of a clinical trial. If we experience delays in the completion of, or if we terminate, our clinical trials, the commercial prospects for our product candidates will be harmed, and our ability to generate product revenues will be delayed. In addition, many of the factors that cause, or lead to, a delay in the commencement or completion of clinical trials may also ultimately lead to the denial of regulatory approval of a product candidate. Even if we are able to ultimately commercialize our product candidates, other therapies for the same or similar indications may have been introduced to the market and established a competitive advantage.

Because the results of prior clinical trials are not necessarily predictive of future results, LEVADEX or any other product candidate advanced into clinical trials may not have favorable results in subsequent clinical trials or receive regulatory approval.

Success in pre-clinical studies and clinical trials does not ensure that subsequent clinical trials will generate adequate data to demonstrate the efficacy and safety of the investigational drug. A number of companies in the pharmaceutical industry, including those with greater resources and experience, have suffered significant setbacks in Phase 3 clinical trials, even after seeing promising results in prior clinical trials.

In May 2009, we announced top-line results from the efficacy portion of our Phase 3 trial of LEVADEX, indicating that the trial met all four of its co-primary endpoints when LEVADEX was compared to placebo. A long-term safety extension of this Phase 3 trial is ongoing, and we expect to complete patient treatment by the end of the year. In July 2010, we announced that in a pharmacokinetics trial of LEVADEX, systemic absorption of LEVADEX was not higher and systemic exposure to DHE was not greater in smokers than in non-smokers. In September 2010, we reported results from a pharmacodynamics trial comparing the acute effects on pulmonary artery pressure of LEVADEX, DHE administered intravenously and placebo. In the trial, there was no statistically significant difference between the LEVADEX and placebo groups in the primary endpoint of pulmonary artery pressure over two hours after administration. We also announced that we completed patient treatment in a thorough QT trial. In order to obtain regulatory approval for LEVADEX, we need to complete the long-term safety extension trial and the analysis of the results of the thorough QT trial. The data collected from our clinical trials may not be adequate to support regulatory approval of LEVADEX or any of our other product candidates. Even if we obtain regulatory approval of a product candidate, the FDA may require continuing evaluation and study of our product through clinical trials as a condition of any approval. Despite the results reported in prior clinical trials for our product candidates, we do not know whether subsequent clinical trials we may conduct will demonstrate adequate efficacy and safety to result in regulatory approval to market our product candidates. For example, after receiving positive data from a previous Phase 2 trial, in February 2009 we announced top-line results from our Phase 3 trial of UDB, indicating that the trial did not meet its co-primary endpoints in either dose evaluated when compared to placebo.

Table of Contents

If clinical trials of our LEVADEX product candidate or future product candidates do not produce results necessary to support regulatory approval in the United States or elsewhere or show undesirable side effects, we will be unable to commercialize these products.

To receive regulatory approval for the commercial sale of LEVADEX or any other product candidates, we must conduct adequate and well-controlled clinical trials to demonstrate efficacy and safety in humans. Clinical testing is expensive, takes many years and has an uncertain outcome. Clinical failure can occur at any stage of the testing. Our clinical trials may produce negative or inconclusive results. In such cases, we may decide, or regulators may require us, to conduct additional clinical and/or non-clinical testing, or we may decide not to pursue further development of a product candidate, such as the case of our UDB product candidate, where top-line results of our Phase 3 clinical trial indicated that the trial failed to meet the primary endpoints. Subsequently we suspended development of UDB. In addition, the results of our clinical trials may show that our product candidates may cause undesirable side effects, which could interrupt, delay or halt clinical trials, resulting in our inability to obtain regulatory approval by the FDA and other regulatory authorities.

In light of widely publicized events concerning the safety risk of certain drug products, regulatory authorities, members of Congress, the Government Accounting Office, medical professionals and the general public have raised concerns about potential drug safety issues. These events have resulted in the withdrawal of drug products, revisions to drug labeling that further limit use of the drug products and establishment of risk management programs that may, for instance, restrict distribution of drug products. The increased attention to drug safety issues may result in a more cautious approach by the FDA to clinical trials and regulatory approval. Data from clinical trials may receive greater scrutiny with respect to safety, which may make the FDA or other regulatory authorities more likely to terminate clinical trials before completion, or require longer or additional clinical trials that may result in substantial additional expense and a delay or failure in obtaining approval or approval for a more limited indication than originally sought.

Our failure to adequately demonstrate the efficacy and safety of LEVADEX or any other product candidates would prevent regulatory approval and, ultimately, the commercialization of that product candidate.

All of our product candidates in development require regulatory review and approval prior to commercialization. Any delay in the regulatory review or approval of any of our product candidates in development will harm our business.

All of our product candidates in development require regulatory review and approval prior to commercialization. Any delays in the regulatory review or approval of our product candidates in development would delay market launch, increase our cash requirements and result in additional operating losses.

The process of obtaining FDA and other required regulatory approvals, including foreign approvals, often takes many years and can vary substantially based upon the type, complexity and novelty of the products involved. Furthermore, this approval process is extremely complex, expensive and uncertain. We or our partners may not be able to maintain our proposed schedules for the submission of any NDA in the United States or any marketing approval application or other foreign applications for any of our products. If we or our partners submit any NDA, including any amended NDA or supplemental NDA, to the FDA seeking marketing approval for any of our product candidates, the FDA must decide whether to either accept or reject the submission for filing. We cannot be certain that any of these submissions will be accepted for filing and reviewed by the FDA, or that our marketing approval application submissions to any other regulatory authorities will be accepted for filing and review by those authorities. We cannot be certain that we or our partners will be able to respond to any regulatory requests during the review period in a timely manner without delaying potential regulatory action. We also cannot be certain that any of our product candidates will receive favorable recommendation from any FDA advisory committee or foreign regulatory bodies or be approved for marketing by the FDA or foreign regulatory authorities. In addition, delays in approvals or rejections of marketing applications may be based upon many factors, including regulatory requests for additional analyses, reports, data and/or studies, regulatory questions regarding data and results, changes in regulatory policy during the period of product development and/or the emergence of new information regarding our products or other products.

Table of Contents

Data obtained from pre-clinical studies and clinical trials are subject to different interpretations, which could delay, limit or prevent regulatory review or approval of any of our products. In addition, as a routine part of the evaluation of any potential drug, clinical studies are generally conducted to assess the potential for drug drug interactions that could impact potential product safety. At this point in time, we have not been requested to perform drug drug interaction studies, but any such requirement may delay any potential product approval and will increase our expenses associated with our clinical programs. Furthermore, regulatory attitudes towards the data and results required to demonstrate safety and efficacy can change over time and can be affected by many factors, such as the emergence of new information, including on other products, changing policies and agency funding, staffing and leadership. We cannot be sure whether future changes to the regulatory environment will be favorable or unfavorable to our business prospects.

In addition, the environment in which our regulatory submissions may be reviewed changes over time. For example, average review times at the FDA for marketing approval applications have fluctuated over the last ten years, and we cannot predict the review time for any of our submissions with any regulatory authorities. In addition, review times can be affected by a variety of factors, including budget and funding levels and statutory, regulatory and policy changes.

We may not be able to rely on Section 505(b)(2) of the Federal Food, Drug and Cosmetic Act, which could result in a longer development program and more costly trials than we anticipate.

We may not be able to seek FDA marketing approval of our product candidates under Section 505(b)(2) of the FFDCA. Section 505(b)(2), if applicable to us, would allow an NDA we file with the FDA to rely in part on data in the public domain or the FDA's prior conclusions regarding the safety and effectiveness of approved compounds, which could expedite the development program for our product candidates by potentially decreasing the overall scope of work we must do ourselves. If we are unable to rely on Section 505(b)(2), the development program for our product candidates would be longer than we expect, and we would also have to conduct more costly trials than we anticipate.

If any of our product candidates for which we or our partners receive regulatory approval do not achieve broad market acceptance, the revenues that we generate from their sales will be limited.

The commercial success of our product candidates for which we or our partners obtain marketing approval from the FDA or other regulatory authorities will depend upon the acceptance of these products among physicians, the medical community, patients, and coverage and reimbursement of them by third-party payors, including government payors. The degree of market acceptance of any of our approved products will depend on a number of factors, including:

a product's FDA-approved labeling as well as limitations or warnings contained in the labeling;

changes in the standard of care for the targeted indications for any of our product candidates, which could reduce the marketing impact of any claims that we could make following FDA approval;

limitations inherent in the approved indication for any of our product candidates compared to more commonly understood or addressed medical conditions;

lower demonstrated efficacy and a less favorable safety or tolerability profile compared to other products;

Table of Contents

device-related difficulties associated with our Tempo inhaler;

prevalence and severity of adverse effects;

ineffective marketing and distribution efforts;

lack of availability of reimbursement from managed care plans and other third-party payors;

lack of cost-effectiveness;

timing of market introduction and perceived effectiveness of competitive products;

availability of alternative therapies, including generics, at similar or lower costs;

patients' potential preferences to take oral medications over inhaled medications; and

potential product liability claims.

Our and our partners' ability to effectively promote and sell our product candidates in the marketplace will also depend on pricing and cost effectiveness, including our and our partners' ability to manufacture a product at a competitive price. We will also need to demonstrate acceptable evidence of safety and efficacy and may need to demonstrate relative convenience and ease of administration. Inhaled versions of certain previously approved drugs have suffered commercial failure, including recently inhaled insulin. If our product candidates are approved but do not achieve an adequate level of acceptance by physicians, health care payors and patients, we may not generate sufficient revenue from these products, and we may not become or remain profitable. In addition, our and our partners' efforts to educate the medical community and third-party payors on the benefits of our product candidates may require significant resources and may never be successful. If our approved drugs fail to achieve market acceptance, we will not be able to generate significant revenue, if any.

We have never marketed a drug before, and if we are unable to establish, or access an effective and focused sales force and marketing infrastructure, we will not be able to commercialize our product candidates successfully.

We plan to market or co-promote our products where appropriate and build our own focused sales force in the United States. We currently do not have significant internal sales, distribution and marketing capabilities. For example, in order to commercialize LEVADEX, we intend to develop a focused sales force and marketing capabilities in the United States directed at high prescribers including specialists such as neurologists and headache specialists. The development of a focused sales and marketing infrastructure for our domestic operations will require substantial resources, will be expensive and time consuming and could negatively impact our commercialization efforts, including delay of any product launch. Many of these costs will be incurred in advance of notice to us that any of our product candidates has been approved. In addition, we may not be able to hire a focused sales force in the United States that is sufficient in size or has adequate expertise in the medical markets that we intend to target, including neurology. If we are unable to establish our focused sales force and marketing capability for our most advanced product candidate, we may not be able to generate any product revenue, may generate increased expenses and may never become profitable.

We expect intense competition with respect to our existing and future product candidates.

The pharmaceutical industry is highly competitive, with a number of established, large pharmaceutical companies, as well as many smaller companies. Many of these companies have greater financial resources, marketing capabilities and experience in obtaining regulatory approvals for product candidates. There are many pharmaceutical companies, biotechnology companies, public and private universities, government agencies and research organizations actively engaged in research and development of products which may target the same indications as our

Edgar Filing: MAP Pharmaceuticals, Inc. - Form 424B5

product candidates. We expect any future products we develop to compete on the basis of, among other things, product efficacy and safety, time to market, price, extent of adverse side effects and convenience of treatment procedures. One or more of our competitors may develop products based upon the principles underlying our proprietary technologies earlier than us, obtain approvals for such products from the FDA more rapidly than us or develop alternative products or therapies that are safer, more effective and/or more cost effective than any products developed by us.

S-14

Table of Contents

Competitors may seek to develop alternative formulations of our product candidates that address our targeted indications. The commercial opportunity for our product candidates could be significantly harmed if competitors are able to develop alternative formulations outside the scope of our products. Compared to us, many of our potential competitors have substantially greater:

capital resources;

research and development resources, including personnel and technology;

clinical trial experience;

regulatory experience;

expertise in prosecution of intellectual property rights;

manufacturing and distribution experience; and

sales and marketing resources and experience.

As a result of these factors, our competitors may obtain regulatory approval of their products more rapidly than we are able to or may obtain patent protection or other intellectual property rights that limit our ability to develop or commercialize our product candidates. Our competitors may also develop drugs that are more effective, useful and less costly than ours and may also be more successful than us in manufacturing and marketing their products.

The migraine market is extremely competitive which may negatively impact our ability to commercialize LEVADEX.

If approved for the treatment of acute migraine, we anticipate that LEVADEX would compete against other marketed migraine therapies and may compete with products currently under development by both large and small companies. The majority of marketed prescription products for the treatment of migraine are in the triptan class. The largest selling triptan is sumatriptan with 2009 sales of approximately \$800 million in the United States, including approximately \$600 million from generics and \$200 million from branded Imitrex from GlaxoSmithKline. There are at least six other branded triptan therapies being sold by pharmaceutical companies. Alternative formulations of triptans are available that may have faster onset of action than solid oral dosage forms. In April 2008, GlaxoSmithKline's Treximet, a combination oral formulation of sumatriptan and naproxen sodium, was approved by the FDA for the acute treatment of migraine. In July 2009, Zogenix, Inc.'s Sumavel DosePro needle-free sumatriptan was approved by the FDA for the treatment of acute migraine and cluster headache. Alternative formulations of dihydroergotamine, or DHE, include Migranal, which is nasally delivered, and which may become generically available prior to any commercial introduction of LEVADEX. In addition to the marketed migraine therapeutics, there are product candidates under development by large pharmaceutical companies, such as Merck & Co., Inc., and other smaller companies, that could potentially be used to treat acute migraine and compete with LEVADEX. In addition, Allergan, Inc. is developing Botox botulinum toxin for the potential treatment of chronic migraine.

We also may face competition from generic sumatriptan, the active ingredient in Imitrex. The FDA has approved generic versions of sumatriptan. Although we believe generic sumatriptan could not be substituted for LEVADEX, a generic version of sumatriptan may be more quickly adopted by health insurers and patients than LEVADEX. Financial pressure to use generic products and uncertainty of reimbursement for single source alternatives, such as LEVADEX, may encourage the use of a generic product over LEVADEX.

Table of Contents

If our patients are unable to obtain coverage of or sufficient reimbursement for our products, it is unlikely that our products will be widely used.

Successful sales of our products depend on the availability of adequate coverage and reimbursement from third-party payors. Healthcare providers that purchase medicine or medical products for treatment of their patients generally rely on third-party payors to reimburse all or part of the costs and fees associated with the products. Adequate coverage and reimbursement from governmental payors, such as Medicare and Medicaid, and commercial payors is critical to new product acceptance. Patients are unlikely to use our products if they do not receive reimbursement adequate to cover the cost of our products.

In addition, the market for our future products will depend significantly on access to third-party payors' drug formularies, or lists of medications for which third-party payors provide coverage and reimbursement. Industry competition to be included in such formularies results in downward pricing pressures on pharmaceutical companies. Third-party payors may refuse to include a particular branded drug in their formularies when a generic equivalent is available.

All third-party payors, whether governmental or commercial, whether inside the United States or outside, are developing increasingly sophisticated methods of controlling healthcare costs. In addition, in the United States, no uniform policy of coverage and reimbursement for medical technology exists among all these payors. Therefore, coverage of and reimbursement for medical products can differ significantly from payor to payor.

Further, we believe that future coverage and reimbursement may be subject to increased restrictions both in the United States and in international markets, pursuant to currently proposed healthcare reforms or otherwise. Third-party coverage and reimbursement for our products may not be available or adequate in either the United States or international markets, limiting our ability to sell our products on a profitable basis.

Even if our product candidates receive regulatory approval in the United States, we or our partners may never receive approval or commercialize our products outside of the United States.

In order to market and commercialize any products outside of the United States, we and our partners must establish and comply with numerous and varying regulatory requirements of other countries regarding safety and efficacy. Approval procedures vary among countries and can involve additional pre-clinical studies and clinical trials and additional administrative review periods. For example, European regulatory authorities generally require clinical testing comparing the efficacy of the new drug to an existing drug prior to granting approval. The time required to obtain approval in other countries might differ from that required to obtain FDA approval. The regulatory approval process in other countries may include all of the risks detailed above regarding FDA approval in the United States, as well as other risks. Regulatory approval in one country does not ensure regulatory approval in another, but a failure or delay in obtaining regulatory approval in one country may have a negative effect on the regulatory process in other countries. Failure to obtain regulatory approval in other countries or any delay or setback in obtaining such approval could have the same adverse effects detailed above regarding FDA approval in the United States. As described above, such effects include the risks that our product candidates may not be approved for all indications requested, which could limit the uses of our product candidates and have an adverse effect on product sales and potential royalties, and that such approval may be subject to limitations on the indicated uses for which the product may be marketed or require costly, post-marketing follow-up studies.

Table of Contents

Our product candidates may have undesirable side effects and cause our approved drugs to be taken off the market.

If our most advanced product candidate, LEVADEX, or any other product candidate, receives marketing approval and we or others later identify undesirable side effects caused by such products:

regulatory authorities may require the addition of labeling statements, specific warnings, contraindications or field alerts to physicians and pharmacies;

regulatory authorities may withdraw their approval of the product and require us to take our approved drug off the market;

we may be required to change the way the product is administered, conduct additional clinical trials or change the labeling of the product;

we may have limitations on how we promote our drugs;

sales of products may decrease significantly;

we may be subject to litigation or product liability claims; and

our reputation may suffer.

Any of these events could prevent us from achieving or maintaining market acceptance of the affected product or could substantially increase our commercialization costs and expenses, which in turn could delay or prevent us from generating significant revenues from its sale.

Even if our product candidates receive regulatory approval, we and our partners may still face future development and regulatory difficulties.

Even if U.S. regulatory approval is obtained, the FDA may still impose significant restrictions on a product's indicated uses or marketing or impose ongoing requirements for potentially costly post-approval studies. Given the number of recent high profile adverse safety events with certain drug products, the FDA may require, as a condition of approval, costly risk management programs which may include safety surveillance, restricted distribution and use, patient education, enhanced labeling, special packaging or labeling, expedited reporting of certain adverse events, pre-approval of promotional materials and restrictions on direct-to-consumer advertising. In addition, the FDA could condition any approval of LEVADEX on our implementation of a post-approval risk management plan. Furthermore, heightened Congressional scrutiny on the adequacy of the FDA's drug approval process and the agency's efforts to assure the safety of marketed drugs has resulted in the proposal of new legislation addressing drug safety issues. Any new legislation could result in delays or increased costs during the period of product development, clinical trials and regulatory review and approval, as well as increased costs to assure compliance with any new post-approval regulatory requirements. Any of these restrictions or requirements could force us to conduct costly studies or increase the time for us to become profitable. For example, any labeling approved for LEVADEX or any other product candidates may include a restriction on the term of its use, such as a black box warning, or it may not include one or more of our intended indications. The FDA historically has required that labeling for products containing DHE include a contraindication for use in women who are, or who may become, pregnant. Although we believe that this contraindication is not applicable to our formulation of DHE, the FDA may disagree and require the LEVADEX labeling to carry this contraindication.

Our product candidates will also be subject to ongoing FDA requirements for the current Good Manufacturing Practices, or cGMP, labeling, packaging, storage, advertising, promotion, record-keeping and submission of safety and other post-market information on the drug. In addition, approved products, manufacturers and manufacturers' facilities are subject to continual review and periodic inspections. If a regulatory agency discovers previously unknown problems with a product, such as adverse events of unanticipated severity or frequency, or problems with the

Edgar Filing: MAP Pharmaceuticals, Inc. - Form 424B5

facility where the product is manufactured, a regulatory agency may impose restrictions on that product or us, including requesting withdrawal of the product from the market. If our product candidates fail to comply with applicable regulatory requirements, or fail to be made in compliance with applicable regulatory requirements such as cGMP, a regulatory agency may:

issue warning letters or untitled letters identifying violations;

S-17

Table of Contents

require us to enter into a consent decree, which can include imposition of various fines, reimbursements for inspection costs, required due dates for specific actions and penalties for noncompliance;

impose other civil or criminal penalties;

suspend regulatory approval;

suspend any ongoing clinical trials;

refuse to approve pending applications or supplements to approved applications filed by us;

impose restrictions on operations, including costly new manufacturing requirements; or

seize or detain products or require a product recall.

We or our potential partners will need to obtain FDA approval of the proposed product names for our product candidates and any failure or delay associated with such approval may adversely impact our business.

Any name we or our potential partners intend to use for our product candidates will require approval from the FDA regardless of whether we or our partners have secured a formal trademark registration from the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office. The FDA typically conducts a rigorous review of proposed product names, including an evaluation of potential for confusion with other product names. The FDA may also object to a product name if it believes the name inappropriately implies medical claims. If the FDA objects to our product names, we may be required to adopt an alternative name for our product candidates. If we or our partners adopt an alternative name, we or our partners would lose the benefit of our existing trademark applications and may be required to expend significant additional resources in an effort to identify a suitable product name that would qualify under applicable trademark laws, not infringe the existing rights of third parties and be acceptable to the FDA. We or our partners may be unable to build a successful brand identity for a new trademark in a timely manner or at all, which would limit our ability to commercialize our product candidates.

Guidelines and recommendations published by various organizations may affect the use of our products.

Government agencies issue regulations and guidelines directly applicable to us and to our products. In addition, professional societies, practice management groups, private health/science foundations and organizations involved in various diseases from time to time publish guidelines or recommendations to the medical and patient communities. These various sorts of recommendations may relate to such matters as product usage, dosage, route of administration and use of related or competing therapies. Changes to this recommendation or other guidelines advocating alternative therapies could result in decreased use of our products, which may adversely affect our results of operations.

We face potential product liability exposure and, if successful claims are brought against us, we may incur substantial liability for a product candidate and may have to limit its commercialization.

The use of our product candidates in clinical trials and the sale of any products for which we obtain marketing approval, if at all, expose us to the risk of product liability claims. Product liability claims might be brought against us by consumers, health care providers or others using, administering or selling our products. If we cannot successfully defend ourselves against these claims, we will incur substantial liabilities. Regardless of merit or eventual outcome, liability claims may result in:

withdrawal of clinical trial participants;

termination of clinical trial sites or entire trial programs;

S-18

Table of Contents

costs of related litigation;

substantial monetary awards to patients or other claimants;

decreased demand for our product candidates;

impairment of our business reputation;

loss of revenues; and

the inability to commercialize our product candidates.

We have obtained limited product liability insurance coverage for our clinical trials domestically and in selected foreign countries where we conduct clinical trials. However, our insurance coverage may not reimburse us or may not be sufficient to reimburse us for any expenses or losses we may suffer. Moreover, insurance coverage is becoming increasingly expensive and, in the future, we may not be able to maintain insurance coverage at a reasonable cost or in sufficient amounts to protect us against losses due to liability. We intend to expand our insurance coverage to include the sale of commercial products if we obtain marketing approval for our product candidates in development, but we may be unable to obtain commercially reasonable product liability insurance for any products approved for marketing. On occasion, large judgments have been awarded in class action lawsuits based on drugs that had unanticipated side effects. A successful product liability claim or series of claims brought against us could cause our stock price to fall and, if judgments exceed our insurance coverage, could decrease our cash and adversely affect our business.

Our operations involve hazardous materials, which could subject us to significant liabilities.

Our research and development processes involve the controlled use of hazardous materials, including chemicals. Our operations produce hazardous waste products. We cannot eliminate the risk of accidental contamination or discharge or injury from these materials. Federal, state and local laws and regulations govern the use, manufacture, storage, handling and disposal of these materials. We could be subject to civil damages in the event of an improper or unauthorized release of, or exposure of individuals, including employees, to hazardous materials. In addition, claimants may sue us for injury or contamination that results from our use of these materials and our liability may exceed our total assets. We maintain limited insurance for the use of hazardous materials which may not be adequate to cover any claims. Compliance with environmental and other laws and regulations may be expensive and current or future regulations may impair our research, development or production efforts.

Our insurance policies are expensive and protect us only from some business risks, which will leave us exposed to significant uninsured liabilities.

We do not carry insurance for all categories of risk that our business may encounter. For example, we do not carry earthquake insurance. In the event of a major earthquake in our region, our business could suffer significant and uninsured damage and loss. Some of the policies we currently maintain include general liability, property, auto, workers compensation, products liability and directors and officers insurance policies. Our insurance is expensive and we do not know if we will be able to maintain existing insurance with adequate levels of coverage. Any significant uninsured liability may require us to pay substantial amounts, which would adversely affect our cash position and results of operations.

Table of Contents

Risks Related to Our Dependence on Third Parties

We have no experience manufacturing large clinical-scale or commercial-scale pharmaceutical products and we do not own or operate a manufacturing facility. As a result, we are dependent on numerous third parties for the manufacture of our product candidates and our supply chain, and if we experience problems with any of these suppliers the manufacturing of our products could be delayed.

We do not own or operate manufacturing facilities for clinical or commercial manufacture of our product candidates, which includes drug substance and drug packaging, including the components of the Tempo inhaler, the device used to administer certain of our drug candidates, including LEVADEX. We have limited personnel with experience in drug manufacturing and we lack the capabilities to manufacture any of our product candidates on a clinical or commercial scale. We currently outsource all manufacturing and packaging of our pre-clinical and clinical product candidates to third parties. In addition, we do not currently have all necessary agreements with third-party manufacturers for the long-term commercial supply of our product candidates. We may be unable to enter agreements for commercial supply with all third-party manufacturers, or may be unable to do so on acceptable terms. Even if we enter into these agreements or, for those agreements that we have already entered into, the various manufacturers of each product candidate will likely be single source suppliers to us for a significant period of time. We may not be able to establish additional sources of supply for our products prior to commercialization. Such suppliers are subject to regulatory requirements covering manufacturing, testing, quality control and record keeping relating to our product candidates, and are subject to ongoing inspections by the regulatory agencies. Failure by any of our suppliers to comply with applicable regulations may result in long delays and interruptions to our manufacturing capacity while we seek to secure another supplier that meets all regulatory requirements.

Reliance on third-party manufacturers entails risks to which we would not be subject if we manufactured the product candidates ourselves, including:

reliance on the third parties for regulatory compliance, quality assurance and hazardous materials handling;

the possible breach of the manufacturing agreements by the third parties because of factors beyond our control; and

the possibility of termination or nonrenewal of the agreements by the third parties because of our breach of the manufacturing agreement or based on their own business priorities.

Any of these factors could cause the delay or suspension of initiation or completion of clinical trials, regulatory submissions, required approvals or commercialization of our products, cause us to incur higher costs and could prevent us from commercializing our product candidates successfully. Furthermore, if our contract manufacturers fail to deliver the required commercial quantities of finished product on a timely basis and at commercially reasonable prices and we are unable to find one or more replacement manufacturers capable of production at a substantially equivalent cost, in substantially equivalent volumes and quality and on a timely basis, we would likely be unable to meet demand for our products and we would lose potential revenue. It may take a significant period of time to establish an alternative source of supply for our product candidates and to have any such new source approved by the FDA.

If we are unable to establish marketing, sales and distribution collaborations with third parties, we may not be able to commercialize LEVADEX successfully.

We plan to establish marketing, sales and distribution collaborations with third parties where appropriate. For example, if we choose to expand the marketing and sales of LEVADEX to primary care physicians beyond high prescribers, including specialists such as neurologists and headache specialists, we may establish partnerships with other companies to maximize the potential of the commercialization opportunity. Outside the United States, we may establish commercial partnerships for LEVADEX in order to effectively reach target markets in order to maximize its commercial opportunities. We also expect to face competition in our efforts to identify appropriate collaborators or partners to help commercialize LEVADEX in our target commercial areas. If we are unable to establish adequate marketing, sales and distribution collaborations to target primary care physicians, specialists and other large groups of prescribing physicians within and outside the United States, then we may not be able to achieve the full commercial opportunity for LEVADEX.

Table of Contents

We may not be successful in maintaining or establishing development collaborations, which could adversely affect our ability to develop certain of our product candidates.

On July 8, 2009, we received a notice of termination of our AstraZeneca Agreement related to our UDB product candidate. Our AstraZeneca Agreement provided that AstraZeneca could terminate the agreement in the event that the primary endpoints of our Phase 3 clinical trial of UDB were not met. Following the termination of the AstraZeneca Agreement, we suspended development of UDB. In addition, our earlier stage product portfolio includes MAP0005 and MAP0001. We have no current intention to further develop either of these earlier stage product candidates independently. Developing pharmaceutical products, conducting clinical trials, establishing manufacturing capabilities and marketing approved products is expensive. Consequently, we may establish partnerships for further development and commercialization of these two product candidates. We expect to face competition in seeking appropriate partners. Moreover, collaboration arrangements are complex and time consuming to negotiate, document and implement and they may require substantial resources to maintain. We may not be successful in our efforts to establish and implement collaborations or other alternative arrangements, if any. The terms of any collaboration or other arrangement that we establish may not be favorable to us. In addition, any collaboration that we enter into may not be successful. If we seek partners to help develop MAP0005 and MAP0001, but are unable to reach agreements with suitable partners, we may fail to commercialize such products.

Risks Relating to Our Intellectual Property

It is difficult and costly to protect our proprietary rights, and we may not be able to ensure their protection.

Our commercial success will depend in part on obtaining and maintaining patent protection and trade secret protection of our product candidates and the methods used to manufacture them, as well as successfully defending these patents against third-party challenges. Our ability to stop third parties from making, using, selling, offering to sell or importing our products is dependent upon the extent to which we have rights under valid and enforceable patents or trade secrets that cover these activities.

We license certain intellectual property from third parties that covers our product candidates. We rely on certain of these third parties to file, prosecute and maintain patent applications and otherwise protect the intellectual property to which we have a license, and we have not had and do not have primary control over these activities for certain of these patents or patent applications and other intellectual property rights. We cannot be certain that such activities by third parties have been or will be conducted in compliance with applicable laws and regulations or will result in valid and enforceable patents and other intellectual property rights. Our enforcement of certain of these licensed patents or defense of any claims asserting the invalidity of these patents would also be subject to the cooperation of the third parties.

The patent positions of pharmaceutical and biopharmaceutical companies can be highly uncertain and involve complex legal and factual questions for which important legal principles remain unresolved. No consistent policy regarding the breadth of claims allowed in biopharmaceutical patents has emerged to date in the United States. The biopharmaceutical patent situation outside the United States is even more uncertain. Changes in either the patent laws or in interpretations of patent laws in the United States and other countries may diminish the value of our intellectual property. Accordingly, we cannot predict the breadth of claims that may be allowed or enforced in the patents we own or to which we have a license from a third-party. Further, if any of our patents are deemed invalid and unenforceable, it could impact our ability to commercialize or license our technology.

The degree of future protection for our proprietary rights is uncertain because legal means afford only limited protection and may not adequately protect our rights or permit us to gain or keep our competitive advantage. For example:

others may be able to make compositions or formulations that are similar to our product candidates but that are not covered by the claims of our patents;

Table of Contents

we might not have been the first to make the inventions covered by our issued patents or pending patent applications;

we might not have been the first to file patent applications for these inventions;

others may independently develop similar or alternative technologies or duplicate any of our technologies;

it is possible that our pending patent applications will not result in issued patents;

our issued patents may not provide us with any competitive advantages, or may be held invalid or unenforceable as a result of legal challenges by third parties;

we may not develop additional proprietary technologies that are patentable; or

the patents of others may have an adverse effect on our business.

We also may rely on trade secrets to protect our technology, especially where we do not believe patent protection is appropriate or obtainable. However, trade secrets are difficult to protect. Although we use reasonable efforts to protect our trade secrets, our employees, consultants, contractors, outside scientific collaborators and other advisors may unintentionally or willfully disclose our information to competitors. Enforcing a claim that a third party illegally obtained and is using any of our trade secrets is expensive and time consuming, and the outcome is unpredictable. In addition, courts outside the United States are sometimes less willing to protect trade secrets. Moreover, our competitors may independently develop equivalent knowledge, methods and know-how.

We may incur substantial costs as a result of litigation or other proceedings relating to patent and other intellectual property rights and we may be unable to protect our rights to, or use, our technology.

If we or our partners choose to go to court to stop someone else from using the inventions claimed in our patents, that individual or company has the right to ask the court to rule that these patents are invalid and/or should not be enforced against that third party. These lawsuits are expensive and would consume time and other resources even if we were successful in stopping the infringement of these patents. In addition, there is a risk that the court will decide that these patents are not valid and that we do not have the right to stop the other party from using the inventions. There is also the risk that, even if the validity of these patents is upheld, the court will refuse to stop the other party on the ground that such other party's activities do not infringe our rights to these patents. In addition, the U.S. Supreme

Court has recently invalidated some tests used by the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office in granting patents over the past 20 years. As a consequence, several issued patents may be found to contain invalid claims according to the newly revised standards. Some of our own or in-licensed patents may be subject to challenge and subsequent invalidation in a re-examination proceeding before the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office or during litigation under the revised criteria which make it more difficult to obtain patents.

Furthermore, a third party may claim that we or our manufacturing or commercialization partners are using inventions covered by the third party's patent rights and may go to court to stop us from engaging in our normal operations and activities, including making or selling our product candidates. These lawsuits are costly and could affect our results of operations and divert the attention of managerial and technical personnel. We are aware that claims in patents owned by others may relate to our business and technologies. If we are sued for patent infringement, we would need to demonstrate that our products or methods of use either do not infringe the patent claims of the relevant patent and/or that the patent claims are invalid, and we may not be able to do this. Proving invalidity, in particular, is difficult since it requires a showing of clear and convincing evidence to overcome the presumption of validity enjoyed by issued patents. If we are sued for patent infringement, there is a risk that a court would order us or our partners to stop the activities covered by the patents. In addition, there is a risk that a court will order us or our partners to pay the other party damages for having violated the other party's patents. We have agreed to indemnify certain of our commercial partners against certain patent infringement claims brought by third parties. The biotechnology industry has produced a proliferation of patents, and it is not always clear to industry participants, including us, which patents cover various types of products or methods of use. The coverage of patents is subject to interpretation by the courts, and the interpretation is not always uniform.

Table of Contents

Because some patent applications in the United States may be maintained in secrecy until the patents are issued, because patent applications in the United States and many foreign jurisdictions are typically not published until eighteen months after filing and because publications in the scientific literature often lag behind actual discoveries, we cannot be certain that others have not filed patent applications for technology covered by our issued patents or our pending applications, or that we were the first to invent the technology. Our competitors may have filed, and may in the future file, patent applications covering technology similar to ours. Any such patent application may have priority over our patent applications or patents, which could further require us to obtain rights to issued patents by others covering such technologies. If another party has filed a U.S. patent application on inventions similar to ours, we may have to participate in an interference proceeding declared by the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office to determine priority of invention in the United States. The costs of these proceedings could be substantial, and it is possible that such efforts would be unsuccessful if, unbeknownst to us, the other party had independently arrived at the same or similar invention prior to our own invention, resulting in a loss of our U.S. patent position with respect to such inventions.

Some of our competitors may be able to sustain the costs of complex patent litigation more effectively than we can because they have substantially greater resources. In addition, any uncertainties resulting from the initiation and continuation of any litigation could have a material adverse effect on our ability to raise the funds necessary to continue our operations.

If we fail to comply with our obligations in our intellectual property licenses with third parties, we could lose license rights that are important to our business.

We are a party to a number of license agreements, including with Nektar Therapeutics UK Limited, pursuant to which we license key intellectual property, including intellectual property relating to our most advanced product candidate. These existing licenses impose various diligence, milestone payment, royalty, insurance and other obligations on us. If we fail to comply with these obligations, the licensors may have the right to terminate the license, in which event we might not be able to develop or market any product that is covered by the licensed patents. If we lose such license rights that are important to our product candidate, our business may be materially adversely affected. We may enter into additional licenses in the future and if we fail to comply with obligations under those agreements, we could suffer similar consequences.

We may be subject to claims that our employees have wrongfully used or disclosed alleged trade secrets of their former employers.

As is common in the biotechnology and pharmaceutical industries, we employ individuals who were previously employed at other biotechnology or pharmaceutical companies, including our competitors or potential competitors. Although no claims against us are currently pending, we may be subject to claims that these employees or we have inadvertently or otherwise used or disclosed trade secrets or other proprietary information of their former employers. Litigation may be necessary to defend against these claims. Even if we are successful in defending against these claims, litigation could result in substantial costs and be a distraction to management.

Table of Contents

Risks Related to Employee Matters and Managing Growth

We may need to increase the size of our company, and we may experience difficulties in managing growth.

As of June 30, 2010, we had 99 full-time employees. We may need to expand our managerial, operational, administrative and other resources in order to manage and fund our operations and clinical trials, continue our development activities and commercialize our product candidates. To support this growth, we may hire additional employees within the next 12 months. Our management, personnel, systems and facilities currently in place may not be adequate to support this future growth. Our need to effectively manage our operations, growth and various projects requires that we:

manage our Phase 3 development program for LEVADEX, including clinical, manufacturing and regulatory activities in support of an NDA submission to the FDA and commercialization activities as we prepare for a potential product launch; and

continue to improve our operational, financial and management controls, reporting systems and procedures.

We may be unable to successfully implement these tasks on a larger scale and, accordingly, may not achieve our development and commercialization goals.

We may not be able to manage our business effectively if we are unable to attract and retain key personnel.

We may not be able to attract or retain qualified management, scientific and clinical personnel in the future due to competition for qualified personnel among biotechnology, pharmaceutical and other businesses, particularly in the Silicon Valley area of California. If we are not able to attract and retain necessary personnel to accomplish our business objectives, we may experience constraints that will significantly impede the achievement of our development objectives, our ability to raise additional capital and our ability to implement our business strategy.

Our industry has experienced a high rate of turnover of management personnel in recent years. We are highly dependent on the development, regulatory, commercialization and product acquisition expertise of our senior management, particularly Timothy S. Nelson, our President and Chief Executive Officer, and Thomas A. Armer, our co-founder and Chief Scientific Officer. If we lose one or more of these key employees, our ability to implement our business strategy successfully could be seriously harmed. Replacing key employees may be difficult and may take an extended period of time because of the limited number of individuals in our industry with the breadth of skills and experience required to develop, obtain regulatory approval of and commercialize products successfully. Competition to hire from this limited pool is intense, and we may be unable to hire, train, retain or motivate these additional key personnel.

In addition, we have scientific and clinical advisors who assist us in our product development and clinical strategies. These advisors are not our employees and may have commitments to, or consulting or advisory contracts with, other entities that may limit their availability to us, or may have arrangements with other companies to assist in the development of products that may compete with ours. Because our business depends on certain key personnel and advisors, the loss of such personnel and advisors could weaken our management team and we may experience difficulty in attracting and retaining qualified personnel and advisors.

Table of Contents

Risks Relating to Owning Our Common Stock

Our share price may be volatile which may cause the value of our common stock to decline and subject us to securities class action litigation.

The market price of shares of our common stock could be subject to wide fluctuations in response to many risk factors listed in this section, and others beyond our control, including:

actual or anticipated fluctuations in our financial condition and operating results;

status and/or results of our clinical trials;

results of clinical trials of our competitors' products;

regulatory actions with respect to our products or our competitors' products;

actions and decisions by our collaborators or partners;

actual or anticipated changes in our growth rate relative to our competitors;

actual or anticipated fluctuations in our competitors' operating results or changes in their growth rate;

competition from existing products, new products or generics that may emerge;

issuance of new or updated research or reports by securities analysts;

fluctuations in the valuation of companies perceived by investors to be comparable to us;

share price and volume fluctuations attributable to inconsistent trading volume levels of our shares;

market conditions for biopharmaceutical stocks in general; and

general economic and market conditions.

If securities or industry analysts do not publish research or reports about our business, or publish negative reports about our business, our stock price and trading volume could decline.

The trading market for our common stock depends on the research and reports that securities or industry analysts publish about us or our business. We do not have any control over these analysts. If one or more of the analysts who cover us downgrade our stock or change their

Edgar Filing: MAP Pharmaceuticals, Inc. - Form 424B5

opinion of our stock, our stock price would likely decline. If one or more of these analysts cease coverage of our company or fail to regularly publish reports on us, we could lose visibility in the financial markets, which could cause our stock price or trading volume to decline.

Future sales of our common stock may cause our stock price to decline.

Persons who were our stockholders prior to the sale of shares in our IPO continue to hold a substantial number of shares of our common stock that they are now able to sell in the public market. Significant portions of these shares are held by a small number of stockholders. Sales by our current stockholders of a substantial number of shares, or the expectation that such sales may occur, could significantly reduce the market price of our common stock. Moreover, the holders of a substantial number of shares of common stock may have rights, subject to certain conditions, to require us to file registration statements to permit the resale of their shares in the public market or to include their shares in registration statements that we may file for ourselves or other stockholders.

We have also registered or plan to register all common stock that we may issue under our employee benefits plans. As a result, these shares can be freely sold in the public market upon issuance, subject to restrictions under the securities laws. In addition, our directors and executive officers may establish programmed selling plans under Rule 10b5-1 of the Exchange Act for the purpose of effecting sales of our common stock. If any of these events cause a large number of our shares to be sold in the public market, the sales could reduce the trading price of our common stock and impede our ability to raise future capital.

S-25

Table of Contents

We will continue to incur significant increased costs as a result of operating as a public company.

As a public company, we will continue to incur significant legal, accounting and other expenses to comply with the laws and regulations affecting public companies, including the provisions of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002 and rules adopted by the Securities and Exchange Commission and by the NASDAQ Global Market. In addition, any changes in such regulations will result in increased costs to us as we respond to these requirements. For example, we must use certain required internal controls and disclosure controls and procedures, as required by Section 404 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002. Our testing, or the subsequent testing by our independent registered public accounting firm, may reveal deficiencies in our internal controls over financial reporting that are deemed to be material weaknesses. Our compliance with Section 404 will require that we incur substantial accounting expense and expend significant management efforts. In addition, we will continue to bear all of the internal and external costs of preparing and distributing periodic public reports in compliance with our obligations under the securities laws.

Changing laws, regulations and standards relating to corporate governance and public disclosure, including the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002 and related regulations implemented by the Securities and Exchange Commission and The NASDAQ Global Market, are creating uncertainty for public companies, increasing legal and financial compliance costs and making some activities more time consuming. We are currently evaluating and monitoring developments with respect to new and proposed rules and cannot predict or estimate the amount of additional costs we may incur or the timing of such costs. These laws, regulations and standards are subject to varying interpretations, in many cases due to their lack of specificity, and, as a result, their application in practice may evolve over time as new guidance is provided by regulatory and governing bodies. This could result in continuing uncertainty regarding compliance matters and higher costs necessitated by ongoing revisions to disclosure and governance practices. We will continue to invest resources to comply with evolving laws, regulations and standards, and this investment may result in increased general and administrative expenses and a diversion of management's time and attention from potentially revenue-generating activities to compliance activities. If our efforts to comply with new laws, regulations and standards differ from the activities intended by regulatory or governing bodies due to ambiguities related to practice, regulatory authorities may initiate legal proceedings against us and our business may be harmed.

Anti-takeover provisions in our charter documents and under Delaware law could make an acquisition of us, which may be beneficial to our stockholders, more difficult and may prevent attempts by our stockholders to replace or remove our current management.

Provisions in our amended and restated certificate of incorporation and our bylaws may delay or prevent an acquisition of us. In addition, these provisions may frustrate or prevent any attempts by our stockholders to replace or remove our current management by making it more difficult for stockholders to replace members of our board of directors, who are responsible for appointing the members of our management team. In addition, because we are incorporated in Delaware, we are governed by the provisions of Section 203 of the Delaware General Corporation Law, which prohibits, with some exceptions, stockholders owning in excess of 15% of our outstanding voting stock from merging or combining with us. Finally, our charter documents establish advanced notice requirements for nominations for election to our board of directors and for proposing matters that can be acted upon at stockholder meetings. Although we believe these provisions together provide for an opportunity to receive higher bids by requiring potential acquirers to negotiate with our board of directors, they would apply even if the offer may be considered beneficial by some stockholders.

We have never paid dividends on our common stock, and because we do not anticipate paying any cash dividends in the foreseeable future, capital appreciation, if any, of our common stock will be your sole source of gain on an investment in our stock.

We have never paid cash dividends on our common stock and we currently intend to retain our cash and future earnings, if any, to fund the development and growth of our business. We do not anticipate paying any cash dividends on our common stock in the foreseeable future. As a result, capital appreciation, if any, of our common stock will be your sole source of gain for the foreseeable future.

Table of Contents

We may become involved in securities class action litigation that could divert management's attention and harm our business.

The stock markets have from time to time experienced significant price and volume fluctuations that have affected the market prices for the common stock of biotechnology and biopharmaceutical companies. These broad market fluctuations may cause the market price of our common stock to decline. In the past, securities class action litigation has often been brought against a company following a decline in the market price of its securities. This risk is especially relevant for us because biotechnology and biopharmaceutical companies have experienced significant stock price volatility in recent years. We may become involved in this type of litigation in the future. Litigation often is expensive and diverts management's attention and resources, which could adversely affect our business.

Risks Relating to this Offering

We have broad discretion in how we use the net proceeds of this offering, and we may not use these proceeds in a manner desired by our stockholders.

Our management will have broad discretion with respect to the use of the net proceeds from this offering and investors will be relying on the judgment of our management regarding the use of these proceeds. Our management could spend the net proceeds from this offering in ways that our stockholders may not desire or that do not yield a favorable return. You will not have the opportunity, as part of your investment in our common stock, to influence the manner in which the net proceeds of this offering are used. As of the date of this prospectus supplement, we plan to use the net proceeds from this offering for general corporate purposes, focusing on clinical development of LEVADEX. The amounts actually spent by us for any specific purpose may vary significantly and our future financial performance may differ from our current expectations or our business needs may change as our business and the industry we address evolve. As a result, the net proceeds we receive in this offering may be used in a manner significantly different from our current expectations.

Investors in this offering will pay a much higher price than the book value of our common stock.

If you purchase our common stock in this offering, you will incur an immediate and substantial dilution in net tangible book value of \$12.41 per share, after giving effect to the sale by us of 3,000,000 shares of common stock offered in this offering at the assumed public offering price of \$15.19 per share, the closing price of our common stock on The Nasdaq Global Market on September 28, 2010, and after deducting underwriting discounts and commissions and estimated offering expenses payable by us. In addition, if the underwriter exercises its over-allotment option, you will incur additional dilution. See "Dilution" on page S-28 of this prospectus supplement for a more detailed discussion of the dilution you will incur in this offering.

A substantial number of shares of common stock may be sold in the market following this offering, which may depress the market price for our common stock.

Sales of a substantial number of shares of our common stock in the public market following this offering could cause the market price of our common stock to decline. A substantial majority of the outstanding shares of our common stock are, and all of the shares sold in this offering upon issuance will be, freely tradable without restriction or further registration under the Securities Act of 1933 unless these shares are purchased by affiliates.

Table of Contents**USE OF PROCEEDS**

The net proceeds from the sale of the common stock offered hereby are estimated to be approximately \$42.8 million at an assumed offering price of \$15.19, the closing price of our common stock on September 28, 2010 (or approximately \$49.3 million if the underwriter exercises in full its over-allotment option to purchase additional shares of common stock), after deduction of estimated offering expenses and the underwriter's discounts and commissions.

We currently intend to use the net proceeds from this offering for general corporate purposes, focusing on clinical development of LEVADEX.

The foregoing represents our intentions based upon our present plans and business conditions. The occurrence of unforeseen events or changed business conditions, however, could result in the application of the proceeds of the offering in a manner other than as described in this prospectus supplement. As a result, our management will retain broad discretion in the allocation and use of the net proceeds of this offering, and investors will be relying on the judgment of our management with regard to the use of these net proceeds. Pending the application of the net proceeds, we expect to invest such proceeds in short-term, interest-bearing instruments.

PRICE RANGE OF COMMON STOCK

Our common stock is listed on The Nasdaq Global Market under the symbol MAPP. The following table sets forth, for the quarterly periods indicated, the high and low sales price per share of the common stock as reported on The Nasdaq Global Market:

	High	Low
Year Ended December 31, 2008		
First Quarter	\$ 17.69	\$ 10.39
Second Quarter	14.80	9.75
Third Quarter	12.45	2.40
Fourth Quarter	10.44	1.75
Year Ended December 31, 2009		
First Quarter	\$ 13.08	\$ 1.57
Second Quarter	13.85	2.00
Third Quarter	12.52	8.54
Fourth Quarter	10.85	7.86
Year Ended December 31, 2010		
First Quarter	\$ 17.83	9.34
Second Quarter	18.97	11.32
Third Quarter (through September 28, 2010)	15.49	10.87

On September 28, 2010, the last reported sales price of our common stock was \$15.19 per share. On September 28, 2010, we had 61 holders of record of our common stock.

DILUTION

Our net tangible book value as of June 30, 2010 was \$39.5 million, or approximately \$1.49 per share. Net tangible book value is total assets minus the sum of liabilities and intangible assets. Net tangible book value per share is net tangible book value divided by the total number of shares of common stock outstanding.

Table of Contents

Dilution in net tangible book value per share represents the difference between the amount per share paid by purchasers of shares of common stock in this offering and the net tangible book value per share of our common stock immediately after this offering. After giving effect to our sale of 3,000,000 shares of our common stock in this offering at the assumed price per share paid by purchasers in this offering of \$15.19 per share (which was the closing price on September 28, 2010) and after deducting the underwriting discounts and commissions and estimated offering expenses payable by us, our as adjusted net tangible book value as of June 30, 2010 would have been approximately \$82.3 million, or \$2.78 per share. This represents an immediate increase in net tangible book value of \$1.29 per share to existing stockholders and immediate dilution in net tangible book value of \$12.41 per share to new investors purchasing our common stock in this offering at the assumed offering price. The following table illustrates this dilution on a per share basis (without giving effect to the over-allotment option granted to the underwriter):

Assumed public offering price per share (the closing price on September 28, 2010)	\$ 15.19
Net tangible book value per share as of June 30, 2010	\$ 1.49
Increase in net tangible book value per share attributable to this offering	1.29
Pro forma net tangible book value per share as of June 30, 2010 after giving effect to this offering	2.78
Dilution per share to investors participating in this offering	\$ 12.41

If the underwriter exercises its over-allotment option in full, the pro forma as adjusted net tangible book value per share after giving effect to this offering at the assumed offering price of \$15.19 per share would be \$2.96 per share, representing an immediate increase in net tangible book value of \$1.47 per share to existing stockholders and the dilution in pro forma net tangible book value per share to investors in this offering would be \$12.23 per share.

The number of shares of our common stock in the computations above excludes:

4,081,932 shares of common stock issuable upon the exercise of options outstanding as of June 30, 2010 at a weighted average exercise price of \$9.22 per share;

98,000 performance-based restricted stock units issued under our 2007 Equity Incentive Plan as of June 30, 2010;

26,903 shares of common stock issuable upon the exercise of warrants outstanding as of June 30, 2010 at an exercise price of \$7.43 per share;

1,989,010 shares of common stock reserved for future issuance under our 2007 Equity Incentive Plan as of June 30, 2010; and

308,128 shares of common stock reserved for future issuance under our Employee Stock Purchase Plan as of June 30, 2010.

To the extent that outstanding options or warrants are exercised, you will experience further dilution. In addition, we may choose to raise additional capital due to market conditions or strategic considerations even if we believe we have sufficient funds for our current or future operating plans. To the extent that additional capital is raised through the sale of equity or convertible debt securities, the issuance of these securities could result in further dilution to our stockholders.

DIVIDEND POLICY

We have never declared or paid dividends since our initial public offering in October 2007 and do not anticipate paying any dividends on our common stock in the foreseeable future.

Table of Contents**CAPITALIZATION**

The following table sets forth our capitalization as of June 30, 2010:

on an actual basis; and

on an as adjusted basis to give effect to the issuance and sale of 3,000,000 shares of our common stock in this offering at an assumed offering price of \$15.19 per share (which was the closing price on September 28, 2010), after deducting the underwriting discounts, commissions and estimated offering expenses (assuming no exercise of the underwriter's over-allotment option to purchase additional shares).

This table should be read in conjunction with our consolidated financial statements and related notes incorporated by reference in this prospectus supplement. See [Where You Can Find More Information](#).

	As of June 30, 2010	
	Actual	As adjusted
	(In thousands)	
Cash, cash equivalents and short-term investments	\$ 55,330	\$ 98,172
Debt, less current portion	3,558	3,558
Stockholders' equity		
Common stock, \$0.01 par value, 100,000,000 authorized, 26,569,682 shares issued, 29,569,682 shares issued as adjusted(1)	260	290
Preferred Stock, \$0.01 par value, 5,000,000 shares authorized, no shares issued and outstanding, actual and as adjusted		
Additional paid-in capital	250,671	293,483
Deficit accumulated during the development stage	(211,438)	(211,438)
Accumulated other comprehensive income		
Total stockholders' equity	39,493	82,335
Total capitalization	\$ 43,051	\$ 85,893

(1) Includes 3,000,000 shares to be issued pursuant to this offering.

Table of Contents

DESCRIPTION OF COMMON STOCK

The following summary of the terms of our common stock does not purport to be complete and is subject to and qualified in its entirety by reference to our Amended and Restated Certificate of Incorporation, or certificate of incorporation, and Amended and Restated Bylaws, or bylaws, copies of which are on file with the Commission as exhibits to registration statements previously filed by us. See [Where You Can Find More Information](#).

General

Our authorized capital stock consists of 100,000,000 shares of common stock, \$0.01 par value per share, and 5,000,000 shares of preferred stock in one or more series, \$0.01 par value per share. The only equity securities currently outstanding are shares of common stock.

Common Stock

As of September 28, 2010, we had 26,674,034 shares of common stock outstanding. As of September 28, 2010, we had 4,006,986 shares of common stock reserved for issuance upon exercise of outstanding stock options granted under our 2005 Equity Incentive Plan and our 2007 Equity Award Plan, and 98,000 performance-based restricted stock units issued under our 2007 Equity Incentive Plan. As of September 28, 2010, we had warrants to purchase an aggregate of 26,903 shares of our common stock outstanding.

Voting Rights

Holders of our common stock are entitled to one vote per share on all matters to be voted upon by the stockholders. Holders of our common stock are not entitled to cumulative voting rights with respect to the election of directors, which means that the holders of a majority of the shares voted can elect all of the directors then standing for election.

Dividends

Subject to limitations under Delaware law and preferences that may apply to any outstanding shares of preferred stock, holders of our common stock are entitled to receive ratably such dividends or other distributions, if any, as may be declared by our board of directors out of funds legally available for them.

Liquidation

In the event of our liquidation, dissolution or winding up, holders of our common stock are entitled to share ratably in all assets remaining after payment of liabilities, subject to the liquidation preference of any outstanding preferred stock.

Rights and Preferences

Our common stock has no preemptive, conversion or other rights to subscribe for additional securities. There are no redemption or sinking fund provisions applicable to our common stock. The rights, preferences and privileges of holders of common stock are subject to, and may be adversely affected by, the rights of the holders of shares of any series of preferred stock that we may designate and issue in the future.

Fully Paid and Non-Assessable

All outstanding shares of our common stock are validly issued, fully paid and non-assessable.

Table of Contents

Transfer Agent and Registrar

The transfer agent and registrar for our common stock is American Stock Transfer & Trust Company. The transfer agent and registrar for any series or class of preferred stock will be set forth in the applicable prospectus supplement.

Nasdaq Global Market

Our common stock is traded on The Nasdaq Global Market under the symbol MAPP.

S-32

Table of Contents

CERTAIN MATERIAL UNITED STATES FEDERAL INCOME TAX CONSEQUENCES TO NON-U.S. HOLDERS

The following is a summary of certain material United States federal income tax consequences to non-U.S. holders (as defined below) of the acquisition, ownership and disposition of our common stock issued pursuant to this offering. This discussion is not a complete analysis of all of the potential United States federal income tax consequences relating thereto, nor does it address any estate and gift tax consequences or any tax consequences arising under any state, local or foreign tax laws, or any other United States federal tax laws. This discussion is based on the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended, or the Code, Treasury Regulations promulgated thereunder, judicial decisions, and published rulings and administrative pronouncements of the Internal Revenue Service, or IRS, all as in effect as of the date of this offering. These authorities may change, possibly retroactively, resulting in United States federal income tax consequences different from those discussed below. No ruling has been or will be sought from the IRS with respect to the matters discussed below, and there can be no assurance that the IRS will not take a contrary position regarding the tax consequences of the acquisition, ownership or disposition of our common stock, or that any such contrary position would not be sustained by a court.

This discussion is limited to non-U.S. holders who purchase our common stock issued pursuant to this offering and who hold our common stock as a capital asset within the meaning of Section 1221 of the Code (generally, property held for investment). This discussion does not address all of the United States federal income tax consequences that may be relevant to a particular holder in light of such holder's particular circumstances. This discussion also does not consider any specific facts or circumstances that may be relevant to holders subject to special rules under the United States federal income tax laws, including, without limitation, U.S. expatriates, partnerships or other pass-through entities, real estate investment trusts, regulated investment companies, controlled foreign corporations, passive foreign investment companies, corporations that accumulate earnings to avoid United States federal income tax, financial institutions, insurance companies, brokers, dealers or traders in securities, commodities or currencies, tax-exempt organizations, tax-qualified retirement plans, persons subject to the alternative minimum tax, persons that own, or have owned, actually or constructively, more than 5% of our common stock, and persons holding our common stock as part of a hedge, straddle or other risk-reduction strategy or as part of a conversion transaction or other integrated investment.

THIS SUMMARY OF CERTAIN MATERIAL UNITED STATES FEDERAL INCOME TAX CONSEQUENCES IS FOR GENERAL INFORMATION ONLY AND IS NOT TAX ADVICE. PROSPECTIVE INVESTORS ARE URGED TO CONSULT THEIR TAX ADVISORS REGARDING THE PARTICULAR UNITED STATES FEDERAL INCOME TAX CONSEQUENCES TO THEM OF ACQUIRING, OWNING AND DISPOSING OF OUR COMMON STOCK, AS WELL AS ANY TAX CONSEQUENCES ARISING UNDER ANY STATE, LOCAL OR FOREIGN TAX LAWS, ANY OTHER UNITED STATES FEDERAL TAX LAWS, AND ANY APPLICABLE TAX TREATY.

Definition of Non-U.S. Holder

For purposes of this discussion, a non-U.S. holder is any beneficial owner of our common stock that is neither a U.S. person (as defined below) nor a partnership (or other entity treated as a partnership) for United States federal income tax purposes. A U.S. person is any of the following:

an individual who is a citizen or resident of the United States;

a corporation (or other entity treated as a corporation for United States federal income tax purposes) created or organized under the laws of the United States, any state thereof or the District of Columbia;

an estate the income of which is subject to United States federal income tax regardless of its source; or

a trust (1) whose administration is subject to the primary supervision of a United States court and which has one or more United States persons who have the authority to control all substantial decisions of the trust, or (2) that has a valid election in effect under applicable Treasury Regulations to be treated as a U.S. person.

Table of Contents

If a partnership (or other entity treated as a partnership for U.S. federal income tax purposes) is a beneficial owner of our common stock, the tax treatment of a partner in such partnership will depend on the status of such partner and the activities of such partnership. Such partners and partnerships should consult their tax advisors regarding the U.S. federal income tax consequences to them of acquiring, owning and disposing of our common stock.

Distributions on Our Common Stock

If we make cash or other property distributions on our common stock, such distributions will constitute dividends for United States federal income tax purposes to the extent paid from our current or accumulated earnings and profits, as determined under United States federal income tax principles. Amounts not treated as dividends for United States federal income tax purposes will constitute a return of capital and will first be applied against and reduce a holder's adjusted tax basis in the common stock, but not below zero. Distributions in excess of our current and accumulated earnings and profits and in excess of a holder's adjusted tax basis in the common stock will be treated as capital gain realized on the sale or other disposition of the common stock and will be treated as described under "Gain on Disposition of Our Common Stock" below.

Dividends paid to a non-U.S. holder of our common stock that are not effectively connected with such holder's conduct of a trade or business in the United States generally will be subject to United States federal withholding tax at a rate of 30% of the gross amount of the dividends, or such lower rate specified by an applicable income tax treaty. To receive the benefit of a reduced treaty rate, a non-U.S. holder must furnish to us or our paying agent a valid IRS Form W-8BEN (or applicable successor form) certifying such holder's qualification for the reduced rate. This certification must be provided to us or our paying agent prior to the payment of dividends and must be updated periodically. Non-U.S. holders that do not timely provide us or our paying agent with the required certification, but which qualify for a reduced treaty rate, may obtain a refund of any excess amounts withheld by timely filing an appropriate claim for refund with the IRS.

If a non-U.S. holder holds our common stock in connection with the conduct of a trade or business in the United States, and dividends paid on the common stock are effectively connected with such holder's United States trade or business (and, if required by an applicable income tax treaty, attributable to a permanent establishment maintained by the non-U.S. holder in the United States), the non-U.S. holder will be exempt from United States federal withholding tax. To claim the exemption, the non-U.S. holder must furnish to us or our paying agent a properly executed IRS Form W-8ECI (or applicable successor form).

Any dividends paid on our common stock that are effectively connected with a non-U.S. holder's United States trade or business (and, if required by an applicable income tax treaty, attributable to a permanent establishment maintained by the non-U.S. holder in the United States) will be subject to United States federal income tax on a net income basis at the regular graduated United States federal income tax rates generally in the same manner as if such holder were a resident of the United States, unless an applicable income tax treaty provides otherwise. A non-U.S. holder that is a corporation also may be subject to a branch profits tax equal to 30% (or such lower rate specified by an applicable income tax treaty) of a portion of its effectively connected earnings and profits for the taxable year. Non-U.S. holders are urged to consult any applicable income tax treaties that may provide for different rules.

A non-U.S. holder who claims the benefit of an applicable income tax treaty generally will be required to satisfy applicable certification and other requirements prior to the distribution date. Non-U.S. holders should consult their tax advisors regarding their entitlement to benefits under a relevant income tax treaty.

Gain on Disposition of Our Common Stock

A non-U.S. holder generally will not be subject to United States federal income tax on any gain realized upon the sale or other disposition of our common stock, unless:

the gain is effectively connected with the non-U.S. holder's conduct of a trade or business in the United States and, if required by an applicable income tax treaty, attributable to a permanent establishment maintained by the non-U.S. holder in the United States;

Table of Contents

the non-U.S. holder is a nonresident alien individual present in the United States for 183 days or more during the taxable year of the disposition, and certain other requirements are met; or

our common stock constitutes a United States real property interest by reason of our status as a United States real property holding corporation, or USRPHC, for United States federal income tax purposes at any time within the shorter of the five-year period preceding the disposition or the non-U.S. holder's holding period for our common stock, and the common stock has ceased to be traded on an established securities market prior to the beginning of the calendar year in which the sale or other disposition occurs. The determination of whether we are a USRPHC depends on the fair market value of our United States real property interests relative to the fair market value of our other trade or business assets and our foreign real property interests.

We believe we currently are not, and we do not anticipate becoming, a USRPHC for United States federal income tax purposes.

Unless an applicable income tax treaty provides otherwise, gain described in the first bullet point above will be subject to United States federal income tax on a net income basis at the regular graduated United States federal income tax rates generally in the same manner as if such holder were a resident of the United States. A non-U.S. holder that is a foreign corporation also may be subject to a branch profits tax equal to 30% (or such lower rate specified by an applicable income tax treaty) of a portion of its effectively connected earnings and profits for the taxable year. Non-U.S. holders are urged to consult any applicable income tax treaties that may provide for different rules.

Gain described in the second bullet point above will be subject to United States federal income tax at a flat 30% rate (or such lower rate specified by an applicable income tax treaty), but may be offset by United States source capital losses (even though the individual is not considered a resident of the United States), provided that the non-U.S. holder has timely filed U.S. federal income tax returns with respect to such losses.

Information Reporting and Backup Withholding

We must report annually to the IRS and to each non-U.S. holder the amount of distributions on our common stock paid to such holder and the amount of any tax withheld with respect to those distributions. These information reporting requirements apply even if no withholding was required because the distributions were effectively connected with the holder's conduct of a United States trade or business, or withholding was reduced or eliminated by an applicable income tax treaty. This information also may be made available under a specific treaty or agreement with the tax authorities in the country in which the non-U.S. holder resides or is established. Under certain circumstances, the Code imposes a backup withholding obligation on certain reportable payments. Backup withholding generally will not apply, however, to distributions to a non-U.S. holder of our common stock provided the non-U.S. holder furnishes to us or our paying agent the required certification as to its non-U.S. status, such as by providing a valid IRS Form W-8BEN or IRS Form W-8ECI, or certain other requirements are met. Notwithstanding the foregoing, backup withholding may apply if either we or our paying agent has actual knowledge, or reason to know, that the holder is a U.S. person that is not an exempt recipient.

Backup withholding is not an additional tax. Any amounts withheld under the backup withholding rules may be allowed as a refund or a credit against a non-U.S. holder's United States federal income tax liability, provided the required information is timely furnished to the IRS.

New Legislation Relating to Foreign Accounts

Newly enacted legislation may impose withholding taxes on certain types of payments made to foreign financial institutions (as specially defined under those rules) and certain other non-U.S. entities. Under this legislation, the failure to comply with additional certification, information reporting and other specified requirements could result in withholding tax being imposed on payments of dividends and sales proceeds to foreign intermediaries and certain non-U.S. holders. The legislation imposes a 30% withholding tax on dividends on, or gross proceeds from the sale or other disposition of, our common stock paid to a foreign financial institution or to a foreign non-financial entity, unless (i) the foreign financial institution undertakes certain diligence and reporting obligations or (ii) the foreign non-financial entity either certifies it does not have any substantial U.S. owners or furnishes identifying information regarding each substantial U.S. owner. If the payee is a foreign financial institution, it must enter into an agreement with the U.S. Treasury requiring, among other things, that it undertake to identify accounts held by certain U.S. persons or U.S.-owned foreign entities, annually report certain information about such accounts, and withhold 30% on payments to account holders whose actions prevent it from complying with these reporting and other requirements. The legislation would apply to payments made after December 31, 2012. Prospective investors should consult their tax advisors regarding this legislation.

Table of Contents

UNDERWRITING

Under the terms and subject to the conditions in an underwriting agreement dated the date of this prospectus supplement, Lazard Capital Markets LLC has agreed to purchase, and we have agreed to sell to it, the number of shares of our common stock at the public offering price, less the underwriting discounts and commissions, as set forth on the cover page of this prospectus supplement as indicated below:

Underwriter	Number of Shares
Lazard Capital Markets LLC	
Total:	3,000,000

The underwriter is offering the shares of common stock subject to its acceptance of the shares from us and subject to prior sale. The underwriting agreement provides that the obligations of the underwriter to pay for and accept delivery of the shares offered by this prospectus supplement are subject to the approval of certain legal matters by their counsel and to other conditions. The underwriter is obligated to take and pay for all of the shares of common stock offered by this prospectus supplement if any such shares are taken.

The underwriter has an option to buy up to 450,000 additional shares of common stock from us to cover sales of shares by the underwriter which exceed the number of shares specified in the table above. The underwriter may exercise this option at any time and from time to time during the 30-day period from the date of this prospectus supplement. If any additional shares of common stock are purchased, the underwriter will offer the additional shares of common stock on the same terms as those on which the shares are being offered.

The underwriter initially proposes to offer the shares of common stock directly to the public at the public offering price listed on the cover page of this prospectus supplement. After the initial offering of the shares, the offering price and other selling terms may from time to time be varied by the underwriter.

The underwriting agreement provides that the obligations of the underwriter are subject to certain conditions precedent, including the absence of any material adverse change in our business and the receipt of customary legal opinions, letters and certificates.

Commissions and Discounts

The following table summarizes the public offering price, underwriting discount and proceeds before expenses to us assuming both no exercise and full exercise of the underwriter's option to purchase additional shares of common stock:

	Per Share	Total Without Over- Allotment	With Over- Allotment
Public offering price	\$	\$	\$
Underwriting discounts and commissions			
Proceeds, before expenses, to us			

Table of Contents

The expenses of the offering, not including the underwriting discount and commissions, payable by us are estimated to be \$450,000. Lazard Frères & Co. LLC referred this transaction to Lazard Capital Markets LLC and will receive a referral fee from Lazard Capital Markets LLC in connection therewith; however, such referral fee is not in addition to the fee paid by us to Lazard Capital Markets LLC described above.

Quotation on the NASDAQ Global Market

Our common stock is listed on The NASDAQ Global Market under the symbol MAPP. Our registrar and transfer agent for our common stock is American Stock Transfer & Trust Company.

Indemnification

We and the underwriter have agreed to indemnify each other against certain liabilities under the Securities Act and we have also agreed to contribute to payments the underwriter and Lazard Frères & Co. LLC may be required to make in respect of such liabilities.

No Sales of Similar Securities

We and each of our executive officers and directors and certain of our stockholders have agreed with the underwriter, subject to certain exceptions, not to dispose of or hedge any of our shares of common stock or securities convertible into or exercisable or exchangeable for common stock for 60 days after the date of this prospectus supplement without first obtaining the written consent of Lazard Capital Markets LLC. This consent may be given at any time without public notice. The 60-day lock-up period during which we and our executive officers and directors and certain of our stockholders are restricted from engaging in transactions in our common stock or securities convertible into or exercisable or exchangeable for common stock is subject to extension in the event that either (i) during the last 17 days of the lock-up period, we issue an earnings or financial results release or material news or a material event relating to us occurs, or (ii) prior to the expiration of the lock-up period, we announce that we will release earnings or financial results during the 16-day period beginning on the last day of the lock-up period, then in either case the expiration of the lock-up period will be extended until the expiration of the 18-day period beginning on the issuance of the earnings or financial results release or the occurrence of the material news or material event, as applicable, unless Lazard Capital Markets LLC waives, in writing, such an extension.

Transfers or dispositions can be made during the lock-up period in the case of gifts or for estate planning purposes where the donee agrees to hold the shares subject to such lock-up; for shares of common stock acquired in open market transactions after the completion of this offering; in the case of distribution to partners, members or shareholders where the recipient agrees to hold the shares subject to such lock-up; and, in the case of directors and certain of our stockholders, during the last fifteen days of the lock-up period provided that the per share price of such shares of common stock is greater than the offering price to the public as indicated on the cover page of this prospectus supplement. In addition, any director or officer who has an existing trading plan for purposes of complying with Rule 10b5-1(c)(1) under the Exchange Act may dispose of shares of common stock or securities convertible into or exchangeable for shares of common stock pursuant to the terms of any such pre-existing plan after October 27, 2010. Our directors and officers and certain significant stockholders may also enter into a trading plan for purposes of complying with Rule 10b5-1(c)(1) under the Exchange Act during the 60-day period set forth in this paragraph provided that any sales, transfers or dispositions under such trading plan will not occur during the lock-up period.

Price Stabilization, Short Positions

In order to facilitate the offering of the shares of common stock, the underwriter may engage in transactions that stabilize, maintain or otherwise affect the price of our common stock. Specifically, the underwriter may sell more shares of common stock than it is obligated to purchase under the underwriting agreement, creating a short position. The underwriter must close out any short position by purchasing shares of common stock in the open market. A short position may be created if the underwriter is concerned that there may be downward pressure on the price of the common stock in the open market after pricing that could adversely affect investors who purchased in this offering. As an additional means of facilitating this offering, the underwriter may bid for, and purchase, shares of our common stock in the open market to stabilize the price of the common stock. These activities may raise or maintain the market price of our common stock above independent market levels or prevent or slow a decline in the market price of our common stock. The underwriter is not required to engage in these activities, and may end any of these activities at any time.

Table of Contents

A prospectus in electronic format may be made available on websites maintained by the underwriter. Lazard Capital Markets LLC may agree to allocate a number of shares of common stock to other underwriters for sale to its online brokerage account holders. Internet distributions will be allocated on the same basis as other allocations.

United Kingdom

This document is only being distributed to and is only directed at (i) persons who are outside the United Kingdom or (ii) to investment professionals falling within Article 19(5) of the Financial Services and Markets Act 2000 (Financial Promotion) Order 2005 (the Order) or (iii) high net worth entities, and other persons to whom it may lawfully be communicated, falling within Article 49(2)(a) to (e) of the Order (all such persons together being referred to as relevant persons). The shares of common stock are only available to, and any invitation, offer or agreement to subscribe, purchase or otherwise acquire such shares will be engaged in only with, relevant persons. Any person who is not a relevant person should not act or rely on this document or any of its contents.

The underwriter has represented and agreed that:

(a) it has only communicated or caused to be communicated and will only communicate or cause to be communicated an invitation or inducement to engage in investment activity (within the meaning of Section 21 of the Financial Services and Markets Act 2000 or FSMA) received by it in connection with the issue or sale of the shares in circumstances in which Section 21(1) of the FSMA does not apply to us, and

(b) it has complied with, and will comply with all applicable provisions of FSMA with respect to anything done by it in relation to the shares in, from or otherwise involving the United Kingdom.

European Economic Area

To the extent that the offer of the shares of common stock are made in any Member State of the European Economic Area that has implemented the Prospectus Directive before the date of publication of a prospectus in relation to the shares of common stock which has been approved by the competent authority in the Member State in accordance with the Prospectus Directive (or, where appropriate, published in accordance with the Prospectus Directive and notified to the competent authority in the Member State in accordance with the Prospectus Directive), the offer (including any offer pursuant to this document) is only addressed to qualified investors in that Member State within the meaning of the Prospectus Directive or has been or will be made otherwise in circumstances that do not require us to publish a prospectus pursuant to the Prospectus Directive.

In relation to each Member State of the European Economic Area which has implemented the Prospectus Directive (each, a Relevant Member State), the underwriter has represented and agreed that with effect from and including the date on which the Prospectus Directive is implemented in that Relevant Member State (the Relevant Implementation Date) it has not made and will not make an offer of shares to the public in that Relevant Member State prior to the publication of a prospectus in relation to the shares which has been approved by the competent authority in that Relevant Member State or, where appropriate, approved in another Relevant Member State and notified to the competent authority in that Relevant Member State, all in accordance with the Prospectus Directive, except that it may, with effect from and including the Relevant Implementation Date, make an offer of shares to the public in that Relevant Member State at any time:

(a) to legal entities which are authorized or regulated to operate in the financial markets or, if not so authorized or regulated, whose corporate purpose is solely to invest in securities,

Table of Contents

(b) in any legal entity which has two or more of (1) an average of at least 250 employees during the last financial year; (2) a total balance sheet of more than 43,000,000 and (3) an annual net turnover of more than 50,000,000, as shown in its last annual or consolidated accounts, or

(c) in any other circumstances which do not require the publication by us of a prospectus pursuant to Article 3 of the Prospectus Directive. For the purposes of this provision, the expression an offer of shares to the public in relation to any shares in any Relevant Member State means the communication in any form and by any means of sufficient information on the terms of the offer and the shares to be offered so as to enable an investor to decide to purchase or subscribe the shares, as the same may be varied in that Relevant Member State by any measure implementing the Prospectus Directive in that Relevant Member State and the expression Prospectus Directive means Directive 2003/71/EC and includes any relevant implementing measure in each Relevant Member State.

The EEA selling restriction is in addition to any other selling restrictions set out below. In relation to each Relevant Member State, each purchaser of shares of common stock (other than the underwriter) will be deemed to have represented, acknowledged and agreed that it will not make an offer of shares of common stock to the public in any Relevant Member State, except that it may, with effect from and including the date on which the Prospectus Directive is implemented in the Relevant Member State, make an offer of shares of common stock to the public in that Relevant Member State at any time in any circumstances which do not require the publication by us of a prospectus pursuant to Article 3 of the Prospectus Directive, provided that such purchaser agrees that it has not and will not make an offer of any shares of common stock in reliance or purported reliance on Article 3(2)(b) of the Prospectus Directive. For the purposes of this provision, the expression an offer of Shares to the public in relation to any shares of common stock in any Relevant Member State has the same meaning as in the preceding paragraph.

Table of Contents

LEGAL MATTERS

Latham & Watkins LLP, Menlo Park, California, will pass upon the validity of the issuance and sale of the securities on behalf of MAP Pharmaceuticals, Inc. Latham & Watkins LLP and certain attorneys and investment funds affiliated with the firm collectively own less than 0.1% of the shares of our common stock. Certain matters will be passed upon for the underwriter by Proskauer Rose LLP, New York, New York.

EXPERTS

The financial statements and management's assessment of the effectiveness of internal control over financial reporting (which is included in Management's Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting) incorporated in this prospectus supplement by reference to the Annual Report on Form 10-K, as amended, for the year ended December 31, 2009 have been so incorporated in reliance on the report of PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP, an independent registered public accounting firm, given on the authority of said firm as experts in auditing and accounting.

WHERE YOU CAN FIND MORE INFORMATION

We are subject to the reporting requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, or the Exchange Act and file annual, quarterly and current reports, proxy statements and other information with the SEC. You may also read and copy any document we file with the SEC at the SEC's Public Reference Room at 100 F Street, N.E., Washington, D.C. 20549. You can request copies of these documents by writing to the SEC and paying a fee for the copying cost. Please call the SEC at 1-800-SEC-0330 for further information on the public reference rooms. Our SEC filings are also available to the public over the Internet at the SEC's website at www.sec.gov. Our common stock is listed on The NASDAQ Global Market, and you can read and inspect our filings at the offices of The NASDAQ Stock Market at 1735 K Street, Washington, D.C. 20006. We maintain a website at www.mappharma.com. The information contained on our website is not incorporated by reference in this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus and you should not consider it a part of this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus.

You should rely only on the information contained in, and incorporated by reference in, this prospectus supplement and the registration statement. We have not authorized anyone else to provide you with different information. We are not making an offer of these securities in any state where the offer is not permitted. You should not assume that the information in this prospectus is accurate as of any date other than the date on the front page of this prospectus, regardless of the time of delivery of this prospectus or any sale of common stock.

INCORPORATION OF CERTAIN INFORMATION BY REFERENCE

The SEC allows us to incorporate by reference the information we file with them which means that we can disclose important information to you by referring you to those documents instead of having to repeat the information in this prospectus supplement. The information incorporated by reference is considered to be part of this prospectus supplement, and later information that we file with the SEC will automatically update and supersede this information. We incorporate by reference the documents listed below and any future information filed (rather than furnished) with the SEC under Sections 13(a), 13(c), 14, or 15(d) of the Exchange Act between the date of this prospectus supplement and the termination of the offering, provided, however, that we are not incorporating any information furnished under any of Item 2.02 or Item 7.01 of any current report on Form 8-K:

our Annual Report on Form 10-K, for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2009;

our Quarterly Reports on Form 10-Q for the fiscal quarters ended March 31, 2010 and June 30, 2010;

Table of Contents

our Current Reports on Form 8-K dated January 11, 2010, January 28, 2010, February 4, 2010, May 11, 2010, May 21, 2010, and September 8, 2010;

the portions of our Definitive Proxy Statement on Schedule 14A filed on April 14, 2010 that are deemed filed with the SEC under the Exchange Act; and

the description of our common stock contained in our Registration Statement on Form 8-A filed with the SEC on October 2, 2007.

You may request a copy of any documents incorporated by reference in this prospectus supplement, at no cost, by writing or calling us at the following address and telephone number:

MAP Pharmaceuticals, Inc.

Attn: Corporate Secretary

2400 Bayshore Parkway, Suite 200

Mountain View, CA 94043

(650) 386-3100

Exhibits to the filings will not be sent, however, unless those exhibits have specifically been incorporated by reference in this prospectus supplement.

Table of Contents

PROSPECTUS

**MAP Pharmaceuticals, Inc.
Debt Securities, Common Stock,
Preferred Stock and Warrants**

We may offer and sell the securities from time to time in one or more offerings. This prospectus provides you with a general description of the securities we may offer.

Each time we sell securities, we will provide a supplement to this prospectus that contains specific information about the offering and the amounts, prices and terms of the securities. The supplement may also add, update or change information contained in this prospectus. You should carefully read this prospectus and the accompanying prospectus supplement before you invest in any of our securities.

We may offer and sell the following securities:

debt securities;

common stock;

preferred stock; and

warrants.

The securities may be offered directly by us, through agents designated from time to time by us or to or through underwriters or dealers. If any agents, dealers or underwriters are involved in the sale of any of the securities, their names and any applicable purchase price, fee, commission or discount arrangement between or among them will be set forth, or will be calculable from the information set forth, in the applicable prospectus supplement. See the sections entitled About This Prospectus and Plan of Distribution for more information. No securities may be sold without delivery of this prospectus and the applicable prospectus supplement describing the method and terms of the offering of such securities.

See Risk Factors on page 1 for information you should consider before buying any securities.

Our common stock is traded on The Nasdaq Global Market under the symbol MAPP.

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

The date of this prospectus is March 9, 2010.

Table of Contents

TABLE OF CONTENTS

<u>About this Prospectus</u>	Page ii
<u>Forward Looking Statements</u>	ii
<u>Where You Can Find More Information</u>	ii
<u>MAP Pharmaceuticals, Inc.</u>	1
<u>Risk Factors</u>	1
<u>Use of Proceeds</u>	1
<u>Ratio of Earnings to Fixed Charges</u>	2
<u>Description of Debt Securities</u>	3
<u>Description of Capital Stock</u>	9
<u>Description of Warrants</u>	13
<u>Plan of Distribution</u>	15
<u>Experts</u>	16
<u>Validity of the Securities</u>	16

You should rely only on the information contained or incorporated by reference in this prospectus and in any applicable supplement to this prospectus. We have not authorized any other person to provide you with different information. If anyone provides you with different or inconsistent information, you should not rely on it. We are not making an offer to sell these securities in any jurisdiction where the offer or sale is not permitted. You should assume that the information appearing in this prospectus and the accompanying prospectus supplement and any free writing prospectus prepared by or on behalf of us is accurate only as of the date on their respective covers. Our business, financial condition, results of operations and prospects may have changed since that date.

Unless the context indicates otherwise, references in this prospectus to MAP Pharmaceuticals, we, us, our and the company refer to MAP Pharmaceuticals, Inc., its predecessors and its consolidated subsidiaries.

Table of Contents

ABOUT THIS PROSPECTUS

This prospectus is part of a registration statement that we filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission, or SEC, using a shelf registration process. Under this process, we may sell debt securities; common stock; preferred stock and warrants. This prospectus provides you with only a general description of the securities that we may offer. Each time we sell securities, we will provide a supplement to this prospectus that contains specific information about the terms of the securities. The prospectus supplement may also add, update or change information contained in this prospectus. Before purchasing any securities, you should carefully read both this prospectus and the accompanying prospectus supplement and any free writing prospectus prepared by or on behalf of us, together with the additional information described under the heading **Where You Can Find More Information**.

FORWARD LOOKING STATEMENTS

All statements included or incorporated by reference into this prospectus and any accompanying prospectus supplement, other than statements of historical facts, that address activities, events or developments that we intend, expect, project, believe or anticipate will or may occur in the future are forward looking statements. This prospectus and any accompanying prospectus contain forward looking statements that are based on current expectations, estimates, forecasts and projections about us, our future performance, our business or others on our behalf, our beliefs and our management's assumptions. In addition, we, or others on our behalf, may make forward looking statements in press releases or written statements, or in our communications and discussions with investors and analysts in the normal course of business through meetings, webcasts, phone calls and conference calls. Words such as expect, anticipate, outlook, could, will, target, project, intend, plan, believe, should, may, assume, or continue, and variations of such words and similar expressions are intended to identify such forward looking statements. These statements are not guarantees of future performance and involve certain risks, uncertainties and assumptions that are difficult to predict. We have based our forward looking statements on our management's beliefs and assumptions based on information available to our management at the time the statements are made. We caution you that actual outcomes and results may differ materially from what is expressed, implied or forecast by our forward looking statements. Reference is made in particular to forward looking statements regarding product sales, regulatory activities, clinical trial results, reimbursement, expenses, earnings per share, liquidity and capital resources, and trends. Except as required under the federal securities laws and the rules and regulations of the SEC, we do not have any intention or obligation to update publicly any forward looking statements after the distribution of this prospectus and any accompanying prospectus supplement, whether as a result of new information, future events, changes in assumptions or otherwise.

You are cautioned not to rely unduly on any forward looking statements. These risks and uncertainties are discussed in more detail under **Risk Factors**, **Business** and **Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations** in our reports and other documents on file with the SEC. You may obtain copies of these documents as described under **Where You Can Find More Information** below.

WHERE YOU CAN FIND MORE INFORMATION

We file annual, quarterly and current reports, proxy statements and other information with the SEC. Our SEC filings are available to the public over the Internet at the SEC's website at www.sec.gov. You may also read and copy any document we file with the SEC at the SEC's Public Reference Room at 100 F Street, N.E., Washington, D.C. 20549. Please call the SEC at 1-800-SEC-0330 for further information on the public reference rooms. We maintain a website at www.mappharma.com. The information contained on our website is not incorporated by reference in this prospectus and any accompanying prospectus supplement and you should not consider it a part of this prospectus and any accompanying prospectus supplement.

Table of Contents

The SEC allows us to incorporate by reference the information we file with them which means that we can disclose important information to you by referring you to those documents instead of having to repeat the information in this prospectus. The information incorporated by reference is considered to be 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 documents listed below and any future information filed (rather than furnished) with the SEC under Sections 13(a), 13(c), 14, or 15(d) of the Exchange Act between the date of this prospectus and the termination of the offering and also between the date of the initial registration statement and prior to effectiveness of the registration statement, provided, however, that we are not incorporating any information furnished under any of Item 2.02 or Item 7.01 of any current report on Form 8-K:

Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2009, filed on March 5, 2010; and

Current Reports on Form 8-K filed on January 11, 2010, January 28, 2010 and February 4, 2010.

You may request a copy of any documents incorporated by reference in this prospectus and any accompanying prospectus supplement, at no cost, by writing or calling us at the following address and telephone number:

MAP Pharmaceuticals, Inc.

Attn: Corporate Secretary

2400 Bayshore Parkway, Suite 200

Mountain View, CA 94043

(650) 386-3100

Exhibits to the filings will not be sent, however, unless those exhibits have specifically been incorporated by reference in this prospectus and any accompanying prospectus supplement.

Table of Contents

MAP PHARMACEUTICALS, INC.

Our goal is to use proprietary inhalation technologies to enhance the therapeutic benefits and commercial attractiveness of proven drugs while minimizing risk by capitalizing on their known safety, efficacy and commercialization history. We have proprietary product candidates in development that address large market opportunities, including our most advanced product candidate, LEVADEX, formerly known as MAP0004, our proprietary orally inhaled version of dihydroergotamine for the potential treatment of migraine. LEVADEX is designed to provide faster onset and longer lasting pain relief than triptans, the class of drugs most often prescribed for treating migraine.

For our LEVADEX migraine program, we initiated a Phase 3 clinical program in July 2008 pursuant to a special protocol assessment from the U.S. Food and Drug Administration, or the FDA. In May 2009, we announced results of the efficacy portion of our first Phase 3 clinical trial of LEVADEX. We announced that the clinical trial met its four primary endpoints, pain relief and being nausea, phonophobia and photophobia free as reported two hours after dosing. Additional endpoints showed that LEVADEX provided rapid and sustained pain relief for up to 48 hours after dosing. In January 2010, the FDA informed us that a second pivotal efficacy study is not required for our LEVADEX new drug application submission for the acute treatment of migraine. In order to obtain regulatory approval for LEVADEX, we will need to complete our remaining clinical studies, including our ongoing 12 month open-label safety extension of our Phase 3 clinical study, a pharmacokinetic study and a pharmacodynamic study.

We hold worldwide commercialization rights for LEVADEX and our goal is to market LEVADEX in the United States through our own focused sales force targeting neurologists and headache specialists. We may establish partnerships with pharmaceutical companies to market and sell to primary care physicians and specialists both inside and outside of the United States.

MAP Pharmaceuticals, Inc., incorporated in the state of Delaware, was originally formed as a limited liability company on July 3, 2003 and converted to a corporation on December 11, 2003. Our principal executive offices are located at 2400 Bayshore Parkway, Suite 200, Mountain View, CA 94043, and our telephone number at that address is (650) 386-3100. Our website can be found at www.mappharma.com. The information contained in, or that can be accessed through, our website is not part of this prospectus or any accompanying prospectus supplement.

RISK FACTORS

Investment in any securities offered pursuant to this prospectus involves risks. You should carefully consider the risk factors incorporated by reference to our most recent Annual Report on Form 10-K, any subsequent Quarterly Reports on Form 10-Q or Current Reports on Form 8-K that we have filed or will file, and all other information contained or incorporated by reference into this prospectus, as updated by our subsequent filings under the Exchange Act, and the risk factors and other information contained in the applicable prospectus supplement before acquiring any of such securities. The occurrence of any of these risks might cause you to lose all or part of your investment in the offered securities. Please also refer to the section above entitled Forward Looking Statements.

USE OF PROCEEDS

We intend to use the net proceeds from the sale of the securities offered by us under this prospectus for general corporate purposes, including repaying, redeeming or repurchasing debt, acquisitions, share repurchases, capital expenditures and working capital. When a particular series of securities is offered, the prospectus supplement relating to that series will set forth our intended use for the net proceeds we receive from the sale of the securities. Pending the application of the net proceeds, we may invest the proceeds in short-term, interest-bearing instruments or other investment-grade securities.

Table of Contents

RATIO OF EARNINGS TO FIXED CHARGES

The following summary is qualified by the more detailed information appearing in the computation table found in Exhibit 12.1 to the registration statement of which this prospectus is part and the historical financial statements, including the notes to those financial statements, incorporated by reference in this prospectus. The following table sets forth our ratio of earnings to fixed charges for each of the periods indicated (in thousands):

	Year Ended December 31,				
	2009	2008	2007	2006	2005
Ratio of earnings to fixed charges (1)					

- (1) For the purpose of computing the ratio of earnings to fixed charges, earnings consist of net loss or net income plus fixed charges. Fixed charges consist of interest expense, amortization of debt expense and discount or premium related to indebtedness, whether expensed or capitalized. Due to our losses for the years ended December 31, 2009, 2008, 2007, 2006 and 2005, earnings were insufficient to cover fixed charges for these periods. The amount of the coverage deficiency was \$6,879, \$70,872, \$38,717, \$25,574 and \$16,249 for the years ended December 31, 2009, 2008, 2007, 2006 and 2005, respectively.

Table of Contents

DESCRIPTION OF DEBT SECURITIES

The debt securities covered by this prospectus will be issued under one or more separate indentures to be entered into between us and a trustee to be identified in the applicable prospectus supplement. This prospectus, together with its prospectus supplement, will describe all the material terms of a particular series of debt securities.

The following is a summary of the most important provisions and definitions of the indenture. For additional information, you should look at the indenture that is filed as an exhibit to the registration statement which includes the prospectus.

General

Debt securities may be issued in separate series without limitation as to aggregate principal amount. We may specify a maximum aggregate principal amount for the debt securities of any series.

We are not limited as to the amount of debt securities we may issue under the indenture, though such amount shall be limited by the aggregate principal amount of securities that we may sell under this prospectus. The prospectus supplement will set forth:

the offering price;

the title;

any limit on the aggregate principal amount;

the person who shall be entitled to receive interest, if other than the record holder on the record date;

the date the principal will be payable;

the interest rate, if any, the date interest will accrue, the interest payment dates and the regular record dates;

the place where payments may be made;

any mandatory or optional redemption provisions;

if applicable, the method for determining how the principal, premium, if any, or interest will be calculated by reference to an index or formula;

if other than U.S. currency, the currency or currency units in which principal, premium, if any, or interest will be payable and whether we or the holder may elect payment to be made in a different currency;

the portion of the principal amount that will be payable upon acceleration of stated maturity, if other than the entire principal amount;

if the principal amount payable at stated maturity will not be determinable as of any date prior to stated maturity, the amount which will be deemed to be the principal amount;

any defeasance provisions if different from those described below under Satisfaction and Discharge; Defeasance;

any conversion or exchange provisions;

any obligation to redeem or purchase the debt securities pursuant to a sinking fund;

whether the debt securities will be issuable in the form of a global security;

any subordination provisions, if different from those described below under Subordinated Debt Securities;

any deletions of, or changes or additions to, the events of default or covenants; and

any other specific terms of such debt securities.

Unless otherwise specified in the prospectus supplement:

the debt securities will be registered debt securities; and

registered debt securities denominated in U.S. dollars will be issued in denominations of \$1,000 and any integral multiple thereof. Debt securities may be sold at a substantial discount below their stated principal amount, bearing no interest or interest at a rate which at the time of issuance is below market rates.

Exchange and Transfer

Debt securities may be transferred or exchanged at the office of the security registrar or at the office of any transfer agent designated by us.

Table of Contents

We will not impose a service charge for any transfer or exchange, but we may require holders to pay any tax or other governmental charges associated with any transfer or exchange.

In the event of any potential redemption of debt securities of any series, we will not be required to:

issue, register the transfer of or exchange any debt security of that series during a period beginning at the opening of business 15 days before the day of mailing of a notice of redemption and ending at the close of business on the day of the mailing; or

register the transfer of or exchange any debt security of that series selected for redemption, in whole or in part, except the unredeemed portion being redeemed in part.

We may initially appoint the trustee as the security registrar. Any transfer agent, in addition to the security registrar initially designated by us, will be named in the prospectus supplement. We may designate additional transfer agents or change transfer agents or change the office of the transfer agent. However, we will be required to maintain a transfer agent in each place of payment for the debt securities of each series.

Global Securities

The debt securities of any series may be represented, in whole or in part, by one or more global securities. Each global security will:

be registered in the name of a depository that we will identify in a prospectus supplement;

be deposited with the depository or nominee or custodian; and

bear any required legends.

No global security may be exchanged in whole or in part for debt securities registered in the name of any person other than the depository or any nominee unless:

the depository has notified us that it is unwilling or unable to continue as depository or has ceased to be qualified to act as depository;

an event of default is continuing; or

any other circumstances described in a prospectus supplement occur.

As long as the depository, or its nominee, is the registered owner of a global security, the depository or nominee will be considered the sole owner and holder of the debt securities represented by the global security for all purposes under the indenture. Except in the above limited circumstances, owners of beneficial interests in a global security:

will not be entitled to have the debt securities registered in their names;

will not be entitled to physical delivery of certificated debt securities; and

will not be considered to be holders of those debt securities under the indentures.

Payments on a global security will be made to the depositary or its nominee as the holder of the global security. Some jurisdictions have laws that require that certain purchasers of securities take physical delivery of such securities in definitive form. These laws may impair the ability to transfer beneficial interests in a global security.

Institutions that have accounts with the depositary or its nominee are referred to as participants. Ownership of beneficial interests in a global security will be limited to participants and to persons that may hold beneficial interests through participants. The depositary will credit, on its book-entry registration and transfer system, the respective principal amounts of debt securities represented by the global security to the accounts of its participants.

Ownership of beneficial interests in a global security will be shown on and effected through records maintained by the depositary, with respect to participants' interests, or any participant, with respect to interests of persons held by participants on their behalf. Payments, transfers and exchanges relating to beneficial interests in a global security will be subject to policies and procedures of the depositary. The depositary policies and procedures may change from time to time. Neither we nor the trustee will have any responsibility or liability for the depositary's or any participant's records with respect to beneficial interests in a global security.

Payment and Paying Agent

The provisions of this paragraph will apply to the debt securities unless otherwise indicated in the prospectus supplement. Payment of interest on a debt security on any interest payment date will be made to the person in whose name the debt security is registered at the close of business on the regular record date. Payment on debt securities of a particular series will be payable at the office of a paying agent or paying agents designated by us. However, at our option, we may pay interest by mailing a check to the record holder.

Table of Contents

We may also name any other paying agents in the prospectus supplement. We may designate additional paying agents, change paying agents or change the office of any paying agent. However, we will be required to maintain a paying agent in each place of payment for the debt securities of a particular series.

All moneys paid by us to a paying agent for payment on any debt security which remain unclaimed at the end of two years after such payment was due will be repaid to us. Thereafter, the holder may look only to us for such payment.

Consolidation, Merger and Sale of Assets

Except as otherwise set forth in the prospectus supplement, we may not consolidate with or merge into any other person, in a transaction in which we are not the surviving corporation, or convey, transfer or lease our properties and assets substantially as an entirety to, any person, unless:

we are the surviving corporation or the successor assumes our obligations on the debt securities and under the indenture;

immediately after giving effect to the transaction, no default or event of default shall have occurred and be continuing; and

certain other conditions are met.

Events of Default

Unless we inform you otherwise in the prospectus supplement, the indenture will define an event of default with respect to any series of debt securities as one or more of the following events:

- (1) failure to pay principal of or any premium on any debt security of that series when due;
- (2) failure to pay any interest on any debt security of that series within 30 days following the due date;
- (3) default in the performance or breach of any covenant or warranty in the indenture continued for 90 days after being given the notice required in the indenture;
- (4) our bankruptcy, insolvency or reorganization; and
- (5) any other event of default specified in the prospectus supplement.

An event of default of one series of debt securities is not necessarily an event of default for any other series of debt securities.

If an event of default, other than an event of default described in clause (4) above, shall occur and be continuing, either the trustee or the holders of at least 25% in aggregate principal amount of the outstanding securities of that series may declare the principal amount of the debt securities of that series to be due and payable immediately.

If an event of default described in clause (4) above shall occur, the principal amount of all the debt securities of that series will automatically become immediately due and payable. Any payment by us on the subordinated debt securities following any such acceleration will be subject to the subordination provisions described below under Subordinated Debt Securities.

After acceleration the holders of a majority in aggregate principal amount of the outstanding securities of that series may, under certain circumstances, rescind and annul such acceleration if all events of default, other than the non-payment of accelerated principal, or other specified amount, have been cured or waived.

Other than the duty to act with the required care during an event of default, the trustee will not be obligated to exercise any of its rights or powers at the request of the holders unless the holders shall have offered to the trustee reasonable indemnity. Generally, the holders of a majority

Edgar Filing: MAP Pharmaceuticals, Inc. - Form 424B5

in aggregate principal amount of the outstanding debt securities of any series will have the right to direct the time, method and place of conducting any proceeding for any remedy available to the trustee or exercising any trust or power conferred on the trustee.

A holder will not have any right to institute any proceeding under the indentures, or to appoint a receiver or a trustee, or to any other remedy under the indentures, unless:

(1) the holder has previously given to the trustee written notice of a continuing event of default with respect to the debt securities of that series;

Table of Contents

(2) the holders of at least 25% in aggregate principal amount of the outstanding debt securities of that series have made a written request and have offered reasonable indemnity to the trustee to institute the proceeding; and

(3) the trustee has failed to institute the proceeding and has not received direction inconsistent with the original request from the holders of a majority in aggregate principal amount of the outstanding debt securities of that series within 60 days after the original request.

Holders may, however, sue to enforce the payment of principal, premium or interest on any debt security on or after the due date or to enforce the right, if any, to convert any debt security without following the procedures listed in (1) through (3) above.

We will furnish the trustee an annual statement by our officers as to whether or not we are in default in the performance of the indenture and, if so, specifying all known defaults.

Modification and Waiver

Except as provided in the next two succeeding paragraphs, we and the trustee may make modifications and amendments to the indentures (including, without limitation, through consents obtained in connection with a purchase of, or tender offer or exchange offer for, outstanding securities) and may waive any existing default or event of default (including, without limitation, through consents obtained in connection with a purchase of, or tender offer for, outstanding securities) with the consent of the holders of a majority in aggregate principal amount of the outstanding securities of each series affected by the modification or amendment.

However, neither we nor the trustee may make any modification or amendment without the consent of the holder of each outstanding security of that series affected by the modification or amendment if such modification or amendment would:

change the stated maturity of any debt security;

reduce the principal of, premium, if any, on or interest on any debt security;

reduce the principal of an original issue discount security or any other debt security payable on acceleration of maturity;

reduce the rate of or extend the time for payment of interest on any debt security;

change the currency in which any debt security is payable;

impair the right to enforce any payment after the stated maturity or redemption date;

waive any default or event of default in payment of the principal of, premium on or interest on any debt security;

waive a redemption payment or modify any of the redemption provisions of any debt security;

adversely affect the right, if any, to convert any debt security; or

Edgar Filing: MAP Pharmaceuticals, Inc. - Form 424B5

change the provisions in the indenture that relate to modifying or amending the indenture.

Notwithstanding the preceding, without the consent of any holder of outstanding securities, we and the trustee may amend or supplement the indentures:

to cure any ambiguity, defect or inconsistency;

to provide for uncertificated securities in addition to or in place of certificated securities;

to provide for the assumption of our obligations to holders of any debt security in the case of a merger or consolidation or sale of all or substantially all of our assets;

to make any change that would provide any additional rights or benefits to the holders of securities or that does not adversely affect the legal rights under the indenture of any such holder;

to comply with requirements of the Commission in order to effect or maintain the qualification of an indenture under the Trust Indenture Act;

to conform the text of the indentures to any provision of the Description of Debt Securities to the extent that such provision in the Description of Debt Securities was intended to be a verbatim recitation of a provision of the indentures;

to provide for the issuance of additional securities in accordance with the limitations set forth in the indenture as of the date of the indenture;

to allow any guarantor to execute a supplemental indenture with respect to debt securities and to release guarantors in accordance with the terms of the indenture; or

to add additional obligors under the indenture and the securities.

Table of Contents

The consent of holders is not necessary under the indentures to approve the particular form of any proposed amendment. It is sufficient if such consent approves the substance of the proposed amendment.

Satisfaction and Discharge; Defeasance

We may be discharged from our obligations on the debt securities of any series that have matured or will mature or be redeemed within one year if we irrevocably deposit with the trustee enough cash to pay all principal, interest and any premium due on the stated maturity date or redemption date of the debt securities.

Each indenture contains a provision that permits us to elect:

to be discharged from all of our obligations, subject to limited exceptions, with respect to any series of debt securities then outstanding; and/or

to be released from our obligations under the following covenants and from the consequences of an event of default resulting from a breach of all covenants other than the obligation to pay principal and interest.

To make either of the above elections, we must deposit in trust with the trustee enough money to pay in full the principal, interest and any premium on the debt securities. This deposit may be made in cash and/or U.S. government obligations. As a condition to either of the above elections, we must deliver to the trustee an opinion of counsel that the holders of the debt securities will not recognize income, gain or loss for Federal income tax purposes as a result of the action.

If any of the above events occurs, the holders of debt securities of the series will not be entitled to the benefits of the indenture, except for the rights of holders to receive payments on the debt securities, the registration of transfer and exchange of debt securities and replacement of lost, stolen or mutilated debt securities.

Notices

Notices to holders will be given by mail to the addresses of the holders in the security register.

Governing Law

The indentures and the debt securities will be governed by, and construed under, the laws of the State of New York.

Regarding the Trustee

The indenture limits the right of the trustee, should it become a creditor of us, to obtain payment of claims or secure its claims.

The trustee is permitted to engage in certain other transactions. However, if the trustee acquires any conflicting interest, and there is a default under the debt securities of any series for which they are trustee, the trustee must eliminate the conflict or resign.

Subordinated Debt Securities

Payment on subordinated debt securities will, to the extent provided in the indenture, be subordinated in right of payment to the prior payment in full of all of our senior indebtedness (except that holders of notes may receive and retain subordinated debt securities and payments made from either of the trusts described under **Satisfaction and Discharge; Defeasance**). The subordinated debt securities also are effectively subordinated to all debt and other liabilities, including trade payables and lease obligations, if any, of our subsidiaries, if any.

Upon any distribution of our assets upon any dissolution, winding up, liquidation or reorganization, the payment of the principal of and interest on subordinated debt securities will be subordinated in right of payment to the prior payment in full of all senior indebtedness in cash or other payment satisfactory to the holders of senior indebtedness. In the event of any acceleration of subordinated debt securities because of an event of default, the holders of any senior indebtedness would be entitled to payment in full in cash or other payment satisfactory to such holders of all

Edgar Filing: MAP Pharmaceuticals, Inc. - Form 424B5

senior indebtedness obligations before the holders of subordinated debt securities are entitled to receive any payment or distribution (except that holders of notes may receive and retain subordinated debt securities and payments made from either of the trusts described under "Satisfaction and Discharge; Defeasance"). The indenture requires us or the trustee to promptly notify holders of designated senior indebtedness if payment of subordinated debt securities is accelerated because of an event of default.

We may not make any payment on subordinated debt securities, including upon redemption at the option of the holder of any subordinated debt securities or at our option, if:

a default in the payment of the principal, premium, if any, interest, rent or other obligations in respect of designated senior indebtedness occurs and is continuing beyond any applicable period of grace (called a "payment default"); or

Table of Contents

a default other than a payment default on any designated senior indebtedness occurs and is continuing that permits holders of designated senior indebtedness to accelerate its maturity, and the trustee receives a notice of such default (called a payment blockage notice) from us or any other person permitted to give such notice under the indenture (called a non-payment default).

We may resume payments and distributions on the subordinated debt securities:

in the case of a payment default, upon the date on which such default is cured, waived or ceases to exist; and

in the case of a non-payment default, the earlier of the date on which such nonpayment default is cured, waived or ceases to exist and 179 days after the date on which the payment blockage notice is received by the trustee, if the maturity of the designated senior indebtedness has not been accelerated.

No new period of payment blockage may be commenced pursuant to a payment blockage notice unless 365 days have elapsed since the initial effectiveness of the immediately prior payment blockage notice and all scheduled payments of principal, any premium and interest, including any liquidated damages, on the notes that have come due have been paid in full in cash. No non-payment default that existed or was continuing on the date of delivery of any payment blockage notice shall be the basis for any later payment blockage notice unless the non-payment default is based upon facts or events arising after the date of delivery of such payment blockage notice.

If the trustee or any holder of the notes receives any payment or distribution of our assets in contravention of the subordination provisions on the subordinated debt securities before all senior indebtedness is paid in full in cash, property or securities, including by way of set-off, or other payment satisfactory to holders of senior indebtedness, then such payment or distribution will be held in trust for the benefit of holders of senior indebtedness or their representatives to the extent necessary to make payment in full of all unpaid senior indebtedness in cash or payment satisfactory to the holders of senior indebtedness (except that holders of notes may receive and retain subordinated debt securities and payments made from either of the trusts described under Satisfaction and Discharge; Defeasance).

In the event of our bankruptcy, dissolution or reorganization, holders of senior indebtedness may receive more, ratably, and holders of the subordinated debt securities may receive less, ratably, than our other creditors (including our trade creditors). This subordination will not prevent the occurrence of any event of default under the indenture.

We are not prohibited from incurring debt, including senior indebtedness, under the indenture. We may from time to time incur additional debt, including senior indebtedness.

We are obligated to pay reasonable compensation to the trustee and to indemnify the trustee against certain losses, liabilities or expenses incurred by the trustee in connection with its duties relating to the subordinated debt securities. The trustee's claims for these payments will generally be senior to those of noteholders in respect of all funds collected or held by the trustee.

Certain Definitions

Senior indebtedness means the principal, premium, if any, interest, including any interest accruing after bankruptcy, and rent or termination payment on or other amounts due on our current or future indebtedness, whether created, incurred, assumed, guaranteed or in effect guaranteed by us, including any deferrals, renewals, extensions, refundings, amendments, modifications or supplements to the above. However, senior indebtedness does not include:

indebtedness that expressly provides that it shall not be senior in right of payment to the subordinated debt securities or expressly provides that it is on the same basis or junior to the subordinated debt securities;

our indebtedness to any of our majority-owned subsidiaries, if any; and

the subordinated debt securities.

Table of Contents

DESCRIPTION OF CAPITAL STOCK

*The following summary of the terms of our common stock does not purport to be complete and is subject to and qualified in its entirety by reference to our Amended and Restated Certificate of Incorporation, or certificate of incorporation, and Amended and Restated Bylaws, or bylaws, copies of which are on file with the Commission as exhibits to registration statements previously filed by us. See *Where You Can Find More Information*.*

Our authorized capital stock consists of 100,000,000 shares of common stock, \$0.01 par value per share, and 5,000,000 shares of preferred stock in one or more series, \$0.01 par value per share. The only equity securities currently outstanding are shares of common stock.

Common Stock

As of February 28, 2010, we had 26,302,226 shares of common stock outstanding. As of February 28, 2010, we had 4,309,516 shares of common stock reserved for issuance upon exercise of outstanding stock options and restricted stock units granted under our 2005 Equity Incentive Plan and our 2007 Equity Award Plan. As of February 28, 2010, we had warrants to purchase an aggregate of 51,571 shares of our common stock outstanding.

Voting Rights

Holders of our common stock are entitled to one vote per share on all matters to be voted upon by the stockholders. Holders of our common stock are not entitled to cumulative voting rights with respect to the election of directors, which means that the holders of a majority of the shares voted can elect all of the directors then standing for election.

Dividends

Subject to limitations under Delaware law and preferences that may apply to any outstanding shares of preferred stock, holders of our common stock are entitled to receive ratably such dividends or other distributions, if any, as may be declared by our board of directors out of funds legally available for them.

Liquidation

In the event of our liquidation, dissolution or winding up, holders of our common stock are entitled to share ratably in all assets remaining after payment of liabilities, subject to the liquidation preference of any outstanding preferred stock.

Rights and Preferences

Our common stock has no preemptive, conversion or other rights to subscribe for additional securities. There are no redemption or sinking fund provisions applicable to our common stock. The rights, preferences and privileges of holders of common stock are subject to, and may be adversely affected by, the rights of the holders of shares of any series of preferred stock that we may designate and issue in the future.

Fully Paid and Non-Assessable

All outstanding shares of our common stock are validly issued, fully paid and non-assessable.

Preferred Stock

As of February 28, 2010, we had no shares of preferred stock outstanding.

Our board of directors is authorized, pursuant to the Delaware General Corporation Law, to fix or alter from time to time the designation, powers, preferences and rights of the shares of each such series and the qualifications, limitations or restrictions of any wholly unissued series of Preferred Stock, and to establish from time to time the number of shares constituting any such series or any of them; and to increase or decrease the number of shares of any series subsequent to the issuance of shares of that series, but not below the number of shares of such series then outstanding. In case the number of shares of any series shall be decreased in accordance with the foregoing sentence, the shares constituting such decrease shall resume the status that they had prior to the adoption of the resolution originally fixing the number of shares of such series.

Transfer Agent and Registrar

The transfer agent and registrar for our common stock is American Stock Transfer & Trust Company. The transfer agent and registrar for any series or class of preferred stock will be set forth in the applicable prospectus supplement.

Table of Contents

Nasdaq Global Market

Our common stock is traded on The Nasdaq Global Market under the symbol MAPP.

Delaware Takeover Statute

We are subject to Section 203 of the Delaware General Corporate Law (DGCL). This statute regulating corporate takeovers prohibits a Delaware corporation from engaging in any business combination with any interested stockholder for three years following the date that the stockholder became an interested stockholder, unless:

prior to the date of the transaction, the board of directors of the corporation approved either the business combination or the transaction that resulted in the stockholder becoming an interested stockholder;

the interested stockholder owned at least 85% of the voting stock of the corporation outstanding at the time the transaction commenced, excluding for purposes of determining the number of shares outstanding (a) shares owned by persons who are directors and also officers and (b) shares owned by employee stock plans in which employee participants do not have the right to determine confidentially whether shares held subject to the plan will be tendered in a tender or exchange offer; or

on or subsequent to the date of the transaction, the business combination is approved by the board and authorized at an annual or special meeting of stockholders, and not by written consent, by the affirmative vote of at least 66²/3% of the outstanding voting stock that is not owned by the interested stockholder.

Section 203 defines a business combination to include:

any merger or consolidation involving the corporation and the interested stockholder;

any sale, transfer, pledge or other disposition involving the interested stockholder of 10% or more of the assets of the corporation;

subject to exceptions, any transaction that results in the issuance or transfer by the corporation of any stock of the corporation to the interested stockholder;

subject to exceptions, any transaction involving the corporation that has the effect of increasing the proportionate share of any class or series of stock or convertible security owned by the interested stockholder; or

the receipt by the interested stockholder of the benefit of any loans, advances, guarantees, pledges or other financial benefits provided by or through the corporation.

In general, Section 203 defines an interested stockholder as any entity or person beneficially owning 15% or more of the outstanding voting stock of the corporation and any entity or person affiliated with or controlling or controlled by the entity or person.

Certificate of Incorporation and Bylaws Provisions

Provisions of our certificate of incorporation and bylaws may have the effect of making it more difficult for a third party to acquire, or discourage a third party from attempting to acquire, control of our company by means of a tender offer, a proxy contest or otherwise. These provisions may also make the removal of incumbent officers and directors more difficult. These provisions are intended to discourage certain

Edgar Filing: MAP Pharmaceuticals, Inc. - Form 424B5

types of coercive takeover practices and inadequate takeover bids and to encourage persons seeking to acquire control of MAP Pharmaceuticals to first negotiate with us. These provisions could also limit the price that investors might be willing to pay in the future for shares of our common stock. These provisions may make it more difficult for stockholders to take specific corporate actions and could have the effect of delaying or preventing a change in our control. The amendment of any of these anti-takeover provisions would require approval by holders of at least $66\frac{2}{3}\%$ of our outstanding common stock entitled to vote.

In particular, our certificate of incorporation and bylaws provide for the following:

Staggered Board of Directors

Our board of directors is divided into three classes of the same or nearly the same number of directors, each serving staggered three-year terms, which means that only one class of directors may be elected at each annual meeting or special meeting in lieu of such annual meeting. These provisions may make the removal of incumbent directors difficult and may discourage third parties from attempting to circumvent the anti-takeover effects of our certificate of incorporation and bylaws by removing our incumbent directors.

Table of Contents

Removal of Directors, Vacancies

Directors may be removed without cause; however, removal without cause requires the affirmative vote of the stockholders holding at least 66²/₃% of the outstanding shares of our capital stock entitled to vote at an election of directors. Vacancies on our board of directors may be filled only by our board of directors unless the board of directors determines by resolution that any such vacancies shall be filled by the stockholders.

No Cumulative Voting

Delaware law provides that stockholders are not entitled to the right to cumulative votes in the election of directors unless our certificate of incorporation provides otherwise. Our certificate of incorporation does not expressly provide for cumulative voting.

No Written Consent of Stockholders

Any action to be taken by our stockholders must be effected at a duly called annual or special meeting and may not be effected by written consent.

Special Meetings of Stockholders

Special meetings of our stockholders may be called only by the board of directors, chairperson of the board of directors, chief executive officer or president (in the absence of a chief executive officer).

Advance Notice Requirement

Stockholder proposals to be brought before an annual meeting of our stockholders must comply with advance notice procedures. These advance notice procedures require timely notice and apply in several situations, including stockholder proposals relating to the nominations of persons for election to the board of directors. Generally, to be timely, notice must be received at our principal executive offices not less than 90 days nor more than 120 days prior to the first anniversary of the date on which we first mailed our proxy statement to stockholders in connection with the previous year's annual meeting of stockholders.

Amendment

The approval of not less than 66²/₃% of the outstanding shares of our capital stock entitled to vote is required to amend the provisions of our bylaws by stockholder action, or to amend the provisions of our certificate of incorporation that are described in this section or that are described under "Limitation of Liability and Indemnification of Executive Officers and Directors" below. These provisions will make it more difficult to circumvent the anti-takeover provisions of our certificate of incorporation and our bylaws.

Issuance of Designated Preferred Stock

Our board of directors is authorized to issue, without further action by the stockholders, up to 5,000,000 shares of designated preferred stock with rights and preferences, including voting rights, designated from time to time by the board of directors. The existence of authorized but unissued shares of preferred stock enables our board of directors to render more difficult or to discourage an attempt to obtain control of us by means of a merger, tender offer, proxy contest or otherwise.

Limitation of Liability and Indemnification of Executive Officers and Directors

Delaware law authorizes corporations to limit or eliminate the personal liability of directors to corporations and their stockholders for monetary damages for breaches of directors' fiduciary duties. Our certificate of incorporation includes a provision that eliminates, to the fullest extent permitted by Delaware law, the personal liability of a director to our company or our stockholders for monetary damages for any breach of fiduciary duty as a director. Subject to certain limitations, our bylaws provide that we must indemnify our directors and executive officers to the fullest extent permitted by Delaware law.

We have entered, and intend to continue to enter, into separate indemnification agreements with each of our directors and officers which may be broader than the specific indemnification provisions contained in the DGCL. These indemnification agreements may require us, among other things, to indemnify our directors, officers, and some employees for all reasonable expenses and liabilities incurred in connection with any action or proceeding brought against them by reason of the fact that they are or were our agents.

Table of Contents

The limitation of liability and indemnification provisions in our certificate of incorporation, bylaws, and indemnification agreements may discourage stockholders from bringing a lawsuit against directors for breach of their fiduciary duty. These provisions may also have the effect of reducing the likelihood of derivative litigation against directors and officers, even though such an action, if successful, might otherwise benefit our stockholders and us. In addition, your investment may be adversely affected to the extent we pay the costs of settlement and damage awards against directors and officers pursuant to these indemnification provisions.

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

There is currently no pending material litigation or proceeding involving any of our directors, officers or employees for which indemnification is sought.

Table of Contents

DESCRIPTION OF WARRANTS

This section describes the general terms of the warrants that we may offer and sell by this prospectus. This prospectus and any accompanying prospectus supplement will contain the material terms and conditions for each warrant. The accompanying prospectus supplement may add, update or change the terms and conditions of the warrants as described in this prospectus.

General

We may issue warrants to purchase debt securities, preferred stock or common stock. Warrants may be issued independently or together with any securities and may be attached to or separate from those securities. The warrants will be issued under warrant agreements to be entered into between us and a bank or trust company, as warrant agent, all of which will be described in the prospectus supplement relating to the warrants we are offering. The warrant agent will act solely as our agent in connection with the warrants and will not have any obligation or relationship of agency or trust for or with any holders or beneficial owners of warrants.

Debt Warrants

We may issue warrants for the purchase of our debt securities. As explained below, each debt warrant will entitle its holder to purchase debt securities at an exercise price set forth in, or to be determinable as set forth in, the related prospectus supplement. Debt warrants may be issued separately or together with debt securities.

The debt warrants are to be issued under debt warrant agreements to be entered into between us, and one or more banks or trust companies, as debt warrant agent, as will be set forth in the prospectus supplement relating to the debt warrants being offered by the prospectus supplement and this prospectus.

The particular terms of each issue of debt warrants, the debt warrant agreement relating to the debt warrants and the debt warrant certificates representing debt warrants will be described in the applicable prospectus supplement, including, as applicable:

the title of the debt warrants;

the initial offering price;

the title, aggregate principal amount and terms of the debt securities purchasable upon exercise of the debt warrants;

the currency or currency units in which the offering price, if any, and the exercise price are payable;

the title and terms of any related debt securities with which the debt warrants are issued and the number of the debt warrants issued with each debt security;

the date, if any, on and after which the debt warrants and the related debt securities will be separately transferable;

the principal amount of debt securities purchasable upon exercise of each debt warrant and the price at which that principal amount of debt securities may be purchased upon exercise of each debt warrant;

if applicable, the minimum or maximum number of warrants that may be exercised at any one time;

the date on which the right to exercise the debt warrants will commence and the date on which the right will expire;

if applicable, a discussion of United States federal income tax, accounting or other considerations applicable to the debt warrants;

whether the debt warrants represented by the debt warrant certificates will be issued in registered or bearer form, and, if registered, where they may be transferred and registered;

anti-dilution provisions of the debt warrants, if any;

redemption or call provisions, if any, applicable to the debt warrants;

any additional terms of the debt warrants, including terms, procedures and limitations relating to the exchange and exercise of the debt warrants; and

the exercise price.

Debt warrant certificates will be exchangeable for new debt warrant certificates of different denominations and, if in registered form, may be presented for registration of transfer, and debt warrants may be exercised at the corporate trust office of the debt warrant agent or any other office indicated in the related prospectus supplement. Before the exercise of debt warrants, holders of debt warrants will not be entitled to payments of principal of, premium, if any, or interest, if any, on the debt securities purchasable upon exercise of the debt warrants, or to enforce any of the covenants in the indenture.

Table of Contents

Equity Warrants

We may issue warrants for the purchase of our equity securities, such as our preferred stock or common stock. As explained below, each equity warrant will entitle its holder to purchase equity securities at an exercise price set forth in, or to be determinable as set forth in, the related prospectus supplement. Equity warrants may be issued separately or together with equity securities.

The equity warrants are to be issued under equity warrant agreements to be entered into between us and one or more banks or trust companies, as equity warrant agent, as will be set forth in the prospectus supplement relating to the equity warrants being offered by the prospectus supplement and this prospectus.

The particular terms of each issue of equity warrants, the equity warrant agreement relating to the equity warrants and the equity warrant certificates representing equity warrants will be described in the applicable prospectus supplement, including, as applicable:

the title of the equity warrants;

the initial offering price;

the aggregate number of equity warrants and the aggregate number of shares of the equity security purchasable upon exercise of the equity warrants;

the currency or currency units in which the offering price, if any, and the exercise price are payable;

if applicable, the designation and terms of the equity securities with which the equity warrants are issued, and the number of equity warrants issued with each equity security;

the date, if any, on and after which the equity warrants and the related equity security will be separately transferable;

if applicable, the minimum or maximum number of the equity warrants that may be exercised at any one time;

the date on which the right to exercise the equity warrants will commence and the date on which the right will expire;

if applicable, a discussion of United States federal income tax, accounting or other considerations applicable to the equity warrants;

anti-dilution provisions of the equity warrants, if any;

redemption or call provisions, if any, applicable to the equity warrants;

any additional terms of the equity warrants, including terms, procedures and limitations relating to the exchange and exercise of the equity warrants; and

the exercise price.

Holders of equity warrants will not be entitled, solely by virtue of being holders, to vote, to consent, to receive dividends, to receive notice as shareholders with respect to any meeting of shareholders for the election of directors or any other matter, or to exercise any rights whatsoever as a holder of the equity securities purchasable upon exercise of the equity warrants.

Table of Contents

PLAN OF DISTRIBUTION

We may sell the offered securities from time to time:

through agents;

through underwriters or dealers;

directly to one or more purchasers; or

through a combination of any of these methods of sale.

We may solicit direct offers to purchase the securities being offered by this prospectus. We may also designate agents to solicit offers to purchase the securities from time to time. We will name in a prospectus supplement any agent involved in the offer or sale of our securities.

If we utilize a dealer in the sale of the securities being offered by this prospectus, we will sell the securities to the dealer, as principal. The dealer may then resell the securities to the public at varying prices to be determined by the dealer at the time of resale.

If we utilize an underwriter in the sale of the securities being offered by this prospectus, we will execute an underwriting agreement with the underwriter at the time of sale and we will provide the name of any underwriter in the prospectus supplement that the underwriter will use to make resales of the securities to the public. In connection with the sale of the securities, we, or the purchasers of securities for whom the underwriter may act as agent, may compensate the underwriter in the form of underwriting discounts or commissions. The underwriter may sell the securities to or through dealers, and the underwriter may compensate those dealers in the form of discounts, concessions or commissions.

We will provide in the applicable prospectus supplement any compensation we pay to underwriters, dealers or agents in connection with the offering of the securities, and any discounts, concessions or commissions allowed by underwriters to participating dealers. Underwriters, dealers and agents participating in the distribution of the securities may be deemed to be underwriters within the meaning of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, or the Securities Act, and any discounts and commissions received by them and any profit realized by them on resale of the securities may be deemed to be underwriting discounts and commissions. We may enter into agreements to indemnify underwriters, dealers and agents against civil liabilities, including liabilities under the Securities Act, or to contribute to payments they may be required to make in respect thereof.

The securities may or may not be listed on a national securities exchange. To facilitate the offering of securities, certain persons participating in the offering may engage in transactions that stabilize, maintain or otherwise affect the price of the securities. This may include over-allotments or short sales of the securities, which involves the sale by persons participating in the offering of more securities than we sold to them. In these circumstances, these persons would cover such over-allotments or short positions by making purchases in the open market or by exercising their over-allotment option. In addition, these persons may stabilize or maintain the price of the securities by bidding for or purchasing securities in the open market or by imposing penalty bids, whereby selling concessions allowed to dealers participating in the offering may be reclaimed if securities sold by them are repurchased in connection with stabilization transactions. The effect of these transactions may be to stabilize or maintain the market price of the securities at a level above that which might otherwise prevail in the open market. These transactions may be discontinued at any time.

The underwriters, dealers and agents may engage in transactions with us, or perform services for us, in the ordinary course of business.

We will identify the specific plan of distribution in a prospectus supplement.

Table of Contents

EXPERTS

The financial statements and management's assessment of the effectiveness of internal control over financial reporting (which is included in Management's Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting) incorporated in this prospectus by reference to the Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2009 have been so incorporated in reliance on the report of PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP, an independent registered public accounting firm, given on the authority of said firm as experts in auditing and accounting.

VALIDITY OF THE SECURITIES

Latham & Watkins LLP, Menlo Park, California, will pass upon certain legal matters relating to the issuance and sale of the securities on behalf of MAP Pharmaceuticals, Inc.

Table of Contents

MAP Pharmaceuticals, Inc.
3,000,000 Shares
Common Stock

PROSPECTUS SUPPLEMENT

Lazard Capital Markets

September , 2010