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OPEXA THERAPEUTICS, INC.  
2635 TECHNOLOGY FOREST BLVD.  
THE WOODLANDS, TEXAS 77381

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October 9, 2012

To Our Shareholders:

You are cordially invited to attend the Annual Meeting of Shareholders of Opexa Therapeutics, Inc. on Thursday, November 15, 2012 at 10:00 a.m. Central Daylight Time. The meeting will be held at 2 Houston Center, 909 Fannin, Suite 2000, Houston, Texas 77010.

Information about the Annual Meeting, including matters on which shareholders will act, may be found in the Notice of Annual Meeting and Proxy Statement accompanying this letter. We look forward to greeting in person as many of our shareholders as possible.

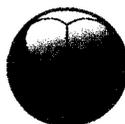
**It is important that your shares be represented and voted at the meeting. Whether or not you plan to attend the Annual Meeting, please complete, sign, date, and promptly return the accompanying proxy in the enclosed envelope or use one of the voting methods described in the attached materials. Returning the proxy does NOT deprive you of your right to attend the Annual Meeting. If you decide to attend the Annual Meeting and wish to change your proxy vote, you may do so automatically by voting in person at the meeting. Please note, however, that if your shares are held of record by a broker, bank or other nominee and you wish to attend and vote in person at the meeting, you must obtain from the record holder a legal proxy issued in your name.**

Sincerely yours,

Neil K. Warma, President and Chief Executive Officer

If you need additional copies of this Proxy Statement or the enclosed proxy card, or if you have other questions about the proposals or how to vote your shares, you may contact our proxy solicitor:

**ADVANTAGE PROXY**  
**(877) 870-8565 (toll free)**



**OPEXA THERAPEUTICS, INC.  
2635 TECHNOLOGY FOREST BLVD.  
THE WOODLANDS, TX 77381**

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**NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEETING OF SHAREHOLDERS  
TO BE HELD NOVEMBER 15, 2012**

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The Annual Meeting of shareholders of OpeXa Therapeutics, Inc. will be held on Thursday, November 15, 2012 at 10:00 a.m. Central Daylight Time, at 2 Houston Center, 909 Fannin, Suite 2000, Houston, Texas 77010. Our shareholders are being asked to vote to:

1. Elect David E. Jorden, Gail J. Maderis, Michael S. Richman, Scott B. Seaman and Neil K. Warma to the Board of Directors to serve until the next annual meeting of shareholders or until their respective successors have been duly elected and qualified;
2. Approve an amendment to the Company's Restated Certificate of Formation to effect a reverse stock split of the Company's common stock, as determined by our Board of Directors in its discretion, of a ratio of not less than 1-for-2 and not more than 1-for-4;
3. Ratify the appointment of MaloneBailey, LLP as our independent auditors for the fiscal year ending December 31, 2012; and
4. Transact any other business properly brought before the Annual Meeting and any adjournment or postponement thereof.

These business items are described more fully in the Proxy Statement accompanying this Notice.

Only shareholders who owned common stock at the close of business on September 27, 2012 can vote at this meeting or any adjournments or postponements that may take place. All shareholders are cordially invited to attend the meeting in person. However, to assure your representation at the meeting, you are urged to mark, sign and return the enclosed proxy as promptly as possible in the postage-prepaid envelope for that purpose or use one of the voting methods described in the attached materials. Your stock will be voted in accordance with the instructions you have given. Any shareholder attending the meeting may vote in person even if he or she has previously returned a proxy. Please note, however, that if your shares are held of record by a broker, bank or other nominee and you wish to attend and vote in person at the meeting, you must obtain from the record holder a legal proxy issued in your name.

By Order of the Board of Directors,

Neil K. Warma, President and Chief Executive Officer

Dated: October 9, 2012

**The Board of Directors solicits the enclosed proxy. Your vote is important no matter how large or small your holdings. To assure your representation at the meeting, please complete, sign, date and promptly mail the enclosed proxy card in the postage-paid envelope provided or use one of the voting methods described in the attached materials.**

**Important Notice Regarding the Availability of Proxy Materials for the Shareholder Meeting to be held on November 15, 2012: This Proxy Statement and our 2011 Annual Report on Form 10-K are available at: [www.cstproxy.com/opexatherapeutics/2012](http://www.cstproxy.com/opexatherapeutics/2012)**

**OPEXA THERAPEUTICS, INC.**

**PROXY STATEMENT**

**ANNUAL MEETING OF SHAREHOLDERS  
TO BE HELD NOVEMBER 15, 2012**

**INFORMATION CONCERNING SOLICITATION AND VOTING**

**General**

The enclosed proxy is solicited on behalf of our Board of Directors (“Board”) for use at the annual meeting of shareholders to be held on Thursday, November 15, 2012, at 10:00 a.m. Central Daylight Time (the “Annual Meeting”), or at any adjournment or postponement of this meeting, for the purposes set forth in this Proxy Statement and in the accompanying Notice of Annual Meeting of Shareholders. The Annual Meeting will be held at 2 Houston Center, 909 Fannin, Suite 2000, Houston, Texas 77010. We intend to mail this Proxy Statement and accompanying proxy card to shareholders on or about October 9, 2012. The Board of Opexa Therapeutics, Inc., a Texas corporation, prepared this Proxy Statement for the purpose of soliciting proxies for our Annual Meeting of Shareholders. The terms “we,” “our,” the “Company” or “Opexa,” refers to Opexa Therapeutics, Inc.

**Availability of Annual Report on Form 10-K**

Accompanying this Proxy Statement is our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2011 as filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission (the “SEC”). We make available, free of charge through our website ([www.opexatherapeutics.com](http://www.opexatherapeutics.com)), our annual reports on Form 10-K, quarterly reports on Form 10-Q, current reports on Form 8-K and amendments to those reports filed or furnished pursuant to Section 13(a) or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the “Exchange Act”), as soon as reasonably practicable after such documents are electronically filed with or furnished to the SEC. These reports can be found under “SEC Filings” through the “Investor Relations” section of our website. We will provide to any shareholder without charge, upon the written request of that shareholder, a copy of our Annual Report on Form 10-K (without exhibits), including financial statements and financial statement schedules. Such requests should be addressed to Investor Relations, Opexa Therapeutics, Inc., 2635 Technology Forest Blvd., The Woodlands, Texas 77381.

**Voting**

Before the meeting, you may vote your shares if they are registered directly in your name with our transfer agent, Continental Stock Transfer & Trust Company, by completing, signing, dating and returning the enclosed proxy card (i) by mail in the postage paid envelope provided or (ii) by faxing your card to (281) 872-8585. Please follow the directions on your proxy card carefully.

If your shares are held in a brokerage account in the name of a bank, broker or other nominee (this is called “street name”), then you are the beneficial owner of the shares and these proxy materials are being forwarded to you by that organization. The organization holding your account is considered the shareholder of record for purposes of voting at the Annual Meeting. You have the right to direct your bank or broker on how to vote the shares in your account, and you may also be able to vote by telephone or via the Internet depending on the voting procedures used by your broker. You may receive a separate voting instruction form with this Proxy Statement, or you may need to contact your broker, bank or other nominee to determine whether you will be able to vote electronically using the telephone or Internet.

You may vote your shares at the meeting if you attend in person, even if you previously submitted a proxy card or voted by telephone or Internet. Whether or not you plan to attend the meeting, however, we encourage you to vote your shares by proxy before the meeting. Please note that if your shares are held in “street name” and you wish to vote at the meeting, you will not be permitted to do so unless you first obtain a legal proxy issued in your name from the broker, bank or nominee that holds your shares.

## **Revocability of Proxies**

Any proxy given pursuant to this solicitation may be revoked by the person giving it at any time before its use by delivering to the Secretary of Opexa, at the address of our executive offices noted above, written notice of revocation or a duly executed proxy bearing a later date or by attending the Annual Meeting and voting in person. Attendance at the Annual Meeting will not, by itself, revoke a proxy.

## **Quorum, Abstentions and Broker Non-Votes**

Our common stock is the only type of security entitled to vote at the Annual Meeting. Only shareholders of record at the close of business on September 27, 2012 (the "Record Date") will be entitled to notice of and to vote at the Annual Meeting. As of the Record Date, there were 23,048,488 shares of common stock outstanding and entitled to vote. Each holder of record of shares of common stock on the record date will be entitled to one vote for each share held on all matters to be voted upon at the Annual Meeting. Shares of common stock may not be voted cumulatively.

Proxies properly executed, duly returned to us and not revoked will be voted in accordance with the specifications made. Where no specifications are given, such proxies will be voted "FOR" each of the five director nominees, "FOR" approval of the reverse stock split and "FOR" the ratification of our auditors. It is not expected that any matters other than those referred to in this Proxy Statement will be brought before the Annual Meeting. If, however, any matter not described in this Proxy Statement is properly presented for action at the Annual Meeting, the person named as proxy in the enclosed form of proxy will have discretionary authority to vote according to his own discretion.

The required quorum for the transaction of business at the Annual Meeting is a majority of the issued and outstanding shares of our common stock entitled to vote at the Annual Meeting, whether present in person or represented by proxy. Our bylaws provide that unless otherwise provided by law, all matters other than the election of directors shall be decided by the affirmative vote of a majority of the shares of stock represented in person or by proxy at the Annual Meeting. Shares of common stock represented by a properly signed and returned proxy will be treated as present at the Annual Meeting for purposes of determining a quorum, regardless of whether the proxy is marked as casting a vote or abstaining.

The term "broker non-vote" refers to shares held by a brokerage firm, bank or other nominee (for the benefit of its client) that are represented at the meeting, but with respect to which such broker or nominee is not instructed to vote on a particular proposal and does not have discretionary authority to vote on that proposal. Brokers and nominees do not have discretionary voting authority on certain non-routine matters and accordingly may not vote on such matters absent instructions from the beneficial holder. Discretionary items are proposals considered "routine" under the rules of the New York Stock Exchange (also applicable to NASDAQ-listed companies), such as the ratification of our independent registered public accounting firm and the proposal to approve the reverse stock split. Non-routine items for which brokers and nominees do not have discretionary voting power include the election of directors.

If you hold your shares in "street name" or through a broker it is important that you direct your broker how to vote your shares.

## **Vote Required**

**Proposal 1.** Directors are elected by a plurality of the affirmative votes cast by those shares of common stock present in person, or represented by proxy, and entitled to vote at the Annual Meeting. This means the five nominees for directors receiving the highest number of affirmative votes will be elected. Proxies marked to "Withhold Authority" will not affect the election of a candidate who receives a plurality of votes. The election of directors is a matter on which a broker or other nominee is generally not empowered to vote using discretion, and therefore, broker non-votes may exist but will have no effect on the outcome of the election of candidates for directors. Shareholders may not cumulate votes in the election of directors. We urge you to provide any necessary voting instructions to your broker or nominee if you hold your shares in street name in order for your vote to be considered for this proposal.

**Proposal 2.** Approval an amendment to the Company's Restated Certificate of Formation to effect a reverse stock split of the Company's common stock, as determined by our Board in its discretion, of a ratio of not less than 1-for-2 and not more than 1-for-4, requires the affirmative vote of the holders of a majority of the outstanding shares of common stock entitled to vote. The approval of the reverse stock split is a matter on which a broker or other nominee is generally empowered to vote, and therefore, broker non-votes are not expected to exist with respect to this proposal. Abstentions and broker non-votes will not affect the outcome.

**Proposal 3.** Ratification of the appointment of MaloneBailey, LLP as our independent registered public accounting firm requires the affirmative vote of the holders of a majority of the voting power present or represented by proxy and voting at the Annual Meeting. The ratification of the appointment of the independent registered public accounting firm is a matter on which a broker or other nominee is generally empowered to vote, and therefore, broker non-votes are not expected to exist with respect to this proposal. Abstentions and broker non-votes will not affect the outcome.

### **Solicitation**

The cost of soliciting proxies will be borne by Opexa. In addition to soliciting shareholders by mail and through our regular employees, we will request that banks and brokers and other persons representing beneficial owners of the shares forward the proxy solicitation material to such beneficial owners and we may reimburse these parties for their reasonable out-of-pocket costs. We may use the services of our officers, directors and others to solicit proxies, personally or by telephone, facsimile or electronic mail, without additional compensation. We have retained Advantage Proxy to assist us in soliciting proxies using the means referred to above. We will pay the fees of Advantage Proxy, which we expect to be approximately \$3,000, plus reimbursement of out-of-pocket expenses.

If you need additional copies of this Proxy Statement or the enclosed proxy card, or if you have other questions about the proposals or how to vote your shares or to obtain directions to attend the meeting and vote in person, you may contact our proxy solicitor, Advantage Proxy, at (877) 870-8565 (toll free).

### **Shareholder Proposals**

Proposals of shareholders that are intended to be presented at our 2013 Annual Meeting of Shareholders and the proxy materials for such meeting must comply with the requirements of SEC Rule 14a-8 and must be received by our Secretary no later than June 6, 2013, in order to be included in the Proxy Statement and proxy materials relating to that meeting. Moreover, with respect to any proposal by a shareholder not seeking to have the proposal included in the proxy statement but seeking to have the proposal considered at our next annual meeting, such shareholder must provide written notice of such proposal to our Secretary at our principal executive offices by August 20, 2013. If the shareholder fails to give notice by this date, then the persons who are appointed as proxies may exercise their discretionary voting authority with respect to such proposals, even if the shareholders have not been advised of the proposal. In addition, shareholders must comply in all respects with the rules and regulations of the SEC then in effect and the procedural requirements of our bylaws.

### **Dissenter's Rights**

Neither Texas law nor our certificate of formation or bylaws provide our shareholders with dissenters' rights in connection with the matters described in this Proxy Statement.

**PROPOSAL 1  
ELECTION OF DIRECTORS**

The Board of Directors currently consists of five members, each with a term expiring at the 2012 Annual Meeting. The Nominating Committee of the Board has recommended, and the Board has nominated, the five incumbent directors for election at the Annual Meeting. The shares represented by the enclosed proxy will be voted for the election as directors of the five nominees named below to serve until the 2013 Annual Meeting or until their successors have been duly elected and qualified. All of the nominees have indicated to us that they will be available to serve as directors. If any of the nominees becomes unavailable for any reason or if a vacancy should occur before the election (which events are not anticipated), the shares represented by the enclosed proxy may be voted for such other person or persons recommended by the Board as may be determined by the holders of the proxy. There are no family relationships among our executive officers and directors.

**Director Nominees**

Individuals nominated for election are:

<b>Name</b>	<b>Age</b>	<b>Position</b>
David E. Jordan .....	50	Acting Chief Financial Officer and Director
Gail J. Maderis .....	55	Director
Michael S. Richman .....	51	Director
Scott B. Seaman .....	57	Director
Neil K. Warma .....	49	President, Chief Executive Officer and Director

**David E. Jordan** has served as Acting Chief Financial Officer since August 2012 and as a Director since August 2008. Mr. Jordan has served as Executive Chairman for Cytomedix, Inc. since February 2012 and previously as an executive board member since October 2008. Mr. Jordan previously served as vice president with Morgan Stanley in its Wealth Management group where he was responsible for equity portfolio management for high net worth individuals since 2003. Prior to Morgan Stanley, Mr. Jordan served as vice president and chief financial officer of Genometrix, Inc., a private genomics/life sciences company focused on high-throughput microarray applications from March 2000 to September 2002. Mr. Jordan was a principal with Fayez Sarofim & Co. prior to joining Genometrix. Mr. Jordan earned a MBA from Kellogg School of Management at Northwestern University in 1989 and a BBA from the University of Texas/Austin in 1984. He currently serves as a director of Cytomedix, Inc. and PLx Pharma, Inc. Mr. Jordan is a Chartered Financial Analyst and Certified Public Accountant. He has extensive experience in various aspects of corporate finance and accounting for public companies including capital formation and deployment.

**Gail J. Maderis** has served as a Director since October 2011. Ms. Maderis has served as President and CEO of BayBio (Bay Area Bioscience Association), an independent, non-profit trade association serving the life sciences industry in Northern California, since October 2009 and joined BayBio's board in 2004. From July 2003 to June 2009, Ms. Maderis served as President and CEO of FivePrime Therapeutics, Inc., a biotechnology company focused on the discovery and development of innovative protein and antibody drugs, and served as a director until 2010. Prior to that, she held general management positions at Genzyme Corporation from 1997 to 2003, including founder and president of Genzyme Molecular Oncology, a publicly traded division of Genzyme, and corporate vice president of Genzyme Corporation. She has served as a director of NovaBay Pharmaceuticals, Inc. since October 2010. Ms. Maderis has been a member of several private company boards, and currently serves on The Mayor's Biotech Advisory Council of San Francisco, as well as the HBS Healthcare Initiative board. Ms. Maderis received a B.S. degree in business from the University of California at Berkeley and an M.B.A. from Harvard Business School. Ms. Maderis has extensive experience as a senior executive of life sciences companies, giving her valuable operational and industry experience and leadership skills, as well as an extensive network of contacts related to financing, partnering and support services in the biotech industry and visibility into business and policy trends that impact the biopharmaceutical industry.

**Michael S. Richman** has served as a Director since June 2006. Mr. Richman has served as president and chief executive officer of Amplimmune, Inc. since July 2008. Mr. Richman served as president and chief operating officer of Amplimmune, Inc. from May 2007 to July 2008. From April 2002 to May 2007, Mr. Richman served as

executive vice president and chief operating officer of MacroGenics, Inc. Mr. Richman joined MacroGenics, Inc. in 2002 with approximately 20 years' experience in corporate business development within the biotechnology industry. Mr. Richman served as a director of Cougar Biotechnology from June 2006 to July 2009. Mr. Richman obtained his B.S. in Genetics/Molecular Biology at the University of California at Davis and his MSBA in International Business at San Francisco State University. He has extensive experience in business development and strategic planning for life science companies, as well as executive leadership and management experience.

**Scott B. Seaman** has served as a Director of since April 2006. Mr. Seaman has served for over five years as the executive director and treasurer of the Albert and Margaret Alkek Foundation of Houston, Texas, a private foundation primarily supporting institutions in the Texas Medical Center in Houston, Texas. Since January 1996 to present, Mr. Seaman has served as the chief financial officer of Chaswil Ltd., an investment management company. Since September 1986, Mr. Seaman has served as secretary and treasurer of M & A Properties Inc., a ranching and real estate concern. In April 2009, Mr. Seaman became the Managing Member of ICT Development LLC which is the Managing Member of ICT Holdings LLC, an energy services supplier. From January 2003 to April 2009, Mr. Seaman served as chairman and from July 2004 to April 2009, as president of ICT Management Inc., the general partner of Impact Composite Technology Ltd., a composite industry supplier. From October 2007 to December 2010, Mr. Seaman served on the board of GeneExcel, Inc., a privately held biotechnology company. From May 2004 to December 2010, Mr. Seaman served as a Member of the Investment Committee of Global Hedged Equity Fund LP, a hedge fund. Mr. Seaman received a bachelor's degree in business administration from Bowling Green State University and is a certified public accountant. Mr. Seaman has extensive experience in overall financial management and corporate development, combined with operational and corporate governance experience.

**Neil K. Warma** has served as President and Chief Executive Officer since June 2008 and as Director since September 2008. He served as Acting Chief Financial Officer from March 2009 to August 2012. From July 2004 to September 2007, Mr. Warma served as president and chief executive officer of Viron Therapeutics Inc., a privately-held clinical stage biopharmaceutical company. From 2000 to 2003 Mr. Warma was co-founder and president of MedExact USA, Inc., an Internet company providing clinical information and services to physicians and pharmaceutical companies. From 1992 to 2000, Mr. Warma held senior positions of increasing responsibility at Novartis Pharmaceuticals (previously Ciba-Geigy Ltd.) at its corporate headquarters in Basel, Switzerland. While at Novartis, Mr. Warma served as the Head of International Pharma Policy & Advocacy and in senior management within global marketing where he worked on the international launch of a gastrointestinal product. Mr. Warma obtained an honors degree specializing in Neuroscience from the University of Toronto and an International M.B.A. from the Schulich School of Management at York University in Toronto. As our President and Chief Executive Officer, Mr. Warma is directly involved in all aspects of our operations. He has extensive experience in corporate business development within the biopharmaceutical industry, in addition to executive leadership and management experience.

**The Board of Directors recommends that shareholders vote "FOR" the election to the Board of each of the above nominees.**

### **Board and Shareholder Meetings**

Members of the Board are encouraged to attend our Annual Meeting of shareholders; however, attendance is not mandatory. Five directors attended the 2011 annual meeting of shareholders. For the fiscal year ended December 31, 2011, the Board held six meetings, and each incumbent director nominee attended at least 75% of the total number of meetings held by the Board and all committees on which such director served during the period he or she was a director in 2011.

### **Director Independence**

The Board has determined that Messrs. Richman and Seaman and Ms. Maderis are each an independent director within the meaning of NASDAQ listing standards, which directors constitute a majority of the Board. The Board has determined that each member of the Board's Audit, Compensation and Nominating and Corporate Governance Committees is independent (or similarly designated) based on the Board's application of the standards of NASDAQ, the rules and regulations promulgated by the SEC or the Internal Revenue Service, as appropriate for such committee membership.

**Committees of the Board of Directors**

We currently have a standing Audit Committee, Compensation Committee, and Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee. The Board has adopted written charters for each of the committees, and copies of the charters are available on our website at [www.opexatherapeutics.com](http://www.opexatherapeutics.com). Please note that the information contained on our website is not incorporated by reference in, or considered to be a part of, this document.

The current members of these committees are as follows:

<b>Director</b>	<b>Independent</b>	<b>Audit Committee</b>	<b>Compensation Committee</b>	<b>Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee</b>
Gail J. Maderis .....	X	X	X	X
Michael S. Richman .....	X	X	X	X
Scott B. Seaman .....	X	X	X	X

***Audit Committee***

The Audit Committee of the Board currently consists of Messrs. Richman and Seaman and Ms. Maderis, each of whom is an independent, non-employee director. The Audit Committee selects, on behalf of our Board, an independent public accounting firm to audit our financial statements, discuss with the independent auditors their independence, review and discuss the audited financial statements with the independent auditors and management, recommend to our Board whether the audited financials should be included in our annual reports to be filed with the SEC, and oversee management’s identification, evaluation, and mitigation of major risks to Opexa. The Audit Committee operates pursuant to a written charter. During the last fiscal year, the Audit Committee held four meetings.

All of the members of the Audit Committee are non-employee directors who: (1) met the criteria for independence as required by NASDAQ listing standards and as set forth in Rule 10A-3(b)(1) under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the “Exchange Act”); (2) did not participate in preparation of our financial statements during the past three years; and (3) are able to read and understand fundamental financial statements, including a balance sheet, income statement, and cash flow statement. The Board has determined that Mr. Seaman and Ms. Maderis each, individually, qualify as an “audit committee financial expert” as defined in SEC regulations and also possesses the financial sophistication and requisite experience as required under NASDAQ listing standards.

***Compensation Committee***

The Compensation Committee of the Board currently consists of Ms. Maderis and Messrs. Richman and Seaman, each of whom is an independent director. The Compensation Committee reviews and approves (1) the annual salaries and other compensation of our executive officers and (2) individual stock and stock option grants. The Compensation Committee also provides assistance and recommendations with respect to our compensation policies and practices, and assists with the administration of our compensation plans. In evaluating executive officer compensation, the Compensation Committee may retain the services of compensation consultants and considers recommendations from the Chief Executive Officer with respect compensation of the other executive officers. The Compensation Committee also periodically reviews compensation for non-employee directors. The Committee engaged in discussions throughout the year without formally meeting, to build a consensus on various related matters, which were communicated to and decided upon by the Board.

***Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee***

The Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee of the Board currently consists of Ms. Maderis and Messrs. Richman and Seaman, each of whom was determined by the Board to be an independent director. The Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee assists our Board in fulfilling its responsibilities by: identifying and approving individuals qualified to serve as members of our Board, selecting director nominees for our annual

meetings of shareholders, evaluating the performance of our Board, and developing and recommending to our Board corporate governance guidelines and oversight procedures with respect to corporate governance and ethical conduct. In identifying and evaluating candidates, the committee takes into consideration the criteria approved by the Board and such other factors as it deems appropriate. We do not have a formal diversity policy, and the committee considers a broad range of factors in evaluating prospective director nominees. These factors may include judgment, skill, diversity, experience with businesses and other organizations of comparable size, the interplay of the candidate's experience with the experience of other Board members, and the extent to which the candidate would be a desirable addition to the Board and any committees of the Board. The committee will consider properly submitted shareholder nominations for candidates for the Board. Following verification of the shareholder status of persons proposing candidates, recommendations will be aggregated and considered by the committee. If any materials are provided by a shareholder in connection with the nomination of a director candidate, such materials will be forwarded to the committee. The Committee engaged in discussions throughout the year without formally meeting, to build a consensus on various related matters, and all actions were taken by written consent.

### Risk Oversight

A fundamental part of risk management is not only understanding the risks a company faces and what steps management is taking to manage those risks, but also understanding what level of risk is appropriate for each company. Our Board is actively involved in oversight of risks that could affect Opexa. The full Board of Directors has retained the responsibility for general oversight of risks, but the Audit Committee primarily oversees those risks that may directly or indirectly impact our financial statements. The Board's role in the risk oversight process includes receiving reports from members of management and the Audit Committee on areas of material risk to Opexa, including operational, financial, legal and regulatory, and strategic risks which enable it to better understand our risk identification, management and mitigation strategies.

### Board Leadership Structure

The Board evaluates its leadership structure on an ongoing basis according to what the Board considers to be best for Opexa at any given point in time. Because we are a development stage company, we do not currently have a separate role for Chairman of the Board. Our Chief Executive Officer, in consultation with the Board, sets our strategic direction, and he manages the day to day leadership and performance of Opexa. Given Opexa's current size and stage of development, the Board believes this leadership structure is appropriate for Opexa.

### 2011 Director Compensation

The following table presents summary information regarding compensation of the non-employee members of our Board of Directors who served during any part of the fiscal year ended December 31, 2011.

Name	Fees Earned or Paid in Cash	Option Awards	Total
David Hung (former director) <sup>(1)</sup> .....	—	\$35,719 <sup>(2)(3)(4)</sup>	\$35,719
David E. Jordan <sup>(5)</sup> .....	\$60,000 <sup>(6)</sup>	\$35,719 <sup>(2)(3)(4)</sup>	\$95,719
Gail J. Maderis <sup>(7)</sup> .....	—	\$23,816 <sup>(2)(4)(8)</sup>	\$23,816
Michael S. Richman .....	—	\$35,719 <sup>(2)(3)(4)</sup>	\$35,719
Scott B. Seaman .....	—	\$35,719 <sup>(2)(3)(4)</sup>	\$35,719

- (1) Dr. Hung did not stand for re-election following expiration of his term of office which expired on October 27, 2011.
- (2) Amounts in this column represent the aggregate grant date fair value of awards computed in accordance with Financial Accounting Standards Board Accounting Standards Codification Topic 718. See Note 9 to our financial statements included in our annual report on Form 10-K for assumptions underlying the valuation of equity awards.

- (3) As compensation for Board services, Dr. Hung and Messrs. Jorden, Richman and Seaman were issued the following two options on April 5, 2011 to purchase shares of our common stock at an exercise price of \$1.78 per share, the market value on the date of grant: (i) an option to purchase 10,000 shares, with 50% vesting immediately upon grant and the remaining 50% vesting on April 5, 2012; and (ii) an option to purchase 10,500 shares in lieu of cash compensation for services, with 50% vesting immediately and the remaining 50% vesting on December 31, 2011. One-half of each of the options issued to Dr. Hung did not vest and were forfeited because his term of service expired before the applicable vesting date.
- (4) The aggregate number of shares underlying outstanding option awards as of December 31, 2011 was: Dr. Hung, 89,139 shares; Mr. Jorden, 81,269 shares; Ms. Maderis 23,423 shares; Mr. Richman, 142,039 shares; and Mr. Seaman, 149,539 shares.
- (5) Mr. Jorden was appointed as Acting Chief Financial Officer on August 15, 2012.
- (6) Compensation for services as chair of the Audit Committee.
- (7) Ms. Maderis was elected as a director at the October 27, 2011 annual meeting of shareholders.
- (8) As compensation for Board services, Ms. Maderis was issued the following three options on October 27, 2011 to purchase shares of our common stock at an exercise price of \$1.05 per share, the market value on the date of grant: (i) an option to purchase 20,000 shares, with 33.33% vesting immediately upon grant, 33.33% vesting on October 27, 2012 and 33.33% vesting on October 27, 2013; (ii) an option to purchase 1,667 shares, with 50% vesting immediately upon grant and the remaining 50% vesting on April 5, 2012; and (iii) an option to purchase 1,756 shares in lieu of cash compensation for services, with 50% vesting immediately and the remaining 50% vesting on December 31, 2011.

***Standard Compensation Arrangements***

Employee directors do not receive any compensation for services as a member of our Board. We reimburse our directors for travel and lodging expenses in connection with their attendance at Board and committee meetings. As compensation for their services on our Board, in 2011 our non-employee directors were issued options to purchase shares of Opexa common stock in lieu of cash compensation. Each option is granted with an exercise price equal to the fair market value of Opexa’s common stock on the date of grant and is issued either fully vested or with a vesting schedule over a period of time up to one year (or up to two years in the case of an initial grant to a new director). In addition, during 2011 we paid a quarterly retainer of \$15,000 in cash to Mr. Jorden for his service as chair of our Audit Committee.

**Communications to the Board of Directors**

The Board of Directors has adopted the following policy for shareholders who wish to communicate any concern directly with the Board of Directors. Shareholders may mail or deliver their communication to our principal executive offices, addressed as follows:

Addressee (\*)  
 c/o Secretary  
 Opexa Therapeutics, Inc.  
 2635 Technology Forest Blvd.  
 The Woodlands, TX 77381

\*Addressees: Board of Directors; Audit Committee of the Board of Directors; Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee of the Board of Directors; Compensation Committee of the Board of Directors; name of individual director.

Copies of written communications received at such address will be forwarded to the addressee as soon as practicable.

## AUDIT COMMITTEE REPORT

The Audit Committee of the Board of Directors currently consists of Ms. Maderis and Messrs. Richman and Seaman, all of whom are independent, non-employee directors.

The Audit Committee operates under a written charter adopted by the Board, which is evaluated annually. The Audit Committee selects, evaluates and, where deemed appropriate, replaces the Company's independent auditors. The Audit Committee also pre-approves all audit services, engagement fees and terms, and all permitted non-audit engagements, except for certain de minimus amounts.

Management is responsible for the Company's internal controls and the financial reporting process. The Company's independent auditors are responsible for performing an independent audit of Opexa's consolidated financial statements in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and issuing a report on Opexa's consolidated financial statements. The Audit Committee's responsibility is to monitor and oversee these processes.

In this context, the Audit Committee has reviewed the Company's audited financial statements for fiscal 2011 and has met and held discussions with management and MaloneBailey, LLP, the Company's independent auditors. Management represented to the Audit Committee that the Company's consolidated financial statements for fiscal 2011 were prepared in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, and the Audit Committee discussed the consolidated financial statements with the independent auditors. The Audit Committee also discussed with MaloneBailey, LLP the matters required to be discussed by the Statement on Auditing Standards No. 61, as amended, as adopted by the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (PCAOB) in Rule 3200T.

MaloneBailey, LLP also provided to the Audit Committee the written disclosures and the letter required by applicable requirements of the PCAOB regarding the independent accountant's communications with the Audit Committee concerning independence, and the Audit Committee discussed with MaloneBailey, LLP the accounting firm's independence.

Based upon the Audit Committee's discussion with management and MaloneBailey, LLP, and the Audit Committee's review of the representation of management and the report of MaloneBailey, LLP to the Audit Committee, the Audit Committee recommended to the Board of Directors that the audited consolidated financial statements be included in the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2011 filed with the SEC.

**Submitted by the Audit Committee of the  
Board of Directors of Opexa Therapeutics, Inc.:**  
David E. Jorden (former Audit Committee member)<sup>1</sup>  
Gail J. Maderis<sup>2</sup>  
Michael S. Richman  
Scott B. Seaman

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<sup>1</sup> Mr. Jorden resigned from the Audit Committee on August 15, 2012 (concurrent with his appointment as Acting Chief Financial Officer of the Company) but did participate in the review and recommendation regarding our 2011 financial statements.

<sup>2</sup> Ms. Maderis was appointed to the Audit Committee on August 15, 2012 and did not participate in the review and recommendation regarding our 2011 financial statements.

**PROPOSAL 2**  
**APPROVAL OF AN AMENDMENT TO THE COMPANY'S RESTATED CERTIFICATE OF FORMATION TO EFFECT A REVERSE STOCK SPLIT**

Our shareholders are being asked to act upon a proposal to approve a reverse stock split of all of the outstanding shares of common stock of the Company at a ratio of not less than 1-for-2 and not more than 1-for-4, with our Board of Directors having the discretion and authority to determine at which ratio to effect the reverse stock split, if at all (each, the "Reverse Stock Split"). If this proposal is approved, the Board will have the authority, but not the obligation, in its sole discretion, and without any further action on the part of the shareholders, to select a reverse split ratio and to effect the Reverse Stock Split by filing with the Secretary of State of the State of Texas a Certificate of Amendment to the Company's Restated Certificate of Formation. The Board will also have the ability to decline to file the Certificate of Amendment if it determines that the Reverse Stock Split is not in the best interests of the Company.

If this proposal is approved and the Board decides to effect the Reverse Stock Split, then all of the outstanding shares of common stock on the date of the Reverse Stock Split will be automatically converted into a smaller number of shares, at the ratio selected by the Board, as more fully described below. Except for adjustments that may result from the treatment of fractional shares as described below, each shareholder will hold the same percentage of common stock outstanding immediately following the Reverse Stock Split as that shareholder held immediately prior to the Reverse Stock Split. The number of authorized shares of our common stock and preferred stock will remain the same following the Reverse Stock Split, thus the Reverse Stock Split will have the effect of increasing the number of authorized but unissued shares of our common stock. There are no shares of our preferred stock currently outstanding.

The form of the Certificate of Amendment to effect the Reverse Stock Split is attached hereto as Appendix A. The following discussion is qualified in its entirety by the full text of the Certificate of Amendment, which is hereby incorporated by reference. We are proposing that the Board have the discretion to select the Reverse Stock Split ratio from within a range, rather than proposing that shareholders approve a specific ratio at this time, in order to give the Board the flexibility to implement a Reverse Stock Split at a ratio that reflects the Board's then-current assessment of the factors described below under "Determination of Reverse Stock Split Ratio." If the Board decides to implement a Reverse Stock Split, the Company will file the Certificate of Amendment with the Secretary of State of the State of Texas and the Reverse Stock Split will be effective when it is filed with the Secretary of State of the State of Texas or such later time as is chosen by the Board and set forth in the Certificate of Amendment.

**Purpose of the Reverse Stock Split**

The Board's primary objective in proposing the Reverse Stock Split is to raise the per share trading price of the common stock. The Board believes that the Reverse Stock Split will result in a higher per share trading price, which is intended to enable the Company to maintain the listing of the common stock on the NASDAQ Capital Market and generate greater investor interest in the Company.

On February 10, 2012, we received a letter from the listing qualifications department staff of the NASDAQ Stock Market notifying us that for the prior 30 consecutive business days the bid price of our common stock had closed below \$1.00 per share, the minimum closing bid price required by the continued listing requirements of NASDAQ listing rule 5550(a)(2). We were initially provided 180 calendar days, or until August 8, 2012, to regain compliance with the minimum bid price rule. On August 1, 2012, we requested an additional 180-day grace period to regain compliance with NASDAQ's minimum bid price requirement because our stock had continued to trade below the \$1.00 minimum closing bid price. NASDAQ staff granted our extension request on August 9, 2012, and we now have until February 4, 2013 to achieve compliance with this listing standard (i.e., by our common stock maintaining a closing bid price of \$1.00 per share or more for a minimum of ten consecutive business days during the additional grace period, or such longer period of time as the NASDAQ staff may require).

The Board believes that maintaining the listing of the common stock on the NASDAQ Capital Market is in the best interests of the Company and our shareholders. If the common stock were delisted from the NASDAQ Capital Market, the Board believes that the liquidity in the trading market for the common stock could be

significantly decreased, which could reduce the trading price. If the Reverse Stock Split is approved by our shareholders and implemented by the Board, we expect to satisfy the \$1.00 per share minimum bid price requirement for continued listing. However, despite the approval of the Reverse Stock Split by our shareholders and implementation by the Board, there is no assurance that the Reverse Stock Split will result in our meeting the \$1.00 minimum bid price requirement. The common stock could also be delisted from the NASDAQ Capital Market due to our failure to comply with one or more other NASDAQ listing rules.

The Board further believes that an increased stock price may encourage investor interest and improve the marketability of our common stock to a broader range of investors, and thus enhance liquidity. Because of the trading volatility often associated with low-priced stocks, many brokerage firms and institutional investors have internal policies and practices that either prohibit them from investing in low-priced stocks or tend to discourage individual brokers from recommending low-priced stocks to their customers. Some of those policies and practices pertain to the payment of brokers' commissions and to time-consuming procedures that function to make the handling of lower-priced stocks unattractive to brokers from an economic standpoint. Additionally, because brokers' commissions on lower-priced stocks generally represent a higher percentage of the stock price than commissions on higher-priced stocks, the current share price of the common stock can result in an individual shareholder paying transaction costs that represent a higher percentage of total share value than would be the case if our share price were substantially higher. This factor may also limit the willingness of institutions to purchase our stock. The Board believes that the anticipated higher market price resulting from a Reverse Stock Split could enable institutional investors and brokerage firms with such policies and practices to invest or handle trading in our common stock.

Although we expect the Reverse Stock Split will result in an increase in the market price of our common stock, the Reverse Stock Split may not increase the market price of our common stock in proportion to the reduction in the number of shares of our common stock outstanding or result in a permanent increase in the market price, which is dependent upon many factors, including our performance, prospects and other factors detailed from time to time in our reports filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission. The history of similar Reverse Stock Splits for companies in like circumstances is varied. If the Reverse Stock Split is effected and the market price of our common stock declines, the percentage decline as an absolute number and as a percentage of our overall market capitalization may be greater than would occur in the absence of a Reverse Stock Split.

### **Determination of Reverse Stock Split Ratio**

The ratio of the Reverse Stock Split, if approved and implemented, will be a ratio of not less than 1-for-2 and not more than 1-for-4, as determined by the Board in its sole discretion. In determining the Reverse Stock Split ratio, the Board will consider numerous factors including:

- the historical and projected performance of our common stock,
- prevailing market conditions,
- general economic and other related conditions prevailing in our industry and in the marketplace,
- the projected impact of the selected Reverse Stock Split ratio on trading liquidity in our common stock and our ability to continue our common stock's listing on the NASDAQ Capital Market,
- our capitalization (including the number of shares of our common stock issued and outstanding),
- the prevailing trading price for our common stock and the volume level thereof, and
- potential devaluation of our market capitalization as a result of a Reverse Stock Split.

The purpose of asking for authorization to implement the Reverse Stock Split at a ratio to be determined by the Board, as opposed to a ratio fixed in advance, is to give the Board the flexibility to take into account then-current market conditions and changes in price of our common stock and to respond to other developments that may be deemed relevant when considering the appropriate ratio.

### **Effects of Reverse Stock Split**

A reverse stock split refers to a reduction in the number of outstanding shares of a class of a corporation's capital stock, which may be accomplished, as in this case, by reclassifying and combining all of our outstanding shares of common stock into a proportionately smaller number of shares. For example, if our Board decides to implement a 1-for-2 Reverse Stock Split of our common stock, then a shareholder holding 2,000 shares of our

common stock before the Reverse Stock Split will instead hold 1,000 shares of our common stock immediately after the Reverse Stock Split. Each shareholder's proportionate ownership of our outstanding shares of common stock will remain the same, except that shareholders that would otherwise receive fractional shares as a result of the Reverse Stock Split will receive cash payments in lieu of fractional shares. All shares of our common stock will remain fully paid and non-assessable.

Because no fractional shares will be issued, holders of our common stock could be eliminated in the event that the proposed Reverse Stock Split is implemented. However, we are not proposing the Reverse Stock Split as the first step in a "going private" transaction. As of August 31, 2012, we had approximately 17 registered record holders who held fewer than five shares of our common stock, out of a total of approximately 258 registered record holders. Therefore, we believe that a Reverse Stock Split, even if approved and implemented at a ratio of 1-for-4, would have no significant effect on the number of record holders of our common stock.

### Effect on Outstanding Common Stock

The following table illustrates the effects of a 1-for-2, 1-for 3 and 1-for-4 Reverse Stock Split, without giving effect to any adjustments for fractional shares of our common stock, on our outstanding shares of common stock and other equity securities as of August 31, 2012:

	Prior to Reverse Stock Split	1-for-2	1-for-3	1-for-4
Common stock:				
Outstanding	23,048,488	11,524,244	7,682,829	5,762,122
Issuable pursuant to outstanding equity awards	3,278,222	1,639,111	1,092,741	819,556
Issuable pursuant to outstanding warrants	12,401,639	6,200,820	4,133,880	3,100,410
Issuable if all outstanding 12% convertible secured promissory notes were converted to Series A convertible preferred stock which was then ultimately converted into common stock	5,106,250	2,553,125	1,702,083	1,276,563

### Effect on Outstanding Options and Warrants

If the Reverse Stock Split is implemented, the number of shares of common stock subject to outstanding options and warrants issued by the Company, and the number of shares reserved for future issuance under the Company's 2010 Stock Incentive Plan and 2004 Compensatory Stock Option Plan, will be reduced by the same ratio as the reduction in the outstanding shares. Correspondingly, the exercise price for individual outstanding options and warrants will, on a per share basis, be proportionally increased (i.e., the aggregate exercise price for all outstanding options and warrants will be unaffected, but following a Reverse Stock Split such exercise price will apply to a reduced number of shares). As of the record date for the Annual Meeting, there were outstanding (i) stock options to purchase an aggregate of 3,278,222 shares of common stock at a weighted average exercise price of \$1.39 per share, and (ii) warrants representing the right to acquire an aggregate of 12,401,639 shares of common stock at a weighted average exercise price of \$1.72 per share. Assuming, for example, a 1-for-2 Reverse Stock Split, the number of shares covered by outstanding options and warrants will be reduced to one-half the number currently issuable, and the exercise price will be increased by two times the current exercise price.

### Effect on Outstanding 12% Convertible Secured Promissory Notes and Authorized but Unissued Shares of Series A Convertible Preferred Stock

No shares of our Series A convertible preferred stock have ever been issued or are currently outstanding. If the Reverse Stock Split is implemented, the number of shares of common stock into which each share of Series A convertible preferred stock can be converted will be reduced by the same ratio as the reduction in the outstanding shares. At the current Series A convertible preferred conversion price of \$0.80, each share of Series A convertible preferred stock is currently convertible into 125 shares of common stock. Assuming, for example, a 1-for-2 Reverse Stock Split, the number of shares of common stock issuable upon conversion of each share of Series A convertible

preferred stock will be reduced to one-half the number currently issuable, or 62.5 shares, and the conversion price will be increased by two times the current price, or \$1.60.

If the Reverse Stock Split is implemented, the number of shares of common stock issuable if all outstanding 12% convertible secured promissory note were converted to Series A convertible preferred stock, which was then ultimately converted into common stock, will be reduced by the same ratio as the reduction in the outstanding shares. As of the record date for the Annual Meeting, an aggregate principal amount of \$4,085,000 of the convertible secured notes are outstanding, which, at the current \$100.00 note conversion price, could be converted into an aggregate of 40,850 shares of Series A convertible preferred stock. As described above, at the current Series A convertible preferred stock conversion price of \$0.80, each share of Series A convertible preferred stock is currently convertible into 125 shares of common stock. The aggregate 40,850 shares of Series A convertible preferred stock currently issuable upon conversion of all outstanding convertible secured notes is ultimately convertible into an aggregate of 5,106,250 shares of common stock. Assuming, for example, a 1-for-2 Reverse Stock Split, the number of shares of common stock issuable if all outstanding convertible secured notes were converted to Series A convertible preferred stock, which was then ultimately converted into common stock, will be reduced to one-half the number currently issuable, or 2,553,125 shares, and the conversion price will be increased by two times the current price, or \$1.60.

### **No Fractional Shares**

No fractional shares of common stock will be issued in connection with the Reverse Stock Split. If as a result of the Reverse Stock Split, a shareholder of record would otherwise hold a fractional share, the shareholder will receive a cash payment in lieu of the issuance of any such fractional share in an amount per share equal to the closing price per share on the NASDAQ Capital Market on the trading day immediately preceding the effective date of the Reverse Stock Split (as adjusted to give effect to the Reverse Stock Split), without interest. The ownership of a fractional interest will not give the holder thereof any voting, dividend or other right except to receive the cash payment therefore.

Shareholders should be aware that, under the escheat laws of the various jurisdictions where shareholders reside, where we are domiciled and where the funds will be deposited, sums due for fractional interests that are not timely claimed after the effective time may be required to be paid to the designated agent for each such jurisdiction. Thereafter, shareholders otherwise entitled to receive such funds may have to seek to obtain them directly from the state to which they were paid.

### **Accounting Matters**

The par value of the shares of our common stock is not changing as a result of the implementation of the Reverse Stock Split. Our stated capital, which consists of the par value per share of our common stock multiplied by the aggregate number of shares of our common stock issued and outstanding, will be reduced proportionately on the effective date of the Reverse Stock Split. Correspondingly, our additional paid-in capital, which consists of the difference between our stated capital and the aggregate amount paid to us upon the issuance of all currently outstanding shares of our common stock, will be increased by a number equal to the decrease in stated capital. Further, net loss per share, book value per share and other per share amounts will be increased as a result of the Reverse Stock Split because there will be fewer shares of common stock outstanding.

### **Implementation of Reverse Stock Split; Certificate of Amendment**

If our shareholders approve this proposal, and the Board elects to effect the Reverse Stock Split, we will file the Certificate of Amendment included as Appendix A to this proxy statement (as completed to reflect the reverse stock split ratio as determined by the Board, in its discretion, within the range of not less than 1-for-2 and not more than 1-for-4); provided, however, that such text is subject to amendment to include such changes as may be required by the office of the Secretary of State of the State of Texas and as the Board deems necessary and advisable to effect the Reverse Split. The Certificate of Amendment will become effective when it is filed with the Secretary of State of the State of Texas or such later time as is set forth in the Certificate of Amendment.

## **Possible Disadvantages of Reverse Stock Split**

Even though the Board believes that the potential advantages of the Reverse Stock Split outweigh any disadvantages that might result, the following are some of the possible disadvantages of a Reverse Stock Split:

The reduced number of shares of our common stock resulting from a Reverse Stock Split could adversely affect the liquidity of our common stock.

A Reverse Stock Split could result in a significant devaluation of our market capitalization and the trading price of our common stock, on an actual or an as-adjusted basis, based on the experience of other companies that have effected Reverse Stock Splits.

A Reverse Stock Split may leave certain shareholders with one or more “odd lots,” which are stock holdings in amounts of less than 100 shares of our common stock. These odd lots may be more difficult to sell than shares of common stock in even multiples of 100. Additionally, any reduction in brokerage commissions resulting from the Reverse Stock Split, as discussed above, may be offset, in whole or in part, by increased brokerage commissions required to be paid by shareholders selling odd lots created by the Reverse Stock Split.

There can be no assurance that the market price per new share of our common stock after the Reverse Stock Split will remain unchanged or increase in proportion to the reduction in the number of old shares of our common stock outstanding before the Reverse Stock Split. For example, based on the closing market price of our common stock on October 3, 2012 of \$0.74 per share, if the shareholders approve this proposal and the Board selects and implements a Reverse Stock Split ratio of 1-for-2, there can be no assurance that the post-split market price of our common stock would be \$1.48 per share or greater. Accordingly, the total market capitalization of our common stock after the proposed Reverse Stock Split may be lower than the total market capitalization before the proposed Reverse Stock Split and, in the future, the market price of our common stock following the Reverse Stock Split may not exceed or remain higher than the market price prior to the proposed Reverse Stock Split.

While the Board believes that a higher stock price may help generate investor interest, there can be no assurance that the Reverse Stock Split will result in a per share price that will attract institutional investors or investment funds or that such share price will satisfy the investing guidelines of institutional investors or investment funds. As a result, the trading liquidity of our common stock may not necessarily improve.

If the Reverse Stock Split is effected and the market price of our common stock declines, the percentage decline may be greater than would occur in the absence of a Reverse Stock Split. The market price of our common stock will, however, also be based on our performance and other factors, which are unrelated to the number of shares outstanding.

Because the Reverse Stock Split will not affect the number of authorized shares of common stock or preferred stock, a Reverse Stock Split will have the effect of increasing the number of authorized but unissued shares of our common stock. The issuance in the future of additional authorized shares may have the effect of diluting the earnings per share and book value per share, as well as the stock ownership and voting rights, of the currently outstanding shares of common stock. We have financed the Company’s operations to date through the sale of common stock as well as securities exercisable for or convertible into common stock, and we may sell additional shares of common stock as well as securities exercisable for or convertible into common stock in subsequent public or private offerings. However, the Company has a substantial number of authorized but unissued shares available in the absence of the Reverse Stock Split (i.e., more than 50,000,000 such shares were available as of the record date for the Annual Meeting, even after allocating shares for all outstanding equity awards, warrants and convertible notes) and we currently have no specific plans to issue the additional authorized shares that will result from the Reverse Stock Split.

In addition, the effective increase in the number of authorized but unissued shares of common stock resulting from the Reverse Stock Split may be construed as having an anti-takeover effect. Although we are not proposing the Reverse Stock Split for this purpose, we could, subject to the Board’s fiduciary duties and applicable law, issue such additional authorized shares to purchasers who might oppose a hostile takeover bid. Such a use of

these additional authorized shares could render more difficult, or discourage, an attempt to acquire control of the company through a transaction opposed by the Board.

**Effect on Beneficial Holders of Common Stock (i.e., shareholders who hold in “street name”)**

Upon the effectiveness of the Reverse Stock Split, we intend to treat shares of common stock held by shareholders in “street name,” through a bank, broker or other nominee, in the same manner as registered shareholders whose shares of common stock are registered in their names. Banks, brokers or other nominees will be instructed to effect the Reverse Stock Split for their beneficial holders holding the common stock in “street name.” However, these banks, brokers or other nominees may have different procedures than registered shareholders for processing the Reverse Stock Split and making payment for fractional shares. If a shareholder holds shares of common stock with a bank, broker or other nominee and has any questions in this regard, shareholders are encouraged to contact their bank, broker or other nominee.

**Effect on Registered “Book-Entry” Holders of Common Stock (i.e., shareholders that are registered on the transfer agent’s books and records but do not hold certificates)**

Some of our registered holders of common stock may hold some or all of their shares electronically in book-entry form with our transfer agent. These shareholders do not have stock certificates evidencing their ownership of the common stock. They are, however, provided with a statement reflecting the number of shares registered in their accounts.

If a shareholder holds registered shares in book-entry form with the transfer agent, no action needs to be taken to receive post-Reverse Stock Split shares or cash payment in lieu of any fractional share interest, if applicable. If a shareholder is entitled to post-Reverse Stock Split shares, a transaction statement will automatically be sent to the shareholder’s address of record indicating the number of shares of common stock held following the Reverse Stock Split.

If a shareholder is entitled to a cash payment in lieu of any fractional share interest, a check will be mailed to the shareholder’s registered address as soon as practicable after the effective date of the Reverse Stock Split. By signing and cashing the check, shareholders will warrant that they owned the shares of common stock for which they received a cash payment. The cash payment is subject to applicable federal and state income tax and state abandoned property laws.

**Effect on Certificated Shares**

Upon the Reverse Stock Split, our transfer agent will act as our exchange agent and act for holders of common stock in implementing the exchange of their certificates.

Commencing on the effective date of a Reverse Stock Split, shareholders holding shares in certificated form will be sent a transmittal letter by Continental Stock Transfer & Trust Company, the transfer agent for the common stock. The letter of transmittal will contain instructions on how a shareholder should surrender his or her certificate(s) representing shares of the common stock (“Old Certificates”) to the transfer agent in exchange for certificates representing the appropriate number of whole shares of post-Reverse Stock Split common stock (“New Certificates”). No New Certificates will be issued to a shareholder until that shareholder has surrendered all Old Certificates, together with a properly completed and executed letter of transmittal, to the transfer agent. No shareholder will be required to pay a transfer or other fee to exchange the shareholder’s Old Certificates.

Shareholders will then receive a New Certificate(s) representing the number of whole shares of common stock to which they are entitled as a result of the Reverse Stock Split. Until surrendered, we will deem outstanding Old Certificates held by shareholders to be canceled and only to represent the number of whole shares of post-Reverse Stock Split common stock to which these shareholders are entitled.

Any Old Certificates submitted for exchange, whether because of a sale, transfer or other disposition of stock, will automatically be exchanged for New Certificates.

If an Old Certificate has a restrictive legend on the back of the Old Certificate(s), the New Certificate will be issued with the same restrictive legends that are on the back of the Old Certificate(s).

If a shareholder is entitled to a payment in lieu of any fractional share interest, such payment will be made as described above under “No Fractional Shares.”

**Shareholders should not destroy any stock certificate(s) and should not submit any certificate(s) until requested to do so.**

#### **Federal Income Tax Consequences**

The Reverse Stock Split of the common stock should constitute a “recapitalization” for U.S. federal income tax purposes. Accordingly, holders of common stock should not recognize gain or loss upon the Reverse Stock Split, except with respect to cash received in lieu of a fractional share of common stock. A holder’s aggregate tax basis in the shares of the common stock received pursuant to the Reverse Stock Split should equal the aggregate tax basis of the shares of common stock surrendered (excluding any portion of such basis that is allocated to any fractional share of common stock), and such shareholder’s holding period for the shares of the common stock received should include the holding period for the shares of the common stock surrendered. Holders of common stock should consult their tax advisors as to application of the foregoing rules where shares of common stock were acquired at different times or at different prices.

A shareholder who receives cash in lieu of a fractional share of common stock pursuant to the Reverse Stock Split should generally recognize capital gain or loss in an amount equal to the difference, if any, between the amount of cash received and the portion of the shareholder’s tax basis in the shares of the common stock surrendered that is allocated to such fractional share of common stock. Such capital gain or loss should be long-term capital gain or loss if the shareholder’s holding period for the common stock surrendered in the Reverse Stock Split exceeds one year at the time of the Reverse Stock Split.

#### **No Dissenters’ Rights**

The holders of shares of common stock will have no dissenters’ rights of appraisal under Texas law, our certificate of formation or our by-laws with respect to the Certificate of Amendment effectuating a Reverse Stock Split.

#### **Vote Required**

In order to be adopted, this proposal must receive the affirmative vote of the holders of a majority of the outstanding shares of common stock entitled to vote on the Record Date.

**The Board recommends a vote “FOR” the approval by the shareholders of an amendment to the Company’s Restated Certificate of Amendment to effect the Reverse Stock Split.**

**PROPOSAL 3**  
**RATIFICATION OF INDEPENDENT REGISTERED PUBLIC ACCOUNTING FIRM**

The Audit Committee selected MaloneBailey, LLP as an independent registered public accounting firm to audit our financial statements for the year ending December 31, 2012 and requests that the shareholders ratify such selection. In the event the shareholders fail to ratify the appointment, the Audit Committee of the Board will consider it as a direction to select other auditors for the subsequent year. Even if the selection is ratified, the Board at its discretion may direct the appointment of a different independent accounting firm at any time during the subsequent year if the Board determines that such a change would be in the best interests of Opexa and our shareholders.

We are asking shareholders to ratify the selection of MaloneBailey, LLP as our registered independent public accounting firm for the fiscal year ending December 31, 2012. A representative of MaloneBailey, LLP is expected to be present at the Annual Meeting, will have an opportunity to make a statement if the representative desires but is not expected to do so, and is expected to be available to respond to appropriate questions.

**Audit Fees**

The following table presents the estimated aggregate fees billed by MaloneBailey, LLP for services performed during our last two fiscal years.

	<b>Years Ended December 31,</b>	
	<b>2011</b>	<b>2010</b>
Audit fees <sup>(1)</sup> .....	\$75,000	\$74,185
Tax fees <sup>(2)</sup> .....	\$3,750	\$10,410
All other fees <sup>(3)</sup> .....	\$18,022	\$7,340
	<u>\$96,772</u>	<u>\$91,935</u>

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- (1) Audit fees include professional services rendered for (i) the audit of our annual financial statements for the fiscal years ended December 31, 2011 and 2010, (ii) the reviews of the financial statements included in our quarterly reports on Form 10-Q for such years and (iii) the issuance of consents and other matters relating to registration statements we filed.
  - (2) Tax fees include professional services relating to preparation of the annual tax return.
  - (3) Other fees include professional services for review of various filings and issuance of consents.

**Policy on Audit Committee Pre-Approval and Permissible Non-Audit Services of Independent Auditors**

The Board's policy is to pre-approve all audit and permissible non-audit services provided by the independent auditors. These services may include audit services, audit-related services, tax services and other services. Pre-approval is generally provided for up to one year and any pre-approval is detailed as to the particular service or category of services and is generally subject to a specific budget. The independent auditors and management are required to periodically report to the Board regarding the extent of services provided by the independent auditors in accordance with this pre-approval, and the fees for the services performed to date. The Board may also pre-approve particular services on a case-by-case basis. The Audit Committee pre-approved 100% of the tax services and other services provided by our independent auditors during the last two fiscal years.

**The Board recommends a vote "FOR" the ratification of the selection of MaloneBailey, LLP as our independent registered public accounting firm for the fiscal year ending December 31, 2012.**

## EXECUTIVE OFFICERS

Our executive officers are elected by the Board of Directors and serve at the discretion of the Board. Our executive officers are as follows:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Age</u>	<u>Position</u>
Neil K. Warma .....	49	President, Chief Executive Officer and Director
David E. Jordan .....	50	Acting Chief Financial Officer and Director
Donna R. Rill .....	58	Senior Vice President of Operations and Quality Systems
Jaye L. Thompson, Ph.D. ....	47	Senior Vice President of Clinical Development and Regulatory Affairs

The following biographical information is for Ms. Rill and Dr. Thompson (see Proposal 1 for biographical information for Messrs. Warma and Jordan):

**Donna R. Rill** has served as Senior Vice President of Operations and Quality Systems since January 2009. From November 2004 until January 2009, she served as Vice President of Operations. From April 2003 to November 2004, she was the director of quality systems and process development at Opexa Pharmaceuticals, Inc. From November 1997 to April 2003, she was the director of translational research for the Center for Cell & Gene Therapy at Baylor College of Medicine. Ms. Rill has worked to design and qualify GMP Cell & Gene Therapy Laboratories, GMP Vector Production facilities, and Translational Research Labs at St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital, Texas Children’s Hospital, and Baylor College of Medicine. Ms. Rill received her B.S. in Medical Technology from the University of Tennessee, Memphis.

**Jaye L. Thompson, Ph.D.**, has served as Senior Vice President of Clinical Development and Regulatory Affairs since November 2009. From April 2006 to September 2009, Dr. Thompson served as Senior Vice President of Regulatory and Emerging Technologies for inVentiv Clinical Solutions, LLC a subsidiary of inVentiv Health, Inc., a publicly traded company providing a wide range of services to the pharmaceutical industries. inVentiv Health acquired SYNERGOS, Inc., the company founded in 1991 by Dr. Thompson. SYNERGOS was a contract research organization helping companies move through the clinical and regulatory hurdles of product development. Dr. Thompson received a doctorate and master degree in Biostatistics from the University of Texas Health Science Center, School of Public Health, and a B.S. in Applied Mathematics from Texas A&M University.

## EXECUTIVE COMPENSATION AND OTHER INFORMATION

### Compensation Discussion and Analysis

#### *Objectives of Our Executive Compensation Program*

The Compensation Committee of our Board administers our executive compensation program. The Compensation Committee is composed entirely of independent directors.

The general philosophy of our executive compensation program is to align executive compensation with Opexa’s business objectives and the long-term interests of our shareholders. To that end, the Compensation Committee believes executive compensation packages we provide to our executives, including the Named Executive Officers, should include both cash and stock-based compensation that reward performance as measured against established goals. In addition, we strive to provide compensation that is competitive with other biopharmaceutical and biotechnology companies and that will allow us to attract, motivate, and retain qualified executives with superior talent and abilities.

Our executive compensation is designed to reward achievement of our corporate goals. In 2011, our corporate goals included, but were not limited to: (i) advancement of our clinical development program; (ii) advancing our research and development programs; (iii) obtaining additional financing as needed; (iv) strengthening our balance sheet and (v) assembling a world class management team. This focus allows us to reward our executives for their roles in creating value for our shareholders.

## ***The Role of the Compensation Committee***

The Compensation Committee has the primary authority to determine our compensation philosophy and to establish compensation for our executive officers. The Compensation Committee oversees our compensation and benefit plans and policies; administers our stock option plan; reviews the compensation components provided to our officers, employees, and consultants; grants options to purchase common stock to our officers, employees, and consultants; and reviews and makes recommendations to the Board regarding all forms of compensation to be provided to the members of the Board.

The Compensation Committee generally sets the initial compensation of each executive. The Compensation Committee annually reviews and in some cases adjusts compensation for executives. Although, the Chief Executive Officer provides recommendations to the Compensation Committee regarding the compensation of the other executive officers, the Compensation Committee has full authority over all compensation matters relating to executive officers.

## ***Elements of Executive Compensation***

Although the Compensation Committee has not adopted any formal guidelines for allocating total compensation between equity compensation and cash compensation, it strives to maintain a strong link between executive incentives and the creation of shareholder value. Therefore, we emphasize incentive compensation in the form of stock options rather than base salary.

Executive compensation consists of the following elements:

***Base Salary.*** Base salaries for our executives are generally established based on the scope of their responsibilities, taking into account what the Compensation Committee believes to be, based on its general business experience, competitive market compensation paid by other companies for similar positions and recognizing cost of living considerations. Prior to making its recommendations and determinations, the Compensation Committee reviews each executive's:

- historical pay levels;
- past performance; and
- expected future contributions.

The Compensation Committee does not use any particular indices or formulae to arrive at each executive's recommended pay level. Evaluations of past performance are made on a strictly qualitative basis, and may include such factors as leadership performance, contribution to the officer group, overall performance, continuous improvements, and other appropriate measures. In making decisions as to the base salaries of our executive officers, the Compensation Committee does not engage in benchmarking by using specific compensation data about other companies as a reference point.

***Annual Cash Incentive Bonus.*** As described below under "Executive Employment Agreements," each of the employment agreements we have entered into with our Named Executive Officers provides the officer with the opportunity to earn a cash bonus up to a stated percentage of his or her base salary based upon objectives and milestones to be agreed upon annually by our Board and Chief Executive Officer.

***Equity Awards.*** We also use long-term incentives in the form of stock options. Employees and executive officers generally receive stock option grants at the commencement of employment and periodically receive additional stock option grants, typically on an annual basis. We believe that stock options are instrumental in aligning the long-term interests of our employees and executive officers with those of the shareholders because such individuals realize gains only if the stock price increases. Stock options also help to balance the overall executive compensation program, with base salary providing short-term compensation and stock options rewarding executives for long-term increases in shareholder value.

Options are generally granted through our 2010 Stock Incentive Plan, the successor to our 2004 Compensatory Stock Option Plan, that authorizes us to grant options to purchase shares of common stock to our employees, directors and consultants. The Compensation Committee reviews and approves stock option awards to executive officers in amounts that are based upon a review and assessment of:

- individual performance;
- each executive's existing long-term incentives; and
- retention considerations.

Periodic stock option grants are made at the discretion of the Compensation Committee to eligible employees and, in appropriate circumstances, the Compensation Committee considers the recommendations of members of management, such as the Chief Executive Officer. In determining the amount of any equity award, the Compensation Committee gives subjective consideration to our Named Executive Officers' contributions towards the achievement of our goals. In 2011, each Named Executive Officer was awarded stock options in the amount indicated in the table entitled "2011 Grants of Plan Based Awards." Stock options are granted with an exercise price equal to the fair market value of our common stock on the day of grant and typically vest ratably over a three-year period.

**Severance Arrangements.** As described below under "Executive Employment Agreements," each of the employment agreements we have entered into with our Named Executive Officers provides the officer with certain severance protection arrangements in the event the officer's employment is terminated by the Board without cause. In such event, the officer will receive a severance payment equal to a stated number of months of base salary, subject to certain conditions and the execution and delivery of a general release and waiver of claims in our favor. We believe the provisions of these severance arrangements are consistent with the principal objectives of our compensation programs, appropriate for the level of service provided by each executive, and provide an important "safety net" that allows each executive to focus on our business and pursue the course of action that is in the best interests of our shareholders by alleviating some potential concerns regarding their personal financial well-being in the event of a termination.

#### **Section 162(m) Policy**

Section 162(m) of the Code limits the tax deductibility by public companies of compensation in excess of \$1 million paid to certain executive officers. These officers include any employee who, as of the close of the taxable year, is the principal executive officer, and any employee whose total compensation for the taxable year is required to be reported to shareholders under the Exchange Act by reason of such employee being among the three highest compensated officers for that taxable year, other than the principal executive officer or the principal financial officer. However, compensation which qualifies as "performance-based" is excluded from the \$1 million limit if, among other requirements, the compensation is payable only upon attainment of pre-established, objective performance goals under a plan approved by the corporation's shareholders.

It is our policy to qualify, to the extent reasonable, our executive officers' compensation for deductibility under applicable tax law. However, we intend to retain the flexibility necessary to provide total cash compensation in line with competitive practice, our compensation philosophy, and our best interests. Therefore, we may from time to time pay compensation to our executive officers that may not be deductible.

#### **Executive Officer Compensation**

The following table sets forth certain information concerning compensation earned by or paid to certain persons who we refer to as our "Named Executive Officers" for services provided for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2011. Our Named Executive Officers include persons who (i) served as our principal executive officer or acted in a similar capacity during 2011, (ii) were serving at fiscal year-end as our two most highly compensated executive officers, other than the principal executive officer, whose total compensation exceeded \$100,000, and (iii) up to two additional individuals for whom disclosure would have been provided as a most highly compensated executive officer, but for the fact that the individual was not serving as an executive officer at fiscal year-end.

**2011 Summary Compensation Table**

<b>Name and Principal Position</b>	<b>Year</b>	<b>Salary</b>	<b>Bonus</b>	<b>Options Awards<sup>(1)</sup></b>	<b>All Other Compensation</b>	<b>Total</b>
Neil K. Warma .....	2011	\$385,000	\$50,000	\$115,051	—	\$550,051
	2010	\$362,083	\$50,000	—	—	\$412,083
<i>President, Chief Executive Officer, Acting Chief Financial Officer</i>						
Donna R. Rill.....	2011	\$200,000	\$15,000	\$38,350	—	\$253,350
	2010	\$208,000	—	—	—	\$208,000
<i>Senior Vice President of Operations and Quality Systems</i>						
Jaye L. Thompson, Ph.D. ....	2011	\$200,000	\$15,000	\$38,350	—	\$253,350
	2010	\$200,000	—	—	—	\$200,000
<i>Senior Vice President of Clinical Development and Regulatory Affairs</i>						

(1) Amounts in this column represent the aggregate grant date fair value of awards computed in accordance with Financial Accounting Standards Board Accounting Standards Codification Topic 718. See Note 9 to our financial statements included in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for assumptions underlying the valuation of equity awards.

**Executive Employment Agreements**

We entered into an employment agreement on June 16, 2008 with Neil K. Warma pursuant to which he serves as our President and Chief Executive Officer. Pursuant to the agreement, which automatically renews for 12-month periods, Mr. Warma is currently paid \$396,550 per year. In addition, Mr. Warma is entitled to the following: (i) an annual cash bonus of up to 50% of his base salary based upon milestones to be agreed upon; (ii) a one-time payment of \$50,000 cash and 25,000 shares of our common stock to be issued if and when the closing bid price of our common stock equals or exceeds \$4.00 for 20 consecutive trading days; and (iii) a 10-year stock option to purchase 250,000 shares of common stock with an exercise price of \$1.01 per share that vests 50,000 shares immediately and the balance quarterly in equal amounts over three years. In addition, we provided Mr. Warma with relocation assistance and our standard benefits and insurance coverage as generally provided to our management, as well as contractual indemnification rights by reason of his service as an officer and employee. If his employment is terminated by the Board without cause, as defined in the agreement, Mr. Warma will be entitled to receive a severance payment equal to 12 months of his base salary plus a payment equal to 30% of base salary in lieu of any potential bonus, in addition any earned but unpaid bonus. In addition, vesting of stock options will accelerate in full. We will also reimburse Mr. Warma for COBRA expenses for a 12-month period, subject to a cap equal to Opexa's standard contribution to employee health benefits. Upon the effectiveness of a change in control, as defined in the agreement, Mr. Warma will receive 18 months of salary and COBRA reimbursement and a payment equal to 45% of base salary in lieu of any potential bonus, in addition to any earned but unpaid bonus. In addition, all vesting of options will accelerate in full. Any payment or benefit Mr. Warma might receive upon a change of control which would constitute a "parachute payment" under Section 280G of the Internal Revenue Code will be reduced so as not to trigger excise tax under Section 4999 of such Code. Mr. Warma's agreement also provides that for a 12-month period following his termination of employment, he will not engage or participate in any competitive business or solicit or recruit any of Opexa's employees. The severance and change of control benefits are subject to Mr. Warma executing and delivering a general release and waiver of claims in favor of Opexa.

We entered into an amended and restated employment agreement with Donna R. Rill on April 21, 2010 which is effective as of April 1, 2010, pursuant to which Ms. Rill serves as our Senior Vice President of Operations and Quality Systems. This agreement superseded Ms. Rill's prior agreement. Ms. Rill is currently compensated at the rate of \$220,000 per annum and is eligible to receive an annual discretionary bonus of up to 20% of her base salary per 12-month period, based on the achievement of objectives as determined by Opexa's Board and Chief

Executive Officer. In addition, Ms. Rill receives our standard benefits and insurance coverage as generally provided to our management, as well as contractual indemnification rights by reason of her service as an officer and employee. Ms. Rill's employment may be terminated at any time voluntarily by her or without cause (as defined in the agreement) by the Board. If her employment is terminated by the Board without cause, Ms. Rill will be entitled to receive a severance payment equal to six months of her base salary and vesting for any unvested stock options will accelerate by six additional months. The severance benefits are subject to Ms. Rill having been continuously employed through the termination event, executing and delivering a general release and waiver of claims in favor of Opexa, not being in breach of the employment agreement or Opexa's proprietary information and inventions agreement, and not engaging in any activity which is competitive with Opexa during the term of the employment agreement or while receiving the severance benefits. The timing of any payments to Ms. Rill under the employment agreement is subject to applicable requirements of Section 409A of the Code and the related Treasury Regulations.

We entered into an amended and restated employment agreement with Jaye L. Thompson, Ph.D., on June 27, 2011, pursuant to which Dr. Thompson serves as our Senior Vice President of Clinical Development and Regulatory Affairs. This agreement superseded Dr. Thompson's prior agreement dated November 16, 2009. Dr. Thompson is currently compensated at the rate of \$220,000 per annum and is eligible to receive an annual discretionary bonus of up to 20% of her base salary per 12-month period, based upon the achievement of objectives as determined by Opexa's Board and Chief Executive Officer. In addition, Dr. Thompson receives our standard benefits and insurance coverage as generally provided to our management. Dr. Thompson's employment may be terminated at any time voluntarily by her or without cause (as defined in the agreement) by the Board. If her employment is terminated by the Board without cause, Dr. Thompson will be entitled to receive a severance payment equal to six months of her base salary. In addition, in the event of a change of control (as defined in the agreement) and Dr. Thompson's employment is terminated without cause or Dr. Thompson resigns for good reason (as defined in the agreement) within 12 months of such change of control, Dr. Thompson will be entitled to receive a severance payment equal to six months of her base salary and all unvested equity awards will immediately vest in full and become exercisable pursuant to their terms. The severance benefits are subject to Dr. Thompson having been continuously employed through the termination event, executing and delivering a general release and waiver of claims in favor of Opexa, not being in material breach of the employment agreement or Opexa's proprietary information and inventions agreement, and not engaging in any activity which is competitive with Opexa during the term of the employment agreement or while receiving the severance benefits. The timing of any payments to Dr. Thompson under the employment agreement is subject to applicable requirements of Section 409A of the Code and the related Treasury Regulations.

### ***2011 Grants of Plan Based Awards***

The following table presents information regarding stock options granted during the fiscal year ended December 31, 2011 pursuant to our 2010 Stock Incentive Plan to our Named Executive Officers.

<b>Name</b>	<b>Grant Date</b>	<b>Number of Securities Underlying Options</b>	<b>Exercise Price of Option Awards</b>	<b>Grant Date Fair Value of Options<sup>(1)</sup></b>
Neil K. Warma	01/04/11	75,000 <sup>(2)</sup>	\$1.56	\$115,051
Donna R. Rill	01/04/11	25,000 <sup>(2)</sup>	\$1.56	\$38,350
Jaye L. Thompson	01/04/11	25,000 <sup>(2)</sup>	\$1.56	\$38,350

(1) Amounts in this column represent the aggregate grant date fair value of awards computed in accordance with Financial Accounting Standards Board Accounting Standards Codification Topic 718. See Note 9 to our financial statements included in our annual report on Form 10-K for assumptions underlying the valuation of equity awards.

(2) The shares vest quarterly over a three-year period from the grant date.

## 2011 Outstanding Equity Awards at Fiscal Year-End

The following table presents information regarding outstanding equity awards at December 31, 2011 for each of the Named Executive Officers.

Name	Option Awards		Option Exercise Price	Option Expiration Date
	Number of Securities Underlying Unexercised Options (#) Exercisable	Number of Securities Underlying Unexercised Options (#) Unexercisable		
Neil K. Warma .....	250,000	—	\$1.01	06/16/18
	150,000	—	\$0.22	01/16/19
	66,667	33,333 <sup>(1)</sup>	\$2.05	11/30/19
	18,750	56,250 <sup>(1)</sup>	\$1.56	01/04/21
Donna R. Rill .....	6,000	—	\$7.00	12/05/15
	23,380	—	\$5.00	04/20/16
	32,000	—	\$5.47	06/18/17
	3,000	—	\$1.09	05/06/18
	33,000	—	\$1.17	06/26/18
	40,000	—	\$0.22	01/16/19
	8,396	—	\$0.47	02/06/19
	33,333	16,667 <sup>(1)</sup>	\$2.05	11/30/19
6,250	18,750 <sup>(1)</sup>	\$1.56	01/04/21	
Jaye L. Thompson .....	33,333	16,667 <sup>(1)</sup>	\$2.05	11/30/19
	6,250	18,750 <sup>(1)</sup>	\$1.56	01/04/21

(1) The shares vest quarterly over a three-year period from the grant date.

### Certain Relationships and Related Transactions

Entities affiliated with director Scott B. Seaman invested an aggregate of \$1.3 million principal amount in our 12% convertible secured promissory notes which were issued in a private offering of notes and warrants to purchase shares of our common stock pursuant to a Note Purchase Agreement dated July 25, 2012. An aggregate of \$4.085 million in principal amount of notes was issued in the offering and is currently outstanding. The notes mature on July 25, 2014 and accrue interest at the rate of 12% per annum, compounded annually. Interest is payable semi-annually on June 30 and December 31, commencing December 31, 2012, in either cash or registered shares of our common stock at our election. The notes are secured by substantially all of our tangible and intangible assets, and \$1 million of the proceeds is held in a controlled account. Alkek & Williams Ventures Ltd. acts as the collateral agent for the noteholders. The notes are convertible into a new class of non-voting Series A convertible preferred stock, subject to certain limitations and adjustments, which is ultimately convertible into common stock. The warrants have an exercise price of \$1.25 per share, a five-year term and are exercisable for 75% of the number of shares of common stock into which the notes are ultimately convertible, subject to certain limitations and adjustments. The investors have certain registration rights relating to the shares of common stock underlying the Series A convertible preferred stock and the warrants. The Note Purchase Agreement contains an expansion option whereby the Company may request, upon certain conditions, that the investors purchase additional notes and warrants, subject to the consent of holders of at least 75% of the issued notes.

Convertible secured notes and warrants to purchase common stock were issued to investors affiliated with Mr. Seaman in the following amounts:

	Principal <u>Amount of Note</u>	Number of Shares <u>Subject to Warrant</u>
Alkek & Williams Ventures Ltd.	\$500,000	468,750
Albert and Margaret Alkek Foundation	\$300,000	281,250
DLD Family Investments, LLC	\$500,000	468,750

See footnotes 2, 4 and 6 to the “Beneficial Ownership Table” for a description of the relationship between and among Mr. Seaman and each of these investors, each of whom is also a beneficial owner of more than five percent of our outstanding common stock.

Directors and executive officers David E. Jorden and Neil K. Warma also participated in the note offering and invested \$115,000 and \$15,000, respectively, and were issued warrants to purchase 107,813 and 14,063 shares, respectively.

While the Audit Committee of our Board of Directors is generally responsible for oversight and review of any related person transactions, an independent special committee of our Board reviewed and negotiated the terms of the convertible secured note offering and recommended that the offering be approved on behalf of the Company and our Board of Directors.

## SECURITY OWNERSHIP OF PRINCIPAL SHAREHOLDERS AND MANAGEMENT

### Beneficial Ownership

The following table sets forth, as of September 27, 2012, the number and percentage of outstanding shares of our common stock beneficially owned by: (a) each person who is known by us to be the beneficial owner of more than 5% of our outstanding shares of common stock; (b) each of our directors and nominees; (c) the Named Executive Officers; and (d) all current directors and executive officers, as a group. As of September 27, 2012, there were 23,048,488 shares of common stock issued and outstanding.

Beneficial ownership has been determined in accordance with Rule 13d-3 under the Exchange Act. Under this rule, certain shares may be deemed to be beneficially owned by more than one person (if, for example, persons share the power to vote or the power to dispose of the shares). In addition, shares are deemed to be beneficially owned by a person if the person has the right to acquire shares (for example, upon exercise of an option or warrant) within 60 days of the date as of which the information is provided. In computing the percentage ownership of any person, the amount of shares is deemed to include the amount of shares beneficially owned by such person by reason of such acquisition rights. As a result, the percentage of outstanding shares of any person as shown in the following table does not necessarily reflect the person's actual voting power at any particular date.

To our knowledge, except as indicated in the footnotes to this table and pursuant to applicable community property laws, the persons named in the table have sole voting and investment power with respect to all shares of common stock shown as beneficially owned by them.

*Beneficial Ownership Table*

<b>Name and Address of Beneficial Owner<sup>(1)</sup></b>	<b>Number of Shares Owned</b>	<b>Percentage of Class</b>
<b><u>Beneficial Owners of more than 5%:</u></b>		
Albert and Margaret Alkek Foundation <sup>(2)</sup> .....	2,307,965 <sup>(3)</sup>	9.65%
Alkek & Williams Ventures Ltd. <sup>(4)</sup> .....	1,865,814 <sup>(5)</sup>	7.75%
DLD Family Investments, LLC <sup>(6)</sup> .....	1,709,593 <sup>(7)</sup>	7.14%
Charles E. Sheedy <sup>(8)</sup> .....	1,566,923 <sup>(9)</sup>	6.63%
Visium Balanced Master Fund Ltd. <sup>(10)</sup> .....	1,411,785 <sup>(11)</sup>	6.08%
<b><u>Officers and Directors:</u></b>		
Scott B. Seaman <sup>(4)</sup> .....	2,084,308 <sup>(12)</sup>	8.60%
David E. Jordan .....	1,400,319 <sup>(13)</sup>	5.94%
Neil K. Warma .....	640,024 <sup>(14)</sup>	2.71%
Donna R. Rill .....	217,400 <sup>(15)</sup>	*
Michael S. Richman .....	157,339 <sup>(16)</sup>	*
Jaye L. Thompson .....	74,327 <sup>(17)</sup>	*
Gail J. Maderis .....	32,056 <sup>(18)</sup>	*
All directors and executive officers as a group (7 persons)** .....	4,605,773 <sup>(19)</sup>	17.82%

- \* Less than 1%
- \*\* Includes only current directors and officers serving in such capacity as of the date of the table.
- (1) Unless otherwise indicated in the footnotes, the mailing address of the beneficial owner is c/o Opexa Therapeutics, Inc., 2635 Technology Forest Boulevard, The Woodlands, Texas 77381.
- (2) This information is based on the Schedule 13D/A filed with the SEC on August 23, 2012, by Albert and Margaret Alkek Foundation (the "Foundation"), Alkek & Williams Ventures, Ltd. ("Ventures"), Scott Seaman, DLD Family Investments, LLC ("DLD Family"), and the other reporting persons named therein (the "Foundation 13D") and other information available to us. The Foundation acts through an investment committee of its board of directors, which includes Mr. Charles Williams, Mr. Daniel Arnold, Mr. Joe Bailey, Mr. Scott Seaman and Ms. Randa Duncan Williams. Mr. Seaman is the executive director of the Foundation and chairman of the investment committee. The investment committee has sole voting and investment power over all of the shares of common stock beneficially owned by the Foundation. However, pursuant to the Foundation 13D, neither the executive director nor any member of the investment

committee may act individually to vote or sell shares of common stock held by the Foundation; therefore, the Foundation has concluded that no individual committee member is deemed to beneficially own, within the meaning of Rule 13d-3 of the Exchange Act, any shares of common stock held by the Foundation solely by virtue of the fact that he or she is a member of the investment committee. Additionally, pursuant to the Foundation 13D, the Foundation has concluded that because Mr. Seaman, in his capacity as executive director or chairman of the investment committee, cannot act in such capacity to vote or sell shares of common stock held by the Foundation without the approval of the investment committee, he is not deemed to beneficially own, within the meaning of Rule 13d-3 of the Exchange Act, any shares of common stock held by the Foundation by virtue of his position as executive director or chairman of the investment committee. The mailing address of the beneficial owner is 1100 Louisiana, Suite 5250, Houston, Texas 77002.

- (3) Consisting of: (i) 1,432,965 shares of common stock; (ii) 250,000 shares of common stock underlying Series E warrants; (iii) 250,000 shares of common stock underlying Series G warrants; (iv) and 375,000 shares of common stock issuable if the 12% convertible secured promissory note was converted to Series A convertible preferred stock which was then ultimately converted into common stock. Pursuant to the Foundation 13D, the Foundation and other reporting persons named therein may be deemed to constitute a group for purposes of Section 13(d) or Section 13(g) of the Exchange Act. However, the Foundation, Ventures, Chaswil, Ltd. and Mr. Seaman expressly disclaim (i) that, for purposes of Section 13(d) or Section 13(g) of the Exchange Act, they are a member of a group with respect to securities of Opexa held by DLD Family, Mr. Arnold, Mr. Bailey or Ms. Williams and (ii) that they have agreed to act together with DLD Family, Mr. Arnold, Mr. Bailey or Ms. Williams as a group other than as described in the Foundation 13D. Therefore, this does not include the following securities: (i) 804,593 shares of common stock held by DLD Family; (ii) 100,000 shares of common stock underlying Series E warrants held by DLD Family; (iii) 100,000 shares of common stock underlying Series G warrants held by DLD Family; (iv) 80,000 shares of common stock underlying Series H warrants held by DLD Family; (v) 625,000 shares of common stock issuable if the 12% convertible secured promissory note held by DLD Family was converted to Series A convertible preferred stock which was then ultimately converted into common stock; (vi) 26,667 shares of common stock held by Mr. Arnold; (vii) 50,000 shares of common stock held by Mr. Bailey; (viii) 840,814 shares of common stock held by Ventures; (ix) 200,000 shares of common stock underlying Series E warrants held by Ventures; (x) 200,000 shares of common stock underlying Series G warrants held by Ventures; (xi) 625,000 shares of common stock issuable if the 12% convertible secured promissory note held by Ventures was converted to Series A convertible preferred stock which was then ultimately converted into common stock; (xii) 43,655 shares of common stock held by Mr. Seaman; (xiii) 10,000 shares of common stock underlying Series E warrants held by Mr. Seaman; and (xiv) 164,839 shares of common stock underlying currently exercisable stock options held by Mr. Seaman.
- (4) Chaswil, Ltd. is the investment manager of Ventures and holds voting power and investment power with respect to Company securities held by Ventures pursuant to a written agreement. Scott B. Seaman is a principal of Chaswil, Ltd. and has shared voting power and shared investment power over all of the shares of common stock beneficially owned by Ventures. The information in this footnote is primarily based on the Foundation 13D and other information provided to us. The mailing address of the beneficial owner is 1100 Louisiana, Suite 5250, Houston, Texas 77002.
- (5) Consisting of: (i) 840,814 shares of common stock; (ii) 200,000 shares of common stock underlying Series E warrants; (iii) 200,000 shares of common stock underlying Series G warrants; and (iv) 625,000 shares of common stock issuable if the 12% convertible secured promissory note was converted to Series A convertible preferred stock which was then ultimately converted into common stock.
- (6) Randa Duncan Williams is the principal of DLD Family and she may be deemed to exercise voting and investment power with respect to such shares. The information in this footnote is primarily based on the Foundation 13D and other information provided to us. The mailing address of the beneficial owner is P.O. Box 4735, Houston, Texas 77210-4735.
- (7) Consisting of: (i) 804,593 shares of common stock; (ii) 100,000 shares of common stock underlying Series E warrants; (iii) 100,000 shares of common stock underlying Series G warrants; (iv) 80,000 shares of common stock underlying Series H warrants; and (v) 625,000 shares of common stock issuable if the 12% convertible secured promissory note was converted to Series A convertible preferred stock which was then ultimately converted into common stock.
- (8) Charles E. Sheedy exercises sole voting and dispositive power over all of the shares of common stock beneficially owned. The information in this footnote is primarily based on information reported on the

- Schedule 13G/A filed with the SEC on February 11, 2011 by Charles E. Sheedy and other information available to us. The mailing address of the beneficial owner is 909 Fannin Street, Suite 2907, Houston, Texas 77010.
- (9) Consisting of: (i) 998,423 shares of common stock; (ii) 150,000 shares of common stock underlying Series E warrants; (iii) 50,000 shares of common stock underlying Series G warrants; and (iv) 56,000 shares of common stock underlying Series H warrants; and (v) 312,500 shares of common stock issuable if the 12% convertible secured promissory note was converted to Series A convertible preferred stock which was then ultimately converted into common stock.
  - (10) This information is based on the Schedule 13G filed with the SEC on February 10, 2012, by Visium Balanced Master Fund, Ltd. (“Visium”), Visium Asset Management, LP (“VAM”), JG Asset, LLC (“JGA”), and Jacob Gottlieb (the “Visium 13G”) and other information available to us. Pursuant to the Visium 13G, (i) as investment manager to the pooled investment funds, VAM may be deemed to beneficially own the shares beneficially owned by the funds, (ii) as general partner to VAM, JGA may be deemed to beneficially own the shares beneficially owned by VAM, and (iii) as managing member of JGA, Mr. Gottlieb may be deemed the beneficial owner of the shares beneficially owned by JGA, and he has sole voting and dispositive power over the shares. VAM, JGA and Mr. Gottlieb disclaim beneficial ownership of the securities, except to the extent of his or its pecuniary interest therein. The mailing address of the beneficial owner is 950 Third Avenue, New York, NY 10022.
  - (11) Consisting of: (i) 1,219,785 shares of common stock and (ii) 192,000 shares of common stock underlying Series H warrants.
  - (12) Consisting of: (i) 840,814 shares of common stock held by Ventures; (ii) 200,000 shares of common stock underlying Series E warrants held by Ventures; (iii) 200,000 shares of common stock underlying Series G warrants held by Ventures; (iv) 625,000 shares of common stock issuable if the 12% convertible secured promissory note held by Ventures was converted to Series A convertible preferred stock which was then ultimately converted into common stock; (v) 164,839 shares underlying currently exercisable stock options held by Mr. Seaman; (vi) 10,000 shares of common stock underlying Series E warrants held by Mr. Seaman; and (vii) 43,655 shares of common stock held by Mr. Seaman. (See footnotes 4 and 5 for additional discussion of the information set forth in clauses (i) through (iv) of the preceding sentence.) Pursuant to the Foundation 13D, this does not include the following shares which Mr. Seaman has determined he does not have beneficial ownership of or has disclaimed beneficial ownership: (i) 1,432,965 shares of common stock held by the Foundation; (ii) 250,000 shares of common stock underlying Series E warrants held by the Foundation; (iii) 250,000 shares of common stock underlying Series G warrants held by the Foundation; and (iv) 375,000 shares of common stock issuable if the 12% convertible secured promissory note held by the Foundation was converted to Series A convertible preferred stock which was then ultimately converted into common stock. (See footnotes 2 and 3 for additional discussion of the information set forth in clauses (i) through (iv) of the preceding sentence.) The mailing address of the beneficial owner is 1100 Louisiana, Suite 5250, Houston, Texas 77002.
  - (13) Consisting of: (i) 890,000 shares of common stock; (ii) 145,000 shares of common stock underlying Series E warrants; (iii) 100,000 shares of common stock underlying Series G warrants; (iv) 143,750 shares of common stock issuable if the 12% convertible secured promissory note was converted to Series A convertible preferred stock which was then ultimately converted into common stock; and (v) 121,569 shares of common stock underlying currently exercisable stock options.
  - (14) Consisting of: (i) 32,234 shares of common stock; (ii) 10,000 shares of common stock underlying Series G Warrants; (iii) 18,750 shares of common stock issuable if the 12% convertible secured promissory note was converted to Series A convertible preferred stock which was then ultimately converted into common stock; and (iv) 579,040 shares of common stock underlying currently exercisable stock options.
  - (15) Consisting of: (i) 1,610 shares of common stock and (ii) 215,790 shares of common stock underlying currently exercisable stock options.
  - (16) Consisting of: 157,339 shares of common stock underlying currently exercisable stock options.
  - (17) Consisting of: (i) 4,313 shares of common stock and (ii) 70,014 shares of common stock underlying currently exercisable stock options.
  - (18) Consisting of: 32,056 shares of common stock underlying currently exercisable stock options.
  - (19) Consisting of: (a) the following held by Mr. Seaman or for which Mr. Seaman may be deemed to have voting and investment power: (i) 840,814 shares of common stock held by Ventures; (ii) 200,000 shares of common stock underlying Series E warrants held by Ventures; (iii) 200,000 shares of common stock underlying Series G warrants held by Ventures; (iv) 625,000 shares of common stock issuable if the 12%

convertible secured promissory note held by Ventures was converted to Series A convertible preferred stock which was then ultimately converted into common stock; (v) 164,839 shares of common stock underlying currently exercisable stock options held by Mr. Seaman; (vi) 10,000 shares of common stock underlying Series E warrants held by Mr. Seaman; and (vii) 43,655 shares of common stock held by Mr. Seaman; (b) the following held by Mr. Jordan: (i) 890,000 shares of common stock; (ii) 145,000 shares of common stock underlying Series E warrants; (iii) 100,000 shares underlying Series G warrants; (iv) 143,750 shares of common stock issuable if the 12% convertible secured promissory note was converted to Series A convertible preferred stock which was then ultimately converted into common stock; and (v) 121,569 shares of common stock underlying currently exercisable stock options; (c) the following held by Mr. Warma: (i) 32,234 shares of common stock; (ii) 10,000 shares of common stock underlying Series G warrants; (iii) 18,750 shares of common stock issuable if the 12% convertible secured promissory note was converted to Series A convertible preferred stock which was then ultimately converted into common stock; and (iv) 579,040 shares of common stock underlying currently exercisable stock options; (d) 1,610 shares of common stock and 215,790 shares of common stock underlying currently exercisable stock options held by Ms. Rill; (e) 157,339 shares of common stock underlying currently exercisable stock options held by Mr. Richman; (f) 4,313 shares of common stock and 70,014 shares of common stock underlying currently exercisable stock options held by Dr. Thompson; and (g) 32,056 shares of common stock underlying currently exercisable stock options held by Ms. Maderis.

### **Section 16(a) Beneficial Ownership Reporting Compliance**

Section 16(a) of the Exchange Act requires our directors and executive officers, and persons who own more than 10% of a registered class of our equity securities, to file with the SEC initial reports of ownership and reports of changes in ownership. These reporting persons are required by SEC regulations to furnish us with copies of all such reports they file. To our knowledge, based solely on our review of the copies of such reports furnished to us and written representations from certain insiders that no other reports were required, we believe all of the reporting persons complied with all Section 16(a) filing requirements applicable to them with respect to transactions during the fiscal year ended December 31, 2011.

### **HOUSEHOLDING**

The SEC has adopted rules that permit companies and intermediaries (e.g., brokers) to satisfy the delivery requirements for proxy statements and annual reports with respect to two or more shareholders sharing the same address by delivering a single proxy statement addressed to those shareholders. This process, which is commonly referred to as “householding,” potentially means extra convenience for shareholders and cost savings for companies.

A number of brokers with account holders who are our shareholders may be “householding” our proxy materials. If householding is in effect, a single proxy statement will be delivered to multiple shareholders sharing an address unless contrary instructions have been received from the affected shareholders. Once you have received notice from your broker that they will be “householding” communications to your address, “householding” will continue until you are notified otherwise or until you revoke your consent. If, at any time, you no longer wish to participate in “householding” and would prefer to receive a separate copy of the proxy statement and annual report, please notify your broker. Shareholders who currently receive multiple copies of the proxy statement and/or annual report at their address and would like to request “householding” of their communications should contact their broker. We will deliver a separate set of proxy materials promptly upon written or oral request from a shareholder. Please direct any such requests to Investor Relations, Opexa Therapeutics, Inc., 2635 Technology Forest Blvd., The Woodlands, Texas 77381, or call Investor Relations at (281) 272-9331.

## **OTHER BUSINESS**

The Board knows of no other business to come before the Annual Meeting. However, if any other matters are properly brought before the Annual Meeting, the person named in the accompanying form of proxy or his or their substitutes will vote in their discretion on those matters.

**By Order of the Board of Directors**

**Neil K. Warma**  
**President and Chief Executive Officer**

October 9, 2012  
The Woodlands, Texas

WHETHER OR NOT YOU PLAN TO ATTEND THE ANNUAL MEETING, PLEASE COMPLETE, SIGN, DATE, AND PROMPTLY RETURN THE ACCOMPANYING PROXY IN THE ENCLOSED ENVELOPE OR USE ONE OF THE VOTING METHODS DESCRIBED IN THE ATTACHED MATERIALS. YOU MAY REVOKE YOUR PROXY AT ANY TIME PRIOR TO THE ANNUAL MEETING. IF YOU DECIDE TO ATTEND THE ANNUAL MEETING AND WISH TO CHANGE YOUR PROXY VOTE, YOU MAY DO SO AUTOMATICALLY BY VOTING IN PERSON AT THE MEETING. IF YOUR SHARES ARE HELD OF RECORD BY A BROKER, BANK OR OTHER NOMINEE AND YOU WISH TO ATTEND AND VOTE IN PERSON AT THE MEETING, YOU MUST OBTAIN FROM THE RECORD HOLDER A LEGAL PROXY ISSUED IN YOUR NAME.

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION TO THIS MATTER. YOUR PROMPT RESPONSE WILL GREATLY FACILITATE ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE ANNUAL MEETING.**

If you need additional copies of this Proxy Statement or the enclosed proxy card, or if you have other questions about the proposals or how to vote your shares, you may contact our proxy solicitor:

**ADVANTAGE PROXY**  
**(877) 870-8565 (toll free)**

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## Appendix A

### CERTIFICATE OF AMENDMENT TO THE RESTATED CERTIFICATE OF FORMATION OF OPEXA THERAPEUTICS, INC.

Pursuant to the provisions of Section 3.053 of the Texas Business Organizations Code, Opexa Therapeutics, Inc., a Texas corporation (the "Corporation"), hereby adopts the following Certificate of Amendment to its Restated Certificate of Formation (the "Restated Certificate").

#### ARTICLE I.

The name of the Corporation is Opexa Therapeutics, Inc. The file number issued to the Corporation by the Secretary of State of the State of Texas is 118585600 and the date of formation of the Corporation is March 15, 1991.

#### ARTICLE II.

The Restated Certificate is hereby amended by adding the following paragraph to the end of Article IV:

"Upon this Certificate of Amendment to the Restated Certificate of Formation becoming effective pursuant to the Texas Business Organizations Code of the State of Texas (the "Effective Date"), each share of Common Stock, par value \$0.01 per share (the "Old Common Stock"), issued and outstanding immediately prior to the Effective Date, shall be, and hereby is, reclassified as and changed into [one-Xth (1/Xth)]<sup>3</sup> of a share of Common Stock, par value \$0.01 per share (the "New Common Stock"). Each outstanding stock certificate which immediately prior to the Effective Date represented one or more shares of Old Common Stock shall thereafter, automatically and without the necessity of surrendering the same for exchange, represent the number of whole shares of New Common Stock determined by multiplying the number of shares of Old Common Stock represented by such certificate immediately prior to the Effective Date by [one-Xth (1/Xth)] and rounding such number down to the nearest whole integer, and shares of Old Common Stock held in uncertificated form shall be treated in the same manner. The Corporation shall not be required to issue or deliver any fractional shares of New Common Stock. Each holder of such New Common Stock shall be entitled to receive for such fractional interest, and at the Effective Date any such fractional interest in such shares of New Common Stock shall be converted into the right to receive, an amount in cash, without interest, determined by multiplying (i) such fractional share interest to which the holder would otherwise be entitled by (ii) the closing sale price of the Common Stock (on a post-reverse-split basis as adjusted for the amendment effected hereby) on the trading day immediately prior to the Effective Date on The NASDAQ Stock Market, or if the principal exchange on which the Common Stock is then traded is other than The NASDAQ Stock Market, such exchange as may be applicable. Shares of Common Stock that were outstanding prior to the Effective Date and that are not outstanding after the Effective Date shall resume the status of authorized but unissued shares of Common Stock."

#### ARTICLE III.

This Certificate of Amendment to the Restated Certificate has been approved in the manner required by the Texas Business Organizations Code and by the governing documents of the Corporation.

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<sup>3</sup> "1/X" represents a fraction, within the range of 1-for-2 to 1-for-4, inclusive, to be determined by the Board of Directors, such that references to "1/X" or "1/Xth" are to a number no less than 1/2 and no greater than 1/4, as selected by the Board of Directors.

**ARTICLE IV.**

This Certificate of Amendment shall become effective on [\_\_\_\_\_].

The undersigned signs this document subject to the penalties imposed by law for the submission of a materially false or fraudulent instrument and certifies under penalty of perjury that the undersigned is authorized under the provisions of law governing the entity to execute the filing instrument.

Dated: [\_\_\_\_\_]

\_\_\_\_\_  
Neil K. Warma  
President and Chief Executive Officer

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

FORM 10-K

ANNUAL REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(D) OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934

For the fiscal year ended December 31, 2011

TRANSITION REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(D) OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934

Commission File Number: 001-33004



**Opexa Therapeutics, Inc.**

SEC  
Mail Processing  
Section  
OCT 11 2012  
Washington DC  
400

(Exact Name of Registrant as Specified in Its Charter)

Texas

76-0333165

(State or Other Jurisdiction of  
Incorporation or Organization)

(IRS Employer  
Identification No.)

2635 Technology Forest Blvd., The Woodlands, Texas

77381

(Address of Principal Executive Offices)

(Zip Code)

Registrant's Telephone Number, Including Area Code: (281) 272-9331

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

**Title of Each Class**  
Common Stock, \$.01 par value per share  
Series E Common Stock Purchase Warrants

**Name of Each Exchange on Which Registered**  
The NASDAQ Stock Market LLC  
The NASDAQ Stock Market LLC

Securities registered pursuant to Section 12(g) of the Act: None

Indicate by check mark if the registrant is a well-known seasoned issuer, as defined in Rule 405 of the Securities Act. Yes  No

Indicate by check mark if the registrant is not required to file reports pursuant to Section 13 or Section 15(d) of the Act. Yes  No

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant (1) has filed all reports required to be filed by Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 during the preceding 12 months (or for such shorter period that the registrant was required to file such reports) and (2) has been subject to such filing requirements for the past 90 days. Yes  No

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant has submitted electronically and posted on its corporate Web site, if any, every Interactive Data File required to be submitted and posted pursuant to Rule 405 of Regulation S-T during the preceding 12 months (or for such shorter period that the registrant was required to submit and post such files). Yes  No

Indicate by check mark if disclosure of delinquent filers pursuant to Item 405 of Regulation S-K is not contained herein, and will not be contained, to the best of registrant's knowledge, in definitive proxy or information statements incorporated by reference in Part III of this Form 10-K or any amendment to this Form 10-K.

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a large accelerated filer, an accelerated filer, a non-accelerated filer, or a smaller reporting company. See the definitions of "large accelerated filer," "accelerated filer" and "smaller reporting company" in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act. (check one):

Large accelerated  
filer

Accelerated  
filer

Non-accelerated filer

Smaller reporting  
company

(Do not check if a smaller reporting company)

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a shell company (as defined in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act). Yes  No

The aggregate market value of the voting and non-voting common equity held by non-affiliates of the registrant as of June 30, 2011 based upon the closing price as of such date was \$28,516,172.

As of February 15, 2012, 23,048,488 shares of the registrant's common stock, par value \$0.01 per share, were outstanding.

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*Tovaxin® is a trademark of Opexa Therapeutics, Inc. All other product and company names are trademarks of their respective owner.*

## **Forward Looking Statements**

*Statements contained in this report, other than statements of historical fact, constitute “forward-looking statements.” The words “expects,” “believes,” “anticipates,” “estimates,” “may,” “could,” “intends,” and similar expressions are intended to identify forward-looking statements. In particular, these forward-looking statements may be found, among other places, under the headings “Business,” “Risk Factors” and “Management’s Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations.” These forward-looking statements do not constitute guarantees of future performance. Investors are cautioned that statements which are not strictly historical statements, including, without limitation, statements regarding current or future financial payments, returns, royalties, performance and position, management’s strategy, plans and objectives for future operations, plans and objectives for product development, plans and objectives for present and future clinical trials and results of such trials, plans and objectives for regulatory approval, litigation, intellectual property, product development, manufacturing plans and performance, and management’s initiatives and strategies, constitute forward-looking statements. Such forward-looking statements are subject to a number of risks and uncertainties that could cause actual results to differ materially from those anticipated. These risks and uncertainties include, but are not limited to, those risks discussed in “Risk Factors,” as well as, without limitation, risks associated with: our capital position, our ability to enter into and benefit from a partnering arrangement for our product candidate, Tovaxin, on reasonably satisfactory terms (if at all), and our dependence (if partnered) on the resources and abilities of any partner for the further development of Tovaxin, our ability to compete with larger, better financed pharmaceutical and biotechnology companies, new approaches to the treatment of our targeted diseases, our expectation of incurring continued losses, our uncertainty of developing a marketable product, our ability to raise additional capital to continue our treatment development program and to undertake and complete any further clinical studies for Tovaxin, the success of our clinical trials, the efficacy of Tovaxin for any particular indication, such as for RR-MS or SP-MS, our ability to develop and commercialize products, our ability to obtain required regulatory approvals, our compliance with all Food and Drug Administration regulations, our ability to obtain, maintain and protect intellectual property rights (including for Tovaxin), the risk of litigation regarding our intellectual property rights, the success of third party development and commercialization efforts with respect to products covered by intellectual property rights that we may license or transfer, our limited manufacturing capabilities, our dependence on third-party manufacturers, our ability to hire and retain skilled personnel, our volatile stock price, and other risks detailed in our filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission. These forward-looking statements speak only as of the date of this report. We assume no obligation or undertaking to update or revise any forward-looking statements contained herein to reflect any changes in its expectations with regard thereto or any change in events, conditions or circumstances on which any such statement is based. You should, however, review additional disclosures we make in the reports we file with the SEC.*

## PART I

### Item 1. Business.

#### Overview

Unless otherwise indicated, we use “Opexa,” “the Company,” “we,” “our” and “us” in this annual report to refer to the businesses of Opexa Therapeutics, Inc.

We are a biopharmaceutical company developing personalized cellular therapies with the potential to treat major illnesses, including multiple sclerosis (MS). These therapies are based on our proprietary T-cell technology. Information related to our product candidates is preliminary and investigative. Our product candidates are not approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA).

Our lead product candidate, Tovaxin®, is a personalized T-cell therapeutic vaccine licensed from Baylor College of Medicine, which is in clinical development for the treatment of MS.

Opexa was incorporated in Texas in March 1991. Our principal executive offices are located at 2635 Technology Forest Blvd., The Woodlands, Texas 77381, and our telephone number is (281) 775-0600.

#### T-Cell Therapy and Tovaxin®

Tovaxin® is a novel T-cell immunotherapy positioned to enter Phase IIb clinical development for the treatment of secondary progressive MS (SP-MS) as well as Phase III clinical development for the treatment of relapsing remitting MS (RR-MS). It is a personalized therapy that is specifically tailored to each patient’s disease profile. Tovaxin is manufactured using our proprietary method for the production of a patient-specific T-cell immunotherapy, which encompasses the collection of blood from the MS patient, isolation of peripheral blood mononuclear cells, generation of an autologous pool of myelin-reactive T-cells (MRTCs) raised against selected peptides from myelin basic protein (MBP), myelin oligodendrocyte glycoprotein (MOG) and proteolipid protein (PLP), and the return of these expanded, irradiated T-cells back to the patient. These attenuated T-cells are reintroduced into the patient via subcutaneous injection to trigger a therapeutic immune system response.

#### Summary of TERMS Phase IIb Clinical Trial Data

*Tovaxin for Early Relapsing Multiple Sclerosis (TERMS)* was a Phase IIb clinical study of Tovaxin in RR-MS patients. Although the study did not show statistical significance in its primary endpoint (the cumulative number of gadolinium-enhanced brain lesions using MRI scans summed at various points in the study), the study showed compelling evidence of efficacy in various clinical and other MRI endpoints.

The TERMS study was a multi-center, randomized, double blind, placebo-controlled trial in 150 patients with RR-MS or high risk Clinically Isolated Syndrome. Patients received a total of five subcutaneous injections at weeks 0, 4, 8, 12 and 24. Key results from the TERMS trial include:

- In the modified intent to treat patient population (n=142), the annualized relapse rate (ARR) for Tovaxin-treated patients was 0.214 as compared to 0.339 for placebo-treated patients, which represented a 37% decrease in ARR for Tovaxin as compared to placebo in the general population;
- In a prospective group of patients with more active disease (ARR>1, n=50), Tovaxin demonstrated a 55% reduction in ARR as compared to placebo, and a 73% reduction in relapse rate was observed in Tovaxin patients in this population compared to placebo during the 24-week period following the administration of the full course of treatment; and
- In a retrospective analysis in patients naïve to previous disease modifying treatment (*i.e.*, patients who had not previously used any drugs other than steroids to treat their disease), the results showed that patients, when treated with Tovaxin, had a 64% reduction in ARR versus placebo (p=0.046, n=70).

Tovaxin has demonstrated a favorable side effect profile throughout the clinical development program. In four clinical trials to date, including the Phase IIb TERMS trial, there have been no serious adverse events associated with Tovaxin treatment. The most common side effect is mild to moderate irritation at the site of injection, which is typically resolved in 24 hours. We believe the favorable safety profile of Tovaxin is a key differentiator when compared to marketed or other developmental MS drugs.

#### T-Cell Therapy Regulatory and Development Status

In late 2010, we conducted formal End of Phase II meetings with the FDA regarding our planned development program for Tovaxin. These consisted of two separate meetings to review both the complete Tovaxin manufacturing process as well as the prospective clinical trial plan for Tovaxin. The first meeting focused on the improvements and modifications we have incorporated into Tovaxin’s manufacturing and CMC (chemistry, manufacturing and control) process in an effort to improve efficiency, reduce overall costs and implement commercial stage requirements. As part of this meeting, we presented data and details supporting an

optimized manufacturing process, including a transition to fewer process steps, comparability plans and complete reagent profiles. The FDA agreed that the optimized Tovaxin manufacturing process would meet the requirements for a pivotal Phase III clinical trial, although additional supporting data is expected to be submitted to the FDA prior to initiating such a study.

During the second meeting we presented our rationale and trial design for a Phase III pivotal study of Tovaxin in RR-MS patients. The FDA concurred in general with our proposed clinical trial protocol, including the patient population, end points, patient numbers and overall trial design. The FDA also offered several recommendations to further enhance such a Phase III trial in RR-MS.

In 2011, we submitted our data, rationale and additional background information to support the SP-MS indication. Upon review of the dossier, the FDA granted us Fast Track designation for Tovaxin in SP-MS. The FDA's Fast Track program is designed to facilitate the development and expedite the review of drugs intended to treat serious or life-threatening conditions and that demonstrate the potential to address unmet medical need. SP-MS is characterized by a steady accrual of irreversible disability, despite, in some cases, reversible relapses, remissions or clinical plateau. Only one product is currently approved in the United States specifically for the indication of SP-MS, and we believe that a significant unmet need exists for the safe and effective treatment of SP-MS.

Based on this positive FDA milestone, our encouraging data in SP-MS and supportive discussions with key opinion leaders, clinicians and patients, we have accelerated our plans for SP-MS and are currently planning to initiate a Phase IIb clinical trial of Tovaxin in SP-MS patients, subject to securing the necessary resources to conduct such a trial. We also remain committed to further advancing Tovaxin in RR-MS at a later date. For Opexa, moving forward in progressive MS, an area which we believe represents a higher unmet medical need, could further differentiate the Company and Tovaxin from other MS treatments.

A Phase IIb clinical study in North America of Tovaxin in SP-MS is expected to involve 180 patients and take approximately three years to complete. If we are able to commence such a study in the first half of 2012, the costs of such study as well as the ongoing expenses of our operations through the expected completion date of such study are estimated at approximately \$32 million. Our existing resources are not adequate to permit us to proceed materially beyond the initiation of such a study (*i.e.*, the dosing of the first patient) or to complete such study or any significant portion of it. Unless we secure at least a substantial portion of the additional resources that will be necessary to complete the planned Phase IIb study and support our operations during the pendency of such study, or we are reasonably confident that such resources will be secured, we would likely not proceed with the initiation of such study.

Given our need for substantial amounts of capital to undertake a Phase IIb clinical study in North America of Tovaxin in SP-MS, we intend to continue to explore potential opportunities and alternatives to obtain the significant additional resources that will be necessary to complete the planned Phase IIb study and to support our operations during the pendency of such study. In addition to one or more additional financings, these opportunities and alternatives may include a partnering arrangement with a large biotech or pharmaceutical company. There can be no assurance that any such financings or partnering arrangement can be consummated on acceptable terms, if at all.

## **Other Opportunities**

Our proprietary T-cell technology has enabled us to develop intellectual property and a comprehensive sample database that may enable discovery of novel biomarkers and other relevant peptides to be used to treat MS patients.

## **Stem Cell Therapy**

In 2009, Novartis Pharmaceuticals acquired our stem cell technology platform and took over all future responsibilities and opportunities for this technology, although we retained an option on certain manufacturing rights. As part of the transaction, we were paid an upfront fee of \$3 million and a milestone payment of \$500,000 for certain technology transfer activities. Preliminary data for this technology, which had been in early preclinical development at Opexa prior to the 2009 sale, has shown the potential to generate monocyte derived islet cells from peripheral blood mononuclear cells.

In November 2011, we re-acquired the stem cell assets from Novartis in consideration for releasing Novartis from any further payment obligations owed to Opexa by Novartis, including the remaining \$0.5 million technology transfer milestone payment. Novartis had advised us that the advancement of the stem cell program was no longer a priority for Novartis, and that Novartis was willing to transfer the assets back to us in exchange for the release. In connection with the re-acquisition of the stem cell assets from Novartis, a related license agreement with the University of Chicago was assigned back to us. Opexa and the University of Chicago entered into a Fourth Amended and Restated License Agreement in connection with such assignment to Opexa.

## **Our T-Cell Platform**

### ***Multiple Sclerosis—Background***

Multiple sclerosis is a chronic, often disabling disease that attacks the central nervous system (CNS), which is made up of the brain, spinal cord, and optic nerves. Symptoms may be mild, such as numbness in the limbs, or severe, such as paralysis or loss of vision. The progress, severity and specific symptoms of MS are unpredictable and vary from one person to another. There are

approximately 450,000 MS patients in North America and an estimated 2.5 million patients worldwide. Of these, approximately 85% have RR-MS, one-half of whom will develop steadily progressive disease, SP-MS, within 10 years, increasing to 90% within 25 years of MS diagnosis. The MS drug market was approximately \$11 billion in 2010 and is forecasted to reach as much as \$16 billion by 2015.

MS remains a challenging autoimmune disease to treat because the pathophysiologic mechanisms are diverse, and the chronic, unpredictable course of the disease makes it difficult to determine whether the favorable effects of short-term treatment will be sustained. Therapies that are easy to use and can safely prevent or stop the progression of disease represent the greatest unmet need in MS.

In recent years, the understanding of MS pathogenesis has evolved to comprise an initial, T-cell-mediated inflammatory activity followed by selective demyelination (erosion of the myelin coating of the nerve fibers) and then neurodegeneration. The discovery of disease-relevant immune responses has accelerated the development of targeted therapeutic products for the treatment of the early stages of MS.

Some subjects, who have the appropriate genetic background, have increased susceptibility for the *in vivo* activation and expansion of myelin autoreactive T-cells. These myelin autoreactive T-cells may remain dormant, but at some point they are activated in the periphery, thus enabling them to cross the blood-brain barrier (BBB) and infiltrate the healthy tissue of the brain and spinal cord. The cascade of pathogenic events leads to demyelination of protrusions from nerve cells called axons, which causes nerve impulse transmissions to diffuse into the tissue resulting in disability to the individual.

### ***SP-MS Overview***

SP-MS is characterized by a steady accrual of irreversible disability, despite, in some cases, reversible relapses, remissions, or clinical plateaus. Older age at onset of MS diagnosis is the strongest predictor of conversion to SP-MS. Males have a shorter time to conversion to SP-MS compared with females. Available immunomodulating and immunosuppressive therapies used for RR-MS have not been effective in SP-MS. In clinical trials, these therapies have demonstrated anti-inflammatory properties as measured by the reduction in number and volume of contrast-enhancing or acutely inflammatory CNS lesions most commonly seen in patients with RR-MS. The typical SP-MS patient, however, has little or no radiographic evidence of acute inflammation. It is a striking observation that contrast-enhancing CNS lesions are uncommon among these patients, despite a clearly deteriorating neurologic course. The lack of effect of conventional MS therapeutics in SP-MS suggests that the relentless cerebral deterioration characterizing progressive disease may be driven by factors other than acute inflammation. For instance, the immunopathology of SP-MS is more consistent with a transition to a chronic T-cell dependent inflammatory type, which may encompass the innate immune response and persistent activation of microglia cells. Radiographic features that stand out among patients with SP-MS include significantly more atrophy of gray matter compared with RR-MS patients. Of note, long-term disability in MS in general is more closely correlated to gray matter atrophy than to white matter inflammation. Such atrophy is highly predictive of progressive clinical disability. Both clinically and radiographically, SP-MS represents a disease process with features strikingly distinct from those of RR-MS, and one with extremely limited treatment options.

### ***Current Treatment Options for SP-MS***

Only one product, mitoxantrone, is currently approved for the indication of SP-MS. However, as of 2005, this drug carries a black box warning, due to significant risks of decreased systolic function, heart failure, and leukemia. The American Academy of Neurology has issued a report indicating that these risks are even higher than suggested in the original report leading to the black box warning. Hence, a safe and effective treatment for SPMS remains a significant unmet medical need.

### ***Tovaxin Clinical Overview in SP-MS***

A total of 142 MS patients have received Tovaxin to date, with no drug-related serious adverse events reported and an excellent overall safety profile. Clinical benefit of Tovaxin has been suggested by a reduction in relapse rate, slowing of disability progression and relative preservation of whole brain volume. Tovaxin has been administered to a total of 36 subjects with SP-MS across three clinical studies. Safety results as well as preliminary data suggesting stabilized or improved disability among SP-MS subjects receiving Tovaxin suggests that further development of this product in SP-MS is warranted.

### ***Tovaxin for MS***

We believe that Tovaxin works selectively on the myelin autoreactive T-cells by harnessing the body's natural immune defense system and feedback mechanisms to deplete these T-cells and induce favorable immune regulatory responses by rebalancing the immune system. Tovaxin is manufactured by isolating the MRTCs from the blood, expanding them to a therapeutic dose *ex-vivo*, and attenuating them with gamma irradiation to prevent DNA replication. These attenuated MRTCs are then injected subcutaneously into the body in therapeutic dosages. The body recognizes specific T-cell receptor molecules of these MRTCs as foreign and initiates an immune response reaction against them, not only destroying the injected attenuated MRTCs, but also the circulating, myelin autoreactive T-cells carrying the peptide-specific T-cell receptor molecules. In addition, T-cell activation molecules on the surface of

the activated MRTCs used as vaccine induce favorable immune regulatory responses, which promote anti-inflammatory responses. Because the therapy uses an individual's own cells, the only directly identifiable side effect observed thus far is injection site reactions which typically are minor and generally clear within 24 hours.

We believe that this technology platform may have applications in other T-cell mediated autoimmune diseases such as Crohn's disease, psoriasis, rheumatoid arthritis and Type 1 diabetes.

### ***Tovaxin Manufacturing***

We manufacture Tovaxin in our own current Good Manufacturing Practice (cGMP) facility. The technology used to produce Tovaxin is similar to that of traditional microbial vaccine technology, where the pathogen (or the attenuated derivative) is used to derive the protective antigens necessary to induce protective immune responses.

### ***Personalized Therapy***

The clinical symptoms of MS are the result of an immune attack against the myelin sheaths that insulate nerves in the brain and spinal cord that constitute the CNS. A subset of white cells, called T-cells, is the primary orchestrator of this immunity. Tovaxin is an immunotherapy representing an enriched source of the patient's own MRTCs that are used to invoke a protective response to limit further damage to the myelin sheaths within the patient's CNS. Immunity to myelin in terms of the specificity of T-cells for myelin proteins varies between individuals. Therefore, Tovaxin is further personalized by screening the immune response, and detecting those proteins that are preferentially targeted by T-cells on a per patient basis. This is achieved using protein fragments, called peptides, from the three major myelin proteins (MOG, MBP and PLP) as targets to finely map immunity to myelin. A limited number of peptides are chosen to which immunity appears greatest, and the Tovaxin product is manufactured against these peptides. Thus Tovaxin is not only manufactured for each patient, but it is also tailored against each patient's personalized T-cell immune response to myelin. In preparing Tovaxin for a patient, the patient-specific MRTCs are expanded from a unit of whole blood using the selected myelin peptides in the presence of growth factors. Once sufficient numbers of T-cells have been propagated to support the clinical dosing regimen, they are frozen down as individual Tovaxin doses. Prior to clinical use, a frozen Tovaxin dose is thawed, formulated, and attenuated (by irradiation) to render the T-cells unable to replicate, but viable for therapy. After quality control and quality assurance, each dose is shipped overnight to the clinical site for administration over a defined schedule of five subcutaneous injections. Patients will be treated with a new vaccine series (five subcutaneous injections) each year based on their altered disease profile or epitope shift.

### ***Tovaxin Safety and Tolerability***

We believe that Tovaxin treatment selectively targets and depletes the pathogenic T-cell population. It is not a general immune suppressant and, accordingly, it is not associated with the serious side effects seen by those MS treatments that function by systemically suppressing the immune system. In clinical trials conducted to date, there have been no serious adverse events associated with Tovaxin treatment. We believe that this favorable safety profile may be an important advantage as patient compliance represents a significant challenge due to serious side effects associated with many currently available and in development MS treatments.

### **Licenses, Patents and Proprietary Rights**

We believe that proprietary protection of our technologies is critical to the development of our business. We will continue to protect our intellectual property through patents and other appropriate means. We rely upon trade-secret protection for certain confidential and proprietary information and take active measures to control access to that information. We currently have non-disclosure agreements with all of our employees, consultants, vendors, advisory board members and contract research organizations.

The initial T-cell vaccination technology was originally discovered by Dr. Jingwu Zang of Baylor College of Medicine in Houston, Texas. Baylor granted Opexa an exclusive, worldwide right and license to commercially exploit such technology, which includes rights to issued patents and pending patent applications owned by Baylor. Opexa has since expanded the development of technology related to Tovaxin and T-cell technology and has filed patent applications with respect thereto, from which several patents have issued (including with respect to the specificity and veracity of antigens that have been discovered). There is also substantial proprietary know-how surrounding the Tovaxin development and manufacturing processes that remains a trade secret. Consequently, we consider barriers to entry, relative to Tovaxin for the treatment of MS, to be high.

Our patent portfolio tracks our scientific development programs in autoimmune disease treatments, with an initial focus on MS. We believe that our scientific platform is adaptable in that any disease with known specific antigens, such as Rheumatoid Arthritis, may be a candidate for treatment, and we believe that our patent strategy is readily extendable to address these additional indications.

### **Competition**

The development of therapeutic agents for human disease is intensely competitive. Major pharmaceutical companies currently offer a number of pharmaceutical products to treat MS and other diseases for which our technologies may be applicable. Many pharmaceutical and biotechnology companies are investigating new drugs and therapeutic approaches for the same purposes, which

may achieve new efficacy profiles, extend the therapeutic window for such products, alter the prognosis of these diseases, or prevent their onset. We believe that our products, when and if successfully developed, will compete with these products principally on the basis of improved and extended efficacy and safety and their overall economic benefit to the health care system. We expect competition to increase. We believe that our most significant competitors will be fully integrated pharmaceutical companies and more established biotechnology companies. Smaller companies may also be significant competitors, particularly through collaborative arrangements with large pharmaceutical or biotechnology companies. Some of our primary competitors in the current treatment of, and in the development of treatments for, MS include Biogen-Idec, Elan, Merck-Serono, Teva, Bayer/Schering AG and Novartis.

## **Sales and Marketing**

We may choose to partner with large biotech or pharmaceutical companies for sales and marketing, if and when applicable, or alternatively develop our own sales force to market our MS cell therapy products in the U.S. Given the concentration of MS treatment among a relatively small number of specialized neurologists in the U.S., we believe that a modest size sales force would be sufficient to market an MS product in the U.S.

We would consider partnering with large biotech and pharmaceutical companies, if and when applicable, to assist with marketing and sales of an MS T-cell therapy product outside the U.S.

## **Government Regulation**

Our research and development activities and the future manufacturing and marketing of our potential products are, and will be, subject to regulation for safety and efficacy by a number of governmental authorities in the U.S. and other countries.

In the U.S., pharmaceuticals, biologicals and medical devices are subject to FDA regulation. The Federal Food, Drug and Cosmetic Act, as amended, and the Public Health Service Act, as amended, the regulations promulgated thereunder, and other federal and state statutes and regulations govern, among other things, the testing in human subjects, manufacture, safety, efficacy, labeling, storage, export, record keeping, approval, marketing, advertising and promotion of our potential products. Product development and approval within this regulatory framework takes a number of years and involves significant uncertainty combined with the expenditure of substantial resources.

### ***FDA Approval Process***

We will need to obtain FDA approval of any therapeutic product we plan to market and sell. The FDA will only grant marketing approval if it determines that a product is both safe and effective. The testing and approval process will require substantial time, effort and expense. The steps required before our products may be marketed in the U.S. include:

*Preclinical Laboratory and Animal Tests.* Preclinical tests include laboratory evaluation of the product candidate and animal studies in specific disease models to assess the potential safety and efficacy of the product candidate as well as the quality and consistency of the manufacturing process.

*Submission to the FDA of an Investigational New Drug Application, or IND, Which Must Become Effective Before U.S. Human Clinical Trials May Commence.* The results of the preclinical tests are submitted to the FDA, and the IND becomes effective 30 days following its receipt by the FDA, as long as there are no questions, requests for delay or objections from the FDA. The sponsor of an IND must keep the FDA informed during the duration of clinical studies through required amendments and reports, including adverse event reports.

*Adequate and Well-Controlled Human Clinical Trials to Establish the Safety and Efficacy of the Product Candidate.* Clinical trials, which test the safety and efficacy of the product candidate in humans, are conducted in accordance with protocols that detail the objectives of the studies, the parameters to be used to monitor safety and the efficacy criteria to be evaluated. Any product candidate administered in a U.S. clinical trial must be manufactured in accordance with cGMP.

The protocol for each clinical study must be approved by an independent Institutional Review Board, or IRB, at the institution at which the study is conducted, and the informed consent of all participants must be obtained. The IRB will consider, among other things, the existing information on the product candidate, ethical factors, the safety of human subjects, the potential benefits of the therapy and the possible liability of the institution.

Clinical development is traditionally conducted in three sequential phases, which may overlap:

- In Phase I, product candidates are typically introduced into healthy human subjects or into selected patient populations (*i.e.*, patients with a serious disease or condition under study, under physician supervision) to test for adverse reactions, dosage tolerance, absorption and distribution, metabolism, excretion and clinical pharmacology.
- Phase II involves studies in a limited population of patients with the disease or condition under study to (i) determine the efficacy of the product candidates for specific targeted indications and populations, (ii) determine optimal dosage and dosage tolerance and (iii) identify possible and common adverse effects and safety risks. (Phase II may be divided into Phase IIa and Phase IIb studies to address these issues.) When a dose is chosen and a candidate product is found to have

preliminary evidence of effectiveness, and to have an acceptable safety profile in Phase II evaluations, Phase III trials begin.

- Phase III trials are undertaken to develop additional safety and efficacy information from an expanded patient population, generally at multiple study sites. This information obtained is used to develop a better understanding of the risks and benefits of the product candidate and to determine appropriate labeling for use.

Based on clinical trial progress and results, the FDA may request changes or may require discontinuance of the trials at any time if significant safety issues arise.

*Submission to the FDA of Marketing Authorization Applications and FDA Review.* The results of the preclinical studies and clinical studies are submitted to the FDA as part of marketing approval authorization applications such as New Drug Applications (NDAs) or Biologics License Applications (BLAs). The FDA will evaluate such applications for the demonstration of safety and effectiveness. A BLA is required for biological products subject to licensure under the Public Health Service Act and must show that the product is safe, pure and potent. In addition to preclinical and clinical data, the BLA must contain other elements such as manufacturing materials, stability data, samples and labeling. FDA approval of a BLA is required prior to commercial sale or shipment of a biologic. A BLA may only be approved once the FDA examines the product and inspects the manufacturing establishment to assure conformity to the BLA and all applicable regulations and standards for biologics.

The time for approval may vary widely depending on the specific product candidate and disease to be treated, and a number of factors, including the risk/benefit profile identified in clinical trials, the availability of alternative treatments, and the severity of the disease. Additional animal studies or clinical trials may be requested during the FDA review period, which might add substantially to the review time.

The FDA's marketing approval for a product is limited to the treatment of a specific disease or condition in specified populations in certain clinical circumstances, as described on the approved labeling. The approved use is known as the "indication." After the FDA approves a product for the initial indication, further clinical trials may be required to gain approval for the use of the product for additional indications. The FDA may also require post-marketing testing (Phase IV studies) and surveillance to monitor for adverse effects, which could involve significant expense. The FDA may also elect to grant only conditional approval.

### ***Ongoing Compliance Requirements***

Even after product approval, there are a number of ongoing FDA regulatory requirements, including:

- Registration and listing;
- Regulatory submissions relating to changes in an NDA or BLA (such as the manufacturing process or labeling) and annual reports;
- Adverse event reporting;
- Compliance with advertising and promotion restrictions that relate to drugs and biologics; and
- Compliance with GMP and biological product standards (subject to FDA inspection of facilities to determine compliance).

### **Other Regulations**

In addition to safety regulations enforced by the FDA, we are also subject to regulations under the Occupational Safety and Health Act, the Environmental Protection Act, the Toxic Substances Control Act and other present and potential future foreign, federal, state and local regulations. For instance, product manufacturing establishments located in certain states also may be subject to separate regulatory and licensing requirements.

Outside the U.S., we will be subject to regulations that govern the import of drug products from the U.S. or other manufacturing sites and foreign regulatory requirements governing human clinical trials and marketing approval for products. The requirements governing the conduct of clinical trials, product licensing, pricing and reimbursements vary widely from country to country.

### **Research and Development**

Research and development expenses for the year ended December 31, 2011 were approximately \$3.3 million, mainly reflecting the costs of preparation for the next clinical trial for Tovaxin in MS. Research and development expenses for the year ended December 31, 2010 were approximately \$2.6 million, mainly reflecting the costs of key laboratory experiments and manufacturing process enhancements in preparation for the next clinical trial for Tovaxin.

### **Organizational History**

We are a development-stage company and have a limited operating history. Our predecessor company for financial reporting purposes was formed on January 22, 2003 to acquire rights to an adult stem cell technology. In November 2004, we acquired Opexa Pharmaceuticals, Inc. and its MS treatment technology. Currently, we remain focused on developing our T-cell technology for MS. To

date, we have not generated any commercial revenues from operations. As we continue to execute our business plan, we expect our development and operating expenses to increase.

## **Employees**

As of January 31, 2012, we had 19 full-time employees. We believe that our relations with our employees are good. None of our employees is represented by a union or covered by a collective bargaining agreement.

## **Available Information**

We are subject to the information and reporting requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, or the Exchange Act, under which we file periodic reports, proxy and information statements and other information with the United States Securities and Exchange Commission, or SEC. Copies of the reports, proxy statements and other information may be examined without charge at the Public Reference Room of the SEC, 100 F Street, N.E., Room 1580, Washington, D.C. 20549, or on the Internet at <http://www.sec.gov>. Copies of all or a portion of such materials can be obtained from the Public Reference Room of the SEC upon payment of prescribed fees. Please call the SEC at 1-800-SEC-0330 for further information about the Public Reference Room.

Financial and other information about Opexa is available on our website ([www.opexatherapeutics.com](http://www.opexatherapeutics.com)). Information on our website is not incorporated by reference into this report. We make available on our website, free of charge, copies of our annual report on Form 10-K, quarterly reports on Form 10-Q, current reports on Form 8-K, and amendments to those reports filed or furnished pursuant to Section 13(a) or 15(d) of the Exchange Act as soon as reasonably practicable after filing such material electronically or otherwise furnishing it to the SEC. Copies are available in print to any Opexa stockholder upon request in writing to Attention: Investor Relations, Opexa Therapeutics, Inc., 2635 Technology Forest Blvd., The Woodlands, TX 77381.

## **Item 1A. Risk Factors.**

*Investing in our common stock and warrants involves a high degree of risk. You should consider the following risk factors, as well as other information contained or incorporated by reference in this report, before deciding to invest in our common stock or warrants. The following factors affect our business and the industry in which we operate. The risks and uncertainties described below are not the only ones we face. Additional risks and uncertainties not presently known or which we currently consider immaterial may also have an adverse effect on our business. If any of the matters discussed in the following risk factors were to occur, our business, financial condition, results of operations, cash flows, or prospects could be materially adversely affected, the market price of our common stock could decline and you could lose all or part of your investment in our securities.*

### **Risks Related to Our Business**

***Our business is at an early stage of development. We are largely dependent on the success of our lead product candidate, Tovaxin, and we cannot be certain that Tovaxin will receive regulatory approval or be successfully commercialized.***

Our business is at an early stage of development. We do not have any product candidates that have completed late-stage clinical trials nor do we have any products on the market. We have only one product candidate, Tovaxin, which has progressed to the stage of being studied in human clinical trials in the United States. We are still in the very early stages of identifying and conducting research on any other potential products. Tovaxin, and any other potential products, will require regulatory approval prior to marketing in the United States and other countries. Obtaining such approval requires significant research and development and preclinical and clinical testing. We may not be able to develop any products, to obtain regulatory approvals, to continue clinical development of Tovaxin, to enter clinical trials (or any development activities) for any other product candidates, or to commercialize any products. Tovaxin, and any other potential products, may prove to have undesirable and unintended side effects or other characteristics adversely affecting their safety, efficacy or cost-effectiveness that could prevent or limit their use. Any product using any of our technology may fail to provide the intended therapeutic benefits or to achieve therapeutic benefits equal to or better than the standard of treatment at the time of testing or production.

***We have a history of operating losses and do not expect to be profitable in the near future.***

We have not generated any profits since our entry into the biotechnology business and we have incurred significant operating losses. We expect to incur additional operating losses for the foreseeable future. We have not received, and we do not expect to receive for at least the next several years, any revenues from the commercialization of any potential products. We do not currently have any sources of revenues and may not have any in the foreseeable future.

***We will be required to raise significant additional capital, or secure a development partner, in the near-term, and our ability to obtain funding is uncertain. If sufficient capital is not available, we may not be able to continue our operations as proposed (including any clinical trial for Tovaxin), which may require us to modify our business plan, curtail various aspects of our operations, cease operations or seek relief under applicable bankruptcy laws.***

As of December 31, 2011, we had cash and cash equivalents of \$7,109,215. During January 2011, we sold an aggregate of 384,759 shares of our common stock for net proceeds of \$1,066,266 under an “at the market” continuous offering program pursuant to a prospectus supplement dated May 17, 2010. During February 2011, we raised net proceeds of approximately \$7,551,891 through a public offering of common stock and warrants pursuant to a prospectus supplement dated February 8, 2011. In addition to general corporate purposes (including working capital and operational purposes), we used part of the net proceeds from the February 2011 public offering to prepare for and proceed toward the initiation of further clinical studies of Tovaxin in MS. Our burn rate during 2011, in the absence of any clinical trial as well as significant activities in preparation for such a trial, was approximately \$470,000 per month. If we do not commence a clinical trial, and if we also do not engage in any significant activities in preparation for such a trial, we believe we have sufficient liquidity to support operations through 2012. However, we will need to raise additional capital to fund our current business plan and support our operations.

We are planning to initiate a Phase IIb clinical trial of Tovaxin in SP-MS patients, subject to securing the necessary resources to conduct such a study. Significant activities in preparation for, and the conduct of, a clinical trial will result in substantial increases in our monthly cash burn. A Phase IIb clinical study in North America of Tovaxin in SP-MS is expected to involve 180 patients and take approximately three years to complete. If we are able to commence such a study in the first half of 2012, the costs of such study as well as the ongoing expenses of our operations through the expected completion date of such study are estimated at approximately \$32 million. Our existing resources would not be adequate to permit us to proceed materially beyond the initiation of such a study (*i.e.*, the dosing of the first patient) or to complete such study or any significant portion of it. Unless we secure at least a substantial portion of the additional resources that will be necessary to complete the planned Phase IIb study and support our operations during the pendency of such study, or we are reasonably confident that such resources will be secured, we would likely not proceed with the initiation of such study.

Given our need for substantial amounts of capital to undertake a Phase IIb clinical study for Tovaxin in SP-MS, we intend to continue to explore potential opportunities and alternatives to obtain the significant additional resources that will be necessary to complete the planned Phase IIb study and to support the operations of the Company during the pendency of such study. In addition to one or more additional financings, these opportunities and alternatives may include a partnering arrangement with a large biotech or pharmaceutical company. There can be no assurance that any such financings or partnering arrangement can be consummated on acceptable terms, if at all.

Assuming we are able to achieve financing which is sufficient to support the planned Phase IIb study of Tovaxin in SP-MS and to support our operations during the pendency of such study, we are also exploring a pivotal Phase III clinical study of Tovaxin in RR-MS. Any such study of Tovaxin in RR-MS would also depend upon the availability of sufficient resources.

As we have no sources of debt or equity capital committed for funding, we must rely upon best efforts third-party debt or equity funding and we can provide no assurance that we will be successful in any funding effort. The timing and degree of any future capital requirements will depend on many factors, including:

- our ability to establish, enforce and maintain strategic arrangements for research, development, clinical testing, manufacturing and marketing;
- the accuracy of the assumptions underlying our estimates for capital needs in 2012 and beyond as well as for any clinical study of Tovaxin;
- scientific progress in our research and development programs;
- the magnitude and scope of our research and development programs;
- our progress with preclinical development and clinical trials;
- the time and costs involved in obtaining regulatory approvals;
- the costs involved in preparing, filing, prosecuting, maintaining, defending and enforcing patent claims; and
- the number and type of product candidates that we pursue.

If we raise additional funds through any collaboration, partnering or licensing arrangements with third parties, we may need to relinquish some rights to our product candidate Tovaxin, including commercialization rights, which may harm our ability to generate revenues and achieve or sustain profitability.

If we raise additional funds by issuing equity securities, stockholders may experience substantial dilution. Debt financing, if available, may involve restrictive covenants that may impede our ability to operate our business. Any debt financing or additional equity that we raise may contain terms that are not favorable to us or our stockholders. There is no assurance that our capital raising efforts will be able to attract the capital needed to execute on our business plan and sustain our operations.

If we are unable to obtain additional funding or secure a development partner, we may not be able to undertake, or complete the planned Phase IIb clinical study of Tovaxin in SP-MS or otherwise continue our operations as proposed, which may require us to modify our business plan or curtail various aspects of our operations. If these measures are not sufficient to maintain an adequate level of capital, it may be necessary to cease operations or seek relief under applicable bankruptcy laws. In such event, our stockholders may lose a portion or even all of their investment.

***We will depend on strategic collaborations with third parties to develop and commercialize product candidates, such as Tovaxin, and we may not have control over a number of key elements relating to the development and commercialization of any such product candidate.***

A key aspect of our strategy, including with respect to Tovaxin, is to seek collaboration with a partner, such as a large pharmaceutical organization, that is willing to further develop and commercialize a selected product candidate. To date, we have not entered into any such collaborative arrangement with respect to Tovaxin. However, we will need to raise significant additional capital in order to undertake the planned Phase IIb clinical study of Tovaxin in SP-MS as the total costs of conducting this study, if commenced in the near-term, as well as the ongoing expenses of our operations through the expected completion date of such study are estimated at approximately \$32 million.

By entering into any such strategic collaboration, we may rely on our partner for financial resources and for development, regulatory and commercialization expertise. Our partner may fail to develop or effectively commercialize our product candidate because they:

- do not have sufficient resources or decide not to devote the necessary resources due to internal constraints such as limited cash or human resources;
- decide to pursue a competitive potential product developed outside of the collaboration;
- cannot obtain the necessary regulatory approvals;
- determine that the market opportunity is not attractive; or
- cannot manufacture or obtain the necessary materials in sufficient quantities from multiple sources or at a reasonable cost.

We may not be able to enter into a collaboration, including with respect to Tovaxin, on acceptable terms, if at all. We face competition in our search for partners from other organizations worldwide, many of whom are larger and are able to offer more attractive deals in terms of financial commitments, contribution of human resources, or development, manufacturing, regulatory or commercial expertise and support.

If we are not successful in attracting a partner and entering into a collaboration on acceptable terms, we may not be able to complete development of or commercialize any product candidate, including Tovaxin. In particular, we may be unable to undertake, or complete, the planned Phase IIb clinical study of Tovaxin in SP-MS. In such event, our ability to generate revenues and achieve or sustain profitability would be significantly hindered and we may not be able to continue operations as proposed, requiring us to modify our business plan, curtail various aspects of our operations or cease operations.

Third parties to whom we may license or transfer development and commercialization rights for products covered by intellectual property rights may not be successful in their efforts, and as a result, we may not receive future royalty or other milestone payments relating to those products or rights.

***We will need regulatory approvals for any product candidate, including Tovaxin, prior to introduction to the market, which will require successful testing in clinical trials. Clinical trials are subject to extensive regulatory requirements, and are very expensive, time-consuming and difficult to design and implement. Any product candidate, such as Tovaxin, may fail to achieve necessary safety and efficacy endpoints during clinical trials in which case we will be unable to generate revenue from the commercialization and sale of our products.***

Human clinical trials are very expensive and difficult to design and implement, in part because they are subject to rigorous FDA requirements, and must otherwise comply with federal, state and local requirements and policies of the medical institutions where they are conducted. The clinical trial process is also time-consuming. We estimate that a Phase IIb clinical trial in North America of our lead product candidate, Tovaxin, in SP-MS will take approximately three years to complete. In addition, we anticipate that a pivotal Phase III clinical trial would be necessary before we could submit an application for approval of Tovaxin for SP-MS. Failure can occur at any stage of the trials, and we could encounter problems that cause us to be unable to initiate a trial, or to abandon or repeat a clinical trial.

The commencement and completion of clinical trials, including the commencement of the planned Phase IIb clinical trial of Tovaxin in SP-MS, may be delayed or prevented by several factors, including:

- FDA or IRB objection to proposed protocols;

- discussions or disagreement with the FDA over the adequacy of trial design to potentially demonstrate effectiveness, and subsequent design modifications;
- unforeseen safety issues;
- determination of dosing issues and related adjustments;
- lack of effectiveness during clinical trials;
- slower than expected rates of patient recruitment;
- product quality problems (e.g., sterility or purity);
- challenges to patient monitoring and data collection during or after treatment (for example, patients' failure to return for follow-up visits); and
- failure of medical investigators to follow our clinical protocols.

In addition, we or the FDA (based on its authority over clinical studies) may delay a proposed investigation or suspend clinical trials in progress at any time if it appears that the study may pose significant risks to the study participants or other serious deficiencies are identified. Prior to approval of our product the FDA must determine that the data demonstrate safety and effectiveness. The large majority of drug candidates that begin human clinical trials fail to demonstrate the desired safety and efficacy characteristics.

Furthermore, changes in regulatory requirements and guidance may occur and we may need to amend clinical trial protocols, or otherwise modify our intended course of clinical development, to reflect these changes. This, too, may impact the costs, timing or successful completion of a clinical trial. In light of widely publicized events concerning the safety risk of certain drug products, regulatory authorities, members of Congress, the U.S. Government Accountability Office, medical professionals and the general public have raised concerns about potential drug safety issues. These events have resulted in the withdrawal of drug products, revisions to drug labeling that further limit use of the drug products, and establishment of risk management programs that may, for instance, restrict distribution of drug products. The increased attention to drug safety issues may result in a more cautious approach by the FDA to clinical trials. Data from clinical trials may receive greater scrutiny with respect to safety, which may make the FDA or other regulatory authorities more likely to terminate clinical trials before completion or require longer or additional clinical trials that may result in substantial additional expense and a delay or failure in obtaining approval or approval for a more limited indication than originally sought.

Even if we obtain regulatory approvals for any product candidate, such as Tovaxin, that approval may be subject to limitations on the indicated uses for which it may be marketed. Our ability to generate revenues from the commercialization and sale of any potential products will be limited by any failure to obtain or limitation on necessary regulatory approvals.

***We will rely on third parties to conduct our clinical trials and perform data collection and analysis, which may result in costs and delays that may hamper our ability to successfully develop and commercialize any product candidate, including Tovaxin.***

Although we have participated in the design and management of our past clinical trials, we do not have the ability to conduct clinical trials directly for any product candidate, including Tovaxin. We will need to rely on contract research organizations, medical institutions, clinical investigators and contract laboratories to conduct our clinical trials and to perform data collection and analysis.

Our clinical trials may be delayed, suspended or terminated if:

- any third party upon whom we rely does not successfully carry out its contractual duties or regulatory obligations or meet expected deadlines;
- any such third party needs to be replaced; or
- the quality or accuracy of the data obtained by the third party is compromised due to its failure to adhere to clinical protocols or regulatory requirements or for other reasons.

Failure to perform by any third party upon whom we rely may increase our development costs, delay our ability to obtain regulatory approval and prevent the commercialization of any product candidate, including Tovaxin. While we believe that there are numerous alternative sources to provide these services, we might not be able to enter into replacement arrangements without delays or additional expenditures if we were to seek such alternative sources.

***If we fail to identify and license or acquire other product candidates, we will not be able to expand our business over the long term.***

Given that we have limited internal discovery capabilities, our business over the long term is substantially dependent on our ability to license or acquire product candidates and further develop them for commercialization. The success of this strategy depends upon our ability to identify, select and acquire the right product candidates. We have limited experience identifying, negotiating and implementing economically viable product candidate acquisitions or licenses, which is a lengthy and complex process. Also, the market for licensing and acquiring product candidates is intensely competitive, and many of our competitors have greater resources

than we do. We may not have the requisite capital resources to consummate product candidate acquisitions or licenses that we identify to fulfill our strategy.

Moreover, any product candidate acquisition that we do complete will involve numerous risks, including:

- difficulties in integrating the development program for the acquired product candidate into our existing operations;
- diversion of financial and management resources from existing operations;
- risks of entering new potential markets or technologies;
- inability to generate sufficient funding to offset acquisition costs; and
- delays that may result from our having to perform unanticipated preclinical trials or other tests on the product candidate.

***We are dependent upon our management team and a small number of employees.***

Our business strategy is dependent upon the skills and knowledge of our management team. If any critical employee leaves, we may be unable on a timely basis to hire suitable replacements to operate our business effectively. We also operate with a very small number of employees and thus have little or no backup capability for their activities. The loss of the services of any member of our management team or the loss of just a few other employees could have a material adverse effect on our business and results of operations.

***If we fail to meet our obligations under our license agreements, we may lose our rights to key technologies on which our business depends.***

Our business depends on licenses from third parties. These third party license agreements impose obligations on us, such as payment obligations and obligations diligently to pursue development of commercial products under the licensed patents. If a licensor believes that we have failed to meet our obligations under a license agreement, the licensor could seek to limit or terminate our license rights, which could lead to costly and time-consuming litigation and, potentially, a loss of the licensed rights. During the period of any such litigation, our ability to carry out the development and commercialization of potential products could be significantly and negatively affected. If our license rights were restricted or ultimately lost, our ability to continue our business based on the affected technology platform could be adversely affected.

***Our current research and manufacturing facility is not large enough to manufacture product candidates, such as Tovaxin, for clinical trials or, if such clinical trials are successful, commercial applications.***

We conduct our research and development in a 10,200 square foot facility in The Woodlands, Texas, which includes an approximately 800 square foot suite of three rooms for the manufacture of T-cell therapies. We believe our current facility should have the capacity to support a Phase IIb trial in North America for the development of Tovaxin for SP-MS. It is not sufficient, however, to support potential European clinical trials, if required, or the commercial launch of Tovaxin. In this case, we would need to expand our manufacturing staff and facility, obtain a new facility or contract with corporate collaborators or other third parties to assist with future drug production and commercialization.

In the event that we decide to establish a commercial-scale manufacturing facility, we will require substantial additional funds and will be required to hire and train significant numbers of employees and comply with applicable regulations, which are extensive. We do not have funds available for building a manufacturing facility, and we may not be able to build a manufacturing facility that both meets regulatory requirements and is sufficient for our commercial-scale manufacturing.

We may arrange with third parties for the manufacture of our future products, if any. However, our third-party sourcing strategy may not result in a cost-effective means for manufacturing our future products. If we employ third-party manufacturers, we will not control many aspects of the manufacturing process, including compliance by these third parties with cGMP and other regulatory requirements. We further may not be able to obtain adequate supplies from third-party manufacturers in a timely fashion for development or commercialization purposes, and commercial quantities of products may not be available from contract manufacturers at acceptable costs.

***If any product we may eventually have is not accepted by the market or if users of any such product are unable to obtain adequate coverage of and reimbursement for such product from government and other third-party payors, our revenues and profitability will suffer.***

Our ability to successfully commercialize any product we may eventually have will depend in significant part on the extent to which appropriate coverage of and reimbursement for such product and any related treatments are obtained from governmental authorities, private health insurers and other organizations, such as health maintenance organizations, or HMOs. Third-party payors are increasingly challenging the prices charged for medical products and services. We cannot provide any assurances that third-party payors will consider any product we may eventually have cost-effective or provide coverage of and reimbursement for such product, in whole or in part.

Uncertainty exists as to the coverage and reimbursement status of newly approved medical products and services and newly approved indications for existing products. Third-party payors may conclude that any product we may eventually have is less safe, less clinically effective, or less cost-effective than existing products, and third-party payors may not approve such product for coverage and reimbursement. If we are unable to obtain adequate coverage of and reimbursement for any product we may eventually have from third-party payors, physicians may limit how much or under what circumstances they will prescribe or administer them. Such reduction or limitation in the use of any such product would cause sales to suffer. Even if third-party payors make reimbursement available, payment levels may not be sufficient to make the sale of any such product profitable.

In addition, the trend towards managed health care in the United States and the concurrent growth of organizations such as HMOs, which could control or significantly influence the purchase of medical services and products, may result in inadequate coverage of and reimbursement for any product we may eventually have. Many third-party payors, including in particular HMOs, are pursuing various ways to reduce pharmaceutical costs, including, for instance, the use of formularies. The market for any product we may eventually have depends on access to such formularies, which are lists of medications for which third-party payors provide reimbursement. These formularies are increasingly restricted, and pharmaceutical companies face significant competition in their efforts to place their products on formularies of HMOs and other third-party payors. This increased competition has led to a downward pricing pressure in the industry. The cost containment measures that third-party payors are instituting could have a material adverse effect on our ability to operate profitably.

***Any product candidate that we develop, such as Tovaxin, if approved for sale, may not gain acceptance among physicians, patients and the medical community, thereby limiting our potential to generate revenues.***

Even if a product candidate, such as Tovaxin, is approved for commercial sale by the FDA or other regulatory authorities, the degree of market acceptance of any approved product candidate by physicians, healthcare professionals and third-party payors, and our profitability and growth, will depend on a number of factors, including:

- demonstration of efficacy;
- relative convenience and ease of administration;
- the prevalence and severity of any adverse side effects;
- availability and cost of alternative treatments, including cheaper generic drugs;
- pricing and cost effectiveness, which may be subject to regulatory control;
- effectiveness of our or any of our partners' sales and marketing strategies;
- the product labeling or product insert required by the FDA or regulatory authority in other countries; and
- the availability of adequate third-party insurance coverage or reimbursement.

If any product candidate that we develop does not provide a treatment regimen that is as beneficial as the current standard of care or otherwise does not provide patient benefit, that product candidate, if approved for commercial sale by the FDA or other regulatory authorities, likely will not achieve market acceptance and our ability to generate revenues from that product candidate would be substantially reduced.

***We have incurred, and expect to continue to incur, increased costs and risks as a result of being a public company.***

As a public company, we are required to comply with the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002, or SOX, as well as rules and regulations implemented by the SEC and The Nasdaq Stock Market (NASDAQ). Changes in the laws and regulations affecting public companies, including the provisions of SOX and rules adopted by the SEC and by NASDAQ, have resulted in, and will continue to result in, increased costs to us as we respond to their requirements. Given the risks inherent in the design and operation of internal controls over financial reporting, the effectiveness of our internal controls over financial reporting is uncertain. If our internal controls are not designed or operating effectively, we may not be able to conclude an evaluation of our internal control over financial reporting as required or we or our independent registered public accounting firm may determine that our internal control over financial reporting was not effective. In addition, our registered public accounting firm may either disclaim an opinion as it relates to management's assessment of the effectiveness of our internal controls or may issue an adverse opinion on the effectiveness of our internal controls over financial reporting. Investors may lose confidence in the reliability of our financial statements, which could cause the market price of our common stock to decline and which could affect our ability to run our business as we otherwise would like to. New rules could also make it more difficult or more costly for us to obtain certain types of insurance, including directors' and officers' liability insurance, and we may be forced to accept reduced policy limits and coverage or incur substantially higher costs to obtain the coverage that is the same or similar to our current coverage. The impact of these events could also make it more difficult for us to attract and retain qualified persons to serve on our Board of Directors, our Board committees, and as executive officers. We cannot predict or estimate the total amount of the costs we may incur or the timing of such costs to comply with these rules and regulations.

Under the corporate governance standards of NASDAQ, a majority of our Board of Directors and each member of our Audit Committee must be an independent director. If any vacancies on our Board or our Audit Committee occur that need to be filled by

independent directors, we may encounter difficulty in attracting qualified persons to serve on our Board and, in particular, our Audit Committee. If we fail to attract and retain the required number of independent directors, we may be subject to SEC enforcement proceedings and delisting of our common stock from the NASDAQ Capital Market.

### **Risks Related to Our Intellectual Property**

***Patents obtained by other persons may result in infringement claims against us that are costly to defend and which may limit our ability to use the disputed technologies and prevent us from pursuing research and development or commercialization of potential products, such as Tovaxin.***

If third party patents or patent applications contain claims infringed by either our licensed technology or other technology required to make or use our potential products, such as Tovaxin, and such claims are ultimately determined to be valid, there can be no assurance that we would be able to obtain licenses to these patents at a reasonable cost, if at all, or be able to develop or obtain alternative technology. If we are unable to obtain such licenses at a reasonable cost, we may not be able to develop any affected product candidate, such as Tovaxin, commercially. There can be no assurance that we will not be obliged to defend ourselves in court against allegations of infringement of third party patents. Patent litigation is very expensive and could consume substantial resources and create significant uncertainties. An adverse outcome in such a suit could subject us to significant liabilities to third parties, require disputed rights to be licensed from third parties, or require us to cease using such technology.

***If we are unable to obtain patent protection and other proprietary rights, our operations will be significantly harmed.***

Our ability to compete effectively is dependent upon obtaining patent protection relating to our technologies. The patent positions of pharmaceutical and biotechnology companies, including ours, are uncertain and involve complex and evolving legal and factual questions. The coverage sought in a patent application can be denied or significantly reduced before or after the patent is issued. Consequently, we do not know whether pending patent applications for our technology will result in the issuance of patents, or if any issued patents will provide significant protection or commercial advantage or will be circumvented by others. Since patent applications are secret until the applications are published (usually 18 months after the earliest effective filing date), and since publication of discoveries in the scientific or patent literature often lags behind actual discoveries, we cannot be certain that the inventors of our owned or licensed intellectual property rights were the first to make the inventions at issue or that any patent applications at issue were the first to be filed for such inventions. There can be no assurance that patents will issue from pending patent applications or, if issued, that such patents will be of commercial benefit to us, afford us adequate protection from competing products, or not be challenged or declared invalid.

For our licensed intellectual property, we have limited control over the amount or timing of resources that are devoted to the prosecution of such intellectual property. Due to this lack of control and general uncertainties in the patent prosecution process, we cannot be sure that any licensed patents will result from licensed applications or, if they do, that they will be maintained. Issued U.S. patents require the payment of maintenance fees to continue to be in force. We rely on licensors to do this and their failure to do so could result in the forfeiture of patents not timely maintained. Many foreign patent offices also require the payment of periodic annuities to keep patents and patent applications in good standing. As we do not maintain control over the payment of annuities, we cannot assure you that our licensors will timely pay such annuities and that the granted patents and pending patent applications will not become abandoned. In addition, our licensors may have selected a limited amount of foreign patent protection, and therefore applications have not been filed in, and foreign patents may not have been perfected in, all commercially significant countries.

The patent protection of product candidates, such as Tovaxin, involves complex legal and factual questions. To the extent that it would be necessary or advantageous for any of our licensors to cooperate or lead in the enforcement of our licensed intellectual property rights, we cannot control the amount or timing of resources such licensors devote on our behalf or the priority they place on enforcing such rights. We may not be able to protect our intellectual property rights against third party infringement, which may be difficult to detect. Additionally, challenges may be made to the ownership of our intellectual property rights, our ability to enforce them, or our underlying licenses.

We cannot be certain that any of the patents issued to us or to our licensors will provide adequate protection from competing products. Our success will depend, in part, on whether we or our licensors can:

- obtain and maintain patents to protect our product candidates such as Tovaxin;
- obtain and maintain any required or desirable licenses to use certain technologies of third parties, which may be protected by patents;
- protect our trade secrets and know-how;
- operate without infringing the intellectual property and proprietary rights of others;
- enforce the issued patents under which we hold rights; and
- develop additional proprietary technologies that are patentable.

The degree of future protection for our proprietary rights (owned or licensed) is uncertain. For example:

- we or our licensor might not have been the first to make the inventions covered by pending patent applications or issued patents owned by, or licensed to, us;
- we or our licensor might not have been the first to file patent applications for these inventions;
- others may independently develop similar or alternative technologies or duplicate any of the technologies owned by, or licensed to, us;
- it is possible that none of the pending patent applications owned by, or licensed to, us will result in issued patents;
- any patents under which we hold rights may not provide us with a basis for commercially viable products, may not provide us with any competitive advantages or may be challenged by third parties as invalid, or unenforceable under U.S. or foreign laws; or
- any of the issued patents under which we hold rights may not be valid or enforceable or may be circumvented successfully in light of the continuing evolution of domestic and foreign patent laws.

***Confidentiality agreements with employees and others may not adequately prevent disclosure of our trade secrets and other proprietary information and may not adequately protect our intellectual property, which could limit our ability to compete.***

We rely in part on trade secret protection in order to protect our proprietary trade secrets and unpatented know-how. However, trade secrets are difficult to protect, and we cannot be certain that others will not develop the same or similar technologies on their own. We have taken steps, including entering into confidentiality agreements with our employees, consultants, outside scientific collaborators and other advisors, to protect our trade secrets and unpatented know-how. These agreements generally require that the other party keep confidential and not disclose to third parties all confidential information developed by the party or made known to the party by us during the course of the party's relationship with us. We also typically obtain agreements from these parties which provide that inventions conceived by the party in the course of rendering services to us will be our exclusive property. However, these agreements may not be honored and may not effectively assign intellectual property rights to us. Further, we have limited control, if any, over the protection of trade secrets developed by our licensors. Enforcing a claim that a party illegally obtained and is using our trade secrets or know-how is difficult, expensive and time consuming, and the outcome is unpredictable. In addition, courts outside the United States may be less willing to protect trade secrets or know-how. The failure to obtain or maintain trade secret protection could adversely affect our competitive position.

***A dispute concerning the infringement or misappropriation of our proprietary rights or the proprietary rights of others could be time consuming and costly, and an unfavorable outcome could harm our business.***

A number of pharmaceutical, biotechnology and other companies, universities and research institutions have filed patent applications or have been issued patents relating to cell therapy, T-cells, and other technologies potentially relevant to or required by our product candidate Tovaxin. We cannot predict which, if any, of such applications will issue as patents or the claims that might be allowed. We are aware of a number of patent applications and patents claiming use of modified cells to treat disease, disorder or injury.

There is significant litigation in our industry regarding patent and other intellectual property rights. While we are not currently subject to any pending intellectual property litigation, and are not aware of any such threatened litigation, we may be exposed to future litigation by third parties based on claims that our product candidates, such as Tovaxin, or their methods of use, manufacturing or other technologies or activities infringe the intellectual property rights of such third parties. If our product candidates, such as Tovaxin, or their methods of manufacture are found to infringe any such patents, we may have to pay significant damages or seek licenses under such patents. We have not conducted comprehensive searches of patents issued to third parties relating to Tovaxin. Consequently, no assurance can be given that third-party patents containing claims covering Tovaxin, its method of use or manufacture do not exist or have not been filed and will not be issued in the future. Because some patent applications in the United States may be maintained in secrecy until the patents are issued, and because patent applications in the United States and many foreign jurisdictions are typically not published until 18 months after filing, we cannot be certain that others have not filed patent applications that will mature into issued patents that relate to our current or future product candidates that could have a material effect in developing and commercializing one or more of our product candidates. A patent holder could prevent us from importing, making, using or selling the patented compounds. We may need to resort to litigation to enforce our intellectual property rights or to determine the scope and validity of third-party proprietary rights. Similarly, we may be subject to claims that we have inappropriately used or disclosed trade secrets or other proprietary information of third parties. If we become involved in litigation, it could consume a substantial portion of our managerial and financial resources, regardless of whether we win or lose. Some of our competitors may be able to sustain the costs of complex intellectual property litigation more effectively than we can because they have substantially greater resources. We may not be able to afford the costs of litigation. Any legal action against us or our collaborators could lead to:

- payment of actual damages, royalties, lost profits, potentially treble damages and attorneys' fees, if we are found to have willfully infringed a third party's patent rights;

- injunctive or other equitable relief that may effectively block our ability to further develop, commercialize and sell our products;
- we or our collaborators having to enter into license arrangements that may not be available on commercially acceptable terms if at all; or
- significant cost and expense, as well as distraction of our management from our business.

As a result, we could be prevented from commercializing current or future product candidates.

## **Risks Related to Our Industry**

***We are subject to stringent regulation of our product candidates, such as Tovaxin, which could delay development and commercialization.***

We, our third-party contractors, suppliers and partners, and our product candidates, such as Tovaxin, are subject to stringent regulation by the FDA and other regulatory agencies in the United States and by comparable authorities in other countries. None of our product candidates can be marketed in the United States until it has been approved by the FDA. No product candidate of ours has been approved, and we may never receive FDA approval for any product candidate. Obtaining FDA approval typically takes many years and requires substantial resources. Even if regulatory approval is obtained, the FDA may impose significant restrictions on the indicated uses, conditions for use and labeling of such products. Additionally, the FDA may require post-approval studies, including additional research and development and clinical trials. These regulatory requirements may limit the size of the market for the product or result in the incurrence of additional costs. Any delay or failure in obtaining required approvals could substantially reduce our ability to generate revenues.

In addition, both before and after regulatory approval, we, our partners and our product candidates, such as Tovaxin, are subject to numerous FDA requirements covering, among other things, testing, manufacturing, quality control, labeling, advertising, promotion, distribution and export. The FDA's requirements may change and additional government regulations may be promulgated that could affect us, our partners and our product candidates, such as Tovaxin. Given the number of recent high profile adverse safety events with certain drug products, the FDA may require, as a condition of approval, costly risk management programs, which may include safety surveillance, restricted distribution and use, patient education, enhanced labeling, special packaging or labeling, expedited reporting of certain adverse events, preapproval of promotional materials and restrictions on direct-to-consumer advertising. Furthermore, heightened Congressional scrutiny on the adequacy of the FDA's drug approval process and the agency's efforts to assure the safety of marketed drugs resulted in the enactment of legislation addressing drug safety issues, the FDA Amendments Act of 2007. This legislation provides the FDA with expanded authority over drug products after approval and the FDA's exercise of this authority could result in delays or increased costs during the period of product development, clinical trials and regulatory review and approval, and increased costs to assure compliance with new post-approval regulatory requirements. We cannot predict the likelihood, nature or extent of government regulation that may arise from this or future legislation or administrative action, either in the United States or abroad.

In order to market any of our products outside of the United States, we and our strategic partners and licensees must establish and comply with numerous and varying regulatory requirements of other countries regarding safety and efficacy. Approval procedures vary among countries and can involve additional product testing and additional administrative review periods and the time required to obtain approval in other countries might differ from that required to obtain FDA approval. The regulatory approval process in other countries may include all of the risks detailed above regarding FDA approval in the United States. Approval by the FDA does not automatically lead to the approval of authorities outside of the United States and, similarly, approval by other regulatory authorities outside the United States will not automatically lead to FDA approval. In addition, regulatory approval in one country does not ensure regulatory approval in another, but a failure or delay in obtaining regulatory approval in one country may negatively impact the regulatory process in others. Our product candidates, such as Tovaxin, may not be approved for all indications that we request, which would limit uses and adversely impact our potential royalties and product sales. Such approval may be subject to limitations on the indicated uses for which any potential product may be marketed or require costly, post-marketing follow-up studies.

If we fail to comply with applicable regulatory requirements in the United States and other countries, among other things, we may be subject to fines and other civil penalties, delays in approving or failure to approve a product, suspension or withdrawal of regulatory approvals, product recalls, seizure of products, operating restrictions, interruption of manufacturing or clinical trials, injunctions and criminal prosecution, any of which would harm our business.

***We may need to change our business practices to comply with health care fraud and abuse regulations, and our failure to comply with such laws could adversely affect our business, financial condition and results of operations.***

If we are successful in achieving approval to market one or more of our product candidates, our operations will be directly, or indirectly through our customers, subject to various state and federal fraud and abuse laws, including, without limitation, the federal Anti-Kickback Statute and False Claims Act. These laws may impact, among other things, our proposed sales, marketing and education programs.

The federal Anti-Kickback Statute prohibits persons from knowingly and willfully soliciting, offering, receiving or providing remuneration, directly or indirectly, in exchange for or to induce either the referral of an individual, or the furnishing or arranging for a good or service, for which payment may be made under a federal healthcare program such as the Medicare and Medicaid programs. Several courts have interpreted the statute's intent requirement to mean that if any one purpose of an arrangement involving remuneration is to induce referrals of federal healthcare covered business, the statute has been violated. The Anti-Kickback Statute is broad and prohibits many arrangements and practices that are lawful in businesses outside of the healthcare industry. Recognizing that the Anti-Kickback Statute is broad and may technically prohibit many innocuous or beneficial arrangements, Congress authorized the Department of Health and Human Services, Office of Inspector General, or OIG, to issue a series of regulations, known as the "safe harbors." These safe harbors set forth provisions that, if all their applicable requirements are met, will assure healthcare providers and other parties that they will not be prosecuted under the Anti-Kickback Statute. The failure of a transaction or arrangement to fit precisely within one or more safe harbors does not necessarily mean that it is illegal or that prosecution will be pursued. However, conduct and business arrangements that do not fully satisfy each applicable safe harbor may result in increased scrutiny by government enforcement authorities such as the OIG. Penalties for violations of the federal Anti-Kickback Statute include criminal penalties and civil sanctions such as fines, imprisonment and possible exclusion from Medicare, Medicaid and other federal healthcare programs. Many states have also adopted laws similar to the federal Anti-Kickback Statute, some of which apply to the referral of patients for healthcare items or services reimbursed by any source, not only the Medicare and Medicaid programs.

The federal False Claims Act prohibits persons from knowingly filing or causing to be filed a false claim to, or the knowing use of false statements to obtain payment from, the federal government. Suits filed under the False Claims Act, known as "qui tam" actions, can be brought by any individual on behalf of the government and such individuals, sometimes known as "relators" or, more commonly, as "whistleblowers," may share in any amounts paid by the entity to the government in fines or settlement. The frequency of filing of qui tam actions has increased significantly in recent years, causing greater numbers of healthcare companies to have to defend a False Claims Act action. When an entity is determined to have violated the federal False Claims Act, it may be required to pay up to three times the actual damages sustained by the government, plus civil penalties. Various states have also enacted laws modeled after the federal False Claims Act.

In addition to the laws described above, the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996 created two new federal crimes: healthcare fraud and false statements relating to healthcare matters. The healthcare fraud statute prohibits knowingly and willfully executing a scheme to defraud any healthcare benefit program, including private payors. A violation of this statute is a felony and may result in fines, imprisonment or exclusion from government sponsored programs. The false statements statute prohibits knowingly and willfully falsifying, concealing or covering up a material fact or making any materially false, fictitious or fraudulent statement in connection with the delivery of or payment for healthcare benefits, items or services. A violation of this statute is a felony and may result in fines or imprisonment.

If our operations are found to be in violation of any of the laws described above and other applicable state and federal fraud and abuse laws, we may be subject to penalties, including civil and criminal penalties, damages, fines, exclusion from government healthcare programs, and the curtailment or restructuring of our operations.

***If our competitors develop and market products that are more effective than our product candidates, they may reduce or eliminate our commercial opportunities.***

Competition in the pharmaceutical industry, particularly the market for MS products, is intense, and we expect such competition to continue to increase. We face competition from pharmaceutical and biotechnology companies, as well as numerous academic and research institutions and governmental agencies, in the United States and abroad. Our competitors have products that have been approved or are in advanced development and may succeed in developing drugs that are more effective, safer and more affordable or more easily administered than ours, or that achieve patent protection or commercialization sooner than our products. Our most significant competitors are fully integrated pharmaceutical companies and more established biotechnology companies. These companies have significantly greater capital resources and expertise in research and development, manufacturing, testing, obtaining regulatory approvals, and marketing than we currently do. However, smaller companies also may prove to be significant competitors, particularly through proprietary research discoveries and collaboration arrangements with large pharmaceutical and established biotechnology companies. In addition to the competitors with existing products that have been approved, many of our competitors are further along in the process of product development and also operate large, company-funded research and development programs. As a result, our competitors may develop more competitive or affordable products, or achieve earlier patent protection or further product commercialization than we are able to achieve. Competitive products may render any products or product candidates that we develop obsolete.

Our competitors may also develop alternative therapies that could further limit the market for any products that we may develop.

***Rapid technological change could make our products obsolete.***

Biopharmaceutical technologies have undergone rapid and significant change, and we expect that they will continue to do so. As a result, there is significant risk that our product candidates, such as Tovaxin, may be rendered obsolete or uneconomical by new

discoveries before we recover any expenses incurred in connection with their development. If our product candidates, such as Tovaxin, are rendered obsolete by advancements in biopharmaceutical technologies, our future prospects will suffer.

***Consumers may sue us for product liability, which could result in substantial liabilities that exceed our available resources and damage our reputation.***

Developing and commercializing drug products entails significant product liability risks. Liability claims may arise from our and our collaborators' use of products in clinical trials and the commercial sale of those products.

In the event that any of our product candidates becomes an approved product and is commercialized, consumers may make product liability claims directly against us and/or our collaborators, and our collaborators or others selling these products may seek contribution from us if they incur any loss or expenses related to such claims. We have insurance that covers clinical trial activities. We believe our current insurance coverage is reasonably adequate at this time. However, we will need to increase and expand this coverage as we commence additional clinical trials, as well as larger scale trials, and if any product candidate is approved for commercial sale. This insurance may be prohibitively expensive or may not fully cover our potential liabilities. Our inability to obtain sufficient insurance coverage at an acceptable cost or otherwise to protect against potential product liability claims could prevent or inhibit the regulatory approval or commercialization of products that we or one of our collaborators develop. Product liability claims could have a material adverse effect on our business and results of operations. Liability from such claims could exceed our total assets if we do not prevail in any lawsuit brought by a third party alleging that an injury was caused by one or more of our products.

***Health care reform measures could adversely affect our business.***

The business and financial condition of pharmaceutical and biotechnology companies are affected by the efforts of governmental and third-party payors to contain or reduce the costs of health care. In the United States and in foreign jurisdictions, there have been, and we expect that there will continue to be, a number of legislative and regulatory proposals aimed at changing the health care system. For example, in some countries other than the United States, pricing of prescription drugs is subject to government control, and we expect proposals to implement similar controls in the United States to continue. Another example of reform that could affect our business is drug reimportation into the United States (*i.e.*, the reimportation of approved drugs originally manufactured in the United States back into the United States from other countries where the drugs were sold at lower prices). Initiatives in this regard could decrease the price we or any potential collaborators receive for our product candidates if they are ever approved for sale, adversely affecting our future revenue growth and potential profitability. Moreover, the pendency or approval of such proposals could result in a decrease in our stock price or adversely affect our ability to raise capital or to obtain strategic partnerships or licenses.

#### **Risks Related to Our Securities**

***There is currently a limited market for our securities, and any trading market that exists in our securities may be highly illiquid and may not reflect the underlying value of our net assets or business prospects.***

Although our common stock and Series E warrants are traded on the NASDAQ Capital Market, there is currently a limited market for our securities and there can be no assurance that an active market will ever develop. Investors are cautioned not to rely on the possibility that an active trading market may develop.

***Our stock may be delisted from NASDAQ, which could affect its market price and liquidity.***

We are required to meet certain qualitative and financial tests (including a minimum stockholders' equity requirement and bid price for our common stock of \$1.00 per share) to maintain the listing of our common stock on the NASDAQ Capital Market. During portions of 2008 and 2009, our stockholders' equity was below the continued listing standard requirement of \$2.5 million and the bid price for our common stock was below \$1.00 per share for periods of time, and our common stock was in jeopardy of being delisted. During 2010, the trading price of our common stock was minimally above \$1.00 per share for brief periods of time, and during 2011, the trading price of our common stock was minimally above and below \$1.00 per share for periods of time. Since the end of December 2011, our stock has continued to trade below the minimum bid price continued listing requirement, and our common stock is in jeopardy of being delisted. In February 2012, we received a staff deficiency letter from NASDAQ indicating that our common stock failed to comply with the minimum bid price requirement because it traded below the \$1.00 minimum closing bid price for 30 consecutive trading days. The notice further stated that we will be provided a period of 180 calendar days to regain compliance. If our common stock maintains a closing bid price of \$1.00 per share or more for a minimum of 10 consecutive business days (or such longer period of time as the NASDAQ staff may require in some circumstances, but generally not more than 20 consecutive business days) before August 8, 2012, we will achieve compliance with the listing standards. If our common stock does not achieve compliance with the minimum bid price by August 8, 2012, we may be eligible for an additional 180 day grace period so long as we continue to meet the other listing standards and provide timely notice of our intention to cure the deficiency. However, if it appears to the NASDAQ staff that we will not be able to cure the deficiency, or if we do not meet the other listing standards, NASDAQ could provide notice that our stock will become subject to delisting. We are exercising diligent efforts to maintain the listing of our common stock and warrants on NASDAQ, but there is no assurance we will be able to do so, and if not, our stock could be delisted. It is also possible that we would otherwise fail to satisfy another NASDAQ requirement for continued listing of our common stock. We may

receive additional future notices from NASDAQ that we have failed to meet these requirements. If we are unable to cure any such failures in a timely manner and our common stock is delisted, it could be more difficult to buy or sell our common stock and to obtain accurate quotations, and the price of our stock could suffer a material decline. Delisting may also impair our ability to raise capital.

***As our share price is volatile, and you may not be able to resell our shares at a profit or at all.***

The market prices for securities of biopharmaceutical and biotechnology companies, and early-stage drug discovery and development companies like us in particular, have historically been highly volatile and may continue to be highly volatile in the future. The following factors, in addition to other risk factors described in this section, may have a significant impact on the market price of our common stock:

- the development status of any drug candidates, such as Tovaxin, including clinical study results and determinations by regulatory authorities with respect thereto;
- the initiation, termination, or reduction in the scope of any collaboration arrangements or any disputes or developments regarding such collaborations;
- announcements of technological innovations, new commercial products or other material events by our competitors or us;
- disputes or other developments concerning our proprietary rights;
- changes in, or failure to meet, securities analysts' or investors' expectations of our financial performance;
- additions or departures of key personnel;
- discussions of our business, products, financial performance, prospects or stock price by the financial and scientific press and online investor communities;
- public concern as to, and legislative action with respect to, the pricing and availability of prescription drugs or the safety of drugs and drug delivery techniques; or
- regulatory developments in the United States and in foreign countries.

Broad market and industry factors, as well as economic and political factors, also may materially adversely affect the market price of our common stock.

***We may be or become the target of securities litigation, which is costly and time-consuming to defend.***

In the past, following periods of market volatility in the price of a company's securities or the reporting of unfavorable news, security holders have often instituted class action litigation. If the market value of our securities experience adverse fluctuations and we become involved in this type of litigation, regardless of the outcome, we could incur substantial legal costs and our management's attention could be diverted from the operation of our business, causing our business to suffer.

***Our "blank check" preferred stock could be issued to prevent a business combination not desired by management or our current majority stockholders.***

Our articles of incorporation authorize the issuance of "blank check" preferred stock with such designations, rights and preferences as may be determined by our Board of Directors without stockholder approval. Our preferred stock could be utilized as a method of discouraging, delaying, or preventing a change in our control and as a method of preventing stockholders from receiving a premium for their shares in connection with a change of control.

***Future sales of our common stock in the public market could lower our stock price.***

During 2011, we sold (i) an aggregate of 384,759 shares of common stock in January pursuant to an "at the market" continuous offering program and (ii) an aggregate of 4,146,500 shares of our common stock, and warrants to acquire another 1,658,600 shares, in a public offering in February. Sales of a substantial number of additional shares of our common stock in the public market could cause the market price of our common stock to decline. An aggregate of 23,048,488 shares of common stock were outstanding as of February 15, 2012, and another 13,621,358 shares were issuable upon exercise of outstanding options or warrants. A substantial majority of the outstanding shares of our common stock are freely tradable without restriction or further registration under the Securities Act of 1933. We may sell additional shares of common stock, as well as securities convertible into or exercisable for common stock, in subsequent public or private offerings. We may also issue additional shares of common stock, as well as securities convertible into or exercisable for common stock, to finance future acquisitions. Among other requirements, we will need to raise significant additional capital, or secure a partnering arrangement, in order to undertake the planned Phase IIb clinical study of Tovaxin in SP-MS, and this may require us to issue a substantial amount of securities (including common stock as well as securities convertible into or exercisable for common stock). We cannot predict the size of future issuances of our common stock, as well as securities convertible into or exercisable for common stock, or the effect, if any, that future issuances and sales of our securities will have on the market price of our common stock. Sales of substantial amounts of our common stock, as well as securities convertible into or

exercisable for common stock, including shares issued in connection with an acquisition or securing funds to complete our clinical trial plans, or the perception that such sales could occur, may adversely affect prevailing market prices for our common stock.

***We presently do not intend to pay cash dividends on our common stock.***

We currently anticipate that no cash dividends will be paid on the common stock in the foreseeable future. While our dividend policy will be based on the operating results and capital needs of the business, it is anticipated that all earnings, if any, will be retained to finance the future expansion of our business.

***Our stockholders may experience substantial dilution in the value of their investment if we issue additional shares of our capital stock.***

Our charter allows us to issue up to 100,000,000 shares of our common stock and to issue and designate the rights of, without stockholder approval, up to 10,000,000 shares of preferred stock. In the event we issue additional shares of our capital stock, dilution to our stockholders could result. In addition, if we issue and designate a class of convertible preferred stock, these securities may provide for rights, preferences or privileges senior to, and thus adverse to, those of holders of our common stock.

***We may issue debt and equity securities or securities convertible into equity securities, any of which may be senior to our common stock as to distributions and in liquidation, which could negatively affect the value of our common stock.***

In the future, we may attempt to increase our capital resources by entering into debt or debt-like financing that is unsecured or secured by up to all of our assets, or by issuing additional debt or equity securities, which could include issuances of secured or unsecured commercial paper, medium-term notes, senior notes, subordinated notes, guarantees, preferred stock, hybrid securities, or securities convertible into or exchangeable for equity securities. In the event of our liquidation, our lenders and holders of our debt and preferred securities would receive distributions of our available assets before distributions to the holders of our common stock. Because our decision to incur debt and issue securities in future offerings may be influenced by market conditions and other factors beyond our control, we cannot predict or estimate the amount, timing or nature of our future offerings or debt financings. Further, market conditions could require us to accept less favorable terms for the issuance of our securities in the future.

***Our management has significant flexibility in using our current available cash.***

In addition to general corporate purposes (including working capital and operational purposes), we used part of the approximately \$7.6 million net proceeds from the February 2011 public offering to prepare for and proceed toward the initiation of further clinical studies of Tovaxin in MS. We are currently planning to initiate a Phase IIb clinical trial of Tovaxin in SP-MS patients, subject to securing the necessary resources to conduct such a study. We also remain committed to further advancing Tovaxin in RR-MS (also subject to securing the necessary resources to do so). A Phase IIb clinical study of Tovaxin in SP-MS is expected to involve 180 patients and take approximately three years to complete. If we are able to commence such a study in the first half of 2012, the costs of such study as well as the ongoing expenses of our operations through the expected completion date of such study are estimated at approximately \$32 million. Our existing resources are not adequate to permit us to proceed materially beyond the initiation of such a study (*i.e.*, the dosing of the first patient) or to complete such study or any significant portion of it. Unless we secure at least a substantial portion of the additional resources that will be necessary to complete the planned Phase IIb study and support our operations during the pendency of such study, or we are reasonably confident that such resources will be secured, we would likely not proceed with the initiation of such study.

Depending on future developments and circumstances, we may use some of our available cash for other purposes. Notwithstanding our current intention to use our available cash for further clinical studies of Tovaxin, our management will have significant flexibility in using our current available cash. The actual amounts and timing of expenditures will vary significantly depending on a number of factors, including the amount and timing of cash used in our operations and our research and development efforts. Management's failure to use these funds effectively would have an adverse effect on the value of our common stock and could make it more difficult and costly to raise funds in the future.

**Item 1B. Unresolved Staff Comments.**

None.

**Item 2. Properties.**

Our 10,200 square foot facility is located on three acres at 2635 Technology Forest Boulevard in The Woodlands, Texas. This location provides space for research and development and manufacturing capacity for clinical trials; a specialized Flow Cytometry and Microscopy lab; support of clinical trials with 800 square feet of cGMP manufacturing suites; Quality Systems management with a Quality Control Laboratory, Regulatory Affairs, and Quality Assurance; as well as administrative support space. Approximately 2,500 square feet of space remains available for future build-out. We lease the facility for a term ending in 2015 with two options for an additional five years each at the then prevailing market rate.

**Item 3. Legal Proceedings.**

We are not currently a party to any material legal proceedings.

**Item 4. RESERVED.**

## PART II

### Item 5. Market for Registrant’s Common Equity, Related Stockholder Matters and Issuer Purchases of Equity Securities.

#### Market Information and Holders

Our common stock is traded on the NASDAQ Capital Market under the symbol “OPXA.” Our common stock has, from time to time, traded on a limited, sporadic and volatile basis.

The table below shows the high and low sales prices for our common stock for the periods indicated, as reported by NASDAQ.

	Price Ranges	
	High	Low
<b>Fiscal Year Ended December 31, 2010</b>		
First Quarter.....	\$ 2.86	\$ 1.82
Second Quarter .....	3.07	1.43
Third Quarter .....	2.10	1.02
Fourth Quarter .....	1.66	1.29
<b>Fiscal Year Ended December 31, 2011</b>		
First Quarter.....	\$ 2.80	\$ 1.52
Second Quarter .....	2.01	1.59
Third Quarter .....	1.64	1.11
Fourth Quarter .....	1.40	0.90

The closing price of our common stock on January 31, 2012 was \$0.99 per share, and there were approximately 250 holders of record of our common stock. This number does not include stockholders for whom shares were held in “nominee” or “street name.”

#### Dividends

We have never declared or paid any cash dividends on our common stock and we do not intend to pay cash dividends in the foreseeable future. We currently expect to retain any future earnings to fund the operation and expansion of our business.

#### Securities Authorized for Issuance Under Equity Compensation Plans

The following table sets forth information, as of December 31, 2011, with respect to our compensation plans under which common stock is authorized for issuance, which consist of our 2010 Stock Incentive Plan and its predecessor, our June 2004 Compensatory Stock Option Plan. We believe that the exercise price for all of the options granted under these plans reflect at least 100% of fair market value on the dates of grant for the options at issue.

#### Equity Compensation Plan Information

Plan Category	Number of Securities to be Issued Upon Exercise of Outstanding Options, Warrants and Rights (A)	Weighted Average Exercise Price of Outstanding Options, Warrants and Rights (B)	Number of Securities Remaining Available for Future Issuance Under Equity Compensation Plans (Excluding Securities Reflected in Column A) (C)
Equity Compensation Plans Approved by Stockholders.....	1,771,705	\$ 1.93	2,781,175
Equity Compensation Plans Not Approved by Stockholders.....	—	—	—
Total.....	<u>1,771,705</u>	<u>\$ 1.93</u>	<u>2,781,175</u>

Refer to Note 9 “Options and Warrants” in the Notes to our financial statements for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2011, included elsewhere in the annual report for a description of our 2010 Stock Incentive Plan and 2004 Compensatory Stock Option Plan.

## Recent Sales of Unregistered Securities and Equity Purchases by Company

None.

## Item 6. Selected Financial Data.

Not applicable.

## Item 7. Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations.

*The following discussion of our financial condition and results of operations should be read in conjunction with the accompanying financial statements and the related footnotes thereto.*

### Organizational Overview

We are a development-stage company and have a limited operating history. Our predecessor company for financial reporting purposes was formed on January 22, 2003 to acquire rights to an adult stem cell technology. In November 2004 we acquired Opexa Pharmaceuticals, Inc. and its MS treatment technology. Currently we remain focused on developing our T-cell technology for MS. To date, we have not generated any commercial revenues from operations.

### Critical Accounting Policies

Our discussion and analysis of our financial condition and results of operations is based on our financial statements, which have been prepared in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the U.S. The preparation of these financial statements requires us to make estimates and judgments that affect the reported amounts of assets, liabilities and expenses. We base our estimates on historical experience and on various other assumptions that we believe to be reasonable under the circumstances, the results of which form the basis for making judgments about the carrying values of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. Actual results may differ from these estimates under different assumptions or conditions. We believe the following critical accounting policies affect our most significant judgments and estimates used in preparation of our financial statements.

**Stock-Based Compensation.** On January 1, 2006, we adopted the provisions of FASB ASC 718 which establishes accounting for equity instruments exchanged for employee service. We utilize the Black-Scholes option pricing model to estimate the fair value of employee stock based compensation at the date of grant, which requires the input of highly subjective assumptions, including expected volatility and expected life. Changes in these inputs and assumptions can materially affect the measure of estimated fair value of our share-based compensation. These assumptions are subjective and generally require significant analysis and judgment to develop. When estimating fair value, some of the assumptions will be based on, or determined from, external data and other assumptions may be derived from our historical experience with stock-based payment arrangements. The appropriate weight to place on historical experience is a matter of judgment, based on relevant facts and circumstances.

We estimated volatility by considering historical stock volatility. We have opted to use the simplified method for estimating the expected term of stock options equal to the midpoint between the vesting period and the contractual term.

**Research and Development.** The costs of materials and equipment or facilities that are acquired or constructed for research and development activities and that have alternative future uses are capitalized as tangible assets when acquired or constructed. The cost of such materials consumed in research and development activities and the depreciation of such equipment or facilities used in those activities are research and development costs. However, the costs of materials, equipment, or facilities acquired or constructed for research and development activities that have no alternative future uses are considered research and development costs and are expensed at the time the costs are incurred.

### Results of Operations

#### Comparison of Year Ended December 31, 2011 with the Year Ended December 31, 2010

**Net Sales.** We recorded no commercial revenues for the years ended December 31, 2011 and 2010.

**Research and Development Expenses.** Research and development expenses were \$3,340,038 for the year ended December 31, 2011, compared to \$2,584,734 for the year ended December 31, 2010. The increase in expenses was primarily due to an increase in personnel to conduct increased development activities as well as prepare for our next clinical trial, an increase in development fees, the initiation of key experiments in preparation for our next clinical trial, and an increase in facilities costs due to increased activity in our laboratory, and was partially offset by a decrease in the engagement of consultants and a decrease in stock compensation expense. The increase in research and development expenses for the year ended December 31, 2011 compared to the year ended December 31, 2010 was also due in part to a one-time \$244,479 credit received from the Internal Revenue Service during the year ended December 31, 2010 in payment for our application for the Qualifying Therapeutic Discovery Grant for qualifying 2009 research and development expenses. We have made and expect to continue to make substantial investments in research and development in order to develop and market our technology. We expense research and development costs as incurred. Acquired research and development that

has no alternative future use is expensed when acquired. Property, plant and equipment for research and development that has an alternative future use is capitalized and the related depreciation is expensed.

**General and Administrative Expenses.** Our general and administrative expenses were \$2,406,269 for the year ended December 31, 2011, as compared to \$2,216,043 for the year ended December 31, 2010. The increase in expense is due to an increase in business development costs, an increase in investor relations outreach, an increase in stock compensation expense and an increase in facilities costs, and was partially offset by a reduction in professional service fees.

**Depreciation and Amortization Expenses.** Depreciation and amortization expenses were \$210,252 for the year ended December 31, 2011, as compared to \$168,843 for the year ended December 31, 2010. The increase in expense is due to an increase in depreciation for facility build-out costs incurred during the first half of 2011, an increase in depreciation for laboratory and manufacturing equipment acquired during 2011 to support increased development activities and an increase in depreciation for information technology equipment to replace and upgrade obsolete equipment.

**Interest Expense.** Interest expense was \$3,135 for the year ended December 31, 2011, compared to \$500,648 for the year ended December 31, 2010. The decrease in interest expense was primarily related to the amortized interest incurred during the first half of 2010 and the amortization of the remaining discount and deferred financing fees in connection with the June 23, 2010 conversion of the 10% Convertible Promissory Notes (these notes were converted to common stock in June 2010). Interest expense for the twelve months ended December 31, 2011 related solely to the financing costs on insurance policies and the loan payable on an equipment line.

**Interest Income.** Interest income was \$932 for the year ended December 31, 2011, compared to \$1,660 for the year ended December 31, 2010.

**Net Loss.** We had a net loss for the year ended December 31, 2011 of \$5,968,448, or \$0.26 per share (basic and diluted), compared with a net loss of \$5,469,067, or \$0.32 per share (basic and diluted), for the year ended December 31, 2010. The increase in net loss is primarily due to increases in research and development, general and administrative, and depreciation expenses, and was partially offset by a decrease in interest expense.

### **Liquidity and Capital Resources**

Historically, we have financed our operations primarily from the sale of debt and equity securities. As of December 31, 2011, we had cash and cash equivalents of \$7,109,215. Our financing activities generated \$8.6 million for the year ended December 31, 2011, compared to approximately \$0.04 million for the year ended December 31, 2010. The cash generated in 2011 was proceeds from the sale of our securities in two separate offerings. During January 2011, we sold an aggregate of 384,759 shares of our common stock for net proceeds of \$1,066,266 under an "at the market" continuous offering program pursuant to a prospectus supplement dated May 17, 2010. During February 2011, we raised net proceeds of \$7,551,891 through a public offering of common stock and warrants pursuant to a prospectus supplement dated February 8, 2011.

Our burn rate during 2011, in the absence of any clinical trial as well as significant activities in preparation for such a trial, was approximately \$470,000 per month. If we do not commence a clinical trial, and if we also do not engage in any significant activities in preparation for such a trial, we believe we have sufficient liquidity to support operations through 2012. However, we will need to raise additional capital to fund our current business plan and support our operations.

We currently intend to continue to use our available cash to fund general corporate purposes (including working capital and operational purposes) and to prepare for and proceed toward the initiation of a Phase IIb clinical study of Tovaxin in SP-MS, subject to securing the necessary resources to conduct such a study. We also remain committed to further advancing Tovaxin in RR-MS at a later date (also subject to securing the necessary resources to do so). Significant activities in preparation for, and the conduct of, a clinical trial will result in substantial increases in our monthly cash burn. A Phase IIb clinical study in North America of Tovaxin is expected to involve 180 patients and take approximately three years to complete. If we are able to commence such a study in the first half of 2012, the costs of such study as well as the ongoing expenses of our operations through the expected completion date of such study are estimated at approximately \$32 million. Our existing resources would not be adequate to permit us to proceed materially beyond the initiation of such a study (*i.e.*, the dosing of the first patient) or to complete such study or any significant portion of it. Unless we secure at least a substantial portion of the additional resources that will be necessary to complete the planned Phase IIb study and support our operations during the pendency of such study, or we are reasonably confident that such resources will be secured, we would likely not proceed with the initiation of such study.

Given our need for substantial amounts of capital to undertake a Phase IIb clinical study in North America of Tovaxin in SP-MS, we intend to continue to explore potential opportunities and alternatives to obtain the significant additional resources that will be necessary to complete the planned Phase IIb study and to support the operations of the Company during the pendency of such study. In addition to one or more additional financings, these opportunities and alternatives may include a partnering arrangement with a large biotech or pharmaceutical company. There can be no assurance that any such financings or partnering arrangement can be consummated on acceptable terms, if at all.

Assuming we are able to achieve financing which is sufficient to support the planned Phase IIb study in North America and to support our operations during the pendency of such study, we are also exploring a pivotal Phase III clinical study of Tovaxin in RR-MS. Any such study of Tovaxin in RR-MS would also depend upon the availability of sufficient resources.

We do not maintain any external lines of credit, or have commitments for equity funds, and should we need any additional capital in the future, management will be reliant upon “best efforts” debt or equity financings. As our prospects for funding, if any, develop during the fiscal year, we will assess our business plan and make adjustments accordingly. Although we have successfully funded our operations to date by attracting additional investors in our equity and debt securities, there is no assurance that our capital raising efforts will be able to attract additional necessary capital for our operations in the future. If we are unable to obtain additional funding for operations in the future, we may not be able to continue operations as proposed, requiring us to modify our business plan, curtail various aspects of our operations or cease operations.

#### **Off-Balance Sheet Arrangements**

None.

#### **Inflation**

We believe that inflation has not had a material impact on our results of operations for the two years ended December 31, 2011 and 2010, since inflation rates have generally remained at relatively low levels and our operations are not otherwise uniquely affected by inflation concerns.

#### **Recently Issued Accounting Pronouncements**

On July 1, 2009, the FASB officially launched the FASB Accounting Standards Codification, which has become the single official source of authoritative, nongovernmental U.S. Generally Accepted Accounting Principles, in addition to guidance issued by the Securities and Exchange Commission. The codification supersedes all prior FASB, AICPA, EITF, and related literature. The codification, which is effective for interim and annual periods ending after September 15, 2009, is organized into approximately 90 accounting topics. The FASB no longer issues new standards in the form of Statements, FASB Staff Positions, or Emerging Issues Task Force Abstracts. Instead, amendments to the codification are made by issuing “Accounting Standards Updates.”

There were various other accounting standards and interpretations issued during 2011 and 2010, none of which are expected to have a material impact on the Company’s financial position, operations or cash flows.

#### **Item 7A. Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures About Market Risk.**

Not applicable.

#### **Item 8. Financial Statements and Supplementary Data.**

The financial statements and notes thereto and supplementary data required by this Item are presented beginning on page F-1 of this annual report on Form 10-K.

#### **Item 9. Changes in and Disagreements With Accountants on Accounting and Financial Disclosure.**

None.

#### **Item 9A. Controls and Procedures.**

##### **Evaluation of Disclosure Controls and Procedures**

In accordance with Exchange Act Rules 13a-15 and 15d-15, we carried out an evaluation, under the supervision and with the participation of management, including our Chief Executive Officer and Acting Chief Financial Officer, of the effectiveness of our disclosure controls and procedures as of the end of the period covered by this report. Based on that evaluation, our Chief Executive Officer and Acting Chief Financial Officer concluded that our disclosure controls and procedures were effective as of December 31, 2011 in enabling us to record, process, summarize and report information required to be included in our periodic SEC filings within the required time period.

##### **Management’s Report on Internal Control over Financial Reporting**

Our management is responsible for establishing and maintaining adequate internal control over financial reporting, as such term is defined in Exchange Act Rules 13a-15(f) and 15d-15(f). Under the supervision and with the participation of our management, including our Chief Executive Officer and Acting Chief Financial Officer, we conducted an evaluation of the effectiveness of our internal control over financial reporting based on the framework in *Internal Control—Integrated Framework* issued by the Committee of Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission (COSO).

Based on our evaluation under the framework in *Internal Control—Integrated Framework* issued by COSO, our management concluded that our internal control over financial reporting was effective as of December 31, 2011 in providing reasonable assurance regarding the reliability of financial reporting and the preparation of financial statements for external purposes in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles.

This annual report does not include an attestation report of our registered public accounting firm regarding internal control over financial reporting. Management's report was not subject to attestation by our registered public accounting firm pursuant to rules of the SEC that permit us to provide only management's report in this annual report.

#### **Changes in Internal Control over Financial Reporting**

There was no change in internal control over financial reporting (as such term is defined in Exchange Act Rules 13a-15(f) and 15d-15(f)) during our fourth fiscal quarter that has materially affected, or is reasonably likely to materially affect, our internal control over financial reporting.

#### **Item 9B. Other Information.**

None.

## PART III

### Item 10. Directors, Executive Officers and Corporate Governance.

#### Executive Officers

Our executive officers are elected by the Board of Directors and serve at the discretion of the Board. Our executive officers are as follows:

Name	Age	Position
Neil K. Warma .....	49	President, Chief Executive Officer, Acting Chief Financial Officer and Director
Jaye L. Thompson.....	46	Senior Vice President of Clinical Development and Regulatory Affairs
Donna R. Rill .....	58	Senior Vice President of Operations and Quality Systems

Biographical information for our executive officers is set forth below:

**Neil K. Warma** has served as President and Chief Executive Officer since June 2008, as Director since September 2008 and as Acting Chief Financial Officer since March 2009. From July 2004 to September 2007, Mr. Warma served as president and chief executive officer of Viron Therapeutics Inc., a privately-held clinical stage biopharmaceutical company. From 2000 to 2003 Mr. Warma was co-founder and president of MedExact USA, Inc., an Internet company providing clinical information and services to physicians and pharmaceutical companies. From 1992 to 2000, Mr. Warma held senior positions of increasing responsibility at Novartis Pharmaceuticals (previously Ciba-Geigy Ltd.) at its corporate headquarters in Basel, Switzerland. While at Novartis, Mr. Warma served as the Head of International Pharma Policy & Advocacy and in senior management within global marketing where he worked on the international launch of a gastrointestinal product. Mr. Warma obtained an honors degree specializing in Neuroscience from the University of Toronto and an International M.B.A. from the Schulich School of Management at York University in Toronto. As our President and Chief Executive Officer, Mr. Warma is directly involved in all aspects of our operations. He has extensive experience in corporate business development within the biopharmaceutical industry, in addition to executive leadership and management experience.

**Jaye L. Thompson, Ph.D.**, has served as Senior Vice President of Clinical Development and Regulatory Affairs since November 2009. From April 2006 to September 2009, Dr. Thompson served as Senior Vice President of Regulatory and Emerging Technologies for inVentiv Clinical Solutions, LLC, a subsidiary of inVentiv Health, Inc., a publicly traded company providing a wide range of services to the pharmaceutical industries. inVentiv Health acquired SYNERGOS, Inc., the company founded in 1991 by Dr. Thompson. SYNERGOS was a contract research organization helping companies move through the clinical and regulatory hurdles of product development. She currently serves as a director of Repros Therapeutics, Inc. Dr. Thompson received a doctorate and masters degree in Biostatistics from the University of Texas Health Science Center, School of Public Health, and a B.S. in Applied Mathematics from Texas A&M University.

**Donna R. Rill** has served as Senior Vice President of Operations and Quality Systems since January 2009. From November 2004 until January 2009, she served as Vice President of Operations. From April 2003 to November 2004, she was the director of quality systems and process development at Opexa Pharmaceuticals, Inc. From November 1997 to April 2003, she was the director of translational research for the Center for Cell & Gene Therapy at Baylor College of Medicine. Ms. Rill has worked to design and qualify GMP Cell & Gene Therapy Laboratories, GMP Vector Production facilities, and Translational Research Labs at St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, Texas Children's Hospital, and Baylor College of Medicine. Ms. Rill received her B.S. in Medical Technology from the University of Tennessee, Memphis.

#### Directors

All of the current directors serve until the next annual stockholders' meeting or until their successors have been duly elected and qualified. Our current Board of Directors is as follows:

Name	Age	Position
David E. Jordan.....	49	Director
Gail J. Maderis.....	54	Director
Michael S. Richman.....	51	Director
Scott B. Seaman.....	56	Director
Neil K. Warma.....	49	Director, President, Chief Executive Officer and Acting Chief Financial Officer

**David E. Jordan** has served as a Director since August 2008. Mr. Jordan has served as Executive Chairman for Cytomedix, Inc. since February 2012 and previously as an executive board member since October 2008. Mr. Jordan previously served as vice president

with Morgan Stanley in its Wealth Management group where he was responsible for equity portfolio management for high net worth individuals since 2003. Prior to Morgan Stanley, Mr. Jorden served as vice president and chief financial officer of Genometrix, Inc., a private genomics/life sciences company focused on high-throughput microarray applications from March 2000 to September 2002. Mr. Jorden was a principal with Fayez Sarofim & Co. prior to joining Genometrix. Mr. Jorden earned a MBA from Kellogg School of Management at Northwestern University in 1989 and a BBA from the University of Texas/Austin in 1984. He currently serves as a director of Cytomedix, Inc. and PLx Pharma, Inc. Mr. Jorden is a Chartered Financial Analyst and Certified Public Accountant. He has extensive experience in various aspects of corporate finance and accounting for public companies including capital formation and deployment.

**Gail J. Maderis** has served as a Director since October 2011. Ms. Maderis has served as President and CEO of BayBio (Bay Area Bioscience Association), an independent, non-profit trade association serving the life sciences industry in Northern California, since October 2009 and joined BayBio's board in 2004. From July 2003 to June 2009, Ms. Maderis served as President and CEO of FivePrime Therapeutics, Inc., a biotechnology company focused on the discovery and development of innovative protein and antibody drugs, and served as a director until 2010. Prior to that, Ms. Maderis held general management positions at Genzyme Corporation from 1997 to 2003, including founder and president of Genzyme Molecular Oncology, a publicly traded division of Genzyme, and corporate vice president of Genzyme Corporation. Ms. Maderis has served as a director of NovaBay Pharmaceuticals, Inc. since October 2010. Ms. Maderis has been a member of several private company boards, and currently serves on The Mayor's Biotech Advisory Council of San Francisco, as well as the HBS Healthcare Initiative board. Ms. Maderis received a B.S. degree in business from the University of California at Berkeley and an M.B.A. from Harvard Business School. Ms. Maderis has extensive experience as a senior executive of life sciences companies, giving her valuable operational and industry experience and leadership skills, as well as an extensive network of contacts related to financing, partnering and support services in the biotech industry and visibility into business and policy trends that impact the biopharmaceutical industry.

**Michael S. Richman** has served as a Director since June 2006. Mr. Richman has served as president and chief executive officer of Amplimmune, Inc. since July 2008. Mr. Richman served as president and chief operating officer of Amplimmune, Inc. from May 2007 to July 2008. From April 2002 to May 2007, Mr. Richman served as executive vice president and chief operating officer of MacroGenics, Inc. Mr. Richman joined MacroGenics, Inc. in 2002 with approximately 20 years experience in corporate business development within the biotechnology industry. Mr. Richman served as a director of Cougar Biotechnology from June 2006 to July 2009. Mr. Richman obtained his B.S. in Genetics/Molecular Biology at the University of California at Davis and his MSBA in International Business at San Francisco State University. He has extensive experience in business development and strategic planning for life science companies, as well as executive leadership and management experience.

**Scott B. Seaman** has served as a Director since April 2006. Mr. Seaman has served for over five years as the executive director and treasurer of the Albert and Margaret Alkek Foundation of Houston, Texas, a private foundation primarily supporting institutions in the Texas Medical Center in Houston, Texas. Since January 1996 to present, Mr. Seaman has served as the chief financial officer of Chaswil Ltd., an investment management company. Since September 1986, Mr. Seaman has served as secretary and treasurer of M & A Properties Inc., a ranching and real estate concern. In April 2009, Mr. Seaman became the Managing Member of ICT Development LLC which is the Managing Member of ICT Holdings LLC, an energy services supplier. From January 2003 to April 2009, Mr. Seaman served as chairman and from July 2004 to April 2009, as president of ICT Management Inc., the general partner of Impact Composite Technology Ltd., a composite industry supplier. From October 2007 to December 2010, Mr. Seaman served on the board of GeneExcel, Inc., a privately held biotechnology company. From May 2004 to December 2010, Mr. Seaman served as a Member of the Investment Committee of Global Hedged Equity Fund LP, a hedge fund. Mr. Seaman received a bachelor's degree in business administration from Bowling Green State University and is a certified public accountant. Mr. Seaman has extensive experience in overall financial management and corporate development, combined with operational and corporate governance experience.

**Neil K. Warma**—refer to “Executive Officers” section above for Mr. Warma's biographical information.

#### **Audit Committee**

The Board of Directors has established a standing Audit Committee currently composed of three non-employee directors, Messrs. Jorden, Richman and Seaman, each of whom the Board has determined is “independent” within the meaning of SEC rules and regulations and NASDAQ listing standards. The Audit Committee selects, on behalf of our Board, an independent public accounting firm to audit our financial statements, discusses with the independent auditors their independence, reviews and discusses the audited financial statements with the independent auditors and management, recommends to our Board whether the audited financials should be included in our Annual Report to be filed with the SEC, and oversees management's identification, evaluation, and mitigation of major risks to Opexa. The Board has determined that Messrs. Jorden and Seaman each qualifies as an “audit committee financial expert” as defined in SEC rules and regulations and also possesses the financial sophistication and requisite experience as required under NASDAQ listing standards.

## Code of Ethics

In 2005, in accordance with SEC rules, the then Audit Committee and the Board of Directors adopted the Policy on Whistleblower Protection and Code of Ethics which is applicable to our principal executive officer, principal financial officer, principal accounting officer or controller, or persons performing similar functions, which we sometimes refer to as our senior financial officers. The Board of Directors believes that these individuals must set an exemplary standard of conduct, particularly in the areas of accounting, internal accounting control, auditing and finance. This Code of Ethics sets forth ethical standards to which the designated officers must adhere and other aspects of accounting, auditing and financial compliance. The Code of Ethics is available on our website at [www.opexatherapeutics.com](http://www.opexatherapeutics.com). Please note that the information contained on our website is not incorporated by reference in, or considered to be a part of, this document.

## Section 16(a) Beneficial Ownership Reporting Compliance

Section 16(a) of the Exchange Act requires our directors and executive officers, and persons who beneficially own more than 10% of a registered class of our equity securities, to file with the SEC initial reports of ownership and reports of changes in ownership. These reporting persons are required by SEC regulations to furnish us with copies of all such reports they file. To our knowledge, based solely on our review of the copies of such reports furnished to us and written representations from certain insiders that no other reports were required, we believe all of the reporting persons complied with all applicable Section 16(a) filing requirements applicable to them with respect to transactions during the fiscal year ended December 31, 2011.

## Item 11. Executive Compensation.

### Executive Officer Compensation

The following table sets forth certain information concerning compensation earned by or paid to certain persons who we refer to as our "Named Executive Officers" for services provided for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2011. Our Named Executive Officers include persons who (i) served as our principal executive officer or acted in a similar capacity during 2010, (ii) were serving at fiscal year-end as our two most highly compensated executive officers, other than the principal executive officer, whose total compensation exceeded \$100,000, and (iii) if applicable, up to two additional individuals for whom disclosure would have been provided as a most highly compensated executive officer, but for the fact that the individual was not serving as an executive officer at fiscal year-end.

**2011 Summary Compensation Table**

Name and Principal Position	Year	Salary	Bonus	Options Awards <sup>(1)</sup>	All Other Compensation	Total
Neil K. Warma .....	2011	\$ 385,000	\$ 50,000	\$ 115,051	—	\$ 550,051
<i>President, Chief Executive Officer, Acting Chief Financial Officer</i>	2010	\$ 362,083	\$ 50,000	—	—	\$ 412,083
Donna R. Rill .....	2011	\$ 200,000	\$ 15,000	\$ 38,350	—	\$ 253,350
<i>Senior Vice President of Operations and Quality Systems</i>	2010	\$ 208,000	\$ 25,000	—	—	\$ 233,000
Jaye L. Thompson, Ph.D. ....	2011	\$ 200,000	\$ 15,000	\$ 38,350	—	\$ 253,350
<i>Senior Vice President of Clinical Development and Regulatory Affairs</i>	2010	\$ 200,000	\$ 25,000	—	—	\$ 225,000

(1) Amounts in this column represent the aggregate grant date fair value of awards computed in accordance with Financial Accounting Standards Board Accounting Standards Codification Topic 718. See Note 9 to our financial statements included in this annual report on Form 10-K for assumptions underlying the valuation of equity awards.

### Executive Employment Agreements

We entered into an employment agreement on June 16, 2008 with Neil K. Warma pursuant to which he serves as our President and Chief Executive Officer. Pursuant to the agreement, which automatically renews for 12-month periods, Mr. Warma is currently paid \$396,550 per year. In addition, Mr. Warma is entitled to the following: (i) an annual cash bonus of up to 50% of his base salary based upon milestones to be agreed upon; (ii) a one-time payment of \$50,000 cash and 25,000 shares of our common stock to be issued if and when the closing bid price of our common stock equals or exceeds \$4.00 for 20 consecutive trading days; and (iii) a 10-year stock option to purchase 250,000 shares of common stock with an exercise price of \$1.01 per share that vests 50,000 shares immediately and the balance quarterly in equal amounts over three years. In addition, we provided Mr. Warma with relocation assistance and our standard benefits and insurance coverage as generally provided to our management, as well as contractual indemnification rights by reason of his service as an officer and employee. If his employment is terminated by the Board without cause, as defined in the agreement, Mr. Warma will be entitled to receive a severance payment equal to 12 months of his base salary

plus a payment equal to 30% of base salary in lieu of any potential bonus, in addition any earned but unpaid bonus. In addition, vesting of stock options will accelerate in full. We will also reimburse Mr. Warma for COBRA expenses for a 12-month period, subject to a cap equal to Opexa's standard contribution to employee health benefits. Upon the effectiveness of a change in control, as defined in the agreement, Mr. Warma will receive 18 months of salary and COBRA reimbursement and a payment equal to 45% of base salary in lieu of any potential bonus, in addition to any earned but unpaid bonus. In addition, all vesting of options will accelerate in full. Any payment or benefit Mr. Warma might receive upon a change of control which would constitute a "parachute payment" under Section 280G of the Internal Revenue Code will be reduced so as not to trigger excise tax under Section 4999 of such Code. Mr. Warma's agreement also provides that for a 12-month period following his termination of employment, he will not engage or participate in any competitive business or solicit or recruit any of Opexa's employees. The severance and change of control benefits are subject to Mr. Warma executing and delivering a general release and waiver of claims in favor of Opexa.

We entered into an amended and restated employment agreement with Donna R. Rill on April 21, 2010 which is effective as of April 1, 2010, pursuant to which Ms. Rill serves as our Senior Vice President of Operations and Quality Systems. This agreement superseded Ms. Rill's prior agreement. Ms. Rill is currently compensated at the rate of \$220,000 per annum and is eligible to receive an annual discretionary bonus of up to 20% of her base salary per 12-month period, based on the achievement of objectives as determined by Opexa's Board and Chief Executive Officer. In addition, Ms. Rill receives our standard benefits and insurance coverage as generally provided to our management, as well as contractual indemnification rights by reason of her service as an officer and employee. Ms. Rill's employment may be terminated at any time voluntarily by her or without cause (as defined in the agreement) by the Board. If her employment is terminated by the Board without cause, Ms. Rill will be entitled to receive a severance payment equal to six months of her base salary and vesting for any unvested stock options will accelerate by six additional months. The severance benefits are subject to Ms. Rill having been continuously employed through the termination event, executing and delivering a general release and waiver of claims in favor of Opexa, not being in breach of the employment agreement or Opexa's proprietary information and inventions agreement, and not engaging in any activity which is competitive with Opexa during the term of the employment agreement or while receiving the severance benefits. The timing of any payments to Ms. Rill under the employment agreement is subject to applicable requirements of Section 409A of the Code and the related Treasury Regulations.

We entered into an amended and restated employment agreement with Jaye L. Thompson, Ph.D., on June 27, 2011, pursuant to which Dr. Thompson serves as our Senior Vice President of Clinical Development and Regulatory Affairs. This agreement superseded Dr. Thompson's prior agreement dated November 16, 2009. Dr. Thompson is currently compensated at the rate of \$220,000 per annum and is eligible to receive an annual discretionary bonus of up to 20% of her base salary per 12-month period, based upon the achievement of objectives as determined by Opexa's Board and Chief Executive Officer. In addition, Dr. Thompson receives our standard benefits and insurance coverage as generally provided to our management. Dr. Thompson's employment may be terminated at any time voluntarily by her or without cause (as defined in the agreement) by the Board. If her employment is terminated by the Board without cause, Dr. Thompson will be entitled to receive a severance payment equal to six months of her base salary. In addition, in the event of a change of control (as defined in the agreement) and Dr. Thompson's employment is terminated without cause or Dr. Thompson resigns for good reason (as defined in the agreement) within 12 months of such change of control, Dr. Thompson will be entitled to receive a severance payment equal to six months of her base salary and all unvested equity awards will immediately vest in full and become exercisable pursuant to their terms. The severance benefits are subject to Dr. Thompson having been continuously employed through the termination event, executing and delivering a general release and waiver of claims in favor of Opexa, not being in material breach of the employment agreement or Opexa's proprietary information and inventions agreement, and not engaging in any activity which is competitive with Opexa during the term of the employment agreement or while receiving the severance benefits. The timing of any payments to Dr. Thompson under the employment agreement is subject to applicable requirements of Section 409A of the Code and the related Treasury Regulations.

### 2011 Grants of Plan Based Awards

The following table presents information regarding stock options granted during the fiscal year ended December 31, 2011 pursuant to our 2010 Stock Incentive Plan to our Named Executive Officers.

Name	Grant Date	Number of Securities Underlying Options	Exercise Price of Option Awards	Grant Date Fair Value of Options <sup>(1)</sup>
Neil K. Warma.....	01/04/11	75,000 <sup>(2)</sup>	\$ 1.56	\$ 115,051
Donna R. Rill.....	01/04/11	25,000 <sup>(2)</sup>	\$ 1.56	\$ 38,350
Jaye L. Thompson.....	01/04/11	25,000 <sup>(2)</sup>	\$ 1.56	\$ 38,350

(1) Amounts in this column represent the aggregate grant date fair value of awards computed in accordance with Financial Accounting Standards Board Accounting Standards Codification Topic 718. See Note 9 to our financial statements included in this annual report on Form 10-K for assumptions underlying the valuation of equity awards.

(2) The shares vest quarterly over a three-year period from the grant date.

### 2011 Outstanding Equity Awards at Fiscal Year-End

The following table presents information regarding outstanding equity awards at December 31, 2011 for each of the Named Executive Officers.

Name	Option Awards			
	Number of Securities Underlying Unexercised Options (#) Exercisable	Number of Securities Underlying Unexercised Options (#) Unexercisable	Option Exercise Price	Option Expiration Date
Neil K. Warma.....	250,000	—	\$ 1.01	06/16/18
	150,000	—	\$ 0.22	01/16/19
	75,000	25,000 <sup>(1)</sup>	\$ 2.05	11/30/19
	31,250	43,750 <sup>(1)</sup>	\$ 1.56	01/04/21
Donna R. Rill.....	6,000	—	\$ 7.00	12/05/15
	23,380	—	\$ 5.00	04/20/16
	32,000	—	\$ 5.47	06/18/17
	3,000	—	\$ 1.09	05/06/18
	33,000	—	\$ 1.17	06/26/18
	40,000	—	\$ 0.22	01/16/19
	8,396	—	\$ 0.47	02/06/19
	37,500	12,500 <sup>(1)</sup>	\$ 2.05	11/30/19
	10,417	14,583 <sup>(1)</sup>	\$ 1.56	01/04/21
Jaye L. Thompson.....	37,500	12,500 <sup>(1)</sup>	\$ 2.05	11/30/19
	10,417	14,583 <sup>(1)</sup>	\$ 1.56	01/04/21

(1) The shares vest quarterly over a three-year period from the grant date.

### 2011 Director Compensation

The following table presents summary information regarding compensation of the non-employee members of our Board of Directors who served during any part of the fiscal year ended December 31, 2011.

Name	Fees Earned or Paid in Cash	Options Awards	Total
David Hung (former director) <sup>(1)</sup> .....	—	\$35,719 <sup>(2) (3) (4)</sup>	\$ 35,719
David E. Jorden.....	\$ 60,000 <sup>(5)</sup>	\$35,719 <sup>(2) (3) (4)</sup>	\$ 95,719
Gail J. Maderis <sup>(6)</sup> .....	—	\$23,816 <sup>(2) (4) (7)</sup>	\$ 23,816
Michael S. Richman.....	—	\$35,719 <sup>(2) (3) (4)</sup>	\$ 35,719
Scott B. Seaman.....	—	\$35,719 <sup>(2) (3) (4)</sup>	\$ 35,719

- (1) Dr. Hung did not stand for re-election following expiration of his term of office which expired on October 27, 2011.
- (2) Amounts in this column represent the aggregate grant date fair value of awards computed in accordance with Financial Accounting Standards Board Accounting Standards Codification Topic 718. See Note 9 to our financial statements included in this annual report on Form 10-K for assumptions underlying the valuation of equity awards.
- (3) As compensation for Board services, Dr. Hung and Messrs. Jorden, Richman and Seaman were issued the following two options on April 5, 2011 to purchase shares of our common stock at an exercise price of \$1.78 per share, the market value on the date of grant: (i) an option to purchase 10,000 shares, with 50% vesting immediately upon grant and the remaining 50% vesting on April 30, 2012; and (ii) an option to purchase 10,500 shares in lieu of cash compensation for services, with 50% vesting immediately upon grant and the remaining 50% vesting on December 31, 2011.
- (4) The aggregate number of shares underlying outstanding option awards as of December 31, 2011 was: Dr. Hung, 89,139 shares; Mr. Jorden, 81,269 shares; Ms. Maderis, 23,423 shares; Mr. Richman, 142,039 shares; and Mr. Seaman, 149,539 shares.
- (5) Compensation for services as chair of the Audit Committee.
- (6) Ms. Maderis was elected as a director at the October 27, 2011 annual meeting of shareholders.
- (7) As compensation for Board services, Ms. Maderis was issued the following three options on October 27, 2011 to purchase shares of our common stock at an exercise price of \$1.05 per share, the market value on the date of grant: (i) an option to

purchase 20,000 shares, with 33.33% vesting immediately upon grant, 33.33% vesting on October 27, 2012 and 33.33% vesting on October 27, 2013; (ii) an option to purchase 1,667 shares, with 50% vesting immediately upon grant and the remaining 50% vesting on April 5, 2012; and (iii) an option to purchase 1,756 shares in lieu of cash compensation for services, with 50% vesting immediately upon grant and the remaining 50% vesting on December 31, 2011.

### **Standard Compensation Arrangements**

Employee directors do not receive any compensation for services as a member of our Board. We reimburse our directors for travel and lodging expenses in connection with their attendance at Board and committee meetings. As compensation for their services on our Board, in 2011 our non-employee directors were issued options to purchase shares of Opexa common stock in lieu of cash compensation. Each option is granted with an exercise price equal to the fair market value of Opexa's common stock on the date of grant and is issued either fully vested or with a vesting schedule over a period of time up to one year (or up to two years in the case of an initial grant to a new director). In addition, we pay a quarterly retainer of \$15,000 in cash to the chair of our Audit Committee.

### **Item 12. Security Ownership of Certain Beneficial Owners and Management and Related Stockholder Matters.**

The following table sets forth, as of February 15, 2012, the number and percentage of outstanding shares of our common stock beneficially owned by: (a) each person who is known by us to be the beneficial owner of more than 5% of our outstanding shares of common stock; (b) each of our directors; (c) the Named Executive Officers; and (d) all current directors and executive officers, as a group. As of February 15, 2012 there were 23,048,488 shares of common stock issued and outstanding.

Beneficial ownership has been determined in accordance with Rule 13d-3 under the Exchange Act. Under this rule, certain shares may be deemed to be beneficially owned by more than one person (if, for example, persons share the power to vote or the power to dispose of the shares). In addition, shares are deemed to be beneficially owned by a person if the person has the right to acquire shares (for example, upon exercise of an option or warrant) within 60 days of the date as of which the information is provided. In computing the percentage ownership of any person, the amount of shares is deemed to include the amount of shares beneficially owned by such person by reason of such acquisition rights. As a result, the percentage of outstanding shares of any person as shown in the following table does not necessarily reflect the person's actual voting power at any particular date.

To our knowledge, except as indicated in the footnotes to this table and pursuant to applicable community property laws, the persons named in the table have sole voting and investment power with respect to all shares of common stock shown as beneficially owned by them.

#### **Beneficial Ownership Table**

<u>Name and Address of Beneficial Owner<sup>(1)</sup></u>	<u>Number of Shares Owned</u>	<u>Percentage of Class</u>
<b><u>Beneficial Owners of more than 5%:</u></b>		
Albert and Margaret Alkek Foundation <sup>(2)</sup> .....	2,091,130 <sup>(3)</sup>	8.82%
Charles E. Sheedy <sup>(4)</sup> .....	1,608,159 <sup>(5)</sup>	6.80%
Visium Balanced Master Fund Ltd. <sup>(6)</sup> .....	1,411,785 <sup>(7)</sup>	6.07%
LBI Group, Inc. <sup>(8)</sup> .....	1,461,754 <sup>(9)</sup>	6.13%
Alkek & Williams Ventures Ltd. <sup>(10)</sup> .....	1,302,323 <sup>(11)</sup>	5.54%
<b><u>Officers and Directors:</u></b>		
David E. Jordan.....	1,530,386 <sup>(12)</sup>	6.46%
Scott B. Seaman <sup>(10)</sup> .....	1,523,090 <sup>(13)</sup>	6.43%
Neil K. Warma.....	566,540 <sup>(14)</sup>	2.40%
Donna R. Rill.....	198,502 <sup>(15)</sup>	*
Michael S. Richman.....	142,039 <sup>(16)</sup>	*
Jaye L. Thompson.....	55,429 <sup>(17)</sup>	*
Gail J. Maderis.....	10,090 <sup>(18)</sup>	*
All directors and executive officers as a group (7 persons)** .....	4,026,075 <sup>(19)</sup>	15.94%

\* Less than 1%

\*\* Includes only current directors and officers serving in such capacity as of the date of the table.

(1) Unless otherwise indicated in the footnotes, the mailing address of the beneficial owner is c/o Opexa Therapeutics, Inc., 2635 Technology Forest Boulevard, The Woodlands, Texas 77381.

- (2) This information is based on the Schedule 13D/A filed with the SEC on December 16, 2009, by Albert and Margaret Alkek Foundation (the “Foundation”), Alkek & Williams Ventures, Ltd. (“Ventures”), Scott Seaman, DLD Family Investments, LLC (“DLD Family”), and the other reporting persons named therein (the “Foundation 13D”) and other information available to us. The Foundation acts through an investment committee of its board of directors, which includes Mr. Daniel Arnold, Mr. Joe Bailey, Mr. Scott Seaman and Ms. Randa Duncan Williams. Mr. Seaman is the executive director of the Foundation and chairman of the investment committee. The investment committee has sole voting and investment power over all of the shares of common stock beneficially owned by the Foundation. However, pursuant to the Foundation 13D, neither the executive director nor any member of the investment committee may act individually to vote or sell shares of common stock held by the Foundation; therefore, the Foundation has concluded that no individual committee member is deemed to beneficially own, within the meaning of Rule 13d-3 of the Exchange Act, any shares of common stock held by the Foundation solely by virtue of the fact that he or she is a member of the investment committee. Additionally, pursuant to the Foundation 13D, the Foundation has concluded that because Mr. Seaman, in his capacity as executive director or chairman of the investment committee, cannot act in such capacity to vote or sell shares of common stock held by the Foundation without the approval of the investment committee, he is not deemed to beneficially own, within the meaning of Rule 13d-3 of the Exchange Act, any shares of common stock held by the Foundation by virtue of his position as executive director or chairman of the investment committee. The mailing address of the beneficial owner is 1100 Louisiana, Suite 5250, Houston, Texas 77002.
- (3) Consisting of: (i) 1,432,965 shares of common stock; (ii) 250,000 shares of common stock underlying Series E warrants; (iii) 158,165 shares of common stock underlying Series F warrants; and (iv) 250,000 shares of common stock underlying Series G warrants. Pursuant to the Foundation 13D, the Foundation and other reporting persons named therein may be deemed to constitute a group for purposes of Section 13(d) or Section 13(g) of the Exchange Act. However, the Foundation, Ventures, Chaswil, Ltd. and Mr. Seaman expressly disclaim (i) that, for purposes of Section 13(d) or Section 13(g) of the Exchange Act, they are a member of a group with respect to securities of Opexa held by DLD Family, Mr. Arnold, Mr. Bailey or Ms. Williams and (ii) that they have agreed to act together with DLD Family, Mr. Arnold, Mr. Bailey or Ms. Williams as a group other than as described in the Foundation 13D. Therefore, this does not include the following securities: (i) 804,593 shares of common stock held by DLD Family; (ii) 100,000 shares of common stock underlying Series E warrants held by DLD Family; (iii) 68,781 shares of common stock underlying Series F warrants held by DLD Family; (iv) 100,000 shares of common stock underlying Series G warrants held by DLD Family; (v) 80,000 shares of common stock underlying Series H warrants held by DLD Family; (vi) 26,667 shares of common stock held by Mr. Arnold; (vii) 50,000 shares of common stock held by Mr. Bailey; (viii) 840,814 shares of common stock held by Ventures; (ix) 200,000 shares of common stock underlying Series E warrants held by Ventures; (x) 61,509 shares of common stock underlying Series F warrants held by Ventures; (xi) 200,000 shares of common stock underlying Series G warrants held by Ventures; (xii) 43,655 shares of common stock held by Mr. Seaman; (xiii) 10,000 shares of common stock underlying Series E warrants held by Mr. Seaman; (xiv) 17,573 shares of common stock underlying Series F warrants held by Mr. Seaman; and (xv) 149,539 shares of common stock underlying currently exercisable stock options held by Mr. Seaman.
- (4) Charles E. Sheedy exercises sole voting and dispositive power over all of the shares of common stock beneficially owned. The information in this footnote is primarily based on information reported on the Schedule 13G/A filed with the SEC on February 11, 2011 by Charles E. Sheedy and other information available to us. The mailing address of the beneficial owner is 909 Fannin Street, Suite 2907, Houston, Texas 77010.
- (5) Consisting of: (i) 998,423 shares of common stock; (ii) 150,000 shares of common stock underlying Series E warrants; (iii) 353,736 shares of common stock underlying Series F warrants; (iv) 50,000 shares of common stock underlying Series G warrants; and (v) 56,000 shares of common stock underlying Series H warrants.
- (6) This information is based on the Schedule 13G filed with the SEC on February 10, 2012, by Visium Balanced Master Fund, Ltd. (“Visium”), Visium Asset Management, LP (“VAM”), JG Asset, LLC (“JGA”), and Jacob Gottlieb (the “Visium 13G”) and other information available to us. Pursuant to the Visium 13G, (i) as investment manager to the pooled investment funds, VAM may be deemed to beneficially own the shares beneficially owned by the funds, (ii) as general partner to VAM, JGA may be deemed to beneficially own the shares beneficially owned by VAM, and (iii) as managing member of JGA, Mr. Gottlieb may be deemed the beneficial owner of the shares beneficially owned by JGA, and he has sole voting and dispositive power over the shares. VAM, JGA and Mr. Gottlieb disclaim beneficial ownership of the securities, except to the extent of his or its pecuniary interest therein. The mailing address of the beneficial owner is 950 Third Avenue, New York, NY 10022.
- (7) Consisting of: (i) 1,219,785 shares of common stock and (ii) 192,000 shares of common stock underlying Series H warrants.
- (8) Lehman Brothers Holdings Inc. exercises sole voting and dispositive power over all of the shares of common stock beneficially owned by LBI Group Inc. The information in this footnote is primarily based on information reported on the Schedule 13G filed with the SEC on August 19, 2008 by LBI Group Inc. The mailing address of the beneficial owner is 399 Park Avenue, New York, New York 10022.
- (9) Consisting of: (i) 675,675 shares of common stock and (ii) 786,079 shares of common stock underlying Series F warrants.
- (10) Chaswil, Ltd. is the investment manager of Ventures and holds voting power and investment power with respect to Company securities held by Ventures pursuant to a written agreement. Scott B. Seaman is a principal of Chaswil, Ltd. and has shared voting power and shared investment power over all of the shares of common stock beneficially owned by Ventures. The information in this footnote is primarily based on the Foundation 13D and other information provided to us. The mailing address of the beneficial owner is 1100 Louisiana, Suite 5250, Houston, Texas 77002.

- (11) Consisting of: (i) 840,814 shares of common stock; (ii) 200,000 shares of common stock underlying Series E warrants; (iii) 61,509 shares of common stock underlying Series F warrants; and (iv) 200,000 shares of common stock underlying Series G warrants.
- (12) Consisting of: (i) 890,000 shares of common stock; (ii) 145,000 shares of common stock underlying Series E warrants; (iii) 314,117 shares of common stock underlying Series F warrants; (iv) 100,000 shares of common stock underlying Series G warrants; and (v) 81,269 shares of common stock underlying currently exercisable stock options.
- (13) Consisting of: (i) 840,814 shares of common stock held by Ventures; (ii) 200,000 shares of common stock underlying Series E warrants held by Ventures; (iii) 61,509 shares of common stock underlying Series F Warrants held by Ventures; (iv) 200,000 shares of common stock underlying Series G warrants held by Ventures; (v) 149,539 shares underlying currently exercisable stock options held by Mr. Seaman; (vi) 10,000 shares of common stock underlying Series E warrants held by Mr. Seaman; (vii) 17,573 shares of common stock underlying Series F warrants held by Mr. Seaman; and (viii) 43,655 shares of common stock held by Mr. Seaman. (See footnotes 10 and 11 for additional discussion of the information set forth in clauses (i) through (iv) of the preceding sentence.) Pursuant to the Foundation 13D, this does not include the following shares which Mr. Seaman has determined he does not have beneficial ownership of or has disclaimed beneficial ownership: (i) 1,432,965 shares of common stock held by the Foundation; (ii) 250,000 shares of common stock underlying Series E warrants held by the Foundation; (iii) 158,165 shares of common stock underlying Series F warrants held by the Foundation; and (iv) 250,000 shares of common stock underlying Series G warrants held by the Foundation. (See footnotes 2 and 3 for additional discussion of the information set forth in clauses (i) through (iv) of the preceding sentence.) The mailing address of the beneficial owner is 1100 Louisiana, Suite 5250, Houston, Texas 77002.
- (14) Consisting of: (i) 32,234 shares of common stock; (ii) 3,515 shares of common stock underlying Series F warrants; (iii) 10,000 shares of common stock underlying Series G Warrants; and (iv) 520,791 shares of common stock underlying currently exercisable stock options.
- (15) Consisting of: (i) 1,610 shares of common stock and (ii) 196,892 shares of common stock underlying currently exercisable stock options.
- (16) Consisting of: 142,039 shares of common stock underlying currently exercisable stock options.
- (17) Consisting of: (i) 4,313 shares of common stock and (ii) 51,116 shares of common stock underlying currently exercisable stock options.
- (18) Consisting of: 10,090 shares of common stock underlying currently exercisable stock options.
- (19) Consisting of: (a) the following held by Mr. Jordan: (i) 890,000 shares of common stock; (ii) 145,000 shares of common stock underlying Series E warrants; (iii) 314,117 shares of common stock underlying Series F warrants; (iv) 100,000 shares underlying Series G warrants; and (v) 81,269 shares of common stock underlying currently exercisable stock options; (b) the following held by Mr. Seaman or for which Mr. Seaman may be deemed to have voting and investment power: (i) 840,814 shares of common stock held by Ventures; (ii) 200,000 shares of common stock underlying Series E warrants held by Ventures; (iii) 61,509 shares of common stock underlying Series F warrants held by Ventures; (iv) 200,000 shares of common stock underlying Series G warrants held by Ventures; (v) 149,539 shares of common stock underlying currently exercisable stock options held by Mr. Seaman; (vi) 10,000 shares of common stock underlying Series E warrants held by Mr. Seaman; (vii) 17,573 shares of common stock underlying Series F warrants held by Mr. Seaman; and (viii) 43,655 shares of common stock held by Mr. Seaman; (c) the following held by Mr. Warma: (i) 32,234 shares of common stock; (ii) 3,515 shares of common stock underlying Series F warrants; (iii) 10,000 shares of common stock underlying Series G warrants; and (iv) 520,791 shares of common stock underlying currently exercisable stock options; (d) 1,610 shares of common stock and 196,892 shares of common stock underlying currently exercisable stock options held by Ms. Rill; (e) 142,039 shares of common stock underlying currently exercisable stock options held by Mr. Richman; (f) 4,313 shares of common stock and 55,429 shares of common stock underlying currently exercisable stock options held by Dr. Thompson; and (g) 10,090 shares of common stock underlying currently exercisable stock options held by Ms. Maderis.

### **Item 13. Certain Relationships and Related Transactions, and Director Independence.**

#### **Transactions with Related Persons**

The Audit Committee of our Board is responsible for oversight and review of any related person transactions. We have no related person transactions that require disclosure under this section.

#### **Director Independence**

The Board determined that Ms. Maderis and Messrs. Jordan, Richman and Seaman (and Dr. Hung, during the time he served on our Board), are each an independent director within the meaning of NASDAQ listing standards, which directors constitute a majority of the Board. The Board has determined that each member of the Board's Audit, Compensation and Nominating and Corporate Governance Committees is independent (or similarly designated) based on the Board's application of the standards of NASDAQ, the rules and regulations promulgated by the SEC or the Internal Revenue Service, as appropriate for such committee membership. The current members of these committees are as follows:

Director	Independent	Audit Committee	Compensation Committee	Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee
David E. Jordan.....	X	X		X
Gail J. Maderis.....	X		X	X
Michael S. Richman.....	X	X	X	
Scott B. Seaman.....	X	X	X	X

**Item 14. Principal Accountant Fees and Services.**

The following table presents the estimated aggregate fees billed by MaloneBailey, LLP for services performed during our last two fiscal years.

	Years Ended December 31,	
	2011	2010
Audit fees <sup>(1)</sup> .....	\$ 75,000	\$ 74,185
Tax fees <sup>(2)</sup> .....	3,750	10,410
All other fees <sup>(3)</sup> .....	18,022	7,340
	\$ 96,772	\$ 91,935

- (1) Audit fees include professional services rendered for (i) the audit of our annual financial statements for the fiscal years ended December 31, 2010 and 2011, (ii) the reviews of the financial statements included in our quarterly reports on Form 10-Q for such years and (iii) the issuance of consents and other matters relating to registration statements filed by us.
- (2) Tax fees include professional services relating to preparation of the annual tax return.
- (3) Other fees include professional services for review of various filings and issuance of consents.

**Policy on Audit Committee Pre-Approval and Permissible Non-Audit Services of Independent Auditors**

The Board's policy is to pre-approve all audit and permissible non-audit services provided by the independent auditors. These services may include audit services, audit-related services, tax services and other services. Pre-approval is generally provided for up to one year and any pre-approval is detailed as to the particular service or category of services and is generally subject to a specific budget. The independent auditors and management are required to periodically report to the Board regarding the extent of services provided by the independent auditors in accordance with this pre-approval, and the fees for the services performed to date. The Board of Directors may also pre-approve particular services on a case-by-case basis. The Audit Committee pre-approved 100% of the tax services and other services provided by our independent auditors during the last two fiscal years.

**PART IV**

**Item 15. Exhibits and Financial Statement Schedules.**

(a) 1. Financial Statements

**INDEX TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

**Audited Financial Statements for years ended December 31, 2011 and 2010 and the period from January 22, 2003 (Inception) through December 31, 2011**

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2. Financial Statement Schedules

The required information is included in the financial statements or notes thereto.

3. List of Exhibits

Exhibit No.	Description
2.1	Stock Purchase Agreement by and among Sportan United Industries, Inc., Jason G. Otteson, PharmaFrontiers Corp., Warren C. Lau and other PharmaFrontiers stockholders, dated May 5, 2004 (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 2.1 to the Company's Current Report on Form 8-K filed June 4, 2004, File No. 000-25513).
2.2	Agreement and Plan of Reorganization by and among PharmaFrontiers Corp., Pharma Acquisition Corp and Opexa Pharmaceuticals, Inc. dated October 7, 2004 (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 2.1 to the Company's Current Report on 8-K filed October 8, 2004, File No. 000-25513).
3.1	Articles of Amendment and Restatement of the Articles of Incorporation (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 3.1 to the Company's Current Report on Form 8-K filed on June 19, 2006, File No. 000-25513).
3.2	Articles of Amendment to the Amended and Restated Articles of Incorporation (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 3.1 to the Company's Current Report on Form 8-K filed on November 13, 2009).
3.3	Amended and Restated By-laws, as amended (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 3.3 to the Company's Annual Report on form 10-K filed on March 8, 2011).
4.1	Form of Common Stock Certificate (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4.7 to the Company's Registration Statement on Form S-3 filed on November 13, 2009, File No. 333-163108).
4.2	Form of Series E Warrant (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4.2 to the Company's Registration Statement on Form SB-2 (Amendment No. 1) filed December 20, 2007, File No. 333-147167).
4.3	Warrant Agent Agreement by and between the Company and Continental Stock Transfer & Trust Company dated February 13, 2008 for the Series E Warrants (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4.3 to the Company's Current Report on Form 8-K filed February 14, 2008).
4.4	Form of Underwriters' Warrant Agreement by and between the Company and each underwriter party thereto for the Series E Warrants (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4.4 to the Company's Current Report on Form 8-K filed February 14, 2008).
4.5	Form of Underwriters' Warrant to Acquire Warrants Agreement by and between the Company and each underwriter party thereto for the Series E Warrants (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4.5 to the Company's Current Report on Form 8-K filed February 14, 2008).
4.6	Unit Purchase Agreement dated August 8, 2008 by and among the Company and the Investors named therein in

<b>Exhibit No.</b>	<b>Description</b>
	connection with Unit offering of common stock and Series F Warrants (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.1 to the Company's Current Report on Form 8-K filed August 12, 2008).
4.7	Form of Series F Warrant issued in connection with August 8, 2008 financing (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.3 to the Company's Current Report on Form 8-K filed August 12, 2008).
4.8	Registration Rights Agreement dated August 8, 2008 between the Company and the Investors named therein in connection with common stock and Series F Warrants (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.2 to the Company's Current Report on Form 8-K filed August 12, 2008).
4.9	Unit Purchase Agreement dated April 14, 2009 by and among the Company and the Investors party thereto for the 10% Convertible Notes and Series G Warrants (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.1 of the Company's Current Report on Form 8-K filed April 16, 2009).
4.10	Form of Series G Warrant issued by the Company on April 14, 2009 (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.4 of the Company's Current Report on Form 8-K filed April 16, 2009).
4.11	Placement Agent Agreement dated December 9, 2009 by and between the Company and Rodman & Renshaw, LLC for Unit offering of Common Stock and Series A and Series B Warrants (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 1.1 to the Company's Current Report on Form 8-K filed December 10, 2009).
4.12	Form of Securities Purchase Agreement dated as of December 9, 2009 by and between the Company and each investor signatory thereto for Unit offering of Common Stock and Series A and Series B Warrants (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.1 to the Company's Current Report on Form 8-K filed December 10, 2009).
4.13	Form of Common Stock Purchase Warrant for Series A and Series B Warrants (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4.1 to the Company's Current Report on Form 8-K filed December 10, 2009).
4.14	Form of Series H Warrant issued by the Company on February 11, 2011 (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4.1 of the Company's Current Report on Form 8-K filed February 8, 2011).
10.1+	Opexa Therapeutics, Inc. June 2004 Compensatory Stock Option Plan (incorporated by reference to Exhibit B to the Company's Definitive Information Statement on Schedule 14C filed on June 29, 2004, File No. 000-25513).
10.2+	Certificate of Amendments to the Opexa Therapeutics, Inc. June 2004 Compensatory Stock Option Plan (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.15 of the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K filed March 5, 2010).
10.3+	Employment Agreement dated June 16, 2008 by and between the Company and Neil K. Warma (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.1 to the Company's Current Report on Form 8-K filed on June 18, 2008).
10.4+	Amended and Restated Employment Agreement entered into on April 21, 2010 by and between the Company and Donna R. Rill (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.1 of the Company's Current Report on Form 8-K filed April 27, 2010).
10.5+	Amended and Restated Employment Agreement entered into on June 27, 2011 by and between the Company and Jaye L. Thompson (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.1 of the Company's Current Report on Form 8-K filed June 30, 2011).
10.6	License Agreement dated September 5, 2001 by and between the Company and Baylor College of Medicine (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.14 to the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-KSB filed April 15, 2005, File No. 000-25513).
10.7	Lease dated August 19, 2005 by and between the Company and Dirk D. Laukien (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.13 to the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-KSB filed March 31, 2006, File No. 000-25513).
10.8	License Agreement dated January 13, 2006 by and between the Company and Shanghai Institute for Biological Services (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.23 to the Company's Registration Statement on Form SB-2 (Amendment No. 1) filed February 9, 2006, File No. 333-126687).
10.9	Fourth Amended and Restated License Agreement, dated November 2, 2011, by and between Opexa Therapeutics, Inc. and the University of Chicago (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.2 to the Company's Current Report on Form 8-K filed November 4, 2011).

- 10.10+ Opexa Therapeutics, Inc. 2010 Stock Incentive Plan (incorporated by reference to Appendix A to the Company's Schedule 14A definitive proxy statement filed September 14, 2010).
- 10.11+ Form of award agreement for awards to be made under the Opexa Therapeutics, Inc. 2010 Stock Incentive Plan (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.2 of the Company's Current Report on Form 8-K filed October 22, 2010).
- 10.12 Continuous Offering Program Agreement dated May 14, 2010 by and between the Company and Rodman & Renshaw, LLC (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.1 of the Company's Current Report on Form 8-K filed on May 17, 2010) (subsequently terminated February 7, 2011 as disclosed in the Company's Current Report on Form 8-K filed on February 7, 2011).
- 10.13 Assignment Agreement and General Release, dated November 2, 2011, by and between Opexa Therapeutics, Inc. and Novartis Institutes for BioMedical Research, Inc. (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.1 to the Company's Current Report on Form 8-K filed November 4, 2011).
- 23.1\* Consent of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm MaloneBailey, LLP, dated February 27, 2012 to the incorporation by reference of their report dated February 27, 2012, in the Company's Registration Statements on Form S-8 and S-3.
- 31.1\* Certification of Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer pursuant to Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.
- 32.1\* Certification of Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.

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\* Filed herewith

+ Management contract or compensatory plan or arrangement.

## SIGNATURES

Pursuant to the requirements of Section 13 or 15(d) 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.

### OPEXA THERAPEUTICS, INC.

By: /s/ Neil K. Warma

Neil K. Warma  
President, Chief Executive Officer and  
Acting Chief Financial Officer

Date: February 27, 2012

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Act of 1934, this report has been signed below by the following persons on behalf of the Registrant and in the capacity and on the dates indicated.

<u>Signature</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Date</u>
<u>/s/ Neil K. Warma</u> Neil K. Warma	President and Chief Executive Officer (Principal Executive Officer) Acting Chief Financial Officer (Principal Financial and Accounting Officer) Director	February 27, 2012
<u>/s/ David E. Jordan</u> David E. Jordan	Director	February 27, 2012
<u>/s/ Gail J. Maderis</u> Gail J. Maderis	Director	February 27, 2012
<u>/s/ Michael S. Richman</u> Michael S. Richman	Director	February 27, 2012
<u>/s/ Scott B. Seaman</u> Scott B. Seaman	Director	February 27, 2012

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## REPORT OF INDEPENDENT REGISTERED PUBLIC ACCOUNTING FIRM

To the Board of Directors  
Opexa Therapeutics, Inc.  
(a development stage company)  
The Woodlands, Texas

We have audited the accompanying balance sheets of Opexa Therapeutics, Inc. (a development stage company), as of December 31, 2011 and 2010 and the related statements of expenses, changes in stockholders' equity and cash flows for each of the years then ended and for the period from January 22, 2003 (Inception) through December 31, 2011. These financial statements are the responsibility of Opexa's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audits.

We conducted our audits in accordance with standards of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States). Those standards require that we plan and perform the audits to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatements. The Company is not required to have, nor were we engaged to perform, an audit of its internal control over financial reporting. Our audits included consideration of internal control over financial reporting as a basis for designing audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Company's internal control over financial reporting. Accordingly, we express no such opinion. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. We believe that our audits provide a reasonable basis for our opinion.

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of Opexa as of December 31, 2011 and 2010 and the results of its operations and its cash flows for each of the years then ended and for the period from January 22, 2003 (Inception) through December 31, 2011 in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

/s/ MALONEBAILEY, LLP  
www.malone-bailey.com  
Houston, Texas

February 27, 2012

**OPEXA THERAPEUTICS, INC.**  
**(a development stage company)**

**BALANCE SHEETS**

	December 31, 2011	December 31, 2010
<b>Assets</b>		
Current assets:		
Cash and cash equivalents .....	\$ 7,109,215	\$ 3,812,535
Other current assets .....	124,773	85,525
Total current assets .....	7,233,988	3,898,060
Property & equipment, net of accumulated depreciation of \$1,193,601 and \$1,109,558, respectively .....	1,029,236	815,958
Total assets .....	\$ 8,263,224	\$ 4,714,018
<b>Liabilities and Stockholders' Equity</b>		
Current liabilities:		
Accounts payable .....	\$ 476,315	\$ 358,837
Accounts payable—related parties .....	15,000	15,000
Accrued expenses .....	576,545	335,861
Current maturity of loan payable .....	—	35,607
Total current liabilities .....	1,067,860	745,305
Total liabilities .....	1,067,860	745,305
Commitments and contingencies .....	—	—
Stockholders' equity:		
Preferred stock, no par value, 10,000,000 shares authorized, none issued and outstanding .....	—	—
Common stock, \$0.01 par value, 100,000,000 shares authorized, 23,048,488 and 18,466,924 shares issued and outstanding .....	230,485	184,670
Additional paid in capital .....	107,645,666	98,496,382
Deficit accumulated during the development stage .....	(100,680,787)	(94,712,339)
Total stockholders' equity .....	7,195,364	3,968,713
Total liabilities and stockholders' equity .....	\$ 8,263,224	\$ 4,714,018

See accompanying summary of accounting policies and notes to financial statements

**OPEXA THERAPEUTICS, INC.**  
**(a development stage company)**  
**STATEMENTS OF EXPENSES**  
**Years ended December 31, 2011 and 2010 and the**  
**Period from January 22, 2003 (Inception) to December 31, 2011**

	<u>2011</u>	<u>2010</u>	<u>Inception through 2011</u>
Research and development .....	\$ 3,340,038	\$ 2,584,734	\$ 70,178,875
General and administrative .....	2,406,269	2,216,043	27,609,075
Depreciation.....	210,252	168,843	1,346,481
Loss on disposal of fixed assets .....	9,686	459	510,248
Operating loss.....	<u>(5,966,245)</u>	<u>(4,970,079)</u>	<u>(99,644,679)</u>
Interest income.....	932	1,660	1,358,417
Other income and expense, net .....	—	—	661,146
Gain on extinguishment of debt.....	—	—	1,612,440
Gain (loss) on derivative instruments .....	—	—	1,388,848
Gain on sale of technology .....	—	—	3,000,000
Interest expense.....	<u>(3,135)</u>	<u>(500,648)</u>	<u>(9,056,959)</u>
Net loss.....	<u>\$ (5,968,448)</u>	<u>\$ (5,469,067)</u>	<u>\$ (100,680,787)</u>
Basic and diluted loss per share .....	\$ (0.26)	\$ (0.32)	
Weighted average shares outstanding .....	22,532,498	17,071,691	

See accompanying summary of accounting policies and notes to financial statements

**OPEXA THERAPEUTICS, INC.**  
**(a development stage company)**

**STATEMENTS OF CHANGES IN STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY**  
**Period from January 22, 2003 (Inception) through December 31, 2011**

	Common Stock		Additional Paid in Capital	Accumulated Deficit	Total
	Shares	Par			
Shares issued for cash.....	525,000	\$ 262,500	\$ (261,500)	\$ —	\$ 1,000
Shares repurchased and cancelled.....	(170,625)	(85,313)	84,988	—	(325)
Discount related to:					
beneficial conversion feature .....	—	—	28,180	—	28,180
warrants attached to debt.....	—	—	28,180	—	28,180
Net loss.....	—	—	—	(126,003)	(126,003)
Balances at December 31, 2003.....	354,375	177,187	(120,152)	(126,003)	(68,968)
Shares issued for:					
cash .....	2,250	1,125	7,875	—	9,000
services .....	206,500	103,250	745,750	—	849,000
license .....	24,269	12,135	414,940	—	427,075
reverse merger with Sportan .....	99,740	49,870	(197,603)	—	(147,733)
acquisition of Opexa .....	250,000	125,000	23,625,000	—	23,750,000
additional shares attached to convertible debt...	16,100	8,050	280,316	—	288,366
conversion of convertible notes.....	60,750	30,375	217,995	—	248,370
Shares cancelled .....	(8,000)	(4,000)	4,000	—	—
Discount related to:					
beneficial conversion feature .....	—	—	855,849	—	855,849
warrants attached to debt.....	—	—	1,848,502	—	1,848,502
Option expense .....	—	—	123,333	—	123,333
Net loss.....	—	—	—	(31,411,736)	(31,411,736)
Balances at December 31, 2004.....	1,005,984	502,992	27,805,805	(31,537,739)	(3,228,942)
Shares issued for:					
cash, net of offering costs.....	389,451	194,725	5,151,492	—	5,346,217
convertible debt.....	611,026	305,513	7,343,933	—	7,649,446
debt .....	2,300	1,150	159,850	—	161,000
license .....	29,194	14,597	1,853,787	—	1,868,384
services .....	24,000	12,000	1,000,400	—	1,012,400
Discount related to:					
beneficial conversion feature .....	—	—	831,944	—	831,944
warrants attached to debt.....	—	—	1,433,108	—	1,433,108
Option expense .....	—	—	2,487,741	—	2,487,741
Warrant expense .....	—	—	2,373,888	—	2,373,888
Transition of warrants from equity instruments to liability instruments.....	—	—	(10,658,496)	—	(10,658,496)
Net loss.....	—	—	—	(14,856,724)	(14,856,724)
Balances at December 31, 2005.....	2,061,955	1,030,977	39,783,452	(46,394,463)	(5,580,034)
Shares issued for:					
cash, net of offering costs.....	4,600,000	2,300,000	18,853,519	—	21,153,519
debt .....	34,829	17,374	162,626	—	180,000
Option expense .....	—	—	2,749,617	—	2,749,617
Warrant expense .....	—	—	1,568,966	—	1,568,966
Net loss.....	—	—	—	(12,649,170)	(12,649,170)
Balances at December 31, 2006.....	6,696,784	3,348,351	63,118,180	(59,043,633)	7,422,898

**OPEXA THERAPEUTICS, INC.**  
(a development stage company)

**STATEMENTS OF CHANGES IN STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY—(Continued)**  
Period from January 22, 2003 (Inception) through December 31, 2011

	Common Stock		Additional Paid in Capital	Accumulated Deficit	Total
	Shares	Par			
Cumulative change in derivative liability .....	—	—	10,658,496	(4,001,820)	6,656,676
Option expense .....	—	—	1,876,103	—	1,876,103
Warrant expense .....	—	—	845,275	—	845,275
Net loss .....	—	—	—	(14,667,367)	(14,667,367)
<b>Balances at December 31, 2007 .....</b>	<b>6,696,784</b>	<b>3,348,351</b>	<b>76,498,054</b>	<b>(77,712,820)</b>	<b>2,133,585</b>
Shares issued for:					
cash, net of offering costs.....	5,503,874	2,751,937	5,899,642	—	8,651,579
services .....	45,200	22,600	26,365	—	48,965
Issuance of warrants for cash.....	—	—	603,850	—	603,850
Option expense .....	—	—	1,901,570	—	1,901,570
Net loss .....	—	—	—	(11,852,152)	(11,852,152)
<b>Balances at December 31, 2008.....</b>	<b>12,245,858</b>	<b>6,122,888</b>	<b>84,929,481</b>	<b>(89,564,972)</b>	<b>1,487,397</b>
Cumulative effect of change in accounting principle.			(1,976,457)	1,755,622	(220,835)
Par value adjustment.....	—	(6,329,888)	6,329,888	—	—
Reduction in derivative liability .....	—	—	587,609	—	587,609
Discount on convertible notes .....	—	—	439,493	—	439,493
Discount on warrants .....	—	—	37,453	—	37,453
Shares issued for:					
cash, net of offering costs.....	2,550,000	25,500	4,663,665	—	4,689,165
exercise of options .....	60,400	26,280	37,324	—	63,604
exercise of warrants .....	619,964	309,982	764,953	—	1,074,935
Option expense .....	—	—	650,249	—	650,249
Net loss .....	—	—	—	(1,433,922)	(1,433,922)
<b>Balances at December 31, 2009.....</b>	<b>15,476,222</b>	<b>154,762</b>	<b>96,463,658</b>	<b>(89,243,272)</b>	<b>7,375,148</b>
Shares issued for:					
conversion of convertible notes.....	2,760,181	27,602	1,352,489	—	1,380,091
exercise of options .....	141,520	1,416	108,225	—	109,641
exercise of warrants .....	34,001	340	(340)	—	—
services .....	55,000	550	63,800	—	64,350
Option expense .....	—	—	508,550	—	508,550
Net loss .....	—	—	—	(5,469,067)	(5,469,067)
<b>Balances at December 31, 2010.....</b>	<b>18,466,924</b>	<b>184,670</b>	<b>98,496,382</b>	<b>(94,712,339)</b>	<b>3,968,713</b>
Shares issued for:					
cash, net of offering costs.....	4,531,259	45,312	8,572,845	—	8,618,157
services .....	50,305	503	86,525	—	87,028
Option expense .....	—	—	489,914	—	489,914
Net loss .....	—	—	—	(5,968,448)	(5,968,448)
<b>Balances at December 31, 2011.....</b>	<b>23,048,488</b>	<b>\$ 230,485</b>	<b>\$ 107,645,666</b>	<b>\$ (100,680,787)</b>	<b>\$ 7,195,364</b>

See accompanying summary of accounting policies and notes to financial statements

**OPEXA THERAPEUTICS, INC.**  
**(a development stage company)**

**STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS**  
**Years ended December 31, 2011 and 2010 and the**  
**Period from January 22, 2003 (Inception) to December 31, 2011**

	<b>2011</b>	<b>2010</b>	<b>Inception through 2011</b>
Cash flows from operating activities			
Net loss .....	\$ (5,968,448)	\$ (5,469,067)	\$ (100,680,787)
Adjustments to reconcile net loss to net cash used in operating activities			
Stock payable for acquired research and development .....	—	—	112,440
Stock issued for acquired research and development .....	—	—	26,286,589
Stock issued for services .....	87,028	64,350	2,061,743
Stock issued for debt in excess of principal .....	—	—	109,070
Amortization of discount on notes payable due to warrants and beneficial conversion feature .....	—	314,749	6,752,698
Gain on extinguishment of debt .....	—	—	(1,612,440)
Depreciation .....	210,252	168,843	1,346,481
Amortization of debt financing costs .....	—	108,117	524,378
Option and warrant expense .....	489,914	508,550	15,575,207
Loss (gain) on derivative instruments .....	—	—	(1,388,848)
Loss on disposal of fixed assets .....	9,686	459	510,248
Changes in:			
Accounts receivable .....	26,245	(26,245)	—
Prepaid and other expenses .....	(65,493)	19,909	(541,446)
Accounts payable – third parties and related parties .....	(13,028)	(251,765)	(89,241)
Accrued expenses .....	234,923	186,087	522,220
Net cash used in operating activities .....	(4,988,921)	(4,376,013)	(50,511,688)
Cash flows from investing activities			
Purchase of property & equipment .....	(296,949)	(35,350)	(1,671,810)
Net cash used in investing activities .....	(296,949)	(35,350)	(1,671,810)
Cash flows from financing activities			
Common stock and warrants sold for cash, net of offering costs .....	8,618,157	—	49,072,488
Common stock repurchased and canceled .....	—	—	(325)
Proceeds from exercise of warrants and options .....	—	109,641	1,248,588
Proceeds from debt .....	—	—	9,283,184
Repayments on loan payable .....	(35,607)	(67,325)	(311,222)
Net cash provided by financing activities .....	8,582,550	42,316	59,292,713
Net change in cash and cash equivalents .....	3,296,680	(4,369,047)	7,109,215
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of period .....	3,812,535	8,181,582	—
Cash and cash equivalents at end of period .....	\$ 7,109,215	\$ 3,812,535	\$ 7,109,215
Cash paid for:			
Income tax .....	\$ —	\$ —	\$ —
Interest .....	3,135	86,491	153,163
<b>NON-CASH TRANSACTIONS</b>			
Issuance of common stock to Sportan shareholders .....	—	—	147,733
Issuance of common stock for accrued interest .....	—	78,091	603,604
Issuance of warrants to placement agent .....	—	—	37,453
Conversion of notes payable to common stock .....	—	1,302,000	7,709,980
Conversion of accrued liabilities to common stock .....	—	—	197,176
Conversion of accounts payable to note payable .....	—	—	93,364
Discount on convertible notes relating to:			
Warrants .....	—	—	3,659,737
Beneficial conversion feature .....	—	—	1,805,519
Stock attached to notes .....	—	—	1,287,440
Fair value of derivative instrument .....	—	—	4,680,220
Derivative reclassified to equity .....	—	—	587,609
Unpaid additions to property and equipment .....	136,266	—	136,266

See accompanying summary of accounting policies and notes to financial statements

**OPEXA THERAPEUTICS, INC.**  
**(a development stage company)**  
**NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

**NOTE 1—BUSINESS OVERVIEW AND SUMMARY OF ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

Opexa Therapeutics, Inc. (“Opexa” or “the Company”) was incorporated in Texas in March 1991 as a bio-pharmaceutical company engaged in developing autologous personalized cellular therapies. During the development stage, Opexa acquired the worldwide license to technology developed at Argonne National Laboratory, a U.S. Department of Energy Laboratory operated by the University of Chicago (“Argonne”). This is an exclusive license to a stem cell technology in which adult multi-potent stem cells are derived from monocytes obtained from the patient’s own blood (the “License”). A patent application was filed in November 2003 with the United States Patent and Trade Office regarding the technology involved in the License.

In June 2004, PharmaFrontiers Corp. (“Pharma”) was acquired by Sportan United Industries, Inc. (“Sportan”) in a transaction accounted for as a reverse acquisition. Pharma’s stockholders were issued 6,386,439 Sportan shares in exchange for 100 percent of the outstanding common shares of Pharma. Immediately following the transaction, Sportan changed its name to Pharma and 7,383,838 shares were outstanding.

On October 7, 2004, Opexa acquired all of the outstanding stock of Opexa Pharmaceuticals, Inc., an entity that has the exclusive worldwide license from Baylor College of Medicine to an individualized T-cell therapeutic vaccine, Tovaxin®, for the treatment of multiple sclerosis (MS).

In June 2006, Opexa (i) changed its name to Opexa Therapeutics, Inc. from Pharma and (ii) effected a one-for-ten reverse common stock split (the “Split”). In January 2007, Opexa Therapeutics, Inc., the parent, merged with its wholly owned subsidiary, Opexa Pharmaceuticals, Inc. with Opexa Therapeutics, Inc. being the surviving company.

In August 2009, Opexa entered into an exclusive agreement with Novartis whereby Novartis acquired Opexa’s rights to the stem cell technology platform and had full responsibility for funding and carrying out all research, development and commercialization activities. Opexa received an upfront cash payment of \$3 million at the time the agreement was entered into and subsequently received \$0.5 million as a technology transfer fee milestone. On November 2, 2011, Opexa re-acquired the stem cell assets from Novartis in consideration for releasing Novartis with respect to any further payment obligations owed to Opexa by Novartis, including the remaining \$0.5 million technology transfer milestone payment. In connection with the re-acquisition of the stem cell assets, a related license agreement with the University of Chicago was assigned back to Opexa. Opexa and the University of Chicago entered into a Fourth Amended and Restated License Agreement in connection with such assignment to Opexa.

**Development Stage Company.** Opexa is considered to be in development stage and has had no commercial revenues to date.

**Basis of Presentation.** All references to number of shares and per share amounts reflect the Split as if it occurred on the first day of the first period presented. The financial statements include the accounts of Opexa and its former wholly-owned subsidiary, Opexa Pharmaceuticals, Inc. through December 31, 2006. All inter-company accounts and transactions have been eliminated.

**Reclassifications.** Certain prior year amounts have been reclassified to conform with the current year presentation.

**Use of Estimates in Financial Statement Preparation.** The preparation of financial statements in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities, the disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements, and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the reporting period. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

**Cash and Cash Equivalents** For purposes of the statements of cash flows, cash equivalents include all highly liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less. The primary objectives for the fixed income investment portfolio are liquidity and safety of principal. Investments are made with the objective of achieving the highest rate of return consistent with these two objectives. Opexa’s investment policy limits investments to certain types of instruments issued by institutions primarily with investment grade credit ratings and places restrictions on maturities and concentration by type and issuer.

**Long-lived Assets.** Property and equipment are stated on the basis of historical cost less accumulated depreciation. Depreciation is provided using the straight-line method over the estimated useful lives of the assets. Major renewals and improvements are capitalized, while minor replacements, maintenance and repairs are charged to current operations. Impairment losses are recorded on long-lived assets used in operations when indicators of impairment are present and the undiscounted cash flows estimated to be generated by those assets are less than the assets’ carrying amount.

**Income Taxes.** Income tax expense is based on reported earnings before income taxes. Deferred income taxes reflect the impact of temporary differences between assets and liabilities recognized for financial reporting purposes and such amounts recognized for tax purposes, and are measured by applying enacted tax rates in effect in years in which the differences are expected to reverse. A valuation allowance is recorded to reduce the net deferred tax asset to zero because it is more likely than not that the deferred tax asset will not be realized. The Company recognizes the effect of income tax positions only if those positions are more likely than not of being sustained upon an examination.

**Stock-Based Compensation.** Opexa accounts for share-based awards issued to employees and non-employees in accordance with FASB ASC 718. Accordingly, employee share-based payment compensation is measured at the grant date, based on the fair value of the award, and is recognized as an expense over the requisite service period (generally the vesting is over a 3-year period). Additionally, share-based awards to non-employees are expensed over the period in which the related services are rendered at their fair value.

**Research and Development.** Research and development expenses include salaries, related employee expenses, clinical trial expenses, research expenses, consulting fees, and laboratory costs. All costs for research and development activities are expensed as incurred. Opexa expends the costs of licenses of patents and the prosecution of patents until the issuance of such patents and the commercialization of related products is reasonably assured. Research and development expense for the years ended December 31, 2011 and 2010 was \$3,340,038 and \$2,584,734, respectively.

## NOTE 2—CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS

At December 31, 2011, Opexa invested approximately \$7.0 million in a money market account with an average market yield of 0.01%. The money market fund invests exclusively in high-quality, short-term money market instruments consisting of U.S. government obligations and repurchase agreements collateralized by the U.S. Government. While this fund seeks current income while preserving capital and liquidity, the fund is subject to risk, including U.S. government obligations risk, and is not federally insured or guaranteed by or obligations of the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation or any other agency. Interest income of \$932 was recognized for the year ended December 31, 2011 in the statements of expenses.

At December 31, 2010, Opexa invested approximately \$3.7 million in a money market account with an average market yield of 0.03%. Interest income of \$1,660 was recognized for the year ended December 31, 2010 in the statements of expenses.

## NOTE 3—PROPERTY AND EQUIPMENT

Property and equipment consisted of the following at December 31, 2011 and 2010:

Description	Life	2011	2010
Computer equipment.....	3 years	\$ 99,603	\$ 117,789
Office furniture and equipment.....	5-7 years	251,170	246,117
Software.....	3 years	96,097	80,480
Laboratory equipment.....	7 years	994,994	990,961
Leasehold improvements.....	10 years	603,445	465,601
Manufacturing equipment.....	7 years	177,528	24,568
Subtotal.....		2,222,837	1,925,516
Less: accumulated depreciation.....		(1,193,601)	(1,109,558)
Property and equipment, net.....		\$ 1,029,236	\$ 815,958

Property and equipment is carried at cost less accumulated depreciation. Depreciation is calculated by the straight-line method over the estimated useful life of three to ten years, depending upon the type of equipment, except for leasehold improvements which are amortized using the straight-line method over the remaining lease term or the life of the asset, whichever is shorter. The cost of repairs and maintenance is charged as an expense as incurred. Depreciation expense totaled \$210,252 and \$168,843 for the years ended December 31, 2011 and 2010, respectively.

## NOTE 4—INCOME TAXES

Opexa uses the liability method, where deferred tax assets and liabilities are determined based on the expected future tax consequences of temporary differences between the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities for financial and income tax reporting purposes.

At December 31, 2011, Opexa had approximately \$61 million of unused net operating losses available for carryforward to future years. The unused net operating losses begin to expire at December 31, 2024. At December 31, 2011, Opexa's deferred tax asset resulting from its cumulative NOLs amounted to \$20,876,592 which is covered by a full valuation allowance due to uncertainty of Opexa's ability to generate future taxable income necessary to realize the related deferred tax asset.

During 2010, Opexa received a direct payment of \$244,479 from the Internal Revenue Service in payment of their application for the Qualifying Therapeutic Discovery Grant. Opexa accounted for this payment as a reduction of research and development expenses for the year ended December 31, 2010.

## **NOTE 5—LOAN PAYABLE**

Loan payable consisted of an equipment line of up to \$250,000 with Wells Fargo of which \$0 and \$35,607 were outstanding as of December 31, 2011 and 2010, respectively. This loan had an interest rate of 7.61% per annum, matured in June 2011 and was secured by Opexa's furniture and equipment purchased with the loan proceeds. For the years ended December 31, 2011 and 2010, Opexa recognized interest expense of \$775 and \$5,522, respectively, associated with its equipment line.

## **NOTE 6—CONVERTIBLE PROMISSORY NOTES**

On April 14, 2009 and May 14, 2009, Opexa closed a private offering consisting of secured convertible notes (the "Notes") for gross proceeds of approximately \$1.3 million. The Notes matured in two years from the date of issue and accrued interest at a 10% rate, compounded annually. The interest was payable at maturity in either cash or common stock at Opexa's option. The Notes were secured by substantially all of Opexa's assets and were convertible into common stock, at the option of the holders, at a price of \$0.50 per share. Additionally, subject to the satisfaction of certain conditions, the Notes were mandatorily convertible into common stock, at Opexa's option, during their term also at \$0.50 per share. The required conditions were: (1) Opexa enters into an agreement that will fund a Phase IIb or Phase III clinical trial for the further development of Opexa's product known as Tovaxin®, (2) Opexa's common stock trades at a price greater than or equal to \$1.00 per share for 20 consecutive trading days, and (3) Opexa has an effective registration statement on file with the Securities and Exchange Commission for the resale of the shares of common stock issuable upon conversion of the Notes.

In connection with the issuance of the Notes, warrants to purchase a total of 1,302,000 shares of common stock were issued to the investors. See Note 9 "Broker and Investor Warrants" for details on the warrants. The Notes were evaluated for a beneficial conversion feature under FASB ASC 470 and determined to have a beneficial conversion feature totaling \$89,546. Opexa recorded a debt discount of \$439,493 related to the warrants granted to the investors. Pursuant to FASB ASC 470, the discount on the Notes is amortized over the period between the issuance date and the maturity of the Notes under the effective interest method.

Opexa analyzed the Notes and the warrants for derivative accounting consideration under FASB ASC 470. Opexa determined the embedded conversion option in the Notes and the warrants met the criteria for classification in stockholders equity under FASB ASC 470. Therefore, derivative accounting was not applicable for these Notes payable or their associated warrants.

The total of the fees associated with the financing (broker commissions and legal fees) were \$158,468. These fees were to be amortized over the life of the Notes using the effective interest method.

Upon notice of Opexa's intent to prepay the then outstanding \$1.25 million aggregate principal balance of the Notes in full on June 23, 2010, the noteholders elected to convert the outstanding principal balance of the Notes into shares of Opexa common stock at the conversion price of \$0.50 pursuant to the terms of the Notes. The conversion of all outstanding Notes was effected June 23, 2010, with one Note for \$50,000 in principal amount having been previously converted in May 2010 by the holder thereof into 100,000 shares of Opexa common stock pursuant to the terms thereof.

In settlement of accrued and unpaid interest on the Notes in the approximate amount of \$156,000, the noteholders accepted Opexa's offer to pay 50% of the accrued interest to June 23, 2010 in cash and 50% of the accrued interest to June 23, 2010 in shares of common stock calculated at the same \$0.50 conversion price. As a condition to accepting Opexa's offer, each noteholder agreed to immediately terminate and release the security interest associated with the Notes as well as Opexa's obligations under the Unit Purchase Agreement, Registration Rights Agreement and Security Agreement that were executed in connection with the original issuance of the Notes.

The conversion of the Notes and payment of accrued interest resulted in the issuance of an aggregate of 2,760,181 shares of common stock and an aggregate cash payment in the amount of \$78,115. As debt was extinguished in exchange for equity pursuant to a preexisting contractual obligation recognized in the financial statements, management has concluded that no gain or loss should be recognized upon the conversion. As of the date of the conversion, the unamortized discount related to the beneficial conversion feature and the warrants issued with the Notes amounting to \$211,590 as well as the unamortized deferred financing costs of \$70,191 were charged to interest expense for the year ended December 31, 2010.

## **NOTE 7—COMMITMENTS AND CONTINGENCIES**

In October 2005, Opexa entered into a ten-year lease for its office and research facilities. The facility including the property is leased for a term of ten years with two options for an additional five years each at the then prevailing market rate. Future minimum lease payments under the non-cancellable operating lease are \$150,133 for 2012, \$157,896 for 2013, \$157,896 for 2014 and \$118,422 for 2015. Rent expense was approximately \$136,000 for each of the years ended December 31, 2011 and 2010.

## **NOTE 8—EQUITY**

During 2003, equity related transactions were as follows:

- 525,000 shares of common stock were sold for \$1,000.
- 170,625 shares were reacquired for \$325 and canceled.

- Additional contributions to capital of \$56,360 resulted from the discounted value to notes payable due to warrants and beneficial conversion features attached to convertible notes was issued in 2003.

During 2004, equity related transactions were as follows:

- 2,250 shares of common stock were sold for \$9,000.
- 206,500 shares of common stock valued at their then fair value of \$849,000 were issued to employees and consultants for their services.
- 24,269 shares of common stock valued at their then fair value of \$427,075 were issued to the University of Chicago per the terms of a license agreement. See Note 11 for details.
- 99,740 shares of common stock were issued for net liabilities of \$147,733 pursuant to the 2004 reorganization.
- 250,000 shares of common stock valued at their then fair value of \$23,750,000 were issued to Opexa Pharmaceuticals, Inc. stockholders.
- 16,100 shares of common stock with a relative fair value of \$288,366 were issued to noteholders as their additional shares for their subscription investment.
- 60,750 shares of common stock were issued to noteholders for the conversion of \$248,370 of principal and interest from convertible notes.
- 8,000 shares of common stock were cancelled pursuant to the terms of an employment separation agreement.
- Additional contributions to capital of \$2,704,351 resulted from the discounted value to notes payable from warrants and beneficial conversion features attached to convertible notes.
- Employee stock option compensation expense was \$123,333 for 2004.

During 2005, equity related transactions were as follows:

- 389,451 shares of common stock with warrants to purchase 1,070,993 shares were sold for \$5,841,769. The relative fair value of the common stock was \$1,103,714 and the relative fair value of the warrants was \$4,738,055. Offering costs of \$495,552 related to shares issued were charged to additional paid in capital.
- 45,168 shares of common stock with a relative fair value of \$999,074 were issued to noteholders as their additional shares for their subscription investment.
- 565,858 shares of common stock were issued to noteholders for the conversion of \$6,124,859 of principal and \$525,513 interest from convertible notes.
- 2,300 shares of common stock valued at their fair value of \$161,000 were issued to noteholders for the conversion of \$51,930 of principal and interest from the notes.
- 29,194 shares of common stock were issued to the University of Chicago per the terms of a license agreement. These shares were recorded at \$1,868,384. See Note 11 for details.
- 24,000 shares of common stock valued at their fair value of \$1,012,400 were issued to consultants for their services.
- Additional contributions to capital of \$2,265,052 relating to the discounted value to notes payable from warrants, beneficial conversion features attached to convertible notes.
- Employee stock option compensation expense was \$2,487,741 for 2005.
- Non-employee stock option compensation expense was \$2,373,888 for 2005.
- Transition of warrants from equity instruments to liability instruments in the amount of \$10,658,496 was recorded.

During 2006, equity related transactions were as follows:

- In March 2006, 34,829 shares of common stock were issued to settle an outstanding accounts payable in the amount of \$180,000.
- In April 2006, Opexa sold 4,600,000 shares of its common stock and warrants to purchase 2,300,000 shares of Opexa's common stock for \$23 million. Opexa paid \$1,846,481 for the commissions and fees related to this offering and granted to its brokers warrants to purchase 213,720 shares of common stock at an exercise price of \$5.00 per share. These warrants are not callable and have a cashless exercise option.
- Employee stock option compensation expense was \$2,749,617 for 2006.
- Non-employee stock option compensation expense was \$1,568,966 for 2006.

During 2007, equity related transactions were as follows:

- Employee stock option compensation expense was \$1,876,103 for 2007.
- Non-employee stock option compensation expense was \$845,275 for 2007.

During 2008, equity related transactions were as follows:

- In February 2008, Opexa sold 3,500,000 shares of common stock and 4,025,000 Series E warrants in a public offering for approximately \$7.6 million. Opexa paid approximately \$1.2 million for the underwriter discounts, commissions and other expenses related to this offering and granted to the underwriter warrants to purchase 350,000 shares of common stock at a price of \$2.40 per share and an option to acquire 350,000 Series E warrants at a price of \$0.18 per Series E warrant.
- In August, Opexa sold 2,003,874 shares of common stock and Series F warrants to purchase 2,003,874 shares of common stock in a private offering to certain institutional and accredited investors for approximately \$3.0 million. Opexa paid approximately \$100,000 in expenses related to this offering.
- 45,200 shares of restricted common stock valued at \$48,965 were issued to Board members as compensation for their Board services.
- Employee stock option compensation expense was \$1,467,364 for 2008.
- Non-employee stock option compensation expense was \$434,207 for 2008.

During 2009, equity related transactions were as follows:

- In December 2009, Opexa sold 2,550,000 shares of its common stock and warrants to purchase 1,275,000 shares of Opexa's common stock for \$5.1 million. Opexa paid \$310,500 for the commissions related to this offering and granted broker warrants to purchase 89,250 shares of common stock at an exercise price of \$2.50 per share. These warrants are not callable and have a cashless exercise option.
- 60,400 shares of common stock were issued in connection with the exercise of stock options.
- 48,200 shares of common stock were issued in connection with the exercise of Series E warrants.
- 472,968 shares of common stock were issued in connection with the exercise of Series F warrants
- 98,796 shares of common stock were issued in connection with the exercise of broker warrants.
- On November 11, 2009, the Company's stockholders approved an amendment to the Articles of Incorporation reducing the par value of the common stock from \$.50 to \$.01 per share. As a result of the reduction in par value, the "Common stock" account was reduced by \$6,329,888 and the "Additional paid-in capital" account was increased by the same amount in the accompanying Statements of Changes in Stockholders' Equity.

During 2010, equity related transactions were as follows:

- In June 2010, 2,760,181 shares of common stock were issued to noteholders for the conversion of \$1,302,000 of principal and \$78,091 of accrued interest from the 10% Convertible Promissory Notes.
- 141,520 shares of common stock were issued in connection with the exercise of stock options.
- 34,001 shares of common stock were issued in connection with the cashless exercise of broker warrants.
- 55,000 shares of common stock valued at their fair value of \$64,350 were issued to a consultant in exchange for services.

During 2011, equity related transactions were as follows:

- In January 2011, 384,759 shares of common stock were sold under the Continuous Offering Program Agreement dated May 14, 2010 (the "ATM Agreement") for net proceeds of \$1,066,286. Compensation and fees totaling \$10,826 was paid to the placement agent with respect to the shares sold. The ATM Agreement was subsequently terminated by Opexa on February 7, 2011.
- In February 2011, an aggregate of 4,146,500 units were sold in a public offering, with each unit consisting of one share of common stock and a warrant to purchase four-tenths (0.40) of a share of common stock, at a price to the public of \$2.05 per unit, for gross proceeds of \$8,500,325. The shares of common stock and warrants were immediately separable and were issued separately such that no units were issued. The warrants were exercisable immediately upon issuance, having a five-year term and an exercise price of \$2.61 per share. Net proceeds from this offering were approximately \$7,551,891, after deducting underwriting discounts and commissions and other estimated offering expenses. The offering closed on February 11, 2011.
- 50,305 shares of common stock valued at their fair value of \$87,028 were issued to a consultant in exchange for services.

## NOTE 9—OPTIONS AND WARRANTS

On September 2, 2010, the Board adopted the Opexa Therapeutics, Inc. 2010 Stock Incentive Plan (“the 2010 Plan”) for the granting of equity incentive awards to employees, directors and consultants of Opexa. The 2010 Plan was approved by the Company’s stockholders on October 19, 2010. The 2010 Plan is the successor to and continuation of Opexa’s June 2004 Compensatory Stock Option Plan (the “2004 Plan”). The 2004 Plan reserved a maximum of 2,300,000 shares of common stock for issuance pursuant to incentive stock options and nonqualified stock options granted to employees, directors and consultants. Awards were made as either incentive stock options or nonqualified stock options, with the Board having discretion to determine the number, term, exercise price and vesting of grants made under the 2004 Plan. All outstanding equity awards granted under the 2004 Plan continue to be subject to the terms and conditions as set forth in the agreements evidencing such stock awards and the terms of the 2004 Plan, but no additional awards will be granted under the 2004 Plan subsequent to approval of the 2010 Plan. Under the 2010 Plan, the total number of shares of common stock reserved for issuance consists of 2,500,000 shares plus the number of shares subject to stock options outstanding under the 2004 Plan that are forfeited or terminate prior to exercise and would otherwise be returned to the share reserves under the 2004 Plan and any reserved shares not issued or subject to outstanding grants, up to a maximum of 2,066,800 shares. The 2010 Plan provides for the grant of either incentive stock options or nonqualified stock options, as well as restricted stock, stock appreciation rights, restricted stock units and performance awards that may be settled in cash, stock or other property. The Board of Directors or Compensation Committee, as applicable, administers the 2010 Plan and has discretion to determine the recipients, the number and types of stock awards to be granted and the terms and conditions of the stock awards, including the period of their exercisability and vesting. Subject to a limitation on repricing without stockholder approval, the Board or Compensation Committee, as applicable, may also determine the exercise price of options granted under the 2010 Plan.

### *Employee Options:*

During 2004, options to purchase 96,500 shares were granted to employees at exercise prices ranging from \$30.00 to \$50.00. These options have terms of five years and vest from one to three years. Fair value of \$5,623,186 was recorded using the Black-Scholes option-pricing model. Variables used in the Black-Scholes option-pricing model for options issued during the year ended December 31, 2004 include (1) discount rate of 2%, (2) option life of five years, (3) expected volatility of 75.1% and (4) zero expected dividends.

During 2005, options to purchase 63,050 shares were granted to employees at an exercise price of \$7.00. These options have terms of ten years and vest in four years. Fair value of \$261,879 was recorded using the Black-Scholes option-pricing model. Variables used in the Black-Scholes option-pricing model for options issued during the year ended December 31, 2005 include (1) discount rate of 2%, (2) option life of ten years, (3) expected volatility of 175.4% and (4) zero expected dividends.

During 2005, options to purchase 4,167 shares were forfeited and cancelled.

During 2006, options to purchase 389,160 shares of common stock were granted by Opexa to its employees at exercise prices ranging from \$5.00 to \$9.40. These options have terms from five to ten years and vest from one to three years. Fair value of \$3,126,168 was recorded using the Black-Scholes option-pricing model. Variables used in the Black-Scholes option-pricing model for options issued during the year ended December 31, 2006 include (1) discount rate range of 4.72% to 5.22%, (2) option life of five to ten years, (3) expected volatility range of 401.3% to 429.9% and (4) zero expected dividends.

During 2006, options to purchase 14,133 shares were forfeited.

Opexa recorded \$2,749,617 stock-based compensation expense to management and employees during 2006.

During 2007, options to purchase 224,400 shares of common stock were granted by Opexa to its employees at exercise prices ranging from \$3.96 to \$5.47. These options have terms of ten years and vest annually over a three year period. Fair value of \$958,011 was recorded using the Black-Scholes option-pricing model. Variables used in the Black-Scholes option-pricing model for options issued during the year ended December 31, 2007 include (1) discount rate range of 4.22% to 5.07%, (2) option life is a term with the expected term of five to six years, (3) expected volatility range of 95.4% to 103.9% and (4) zero expected dividends.

During 2007, options to purchase 17,345 shares were forfeited.

Opexa recorded \$1,876,103 stock-based compensation expense to management and employees during 2007.

During 2008, options to purchase 469,100 shares of common stock were granted by Opexa to its employees at exercise prices ranging from \$1.09 to \$1.17. These options have terms of ten years and have vesting ranges from 8 months to three years. Fair value of \$433,164 was recorded using the Black-Scholes option-pricing model. Variables used in the Black-Scholes option-pricing model for options issued during the year ended December 31, 2008 include (1) discount rate range of 3.15% to 3.73%, (2) option life is a term with the expected term of five to six years, (3) expected volatility of 115.3% and (4) zero expected dividends.

During 2008, options to purchase 104,578 shares were forfeited.

Opexa recorded \$1,467,364 stock-based compensation expense to management and employees during 2008.

During 2009, options to purchase 535,959 shares of common stock were granted by Opexa to its employees at exercise prices ranging from \$0.22 to \$2.05. These options have terms of ten years and have vesting ranges from 6 months to three years. Fair value

of \$512,919 was recorded using the Black-Scholes option-pricing model. Variables used in the Black-Scholes option-pricing model for options issued during the year ended December 31, 2009 include (1) discount rate range of 1.47% to 2.01%, (2) option life is a term with the expected term of five to six years, (3) expected volatility of 192.4%—207.7% and (4) zero expected dividends.

During 2009, options to purchase 228,786 shares were forfeited.

Opexa recorded \$402,803 stock-based compensation expense to management and employees during 2009. Unamortized stock-based compensation expense as of December 31, 2009 amounted to \$586,467.

During 2010, options to purchase 60,000 shares of common stock were granted by Opexa to its employees at exercise prices ranging from \$1.53 to \$2.25. These options have a term of ten years and vest over three years. Fair value of \$112,313 was recorded using the Black-Scholes option-pricing model. Variables used in the Black-Scholes option-pricing model for options issued during the year ended December 31, 2010 include (1) discount rate range of 1.93% to 2.78%, (2) option life is an expected term of six to eight years, (3) expected volatility of 206.0%—212.1% and (4) zero expected dividends.

During 2010, options to purchase 352,578 shares were forfeited and cancelled.

Opexa recorded \$289,413 stock-based compensation expense to management and employees during 2010. Unamortized stock-based compensation expense as of December 31, 2010 amounted to \$399,638.

During 2011, options to purchase 175,000 shares of common stock were granted by Opexa to its employees at an exercise price of \$1.56. These options have a term of ten years and vest over three years. Fair value of \$268,451 was recorded using the Black-Scholes option-pricing model. Variables used in the Black-Scholes option-pricing model for options issued during the year ended December 31, 2011 include (1) discount rate of 3.36%, (2) option life is an expected term of six years, (3) expected volatility of 192.4% and (4) zero expected dividends.

During 2011, options to purchase 75,000 shares were forfeited and cancelled.

Opexa recorded \$304,024 stock-based compensation expense to management and employees during 2011. Unamortized stock-based compensation expense as of December 31, 2011 amounted to \$364,064.

#### ***Non-Employee Options:***

During 2004, options to purchase 20,000 shares were granted to consultants at exercise prices ranging from \$30.00 to \$50.00. These options have terms of five years and vest from one to three years. Fair value of \$1,011,770 was recorded using the Black-Scholes option-pricing model. Variables used in the Black-Scholes option-pricing model for options issued during the year ended December 31, 2004 include (1) discount rate of 2% (2) option life of five years, (3) expected volatility of 75.1% and (4) zero expected dividends.

During 2005, options to purchase 71,060 shares were granted to consultants. Using the Black-Scholes option-pricing model fair value for 2005 was \$1,552,936. Variables used in the Black-Scholes option-pricing model for options issued during the year ended December 31, 2005 include (1) discount rate of 2%, (2) option life of five years, (3) expected volatility of 175.4% and (4) zero expected dividends.

During 2005, options to purchase 10,000 shares were forfeited and cancelled.

During 2006, options to purchase 156,500 shares of common stock were granted by Opexa to its consultants, directors and exiting directors at exercise prices ranging from \$5.20 to \$9.80. These warrants have a term of ten years and vest from one to three years. Fair value of \$1,496,375 was recorded using the Black-Scholes option-pricing model. Variables used in the Black-Scholes option-pricing model for options issued during the year ended December 31, 2006 include (1) discount rate range of 4.7%—5.2%, (2) option life of ten years, (3) expected volatility range of 401.3% to 429.9% and (4) zero expected dividends.

During 2006, options to purchase 5,000 shares expired.

Opexa recorded \$1,568,966 stock-based compensation expense to consultants, directors and exiting directors during 2006.

During 2007, options to purchase 69,500 shares of common stock were granted by Opexa to its consultants and directors at exercise prices ranging from \$3.95 to \$5.47. These options have a term of ten years, and have vesting dates that vary from either full or partial vesting at date of grant to full vesting at the first and second year anniversary of the date of grant. Fair value of \$268,675 was recorded using the Black-Scholes option-pricing model. Variables used in the Black-Scholes option-pricing model for options issued during the year ended December 31, 2007 include (1) discount rate range of 4.20% to 5.07%, (2) option life is a term with the expected term of five and three-quarters years, (3) expected volatility range of 95.4% to 95.9% and (4) zero expected dividends.

Opexa recorded \$845,275 stock-based compensation expense to consultants and directors during 2007.

During 2008, options to purchase 171,300 shares of common stock were granted by Opexa to its consultants and directors at exercise prices ranging from \$0.88 to \$1.55. These options have a term of ten years, and have vesting dates that vary from either full or partial vesting at date of grant to full vesting at the first year anniversary of the date of grant. Fair value of \$179,340 was recorded using the Black-Scholes option-pricing model. Variables used in the Black-Scholes option-pricing model for options issued during the

year ended December 31, 2008 include (1) discount rate range of 3.07% to 3.44%, (2) option life is a term with the expected term of five and one-half years, (3) expected volatility range of 115.3% to 116.5% and (4) zero expected dividends.

During 2008, options to purchase 22,000 shares were forfeited.

Opexa recorded \$434,207 stock-based compensation expense to consultants and directors during 2008.

During 2009, options to purchase 238,380 shares of common stock were granted by Opexa to its consultants and directors at exercise prices ranging from \$0.47 to \$2.10. These options have a term of ten years, and have vesting dates that vary from either full or partial vesting at date of grant to full vesting at the first year anniversary of the date of grant. Fair value of \$215,275 was recorded using the Black-Scholes option-pricing model. Variables used in the Black-Scholes option-pricing model for options issued during the year ended December 31, 2009 include (1) discount rate range of 1.87% to 2.46%, (2) option life is a term with the expected term of 5 to five and one-half years, (3) expected volatility range of 192.9% to 208.9% and (4) zero expected dividends.

During 2009, options to purchase 113,750 shares were forfeited.

Opexa recorded \$247,446 stock-based compensation expense to consultants and directors during 2009. Unamortized stock-based compensation expense as of December 31, 2009 amounted to \$33,715.

During 2010, options to purchase 92,556 shares of common stock were granted by Opexa to its consultants and directors at exercise prices ranging from \$1.53 to \$2.25. These options have terms of two to ten years, and have vesting dates that vary from either full or partial vesting at date of grant to full vesting within one to two years of the date of grant. Fair value of \$200,209 was recorded using the Black-Scholes option-pricing model. Variables used in the Black-Scholes option-pricing model for options issued during the year ended December 31, 2010 include (1) discount rate range of 0.97% to 2.43%, (2) option life is an expected term of two to five and one-quarter years, (3) expected volatility of 206.0%—271.6% and (4) zero expected dividends.

During 2010, options to purchase 40,136 shares were forfeited.

Opexa recorded \$219,138 stock-based compensation expense to consultants and directors during 2010. Unamortized stock-based compensation expense as of December 31, 2010 amounted to \$14,788.

During 2011, options to purchase 129,633 shares of common stock were granted by Opexa to its consultants and directors at exercise prices ranging from \$0.95 to \$1.78. These options have terms of two to ten years, and have vesting dates that vary from either full or partial vesting at date of grant to full vesting within one to two years of the date of grant. Fair value of \$196,783 was recorded using the Black-Scholes option-pricing model. Variables used in the Black-Scholes option-pricing model for options issued during the year ended December 31, 2011 include (1) discount rate range of 0.25% to 3.50%, (2) option life is an expected term of two to five and one-quarter years, (3) expected volatility of 84.7%—198.2% and (4) zero expected dividends.

Opexa recorded \$185,890 stock-based compensation expense to consultants and directors during 2011. Unamortized stock-based compensation expense as of December 31, 2011 amounted to \$19,658.

#### ***Broker and Investor Warrants:***

During 2003, warrants to purchase 15,000 shares were granted to investors related to the convertible notes.

During 2004, warrants to purchase 142,800 shares were granted to investors related to the convertible notes.

During 2005, warrants to purchase 46,084 shares of common stock were issued to several brokerage firms as the offering costs and commissions for Opexa's financing activities at an exercise price of \$1.50. These warrants have a fair value of \$2,197,162 and vest immediately.

During 2005, warrants to purchase 2,386,984 shares were granted to investors related to the convertible notes.

During 2005 warrants to purchase 254,362 shares were forfeited.

In April 2006, warrants to purchase 213,720 shares of common stock were granted by Opexa to the brokers in connection with the \$23 million equity financing, at an exercise price of \$5.00. These warrants have a term of three years and vest immediately. Fair value of \$1,077,778 was recorded using the Black-Scholes option-pricing model. Variables used in the Black-Scholes option-pricing model for warrants issued during the year ended December 31, 2006 include (1) discount rate of 5.22%, (2) warrant life of three years, (3) expected volatility of 429.9% and (4) zero expected dividends.

During 2006, warrants to purchase 2,765,043 shares were granted to investors related to the April 2006 financing. These warrants have a term of five years and vest immediately. Fair value of \$11,729,982 was recorded using the Black-Scholes option-pricing model. Variables used in the Black-Scholes option-pricing model for warrants issued during the year ended December 31, 2006 include (1) discount rate of 4.86%, (2) warrant life of five years, (3) expected volatility of 429.9% and (4) zero expected dividends.

During 2006, warrants to purchase 1,644,908 shares were forfeited.

During 2007, there were no warrants granted to investors.

During 2008, Series E warrants to purchase 4,025,000 shares of common stock were issued by Opexa to the investors and underwriters in connection with the February 2008 public offering, at an exercise price of \$2.00. These warrants vest immediately and have a fair value of \$603,750. During 2008, Opexa issued warrants to the underwriter of the February 2008 public offering to purchase 350,000 shares of common stock at a price of \$2.40 per share and an option to acquire 350,000 Series E warrants at a price of \$0.18 per Series E warrant. These warrants are classified as equity and are immediately exercisable. Fair value of \$350,061 was recorded using the Black-Scholes option-pricing model. Variables used in the Black-Scholes option-pricing model for options issued during the year ended December 31, 2008 include (1) discount rate of 2.93%, (2) warrant life is a term with the expected term of five years, (3) expected volatility of 97.7% and (4) zero expected dividends.

During August 2008, in connection with a private financing, Opexa issued warrants to purchase 2,003,874 shares of its common stock to certain institutional and accredited investors. The warrants expire four years from issuance, are first exercisable after six months of the closing of the financing and are exercisable at \$1.78 per share. These warrants are classified as equity. Fair value of \$1,976,457 was recorded using the Black-Scholes option-pricing model. Variables used in the Black-Scholes option-pricing model for warrants issued during the year ended December 31, 2008 include (1) discount rate of 3.27%, (2) warrant life is a term with the expected term of four years, (3) expected volatility of 116.5% and (4) zero expected dividends.

In connection with the April and May 2009 private offering of convertible notes, investors were issued four-year warrants to purchase up to an aggregate of 1,302,000 shares of common stock, at an exercise price of \$0.75 per share. The estimated fair value of the investor warrants was \$478,577 and was calculated using the Black-Scholes valuation model. The following assumptions were used: (1) no expected dividends, (2) risk free interest rate of 0.86%—0.87%, (3) expected volatility range of 195%—197% and (4) expected life of four years.

As additional compensation, Opexa issued warrants to the broker to purchase 112,140 shares of common stock also at a price of \$0.75 per share. The estimated fair value of the broker warrants was \$37,453 and was calculated using the Black-Scholes valuation model. The following assumptions were used: (1) no expected dividends, (2) risk free interest rate of 0.87%, (3) expected volatility of 195% and (4) expected life of four years.

In connection with the December 2009 registered direct offering, institutional investors were issued Series A warrants to purchase 892,500 shares of common stock and Series B warrants to purchase 382,500 shares of common stock. The Series A and Series B warrants are exercisable at \$2.55 per share and were first exercisable on June 15, 2010. The Series A Warrants expire on June 15, 2015 and the Series B warrants expire on June 15, 2011.

As additional compensation, Opexa issued warrants to the placement agent to purchase 89,250 shares of common stock at \$2.50 per share that were first exercisable on June 15, 2010 and expire on November 23, 2014.

During 2010, warrants to purchase 1,156,633 shares were forfeited.

During 2010, options to acquire Series E warrants of 7,867 shares at a price of \$0.18 per Series E warrant were exercised.

At December 31, 2010, the aggregate intrinsic value of the outstanding options and warrants was \$588,504 and \$1,330,134, respectively.

During 2011, warrants to purchase 2,687,890 shares were forfeited.

In connection with Opexa's February 2011 public offering, as disclosed in Note 8, Opexa issued warrants to purchase an aggregate of 1,658,600 shares of common stock to the investors at an exercise price of \$2.61 per share. These warrants have a term of five years and are immediately exercisable.

At December 31, 2011, the aggregate intrinsic value of the outstanding options and warrants was \$227,567 and \$435,913, respectively.

Summary information regarding options and warrants is as follows:

	<u>Options</u>	<u>Weighted Average Exercise Price</u>	<u>Warrants</u>	<u>Weighted Average Exercise Price</u>
Outstanding at December 31, 2006.....	762,970	\$ 11.48	3,670,361	\$ 19.51
Year ended December 31, 2007:				
Granted.....	293,900	5.28	—	—
Forfeited and canceled.....	(17,345)	7.74	—	—
Outstanding at December 31, 2007.....	1,039,525	\$ 9.79	3,670,361	\$ 19.51
Year ended December 31, 2008:				
Granted.....	640,400	1.10	6,728,874	1.96
Forfeited and canceled.....	(126,578)	6.53	—	—
Outstanding at December 31, 2008.....	1,553,347	\$ 6.47	10,399,235	\$ 8.15
Year ended December 31, 2009:				
Granted.....	773,339	0.96	3,204,620	1.67
Exercised.....	(60,774)	1.05	(718,764)	1.66
Forfeited and canceled.....	(342,536)	10.56	(208,330)	5.00
Outstanding at December 31, 2009.....	1,923,376	\$ 3.70	12,676,761	\$ 6.93
Year ended December 31, 2010:				
Granted.....	152,556	2.08	7,867	2.00
Exercised.....	(141,146)	0.77	(68,411)	2.10
Forfeited and canceled.....	(392,714)	9.11	(1,156,641)	29.40
Outstanding at December 31, 2010.....	1,542,072	\$ 2.15	11,459,576	\$ 2.75
Year ended December 31, 2011:				
Granted.....	304,633	1.57	1,658,600	2.61
Exercised.....	—	—	—	—
Forfeited and canceled.....	(75,000)	5.00	(2,687,890)	5.93
Outstanding at December 31, 2011.....	<u>1,771,705</u>	<u>\$ 1.93</u>	<u>10,430,286</u>	<u>\$ 1.90</u>

Summary of options outstanding and exercisable as of December 31, 2011 is as follows:

Range of Exercise Prices	Weighted Average Remaining Contractual Life (years)	Number of Options Outstanding	Number of Options Exercisable
\$ 0.22 to 4.99	6.50	1,540,765	1,258,388
5.00 to 9.80	0.61	230,940	230,940
\$ 0.22 to 9.80	7.11	1,771,705	1,489,328

Summary of warrants outstanding and exercisable as of December 31, 2011 is as follows:

Range of Exercise Prices	Weighted Average Remaining Contractual Life (years)	Number of Warrants Outstanding	Number of Warrants Exercisable
\$ 0.18 to 2.61	1.76	10,430,286	10,430,286
\$ 0.18 to 2.61	1.76	10,430,286	10,430,286

## NOTE 10—LICENSES AND GAIN ON EXTINGUISHMENT OF DEBT

### *University of Chicago License Agreement*

In 2004, Opexa entered into an agreement with the University of Chicago (“University”) for the worldwide license to technology developed at Argonne National Laboratory, a U.S. Department of Energy Laboratory operated by the University. The license was later amended granting Opexa an exclusive, non-transferable worldwide license to the University’s stem cell technology. In consideration for the license and amendment, Opexa paid the University a total of \$232,742 and issued the University 53,462 shares of common stock valued at \$2,295,461. Opexa also agreed to pay the University \$1.5 million and to issue the University 21,623 shares of Opexa common stock. In April 2007, the \$1.5 million cash payment obligation was extended until July 31, 2007 and the obligation to issue shares of Opexa’s common stock was extended until July 31, 2007, with \$112,440 accrued as of June 30, 2007.

In July 2007, Opexa entered into a second amended and restated license agreement with the University that eliminated the obligations under the prior agreement for the payment of \$1.5 million due July 31, 2007 and the obligation to issue 21,623 shares of Opexa common stock. These obligations were recorded as an intangible asset, with the liabilities recorded as a notes payable—current portion of \$1.5 million and a stock payable of \$112,440. As a result of the amendment and restatement of the license agreement with the University, \$1,612,440 was reported as a gain on extinguishment of liability. Opexa applied the accounting guidance related to transfers and servicing of financial assets and extinguishments of liabilities as well as the guidance on debtor’s accounting for a modification or exchange of debt instruments. In August 2009, the University of Chicago license agreement was assigned to Novartis as part of Opexa’s sale of its stem cell technology platform to Novartis, and effective November 2, 2011, the license agreement was assigned back to Opexa and the license agreement was amended and restated, as further described below.

### *Stem Cell Technology Agreement*

In August 2009, Opexa entered into an exclusive agreement with Novartis for the further development of its stem cell technology. This technology, which has generated preliminary data, was in early preclinical development. Under the terms of the agreement, Novartis acquired the stem cell technology from Opexa and Novartis had full responsibility for funding and carrying out all research, development and commercialization activities. Opexa received an upfront cash payment of \$3 million at the time the agreement was entered into and subsequently received \$0.5 million as a technology transfer milestone fee.

On November 2, 2011, Opexa re-acquired the stem cell assets from Novartis in consideration for releasing Novartis with respect to any further payment obligations owed to Opexa by Novartis, including the remaining \$0.5 million technology transfer milestone payment. In connection with the re-acquisition of the stem cell assets, a related license agreement with the University of Chicago was assigned back to Opexa. Opexa and the University of Chicago entered into a Fourth Amended and Restated License Agreement in connection with such assignment to Opexa.

## NOTE 11—SUBSEQUENT EVENTS

Subsequent to December 31, 2011, Opexa granted its management and employees options to purchase an aggregate of 1,409,367 shares of common stock with a fair value of \$1,323,063 at an exercise price of \$0.95 and an aggregate of 10,000 shares of common stock with a fair value of \$9,064 at an exercise price of \$0.92. Of those options, 1,019,036 are performance-based and will commence three-year quarterly vesting, if at all, in two tranches upon Opexa achieving certain key milestone events. The remaining options to purchase 400,331 shares are time-based and vest quarterly over a three-year period.

On February 15, 2012, Opexa entered into an agreement with Pharmaceutical Research Associates, Inc. (“PRA”), a contract research organization (CRO), in which PRA will provide Opexa with services related to the design, implementation and management of Opexa’s planned Phase II clinical trial program in SP-MS. Under the terms of the agreement, Opexa will pay an upfront cash

payment to PRA of \$236,830 within ten days of contract execution, an upfront cash payment to PRA of \$45,365 as an advance payment of 10% of the estimated pass through costs to be incurred by PRA during the term of the agreement and an upfront cash payment of approximately \$24,750 to PRA for certain proprietary system support and administration licensure necessary for data reporting and management. Future payments by Opexa to PRA under the agreement are based on the achievement of certain time and performance milestones as presented in the agreement. Unless terminated by either party without cause on 60 days prior notice or on shorter notice with cause, the initial term of the agreement is for four years and automatically renews for successive one year terms.