

PROSPECTUS



**Up to 25,000,000 Shares of Common Stock Issuable
Upon Exercise of the Pre-Funded Warrant**

This prospectus relates to the proposed resale or other disposition from time to time by the selling stockholder identified in this prospectus, or the Selling Stockholder, of up to an aggregate of 25,000,000 shares of our common stock, par value \$0.0001 per share, issuable upon the exercise of a pre-funded warrant to purchase shares of our common stock at an exercise price equal to \$0.0001 per share of common stock. Following exercise of the pre-funded warrant, all of the shares offered for resale under this prospectus will be outstanding shares of common stock held by the Selling Stockholder. The pre-funded warrant was issued and sold to the Selling Stockholder at a purchase price of \$1.20 per share of common stock, pursuant to a Securities Purchase Agreement by and between the Company and the Selling Stockholder in a private placement exempt from the registration requirements pursuant to Section 4(a)(2) of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, or the Securities Act, and Rule 506(b) of Regulation D as promulgated by the Securities and Exchange Commission, or the SEC, under the Securities Act, which closed on March 6, 2024. We will not sell any shares of common stock under this prospectus and will not receive any of the proceeds from the sale or other disposition of common stock by the Selling Stockholder. However, upon any cash exercise of the pre-funded warrant by the Selling Stockholder, we will receive cash proceeds per share equal to the exercise price of the exercised pre-funded warrant. If the pre-funded warrant is exercised in a cashless exercise, we will not receive any proceeds from the exercise of the pre-funded warrant.

The Selling Stockholder identified in this prospectus or its pledgees, assignees or successors-in-interest may offer and sell or otherwise dispose of the shares of our common stock from time to time through public or private transactions. The shares of our common stock offered by the Selling Stockholder may be sold at market prices prevailing at the time of sale, at prices related to such market prices, at a fixed price or prices subject to change, or at negotiated prices. The Selling Stockholder will bear all commissions and discounts, if any, attributable to the sales of shares. We will bear all other costs, expenses and fees in connection with the registration of the shares. See the section titled “*Plan of Distribution*” for more information about how the Selling Stockholder may sell or dispose of its shares of common stock.

Our common stock is listed on the Nasdaq Capital Market under the symbol “NKTR.” On June 4, 2024, the last reported sale price of our common stock on the Nasdaq Capital Market was \$1.40 per share.

Investing in our common stock involves a high degree of risk. Before making an investment decision, please read the information under the heading “[Risk Factors](#)” beginning on page 6 of this prospectus and in the documents incorporated by reference or deemed to be incorporated by reference into this 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. Any representation to the contrary is a criminal offense.

The date of this prospectus is June 5, 2024.

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ABOUT THIS PROSPECTUS

This prospectus is part of a registration statement that we filed with the SEC utilizing a “shelf” registration process. Under this shelf registration process, the Selling Stockholder may, from time to time, sell the shares of common stock described in this prospectus in one or more offerings.

This prospectus relates to the resale or other disposition by the Selling Stockholder of up to 25,000,000 shares of our common stock issuable upon the exercise of a pre-funded warrant to purchase shares of our common stock held by the Selling Stockholder identified under the section titled “Selling Stockholder.” The shares of our common stock that may be offered by the Selling Stockholder using this prospectus represent shares of our common stock issuable upon the exercise of the pre-funded warrant held by the Selling Stockholder. This prospectus provides you with a general description of the securities the Selling Stockholder may offer. When the Selling Stockholder sells shares of our common stock using this prospectus, we or the Selling Stockholder may, if required, provide a prospectus supplement that will contain specific information about the offering and the securities offered, and may also add, update or change information contained in this prospectus. If there is any inconsistency between information in this prospectus and any accompanying prospectus supplement, you should rely on the information in the most recent applicable prospectus supplement and documents incorporated by reference herein and therein.

You should rely only on the information contained or incorporated by reference in this prospectus or a prospectus supplement. Neither we nor the Selling Stockholder have authorized anyone else to provide you with information that is in addition to or different from that contained or incorporated by reference in this prospectus or a prospectus supplement.

The Selling Stockholder is not offering to sell these securities in any jurisdiction where such offer and sale is not permitted. The distribution of this prospectus and the offering of the common stock in certain jurisdictions may be restricted by law. Persons outside the United States who come into possession of this prospectus must inform themselves about, and observe any restrictions relating to, the offering of the common stock and the distribution of this prospectus outside the United States. Neither this prospectus nor any accompanying prospectus supplement constitutes, and may not be used in connection with, an offer to sell, or a solicitation of an offer to buy, any securities offered by this prospectus or such accompanying prospectus supplement by any person in any jurisdiction in which it is unlawful for such person to make such an offer or solicitation.

The information contained in this prospectus or in an applicable prospectus supplement is accurate only as of their respective dates, and the information in the documents incorporated by reference in this prospectus or any applicable prospectus supplement is accurate only as of the date of those documents, regardless of the time of delivery of this prospectus or of any sale of our common stock. Our business, financial condition, results of operations and prospects may have changed since that date. It is important for you to read and consider all information contained or incorporated by reference in this prospectus or any applicable prospectus supplement in making your investment decision. You should read both this prospectus and any applicable prospectus supplement, as well as the documents incorporated by reference into this prospectus and the additional information described under “*Where You Can Find More Information*” in this prospectus, before investing in our common stock.

Unless otherwise indicated or the context otherwise requires, references in this prospectus to “Nektar,” the “Company,” the “Registrant,” “we,” “us” and “our” refer, collectively, to Nektar Therapeutics, a Delaware corporation, and where appropriate, its subsidiaries. References to our “common stock” refer to the common stock, par value \$0.0001 per share, of Nektar Therapeutics.

All references in this prospectus to our financial statements include, unless the context indicates otherwise, the related notes.

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The industry and market data and other statistical information contained in this prospectus supplement, the accompanying prospectus and the documents we incorporate by reference herein and therein are based on management's own estimates, independent publications, government publications, reports by market research firms or other published independent sources, and, in each case, are believed by management to be reasonable estimates. Although we believe these sources are reliable, we have not independently verified the information.

We use various trademarks and tradenames in our business, including the following marks referred to in this document, including but not limited to Nektar® and our product names. All other trademarks or trade names referred to in this prospectus are the property of their respective owners. Solely for convenience, the trademarks and trade names in this prospectus are referred to without the symbols ® and ™, but such references should not be construed as any indicator that their respective owners will not assert, to the fullest extent under applicable law, their rights thereto. We do not intend our use or display of other companies' trademarks and trade names to imply a relationship with, or endorsement or sponsorship of us by, any other companies.

PROSPECTUS SUMMARY

The following summary of our business highlights certain of the information contained elsewhere or incorporated by reference in this prospectus. Because this is only a summary, however, it does not contain all of the information that may be important to you. You should carefully read this prospectus, including the documents incorporated by reference, which are described under “Incorporation of Certain Information by Reference” and “Where You Can Find More Information” in this prospectus. You should also carefully consider the matters discussed in the section in this prospectus titled “Risk Factors” and in other periodic reports incorporated herein by reference.

Our Company

We are a clinical stage, research-based drug discovery biopharmaceutical company focused on discovering and developing innovative medicines in the field of immunotherapy. Within this growing field, we direct our efforts toward creating new immunomodulatory agents that selectively induce, amplify, attenuate or prevent immune responses in order to achieve desired therapeutic outcomes. We apply our deep understanding of immunology and unparalleled expertise in polymer chemistry to create innovative drug candidates and use our drug development expertise to advance these molecules through preclinical and clinical development. Our pipeline of clinical-stage and preclinical-stage immunomodulatory agents targets the treatment of autoimmune diseases (e.g. rezpegaldesleukin and NKTR-0165, respectively) and cancer (e.g. NKTR-255). We continue to make significant investments in building and advancing our pipeline of drug candidates as we believe that this is the best strategy to build long-term shareholder value.

Our Drug Candidates and Pipeline

By modulating the immune system, our drug candidates target pathways that play critical roles in a wide range of serious diseases. In autoimmune diseases, our focus is on addressing imbalances in the immune system to restore the body’s self-tolerance mechanisms and to achieve immune homeostasis. In oncology, we are focused on activating the immune system’s natural tumor-fighting mechanisms.

Autoimmune diseases

We recognize that many autoimmune diseases are caused by an imbalance in the body’s immune system. A failure of the body’s self-tolerance mechanisms enables the formation of pathogenic T cells that cause the immune system to mistakenly attack and damage healthy cells in a person’s body. Current systemic treatments for autoimmune diseases, including corticosteroids and anti-TNF agents, suppress the immune system broadly and come with severe side effects. Pharmaceutical agents designed to rebalance the immune system by increasing the function of regulatory T cells, or Treg cells, powerful inhibitory immune cells, could be used to treat patients suffering from autoimmune disorders and inflammatory diseases.

Rezpegaldesleukin

Our drug candidate rezpegaldesleukin is a potential first-in-class resolution therapeutic that may address this underlying immune system imbalance in people with autoimmune disorders and inflammatory diseases. It is designed to target the interleukin-2, or IL-2, receptor complex in the body in order to stimulate proliferation of Treg cells. By activating these cells, rezpegaldesleukin may act to bring the immune system back into balance. Rezpegaldesleukin is being developed as a once or twice monthly self-administered injection for a number of autoimmune disorders and inflammatory diseases.

NKTR-0165

We believe that our preclinical tumor necrosis factor, or TNF, receptor type II, or TNFR2, agonist asset is a potentially unique bivalent antibody that selectively stimulates TNFR2 receptor activity, without modulation of the TNFR1 signaling. TNFR2 signaling drives immunoregulatory function and can provide a direct protective effect for tissue cells. TNFR-2 is highly expressed on Tregs, neuronal cells and endothelial cells and has been shown to potentiate the suppressive effects and overall functional properties of Tregs. Our focus is on TNFR2 antibody candidates that show selective Treg cell binding and signaling profiles that may be potentially developed for treatment of autoimmune diseases, such as ulcerative colitis, multiple sclerosis and vitiligo. We are carrying out Investigational New Drug, or IND, enabling studies for this program in 2024, after having exercised an option to gain an exclusive license to specified agonistic antibodies and other materials that were developed pursuant to a research collaboration and license option agreement we entered into with Biologic Design, Ltd. in 2021.

Oncology

NKTR-255

In oncology, we focus on developing medicines based on targeting biological pathways that stimulate and sustain the body's immune response in order to fight cancer. NKTR-255 is an investigational biologic that is designed to target the interleukin-15, or IL-15, pathway in order to activate the body's innate and adaptive immunity. Activation of the IL-15 pathway enhances the survival and function of natural killer, or NK, cells and induces survival of both effector and CD8+ memory T cells. Recombinant human IL-15 is rapidly cleared from the body and must be administered frequently and in high doses limiting its utility due to toxicity. Through optimal engagement of the IL-15 receptor complex, NKTR-255 is designed to enhance functional NK cell populations and the formation of long-term immunological memory, which may lead to sustained and durable anti-tumor immune response.

Corporate History and Information

We were incorporated in California in 1990 and reincorporated in Delaware in 1998. Our principal corporate office is located at 455 Mission Bay Boulevard South, San Francisco, California 94158, and our telephone number is (415) 482-5300. Our website address is <http://www.nektar.com>. We do not incorporate the information on or accessible through our website into this prospectus, and you should not consider any information on, or that can be accessed through, our website a part of this prospectus or incorporated by reference herein. For further information regarding us and our financial information, you should refer to our recent filings with the SEC. See "*Where You Can Find More Information.*"

THE OFFERING

Common stock offered by the Selling Stockholder	Up to 25,000,000 shares of common stock.
Terms of the offering	The Selling Stockholder will determine when and how they will sell the shares of common stock offered pursuant to this prospectus, as described in " <i>Plan of Distribution.</i> "
Use of proceeds	We will not receive any proceeds from the sale of the shares of common stock by the Selling Stockholder pursuant to this prospectus, as described in " <i>Use of Proceeds.</i> "
Nasdaq Capital Market symbol for the Common Stock	"NKTR"
Offering Price	The Selling Stockholder will offer the shares of common stock offered by this prospectus at the prevailing market prices or at privately negotiated prices.
Risk Factors	Any investment in our common stock offered hereby is speculative and involves a high degree of risk. You should carefully consider the information set forth under " <i>Risk Factors</i> " in this prospectus.

RISK FACTORS

An investment in our common stock involves a high degree of risk. Before deciding whether to invest in our common stock, you should consider carefully the risks described below and discussed under the section captioned "Risk Factors" contained in our Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the quarter ended March 31, 2024, which is incorporated by reference in its entirety, together with other information in this prospectus, and the information and documents incorporated by reference herein. Additional risks and uncertainties not presently known to us, or that we currently view as immaterial, may also impair our business. If any of these risks actually occur, our business, financial condition, results of operations, prospects or cash flow could be seriously harmed. This could cause the trading price of our common stock to decline, resulting in a loss of all or part of your investment.

Future sales of our common stock by the Selling Stockholder and future issuances of equity securities by us could cause our stock price to decline.

Sales of a substantial number of shares of our common stock by the Selling Stockholder in the public market, or the perception by the market that those sales could occur, could cause the market price of our common stock to decline or could make it more difficult for us to raise funds through the sale of equity in the future.

Future issuances of our common stock or our other equity securities could further depress the market for our common stock. We expect to continue incurring costs associated with research and development with respect to our programs and general and administrative costs associated with our operations, and to satisfy our funding requirements, and we may need to sell additional equity securities. The sale or the proposed sale of substantial amounts of our common stock or our other equity securities may adversely affect the market price of our common stock and our stock price may decline substantially. Our stockholders may experience substantial dilution and a reduction in the price that they are able to obtain upon sale of their shares of common stock. New equity securities issued may have greater rights, preferences or privileges than our existing common stock.

If securities or industry analysts either do not publish research about us or publish inaccurate or unfavorable research about us, our business, our market or our competitors, or if they change their recommendations regarding our common stock adversely, the trading price or trading volume of our common stock could decline.

The trading market for our common stock will be influenced in part by the research and reports that securities or industry analysts may publish about us, our business, our market, or our competitors. If one or more of these analysts initiate research with an unfavorable rating or downgrade our common stock, provide a more favorable recommendation about our competitors or publish inaccurate or unfavorable research about our business, the trading price of our common stock would likely decline. If any analyst who may cover us were to cease coverage of us or fail to regularly publish reports on us, we could lose visibility in the financial markets, which in turn could cause the trading price or trading volume of our common stock to decline.

CAUTIONARY NOTE REGARDING FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS

This prospectus, together with any accompanying prospectus supplement, and the information incorporated by reference herein and therein contain or incorporate forward-looking statements that involve risks and uncertainties, as well as assumptions that, even if they never materialize or prove incorrect, could cause our results to differ materially from those expressed or implied by such forward-looking statements. We make such forward-looking statements pursuant to the safe harbor provisions of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995 and other federal securities laws. All statements other than statements of historical facts contained in this prospectus are forward-looking statements. In some cases, you can identify forward-looking statements by words such as “anticipate,” “believe,” “contemplate,” “continue,” “could,” “estimate,” “expect,” “intend,” “may,” “plan,” “potential,” “predict,” “project,” “seek,” “should,” “target,” “will,” “would,” or the negative of these words or other comparable terminology. These forward-looking statements include, but are not limited to:

- projections of market size, earnings, revenue, milestone payments, royalties, sales or other financial items;
- any statements of the plans and objectives of management for future operations (including, but not limited to, preclinical development, clinical trials and manufacturing);
- any statements related to our financial condition and future working capital needs;
- any statements related to our prior strategic reorganization and cost restructuring plans;
- any statements regarding potential future financing alternatives;
- any statements concerning proposed drug candidates and our future research and development plans;
- any statements regarding the timing for the start or end of clinical trials or submission of regulatory approval filings;
- any statements regarding future economic conditions or performance;
- any statements regarding the initiation, formation, or success of our collaboration arrangements, commercialization activities and product sales levels and future payments that may come due to us under these arrangements;
- any statements regarding our plans and objectives to initiate or continue clinical trials;
- any statements related to potential, anticipated, or ongoing litigation; and
- any statements of assumptions underlying any of the foregoing.

Any forward-looking statements in this prospectus reflects our current views with respect to future events or to our future financial performance and involve known and unknown risks, uncertainties and other factors that may cause our actual results, performance or achievements to be materially different from any future results, performance or achievements expressed or implied by these forward-looking statements. Factors that may cause actual results to differ materially from current expectations include, among other things, those listed under the section captioned “*Risk Factors*” in this prospectus. Given these uncertainties, you should not place undue reliance on these forward-looking statements. Except as required by law, we assume no obligation to update or revise these forward-looking statements for any reason, even if new information becomes available in the future.

This prospectus also contains estimates, projections and other information concerning our industry, our business, and the markets for certain diseases, including data regarding the estimated size of those markets, and the incidence and prevalence of certain medical conditions. Information that is based on estimates, forecasts, projections, market research or similar methodologies is inherently subject to uncertainties and actual events or circumstances may differ materially from events and circumstances reflected in this information. Unless otherwise expressly stated, we obtained this industry, business, market and other data from reports, research surveys, studies and similar data prepared by market research firms and other third parties, industry, medical and general publications, government data and similar sources.

USE OF PROCEEDS

The Selling Stockholder may make offers and sales pursuant to this prospectus. We will not receive any of the proceeds of such offerings. However, upon any cash exercise of the pre-funded warrant by the Selling Stockholder, we may receive cash proceeds per share equal to the exercise price of the pre-funded warrant, which could amount up to \$2,500 in the aggregate.

The Selling Stockholder will pay any underwriting discounts and commissions and expenses incurred by the Selling Stockholder for brokerage, accounting, tax or legal services or any other expenses incurred by the Selling Stockholder in disposing of the shares. We will incur certain expenses in connection with the registration with the SEC of the shares of our common stock to be sold by the Selling Stockholder. The holder of the pre-funded warrant is currently not obligated to exercise the pre-funded warrant. The Company will not receive meaningful proceeds from the exercise of the pre-funded warrant whether exercised for cash for up to \$2,500 in the aggregate or exercised in a cashless exercise, in which case we will not receive any proceeds.

SELLING STOCKHOLDER

The shares of common stock being offered by the Selling Stockholder are those issuable to the Selling Stockholder upon the exercise of the pre-funded warrant. The Selling Stockholder acquired this pre-funded warrant from us in a private placement pursuant to an exemption from registration afforded by Section 4(a)(2) of the Securities Act and Rule 506(b) of Regulation D as promulgated by the SEC under the Securities Act.

On March 4, 2024, we entered into a securities purchase agreement, or the Securities Purchase Agreement, with TCG Crossover Fund II, L.P. for the sale of a pre-funded warrant to purchase shares of our common stock for an aggregate purchase price of \$30,000,000. Pursuant to the terms of the private placement, we issued a pre-funded warrant to purchase 25,000,000 shares of common stock at a purchase price of \$1.20 per share of common stock. Throughout this prospectus, when we refer to the Selling Stockholder, we are referring to the purchaser under the Securities Purchase Agreement. We will not receive any proceeds from the resale of the shares of common stock by the Selling Stockholder. We are registering the above-referenced shares to permit the Selling Stockholder and its pledgees, donees, transferees, or other successors in-interest that receive its shares after the date of this prospectus to resell or otherwise dispose of the shares in the manner contemplated under “*Plan of Distribution*” herein.

The table below lists the Selling Stockholder and other information regarding the beneficial ownership of our common stock by the Selling Stockholder. Beneficial ownership is determined in accordance with the rules and regulations of the SEC and includes voting or investment power with respect to the securities. These rules generally provide that a person is the beneficial owner of securities if such person has or shares the power to vote or direct the voting thereof, or to dispose or direct the disposition thereof or has the right to acquire such powers within 60 days. Except as otherwise indicated, the Selling Stockholder has voting and investment power with respect to all shares of capital stock held by it. The column titled “Number of shares of Common Stock Beneficially Owned Prior to the Offering” lists the number of common stock beneficially owned by the Selling Stockholder as of May 17, 2024, including the shares of common stock issuable upon exercise of the pre-funded warrant by the Selling Stockholder on that date, without regard to any limitations on exercise. The column titled “Maximum Number of Shares of Common Stock to be Sold Pursuant to this Prospectus” lists the common stock being offered by this prospectus by the Selling Stockholder. Percentage of beneficial ownership is based on 184,019,532 shares of common stock outstanding as of May 17, 2024.

In accordance with the terms of the Securities Purchase Agreement, this prospectus generally covers the resale of the maximum number of shares of common stock issuable upon exercise of the related pre-funded warrant, determined as if the outstanding pre-funded warrant was exercised in full as of the trading day immediately preceding the date this registration statement was initially filed with the SEC, each as of the trading day immediately preceding the applicable date of determination and all subject to adjustment as provided in the Securities Purchase Agreement, without regard to any limitations on the exercise of the pre-funded warrant. The number of shares and percentage set forth under the heading “Number of Shares of Common Stock Beneficially Owned After the Offering” assumes the sale of all of the shares offered by the Selling Stockholder pursuant to this prospectus. Except as otherwise disclosed herein and in the footnotes below with respect to the Selling Stockholder, the Selling Stockholder does not and within the past three years has not had, any position, office, or other material relationship with us.

In accordance with the terms of the Securities Purchase Agreement, we are required to use reasonable best efforts to keep this registration statement effective under the Securities Act until the earliest of (i) such time as all of the registrable securities purchased by the Selling Stockholder pursuant to the terms of the Securities Purchase Agreement have been sold pursuant to this registration statement, or (ii) such time as the registrable securities have become eligible for resale by non-affiliates without any volume limitations or other restrictions pursuant to Rule 144(b)(1)(i) or any other rule of similar effect.

Under the terms of the pre-funded warrant, the Selling Stockholder may not exercise the warrant to the extent such exercise would cause the Selling Stockholder, together with its affiliates and attribution parties, to

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beneficially own a number of common stock which would exceed 9.99% of our then outstanding shares of common stock following such exercise, excluding for purposes of such determination common stock issuable upon exercise of the pre-funded warrant which have not been exercised. The Selling Stockholder may increase or decrease such percentages not in excess of 19.99% by providing at least 61 days' prior notice to us. The number of shares in the second column does not reflect this limitation. The Selling Stockholder may sell all, some or none of its shares in this offering. See "Plan of Distribution."

Name of Selling Stockholder	Number of shares of Common Stock Beneficially Owned Prior to the Offering		Maximum Number of shares of Common Stock to be Sold Pursuant to this Prospectus	Number of shares of Common Stock Beneficially Owned After the Offering(2)	
	Shares	%		Shares	%
TCG Crossover Fund II, L.P.(1)	28,000,000	15.2%	25,000,000	3,000,000	1.6%

- (1) Shares listed under "Number of Shares of Common Stock Beneficially Owned Prior to the Offering" consists of (i) 3,000,000 shares of Common Stock held by TCG Crossover Fund II, L.P. and (ii) 25,000,000 shares of Common Stock, issuable upon exercise of the pre-funded warrant held by TCG Crossover Fund II, L.P. without regard to any limitations on exercise. TCG Crossover GP II, LLC is the general partner of TCG Crossover Fund II, L.P. and may be deemed to have voting, investment, and dispositive power with respect to these securities. Chen Yu is the sole managing member of TCG Crossover GP II, LLC and may be deemed to share voting, investment, and dispositive power with respect to these securities. The address of the entity listed above is 705 High St., Palo Alto, CA 94301.
- (2) Assumes that the Selling Stockholder disposes of all of its shares of common stock covered by this prospectus and does not acquire beneficial ownership of any additional shares of common stock. The registration of these shares of common stock does not necessarily mean that the Selling Stockholder will sell all or any portion of its shares of common stock covered by this prospectus.

Registration Rights

Pursuant to the Securities Purchase Agreement with the Selling Stockholder, we agreed to prepare and file with the SEC a registration statement that permits the resale or other disposition of the Selling Stockholder's common stock issuable upon exercise of the pre-funded warrant pursuant to the Securities Purchase Agreement and, subject to certain exceptions, use reasonable best efforts to keep the registration statement of which this prospectus forms a part effective under the Securities Act for so long as such securities registered for resale thereunder retain their character as registrable securities. We have also agreed, among other things, to indemnify the Selling Stockholder and its affiliates from certain liabilities and to pay all fees and expenses incident to our obligations under the Securities Purchase Agreement.

Material Relationships with the Selling Stockholder

Except as described above, the Selling Shareholder has not held any position or office with us or our affiliates within the last three years or has had a material relationship with us or any of our predecessors or affiliates within the past three years.

Any applicable prospectus supplement, amendment or other permissible disclosure document will also disclose whether the Selling Stockholder has held any position or office with, has been employed by or otherwise has had a material relationship with us during the three years prior to the date of the prospectus supplement, amendment or other permissible disclosure document.

PLAN OF DISTRIBUTION

The Selling Stockholder of the securities and any of its donees, pledgees, assignees, transferees and other successors-in-interest may, from time to time, sell all or a portion of the shares of common stock beneficially owned by it and offered hereby on the Nasdaq Capital Market or any other national securities exchange or quotation service on which the securities may be listed or quoted at the time of sale, in the over-the-counter market or in transactions otherwise than on these exchanges or systems or in the over-the-counter market and in one or more other transactions. These sales may be at fixed prices, at prevailing market prices at the time of the sale, at varying prices determined at the time of sale, or at negotiated prices. The Selling Stockholder may use any one or more of the following methods when selling shares:

- ordinary brokerage transactions and transactions in which the broker-dealer solicits purchasers;
- block trades in which the broker-dealer will attempt to sell the shares as agent but may position and resell a portion of the block as principal to facilitate the transaction;
- purchases by a broker-dealer as principal and resale by the broker-dealer for its account;
- an exchange distribution in accordance with the rules of the applicable exchange;
- privately negotiated transactions;
- settlement of short sales entered into after the effective date of the registration statement of which this prospectus is a part;
- in transactions through broker-dealers that agree with the Selling Stockholder to sell a specified number of such shares at a stipulated price per share;
- through the writing or settlement of options or other hedging transactions, whether such options are listed on an options exchange or otherwise;
- a combination of any such methods of sale; or
- any other method permitted pursuant to applicable law.

The Selling Stockholder may also resell all or a portion of the shares in open market transactions in reliance upon an exemption from registration under the Securities Act, including upon Rule 144 under the Securities Act, as permitted by that rule, or Section 4(a)(1) under the Securities Act, if available, rather than under this prospectus (as supplemented or amended to reflect such transactions); provided that they meet the criteria and conform to the requirements of such exemptions and provisions.

Broker-dealers engaged by the Selling Stockholder may arrange for other broker-dealers to participate in sales. Broker-dealers may receive commissions in the form of discounts, concessions or commissions from the Selling Stockholder or commissions from purchasers of the shares of common stock for whom it may act as agent or to whom it may sell as principal. Such commissions will be in amounts to be negotiated, but, except as set forth in a further prospectus supplement or an amendment to this prospectus, in the case of an agency transaction not in excess of a customary brokerage commission in compliance with FINRA Rule 2121; and in the case of a principal transaction, a markup or markdown in compliance with FINRA Rule 2121.01.

The Selling Stockholder may, from time to time, pledge or grant a security interest in some or all of the securities owned by it and, if it defaults in the performance of its secured obligations, the pledgees or secured parties may offer and sell the securities, from time to time, under this prospectus, or under any amendment to this prospectus under Rule 424(b)(3) or other applicable provision of the Securities Act, amending, if necessary, the list of Selling Stockholder to include the pledgee, transferee or other successors-in-interest as Selling Stockholder under this prospectus. The Selling Stockholder also may transfer the securities in other circumstances, in which case the transferees, pledgees, donees or other successors-in-interest will be the selling beneficial owners for purposes of this prospectus.

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In connection with sales of the shares of common stock or otherwise, the Selling Stockholder may enter into hedging transactions with broker-dealers or other financial institutions, which may in turn engage in short sales of the shares of common stock in the course of hedging in positions they assume. The Selling Stockholder may also sell shares of common stock short and if such short sale shall take place after the date of this prospectus, the Selling Stockholder may deliver shares of common stock covered by this prospectus to close out short positions and to return borrowed shares in connection with such short sales. The Selling Stockholder may also loan or pledge shares of common stock to broker-dealers that in turn may sell such shares, to the extent permitted by applicable law. The Selling Stockholder may also enter into option or other transactions with broker-dealers or other financial institutions or the creation of one or more derivative securities which require the delivery to such broker-dealer or other financial institution of shares offered by this prospectus, which shares such broker-dealer or other financial institution may resell pursuant to this prospectus (as supplemented or amended to reflect such transaction).

The aggregate proceeds to the Selling Stockholder from the sale of the securities offered by it will be the purchase price of the securities less discounts or commissions, if any. The Selling Stockholder reserves the right to accept and, together with its agents from time to time, to reject, in whole or in part, any proposed purchase of securities to be made directly or through agents. We will not receive any of the proceeds from this offering.

The Selling Stockholder and any broker-dealers or agents that are involved in selling the securities may be deemed to be “underwriters” within the meaning of the Securities Act in connection with such sales. In such event, any commissions received by such broker-dealers or agents and any profit on the resale of the securities purchased by it may be deemed to be underwriting commissions or discounts under the Securities Act. The Selling Stockholder has informed us that it does not have any written or oral agreement or understanding, directly or indirectly, with any person to distribute the securities.

We are required to pay certain fees and expenses incurred by us incident to the registration of the securities. We have agreed to indemnify each Selling Stockholder against certain losses, claims, damages and liabilities, including liabilities under the Securities Act.

We agreed to keep this prospectus effective continuously effective under the Securities Act until the date that all the resale securities being offered by the Selling Stockholder (i) have been sold pursuant to this registration statement or (ii) may be sold without condition or restriction, including without any limitation as to volume of sales, and without the Selling Stockholder complying with any method of sale requirements or notice requirements under Rule 144. The resale securities will be sold only through registered or licensed brokers or dealers if required under applicable state securities laws. In addition, in certain states, the resale securities covered hereby may not be sold unless they have been registered or qualified for sale in the applicable state or an exemption from the registration or qualification requirement is available and is complied with.

Under applicable rules and regulations under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, or the Exchange Act, any person engaged in the distribution of the resale securities may not simultaneously engage in market making activities with respect to the common stock for the applicable restricted period, as defined in Regulation M, prior to the commencement of the distribution. In addition, the Selling Stockholder will be subject to applicable provisions of the Exchange Act and the rules and regulations thereunder, including Regulation M, which may limit the timing of purchases and sales of the common stock by the Selling Stockholder or any other person. We will make copies of this prospectus available to the Selling Stockholder and have informed it of the need to deliver a copy of this prospectus to each purchaser at or prior to the time of the sale (including by compliance with Rule 172 under the Securities Act).

LEGAL MATTERS

Unless the applicable prospectus supplement indicates otherwise, the validity of the securities in respect of which this prospectus is being delivered will be passed upon by Goodwin Procter LLP, Boston, Massachusetts. Any underwriters or agents will be advised about legal matters relating to any offering by their own counsel, which will be named in the applicable prospectus supplement.

EXPERTS

Ernst & Young LLP, independent registered public accounting firm, has audited our consolidated financial statements included in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2023, and the effectiveness of our internal control over financial reporting as of December 31, 2023, as set forth in their reports, which are incorporated by reference in this prospectus and elsewhere in the registration statement. Our financial statements are incorporated by reference in reliance on Ernst & Young LLP's reports, given on their authority as experts in accounting and auditing.

WHERE YOU CAN FIND MORE INFORMATION

This prospectus is part of a registration statement that we have filed with the SEC under the Securities Act and does not contain all of the information set forth in the registration statement. Whenever a reference is made in this prospectus to any of our contracts, agreements or other documents, the reference may not be complete and you should refer to the exhibits that are a part of the registration statement or the exhibits to the reports or other documents incorporated by reference into this prospectus for a copy of such contract, agreement or other document.

Because we are subject to the information and reporting requirements of the Exchange Act, we file annual, quarterly and other 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. Copies of certain information filed by us with the SEC are also available on our website at www.nektar.com. The information contained in or that can be accessed through our website is not part of this prospectus.

We have the authority to designate and issue more than one class or series of stock having various preferences, conversion and other rights, voting powers, restrictions, limitations as to dividends, qualifications, and terms and conditions of redemption. See the "Description of Capital Stock" incorporated by reference in this prospectus for a description of the terms of our capital stock. We will furnish a full statement of the relative rights and preferences of each class or series of our stock which has been so designated and any restrictions on the ownership or transfer of our stock to any stockholder upon written or oral request and without charge. Written requests for such copies should be directed to Nektar Therapeutics, 455 Mission Bay Boulevard South, San Francisco, California 94158, Attention: Secretary, or by telephone request to (415) 482-5300. Our website is located at www.nektar.com. Information contained on our website is not incorporated by reference into this prospectus and, therefore, is not part of this prospectus or any accompanying prospectus supplement.

INCORPORATION BY REFERENCE

The SEC allows us to incorporate by reference the information and reports we file with it. Incorporation by reference means that we can disclose important information to you by referring you to other documents that are legally considered to be part of this prospectus. Later information that we file with the SEC will automatically update and supersede the information in this prospectus, any supplement and the documents listed below. We incorporate by reference the specific documents listed below and any future filings made with the SEC under Section 13(a), 13(c), 14, or 15(d) of the Exchange Act, including all filings made after the date of the filing of this registration statement and prior to the effectiveness of this registration statement, except as to any portion of any future report or document that is not deemed filed under such provisions, after the date of this prospectus and prior to the termination of this offering:

- our Annual Report on [Form 10-K](#) for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2023, filed with the SEC on March 5, 2024;
- the information specifically incorporated by reference into our Annual Report on [Form 10-K](#) for the year ended December 31, 2023 from our [definitive proxy statement](#) on Schedule 14A (other than information furnished rather than filed) filed with the SEC on April 26, 2024;
- our Quarterly Report on [Form 10-Q](#) filed with the SEC for the quarters ended March 31, 2024, filed with the SEC on May 10, 2024;
- our Current Reports on Form 8-K filed with the SEC on [February 16, 2024](#), [March 4, 2024](#), [March 4, 2024](#), and [April 17, 2024](#); and
- the description of our common stock contained in [Exhibit 4.4](#) to our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2020.

All reports and other documents we subsequently file pursuant to Section 13(a), 13(c), 14 or 15(d) of the Exchange Act prior to the termination of this offering, but excluding any information furnished to, rather than filed with, the SEC, will also be incorporated by reference into this prospectus and deemed to be part of this prospectus from the date of the filing of such reports and documents.

Any statement contained in a document incorporated or deemed to be incorporated by reference herein shall be deemed to be modified or superseded, for purposes of this prospectus, to the extent that a statement contained in or omitted from this prospectus, or in any other subsequently filed document that also is or is deemed to be incorporated by reference herein, modifies or supersedes such statement. Any such statement so modified or superseded shall not be deemed, except as so modified or superseded, to constitute a part of this prospectus. Nothing in this prospectus shall be deemed to incorporate information furnished but not filed with the SEC pursuant to Item 2.02 or Item 7.01 of Form 8-K.

We will provide without charge to each person, including any beneficial owner, to whom this prospectus and any applicable prospectus supplement is delivered, upon written or oral request, a copy of any or all documents that are incorporated by reference into this prospectus and any applicable prospectus supplement, but not delivered with the prospectus and any applicable prospectus supplement, other than exhibits to such documents unless such exhibits are specifically incorporated by reference into the documents that this prospectus and any applicable prospectus supplement incorporates. You should direct written requests to: Nektar Therapeutics, 455 Mission Bay Boulevard South, San Francisco, CA 94158, Attention: Secretary, or you may call us at (415) 482-5300. You may read and copy the registration statement, as well as our reports, proxy statements and other information, on the SEC's website at <http://www.sec.gov>. You can also obtain copies of materials we file with the SEC from our website found at <https://www.nektar.com>. Information contained on our website is not incorporated by reference into this prospectus and, therefore, is not part of this prospectus.

NEKTAR[®]

NEKTAR THERAPEUTICS

**Up to 25,000,000 Shares of Common Stock Issuable
Upon Exercise of the Pre-Funded Warrants**

PRELIMINARY PROSPECTUS

June 5, 2024
