

Via Facsimile and U.S. Mail
Mail Stop 4720

November 18, 2009

Michael S. Weiss
Chairman and Chief Executive Officer
Keryx Biopharmaceuticals, Inc.
750 Lexington Avenue
New York, New York 10022

**Re: Keryx Biopharmaceuticals, Inc.
Form 10-K for the Fiscal Year Ended December 31, 2008
Filed March 31, 2009
File No. 000-30929**

Dear Mr. Weiss:

We have reviewed your filing and have the following comments. In our comments, we ask you to provide us with information to better understand your disclosure. Where it requests you to revise disclosure, the information you provide should show us what the revised disclosure will look like and identify the annual or quarterly filing, as applicable, in which you intend to first include it. If you do not believe that revised disclosure is necessary, explain the reason in your response. After reviewing the information provided, we may raise additional comments and/or request that you amend your filing.

Please understand that the purpose of our review process is to assist you in your compliance with the applicable disclosure requirements and to enhance the overall disclosure in your filing. We look forward to working with you in these respects. We welcome any questions you may have about our comments or on any other aspect of our review. Feel free to call us at the telephone numbers listed at the end of this letter.

Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2008

Licensing Agreements and Collaborations, page 9

1. We note your discussion of license agreements on page 9. Please revise your disclosure to include the following material information:
 - Regarding the AEterna Zentaris Inc. Commercial License Agreement and the Panion & BF Biotech, Inc. License Agreement, please disclose the

aggregate potential milestone payments to be made under each agreement and the aggregate amount paid to date.

- Regarding each of the AEterna Zentaris Inc. Commercial License Agreement, the Panion & BF Biotech, Inc. License Agreement and the Japan Tobacco, Inc. and Torii Pharmaceutical Co., Ltd. Sublicense Agreement, please provide more information about the royalty provisions of each. We note that the company has been granted confidential treatment on the specific royalty rates in each agreement; therefore, either a range or a statement that the percentage is in the single digits, teens, etc. will be sufficient.

* * *

Please provide us the information requested within 10 business days or tell us when you will provide us with a response. Please furnish a cover letter with your response that keys your responses to our comments and provide any requested information. Detailed cover letters greatly facilitate our review. Please furnish your letter on EDGAR under the form type label CORRESP.

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 all information required under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 and that they have provided all information investors require for an informed investment decision. 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.

In connection with responding to our comments, please provide, in your letter, a statement from the company acknowledging that:

- the company is responsible for the adequacy and accuracy of the disclosure in the filing;
- staff comments or changes to disclosure in response to staff comments do not foreclose the Commission from taking any action with respect to the filing; and
- the company may not assert staff comments as a defense in any proceeding initiated by the Commission or any person under the federal securities laws of the United States.

In addition, please be advised that the Division of Enforcement has access to all information you provide to the staff of the Division of Corporation Finance in our review of your filing or in response to our comment on your filing.

Michael S. Weiss
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November 18, 2009
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Please contact Laura Crotty, Staff Attorney, at (202) 551-3575 or myself at (202) 551-3715 if you have questions regarding the processing of your response as well as any questions regarding comments and related matters.

Sincerely,

Jeffrey P. Riedler
Assistant Director