SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

FORM S-8 REGISTRATION STATEMENT

UNDER THE SECURITIES ACT OF 1933

NEKTAR THERAPEUTICS

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Delaware (State of Incorporation) 94-3134940 (I.R.S. Employer Identification No.)

201 Industrial Road San Carlos, CA 94070 (Address of principal executive offices)

Nektar Therapeutics 401(k) Retirement Plan (Full title of the plans)

Howard W. Robin
Chief Executive Officer, President and Director
Nektar Therapeutics
201 Industrial Road
San Carlos, CA 94070
(650) 631-3100

 $(650)\ 631-3100$ (Name, address, including zip code, and telephone number, including area code, of agent for service)

Copies to: Mark P. Tanoury, Esq. John M. Geschke, Esq. Cooley Godward LLP Five Palo Alto Square 3000 El Camino Real Palo Alto, CA 94306 (650) 843-5000

CALCULATION OF REGISTRATION FEE

| Title of Securities | | Of | l Maximum fering | Proposed Maximum Aggregate | | nount of |
|-----------------------------------|-------------------------|----------|---------------------|-------------------------------|-------|-------------|
| To be Registered | Amount to be Registered | Price pe | r Share (1) | Offering Price (1) | Regis | tration Fee |
| Common Stock (par value \$0.0001) | 300,000 shares | \$ | 8.21 | \$ 2,463,000.00 | \$ | 75.61 |
| | | | | | | |

(1) Estimated solely for the purpose of calculating the amount of the registration fee pursuant to Rule 457(h). The price per share and aggregate offering price are based upon the average of the high and low prices of Registrant's Common Stock on August 3, 2007 as reported on the Nasdaq National Market (pursuant to Rule 457(c) under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended). This registration statement shall cover any additional shares of Common Stock which become issuable under the Registrant's 401(k) Retirement Plan set forth herein by reason of any stock dividend, stock split, recapitalization or any other similar transaction without receipt of consideration which results in an increase in the number of shares of the Registrant's outstanding Common Stock.

INCORPORATION BY REFERENCE OF CONTENTS OF REGISTRATION STATEMENT ON FORM S-8 NO. 333-117975 REGISTRATION STATEMENT ON FORM S-8 NO. 333-76638

The contents of Registration Statement on Form S-8 No. 333-117975 filed with the Securities and Exchange on Commission August 6, 2004 are incorporated by reference herein.

The contents of Registration Statement on Form S-8 No. 333-76638 filed with the Securities and Exchange on Commission January 11, 2002 are incorporated by reference herein.

INDEMNIFICATION OF DIRECTORS AND OFFICERS

Under Section 145 of the Delaware General Corporation Law, we have broad powers to indemnify our directors and officers against liabilities they may incur in such capacities, including liabilities under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended (the "Securities Act").

Our certificate of incorporation, as amended, provides for the elimination of liability for monetary damages for breach of our directors' fiduciary duty of care to us and our stockholders. These provisions do not eliminate our directors' duty of care and, in appropriate circumstances, equitable remedies such an injunctive or other forms of non-monetary relief will remain available under Delaware law. In addition, each director will continue to be subject to liability for breach of the director's duty of loyalty to us, for acts or omissions not in good faith or which involve intentional misconduct or a knowing violation of law, for any transaction from which the director derived an improper personal benefit and for violating Section 174 of the Delaware General Corporation Law. The provision does not affect a director's responsibilities under any other laws, such as the federal securities laws or state or federal environmental laws.

We have entered into agreements with our directors and executive officers that require us to indemnify such persons against expenses, judgments, fines, settlements and other amounts actually and reasonably incurred (including expenses of a derivative action) in connection with any proceeding, whether actual or threatened, to which any such person may be made a party by reason of the fact that such person is or was a director or officer of us or any of our affiliated enterprises, provided such person acted in good faith and in a manner such person reasonably believed to be in or not opposed to the best interests of us and, with respect to any criminal proceeding, had no reasonable cause to believe his or her conduct was unlawful. The indemnification agreements also set forth certain procedures that will apply in the event of a claim for indemnification thereunder.

EXHIBITS

| Exhibit Number | _ | Description of Documents |
|-------------------|------|---|
| 3.1 | (1) | Certificate of Incorporation of Inhale Therapeutic Systems (Delaware), Inc. |
| 3.2 | (1) | Bylaws of Nektar Therapeutics. |
| 3.3 | (3) | Certificate of Amendment of the Amended Certificate of Incorporation of Nektar Therapeutics. |
| 3.4 | (6) | Certificate of Designation of Series A Junior Participating Preferred Stock of Nektar Therapeutics. |
| 3.5 | (7) | Certificate of Designation of Series B Convertible Preferred Stock of Nektar Therapeutics. |
| 3.6 | (8) | Certificate of Ownership and Merger of Nektar Therapeutics. |
| 4.1 | | Reference is made to Exhibits 3.1, 3.2, 3.3, 3.4, 3.5 and 3.6. |
| 4.2 | (2) | Indenture, dated February 8, 2000, by and between Nektar Therapeutics, as Issuer, and Chase Manhattan Bank and Trust Company, National Association, as Trustee. |
| 4.3 | (8) | Specimen Common Stock certificate. |
| 4.4 | (4) | Specimen warrants to purchase shares of Common Stock. |
| 4.5 | (5) | Indenture, dated October 17, 2000, by and between Nektar Therapeutics, as Issuer, and Chase Manhattan Bank and Trust Company, National Association, as Trustee. |
| 4.6 | (6) | Rights Agreement, dated as of June 1, 2001, by and between Nektar Therapeutics and Mellon Investor Services LLC., as Rights Agent. |
| 4.7 | (6) | Form of Right Certificate. |
| 4.8 | (9) | Resale Registration Rights Agreement, dated June 30, 2003, by and among Nektar Therapeutics, Merrill Lynch, Pierce, Fenner & Smith Incorporated, Deutsche Bank Securities Inc., Lehman Brothers Inc., Friedman, Billings, Ramsey & Co. Inc. and SG Cowen Securities Corporation |
| 4.9 | (10) | Resale Registration Rights Agreement, dated October 9, 2003, by and among Nektar Therapeutics and the entities named therein. |
| 4.10 | (11) | Common Stock Purchase Agreement dated as of August 15, 2005, by and between Nektar Therapeutics and Mainfield Enterprises, Inc. |
| 4.11 | (12) | Indenture, dated September 28, 2005, by and between Nektar Therapeutics, as Issuer, and J.P. Morgan Trust Company, and National Association, as Trustee. |
| 4.12 | (12) | Registration Right Agreement, dated as of September 28, 2005, among Nektar Therapeutics and entities named therein. |
| | | |
| | | |

| 10.1 | (13) | Nektar Therapeutics 401(k) Retirement Plan. |
|--|--|---|
| 5.1 | (14) | Opinion of Cooley Godward LLP. |
| 23.1 | (14) | Consent of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm. |
| 23.2 | | Consent of Cooley Godward LLP (included in Exhibit 5.1). |
| 24.1 | | Power of Attorney is contained on the signature pages. |
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UNDERTAKINGS

- . The undersigned registrant hereby undertakes:
 - (a) To file, during any period in which offers or sales are being made, a post-effective amendment to this registration statement:
 - (i) To include any prospectus required by section 10(a)(3) of the Securities Act:
- (ii) To reflect in the prospectus any facts or events arising after the effective date of the registration statement (or the most recent post-effective amendment thereof) which, individually or in the aggregate, represent a fundamental change in the information set forth in the registration statement. Notwithstanding the foregoing, any increase or decrease in volume of securities offered (if the total dollar value of securities offered would not exceed that which was registered) and any deviation from the low or high end of the estimated maximum offering range may be reflected in the form of prospectus filed with the Commission pursuant to Rule 424(b) if, in the aggregate, the changes in volume and price represent no more than a 20% change in the maximum aggregate offering price set forth in the "Calculation of Registration Fee" table in the effective registration statement.
 - (iii) To include any material information with respect to the plan of distribution not previously disclosed in the registration statement or any material change to such information in the registration statement;

Provided, however, that paragraphs (a)(i) and (a)(ii) do not apply if the information required to be included in a post-effective amendment by those paragraphs is contained in reports filed with or furnished to the Commission by the registrant pursuant to section 13 or section 15(d) of the Exchange Act that are incorporated by reference in the registration statement.

- (b) That, for the purpose of determining any liability under the Securities Act, each such post-effective amendment shall be deemed to be a new registration statement relating to the securities offered herein, and the offering of such securities at that time shall be deemed to be the initial bona fide offering thereof.
 - (c) To remove from registration by means of a post-effective amendment any of the securities being registered which remain unsold at the termination of the offering.
- (d) That, for the purpose of determining liability of the registrant under the Securities Act to any purchaser in the initial distribution of the securities, the undersigned registrant undertakes that in a primary offering of securities of the undersigned registrant pursuant to this registration statement, regardless of the underwriting method used to sell the securities to the purchaser, if the securities are offered or sold to such purchaser by means of any of the following communications, the undersigned registrant will be a seller to the purchaser and will be considered to offer or sell such securities to such purchaser:
 - (i) Any preliminary prospectus or prospectus of the undersigned registrant relating to the offering required to be filed pursuant to Rule 424;
 - (ii) Any free writing prospectus relating to the offering prepared by or on behalf of the undersigned registrant or used or referred to by the undersigned registrant;
 - (iii) The portion of any other free writing prospectus relating to the offering containing material information about the undersigned registrant or its securities provided by or on behalf of the undersigned registrant; and
 - (iv) Any other communication that is an offer in the offering made by the undersigned registrant to the purchaser.
- 2. The undersigned registrant hereby undertakes that, for purposes of determining any liability under the Securities Act, each filing of the registrant's annual report pursuant to Section 13(a) or Section 15(d) of the

Exchange Act (and, where applicable, each filing of an employee benefit plan's annual report pursuant to section 15(d) of the Exchange Act) that is incorporated by reference in the Registration Statement shall be deemed to be a new registration statement relating to the securities offered herein, and the offering of such securities at that time shall be deemed to be the initial bona fide offering thereof.

Insofar as indemnification for liabilities arising under the Securities Act may be permitted to directors, officers and controlling persons of the registrant pursuant to the foregoing provisions, or otherwise, the registrant has been advised that in the opinion of the Securities and Exchange Commission such indemnification is against public policy as expressed in the Securities Act and is, therefore, unenforceable. In the event that a claim for indemnification against such liabilities (other than the payment by the registrant of expenses incurred or paid by a director, officer or controlling person of the registrant in the successful defense of any action, suit or proceeding) is asserted by such director, officer or controlling person in connection with the securities being registrant will, unless in the opinion of its counsel the matter has been settled by controlling precedent, submit to a court of appropriate jurisdiction the question whether such indemnification by it is against public policy as expressed in the Securities Act and will be governed by the final adjudication of such issue.

SIGNATURES

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, the Registrant certifies that it has reasonable grounds to believe that it meets all of the requirements for filing on Form S-8 and has duly caused this Registration Statement to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned, thereunto duly authorized, in the City of San Carlos, State of California, on August 8, 2007.

NEKTAR THERAPEUTICS

By: /s/ Howard W. Robin

Howard W. Robin Chief Executive Officer, President and Director (Principal Executive Officer)

POWER OF ATTORNEY

KNOW ALL PERSONS BY THESE PRESENTS, that each person whose signature appears below constitutes and appoints Howard W. Robin and Louis Drapeau, and each or any one of them, his or her true and lawful attorney-in-fact and agent, with full power of substitution and resubstitution, for him or for her and in his or her name, place and stead, in any and all capacities, to sign any and all amendments (including post-effective amendments) to this Registration Statement, and to file the same, with all exhibits thereto, and other documents in connection therewith, with the Securities and Exchange Commission, granting unto said attorneys-in-fact and agents, and each of them, full power and authority to do and perform each and every act and thing requisite and necessary to be done in connection therewith, as fully to all intents and purposes as he or she might or could do in person, hereby ratifying and confirming all that said attorneys-in-fact and agents, or any of them, or their or his or her substitutes or substitute, may lawfully do or cause to be done by virtue hereof.

| Signature | | |
|---|--|----------------|
| o _{spin} ture. | Title | Date |
| s/ Howard W. Robin Howard W. Robin | Chief Executive Officer, President and Director (Principal Executive Officer) | August 8, 2007 |
| s/ Louis Drapeau Louis Drapeau | Senior Vice President, Finance and Chief Financial Officer (Principal Accounting and Financial Officer) | August 8, 2007 |
| /s/ Robert B. Chess Robert B. Chess | Director, Chairman of the Board of Directors | August 8, 2007 |
| s/ Michael A. Brown Michael A. Brown | Director | August 8, 2007 |
| s/ Christopher A. Kuebler Christopher A. Kuebler | Director | August 8, 2007 |
| s/ Joseph J. Krivulka Joseph J. Krivulka | Director | August 8, 2007 |
| s/ Irwin Lerner Irwin Lerner | Director | August 8, 2007 |
| S/ John S. Patton John S. Patton, Ph.D. | Director | August 8, 2007 |
| s/ Susan Wang Susan Wang | Director | August 8, 2007 |
| s/ Roy A. Whitfield Roy A. Whitfield | Director | August 8, 2007 |

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| | (14) | Filed herewith | |



August 8, 2007

Nektar Therapeutics 201 Industrial Road San Carlos, CA 94070

Ladies and Gentlemen:

You have requested our opinion with respect to certain matters in connection with the filing by Nektar Therapeutics (the "Company") of a Registration Statement on Form S-8 (the "Registration Statement") with the Securities and Exchange Commission covering the offering of up to 300,000 shares of the Company's Common Stock, \$0.0001 par value, (the "Shares") pursuant to its 401(k) Retirement Plan (the "Plan").

In connection with this opinion, we have examined the Registration Statement and related Prospectus, the Company's Certificate of Incorporation, as amended, the Bylaws and such other documents, records, certificates, memoranda and other instruments as we deem necessary as a basis for this opinion. We have assumed the genuineness and authenticity of all documents submitted to us as originals, the conformity to originals of all documents submitted to us as copies thereof, and the due execution and delivery of all documents where due execution and delivery are a prerequisite to the effectiveness thereof.

Our opinion is expressed only with respect to the federal laws of the United States of America, the General Corporation Law of the State of Delaware and the laws of the State of California. We express no opinion as to whether the laws of any particular jurisdiction other than those identified above are applicable to the subject matter hereof.

On the basis of the foregoing, and in reliance thereon, we are of the opinion that the Shares, when sold and issued in accordance with the Plan and the Registration Statement, will be validly issued, fully paid, and nonassessable.

We consent to the filing of this opinion as an exhibit to the Registration Statement.

Cooley Godward Kronish LLP

By: /s/ Mark P. Tanoury

Mark P. Tanoury

CONSENT OF INDEPENDENT REGISTERED PUBLIC ACCOUNTING FIRM

We consent to the incorporation by reference in the Registration Statement (Form S-8) pertaining to the Nektar Therapeutics 401(k) Retirement Plan of our reports dated February 28, 2007, with respect to the consolidated financial statements and schedule of Nektar Therapeutics included in its Annual Report (Form 10-K) for the year ended December 31, 2006, Nektar Therapeutics management's assessment of the effectiveness of internal control over financial reporting, and the effectiveness of internal control over financial reporting of Nektar Therapeutics, filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission.

/s/ Ernst & Young LLP

Palo Alto, California August 8, 2007