

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

January 19, 2024

Paul Alloway, Ph.D.
President and Chief Operating Officer
Homology Medicines, Inc.
One Patriots Park
Bedford, MA 01730

Re: Homology Medicines, Inc.
Registration Statement on Form S-4
Filed December 18, 2023
File No. 333-276093

## Dear Paul Alloway:

We have reviewed your registration statement and have the following comments.

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

## Registration Statement on Form S-4 Filed December 18, 2023

## Cover Page

- 1. Please revise the Letter to Stockholders to prominently disclose, if true, whether the listing approval for Q32's securities on NASDAQ is a closing condition of the merger.
- 2. Please revise the Letter to Stockholders to disclose the valuations assigned to Homology and Q32 for purposes of this merger.

#### Questions and Answers, page 2

3. Please revise this section, where appropriate, as well as the Prospectus Summary, to disclose Homology's net cash as of the most recent practicable date and briefly describe the factors that could affect Homology's net cash between this date and the closing date of the merger.

# What is the Merger?, page 2

4. Please revise to disclose and, if necessary, explain the Exchange Ratio.

## What are the CVRs being issued to Homology stockholders?, page 5

5. With reference to Exhibit 10.5, please revise this Q&A or add a new one to explain that Q32 must use commercially reasonable efforts to sell the legacy assets and discuss the level of efforts and resources required.

# Prospectus Summary, page 13

- 6. Please shorten the ADX-097 pipeline arrow given that the Phase 1 appears to be on-going.
- 7. Please revise to remove the final candidate from the table. In this regard, we note that both the discovery phase program and the indication are unidentified.
- 8. Please revise your pipeline table to include the information for footnote 2 or advise.

# Opinion of Homology's Financial Advisor, page 17

9. Please revise to explain why Homology's Board sought a fairness opinion concerning the \$195 million Q32 Equity Value as opposed to one that addressed the fairness of the Merger exchange ratio. Revise to clarify, if true, that the advisor did not assess whether the \$80 million Homology Equity Value of Homology was fair from a financial point of view to the Homology stockholders. Discuss how Homology's Board assessed this valuation in rending its recommendation to shareholders.

# Following the Merger, the combined company may be unable to integrate successfully..., page 36

10. Please reconcile this risk factor disclosure with your disclosure on page 2 and elsewhere indicating that the business of Q32 will continue as the business of the combined company.

#### Homology is currently subject to securities class action litigation..., page 77

11. Please revise to address whether future damages in excess of insurance coverage will be borne by the combined company and its shareholders. In this regard, clarify whether damage awards could impact CVR payments.

## Background of the Merger, page 153

- 12. Please revise your disclosure on page 154 to explain the basis on which Homology narrowed the field down to the 6 initial bidders. Also describe what factors the Homology board took into consideration in selecting Q32 as the lead potential counterparty.
- 13. Please revise to discuss the negotiations and revisions relating to the CVRs, including those pertaining to the definition of commercially reasonable efforts. It should be clear

how the terms evolved over time and the positions of the two parties.

- 14. Please revise the October 16 entry to identify the items included in the supplemental request.
- With reference to the October 12 and November 9 entries, please revise to explain the material changes to the Q32 financial models during the course of the negotiations. Please revise to discuss what consideration the Homology Board gave to negotiating the \$195 million Q32 Equity Value downward in light of Q32's inability to identify sufficient demand to pursue a \$75 million PIPE financing led by its current investors.

## Financial Analyses, page 169

16. Please revise your disclosure regarding TD Cowen's DCF analysis to disclose why cash flows for a 26-year period were used instead of a shorter period.

# Certain Unaudited Financial Projections for Q32, page 171

17. Please revise page 173 to also present the unadjusted projections that Q32's management provided to Homology.

## Material U.S. Federal Income Tax Consequences of the Merger, page 220

18. Please revise to add a section that discusses the material tax consequences of the Merger to the Homology stockholders, or advise. With reference to Staff Legal Bulletin No. 19, please provide a tax opinion of counsel, as applicable.

# Matters Being Submitted to a Vote of Homology Stockholders, page 233

19. We note your disclosure in Proposal No. 3 stating that you are proposing an amendment to the Restated Certificate of Incorporation to give the Homology's board of directors discretionary authority to effect a Reverse Stock Split of Homology's issued and outstanding common stock. Please revise to disclose the range of this reverse stock split. Further, to the extent that any such reverse stock split is expected to occur prior to the effectiveness of your registration statement, all share data will require retroactive adjustment pursuant to SAB Topic 4.C.

## Q32's Business, page 305

20. Please revise your disclosure to provide a narrative description explaining the results in the graphs on page 311 so it is clear how the results support the claims in this section.

#### Future Funding Requirements, page 378

21. With reference to the pro forma balance sheet on page 401, please revise to discuss the combined company's plans for the funds it will hold post-merger, including the approximate amount intended for each purpose.

<u>Unaudited Pro Forma Condensed Combined Financial Information</u>

<u>Notes to the Unaudited Pro Forma Condensed Combined Financial Information</u>

<u>1. Description of the Transaction, page 404</u>

22. We note your disclosure that the number and value of the shares of Homology common stock and options to purchase Homology common stock to be held by Homology stockholders to be outstanding following the Merger and the fair value of the CVRs will not be determined until the completion of the Merger and therefore, the final aggregate value of the consideration paid in the Merger may be more or less than \$45.3 million. We further note that the ownership percentages are subject to adjustment to the extent that Homology's net cash of the closing is less than \$59.5 million or greater than \$60.5 million. Please tell us your consideration of including a sensitivity analysis of the merger consideration.

<u>Unaudited Pro Forma Condensed Combined Financial Information</u>

<u>Notes to the Unaudited Pro Forma Condensed Combined Financial Information</u>

<u>4. Pro Forma Adjustments, page 407</u>

23. We note your disclosure in Note H stating, "The estimated fair value of the CVR is \$14.3 million, which is the fair value of the estimated cash dividend expected to be paid." Please expand your disclosure to explain how this amount was determined.

### General

24. With reference to your disclosures concerning the current status of Homology Medicines, Inc.'s operations, the plans for those operations, and the pro forma accounting treatment for Homology Medicines' assets and liabilities on page 404, please provide us an analysis concerning whether Homology Medicines is a shell company as defined in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act or whether it could become one prior to Closing. For guidance, see Use of Form S-8, Form 8-K, and Form 20-F by Shell Companies, Release No. 33-8587 (July 15, 2005) at n. 32 as reiterated in Special Purpose Acquisition Companies, Shell Companies, and Projections, Release No. 33-11048 (March 30, 2022) at n. 239 and accompanying text.

We remind you that the company and its management are responsible for the accuracy and adequacy of their disclosures, notwithstanding any review, comments, action or absence of action by the staff.

Refer to Rules 460 and 461 regarding requests for acceleration. Please allow adequate time for us to review any amendment prior to the requested effective date of the registration statement.

Please contact Tracie Mariner at 202-551-3744 or Angela Connell at 202-551-3426 if you have questions regarding comments on the financial statements and related matters. Please contact Cindy Polynice at 202-551-8707 or Joe McCann at 202-551-6262 with any other questions.

Sincerely,

Division of Corporation Finance Office of Life Sciences

cc: Lisa Martin, Esq.