



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

DIVISION OF  
CORPORATION FINANCE

Mail Stop 4720

July 14, 2016

Brian Lian, Ph.D.  
President and Chief Executive Officer  
Viking Therapeutics, Inc.  
12340 El Camino Real, Suite 250  
San Diego, CA 92130

**Re: Viking Therapeutics, Inc.  
Registration Statement on Form S-3  
Filed June 20, 2016  
File No. 333-212134**

Dear Dr. Lian:

We have limited our review of your registration statement to those issues we have addressed in our comments. In some of our comments, we may ask you to provide us with information so we may better understand your disclosure.

Please respond to this letter by amending your registration statement and providing the requested information. If you do not believe our comments apply 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 these comments, we may have additional comments.

General

1. Please be advised that we will not be in a position to accelerate the effective date of this registration statement until we resolve any issues concerning your pending confidential treatment request.

Plan of Distribution, page S-11

2. Your disclosure of the plan of distribution of the securities covered by the prospectus supplement included in this registration statement states that sales may be made:  
  
...by any method permitted by law deemed to be an “at-the-market” equity offering as defined in Rule 415 promulgated under the Securities Act, including sales made directly on or through the Nasdaq Capital Market, the existing trading market for our common

stock, sales made to or through a market maker other than on an exchange or otherwise, in negotiated transactions at market prices prevailing at the time of sale or at prices related to such prevailing market prices, and/or any other method permitted by law, including in privately negotiated transactions.

Please tell us whether sales made to or through a market maker or sales made in privately-negotiated transactions satisfy the “at the market offering” definition under Rule 415. If any sales method does not constitute a sales method that is deemed to be an “at the market offering” as defined in Rule 415 or if any material information with respect to a particular offering has been omitted, please confirm that you will file an additional prospectus supplement at the time of such sales or tell us why such additional filing would not be necessary.

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.

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.

Brian Lian, Ph.D.  
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July 14, 2016  
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Please contact Christina Thomas at (202) 551-3577 or Mary Beth Breslin at (202) 551-3625 with any questions.

Sincerely,

/s/ Mary Beth Breslin for

Suzanne Hayes  
Assistant Director  
Office of Healthcare and Insurance

cc: Jeffrey T. Hartlin, Esq.  
Paul Hastings LLP