HEMISPHERX BIOPHARMA INC
Form S-3
June 09, 2009
As filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on June 9, 2008

Registration No. 333- _____

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
Washington, D.C. 20549

FORM S-3
REGISTRATION STATEMENT
UNDER
THE SECURITIES ACT OF 1933

HEMISPHERX BIOPHARMA, INC.
(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Delaware	2836	52-0845822
(State or other jurisdiction of incorporation or organization)	(Primary Standard Industrial Classification Code Number)	(I.R.S. Employer Identification Number)

1617 JFK Boulevard
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19103
(215) 988-0080
(Address, including zip code, and telephone number, including area code, of registrant's principal executive offices)

William A. Carter, M.D., Chief Executive Officer
Hemispherx Biopharma, Inc.
1617 JFK Boulevard
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19103
(215) 988-0080
(Name, address, including zip code, and telephone number, including area code, of agent for service)

Copies of all communications to:
Richard Feiner, Esq.
Silverman Sclar Shin & Byrne PLLC
381 Park Avenue South, Suite 1601
New York, New York, 10016
(212) 779-8600
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Approximate date of proposed sale to the public: From time to time or at one time after the effective date of this Registration Statement.

If the only securities being registered on this form are being offered pursuant to dividend or interest reinvestment plans, please check the following box. ¨

If any of the securities being registered on this Form are to be offered on a delayed or continuous basis pursuant to Rule 415 under the Securities Act of 1933 ("Securities Act"), other than securities offered only in connection with dividend or reinvestment plans, check the following box. x

If this form is filed to register additional securities for an offering pursuant to Rule 462(b) under the Securities Act, please check the following box and list the Securities Act registration statement number of the earlier effective registration statement for the same offering. ¨

If this form is a post-effective amendment filed pursuant to 462(c) under the Securities Act, check the following box and list the Securities Act registration number of the earlier effective registration statement for the same offering.¨

If this Form is a registration statement pursuant to General Instruction I.D. or a post-effective amendment thereto that shall become effective upon filing with the Commission pursuant to Rule 462(e) under the Securities Act, check the following box. ¨

If this Form is a post-effective amendment to a registration statement filed pursuant to General Instruction I.D. filed to register additional securities or additional classes of securities pursuant to Rule 413(b) under the Securities Act, check the following box. ¨

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a large accelerated filer, an accelerated filer, a non-accelerated filer or a smaller reporting company. See definition of "large accelerated filer," “accelerated filer" and “smaller reporting company” in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act. (Check one):

Large accelerated filer ¨	Accelerated filer x
Non-accelerated filer ¨	Smaller Reporting Company ¨

CALCULATION OF REGISTRATION FEE

Title of Each Class of Securities to be Registered	Amount to be Registered	Proposed Maximum Offering Price Per Share	Proposed Maximum Aggregate Offering Price	Amount of Registration Fee (1)
Common Stock, $0.001 par value per share	(2)	(3)	(3)	
Preferred Stock, $0.01 par value per share	(2)	(3)	(3)	
Warrants	(2)	(3)	(3)	
Debt Securities	(2)	(3)	(3)	
Total			$ 150,000,000	$ 8,370

(1) Calculated pursuant to Rule 457(o) under the Securities Act.

(2) There are being registered hereunder such indeterminate number of shares of common stock and preferred stock, such indeterminate number of warrants to purchase common stock or preferred stock, and such indeterminate

principal amount of debt securities as shall have an aggregate initial offering price not to exceed in the aggregate $150,000,000. If any debt securities are issued at an original issue discount, then the offering price of such debt securities shall be in such greater principal amount at maturity as shall result in an aggregate offering price not to exceed $150,000,000, less the aggregate dollar amount of all securities previously issued hereunder. Any securities registered hereunder may be sold separately or as units with other securities registered hereunder. The proposed maximum initial offering price per security will be determined, from time to time, by the registrant in connection with the issuance by the registrant of the securities registered hereunder. The securities registered also include such indeterminate number of shares of common stock and preferred stock and amount of debt securities as may be issued upon conversion of or exchange for preferred stock or debt securities that provide for conversion or exchange, upon exercise of warrants or pursuant to the anti-dilution provisions of any such securities. In addition, pursuant to Rule 416 under the Securities Act, the securities being registered hereunder include such indeterminate number of shares of common stock and preferred stock as may be issuable with respect to the shares being registered hereunder as a result of stock splits, stock dividends or similar transactions.

(3) The proposed maximum aggregate offering price per class of security will be determined from time to time by the registrant in connection with the issuance by the registrant of the securities registered hereunder and is not specified as to each class of security pursuant to General Instruction II.D. of Form S-3 under the Securities Act.

The Registrant hereby amends this registration statement on the date or dates as may be necessary to delay its effective date until the Registrant shall file a further amendment which specifically states that this registration statement shall thereafter become effective in accordance with Section 8(a) of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, or until the registration statement shall become effective on a date as the Securities and Exchange Commission, acting pursuant to said Section 8(a), may determine.

The information in this prospectus is not complete and may be amended. Neither we nor the selling stockholders may sell these securities until the registration statement filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission is effective. This prospectus is not an offer to sell these securities and it is not soliciting an offer to buy these securities in any state where an offer or sale is not permitted.

Subject to Completion
Preliminary Prospectus Dated June 9, 2009
$150,000,000

HEMISPHERX BIOPHARMA, INC.

Common Stock
Preferred Stock
Warrants
Debt Securities

This prospectus relates to common stock, preferred stock, debt securities and warrants to purchase common stock, preferred stock or debt securities, either individually or in units, as well as common stock or preferred stock upon conversion of debt securities, common stock upon conversion of preferred stock, or common stock or preferred stock upon the exercise of warrants that we may sell from time to time in one or more offerings up to a total public offering price of $150,000,000 on terms to be determined at the time of sale. We will provide specific terms of these securities in supplements to this prospectus. If there is any inconsistency between the information in this prospectus and a prospectus supplement, you should rely on the information in that prospectus supplement. You should read this prospectus and any supplement carefully before you invest.

This prospectus may not be used to offer and sell securities unless accompanied by a prospectus supplement for those securities.

See “Risk Factors” beginning on page 4 for a discussion of material risks that you should consider before you invest in our securities being sold with this prospectus.

Our common stock is traded on the NYSE Amex under the symbol “HEB.” On June 8, 2009, the last reported sale price for our common stock on the NYSE Amex was $3.05 per share.

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 June _, 2009.

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PROSPECTUS SUMMARY

Important Notice about the Information Presented in this Prospectus

This prospectus is part of a registration statement on Form S-3 that we filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission, or SEC, utilizing a “shelf” registration process. Under this shelf process, we may from time to time sell any combination of securities described in this prospectus in one or more offerings. The aggregate amount of securities that we may offer under the registration statement is $150,000,000.

This prospectus provides you with a general description of the securities we may offer. Each time we sell securities, we will provide a prospectus supplement that will contain specific information about the terms of the securities being offered. That prospectus supplement may include a discussion of any risk factors or other special consideration that apply to those securities. The prospectus supplement may also add, update or change information contained in this prospectus. If there is any inconsistency between the information in this prospectus and a prospectus supplement, you should rely on the information in that prospectus supplement. You should read both this prospectus and any applicable prospectus supplement together with additional information described under the heading “Where You Can Find More Information.”

When acquiring any securities discussed in this prospectus, you should rely on the information provided in this prospectus and the prospectus supplement, including the information incorporated by reference. Neither we, nor any underwriters or agents, have authorized anyone to provide you with different information. We are not offering the securities in any state where such an offer is prohibited. You should not assume that the information in this prospectus, any prospectus supplement, or any document incorporated by reference, is truthful or complete at any date other than the date mentioned on the cover page of those documents. You should also carefully review the section entitled "Risk Factors," which highlights certain risks associated with an investment in our securities, to determine whether an investment in our securities is appropriate for you.

References in this prospectus to "Hemispherx," the "Company," "we," "us" and "our" are to Hemispherx Biopharma, Inc.

About Hemispherx

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

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

Ampligen® is an experimental drug currently undergoing clinical development for the treatment of CFS. In August 2004, we completed a Phase III clinical trial ("AMP 515") treating CFS patients with Ampligen® and we are presently in the registration process for a new drug application ("NDA") with the Food and Drug Administration ("FDA"). In July 2008, the FDA accepted for review our NDA for Ampligen® to treat CFS. On February 18, 2009, we were notified by the FDA that the originally scheduled Prescription Drug User Fee Act ("PDUFA") date of February 25, 2009 has been extended to May 25, 2009. On May 22, 2009, we were notified by the FDA that it may require up to one to two additional weeks to take action beyond the scheduled PDUFA action date of May 25, 2009.

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

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

RISK FACTORS

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

Risks Associated With Our Business

No assurance of successful product development.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

We may require additional financing which may not be available.

The development of our products will require the commitment of substantial resources to conduct the time-consuming research, preclinical development, and clinical trials that are necessary to bring pharmaceutical products to market. As of March 31, 2009, we had approximately $5,541,000 in cash and cash equivalents and short-term investments. Since then, while we have continued to spend cash on operations, through June 8, 2009, we received approximately $1,440,000 of equity funding from Fusion Capital Fund II, LLC during April and May 2009 and approximately $28,250,000 from recent placements of shares and warrants and $5,782,450, from the exercise of warrants issued in those placements. Given the harsh economic conditions, we have reviewed every aspect of our operations for cost and spending reductions to assure our long term survival while maintaining the resources necessary to achieve our primary objectives of commercializing Alferon N, obtaining NDA approval of Ampligen® and securing a strategic partner. Based on these actions and our recent financings, we do not anticipate that we will need additional financing in order to continue operations for the near future.

Aside from the sale of securities under this prospectus, we have in place one potential sources of financing - the Common Stock Purchase Agreement (the "Fusion Purchase Agreement") with Fusion Capital Fund II, LLC (“Fusion Capital”) pursuant to which we have the right to sell shares of our Common Stock to Fusion Capital.

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

In addition, as of June 8, 2009, we had approximately 42,000,000 shares authorized but unissued and unreserved. At our annual stockholders' meeting to be held in June 2009, we are seeking approval of an amendment to our Certificate of Incorporation to increase the number of authorized shares of Common Stock from 200,000,000 to 350,000,000. If that approval is not obtained, the amount of proceeds we may receive from the sale of our Common Stock will be limited.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

We have limited manufacturing experience.

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

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

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

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

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

Our products may be subject to substantial competition.

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

ALFERON N Injection®. Our competitors are among the largest pharmaceutical companies in the world, are well known to the public a