

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

FORM 8-K

CURRENT REPORT

Pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934

Date of Report (Date of earliest event reported): March 11, 2022

Crinetics Pharmaceuticals, Inc.

(Exact name of Registrant as Specified in Its Charter)

Delaware
(State or Other Jurisdiction
of Incorporation)

001-38583
(Commission File Number)

26-3744114
(IRS Employer
Identification No.)

10222 Barnes Canyon Road, Bldg. #2
San Diego, California
(Address of Principal Executive Offices)

92121
(Zip Code)

Registrant's Telephone Number, Including Area Code: (858) 450-6464

(Former Name or Former Address, if Changed Since Last Report)

Check the appropriate box below if the Form 8-K filing is intended to simultaneously satisfy the filing obligation of the registrant under any of the following provisions:

- Written communications pursuant to Rule 425 under the Securities Act (17 CFR 230.425)
- Soliciting material pursuant to Rule 14a-12 under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14a-12)
- Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 14d-2(b) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14d-2(b))
- Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 13e-4(c) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.13e-4(c))

Securities registered pursuant to Section 12(b) of the Act:

Title of each class	Trading Symbol(s)	Name of each exchange on which registered
Common Stock, par value \$0.001 per share	CRNX	NASDAQ Global Select Market

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is an emerging growth company as defined in Rule 405 of the Securities Act of 1933 (§ 230.405 of this chapter) or Rule 12b-2 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (§ 240.12b-2 of this chapter).

Emerging growth company

If an emerging growth company, indicate by check mark if the registrant has elected not to use the extended transition period for complying with any new or revised financial accounting standards provided pursuant to Section 13(a) of the Exchange Act.

Item 5.02 Departure of Directors or Certain Officers; Election of Directors; Appointment of Certain Officers; Compensatory Arrangements of Certain Officers.

On March 11, 2022, upon the recommendation of the Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee of the Board of Directors (the “Board”) of Crinetics Pharmaceuticals, Inc. (the “Company”), and pursuant to the amended and restated bylaws of the Company, the Board approved an increase in its authorized size from seven members to eight members and appointed Caren Deardorf to fill the vacancy created by such increase and serve as a Class II director, with an initial term expiring at the Company’s 2023 annual meeting of stockholders. In connection with her appointment to the Board, Ms. Deardorf was also appointed to the Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee of the Board.

Pursuant to the Company’s non-employee director compensation program, Ms. Deardorf (i) will receive an annual cash retainer of \$40,000 for service on the Board and an additional annual retainer of \$7,500 for service as a member of the Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee, and (ii) was granted on the date of her appointment an option to purchase 25,000 shares of the Company’s common stock, which vests over three years in three equal annual installments on each of the first three anniversaries of the grant date. Ms. Deardorf has also entered into the Company’s standard form of Indemnification Agreement, the form of which was filed as Exhibit 10.10 to the Company’s Annual Report on Form 10-K, filed with the SEC on March 30, 2021, and incorporated herein by reference.

There is no arrangement or understanding between Ms. Deardorf and any other person pursuant to which Ms. Deardorf was appointed as a director. Ms. Deardorf is not a party to any transaction that would require disclosure under Item 404(a) of Regulation S-K promulgated under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended. The Board has determined that Ms. Deardorf is an independent director in accordance with the listing requirements of the Nasdaq Global Select Market.

On March 14, 2022, the Company issued a press release announcing Ms. Deardorf’s appointment to the Board. A copy of the press release is attached hereto as Exhibit 99.1 and incorporated herein by this reference.

Item 9.01 Financial Statements and Exhibits.

(d) Exhibits

Exhibit No.	Description
99.1	Press Release dated March 14, 2022.
104	Cover Page Interactive Data File (embedded within the Inline XBRL document)

SIGNATURES

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned thereunto duly authorized.

Crinetics Pharmaceuticals, Inc.

Date: March 14, 2022

By: /s/ R. Scott Struthers, Ph. D.
R. Scott Struthers, Ph. D.
President and Chief Executive Officer
(Principal Executive Officer)



Crinetics Pharmaceuticals Appoints Caren Deardorf to Board of Directors

SAN DIEGO, March 14, 2022 -- Crinetics Pharmaceuticals, Inc. (Nasdaq: CRNX), a clinical stage pharmaceutical company focused on the discovery, development, and commercialization of novel therapeutics for rare endocrine diseases and endocrine-related tumors, today announced the appointment of Caren Deardorf to the company's board of directors. Ms. Deardorf has broad experience in biotechnology, building on over 20 years at Biogen where she led commercial efforts for neurological diseases, including rare congenital disorders.

Scott Struthers, Ph.D., founder and chief executive officer of Crinetics, stated, "Caren's unique understanding of the importance of building commercial and corporate brands globally, while remaining focused on the needs of patients, was important to us, especially as we begin our transition to a commercial entity. In addition to her deep leadership and commercial expertise, the Crinetics board will benefit from Caren's specific experience leading a commercial effort to treat a rare and life-threatening disease in infants. As we prepare to conclude Phase 1 development of CRN04777 with plans to initiate patient studies later this year for children with congenital hyperinsulinism, her perspective will be invaluable."

Caren Deardorf is currently the chief commercial officer of Magenta Therapeutics, Inc., where she is responsible for the strategy, direction and execution of Magenta's global commercial capabilities. Earlier in her career, Ms. Deardorf was chief commercial officer of Ohana Biosciences and VP of global product development at Biogen, where she was the global commercial lead on Spinraza[®], a treatment for children and adults with spinal muscular atrophy, or SMA, a genetic disease affecting muscle strength and movement. At Biogen, she led disease awareness efforts for the first drug approved to treat SMA, a rare and often fatal inherited disease that typically presents in infancy. Earlier in her career at Biogen, Ms. Deardorf was responsible for brand and launch strategy for Tecfidera, a treatment for relapsing forms of multiple sclerosis. Ms. Deardorf earned a Bachelor of Science degree in biology at Tufts University and a Master of Business Administration from Olin Graduate School of Business at Babson College.

Ms. Deardorf, added, "Crinetics' commitment to patients with rare endocrine disorders and neuroendocrine tumors was very compelling to me. I'm looking forward to working with the team, as they advance their promising pipeline programs through clinical development and prepare commercial strategies for paltusotine."

About Crinetics Pharmaceuticals

Crinetics Pharmaceuticals is a clinical stage pharmaceutical company focused on the discovery, development, and commercialization of novel therapeutics for rare endocrine diseases and endocrine-related tumors. The company's lead product candidate, paltusotine, is an investigational, oral, selective nonpeptide somatostatin receptor type 2 (SST2) biased agonist for the treatment of acromegaly, an orphan disease affecting more than 26,000 people in the United States. A Phase 3 clinical program in acromegaly with paltusotine is underway. Crinetics also plans to advance paltusotine into a Phase 2 trial for the treatment of carcinoid syndrome associated with neuroendocrine tumors. The company is also developing CRN04777, an investigational, oral, nonpeptide somatostatin receptor type 5 (SST5) agonist for congenital hyperinsulinism, as well as CRN04894, an investigational, oral, nonpeptide ACTH antagonist for the treatment of congenital adrenal hyperplasia, Cushing's disease and other diseases of excess ACTH. All of the company's drug candidates are new chemical entities resulting from in-house drug discovery efforts.

Forward-Looking Statements

This press release contains forward-looking statements within the meaning of Section 27A of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, and Section 21E of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended. All statements other than statements of historical facts contained in this press release are forward-looking statements, including statements regarding the potential to advance Crinetics' ongoing clinical programs and bring additional therapeutic candidates into the clinic; and Crinetics' plans to complete Phase 1 clinical trials and initiate patient studies for CRN04777. In some cases, you can identify forward-looking statements by terms such as "may," "will," "should," "expect," "plan," "anticipate," "could," "intend," "target," "project," "contemplates," "believes," "estimates," "predicts," "potential" or "continue" or the negative of these terms or other similar expressions. These forward-looking statements speak only as of the date of this press release and are subject to a number of risks, uncertainties and assumptions, including risks and uncertainties inherent in Crinetics' business, including unexpected adverse side effects or inadequate efficacy of the company's product candidates that may limit their development, regulatory approval and/or commercialization, the company's dependence on third parties in connection with product manufacturing, research and preclinical and clinical testing; the success of Crinetics' clinical trials and nonclinical studies and the other risks and uncertainties described in the company's periodic filings with the SEC. The events and circumstances reflected in the company's forward-looking statements may not be achieved or occur and actual results could differ materially from those projected in the forward-looking statements. Additional information on risks facing Crinetics can be found under the heading "Risk Factors" in Crinetics' periodic reports, including its annual report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2020, filed with the SEC. Except as required by applicable law, Crinetics does not plan to publicly update or revise any forward-looking statements contained herein, whether as a result of any new information, future events, changed circumstances or otherwise.

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