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

FORM 8-K

CURRENT REPORT
Pursuant to Section 13 OR 15(d)
of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934

Date of Report (Date of earliest event reported): March 17, 2022

Chinook Therapeutics, Inc.

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Delaware
(State or other jurisdiction
of incorporation)

001-37345
(Commission
File No.)

94-3348934
(IRS Employer
Identification No.)

400 Fairview Avenue North, Suite 900
Seattle, WA
(Address of principal executive offices)

98109
(Zip Code)

Registrant's telephone number, including area code: (206) 485-7241

Not applicable
(Former name or former address, if changed since last report)

Check the appropriate box below if the Form 8-K filing is intended to simultaneously satisfy the filing obligation of the registrant under any of the following provisions (see General Instruction A.2. below):

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

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

Title of each class	Trading Symbol(s)	Name of each exchange on which registered
Common Stock, par value \$0.0001 per share	KDNY	The Nasdaq Stock Market LLC (The Nasdaq Global Select Market)

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

Emerging growth company ☐

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

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

Effective March 18, 2022, the Board of Directors (the “Board”) of Chinook Therapeutics, Inc (the “Company”) elected Manesh Krishnan, M.D., MPH, MBA, FASN to fill in the newly created vacancy on the Board resulting from an increase in size of the Board from seven (7) directors to eight (8) directors. Dr. Krishnan will serve as a Class III director with a term expiring at the annual meeting of stockholders to be held in 2024, at which time he will stand for election by the Company’s stockholders, or until his earlier death, resignation or removal. The Board determined that Dr. Krishnan is an independent director as that term is defined by the Securities and Exchange Commission (the “SEC”) and the Nasdaq Stock Market, LLC. Dr. Krishnan will serve as a member of the Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee.

As a non-employee director, Dr. Krishnan will receive cash and equity compensation paid by the Company pursuant to its non-employee director compensation program. There are no arrangements or understandings between Dr. Krishnan and any other person pursuant to which Dr. Krishnan was selected as a director, and there are no transactions between Dr. Krishnan and the Company that would require disclosure under Item 404(a) of Regulation S-K. In addition, the Company has entered into an indemnification agreement with Dr. Krishnan in connection with his appointment to the Board which is in substantially the same form as that entered into with the other directors of the Company.

Item 7.01 - Regulation FD Disclosure

On March 21, 2022, the Company issued a press release announcing the appointment of Dr. Krishnan. A copy of the press release is attached hereto as Exhibit 99.1 and is incorporated into this Item 7.01 by reference.

The information in this Current Report on Form 8-K and Exhibit 99.1 attached hereto is intended to be furnished and shall not be deemed “filed” for purposes of Section 18 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the “Exchange Act”) or otherwise subject to the liabilities of that section, nor shall it be deemed incorporated by reference in any filing under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, or the Exchange Act, except as expressly set forth by specific reference in such filing.

Item 9.01. Financial Statements and Exhibits.

(d) Exhibits.

<u>Exhibit</u>	<u>Description</u>
99.1	<u>Press Release, dated March 21, 2022, titled “Chinook Therapeutics Announces Appointment of Dr. Mahesh Krishnan to its Board of Directors”</u>
104	Cover Page Interactive File (the cover page tags are embedded within the Inline XBRL document)

The information in this report, including the exhibit hereto, shall not be deemed to be “filed” for purposes of Section 18 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, or otherwise subject to the liabilities of that Section 11 and 12(a)(2) of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended. The information contained herein and in the accompanying exhibit shall not be incorporated by reference into any filing with the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission made by Chinook Therapeutics, Inc., whether made before or after the date hereof, regardless of any general incorporation language in such filing.

SIGNATURES

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

Dated: March 21, 2022

Chinook Therapeutics, Inc.

By: /s/ Eric L. Dobmeier
Eric L. Dobmeier
President and Chief Executive Officer



Chinook Therapeutics Announces Appointment of Dr. Mahesh Krishnan to its Board of Directors

SEATTLE March 21, 2022 – Chinook Therapeutics, Inc. (NASDAQ: KDNY), a biopharmaceutical company focused on the discovery, development and commercialization of precision medicines for kidney diseases, today announced the appointment of Mahesh Krishnan, M.D., M.P.H., M.B.A., FASN to its Board of Directors. Dr. Krishnan, who currently serves as group vice president of research and development at DaVita Inc., brings more than 20 years of practicing nephrology and industry experience to Chinook.

“We are pleased to welcome Mahesh to our board as we continue to advance our diversified pipeline of programs for rare, severe chronic kidney diseases,” said Eric Dobmeier, president and chief executive officer of Chinook Therapeutics. “Mahesh’s demonstrated medical, commercial and policy experience in nephrology will be a valuable addition to Chinook as we advance our lead programs through late-stage clinical development towards approval and commercial launch.”

In his current role, Dr. Krishnan is responsible for strategic partnerships in technology and research and development at DaVita, as well as medical policy in Washington, D.C. Previously, Dr. Krishnan served as DaVita’s first international chief medical officer in which he oversaw its growth in 10 countries. Dr. Krishnan is an expert on quality measurement and data systems in dialysis and in the past, guided the policy and implementation of the ESRD bundle, one of Medicare’s first value-based purchasing programs. He has a passion for service design to improve the quality, efficiency and effectiveness of healthcare delivery. Prior to joining DaVita, Dr. Krishnan was at Amgen, where he served as medical director for Epogen®, head of global health economics and outcomes research for nephrology and medical policy lead for all domestic Amgen products. Before Amgen, Dr. Krishnan was a practicing nephrologist in Northern Virginia. He has served on editorial boards, has written two books and has more than 60 peer-reviewed publications. Dr. Krishnan earned his medical degree from The Jefferson Medical College at Thomas Jefferson University. He holds an M.P.H. from Johns Hopkins University and an M.B.A. in medical services management at the Johns Hopkins Carey School of Business.

“I am excited to join Chinook’s board to help advance its mission of developing precision medicines for kidney diseases,” said Dr. Krishnan. “The company is a leader in the kidney disease space with emerging best-in-class programs and a strong balance sheet, and I look forward to collaborating with the board and leadership team on the company’s next phase of growth and development.”

About Chinook Therapeutics, Inc.

Chinook Therapeutics, Inc. is a clinical-stage biopharmaceutical company developing precision medicines for kidney diseases. Chinook’s product candidates are being investigated in rare, severe chronic kidney disorders with opportunities for well-defined clinical pathways. Chinook’s lead program is atrasentan, a phase 3 endothelin receptor antagonist for the treatment of IgA nephropathy and other proteinuric glomerular diseases. BION-1301, an anti-APRIL monoclonal antibody is being evaluated in a phase 1/2 trial for IgA nephropathy. In addition, Chinook is advancing CHK-336, an oral small molecule LDHA inhibitor for the treatment of primary hyperoxaluria, as well as research programs for other rare, severe chronic kidney diseases. Chinook is building its pipeline by leveraging insights in kidney single cell RNA sequencing, human-derived organoids and new translational models, to discover and develop therapeutics with differentiating mechanisms of action against key kidney disease pathways. To learn more, visit www.chinooktx.com.

Cautionary Note on Forward-Looking Statements

Certain of the statements made in this press release are forward looking, including those relating to Chinook’s business, future operations, advancement of its product candidates and product pipeline, clinical development of its product candidates, including expectations regarding the advancement of its products and the timing of initiation and results of clinical trials. In some cases, you can identify these statements by forward-looking words such as “may,” “will,” “continue,” “anticipate,” “intend,” “could,” “project,” “expect” or the negative or plural of these words or similar expressions. Forward-looking statements are not guarantees of future performance and are subject to risks and uncertainties that could cause actual results and events to differ materially from those anticipated, including, but not limited to, our ability to develop and commercialize our product candidates, including initiation of clinical trials of our existing product candidates or those developed as part of the Evotec collaboration, whether results of early clinical trials or preclinical studies will be indicative of the results of future trials, our ability to obtain and maintain regulatory approval of our product candidates, our ability to operate in a competitive industry and compete successfully against competitors that may be more advanced or have greater resources than we do, our ability to obtain and adequately protect intellectual property rights for our product candidates and the effects of COVID-19 on our clinical programs and business operations. Many of these risks are described in greater detail in our filings with the SEC. Any forward-looking statements in this press release speak only as of the date of this press release. Chinook assumes no obligation to update forward-looking statements whether as a result of new information, future events or otherwise, after the date of this press release.

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