



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

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is an emerging growth company as defined in Rule 405 of the Securities Act (§230.405 of this chapter) or Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act (§240.12b-2 of this chapter).

Emerging growth company

If an emerging growth company, indicate by check mark if the registrant has elected not to use the extended transition period for complying with any new or revised financial accounting standards provided pursuant to Section 13(a) of the Exchange Act

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Item 8.01 Other Information.

On November 10, 2017, Ligand signed a License Agreement and a Supply Agreement via a subsidiary with Meridian Laboratories Inc. granting Meridian an exclusive right to use Captisol® in Meridian's development and commercialization of a Captisol®-enabled version of a specified compound. Under the License Agreement, Ligand could potentially receive payments associated with certain licenses, royalties and milestone payments. And, Ligand could receive commercial revenue from the shipment of Captisol to Meridian for clinical and commercial activities.

Captisol® is a patent protected, chemically modified cyclodextrin with a structure designed to optimize the solubility and stability of drugs.

SIGNATURES

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

LIGAND PHARMACEUTICALS INCORPORATED

Date: November 13, 2017

By: /s/ Charles S. Berkman

Name: Charles S. Berkman

Title: Vice President, General Counsel and Secretary