



UNITED STATES
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20549

DIVISION OF
CORPORATION FINANCE

October 6, 2014

Via E-mail

Isaac E. Ciechanover, M.D.
Chief Executive Officer
Atara Biotherapeutics, Inc.
3260 Bayshore Boulevard
Brisbane, CA 94005

**Re: Atara Biotherapeutics, Inc.
Amendment No. 2 to
Registration Statement on Form S-1
Filed September 26, 2014
File No. 333-196936**

Dear Dr. Ciechanover:

We have reviewed your amendment to your registration statement and have the following comment. Please respond to this letter by amending your registration statement and providing the requested information. If you do not believe our comment applies to your facts and circumstances or do not believe an amendment is appropriate, please tell us why in your response.

After reviewing any amendment to your registration statement and the information you provide in response to this comment, we may have additional comments.

Notes to Combined and Consolidated Financial Statements

2. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

Recent Accounting Pronouncements, F-19

1. Regarding your adoption of ASU 2014-10, your disclosure appears to indicate that certain consolidation guidance that has been eliminated by the ASU may have caused more development stage entities to be identified as variable interest entities. Please provide us support for this disclosure with reference to the ASU.

We urge all persons who are responsible for the accuracy and adequacy of the disclosure in the filing to be certain that the filing includes the information the Securities Act of 1933 and all applicable Securities Act rules require. Since the company and its management are in possession of all facts relating to a company's disclosure, they are responsible for the accuracy and adequacy of the disclosures they have made.

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Notwithstanding our comments, in the event you request acceleration of the effective date of the pending registration statement please provide a written statement from the company acknowledging that:

- should the Commission or the staff, acting pursuant to delegated authority, declare the filing effective, it does not foreclose the Commission from taking any action with respect to the filing;
- the action of the Commission or the staff, acting pursuant to delegated authority, in declaring the filing effective, does not relieve the company from its full responsibility for the adequacy and accuracy of the disclosure in the filing; and
- the company may not assert staff comments and the declaration of effectiveness as a defense in any proceeding initiated by the Commission or any person under the federal securities laws of the United States.

Please refer to Rules 460 and 461 regarding requests for acceleration. We will consider a written request for acceleration of the effective date of the registration statement as confirmation of the fact that those requesting acceleration are aware of their respective responsibilities under the Securities Act of 1933 and the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 as they relate to the proposed public offering of the securities specified in the above registration statement. Please allow adequate time for us to review any amendment prior to the requested effective date of the registration statement.

You may contact Vanessa Robertson at (202) 551-3649 or James Rosenberg at (202) 551-3679 if you have questions regarding comments on the financial statements and related matters. Please contact Daniel Greenspan at (202) 551-3623 or me at (202) 551-3715 with any other questions.

Sincerely,

/s/ Daniel Greenspan for

Jeffrey P. Riedler
Assistant Director

cc: Via E-mail
Jodie Bourdet, Esq.
Cooley LLP