
**UNITED STATES
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION**

Washington, D.C. 20549

FORM 10-Q

QUARTERLY REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934

FOR THE QUARTERLY PERIOD ENDED MARCH 31, 2008

OR

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

FOR THE TRANSITION PERIOD FROM TO

COMMISSION FILE NUMBER 000-19319

VERTEX PHARMACEUTICALS INCORPORATED

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

MASSACHUSETTS
(State or other jurisdiction of
incorporation or organization)

04-3039129
(I.R.S. Employer
Identification No.)

130 WAVERLY STREET
CAMBRIDGE, MASSACHUSETTS
(Address of principal executive offices)

02139-4242
(zip code)

(617) 444-6100

(Registrant's telephone number, including area code)

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 is a large accelerated filer, an accelerated filer, a non-accelerated filer or a smaller reporting company. See definition 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
(Do not check if a smaller reporting
company)

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

Indicate the number of shares outstanding of each of the issuer's classes of common stock, as of the latest practicable date.

Common Stock, par value \$0.01 per share
Class

140,569,141
Outstanding at May 6, 2008

VERTEX PHARMACEUTICALS INCORPORATED

FORM 10-Q

FOR THE QUARTER ENDED MARCH 31, 2008

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"We," "us," the "Company" and "Vertex" as used in this Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q, refer to Vertex Pharmaceuticals Incorporated, a Massachusetts corporation, and its subsidiaries.

"Vertex" is a registered trademark of Vertex. "Agenerase," "Lexiva" and "Telzir" are registered trademarks of GlaxoSmithKline plc. Other brands, names and trademarks contained in this Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q are the property of their respective owners.

Part I. Financial Information**Item 1. Financial Statements**

Vertex Pharmaceuticals Incorporated
Condensed Consolidated Balance Sheets
(Unaudited)

(In thousands, except share and per share amounts)

	March 31, 2008	December 31, 2007
Assets		
Current assets:		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 490,696	\$ 355,663
Marketable securities, available for sale, current portion	258,947	105,208
Accounts receivable	24,825	31,320
Prepaid expenses	9,470	4,660
Total current assets	783,938	496,851
Marketable securities, available for sale, excluding current portion	—	6,925
Restricted cash	30,258	30,258
Property and equipment, net	64,712	66,509
Other assets	10,597	934
Total assets	\$ 889,505	\$ 601,477
Liabilities and Stockholders' Equity		
Current liabilities:		
Accounts payable	\$ 31,281	\$ 32,750
Accrued expenses and other current liabilities	69,398	98,350
Accrued interest	1,707	—
Deferred revenues, current portion	23,683	25,528
Accrued restructuring expense, current portion	5,947	5,606
Collaborator development loan (due May 2008)	19,997	19,997
Other obligations	21,310	17,048
Total current liabilities	173,323	199,279
Accrued restructuring expense, excluding current portion	28,862	29,686
Convertible senior subordinated notes (due 2013)	287,500	—
Deferred revenues, excluding current portion	95,565	101,217
Total liabilities	585,250	330,182
Commitments and contingencies		
Stockholders' equity:		
Preferred stock, \$0.01 par value; 1,000,000 shares authorized; none issued and outstanding at March 31, 2008 and December 31, 2007, respectively	—	—
Common stock, \$0.01 par value; 200,000,000 shares authorized; 140,382,535 and 132,875,540 shares issued and outstanding at March 31, 2008 and December 31, 2007, respectively	1,385	1,312
Additional paid-in capital	1,984,785	1,856,856
Accumulated other comprehensive income	1,993	881
Accumulated deficit	(1,683,908)	(1,587,754)
Total stockholders' equity	304,255	271,295
Total liabilities and stockholders' equity	\$ 889,505	\$ 601,477

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these condensed consolidated financial statements.

Vertex Pharmaceuticals Incorporated
Condensed Consolidated Statements of Operations
(Unaudited)
(In thousands, except per share amounts)

	Three Months Ended March 31,	
	2008	2007
Revenues:		
Royalties	\$ 10,851	\$ 9,796
Collaborative and other research and development revenues	30,824	59,014
	41,675	68,810
Costs and expenses:		
Royalty payments	3,576	3,269
Research and development expenses	114,582	132,578
Sales, general and administrative expenses	21,623	16,537
Restructuring expense	630	5,055
	140,411	157,439
Loss from operations	(98,736)	(88,629)
Interest income	4,496	9,122
Interest expense	(1,914)	(1,221)
	(96,154)	(80,728)
Net loss	\$ (96,154)	\$ (80,728)
	(0.72)	(0.64)
Basic and diluted net loss per common share	\$	\$
	134,471	125,756
Basic and diluted weighted-average number of common shares outstanding		

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these condensed consolidated financial statements.

Vertex Pharmaceuticals Incorporated

Condensed Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows

(Unaudited)

(In thousands)

	Three Months Ended March 31,	
	2008	2007
Cash flows from operating activities:		
Net loss	\$ (96,154)	\$ (80,728)
Adjustments to reconcile net loss to net cash used in operating activities:		
Depreciation and amortization	7,498	6,321
Stock-based compensation expense	13,072	12,320
Other non-cash based compensation expense	945	846
Realized (gain) loss on marketable securities	(147)	43
Changes in operating assets and liabilities:		
Accounts receivable	6,495	18,824
Prepaid expenses	(4,810)	(3,444)
Accounts payable	(1,469)	(6,227)
Accrued expenses and other current liabilities	(24,692)	(9,103)
Accrued restructuring	(483)	3,435
Accrued interest	1,707	(1,623)
Deferred revenues	(7,497)	(8,472)
Net cash used in operating activities	(105,535)	(67,808)
Cash flows from investing activities:		
Purchases of marketable securities	(174,718)	(28,115)
Sales and maturities of marketable securities	29,178	241,014
Expenditures for property and equipment	(5,494)	(6,133)
Other assets	(370)	(1,101)
Net cash (used in) provided by investing activities	(151,404)	205,665
Cash flows from financing activities:		
Issuances of common stock from employee benefit plans, net	1,910	3,393
Issuances of common stock from stock offering, net	112,069	—
Issuances of convertible senior subordinated notes, net	278,000	—
Debt exchange costs	—	(49)
Net cash provided by financing activities	391,979	3,344
Effect of changes in exchange rates on cash	(7)	(44)
Net increase in cash and cash equivalents	135,033	141,157
Cash and cash equivalents—beginning of period	355,663	213,171
Cash and cash equivalents—end of period	\$ 490,696	\$ 354,328
Supplemental disclosure of cash flow information:		
Cash paid for interest	\$ —	\$ 2,767

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these condensed consolidated financial statements.

Vertex Pharmaceuticals Incorporated

Notes to Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements

(Unaudited)

1. Basis of Presentation

The accompanying condensed consolidated financial statements are unaudited and have been prepared by Vertex Pharmaceuticals Incorporated ("Vertex" or the "Company") in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America ("GAAP").

The condensed consolidated financial statements reflect the operations of the Company and its wholly-owned subsidiaries. All significant intercompany balances and transactions have been eliminated.

Certain information and footnote disclosures normally included in the Company's annual financial statements have been condensed or omitted. The interim financial statements, in the opinion of management, reflect all normal recurring adjustments (including accruals) necessary for a fair presentation of the financial position and results of operations for the interim periods ended March 31, 2008 and 2007.

The results of operations for the interim periods are not necessarily indicative of the results of operations to be expected for the fiscal year, although the Company expects to incur a substantial loss for the year ending December 31, 2008. These interim financial statements should be read in conjunction with the audited financial statements for the year ended December 31, 2007, which are contained in the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2007 that was filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission (the "SEC") on February 11, 2008.

2. Accounting Policies

Basic and Diluted Net Loss per Common Share

Basic net loss per common share is based upon the weighted-average number of common shares outstanding during the period, excluding restricted stock that has been issued but has not yet vested. Diluted net loss per common share is based upon the weighted-average number of common shares outstanding during the period plus additional weighted-average common equivalent shares outstanding during the period when the effect of adding such shares is dilutive. Common equivalent shares result from the assumed exercise of outstanding stock options (the proceeds of which are then assumed to have been used to repurchase outstanding stock using the treasury stock method), the assumed conversion of convertible notes and vesting of unvested restricted shares of common stock. Common equivalent shares have not been included in the net loss per common share calculations because the effect of including such shares would have been anti-dilutive. Total potential gross common equivalent shares consisted of the following (in thousands, except per share amounts):

	At March 31,	
	2008	2007
Stock options	16,259	15,382
Weighted-average exercise price, per share	\$ 28.00	\$ 27.54
Convertible notes	12,425	456
Conversion price, per share	\$ 23.14	\$ 92.26
Unvested restricted shares	1,929	2,045

Notes to Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)

(Unaudited)

2. Accounting Policies (Continued)*Stock-based Compensation Expense*

The Company records stock-based compensation expense in accordance with Financial Accounting Standards Board ("FASB") Statement No. 123(R), "Share-Based Payment" ("SFAS 123(R)"). SFAS 123(R) requires companies to expense the fair value of employee stock options and other forms of stock-based employee compensation over the employees' service periods or the derived service period for awards with market conditions. Compensation expense is measured at the fair value of the award at the grant date, including estimated forfeitures, and is adjusted to reflect actual forfeitures and the outcomes of certain conditions. Please refer to Note 3, "Stock-based Compensation Expense," for further information.

Research and Development Expenses

All research and development expenses, including amounts funded by research and development collaborations, are expensed as incurred. On January 1, 2008, the Company adopted Emerging Issues Task Force ("EITF") Issue No. 07-3, "Accounting for Nonrefundable Advance Payments for Goods or Services to Be Used in Future Research and Development Activities," pursuant to which the Company defers and capitalizes nonrefundable advance payments made by the Company for research and development activities until the related goods are delivered or the related services are performed. Prior to the adoption of EITF Issue No. 07-3, the Company expensed nonrefundable advance payments for research and development activities upon payment. Research and development expenses are comprised of costs incurred in performing research and development activities, including salary and benefits; stock-based compensation expense; laboratory supplies and other direct expenses; contractual services, including clinical trial and pharmaceutical development costs; and infrastructure costs, including facilities costs and depreciation. Due to telaprevir's stage of development, costs related to the investment in its commercial supply are included in research and development expenses.

The Company's collaborators have funded portions of the Company's research and development programs related to specific drug candidates and research targets, including, in the three months ended March 31, 2008, telaprevir and certain cystic fibrosis research targets and in the three months ended March 31, 2007, telaprevir, VX-702, VX-770, kinases and certain cystic fibrosis research targets. The Company's collaborative and other research and development revenues were \$30.8 million and \$59.0 million, respectively, for the three months ended March 31, 2008 and 2007. The Company's research and development expenses allocated to programs in which a collaborator funded at least a portion of the research and development expenses were \$33.9 million and \$81.5 million, respectively, for the three months ended March 31, 2008 and 2007.

Restructuring Expense

The Company records costs and liabilities associated with exit and disposal activities, as defined in FASB Statement No. 146, "Accounting for Costs Associated with Exit or Disposal Activities" ("SFAS 146"), based on estimates of fair value in the period the liabilities are incurred. In periods subsequent to initial measurement, changes to the amount of the liability are measured using the credit-adjusted risk-free discount rate applied in the initial period. In the three months ended March 31, 2008 and 2007, the Company recorded costs and liabilities for exit and disposal activities related to a restructuring plan in accordance with SFAS 146. The liability is evaluated and adjusted as

Notes to Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)

(Unaudited)

2. Accounting Policies (Continued)

appropriate on at least a quarterly basis for changes in circumstances. Please refer to Note 7, "Restructuring Expense," for further information.

Revenue Recognition

The Company recognizes revenues in accordance with the SEC's Staff Accounting Bulletin No. 101, "Revenue Recognition in Financial Statements," as amended by SEC Staff Accounting Bulletin No. 104, "Revenue Recognition," and for revenue arrangements entered into after June 30, 2003, EITF Issue No. 00-21, "Revenue Arrangements with Multiple Deliverables" ("EITF 00-21").

The Company's revenues are generated primarily through collaborative research, development and/or commercialization agreements. The terms of these agreements typically include payment to Vertex of one or more of the following: non-refundable, up-front license fees; funding of research and/or development efforts; milestone payments; and royalties on product sales.

Agreements containing multiple elements are divided into separate units of accounting if certain criteria are met, including whether the delivered element has stand-alone value to the collaborator and whether there is objective and reliable evidence of the fair value of the undelivered obligation(s). The consideration received is allocated among the separate units either on the basis of each unit's fair value or using the residual method, and the applicable revenue recognition criteria are applied to each of the separate units.

The Company recognizes revenues from non-refundable, up-front license fees on a straight-line basis over the contracted or estimated period of performance, which is typically the research or development term. Research and development funding is recognized as earned, ratably over the period of effort.

Substantive milestones achieved in collaboration arrangements are recognized as earned when the corresponding payment is reasonably assured, subject to the following policies in those circumstances where the Company has obligations remaining after achievement of the milestone:

- In those circumstances where collection of a substantive milestone payment is reasonably assured, the Company has remaining obligations to perform under the collaboration arrangement and the Company has sufficient evidence of the fair value for the performance of its remaining obligations, management considers the milestone payment and the remaining obligations to be separate units of accounting. In these circumstances, the Company uses the residual method under EITF 00-21 to allocate revenue among the milestones and the remaining obligations.
- In those circumstances where collection of a substantive milestone payment is reasonably assured and the Company has remaining obligations to perform under the collaboration arrangement, but the Company does not have sufficient evidence of fair value for its remaining obligations, management considers the milestone payment and the remaining obligations under the contract as a single unit of accounting. If the collaboration does not require specific deliverables at specific times or at the end of the contract term, but rather, the Company's obligations are satisfied over a period of time, substantive milestone payments are recognized over the period of performance. This typically results in a portion of the milestone payment being recognized as

Notes to Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)

(Unaudited)

2. Accounting Policies (Continued)

revenue on the date the milestone is achieved equal to the applicable percentage of the performance period that has elapsed as of the date the milestone is achieved, with the balance being deferred and recognized over the remaining period of performance.

At the inception of each agreement, the Company evaluates whether milestones are substantive on the basis of the contingent nature of the milestone, specifically reviewing factors such as the scientific and other risks that must be overcome to achieve the milestone as well as the level of effort and investment required. Milestones that are not considered substantive and that do not meet the separation criteria are accounted for as license payments and recognized on a straight-line basis over the remaining period of performance.

Payments received or reasonably assured after performance obligations are met completely are recognized as earned.

Royalty revenues are recognized based upon actual and estimated net sales of licensed products in licensed territories, as provided by the licensee, and are recognized in the period the sales occur. The Company reconciles and adjusts for differences between actual royalty revenues and estimated royalty revenues in the quarter they become known. These differences have not historically been significant.

Debt Issuance Costs

Debt issuance costs incurred to complete Vertex's convertible subordinated note offerings are deferred and included in other assets on the condensed consolidated balance sheets. The costs are amortized based on the effective interest method over the term of the related debt issuance. The amortization expense is included in interest expense on the condensed consolidated statements of operations.

3. Stock-based Compensation Expense

At March 31, 2008, the Company had five stock-based employee compensation plans: the 1991 Stock Option Plan (the "1991 Plan"), the 1994 Stock and Option Plan (the "1994 Plan"), the 1996 Stock and Option Plan (the "1996 Plan"), the 2006 Stock and Option Plan (the "2006 Plan") and the 2007 New Hire Stock and Option Plan (the "2007 Plan," and together with the 1991 Plan, the 1994 Plan, the 1996 Plan and the 2006 Plan, collectively, the "Stock and Option Plans"), and one Employee Stock Purchase Plan (the "ESPP"). In connection with the Stock and Option Plans, the Company issues stock options and restricted stock awards with service conditions, which are generally the vesting periods of the awards. The Company also issues to certain members of senior management restricted stock awards that vest upon the earlier of the satisfaction of a market condition or a service condition ("PARS").

The Company records stock-based compensation expense in accordance with SFAS 123(R). SFAS 123(R) requires companies to recognize share-based payments to employees as compensation expense using the "fair value" method. The fair value of stock options and shares purchased pursuant to the ESPP is calculated using the Black-Scholes valuation model. The fair value of restricted stock awards is typically based on intrinsic value on the date of grant. Under the fair value recognition provisions of SFAS 123(R), stock-based compensation, measured at the grant date based on the fair

Notes to Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)

(Unaudited)

3. Stock-based Compensation Expense (Continued)

value of the award, is recognized as expense ratably over the service period. The expense recognized over the service period includes an estimate of awards that will be forfeited.

For PARS awards, a portion of the fair value of the common stock on the date of grant is recognized ratably over a derived service period that is equal to the estimated time to satisfy the market condition. The portion of the fair value of the common stock that is recognized over the derived service period is determined on the basis of the estimated probability that the PARS award will vest as a result of the market condition. For the PARS awards granted in 2008, 2007 and 2006, the derived service period relating to each market condition was shorter than the four year service-based vesting period of the PARS. The difference between the fair value of the common stock on the date of grant and the value recognized over the derived service period is recognized ratably over the four year service-based vesting period of the PARS. The stock-based compensation expense recognized over each of the derived service periods and the four year service periods includes an estimate of awards that will be forfeited prior to the end of the derived service periods or the four year service periods, respectively.

The effect of recording stock-based compensation expense for the three months ended March 31, 2008 and 2007 was as follows (in thousands):

	Three Months Ended March 31, 2008	Three Months Ended March 31, 2007
Stock-based compensation expense by type of award:		
Stock options	\$ 8,288	\$ 8,307
Restricted shares	3,799	3,340
ESPP issuances	985	673
Total stock-based compensation expense	\$ 13,072	\$ 12,320
Effect of stock-based compensation expense by line item:		
Research and development expenses	\$ 10,830	\$ 10,302
Sales, general and administrative expenses	2,242	2,018
Total stock-based compensation expense included in net loss	\$ 13,072	\$ 12,320

Stock Options

All stock options granted during the three months ended March 31, 2008 and 2007 were granted with exercise prices equal to the fair market value of the Company's common stock on the date of grant. The stock options granted during the three months ended March 31, 2008 included options to purchase 536,625 shares of common stock (the "Contingent Options") at an exercise price of \$18.93 per share that were granted to the Company's executive officers on February 7, 2008, subject to ratification by the Company's stockholders. At the Company's 2008 Annual Meeting of Stockholders, which is scheduled for May 15, 2008, the Company is seeking ratification of the Contingent Options as part of the Company's proposal to increase the number of shares available under the 2006 Plan.

Notes to Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)

(Unaudited)

3. Stock-based Compensation Expense (Continued)

The options granted during the three months ended March 31, 2008, excluding the Contingent Options, had a weighted-average grant date fair value, measured on the grant date, of \$9.86 per share. If the Contingent Options are ratified, the grant date fair value would be based on a Black-Scholes valuation model based on the fair market value of the options on the date that the Contingent Options are ratified by the Company's stockholders. The options granted during the three months ended March 31, 2007 had a weighted-average grant date fair value, measured on the grant date, of \$20.10 per share.

In accordance with SFAS 123(R), the Company recorded stock-based compensation expense related to stock options of \$8.3 million for each of the three months ended March 31, 2008 and 2007. No compensation expense was recorded in the three months ended March 31, 2008 relating to the Contingent Options. As of March 31, 2008, there was \$71.1 million of total unrecognized compensation expense, net of estimated forfeitures, related to unvested options granted under the Company's Stock and Option Plans. That expense is expected to be recognized over a weighted-average period of 2.79 years. The unrecognized compensation expense and the weighted-average period over which that expense will be recognized excludes the compensation expense that will be associated with the Contingent Options if the Contingent Options are approved by the Company's stockholders.

Restricted Stock

The Company recorded stock-based compensation expense of \$3.8 million and \$3.3 million for the three months ended March 31, 2008 and 2007, respectively, related to restricted shares outstanding during those periods.

As of March 31, 2008, there was \$29.5 million of total unrecognized stock-based compensation expense, net of estimated forfeitures, related to unvested restricted stock granted under the Company's Stock and Option Plans. That expense is expected to be recognized over a weighted-average period of 2.62 years.

Employee Stock Purchase Plan

The stock-based compensation expense related to the ESPP for the three months ended March 31, 2008 and 2007 was \$1.0 million and \$0.7 million, respectively. As of March 31, 2008, there was \$1.3 million of total unrecognized compensation expense, net of estimated forfeitures, related to ESPP shares. That cost is expected to be recognized during 2008.

During the three months ended March 31, 2008 and 2007, no shares were issued to employees under the ESPP.

4. Fair Value of Financial Instruments

On January 1, 2008, the Company adopted FASB Statement No. 157, "Fair Value Measurements" ("SFAS 157"), which establishes a framework for measuring fair value pursuant to GAAP and clarifies the definition of fair value within that framework. SFAS 157 does not require that assets and liabilities previously recorded at cost be recorded at fair value. For assets and liabilities required to be disclosed at fair value prior to the Company's adoption of SFAS 157, SFAS 157 introduced, or reiterated, a number of key concepts that form the foundation of the fair value measurement approach to be used

Notes to Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)

(Unaudited)

4. Fair Value of Financial Instruments (Continued)

for financial reporting purposes. SFAS 157 became applicable to the Company's financial assets and liabilities on January 1, 2008 and is expected to become applicable to the Company's nonfinancial assets and liabilities on January 1, 2009. The fair value of the Company's financial instruments reflects the amounts that the Company estimates it could have received in connection with the sale of an asset or paid in connection with the transfer of a liability in an orderly transaction between market participants at the measurement date (exit price). SFAS 157 also established a fair value hierarchy that prioritizes the use of inputs used in valuation techniques into the following three levels:

Level 1 Quoted prices in active markets for identical assets or liabilities;

Level 2 Observable inputs other than quoted prices in active markets for identical assets or liabilities; and

Level 3 Unobservable inputs in which little or no market activity exists, therefore requiring an entity to develop its own assumptions about the assumptions that market participants would use in pricing.

The following table sets forth the Company's financial assets subject to fair value measurements as of March 31, 2008 (in thousands):

	Fair Value Measurements as of March 31, 2008			
	Total	Using Fair Value Hierarchy		
		Level 1	Level 2	Level 3
Financial assets carried at fair value:				
Cash equivalents	\$ 111,179	\$ 111,179	\$ —	\$ —
Marketable securities, available for sale	258,947	109,883	149,064	—
Restricted cash	30,258	30,258	—	—
Total	\$ 400,384	\$ 251,320	\$ 149,064	\$ —

As of March 31, 2008, all of the Company's financial instruments are valued using quoted prices in active markets or using other observable inputs. The Company's level 1 assets include money market instruments, U.S. Treasury securities and U.S. government and other agency-backed securities. The Company's level 2 assets include commercial paper, corporate bonds, and asset and mortgage backed securities. The adoption of SFAS 157 did not have a material effect on the Company's condensed consolidated financial statements for the three months ended March 31, 2008.

The Company also adopted the provisions of FASB Statement No. 159, "The Fair Value Option for Financial Assets and Financial Liabilities—Including an Amendment of FASB Statement No. 115" ("SFAS 159"), in the first quarter of 2008. SFAS 159 allows the Company to choose to measure eligible assets and liabilities at fair value with changes in value recognized in earnings. Fair value treatment may be elected either upon initial recognition of an eligible asset or liability or, for an existing asset or liability, if an event triggers a new basis of accounting. In the first quarter of 2008, the Company did not elect to re-measure any of its existing financial assets or liabilities under the provisions of SFAS 159.

Notes to Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)

(Unaudited)

5. Comprehensive Loss

For the three months ended March 31, 2008 and 2007, comprehensive loss was as follows (in thousands):

	Three Months Ended March 31,	
	2008	2007
Net loss	\$ (96,154)	\$ (80,728)
Changes in other comprehensive income:		
Unrealized holding gains on marketable securities	1,119	500
Foreign currency translation adjustment	(7)	(44)
Total change in other comprehensive income	1,112	456
Total comprehensive loss	\$ (95,042)	\$ (80,272)

6. Income Taxes

Effective January 1, 2007, the Company adopted the provisions of FASB Interpretation No. 48, "Accounting for Uncertainty in Income Taxes—an interpretation of FASB Statement No. 109" ("FIN 48"). At March 31, 2008 and December 31, 2007, the Company had no material unrecognized tax benefits and no adjustments to liabilities or operations were required under FIN 48. The Company does not expect that the unrecognized tax benefits will materially increase within the next twelve months. The Company did not recognize any interest or penalties related to uncertain tax positions at March 31, 2008 and December 31, 2007.

The Company files United States federal income tax returns and income tax returns in various state, local, and foreign jurisdictions. The Company is no longer subject to any tax assessment from an income tax examination in major taxing jurisdictions for years before 2003, except to the extent that in the future it utilizes net operating losses or tax credit carryforwards that originated before 2004. The Company currently is not under examination by the Internal Revenue Service or other jurisdictions for any tax years.

7. Restructuring Expense

In June 2003, Vertex adopted a plan to restructure its operations to coincide with its increasing internal emphasis on advancing drug candidates through clinical development to commercialization. The restructuring was designed to re-balance the Company's relative investments in research and development to better support the Company's long-term strategy. The restructuring plan included a workforce reduction, write-offs of certain assets and a decision not to occupy approximately 290,000 square feet of specialized laboratory and office space in Cambridge, Massachusetts under lease to Vertex (the "Kendall Square Lease"). The Kendall Square Lease commenced in January 2003 and has a 15-year term. In the second quarter of 2005, the Company revised its assessment of its real estate requirements and decided to use approximately 120,000 square feet of the facility subject to the Kendall Square Lease (the "Kendall Square Facility") for its operations beginning in 2006. The remaining rentable square footage of the Kendall Square Facility currently is subleased to third parties.

Notes to Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)

(Unaudited)

7. Restructuring Expense (Continued)

The Company estimates the restructuring expense in accordance with SFAS 146. The restructuring expense incurred in the three months ended March 31, 2008 and 2007 relates only to the portion of the building that the Company is not occupying and does not intend to occupy for its operations. The remaining lease obligations, which are associated with the portion of the Kendall Square Facility that the Company occupies and uses for its operations, are recorded as rental expense in the period incurred.

In estimating the expense and liability under its Kendall Square Lease obligation, the Company estimated (i) the costs to be incurred to satisfy rental and build-out commitments under the lease (including operating costs), (ii) the lead-time necessary to sublease the space, (iii) the projected sublease rental rates, and (iv) the anticipated durations of subleases. The Company validates its estimates and assumptions through consultations with independent third parties having relevant expertise. The Company uses a credit-adjusted risk-free rate of approximately 10% to discount the estimated cash flows. The Company reviews its estimates and assumptions on at least a quarterly basis, and intends to continue such reviews until the termination of the Kendall Square Lease, and will make whatever modifications management believes necessary, based on the Company's best judgment, to reflect any changed circumstances. The Company's estimates have changed in the past, and may change in the future, resulting in additional adjustments to the estimate of the liability, and the effect of any such adjustments could be material. Changes to the Company's estimate of the liability are recorded as additional restructuring expense/(credit). In addition, because the Company's estimate of the liability includes the application of a discount rate to reflect the time value of money, the Company will record imputed interest costs related to the liability each quarter. These costs are included in restructuring expense on the Company's condensed statements of operations.

For the three months ended March 31, 2008, the Company recorded restructuring expense of \$0.6 million, which was primarily the result of the imputed interest cost relating to the restructuring liability. The activity related to the restructuring liability for the three months ended March 31, 2008 was as follows (in thousands):

	Liability as of December 31, 2007	Cash payments in first quarter of 2008	Cash received from subleases in first quarter of 2008	Charge in first quarter of 2008	Liability as of March 31, 2008
Lease restructuring liability	\$ 35,292	\$ (3,217)	\$ 2,104	\$ 630	\$ 34,809

For the three months ended March 31, 2007, the Company recorded restructuring expense of \$5.1 million, which was primarily the result of revising certain key estimates and assumptions in the first quarter of 2007 about building operating costs, for the remaining period of the lease commitment,

Notes to Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)

(Unaudited)

7. Restructuring Expense (Continued)

as well as the imputed interest cost relating to the restructuring liability. The activity related to the restructuring liability for the three months ended March 31, 2007 was as follows (in thousands):

	Liability as of December 31, 2006	Cash payments in first quarter of 2007	Cash received from subleases in first quarter of 2007	Charge in first quarter of 2007	Liability as of March 31, 2007
Lease restructuring liability	\$ 33,073	\$ (3,197)	\$ 1,577	\$ 5,055	\$ 36,508

8. Concurrent Debt and Equity Offerings

On February 19, 2008, the Company completed concurrent offerings of \$287.5 million in aggregate principal amount of 4.75% convertible senior subordinated notes due 2013 (the "2013 Notes") and 6.9 million shares of common stock, which were sold at a price of \$17.14 per share.

The convertible debt offering resulted in net proceeds of \$278.0 million to the Company. The underwriting discount of \$8.6 million and other expenses of \$0.9 million related to the convertible debt offering were recorded as debt issuance costs and are included in other assets on the Company's condensed consolidated balance sheets. The equity offering resulted in net proceeds of \$112.1 million to the Company. The underwriting discount of \$5.3 million and other expenses of \$0.9 million related to the equity offering were recorded as an offset to additional paid-in-capital.

The 2013 Notes are convertible, at the option of the holder, into common stock at a price equal to approximately \$23.14 per share, subject to adjustment. The 2013 Notes bear interest at the rate of 4.75% per annum, and the Company is required to make semi-annual interest payments on the outstanding principal balance of the 2013 Notes on February 15 and August 15 of each year, beginning on August 15, 2008. The 2013 Notes will mature on February 15, 2013.

On or after February 15, 2010, the Company may redeem the 2013 Notes at its option, in whole or in part, at the redemption prices stated in the indenture, plus accrued and unpaid interest, if any, to, but excluding, the redemption date. Holders may require the Company to repurchase some or all of their 2013 Notes upon the occurrence of certain fundamental changes of Vertex, as set forth in the indenture, at 100% of the principal amount of the 2013 Notes to be repurchased, plus any accrued and unpaid interest, if any, to, but excluding, the repurchase date.

If a fundamental change occurs that is also a specific type of change of control under the indenture, the Company will pay a make-whole premium upon the conversion of the 2013 Notes in connection with any such transaction by increasing the applicable conversion rate on such 2013 Notes. The make-whole premium will be in addition to, and not in substitution for, any cash, securities or other assets otherwise due to holders of the 2013 Notes upon conversion. The make-whole premium will be determined by reference to the indenture and is based on the date on which the fundamental change becomes effective and the price paid, or deemed to be paid, per share of the Company's common stock in the transaction constituting the fundamental change, subject to adjustment.

Notes to Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)

(Unaudited)

8. Concurrent Debt and Equity Offerings (Continued)

If an event of default under the indenture relates solely to the Company's failure to comply with its reporting obligations pursuant to the 2013 Notes, at the election of the Company, the sole remedy of the holders of the 2013 Notes for the first 180 days following such event of default would consist of the right to receive special interest at an annual rate equal to 1.0% of the outstanding principal amount of the 2013 Notes.

At March 31, 2008, the Company had outstanding \$287.5 million in aggregate principal amount of the 2013 Notes. At March 31, 2008, the 2013 Notes had a fair value of \$354.2 million as obtained from a quoted market source.

Based on the Company's evaluation of the 2013 Notes in accordance with EITF Issue No. 00-19, "Accounting for Derivative Financial Instruments Indexed to, and Potentially Settled in, a Company's Own Stock," FASB Statement No. 133, "Accounting for Derivative Instruments and Hedging Activities," the Company determined that the 2013 Notes contain a single embedded derivative. This embedded derivative relates to potential penalty interest payments that could result from a failure to comply with its reporting obligations pursuant to the 2013 Notes. This embedded derivative required bifurcation as the feature was not clearly and closely related to the host instrument. The Company has determined that the value of this embedded derivative was nominal as of February 19, 2008 and March 31, 2008.

9. Convertible Subordinated Notes Due 2007 and 2011

On January 1, 2007, the Company had outstanding \$59.6 million in aggregate principal amount of 5.75% convertible senior subordinated notes due in February 2011 (the "2011 Notes") and \$42.1 million in aggregate principal amount of 5% convertible subordinated notes due in September 2007 (the "2007 Notes"). As of December 31, 2007, there were no remaining 2011 Notes or 2007 Notes outstanding.

The 2011 Notes were convertible, at the option of the holder, into common stock at a price equal to \$14.94 per share. The 2011 Notes bore interest at the rate of 5.75% per annum, and the Company was required to make semi-annual interest payments on the outstanding principal balance of the 2011 Notes on February 15 and August 15 of each year. The 2007 Notes were convertible, at the option of the holder, into common stock at a price equal to \$92.26 per share. The 2007 Notes bore interest at the rate of 5% per annum, and the Company was required to make semi-annual interest payments on the outstanding principal balance of the 2007 Notes on March 19 and September 19 of each year.

In the first quarter of 2007, the Company called all of the remaining outstanding 2011 Notes for redemption. In response and pursuant to the terms of the 2011 Notes, the holders of all the outstanding 2011 Notes converted, at a price equal to \$14.94 per share, their \$59.6 million in aggregate principal amount of 2011 Notes into 3,992,473 shares of the Company's common stock. The following items related to the 2007 conversion were recorded as an offset to additional paid-in capital on the Company's condensed consolidated balance sheets: accrued interest, remaining unamortized issuance costs of the converted notes and issuance costs of the common stock.

In the third quarter of 2007, the Company repaid upon maturity the outstanding principal and accrued interest on the remaining \$42.1 million in principal amount of 2007 Notes.

Notes to Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)

(Unaudited)

10. Significant Revenue Arrangements*Janssen Pharmaceutica, N.V.*

In June 2006, the Company entered into a collaboration agreement with Janssen for the development, manufacture and commercialization of telaprevir, the Company's investigational hepatitis C virus protease inhibitor. Under the agreement, Janssen has agreed to be responsible for 50% of the drug development costs incurred under the development program for the parties' territories (North America for the Company, and the rest of the world, other than the Far East, for Janssen) and has exclusive rights to commercialize telaprevir in its territories including Europe, South America, the Middle East, Africa and Australia. Janssen made a \$165.0 million up-front license payment to the Company in July 2006. The up-front license payment is being amortized over the Company's estimated period of performance under the collaboration agreement. Under the agreement, Janssen agreed to make contingent milestone payments, which could total up to \$380.0 million if telaprevir is successfully developed, approved and launched as a product. As of March 31, 2008, the Company had earned \$55.0 million of these contingent milestone payments under the agreement. The agreement also provides the Company with royalties on any sales of telaprevir in the Janssen territories, with a tiered royalty averaging in the mid-20% range, as a percentage of net sales in the Janssen territories, depending upon successful commercialization of telaprevir. Each of the parties will be responsible for drug supply in their respective territories. However, the agreement provides for the purchase by Janssen from the Company of materials required for Janssen's manufacture of the active pharmaceutical ingredient. In addition, Janssen will be responsible for certain third-party royalties on net sales in its territories. Janssen may terminate the agreement without cause at any time upon six months' notice to the Company.

During the three months ended March 31, 2008, the Company recognized \$25.5 million in revenues under the Janssen agreement, which included an amortized portion of the up-front payment, a milestone of \$10.0 million in connection with the commencement of the Phase 2 clinical trial of telaprevir in patients with genotype 2 and genotype 3 HCV infection, and net reimbursements from Janssen for telaprevir development costs. During the three months ended March 31, 2007, the Company recognized \$42.8 million in revenues under the Janssen agreement, which included an amortized portion of the up-front payment, a milestone of \$15.0 million in connection with commencement of patient enrollment in the PROVE 3 clinical trial of telaprevir, and net reimbursements from Janssen for telaprevir development costs.

Merck & Co., Inc.

In June 2004, Vertex entered into a global collaboration with Merck to develop and commercialize Aurora kinase inhibitors for the treatment of cancer. Merck is responsible for worldwide clinical development and commercialization of all compounds developed under the collaboration and will pay the Company royalties on any product sales. Merck may terminate the agreement at any time without cause upon 90 days' advance written notice, except that six months' advance written notice is required for termination at any time when a product has marketing approval in a major market and the termination is not the result of a safety issue. In the first quarter of 2007, Vertex received a milestone payment from Merck for \$9.0 million. Vertex recognized \$0 and \$9.0 million of revenues related to this collaboration in the three months ended March 31, 2008 and 2007, respectively.

Notes to Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)

(Unaudited)

11. Guarantees

As permitted under Massachusetts law, Vertex's Articles of Organization and Bylaws provide that the Company will indemnify certain of its officers and directors for certain claims asserted against them in connection with their service as an officer or director. The maximum potential amount of future payments that the Company could be required to make under these indemnification provisions is unlimited. However, the Company has purchased directors' and officers' liability insurance policies that could reduce its monetary exposure and enable it to recover a portion of any future amounts paid. No indemnification claims are currently outstanding, and the Company believes the estimated fair value of these indemnification arrangements is minimal.

Vertex customarily agrees in the ordinary course of its business to indemnification provisions in agreements with clinical trials investigators and sites in its drug development programs, in sponsored research agreements with academic and not-for-profit institutions, in various comparable agreements involving parties performing services for the Company in the ordinary course of business, and in its real estate leases. The Company also customarily agrees to certain indemnification provisions in its drug discovery, development and commercialization collaboration agreements. With respect to the Company's clinical trials and sponsored research agreements, these indemnification provisions typically apply to any claim asserted against the investigator or the investigator's institution relating to personal injury or property damage, violations of law or certain breaches of the Company's contractual obligations arising out of the research or clinical testing of the Company's compounds or drug candidates. With respect to lease agreements, the indemnification provisions typically apply to claims asserted against the landlord relating to personal injury or property damage caused by the Company, to violations of law by the Company or to certain breaches of the Company's contractual obligations. The indemnification provisions appearing in the Company's collaboration agreements are similar, but in addition provide some limited indemnification for its collaborator in the event of third-party claims alleging infringement of intellectual property rights. In each of the cases above, the indemnification obligation generally survives the termination of the agreement for some extended period, although the obligation typically has the most relevance during the contract term and for a short period of time thereafter. The maximum potential amount of future payments that the Company could be required to make under these provisions is generally unlimited. The Company has purchased insurance policies covering personal injury, property damage and general liability that reduce its exposure for indemnification and would enable it in many cases to recover a portion of any future amounts paid. The Company has never paid any material amounts to defend lawsuits or settle claims related to these indemnification provisions. Accordingly, the Company believes the estimated fair value of these indemnification arrangements is minimal.

On June 7, 2005 and September 14, 2006, the Company entered into purchase agreements with Merrill Lynch, Pierce, Fenner & Smith Incorporated and on February 12, 2008, the Company entered into underwriting agreements with Merrill Lynch, Pierce, Fenner & Smith Incorporated (collectively, the purchase agreements and the underwriting agreements, the "Underwriting Agreements"), as the representative of the several underwriters named in such agreements, relating to the public offering and sale of shares of the Company's common stock or convertible subordinated notes. The Underwriting Agreement relating to each offering requires the Company to indemnify the underwriters against any loss they may suffer by reason of the Company's breach of representations and warranties relating to that public offering, the Company's failure to perform certain covenants in those agreements, the inclusion of any untrue statement of material fact in the prospectus used in connection with that

Notes to Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)

(Unaudited)

11. Guarantees (Continued)

offering, the omission of any material fact needed to make those materials not misleading, and any actions taken by the Company or its representatives in connection with the offering. The representations, warranties and covenants in the Underwriting Agreement are of a type customary in agreements of this sort. The Company believes the estimated fair value of these indemnification obligations is minimal.

12. Contingencies

The Company has certain contingent liabilities that arise in the ordinary course of its business activities. The Company accrues a reserve for contingent liabilities when it is probable that future expenditures will be made and such expenditures can be reasonably estimated. There were no contingent liabilities accrued at March 31, 2008 or December 31, 2007.

13. Legal Proceedings

On March 13, 2008, a purported shareholder class action, *Waterford Township Police Fire Retirement System v. Vertex Pharmaceuticals Incorporated, et al.*, was filed in the United States District Court for the District of Massachusetts, naming the Company and certain officers of the Company as defendants. The lawsuit alleges that the Company made material misrepresentations and/or omissions of material fact in the Company's disclosures leading up to its November 2, 2007 press release immediately preceding the American Association for the Study of Liver Diseases meeting, all in violation of Sections 10(b) and 20(a) of the Securities Exchange Act and Rule 10(b)(5). On April 18, 2008, a further class action complaint based on the same factual allegations and naming the same defendants, but including further allegations of insider trading violations during the class period by three of the Company's officers, was filed in the United States District Court for the District of Massachusetts. Each of the lawsuits seeks the same relief: certification as a class action, compensatory damages in an unspecified amount and unspecified equitable or injunctive relief. The Company believes that the claims, including the insider trading claims (all of which are based on trades that were made pursuant to plans entered into before the beginning of the class period under Rule 10b5-1), are without merit and intends to contest them vigorously. Moreover, the Company believes, based on information currently available, that the ultimate outcome of these lawsuits will not have a material impact on the Company's consolidated financial statements.

14. Recent Accounting Pronouncements

In September 2006, the FASB issued Statement No. 157, "Fair Value Measurements" ("SFAS 157"). SFAS 157 establishes a common definition for fair value to be applied under GAAP requiring use of fair value, establishes a framework for measuring fair value, and expands disclosure about such fair value measurements. Issued in February 2008, FASB Staff Position No. SFAS 157-1, "Application of FASB Statement No. 157 to FASB Statement No. 13 and Other Accounting Pronouncements That Address Fair Value Measurements for Purposes of Lease Classification or Measurement under Statement 13" removed leasing transactions accounted for under FASB Statement No. 13 and related guidance from the scope of SFAS 157. Issued in February 2008, FASB Staff Position No. SFAS 157-2, "Effective Date of FASB Statement No. 157," deferred the effective date of SFAS 157 for all nonfinancial assets and nonfinancial liabilities to fiscal years beginning after November 15, 2008.

Notes to Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)

(Unaudited)

14. Recent Accounting Pronouncements (Continued)

The implementation of SFAS 157 for financial assets and financial liabilities, effective for the Company on January 1, 2008, did not have a material effect on the Company's condensed consolidated financial statements. The Company is currently assessing the effect of SFAS 157 for nonfinancial assets and nonfinancial liabilities on the Company's consolidated financial statements. Please refer to Note 4, "Fair Value of Financial Instruments," for further information.

In March 2008, the FASB issued Statement No. 161, "Disclosures about Derivative Instruments and Hedging Activities—an amendment of FASB Statement No. 133" ("SFAS 161"). SFAS 161 is intended to improve financial reporting about derivative instruments and hedging activities by requiring enhanced disclosures to enable investors to better understand their effects on an entity's financial position, financial performance and cash flows. SFAS 161 will be effective for the Company beginning on January 1, 2009. The Company is evaluating the effect of SFAS 161 on its consolidated financial statements.

In December 2007, the FASB issued Statement No. 141 (Revised 2007), "Business Combinations" ("SFAS 141(R)"). SFAS 141(R) establishes principles and requirements for how an acquirer in a business combination recognizes and measures in its financial statements, the identifiable assets acquired, the liabilities assumed, and any non-controlling interest in the acquiree. The statement also provides guidance for recognizing and measuring the goodwill acquired in the business combination and determines what information to disclose to enable users of the financial statements to evaluate the nature and financial effects of business combinations. SFAS 141(R) is effective on a prospective basis for financial statements for the Company beginning on January 1, 2009. Accordingly, any business combination the Company enters into after December 31, 2008 would be subject to this new standard.

In December 2007, the FASB ratified the consensus reached by the EITF on EITF Issue No. 07-1, "Accounting for Collaborative Arrangements" ("EITF 07-1"). EITF 07-1 requires collaborators to present the results of activities for which they act as the principal on a gross basis and report any payments received from (made to) other collaborators based on other applicable GAAP or, in the absence of other applicable GAAP, based on analogy to authoritative accounting literature or a reasonable, rational, and consistently applied accounting policy election. Further, EITF 07-1 clarified the determination of whether transactions within a collaborative arrangement are part of a vendor-customer (or analogous) relationship subject to EITF Issue No. 01-9, "Accounting for Consideration Given by a Vendor to a Customer (Including a Reseller of the Vendor's Products)." EITF 07-1 will be effective for the Company beginning on January 1, 2009. The Company is currently evaluating the effect of EITF 07-1 on its consolidated financial statements.

Overview

We are in the business of discovering, developing and commercializing small molecule drugs for the treatment of serious diseases. Telaprevir, our lead drug candidate, is an oral hepatitis C protease inhibitor and one of the most advanced of a new class of antiviral treatments in clinical development that targets the hepatitis C virus, or HCV, infection, a life-threatening disease. In March 2008, we began a Phase 3 clinical trial of telaprevir to evaluate 24-week telaprevir-based treatment regimens in treatment-naïve patients with genotype 1 HCV.

We have built a drug discovery capability that integrates biology, pharmacology, biophysics, chemistry, automation and information technologies in a coordinated manner, with the goal of more efficiently identifying promising drug candidates to address significant unmet medical needs. Using this drug discovery capability we have identified among other drug candidates: telaprevir; VX-770 and VX-809, two novel drug candidates targeting cystic fibrosis, or CF; VX-500 and VX-813, two second generation HCV protease inhibitors; and VX-509, a novel janus kinase 3, or JAK3, inhibitor that targets immune-mediated inflammatory diseases, or IMID. We have a number of other drug candidates, in clinical trials, preclinical studies or research programs, that are being developed either by us or in collaboration with other pharmaceutical companies, including drug candidates targeting cancer, IMID, pain and other neurological diseases and disorders. Our pipeline also includes fosamprenavir calcium, an HIV protease inhibitor we co-discovered, which is being marketed by our collaborator GlaxoSmithKline plc as Lexiva in the United States and Telzir in Europe. We are building our drug development, supply chain management and commercialization organizations to prepare for the potential commercial launch of telaprevir and to support the development of other drug candidates in our pipeline.

Our net loss for the quarter ended March 31, 2008 was \$96.2 million, which included stock-based compensation expense of \$13.1 million and restructuring expense of \$0.6 million. Our cash, cash equivalents and marketable securities were \$749.6 million on March 31, 2008. We expect to incur substantial operating losses in the future. We expect that we will need significant additional capital in order to complete the development and commercialization of telaprevir and to continue the development of our other drug candidates.

Business Focus

We currently are focusing a high proportion of our financial and management resources on telaprevir. Prior to our development of telaprevir, we relied on pharmaceutical company collaborators to develop and market our drug candidates that advanced to late-stage clinical trials or commercialization. We are conducting a comprehensive global clinical development program for telaprevir in collaboration with Janssen Pharmaceutica, N.V., or Janssen, a Johnson & Johnson company, and Mitsubishi Tanabe Pharma Corporation. This program is designed to support potential registration of telaprevir by us in North America and our collaborators in international markets for treatment-naïve and treatment-experienced patients across a range of HCV genotypes. Although we believe that our development activities and the clinical trial data we have obtained to date have significantly reduced the risks associated with ultimately obtaining marketing approval for telaprevir, completing development and successfully commercializing telaprevir will require a substantial additional financial investment over the next several years. In 2008 and the following years, we expect to invest significant resources to expand our capabilities in clinical development, regulatory affairs, quality control and commercial operations and to build and manage a commercial supply chain as we continue development and prepare for the potential commercial launch of telaprevir. We cannot be sure that our development of telaprevir will lead successfully to regulatory approval, or that obtaining regulatory approval will lead to commercial success.

In addition to telaprevir, we are investing significant research and development resources across a relatively broad array of therapeutic areas, due in part to the high risks associated with the biotechnology and pharmaceutical business and the relatively high potential for failure of any specific effort. This diversification strategy requires more significant financial resources than would be required if we pursued a more limited approach or focused exclusively on telaprevir. In particular, in 2008 we expect to invest significant resources in order to advance the development of VX-770, VX-809, VX-500, VX-813 and VX-509, and to start clinical trials of one or more additional compounds that are currently emerging from our research activities. We believe that we will be able to take advantage of the expansion of our drug development and commercialization investments for telaprevir as we advance these other opportunities.

In the past, we have sought collaborator funding for a significant portion of our research activities, which required that we grant to those collaborators exclusive rights to develop and commercialize drug candidates generated by that research. In recent years, we have funded a greater proportion of our research programs using internal funds rather than collaborator funds. We expect to continue this approach to the extent we are able to do so in light of our financial and personnel resources. We adopted this strategy with the objective of retaining greater development control of, and commercial rights with respect to, those proprietary drug candidates that may meet our strategic internal investment criteria as in effect from time to time.

Discovery and Development Process

Discovery and development of a new pharmaceutical product is a lengthy and resource-intensive process, which may take 10 to 15 years or more. Throughout this entire process, potential drug candidates are subjected to rigorous evaluation, driven in part by stringent regulatory considerations, designed to generate information concerning efficacy, proper dosage levels and a variety of other physical and chemical characteristics that are important in determining whether a drug candidate should be approved for marketing. The toxicity characteristics and profile of drug candidates at varying dose levels administered for varying periods of time also are monitored and evaluated during the nonclinical and clinical development process. Most chemical compounds that are investigated as potential drug candidates never progress into formal development, and most drug candidates that do advance into formal development never become commercial products. A drug candidate's failure to progress or advance may be the result of any one or more of a wide range of adverse experimental outcomes including, for example, the lack of sufficient efficacy against the disease target, the lack of acceptable absorption characteristics or other physical properties, difficulties in developing a cost-effective manufacturing or formulation method or the discovery of toxicities or side effects that are unacceptable for the disease indication being treated.

Given the uncertainties of the research and development process, it is not possible to predict with confidence which, if any, of our current research and development efforts will result in a marketable pharmaceutical product. We monitor the results of our discovery research and our nonclinical and clinical trials and frequently evaluate our portfolio investments in light of new data and scientific, business and commercial insights with the objective of balancing risk and potential. This process can result in relatively abrupt changes in focus and priority as new information becomes available and is analyzed and we gain additional insights into ongoing programs and potential new programs.

Clinical Development

Designing and coordinating large-scale clinical trials to determine the efficacy and safety of drug candidates and to support the submission of a New Drug Application, or NDA, requires significant financial resources, along with extensive technical and regulatory expertise and infrastructure. Prior to commencing a late-stage clinical trial of a drug candidate, we must work collaboratively with regulatory authorities, including the United States Food and Drug Administration, or FDA, in order to identify

the specific scientific issues that need to be addressed by the clinical trials in order to support continued development or approval of the drug candidate. These discussions typically occur over a period of months and can result in significant changes to planned clinical trial designs or timelines. In addition, even after agreement with respect to a clinical trial design has been reached, regulatory authorities may request additional clinical trials or changes to existing clinical trial protocols. If the data from our ongoing clinical trials or nonclinical studies regarding the safety or efficacy of our drug candidates are not favorable, we may be forced to delay or terminate the clinical development program, which, particularly in the case of telaprevir, would materially harm our business. Further, even if we gain marketing approvals from the FDA and comparable foreign regulatory authorities in a timely manner, we cannot be sure that the drug will be commercially successful in the pharmaceutical market.

Each of our programs requires a significant investment of financial and personnel resources, time and expertise by us and/or any program collaborators to realize its full clinical and commercial value. Development investment at this stage is subject to the considerable risk that any one or more of these drug candidates will not progress to product registration due to a wide range of adverse experimental outcomes. This could place our entire investment in the drug candidate at risk. While we attempt to stage our investments to mitigate these financial risks, drug discovery and development by its nature is a very risky undertaking and staging of investment is not always possible or desirable. We expect to continue to evaluate and prioritize investment in our clinical development programs based on the emergence of new clinical and nonclinical data in each program throughout 2008 and in subsequent years.

Drug Candidates

HCV

Telaprevir is an HCV protease inhibitor being investigated for the treatment of HCV infection. In March 2008, we began our ADVANCE Phase 3 clinical trial, which is the first Phase 3 clinical trial initiated for an HCV protease inhibitor. The ADVANCE trial is designed to enroll approximately 1,050 treatment-naïve patients with genotype 1 HCV and evaluate 24-week telaprevir-based treatment regimens. We expect to complete enrollment of this trial during the fourth quarter of 2008 and expect to have sustained viral response, or SVR, data from this clinical trial in the first half of 2010. In addition, in the third quarter of 2008, we expect to begin enrollment in a clinical trial to evaluate a 48-week telaprevir-based treatment regimen. This clinical trial is expected to enroll more than 400 treatment-naïve patients with genotype 1 HCV. We have a number of other ongoing and planned telaprevir clinical trials, including several clinical trials being conducted by our collaborators. In addition, we are conducting a Phase 1a clinical trial of VX-500, a second generation HCV protease inhibitor.

In April 2008, we presented data from our PROVE 1 and PROVE 2 clinical trials at the 43rd annual meeting of the European Association for the Study of the Liver (EASL). On an intent-to-treat basis, in the 24-week telaprevir-based treatment arms of PROVE 1 and PROVE 2, 61% and 68%, respectively, of patients achieved SVR. Our criteria for SVR require that the patient have undetectable HCV RNA levels—less than 10 IU/mL as measured by the Roche TaqMan® assay—24 weeks post-treatment. In the control arm of PROVE 1, on an intent-to-treat basis, 41% of patients achieved SVR, and in the control arm of PROVE 2, on an intent-to-treat basis, 48% of patients achieved undetectable HCV RNA levels at 12 weeks post-treatment. The interim analyses of safety data from PROVE 1 and PROVE 2 indicated that the most common adverse events, regardless of treatment assignment, were fatigue, rash, headache and nausea. Gastrointestinal disorders, skin adverse events, including rash and pruritus, and anemia were more frequent, and the rash more frequently severe, in the telaprevir arms than in the control arms over the dosing period. At EASL, we also presented preliminary data from an ongoing, open-label clinical trial that was designed to provide access to telaprevir in patients who met on-treatment criteria for null or partial response, or relapsed

after the completion of 48 weeks of pegylated interferon and ribavirin in the control arms of our PROVE 1, PROVE 2 and PROVE 3 clinical trials.

We recently have submitted to the FDA interim data from our PROVE 3 Phase 2b clinical trial in patients who did not achieve SVR with previous interferon-based treatment, together with a proposed Phase 3 clinical trial design for evaluation of telaprevir-based treatment in this patient population. We believe that it will be necessary for us to conduct a Phase 3 clinical trial in order to obtain regulatory approval for telaprevir-based therapy in HCV genotype 1 patients who have failed prior interferon-based treatment.

Cystic Fibrosis

We are conducting clinical trials of two drug candidates for the treatment of patients with CF:

- VX-770, an investigational potentiator compound designed to enhance the activity of cystic fibrosis transmembrane regulator, or CFTR, proteins in patients with gating defects, is being evaluated in a Phase 2a clinical trial. In March 2008, we announced results from an interim analysis of the first 20 patients in our Phase 2a clinical trial of VX-770. These interim results indicated that dosing of VX-770 as an oral agent for 14 days resulted in improved lung function and in improved function of the CFTR protein as measured by changes in sweat chloride levels and changes in nasal potential difference. In addition, VX-770 appeared to be well-tolerated over the 14-day duration of dosing. We are sharing these interim results with regulatory authorities and leading CF investigators as part of our discussions regarding the regulatory path for this drug candidate.

We are planning to proceed to Part 2 of this Phase 2a trial, in which we expect to enroll approximately 18 patients with the G551D mutation for dosing of VX-770 for up to 28 days.

- VX-809, an investigational corrector compound designed to increase the concentration of CFTR proteins on the cell surface in patients with trafficking defects, is being evaluated in a Phase 1a clinical trial. Depending on the results from the Phase 1a trial, we plan to initiate a Phase 1b trial of VX-809 in patients with CF in mid-2008.

Immune-Mediated Inflammatory Diseases

VX-509 is one of the novel oral JAK3 inhibitors that we are evaluating in preclinical testing. We believe that VX-509 has the potential to be used in multiple IMID indications. We expect to begin a Phase 1a clinical trial of VX-509 in mid-2008.

Financing Strategy

At March 31, 2008, we had \$749.6 million of cash, cash equivalents and marketable securities. Because we have incurred losses from our inception and expect to incur losses for the foreseeable future, we are dependent in large part on our continued ability to raise significant funding to finance our research and development operations, our creation of a drug supply and commercial infrastructure and our overhead, and to meet our long-term contractual commitments and obligations. In the past, we have secured funds principally through capital market transactions, strategic collaborative agreements, proceeds from the disposition of assets, investment income and the issuance of stock under our employee benefit programs. In February 2008, we received net proceeds of \$390.1 million from the sale of 6.9 million shares of our common stock and \$287.5 million in aggregate principal amount of our 4.75% convertible senior subordinated notes due 2013, which we refer to as the 2013 Notes.

We expect that our current cash, cash equivalents and marketable securities, in addition to amounts we expect to receive from our collaborators under existing contractual agreements, will be sufficient to fund our operations for at least the next twelve months. We expect that we will need

significant additional capital in order to complete the development and commercialization of telaprevir and to continue the development of our other drug candidates. We may raise additional capital from public offerings or private placements of our securities, agreements with third-parties with respect to certain of our assets or other methods of financing. We cannot be sure that any such financing opportunities will be available on acceptable terms, if at all. If adequate funds are not available on acceptable terms, or at all, we may be required to curtail significantly or discontinue one or more of our research, drug discovery or development programs, including clinical trials, incur significant cash exit costs, or attempt to obtain funds through arrangements with collaborators or others that may require us to relinquish rights to certain of our technologies, drugs or drug candidates.

Corporate Collaborations

Corporate collaborations have been and will continue to be an important component of our business strategy. In June 2006, we entered into a collaboration agreement with Janssen relating to telaprevir. Under our agreement with Janssen, we have retained exclusive commercial rights to telaprevir in North America, and we are leading the global clinical development program. Janssen has agreed to be responsible for 50% of the drug development costs under the planned development program for telaprevir in North America and the Janssen territories, to pay us contingent milestone payments based on successful development, approval and launch of telaprevir, and to be responsible for the commercialization of telaprevir outside of North America and the Far East. Janssen will also pay us royalties on any telaprevir product sales in Janssen's territories.

Our pipeline also includes the following drug candidates that are being developed by our collaborators:

- Aurora kinase inhibitors that are being investigated by Merck for oncology indications. In the second quarter of 2008, Merck is expected to initiate a Phase 1 clinical trial of MK-5108 (VX-689) in patients with advanced and/or refractory tumors. Merck is continuing to evaluate efficacy and safety data for MK-0457 (VX-680) for the treatment of cancer following the previously announced suspension of clinical trial enrollment for this compound.
- AVN-944 (VX-944), which is being investigated by Avalon Pharmaceuticals for oncology indications.

Critical Accounting Policies and Estimates

Our discussion and analysis of our financial condition and results of operations is based upon our condensed consolidated financial statements prepared in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles in the United States, or GAAP. The preparation of these financial statements requires us to make certain estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities, the disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the consolidated financial statements and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the reported periods. These items are monitored and analyzed by management for changes in facts and circumstances, and material changes in these estimates could occur in the future. Changes in estimates are reflected in reported results for the period in which they become known. We base our estimates on historical experience and various other assumptions that we believe to be reasonable under the circumstances. Actual results may differ from our estimates if past experience or other assumptions do not turn out to be substantially accurate. There were no material changes during the three months ended March 31, 2008 to our critical accounting policies as reported in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2007, except that the estimates related to our investment in Altus Pharmaceuticals Inc. do not relate to the periods presented in this Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q.

Results of Operations

Three Months Ended March 31, 2008 Compared with Three Months Ended March 31, 2007

Our net loss for the three months ended March 31, 2008 was \$96.2 million, or \$0.72 per basic and diluted common share, compared to a net loss of \$80.7 million, or \$0.64 per basic and diluted common share, for the three months ended March 31, 2007. Included in the net loss for the quarter ended March 31, 2008 is stock-based compensation expense of \$13.1 million and restructuring expense of \$0.6 million. Included in the net loss for the quarter ended March 31, 2007 is stock-based compensation expense of \$12.3 million and restructuring expense of \$5.1 million.

Our net loss for the three months ended March 31, 2008 increased by \$15.4 million as compared to the three months ended March 31, 2007. The increase in our net loss in the first quarter of 2008 compared to the first quarter of 2007 was primarily the result of a \$28.2 million decrease in our collaborative and other research and development revenues, partially offset by a \$17.0 million decrease in our total costs and expenses. Our net loss per basic and diluted common share increased for the three months ended March 31, 2008 compared with the same period in 2007 as a result of the increased net loss partially offset by an increase in the basic and diluted weighted-average number of common shares outstanding from 125.8 million shares to 134.5 million shares.

Revenues

Total revenues decreased to \$41.7 million for the three months ended March 31, 2008 compared to \$68.8 million in the three months ended March 31, 2007. In the first quarter of 2008, revenues were comprised of \$10.9 million in royalties and \$30.8 million in collaborative and other research and development revenues, as compared with \$9.8 million in royalties and \$59.0 million in collaborative and other research and development revenues in the first quarter of 2007.

Royalties consist of Lexiva/Telzir (fosamprenavir calcium) royalty revenues and a small amount of Agenerase (amprenavir) royalty revenues. Royalty revenues are based on actual and estimated worldwide net sales of Lexiva/Telzir and Agenerase. The \$1.1 million, or 11%, increase in royalty revenues in the first quarter of 2008 compared to the first quarter of 2007 was due to the increase in Lexiva/Telzir net sales.

Collaborative and other research and development revenues decreased by \$28.2 million, or 48%, in the first quarter of 2008 compared to the first quarter of 2007. The table presented below is a summary of revenues from collaborative arrangements for the three months ended March 31, 2008 and 2007:

	Three Months Ended March 31,	
	2008	2007
	(In thousands)	
Collaborative and other research and development revenues:		
Janssen	\$ 25,528	\$ 42,821
Merck	—	9,000
Other	5,296	7,193
	<u>30,824</u>	<u>59,014</u>
Total collaborative and other research and development revenues	\$ 30,824	\$ 59,014

Our revenues from the Janssen collaboration agreement were \$25.5 million and \$42.8 million in the three months ended March 31, 2008 and 2007, respectively:

- In each period, we recognized an amortized portion of the \$165.0 million up-front payment.
- In each period, our revenues included net reimbursements from Janssen for telaprevir development costs, which were lower in the first quarter of 2008 as compared to the first quarter

of 2007. This decrease in net reimbursements was the result of our lower reimbursable external expenses, including expenses relating to validation batches, and of Janssen's increased reimbursable expenses associated with ongoing clinical trials being led by Tibotec, a Johnson & Johnson company.

- In the three months ended March 31, 2008, we recognized a milestone of \$10.0 million in connection with the commencement of the Phase 2 clinical trial of telaprevir in patients with genotype 2 and genotype 3 HCV infection. In the three months ended March 31, 2007, we recognized a milestone of \$15.0 million in connection with commencement of patient enrollment in the PROVE 3 clinical trial of telaprevir.

During the second quarter of 2008, we expect to continue to recognize an amortized portion of the \$165.0 million up-front payment and net reimbursements from Janssen to fund a portion of the telaprevir development costs. In addition, in the second quarter of 2008, we expect to recognize a \$45.0 million milestone from Janssen that was achieved in April 2008 related to the commencement of the ADVANCE Phase 3 clinical trial for telaprevir. During the third and fourth quarters of 2008, we expect to continue to recognize an amortized portion of the \$165.0 million up-front payment and net payments from Janssen to fund a portion of the telaprevir development costs.

In the first quarter of 2007, all of our revenues related to the Merck collaboration were the result of recognition of a milestone payment, for which there was no comparable payment in the first quarter of 2008.

Costs and Expenses

Royalty Payments

Royalty payments increased \$0.3 million, or 9%, to \$3.6 million in the three months ended March 31, 2008 from \$3.3 million in the three months ended March 31, 2007. Royalty payments relate to a royalty we pay to a third party on net sales of Lexiva/Telzir and Agenerase. The increased royalty payments related to the increased royalty revenues we received in the first quarter of 2008 as compared to the first quarter of 2007.

Research and Development Expenses

Research and development expenses decreased \$18.0 million, or 14%, to \$114.6 million in the three months ended March 31, 2008, including stock-based compensation expense of \$10.8 million, from \$132.6 million in the three months ended March 31, 2007, including stock-based compensation expense of \$10.3 million. The decrease in research and development expenses was primarily the result of a \$27.4 million decrease in our investment in building commercial supply of telaprevir partially offset by a \$5.4 million increase in salary and benefits related to increased headcount and a \$4.0 million increase in infrastructure costs.

The cost of developing the commercial supply for telaprevir is considered a research and development expense due to telaprevir's stage of development. Our investment in commercial supply for telaprevir has fluctuated significantly from quarter to quarter during the past 18 months. The \$31.7 million investment in commercial supply in the first quarter of 2007 was affected by the timing of costs related to the manufacturing of validation batches of telaprevir and the establishment of supply chain infrastructure. The investment in commercial supply for telaprevir in the first quarter of 2007 was significantly greater than the investment in commercial supply for telaprevir in any of the remaining three quarters of 2007. We expect that our commercial supply investment in telaprevir will have a less substantial effect on quarterly comparisons of our research and development expenses between 2007 and 2008 for future periods.

Research and development expenses consist primarily of salary and benefits; stock-based compensation expense; laboratory supplies and other direct expenses; contractual services, including clinical trial and pharmaceutical development costs; commercial supply investment in telaprevir; and infrastructure costs, including facilities costs and depreciation. Set forth below is a summary that reconciles our total research and development expenses for the three months ended March 31, 2008 and 2007:

	Three Months Ended March 31,			
	2008	2007	\$ Change	% Change
(in thousands)				
Research Expenses:				
Salary and benefits	\$ 13,249	\$ 12,845	\$ 404	3%
Stock-based compensation expense	4,781	5,179	(398)	(8)%
Laboratory supplies and other direct expenses	6,279	5,883	396	7%
Contractual services	2,132	2,057	75	4%
Infrastructure costs	13,903	14,018	(115)	(1)%
Total research expenses	\$ 40,344	\$ 39,982	\$ 362	1%
Development Expenses:				
Salary and benefits	\$ 16,285	\$ 11,267	\$ 5,018	45%
Stock-based compensation expense	6,049	5,123	926	18%
Laboratory supplies and other direct expenses	7,376	6,097	1,279	21%
Contractual services	24,160	26,464	(2,304)	(9)%
Commercial supply investment in telaprevir	4,311	31,721	(27,410)	(86)%
Infrastructure costs	16,057	11,924	4,133	35%
Total development expenses	\$ 74,238	\$ 92,596	\$ (18,358)	(20)%
Total Research and Development Expenses:				
Salary and benefits	\$ 29,534	\$ 24,112	\$ 5,422	22%
Stock-based compensation expense	10,830	10,302	528	5%
Laboratory supplies and other direct expenses	13,655	11,980	1,675	14%
Contractual services	26,292	28,521	(2,229)	(8)%
Commercial supply investment in telaprevir	4,311	31,721	(27,410)	(86)%
Infrastructure costs	29,960	25,942	4,018	15%
Total research and development expenses	\$ 114,582	\$ 132,578	\$ (17,996)	(14)%

To date we have incurred in excess of \$2.3 billion in research and development costs associated with drug discovery and development. For the remainder of 2008, we expect to focus our development investment on telaprevir, while continuing to advance the development of our other drug candidates. We expect that our research expenses during the remainder of 2008 will be consistent with our research expenses for the first quarter of 2008. We expect that our development expenses in the remaining three quarters of 2008 will be higher than in the first quarter of 2008 as we incur increased expenses related to our ongoing and planned clinical trials, including the ADVANCE Phase 3 clinical trial that we began in March 2008.

The successful development of our drug candidates is highly uncertain and subject to a number of risk factors. The duration of clinical trials may vary substantially according to the type, complexity and novelty of the drug candidate. The FDA and comparable agencies in foreign countries impose substantial requirements on the introduction of therapeutic pharmaceutical products, typically requiring lengthy and detailed laboratory and clinical testing procedures, sampling activities and other costly and

time-consuming procedures. Data obtained from nonclinical and clinical activities at any step in the testing process may be adverse and lead to discontinuation or redirection of development activity. Data obtained from these activities also are susceptible to varying interpretations, which could delay, limit or prevent regulatory approval. The duration and cost of discovery, nonclinical studies and clinical trials may vary significantly over the life of a project and are difficult to predict. Therefore, accurate and meaningful estimates of the ultimate costs to bring our drug candidates to market are not available. The most significant costs associated with drug discovery and development are those costs associated with Phase 2 and Phase 3 clinical trials. Given the uncertainties related to development, we are currently unable to reliably estimate when, if ever, our drug candidates will generate revenues and net cash inflows.

Sales, General and Administrative Expenses

Sales, general and administrative expenses increased \$5.1 million, or 31%, to \$21.6 million in the three months ended March 31, 2008 from \$16.5 million in the three months ended March 31, 2007. This increase is the result of increased headcount in support of our growth as we advance our drug candidates, particularly telaprevir, into late-stage development. We expect that our sales, general and administration expenses in 2008 will be significantly higher than in 2007, because we are continuing to build our capabilities in late-stage development, drug supply, quality control and safety monitoring and registration and commercialization of pharmaceutical products.

Restructuring Expense

We recorded restructuring expense of \$0.6 million for the three months ended March 31, 2008 compared to \$5.1 million for the three months ended March 31, 2007. The restructuring expense in both periods included imputed interest cost related to the restructuring accrual. The decrease in restructuring expense for the three months ended March 31, 2008 compared to the three months ended March 31, 2007 was primarily the result of a revision, in the first quarter of 2007, in certain key estimates and assumptions about building operating costs for the remaining period of the lease commitment, for which there was no corresponding revision in the first quarter of 2008.

The activity related to the restructuring liability for the three months ended March 31, 2008 is as follows (in thousands):

	Liability as of December 31, 2007	Cash payments in first quarter of 2008	Cash received from subleases in first quarter of 2008	Charge in first quarter of 2008	Liability as of March 31, 2008
Lease restructuring liability	\$ 35,292	\$ (3,217)	\$ 2,104	\$ 630	\$ 34,809

The activity related to the restructuring liability for the three months ended March 31, 2007 was as follows (in thousands):

	Liability as of December 31, 2006	Cash payments in first quarter of 2007	Cash received from subleases in first quarter of 2007	Charge in first quarter of 2007	Liability as of March 31, 2007
Lease restructuring liability	\$ 33,073	\$ (3,197)	\$ 1,577	\$ 5,055	\$ 36,508

In accordance with SFAS 146, we review our estimates and assumptions with respect to the Kendall Square lease on at least a quarterly basis, and will make whatever modifications we believe necessary to reflect any changed circumstances, based on our best judgment, until the termination of the lease. Our estimates have changed in the past, and may change in the future, resulting in additional adjustments to the estimate of the liability, and the effect of any such adjustments could be material.

Non-Operating Items

Interest income decreased \$4.6 million, or 51%, to \$4.5 million for the three months ended March 31, 2008 from \$9.1 million for the three months ended March 31, 2007. The decrease is a result of lower average levels of invested funds and lower portfolio yields during the first quarter of 2008 as compared to the first quarter of 2007.

Interest expense increased \$0.7 million, or 57%, to \$1.9 million for the three months ended March 31, 2008 from \$1.2 million for the three months ended March 31, 2007. This increase was the result of the increase in the amount of our outstanding convertible debt. We expect interest expense to be higher during the remainder of 2008 as compared to 2007 as a result of our issuance of \$287.5 million in aggregate principal amount of 2013 Notes in February 2008.

Liquidity and Capital Resources

We have incurred operating losses since our inception and historically have financed our operations principally through public and private offerings of our equity and debt securities, strategic collaborative agreements that include research and/or development funding, development milestones and royalties on the sales of products, investment income and proceeds from the issuance of stock under our employee benefit programs. We expect that we will require significant additional capital in order to commercialize telaprevir and continue our planned activities in other areas. There can be no assurance that financing opportunities will be available on acceptable terms, if at all. If adequate funds are not available we may be required to curtail our operations or relinquish our rights to significant assets.

At March 31, 2008, we had cash, cash equivalents and marketable securities of \$749.6 million, which was an increase of \$281.8 million from \$467.8 million at December 31, 2007. The increase was primarily a result of the \$390.1 million of net proceeds from the offerings of 6.9 million shares of common stock and 2013 Notes, that we completed in February 2008. In addition, we received royalty, milestone and other payments from our collaborators and \$1.9 million from the issuance of common stock under our employee benefits plans. These cash inflows were partially offset by cash expenditures we made in the first quarter of 2008 related to, among other things, research and development expenses and sales, general and administrative expenses. Capital expenditures for property and equipment during the three months ended March 31, 2008 were \$5.5 million.

At March 31, 2008, we had outstanding \$287.5 million in aggregate principal amount of our 2013 Notes. The 2013 Notes bear interest at the rate of 4.75% per annum, and we are required to make

semi-annual interest payments on the outstanding principal balance of the 2013 Notes on February 15 and August 15 of each year, beginning on August 15, 2008. The 2013 Notes will mature on February 15, 2013. The 2013 Notes are convertible, at the option of the holder, into our common stock at a price equal to approximately \$23.14 per share, subject to adjustment. On or after February 15, 2010, we may redeem the 2013 Notes at our option, in whole or in part, at the redemption prices stated in the indenture, plus accrued and unpaid interest, if any, to, but excluding, the redemption date.

At March 31, 2008, we also had \$20.0 million in loans outstanding under the loan facility established under our collaboration with Novartis Pharma AG, which is repayable, without interest, in May 2008.

Our accrued restructuring expense of \$34.8 million at March 31, 2008 relates to the portion of the Kendall Square facility that we do not intend to occupy and includes other related lease obligations, recorded at net present value. In the first quarter of 2008, we made cash payments of \$3.2 million against the accrued expense and received \$2.1 million in sublease rental payments. During the remainder of 2008, we expect to make additional cash payments of \$9.6 million against the accrued expense and receive \$6.1 million in sublease rental payments. We review our estimates underlying our accrued restructuring expense on at least a quarterly basis, and the amount of the accrued expense, and consequently any expected future payment, could change with any change in our estimates.

We expect to maintain our substantial investment in research at levels generally comparable to our level of investment in 2007. We also expect to continue to make significant investments in our development pipeline, particularly in clinical trials of telaprevir, in our effort to prepare for potential registration, regulatory approval and commercial launch of telaprevir, and in clinical trials for our other drug candidates. We expect to continue to make a significant investment in the commercial supply of telaprevir, in advance of obtaining regulatory marketing approval, in order to have sufficient quantities of drug product from our third-party manufacturers to support a timely commercial product launch if we are successful in completing the development of telaprevir and obtaining marketing approval. As a result, we expect to incur losses on a quarterly and annual basis for the foreseeable future.

The adequacy of our available funds to meet our future operating and capital requirements will depend on many factors, including the number, breadth and prospects of our discovery and development programs, the costs and timing of obtaining regulatory approvals for any of our drug candidates and our decisions regarding manufacturing and commercial investments.

While we believe that our current cash, cash equivalents and marketable securities, in addition to amounts we expect to receive from our collaborators under existing contractual obligations, will be sufficient to fund our operations for at least the next twelve months, we may raise additional capital through public offerings or private placements of our securities, securing new collaborative agreements, or other methods of financing. Any such capital transactions may or may not be similar to transactions in which we have engaged in the past. We also will continue to manage our capital structure and consider all financing opportunities, whenever they may occur, that could strengthen our long-term liquidity profile. There can be no assurance that any such financing opportunities will be available on acceptable terms, if at all. If adequate funds are not available, we may be required to curtail significantly or discontinue one or more of our research, drug discovery or development programs or attempt to obtain funds through arrangements that may require us to relinquish rights to certain of our technologies, drugs or drug candidates.

Contractual Commitments and Obligations

Our commitments and obligations were reported in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2007, which was filed with the SEC on February 11, 2008. As a result of the issuance of the 2013 Notes, which mature on February 15, 2013, our obligations to repay outstanding convertible notes has increased by \$287.5 million, and we have the obligation to make semi-annual

interest payments of \$6.8 million on each of February 15 and August 15 through February 15, 2013 related to the 2013 Notes.

Recent Accounting Pronouncements

In September 2006, the Financial Accounting Standards Board ("FASB") issued Statement No. 157, "Fair Value Measurements" ("SFAS 157"). SFAS 157 establishes a common definition for fair value to be applied under GAAP requiring use of fair value, establishes a framework for measuring fair value, and expands disclosure about such fair value measurements. Issued in February 2008, FASB Staff Position No. SFAS 157-1, "Application of FASB Statement No. 157 to FASB Statement No. 13 and Other Accounting Pronouncements That Address Fair Value Measurements for Purposes of Lease Classification or Measurement under Statement 13" removed leasing transactions accounted for under FASB Statement No. 13 and related guidance from the scope of SFAS 157. Issued in February 2008, FASB Staff Position No. SFAS 157-2, "Effective Date of FASB Statement No. 157," deferred the effective date of SFAS 157 for all nonfinancial assets and nonfinancial liabilities to fiscal years beginning after November 15, 2008. The implementation of SFAS 157 for financial assets and financial liabilities, effective for us on January 1, 2008, did not have a material effect on our condensed consolidated financial statements. We are currently assessing the effect of SFAS 157 for nonfinancial assets and nonfinancial liabilities on our consolidated financial statements.

In March 2008, the FASB issued Statement No. 161, "Disclosures about Derivative Instruments and Hedging Activities—an amendment of FASB Statement No. 133" ("SFAS 161"). SFAS 161 is intended to improve financial reporting about derivative instruments and hedging activities by requiring enhanced disclosures to enable investors to better understand their effects on an entity's financial position, financial performance, and cash flows. SFAS No. 161 will be effective for us beginning on January 1, 2009. We are evaluating the effect of SFAS 161 on our consolidated financial statements.

In December 2007, the FASB issued Statement No. 141 (Revised 2007), "Business Combinations" ("SFAS 141 (R)"). SFAS 141 (R) establishes principles and requirements for how an acquirer in a business combination recognizes and measures in its financial statements, the identifiable assets acquired, the liabilities assumed, and any non-controlling interest in the acquiree. The statement also provides guidance for recognizing and measuring the goodwill acquired in the business combination and determines what information to disclose to enable users of the financial statements to evaluate the nature and financial effects of business combinations. SFAS 141 (R) is effective on a prospective basis for our financial statements beginning on January 1, 2009. Accordingly, any business combination we enter into after December 31, 2008 would be subject to this new standard.

In December 2007, the FASB ratified the consensus reached by the Emerging Issues Task Force ("EITF") on EITF Issue No. 07-1, "Accounting for Collaborative Arrangements" ("EITF 07-1"). EITF 07-1 requires collaborators to present the results of activities for which they act as the principal on a gross basis and report any payments received from (made to) other collaborators based on other applicable GAAP or, in the absence of other applicable GAAP, based on analogy to authoritative accounting literature or a reasonable, rational, and consistently applied accounting policy election. Further, EITF 07-1 clarified the determination of whether transactions within a collaborative arrangement are part of a vendor-customer (or analogous) relationship subject to EITF Issue No. 01-9, "Accounting for Consideration Given by a Vendor to a Customer (Including a Reseller of the Vendor's Products)." EITF 07-1 becomes effective for us beginning on January 1, 2009. We are currently evaluating the effect of EITF 07-1 on our consolidated financial statements.

Item 3. Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures About Market Risk

As part of our investment portfolio, we own financial instruments that are sensitive to market risks. The investment portfolio is used to preserve our capital until it is required to fund operations,

including our research and development activities. None of these market risk sensitive instruments are held for trading purposes. We do not have derivative financial instruments in our investment portfolio.

Interest Rate Risk

We invest our cash in a variety of financial instruments, principally securities issued by the U.S. government and its agencies, investment grade corporate bonds and notes and money market instruments. These investments are denominated in U.S. dollars. All of our interest-bearing securities are subject to interest rate risk, and could decline in value if interest rates fluctuate. Substantially all of our investment portfolio consists of marketable securities with active secondary or resale markets to help ensure portfolio liquidity, and we have implemented guidelines limiting the term-to-maturity of our investment instruments. Due to the conservative nature of these instruments, we do not believe that we have a material exposure to interest rate risk.

Item 4. Controls and Procedures

Evaluation of Disclosure Controls and Procedures

Our chief executive officer and chief financial officer, after evaluating the effectiveness of our disclosure controls and procedures (as defined in Exchange Act Rules 13a-15(e) and 15d-15(e)) as of the end of the period covered by this Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q, have concluded that, based on such evaluation, as of March 31, 2008, our disclosure controls and procedures were effective and designed to provide reasonable assurance that the information required to be disclosed is recorded, processed, summarized and reported within the time periods specified in the Securities and Exchange Commission rules and forms. In designing and evaluating our disclosure controls and procedures, our management recognized that any controls and procedures, no matter how well designed and operated, can provide only reasonable assurance of achieving the desired control objectives, and our management necessarily was required to apply its judgment in evaluating the cost-benefit relationship of possible controls and procedures.

Changes in Internal Controls Over Financial Reporting

No change in our internal control over financial reporting (as defined in Exchange Act Rules 13a-15(f) and 15d-15(f)) occurred during the first quarter of 2008 that has materially affected, or is reasonably likely to materially affect, our internal control over financial reporting.

Part II. Other Information

Item 1. Legal Proceedings

See Note 13 of the condensed consolidated financial statements.

Item 1A. Risk Factors

Information regarding risk factors appears in Item 1A of our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2007, which was filed with the SEC on February 11, 2008. There have been no material changes from the risk factors previously disclosed in that Annual Report on Form 10-K, except:

OUR OUTSTANDING INDEBTEDNESS MAY MAKE IT MORE DIFFICULT TO OBTAIN ADDITIONAL FINANCING OR REDUCE OUR FLEXIBILITY TO ACT IN OUR BEST INTERESTS.

As of March 31, 2008, we had outstanding \$287.5 million in aggregate principal amount of 4.75% convertible senior subordinated notes due 2013. The level of our indebtedness could affect us by:

- exposing us to fixed rates of interest, which may be in excess of prevailing market rates;
- making it more difficult to obtain additional financing for working capital, capital expenditures, debt service requirements or other purposes;
- constraining our ability to react quickly in an unfavorable economic climate or to changes in our business or the pharmaceutical industry; and
- requiring the dedication of substantial cash to service the semi-annual interest payments on our outstanding debt, thereby reducing the amount of cash available for other purposes.

SPECIAL NOTE REGARDING FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS

This Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q and, in particular, our Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations set forth in Part I—Item 2 contain or incorporate a number of forward-looking statements within the meaning of Section 27A of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, and Section 21E of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, including statements regarding:

- our expectations regarding clinical trials, development timelines and regulatory authority filings for telaprevir and other drug candidates under development by us and our collaborators;
- our expectations regarding the number of patients that will be evaluated, the trial design that will be utilized, the anticipated date by which enrollment will be completed and the expected date by which SVR data, interim data and/or final data will be available for our ADVANCE Phase 3 clinical trial, the other ongoing or planned clinical trials of telaprevir, the Phase 2a and planned Phase 2b clinical trial of VX-770, the Phase 1a and planned Phase 1b clinical trial of VX-809, the Phase 1a clinical trial of VX-500, and the clinical trials being conducted by our collaborators of drug candidates for the treatment of cancer;
- our anticipated revenues and costs and expenses in future periods, including the expected recognition in the second quarter of 2008 of the \$45.0 million milestone earned in April 2008;
- the data that will be generated by ongoing and planned clinical trials, and the ability to use that data for the design and initiation of further clinical trials and to support regulatory filings, including potentially an NDA for telaprevir;
- our expectation that conducting a Phase 3 clinical trial will be necessary to obtain approval for telaprevir to treat patients with genotype 1 HCV who have failed prior treatment;

- the design of our global clinical program for telaprevir and our ability to potentially register telaprevir across a range of genotypes and patient populations;
- our expectations regarding the future market demand and medical need for telaprevir and our other drug candidates;
- our ability to retain greater development control of, and commercial rights to, drug candidates by funding a greater portion of our research programs;
- our beliefs regarding the support provided by clinical trials and preclinical and nonclinical studies of our drug candidates for further investigation, clinical trials or potential use as a treatment of those drug candidates;
- our ability to capitalize on the advances in our telaprevir clinical program by building our drug development, supply chain management and commercialization organizations in order to prepare for the potential commercial launch of telaprevir and to support the development of our other drug candidates;
- our business strategy, including: our plan to invest in our development of telaprevir in order to maintain the time-to-market advantage we believe we have in relation to drug candidates being developed by our competitors; our ability to establish a leadership position with respect to the treatment of HCV infection; and our ability to expand the value of our portfolio of drug candidates;
- the focus of our drug development efforts;
- the establishment, development and maintenance of collaborative relationships;
- our ability to use our research programs to identify and develop new drug candidates to address serious diseases and significant unmet medical needs;
- our ability to increase our headcount and scale up our drug development and commercialization capabilities;
- our estimates regarding obligations associated with a lease of a facility in Kendall Square, Cambridge, Massachusetts;
- the potential for the acquisition of new and complementary technologies, resources and drugs or drug candidates; and
- our liquidity and our expectations regarding our needs for additional capital.

Without limiting the foregoing, the words "believes," "anticipates," "plans," "expects" and similar expressions are intended to identify forward-looking statements. Any or all of our forward-looking statements in this Quarterly Report may turn out to be wrong. They can be affected by inaccurate assumptions we might make or by known or unknown risks and uncertainties. Many factors mentioned in our discussion in this Quarterly Report will be important in determining future results. Consequently, no forward-looking statement can be guaranteed. Actual future results may vary materially from expected results. We also provide a cautionary discussion of risks and uncertainties under "Risk Factors" in Item 1A of our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2007, which was filed with the SEC on February 11, 2008, and updated and supplemented by "Part II—Item 1A—Risk Factors" of this Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q. These are factors that we think could cause our actual results to differ materially from expected results. Other factors besides those listed could also adversely affect us. In addition, the forward-looking statements contained herein represent our estimate only as of the date of this filing and should not be relied upon as representing our estimate as of any subsequent date. While we may elect to update these forward-looking statements at some point in the future, we specifically disclaim any obligation to do so to

reflect actual results, changes in assumptions or changes in other factors affecting such forward-looking statements.

Item 2. Unregistered Sales of Equity Securities and Use of Proceeds

Issuer Repurchases of Equity Securities

The table set forth below shows all repurchases of securities by us during the three months ended March 31, 2008:

Period	Total Number of Shares Purchased	Average Price Paid per Share	Total Number of Shares Purchased as part of publicly announced Plans or Programs	Maximum Number of Shares that may yet be purchased under publicly announced Plans or Programs
January 1, 2008 to January 31, 2008	12,005	\$ 8.89	—	—
February 1, 2008 to February 29, 2008	23,473	\$ 7.23	—	—
March 1, 2008 to March 31, 2008	12,640	\$ 3.50	—	—

The repurchases were made under the following two programs:

- Under the terms of our 1996 Stock and Option Plan and 2006 Stock and Option Plan, we may award shares of restricted stock to our employees and consultants. These shares of restricted stock typically are subject to a lapsing right of repurchase by us. We may exercise this right of repurchase in the event that a restricted stock recipient's service to us is terminated. If we exercise this right, we are required to repay the purchase price paid by or on behalf of the recipient for the repurchased restricted shares, which typically is the par value per share of \$0.01. Repurchased shares are returned to the applicable Stock and Option Plan under which they were issued. Shares returned to the 2006 Stock and Option Plan are available for future awards under the terms of that plan.
- In addition, in the first quarter of 2008, with respect to certain outstanding grants of restricted stock that vested during such period, we repurchased shares of restricted stock from our employees. Under this program, we offered to repurchase from employees a number of shares of restricted stock with a value, based on the fair market value on the vesting date, equal to our minimum statutory income tax withholding obligation on account of the employee's newly vested shares. In the first quarter of 2008, we repurchased 16,805 shares under this program at an average price of \$19.07 per share. Repurchased shares under this program are not available for future awards under the 2006 Stock and Option Plan.

Item 6. Exhibits

Exhibit No.	Description
4.1	Indenture dated as of February 19, 2008 by and between Vertex Pharmaceuticals Incorporated and U.S. Bank National Association, as trustee (incorporated by reference from Exhibit 4.1 the Current Report on Form 8-K filed on February 25, 2008 (Commission File No. 000-19319))
4.2	Form of 4.75% Convertible Senior Subordinated Note due 2013 (incorporated by reference from Exhibit 4.2 the Current Report on Form 8-K filed on February 25, 2008 (Commission File No. 000-19319))
10.1	Employment Agreement, dated February 11, 2008, between John Alam and Vertex Pharmaceuticals Incorporated*
10.2	Employment Agreement, dated February 11, 2008, between Peter Mueller and Vertex Pharmaceuticals Incorporated*
10.3	Employment Agreement, dated February 11, 2008, between Lisa Kelly-Croswell and Vertex Pharmaceuticals Incorporated*
10.4	Employment Agreement, dated February 11, 2008, between Amit Sachdev and Vertex Pharmaceuticals Incorporated*
10.5	Employment Agreement, dated February 11, 2008, between Richard C. Garrison and Vertex Pharmaceuticals Incorporated*
10.6	Executive Compensation Program*
10.7	Underwriting Agreement, dated February 12, 2008 by and among Vertex Pharmaceuticals Incorporated, Merrill Lynch, Pierce, Fenner & Smith Incorporated, Goldman, Sachs & Co., Morgan Stanley & Co. Incorporated and J.P. Morgan Securities Inc. (relating to the Common Stock Offering) (incorporated by reference from Exhibit 1.1 the Current Report on Form 8-K filed on February 14, 2008 (Commission File No. 000-19319))
10.8	Underwriting Agreement, dated February 12, 2008 by and among Vertex Pharmaceuticals Incorporated, Merrill Lynch, Pierce, Fenner & Smith Incorporated, Goldman, Sachs & Co., Morgan Stanley & Co. Incorporated and J.P. Morgan Securities Inc. (relating to the Notes Offering) (incorporated by reference from Exhibit 1.2 the Current Report on Form 8-K filed on February 14, 2008 (Commission File No. 000-19319))
31.1	Certification of the Chief Executive Officer under Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002
31.2	Certification of the Chief Financial Officer under Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002
32.1	Certification pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002

* Management contract, compensatory plan or arrangement.

Signatures

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

May 12, 2008

VERTEX PHARMACEUTICALS INCORPORATED

By: /s/ IAN F. SMITH

Ian F. Smith
Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer
(principal financial officer and duly authorized officer)

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EMPLOYMENT AGREEMENT

AGREEMENT, made and entered into as of February 11, 2008 by and between Vertex Pharmaceuticals Incorporated, a Massachusetts corporation (together with its successors and assigns, the "*Company*"), and John Alam (the "*Executive*").

WITNESSETH

WHEREAS, the Company is employing the Executive as the Company's Executive Vice President, Medicines Development, and Chief medical Officer;

WHEREAS, the Company and the Executive desire to enter into an employment agreement, which shall set forth the terms of such employment (this "*Agreement*"); and

WHEREAS, the Executive desires to enter into this Agreement and to continue such employment, subject to the terms and provisions of this Agreement.

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the premises and mutual covenants contained herein and for other good and valuable consideration, the receipt of which mutually is acknowledged, the Company and the Executive (each individually a "*Party*", and together the "*Parties*") agree as follows:

1. DEFINITIONS.

"*Base Salary*" shall mean the Executive's base salary in accordance with Section 4 below.

"*Board*" shall mean the Board of Directors of the Company.

"*Cause*" shall mean (i) the Executive is convicted of a crime involving moral turpitude, (ii) the Executive commits a material breach of any provision of this Agreement not involving the performance or nonperformance of duties, or (iii) the Executive, in carrying out the Executive's duties, acts or fails to act in a manner that is determined, in the sole discretion of the Board, after written notice of any such act or failure to act and a reasonable opportunity to cure the deficiency has been provided to the Executive, to be (A) willful gross neglect or (B) willful gross misconduct resulting, in either case, in material harm to the Company unless such act, or failure to act, was believed by the Executive, in good faith, to be in the best interests of the Company.

"*Change of Control*" shall have the meaning set forth in the Change of Control Agreement.

"*Change of Control Agreement*" shall mean the Change of Control letter agreement between the Company and the Executive dated March 7, 2003, as amended.

"*Code*" shall mean the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended.

"*Common Stock*" shall mean the common stock of the Company.

"*Disability*" or "*Disabled*" shall mean a disability as determined under the Company's long-term disability plan or program in effect at the time the disability first occurs, or if no such plan or program exists at the time of disability, then a "disability" as defined under Section 22(e)(3) of the Code.

"*Effective Date*" shall mean February 11, 2008.

"*Good Reason*" shall mean that, without the Executive's consent, one or more of the following events occurs, and the Executive, at the Executive's own initiative provides notice of termination within 30 days after such event:

- (i) the Executive's Base Salary is decreased unless such reduction is part of an across-the-board proportionate reduction in the salaries of the Company's senior management team; or
 - (ii) the office to which the Executive is assigned is relocated to a place 35 or more miles away and such relocation is not at the Executive's request or with the Executive's prior agreement (and
-

other than, for Executives assigned to the Company's principal executive offices, in connection with a change in location of the Company's principal executive offices).

"*Severance Payment*" shall mean an amount equal to the sum of the Base Salary in effect on the date of termination of Executive's employment, plus the amount of the Target Bonus for the Executive for the year in which the Executive's employment is terminated; provided, however, that if the Executive terminates the Executive's employment for Good Reason based on a reduction in Base Salary, then the Base Salary to be used in calculating the Severance Payment shall be the Base Salary in effect immediately prior to such reduction in Base Salary.

"*Target Bonus*" shall mean the target cash bonus for which the Executive is eligible on an annual basis, at a level consistent with the Executive's title and responsibilities, under the Company's bonus program then in effect and applicable to the Company's senior executives generally.

2. TERM OF EMPLOYMENT.

The Company hereby employs the Executive, and the Executive hereby accepts such employment, continuing until termination in accordance with the terms of this Agreement. The period during which the Executive is employed hereunder is referred to in this Agreement as the "*term of employment*."

3. POSITION.

On the Effective Date, the Executive shall be employed as the Company's Executive, Vice President, Medicines Development and Chief Medical Officer and shall be a member of the Company's Executive Team, or similar senior leadership group.

4. BASE SALARY.

The Executive's annualized Base Salary as of the date of this Agreement is \$424,360.00, payable in accordance with the regular payroll practices of the Company. The Base Salary shall be reviewed no less frequently than annually, and any changes thereto (which shall thereafter be deemed the Executive's Base Salary) shall be solely within the discretion of the Board.

5. TARGET BONUS PROGRAM.

During the term of employment, the Executive shall be eligible to participate in the Company's Target Bonus program (and other cash incentive compensation programs) applicable to the Company's senior executives, as any such programs are established and modified from time to time by the Board in its sole discretion, and in accordance with the terms of such program.

6. INCENTIVE COMPENSATION PROGRAMS.

During the term of employment, the Executive shall be eligible to participate in the Company's incentive compensation programs applicable to the Company's senior executives, as such programs may be established and modified from time to time by the Board in its sole discretion.

7. EMPLOYEE BENEFIT PROGRAMS.

During the term of employment, the Executive shall be entitled to participate in all employee welfare and pension benefit plans, programs and/or arrangements offered by the Company to its senior executives, as such plans, programs and arrangements may be amended from time to time, to the same extent and on the same terms applicable to other senior executives. Nothing in this section shall preclude the Company from amending or terminating any of its employee benefit plans, programs or arrangements.

8. VACATION.

During the term of employment, the Executive shall be entitled to paid vacation days each calendar year in accordance with the Company's vacation policy then in effect.

9. TERMINATION OF EMPLOYMENT.

(a) **Termination in Connection with a Change of Control.** To the extent the Executive is entitled, in connection with the Executive's termination of employment, to severance or other benefits under the Change of Control Agreement, the Executive shall not be entitled to corresponding benefits under this Section 9.

(b) **Termination by the Company for Cause; or Termination by the Executive without Good Reason.** If the Company terminates the Executive's employment for Cause, or if the Executive voluntarily terminates the Executive's employment, other than for Good Reason, death or Disability, the term of employment shall end as of the date specified below, and the Executive shall be entitled to the following:

- (i) Base Salary earned by Executive but not paid through the date of termination of Executive's employment under this Section 9(b); and
- (ii) any amounts earned, accrued or owing to the Executive but not yet paid under Sections 5, 6, or 7 above.

Termination by Company for Cause shall be effective as of the date noticed by the Company. Voluntary termination by Executive other than for Good Reason, death or Disability shall be effective upon 90 days' prior written notice to the Company and shall not be deemed a breach of this Agreement.

If the Executive voluntarily terminates his or her employment without Good Reason, the Company may elect to waive the period of notice, or any portion thereof, and, if the Company so elects, the Company will pay the Executive at the rate of the Executive's Base Salary for the notice period or for any remaining portion thereof.

(c) **Termination by the Company Without Cause; or Termination by the Executive for Good Reason.** If the Executive's employment is terminated by the Company without Cause (other than due to death or Disability), or is terminated by the Executive for Good Reason, the Executive shall be entitled to the following (provided that, with respect to (iii) and (v) such amounts shall be subject to and in exchange for a general release by Executive of all claims against the Company, its subsidiaries, and their officers, directors, agents and representatives):

- (i) Base Salary earned by Executive but not paid through the date of termination of Executive's employment under this Section 9(c);
- (ii) all incentive compensation awards earned by Executive but not paid prior to the date of termination of Executive's employment under this Section 9(c);
- (iii) a cash payment to the Executive in an amount equal to the Severance Payment, payable within ten days after the execution of a general release and expiration without revocation of any applicable revocation periods under the general release;
- (iv) any amounts earned, accrued or owing to the Executive but not yet paid under Sections 5, 6 or 7 above;
- (v) if COBRA coverage is elected by the Executive, the Company shall pay the cost of COBRA continuation premiums on the Executive's behalf to continue standard medical, dental and life insurance coverage for the Executive (or the cash equivalent of same in the event the Executive is ineligible for continued coverage) until the earlier of:

- (A) the date 12 months after the date the Executive's employment is terminated; or

- (B) the date, or dates, on which the Executive receives equivalent coverage and benefits under the plans, programs and/or arrangements of a subsequent employer (such coverage and benefits to be determined on a coverage-by-coverage or benefit-by-benefit basis).

If Executive is a "specified employee" under Section 409A(a)(2)(B)(i) of the Code, any payment of "nonqualified deferred compensation" (as defined under Section 409A of the Code and related guidance) attributable to a "separation from service" (as defined under Section 409A of the Code and related guidance) shall not commence until the first full business day that is more than 6 months after the applicable separation from service ("*Deferred Payment Date*").

Any payments that would otherwise have been made between the separation from service and the Deferred Payment Date, but for this paragraph, shall be made in a lump sum on the Deferred Payment Date. Payments that, in any case, are scheduled to be made after the Deferred Payment Date shall continue according to the applicable payment schedule. To the extent that the termination of the Executive's employment does not constitute a separation of service under Section 409A(a)(2)(A)(i) of the Code (as the result of further services that reasonably are anticipated to be provided by the Executive to the Company at the time the Executive's employment is terminated), the payment of any nonqualified deferred compensation will be further delayed until the date that is the first full business day that is more than 6 months after the date of a subsequent event constituting a separation of service under Section 409A(a)(2)(A)(i) of the Code.

10. ASSIGNABILITY; BINDING NATURE.

This Agreement shall be binding upon and inure to the benefit of the Parties and their respective successors, heirs (in the case of the Executive) and assigns. No rights or obligations of the Company under this Agreement may be assigned or transferred by the Company except that such rights or obligations may be assigned or transferred pursuant to a merger or consolidation in which the Company is not the continuing entity, or the sale or liquidation of all or substantially all of the assets of the Company; *provided, however*, that the assignee or transferee is the successor to all or substantially all of the assets of the Company and such assignee or transferee assumes the liabilities, obligations and duties of the Company, as contained in this Agreement, either contractually or as a matter of law.

11. REPRESENTATIONS.

The Company represents and warrants that it is fully authorized and empowered to enter into this Agreement, and that the performance of its obligations under this Agreement will not violate any agreement between it and any other person, firm or organization. The Executive represents and warrants that no agreement exists between him and any other person, firm or organization that would be violated by the performance of the Executive's obligations under this Agreement.

12. INDEMNIFICATION; INSURANCE.

The Executive shall at all times be indemnified and eligible for advancement of expenses on the same basis as is provided for the Company's other executive officers and in accordance with the provisions of the Company's charter and by-laws then in effect. The Executive shall also be covered under all of the Company's policies of liability insurance maintained for the benefit of its directors and officers on the same basis as is provided for its other executive officers.

13. ENTIRE AGREEMENT; TERMINATION.

This Agreement, Change of Control Agreement, and the Employee Non-Disclosure, Non-Competition & Inventions Agreement between the Executive and the Company, contain the entire understanding and agreement between the Parties concerning the subject matter hereof and supersedes all prior agreements, understandings, discussions, negotiations and undertakings, whether written or oral, between the Parties with respect thereto. Subject to the terms of this Agreement, the Company

shall be entitled to terminate the Executive's employment at any time, and the Executive may terminate the Executive's employment by the Company, at any time, in each case by written notice provided in accordance with Section 20 of this Agreement.

14. AMENDMENT OR WAIVER.

No provision in this Agreement may be amended unless such amendment is agreed to in writing and signed by the Executive and an authorized officer of the Company. No waiver by either Party of any breach by the other Party of any condition or provision contained in this Agreement to be performed by such other Party shall be deemed a waiver of a similar or dissimilar condition or provision at the same or any prior or subsequent time. Any waiver must be in writing and signed by the Executive or an authorized officer of the Company, as the case may be.

15. SEVERABILITY.

If any provision or portion of this Agreement shall be determined to be invalid or unenforceable for any reason, in whole or in part, the remaining provisions of this Agreement shall be unaffected thereby and shall remain in full force and effect to the fullest extent permitted by law.

16. SURVIVORSHIP.

The respective rights and obligations of the Parties hereunder shall survive any termination of the Executive's employment to the extent necessary to the intended preservation of such rights and obligations.

17. BENEFICIARIES/REFERENCES.

The Executive shall be entitled, to the extent permitted under any applicable law, to select and change a beneficiary or beneficiaries to receive any compensation or benefit payable hereunder following the Executive's death by giving the Company written notice thereof. In the event of the Executive's death or a judicial determination of the Executive's incompetence, reference in this Agreement to the Executive shall be deemed, where appropriate, to refer to the Executive's beneficiary, estate or other legal representative.

18. GOVERNING LAW/JURISDICTION.

This Agreement shall be governed by and construed and interpreted in accordance with the laws of The Commonwealth of Massachusetts without reference to principles of conflict of laws.

19. RESOLUTION OF DISPUTES.

Any disputes arising under or in connection with this Agreement may, at the election of the Executive or the Company, be resolved by binding arbitration, to be held in Massachusetts in accordance with the Rules and Procedures of the American Arbitration Association. If arbitration is elected, the Executive and the Company shall mutually select the arbitrator. If the Executive and the Company cannot agree on the selection of an arbitrator, each Party shall select an arbitrator and the two arbitrators shall select a third arbitrator, and the three arbitrators shall form an arbitration panel that shall resolve the dispute by majority vote. Judgment upon the award rendered by the arbitrator or arbitrators may be entered in any court having jurisdiction thereof. Costs of the arbitrator or arbitrators and other similar costs in connection with an arbitration shall be shared equally by the Parties; all other costs, such as attorneys' fees incurred by each Party, shall be borne by the Party incurring such costs.

20. NOTICES.

All notices that are required or permitted hereunder shall be in writing and sufficient if delivered personally, sent by facsimile (and promptly confirmed by personal delivery, registered or certified mail

or overnight courier), sent by nationally-recognized overnight courier or sent by registered or certified mail, postage prepaid, addressed as follows:

If to the Company: Vertex Pharmaceuticals Incorporated
130 Waverly Street
Cambridge, MA 02139-4242
Attn: Chief Executive Officer
with copies to:
the General Counsel

If to the Executive: at the Executive's home address listed in the Company records.

Any such notice shall be deemed to have been given: (a) when delivered if personally delivered or sent by facsimile on a business day; (b) on the business day after dispatch if sent by nationally-recognized overnight courier; and/or (c) on the fifth business day following the date of mailing if sent by mail.

21. HEADINGS.

The headings of the sections contained in this Agreement are for convenience only and shall not be deemed to control or affect the meaning or construction of any provision of this Agreement.

22. COUNTERPARTS.

This Agreement may be executed in two or more counterparts.

23. SECTION 409A COMPLIANCE.

It is the intention of the Company and the Executive that this Agreement and the payments provided for herein meet the requirements of Section 409A of the Code, to the extent applicable to this Agreement and such payments. The Company and the Executive agree to cooperate in good faith in preparing and executing, at such time as sufficient guidance is available under Section 409A and from time to time thereafter, such amendments to this Agreement, if any, as the Executive may reasonably request solely for the purpose of assuring that this Agreement and the payments provided hereunder meet the requirements of Section 409A. Nothing in this Section 23 shall require the Company to increase the Executive's compensation or make the Executive whole for any requested changes.

24. TAX WITHHOLDING; NO GUARANTEE OF ANY TAX CONSEQUENCES.

All payments hereunder shall be subject to all applicable withholding for any federal, state or local income taxes including any excise taxes under the Code. Notwithstanding any other provision of this Agreement to the contrary or other representation, the Company does not in any way guarantee the tax consequences of any payment or compensation under this Agreement including, without limitation, under Section 409A of the Code.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the undersigned have executed this Agreement as of the date first written above.

Vertex Pharmaceuticals Incorporated

/s/ JOSHUA S. BOGER

Joshua S. Boger
President & Chief Executive Officer

Executive

/s/ JOHN ALAM

John Alam

QuickLinks

[Exhibit 10.1](#)

[EMPLOYMENT AGREEMENT
WITNESSETH](#)

EMPLOYMENT AGREEMENT

AGREEMENT, made and entered into as of February 11, 2008 by and between Vertex Pharmaceuticals Incorporated, a Massachusetts corporation (together with its successors and assigns, the "*Company*"), and Peter Mueller (the "*Executive*").

WITNESSETH

WHEREAS, the Company is employing the Executive as the Company's Executive Vice President, Drug Innovation and Realization, and Chief Scientific Officer;

WHEREAS, the Company and the Executive desire to enter into an employment agreement, which shall set forth the terms of such employment (this "*Agreement*"); and

WHEREAS, the Executive desires to enter into this Agreement and to continue such employment, subject to the terms and provisions of this Agreement.

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the premises and mutual covenants contained herein and for other good and valuable consideration, the receipt of which mutually is acknowledged, the Company and the Executive (each individually a "*Party*", and together the "*Parties*") agree as follows:

1. DEFINITIONS.

"*Base Salary*" shall mean the Executive's base salary in accordance with Section 4 below.

"*Board*" shall mean the Board of Directors of the Company.

"*Cause*" shall mean (i) the Executive is convicted of a crime involving moral turpitude, (ii) the Executive commits a material breach of any provision of this Agreement not involving the performance or nonperformance of duties, or (iii) the Executive, in carrying out the Executive's duties, acts or fails to act in a manner that is determined, in the sole discretion of the Board, after written notice of any such act or failure to act and a reasonable opportunity to cure the deficiency has been provided to the Executive, to be (A) willful gross neglect or (B) willful gross misconduct resulting, in either case, in material harm to the Company unless such act, or failure to act, was believed by the Executive, in good faith, to be in the best interests of the Company.

"*Change of Control*" shall have the meaning set forth in the Change of Control Agreement.

"*Change of Control Agreement*" shall mean the Change of Control letter agreement between the Company and the Executive dated March 7, 2003, as amended.

"*Code*" shall mean the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended.

"*Common Stock*" shall mean the common stock of the Company.

"*Disability*" or "*Disabled*" shall mean a disability as determined under the Company's long-term disability plan or program in effect at the time the disability first occurs, or if no such plan or program exists at the time of disability, then a "disability" as defined under Section 22(e)(3) of the Code.

"*Effective Date*" shall mean February 11, 2008.

"*Good Reason*" shall mean that, without the Executive's consent, one or more of the following events occurs, and the Executive, at the Executive's own initiative provides notice of termination within 30 days after such event:

- (i) the Executive's Base Salary is decreased unless such reduction is part of an across-the-board proportionate reduction in the salaries of the Company's senior management team; or
 - (ii) the office to which the Executive is assigned is relocated to a place 35 or more miles away and such relocation is not at the Executive's request or with the Executive's prior agreement (and
-

other than, for Executives assigned to the Company's principal executive offices, in connection with a change in location of the Company's principal executive offices).

"*Severance Payment*" shall mean an amount equal to the sum of the Base Salary in effect on the date of termination of Executive's employment, plus the amount of the Target Bonus for the Executive for the year in which the Executive's employment is terminated; provided, however, that if the Executive terminates the Executive's employment for Good Reason based on a reduction in Base Salary, then the Base Salary to be used in calculating the Severance Payment shall be the Base Salary in effect immediately prior to such reduction in Base Salary.

"*Target Bonus*" shall mean the target cash bonus for which the Executive is eligible on an annual basis, at a level consistent with the Executive's title and responsibilities, under the Company's bonus program then in effect and applicable to the Company's senior executives generally.

2. TERM OF EMPLOYMENT.

The Company hereby employs the Executive, and the Executive hereby accepts such employment, continuing until termination in accordance with the terms of this Agreement. The period during which the Executive is employed hereunder is referred to in this Agreement as the "*term of employment*."

3. POSITION.

On the Effective Date, the Executive shall be employed as the Company's Executive Vice President, Drug Innovation and Realization, and Chief Scientific Officer.

4. BASE SALARY.

The Executive's annualized Base Salary as of the date of this Agreement is \$458,719.77, payable in accordance with the regular payroll practices of the Company. The Base Salary shall be reviewed no less frequently than annually, and any changes thereto (which shall thereafter be deemed the Executive's Base Salary) shall be solely within the discretion of the Board.

5. TARGET BONUS PROGRAM.

During the term of employment, the Executive shall be eligible to participate in the Company's Target Bonus program (and other cash incentive compensation programs) applicable to the Company's senior executives, as any such programs are established and modified from time to time by the Board in its sole discretion, and in accordance with the terms of such program.

6. INCENTIVE COMPENSATION PROGRAMS.

During the term of employment, the Executive shall be eligible to participate in the Company's incentive compensation programs applicable to the Company's senior executives, as such programs may be established and modified from time to time by the Board in its sole discretion.

7. EMPLOYEE BENEFIT PROGRAMS.

During the term of employment, the Executive shall be entitled to participate in all employee welfare and pension benefit plans, programs and/or arrangements offered by the Company to its senior executives, as such plans, programs and arrangements may be amended from time to time, to the same extent and on the same terms applicable to other senior executives. Nothing in this section shall preclude the Company from amending or terminating any of its employee benefit plans, programs or arrangements.

8. VACATION.

During the term of employment, the Executive shall be entitled to paid vacation days each calendar year in accordance with the Company's vacation policy then in effect.

9. TERMINATION OF EMPLOYMENT.

(a) **Termination in Connection with a Change of Control.** To the extent the Executive is entitled, in connection with the Executive's termination of employment, to severance or other benefits under the Change of Control Agreement, the Executive shall not be entitled to corresponding benefits under this Section 9.

(b) **Termination by the Company for Cause; or Termination by the Executive without Good Reason.** If the Company terminates the Executive's employment for Cause, or if the Executive voluntarily terminates the Executive's employment, other than for Good Reason, death or Disability, the term of employment shall end as of the date specified below, and the Executive shall be entitled to the following:

- (i) Base Salary earned by Executive but not paid through the date of termination of Executive's employment under this Section 9(b); and
- (ii) any amounts earned, accrued or owing to the Executive but not yet paid under Sections 5, 6, or 7 above.

Termination by Company for Cause shall be effective as of the date noticed by the Company. Voluntary termination by Executive other than for Good Reason, death or Disability shall be effective upon 90 days' prior written notice to the Company and shall not be deemed a breach of this Agreement.

If the Executive voluntarily terminates his or her employment without Good Reason, the Company may elect to waive the period of notice, or any portion thereof, and, if the Company so elects, the Company will pay the Executive at the rate of the Executive's Base Salary for the notice period or for any remaining portion thereof.

(c) **Termination by the Company Without Cause; or Termination by the Executive for Good Reason.** If the Executive's employment is terminated by the Company without Cause (other than due to death or Disability), or is terminated by the Executive for Good Reason, the Executive shall be entitled to the following (provided that, with respect to (iii) and (v) such amounts shall be subject to and in exchange for a general release by Executive of all claims against the Company, its subsidiaries, and their officers, directors, agents and representatives):

- (i) Base Salary earned by Executive but not paid through the date of termination of Executive's employment under this Section 9(c);
- (ii) all incentive compensation awards earned by Executive but not paid prior to the date of termination of Executive's employment under this Section 9(c);
- (iii) a cash payment to the Executive in an amount equal to the Severance Payment, payable within ten days after the execution of a general release and expiration without revocation of any applicable revocation periods under the general release;
- (iv) any amounts earned, accrued or owing to the Executive but not yet paid under Sections 5, 6 or 7 above;
- (v) if COBRA coverage is elected by the Executive, the Company shall pay the cost of COBRA continuation premiums on the Executive's behalf to continue standard medical, dental and life insurance coverage for the Executive (or the cash equivalent of same in the event the Executive is ineligible for continued coverage) until the earlier of:

- (A) the date 12 months after the date the Executive's employment is terminated; or

- (B) the date, or dates, on which the Executive receives equivalent coverage and benefits under the plans, programs and/or arrangements of a subsequent employer (such coverage and benefits to be determined on a coverage-by-coverage or benefit-by-benefit basis).

If Executive is a "specified employee" under Section 409A(a)(2)(B)(i) of the Code, any payment of "nonqualified deferred compensation" (as defined under Section 409A of the Code and related guidance) attributable to a "separation from service" (as defined under Section 409A of the Code and related guidance) shall not commence until the first full business day that is more than 6 months after the applicable separation from service ("*Deferred Payment Date*"). Any payments that would otherwise have been made between the separation from service and the Deferred Payment Date, but for this paragraph, shall be made in a lump sum on the Deferred Payment Date. Payments that, in any case, are scheduled to be made after the Deferred Payment Date shall continue according to the applicable payment schedule. To the extent that the termination of the Executive's employment does not constitute a separation of service under Section 409A(a)(2)(A)(i) of the Code (as the result of further services that reasonably are anticipated to be provided by the Executive to the Company at the time the Executive's employment is terminated), the payment of any nonqualified deferred compensation will be further delayed until the date that is the first full business day that is more than 6 months after the date of a subsequent event constituting a separation of service under Section 409A(a)(2)(A)(i) of the Code.

10. ASSIGNABILITY; BINDING NATURE.

This Agreement shall be binding upon and inure to the benefit of the Parties and their respective successors, heirs (in the case of the Executive) and assigns. No rights or obligations of the Company under this Agreement may be assigned or transferred by the Company except that such rights or obligations may be assigned or transferred pursuant to a merger or consolidation in which the Company is not the continuing entity, or the sale or liquidation of all or substantially all of the assets of the Company; *provided, however*, that the assignee or transferee is the successor to all or substantially all of the assets of the Company and such assignee or transferee assumes the liabilities, obligations and duties of the Company, as contained in this Agreement, either contractually or as a matter of law.

11. REPRESENTATIONS.

The Company represents and warrants that it is fully authorized and empowered to enter into this Agreement, and that the performance of its obligations under this Agreement will not violate any agreement between it and any other person, firm or organization. The Executive represents and warrants that no agreement exists between him and any other person, firm or organization that would be violated by the performance of the Executive's obligations under this Agreement.

12. INDEMNIFICATION; INSURANCE.

The Executive shall at all times be indemnified and eligible for advancement of expenses on the same basis as is provided for the Company's other executive officers and in accordance with the provisions of the Company's charter and by-laws then in effect. The Executive shall also be covered under all of the Company's policies of liability insurance maintained for the benefit of its directors and officers on the same basis as is provided for its other executive officers.

13. ENTIRE AGREEMENT; TERMINATION.

This Agreement, the agreements referenced herein, and the Employee Non-Disclosure, Non-Competition & Inventions Agreement between the Executive and the Company, contain the entire understanding and agreement between the Parties concerning the subject matter hereof and supersedes all prior agreements, understandings, discussions, negotiations and undertakings, whether written or oral, between the Parties with respect thereto. Subject to the terms of this Agreement, the Company

shall be entitled to terminate the Executive's employment at any time, and the Executive may terminate the Executive's employment by the Company, at any time, in each case by written notice provided in accordance with Section 20 of this Agreement.

14. AMENDMENT OR WAIVER.

No provision in this Agreement may be amended unless such amendment is agreed to in writing and signed by the Executive and an authorized officer of the Company. No waiver by either Party of any breach by the other Party of any condition or provision contained in this Agreement to be performed by such other Party shall be deemed a waiver of a similar or dissimilar condition or provision at the same or any prior or subsequent time. Any waiver must be in writing and signed by the Executive or an authorized officer of the Company, as the case may be.

15. SEVERABILITY.

If any provision or portion of this Agreement shall be determined to be invalid or unenforceable for any reason, in whole or in part, the remaining provisions of this Agreement shall be unaffected thereby and shall remain in full force and effect to the fullest extent permitted by law.

16. SURVIVORSHIP.

The respective rights and obligations of the Parties hereunder shall survive any termination of the Executive's employment to the extent necessary to the intended preservation of such rights and obligations.

17. BENEFICIARIES/REFERENCES.

The Executive shall be entitled, to the extent permitted under any applicable law, to select and change a beneficiary or beneficiaries to receive any compensation or benefit payable hereunder following the Executive's death by giving the Company written notice thereof. In the event of the Executive's death or a judicial determination of the Executive's incompetence, reference in this Agreement to the Executive shall be deemed, where appropriate, to refer to the Executive's beneficiary, estate or other legal representative.

18. GOVERNING LAW/JURISDICTION.

This Agreement shall be governed by and construed and interpreted in accordance with the laws of The Commonwealth of Massachusetts without reference to principles of conflict of laws.

19. RESOLUTION OF DISPUTES.

Any disputes arising under or in connection with this Agreement may, at the election of the Executive or the Company, be resolved by binding arbitration, to be held in Massachusetts in accordance with the Rules and Procedures of the American Arbitration Association. If arbitration is elected, the Executive and the Company shall mutually select the arbitrator. If the Executive and the Company cannot agree on the selection of an arbitrator, each Party shall select an arbitrator and the two arbitrators shall select a third arbitrator, and the three arbitrators shall form an arbitration panel that shall resolve the dispute by majority vote. Judgment upon the award rendered by the arbitrator or arbitrators may be entered in any court having jurisdiction thereof. Costs of the arbitrator or arbitrators and other similar costs in connection with an arbitration shall be shared equally by the Parties; all other costs, such as attorneys' fees incurred by each Party, shall be borne by the Party incurring such costs.

20. NOTICES.

All notices that are required or permitted hereunder shall be in writing and sufficient if delivered personally, sent by facsimile (and promptly confirmed by personal delivery, registered or certified mail

or overnight courier), sent by nationally-recognized overnight courier or sent by registered or certified mail, postage prepaid, addressed as follows:

If to the Company: Vertex Pharmaceuticals Incorporated
130 Waverly Street
Cambridge, MA 02139-4242
Attn: Chief Executive Officer
with copies to:
the General Counsel

If to the Executive: at the Executive's home address listed in the Company records.

Any such notice shall be deemed to have been given: (a) when delivered if personally delivered or sent by facsimile on a business day; (b) on the business day after dispatch if sent by nationally-recognized overnight courier; and/or (c) on the fifth business day following the date of mailing if sent by mail.

21. HEADINGS.

The headings of the sections contained in this Agreement are for convenience only and shall not be deemed to control or affect the meaning or construction of any provision of this Agreement.

22. COUNTERPARTS.

This Agreement may be executed in two or more counterparts.

23. SECTION 409A COMPLIANCE.

It is the intention of the Company and the Executive that this Agreement and the payments provided for herein meet the requirements of Section 409A of the Code, to the extent applicable to this Agreement and such payments. The Company and the Executive agree to cooperate in good faith in preparing and executing, at such time as sufficient guidance is available under Section 409A and from time to time thereafter, such amendments to this Agreement, if any, as the Executive may reasonably request solely for the purpose of assuring that this Agreement and the payments provided hereunder meet the requirements of Section 409A. Nothing in this Section 23 shall require the Company to increase the Executive's compensation or make the Executive whole for any requested changes.

24. TAX WITHHOLDING; NO GUARANTEE OF ANY TAX CONSEQUENCES.

All payments hereunder shall be subject to all applicable withholding for any federal, state or local income taxes including any excise taxes under the Code. Notwithstanding any other provision of this Agreement to the contrary or other representation, the Company does not in any way guarantee the tax consequences of any payment or compensation under this Agreement including, without limitation, under Section 409A of the Code.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the undersigned have executed this Agreement as of the date first written above.

Vertex Pharmaceuticals Incorporated

/s/ JOSHUA S. BOGER

Joshua S. Boger
President & Chief Executive Officer

Executive

/s/ PETER MUELLER

Peter Mueller

QuickLinks

[Exhibit 10.2](#)

[EMPLOYMENT AGREEMENT
WITNESSETH](#)

EMPLOYMENT AGREEMENT

AGREEMENT, made and entered into as of February 11, 2008 by and between Vertex Pharmaceuticals Incorporated, a Massachusetts corporation (together with its successors and assigns, the "Company"), and Lisa Kelly-Croswell (the "Executive").

WITNESSETH

WHEREAS, the Company is employing the Executive as the Company's Senior Vice President, Human Resources;

WHEREAS, the Company and the Executive desire to enter into an employment agreement, which shall set forth the terms of such employment (this "Agreement"); and

WHEREAS, the Executive desires to enter into this Agreement and to continue such employment, subject to the terms and provisions of this Agreement.

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the premises and mutual covenants contained herein and for other good and valuable consideration, the receipt of which mutually is acknowledged, the Company and the Executive (each individually a "Party", and together the "Parties") agree as follows:

1. DEFINITIONS.

"Base Salary" shall mean the Executive's base salary in accordance with Section 4 below.

"Board" shall mean the Board of Directors of the Company.

"Cause" shall mean (i) the Executive is convicted of a crime involving moral turpitude, (ii) the Executive commits a material breach of any provision of this Agreement not involving the performance or nonperformance of duties, or (iii) the Executive, in carrying out the Executive's duties, acts or fails to act in a manner that is determined, in the sole discretion of the Board, after written notice of any such act or failure to act and a reasonable opportunity to cure the deficiency has been provided to the Executive, to be (A) willful gross neglect or (B) willful gross misconduct resulting, in either case, in material harm to the Company unless such act, or failure to act, was believed by the Executive, in good faith, to be in the best interests of the Company.

"Change of Control" shall have the meaning set forth in the Change of Control Agreement.

"Change of Control Agreement" shall mean the Change of Control letter agreement between the Company and the Executive dated July 12, 2007.

"Code" shall mean the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended.

"Common Stock" shall mean the common stock of the Company.

"Disability" or "Disabled" shall mean a disability as determined under the Company's long-term disability plan or program in effect at the time the disability first occurs, or if no such plan or program exists at the time of disability, then a "disability" as defined under Section 22(e)(3) of the Code.

"Effective Date" shall mean February 11, 2008.

"Good Reason" shall mean that, without the Executive's consent, one or more of the following events occurs, and the Executive, at the Executive's own initiative provides notice of termination within 30 days after such event:

- (i) the Executive's Base Salary is decreased unless such reduction is part of an across-the-board proportionate reduction in the salaries of the Company's senior management team; or
 - (ii) the office to which the Executive is assigned is relocated to a place 35 or more miles away and such relocation is not at the Executive's request or with the Executive's prior agreement (and
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other than, for Executives assigned to the Company's principal executive offices, in connection with a change in location of the Company's principal executive offices).

"*Severance Payment*" shall mean an amount equal to the sum of the Base Salary in effect on the date of termination of Executive's employment, plus the amount of the Target Bonus for the Executive for the year in which the Executive's employment is terminated; provided, however, that if the Executive terminates the Executive's employment for Good Reason based on a reduction in Base Salary, then the Base Salary to be used in calculating the Severance Payment shall be the Base Salary in effect immediately prior to such reduction in Base Salary.

"*Target Bonus*" shall mean the target cash bonus for which the Executive is eligible on an annual basis, at a level consistent with the Executive's title and responsibilities, under the Company's bonus program then in effect and applicable to the Company's senior executives generally.

2. TERM OF EMPLOYMENT.

The Company hereby employs the Executive, and the Executive hereby accepts such employment, continuing until termination in accordance with the terms of this Agreement. The period during which the Executive is employed hereunder is referred to in this Agreement as the "*term of employment*."

3. POSITION.

On the Effective Date, the Executive shall be employed as the Company's Senior Vice President, Human Resources.

4. BASE SALARY.

The Executive's annualized Base Salary as of the date of this Agreement is \$298,700.00, payable in accordance with the regular payroll practices of the Company. The Base Salary shall be reviewed no less frequently than annually, and any changes thereto (which shall thereafter be deemed the Executive's Base Salary) shall be solely within the discretion of the Board.

5. TARGET BONUS PROGRAM.

During the term of employment, the Executive shall be eligible to participate in the Company's Target Bonus program (and other cash incentive compensation programs) applicable to the Company's senior executives, as any such programs are established and modified from time to time by the Board in its sole discretion, and in accordance with the terms of such program.

6. INCENTIVE COMPENSATION PROGRAMS.

During the term of employment, the Executive shall be eligible to participate in the Company's incentive compensation programs applicable to the Company's senior executives, as such programs may be established and modified from time to time by the Board in its sole discretion.

7. EMPLOYEE BENEFIT PROGRAMS.

During the term of employment, the Executive shall be entitled to participate in all employee welfare and pension benefit plans, programs and/or arrangements offered by the Company to its senior executives, as such plans, programs and arrangements may be amended from time to time, to the same extent and on the same terms applicable to other senior executives. Nothing in this section shall preclude the Company from amending or terminating any of its employee benefit plans, programs or arrangements.

8. VACATION.

During the term of employment, the Executive shall be entitled to paid vacation days each calendar year in accordance with the Company's vacation policy then in effect.

9. TERMINATION OF EMPLOYMENT.

(a) **Termination in Connection with a Change of Control.** To the extent the Executive is entitled, in connection with the Executive's termination of employment, to severance or other benefits under the Change of Control Agreement, the Executive shall not be entitled to corresponding benefits under this Section 9.

(b) **Termination by the Company for Cause; or Termination by the Executive without Good Reason.** If the Company terminates the Executive's employment for Cause, or if the Executive voluntarily terminates the Executive's employment, other than for Good Reason, death or Disability, the term of employment shall end as of the date specified below, and the Executive shall be entitled to the following:

- (i) Base Salary earned by Executive but not paid through the date of termination of Executive's employment under this Section 9(b); and
- (ii) any amounts earned, accrued or owing to the Executive but not yet paid under Sections 5, 6, or 7 above.

Termination by Company for Cause shall be effective as of the date noticed by the Company. Voluntary termination by Executive other than for Good Reason, death or Disability shall be effective upon 90 days' prior written notice to the Company and shall not be deemed a breach of this Agreement.

If the Executive voluntarily terminates his or her employment without Good Reason, the Company may elect to waive the period of notice, or any portion thereof, and, if the Company so elects, the Company will pay the Executive at the rate of the Executive's Base Salary for the notice period or for any remaining portion thereof.

(c) **Termination by the Company Without Cause; or Termination by the Executive for Good Reason.** If the Executive's employment is terminated by the Company without Cause (other than due to death or Disability), or is terminated by the Executive for Good Reason, the Executive shall be entitled to the following (provided that, with respect to (iii) and (v) such amounts shall be subject to and in exchange for a general release by Executive of all claims against the Company, its subsidiaries, and their officers, directors, agents and representatives):

- (i) Base Salary earned by Executive but not paid through the date of termination of Executive's employment under this Section 9(c);
- (ii) all incentive compensation awards earned by Executive but not paid prior to the date of termination of Executive's employment under this Section 9(c);
- (iii) a cash payment to the Executive in an amount equal to the Severance Payment, payable within ten days after the execution of a general release and expiration without revocation of any applicable revocation periods under the general release;
- (iv) any amounts earned, accrued or owing to the Executive but not yet paid under Sections 5, 6 or 7 above;
- (v) if COBRA coverage is elected by the Executive, the Company shall pay the cost of COBRA continuation premiums on the Executive's behalf to continue standard medical, dental and life insurance coverage for the Executive (or the cash equivalent of same in the event the Executive is ineligible for continued coverage) until the earlier of:

- (A) the date 12 months after the date the Executive's employment is terminated; or

- (B) the date, or dates, on which the Executive receives equivalent coverage and benefits under the plans, programs and/or arrangements of a subsequent employer (such coverage and benefits to be determined on a coverage-by-coverage or benefit-by-benefit basis).

If Executive is a "specified employee" under Section 409A(a)(2)(B)(i) of the Code, any payment of "nonqualified deferred compensation" (as defined under Section 409A of the Code and related guidance) attributable to a "separation from service" (as defined under Section 409A of the Code and related guidance) shall not commence until the first full business day that is more than 6 months after the applicable separation from service ("*Deferred Payment Date*"). Any payments that would otherwise have been made between the separation from service and the Deferred Payment Date, but for this paragraph, shall be made in a lump sum on the Deferred Payment Date. Payments that, in any case, are scheduled to be made after the Deferred Payment Date shall continue according to the applicable payment schedule. To the extent that the termination of the Executive's employment does not constitute a separation of service under Section 409A(a)(2)(A)(i) of the Code (as the result of further services that reasonably are anticipated to be provided by the Executive to the Company at the time the Executive's employment is terminated), the payment of any nonqualified deferred compensation will be further delayed until the date that is the first full business day that is more than 6 months after the date of a subsequent event constituting a separation of service under Section 409A(a)(2)(A)(i) of the Code.

10. ASSIGNABILITY; BINDING NATURE.

This Agreement shall be binding upon and inure to the benefit of the Parties and their respective successors, heirs (in the case of the Executive) and assigns. No rights or obligations of the Company under this Agreement may be assigned or transferred by the Company except that such rights or obligations may be assigned or transferred pursuant to a merger or consolidation in which the Company is not the continuing entity, or the sale or liquidation of all or substantially all of the assets of the Company; *provided, however*, that the assignee or transferee is the successor to all or substantially all of the assets of the Company and such assignee or transferee assumes the liabilities, obligations and duties of the Company, as contained in this Agreement, either contractually or as a matter of law.

11. REPRESENTATIONS.

The Company represents and warrants that it is fully authorized and empowered to enter into this Agreement, and that the performance of its obligations under this Agreement will not violate any agreement between it and any other person, firm or organization. The Executive represents and warrants that no agreement exists between him and any other person, firm or organization that would be violated by the performance of the Executive's obligations under this Agreement.

12. INDEMNIFICATION; INSURANCE.

The Executive shall at all times be indemnified and eligible for advancement of expenses on the same basis as is provided for the Company's other executive officers and in accordance with the provisions of the Company's charter and by-laws then in effect. The Executive shall also be covered under all of the Company's policies of liability insurance maintained for the benefit of its directors and officers on the same basis as is provided for its other executive officers.

13. ENTIRE AGREEMENT; TERMINATION.

This Agreement, the agreements referenced herein, and the Employee Non-Disclosure, Non-Competition & Inventions Agreement between the Executive and the Company, contain the entire understanding and agreement between the Parties concerning the subject matter hereof and supersedes all prior agreements, understandings, discussions, negotiations and undertakings, whether written or oral, between the Parties with respect thereto. Subject to the terms of this Agreement, the Company

shall be entitled to terminate the Executive's employment at any time, and the Executive may terminate the Executive's employment by the Company, at any time, in each case by written notice provided in accordance with Section 20 of this Agreement.

14. AMENDMENT OR WAIVER.

No provision in this Agreement may be amended unless such amendment is agreed to in writing and signed by the Executive and an authorized officer of the Company. No waiver by either Party of any breach by the other Party of any condition or provision contained in this Agreement to be performed by such other Party shall be deemed a waiver of a similar or dissimilar condition or provision at the same or any prior or subsequent time. Any waiver must be in writing and signed by the Executive or an authorized officer of the Company, as the case may be.

15. SEVERABILITY.

If any provision or portion of this Agreement shall be determined to be invalid or unenforceable for any reason, in whole or in part, the remaining provisions of this Agreement shall be unaffected thereby and shall remain in full force and effect to the fullest extent permitted by law.

16. SURVIVORSHIP.

The respective rights and obligations of the Parties hereunder shall survive any termination of the Executive's employment to the extent necessary to the intended preservation of such rights and obligations.

17. BENEFICIARIES/REFERENCES.

The Executive shall be entitled, to the extent permitted under any applicable law, to select and change a beneficiary or beneficiaries to receive any compensation or benefit payable hereunder following the Executive's death by giving the Company written notice thereof. In the event of the Executive's death or a judicial determination of the Executive's incompetence, reference in this Agreement to the Executive shall be deemed, where appropriate, to refer to the Executive's beneficiary, estate or other legal representative.

18. GOVERNING LAW/JURISDICTION.

This Agreement shall be governed by and construed and interpreted in accordance with the laws of The Commonwealth of Massachusetts without reference to principles of conflict of laws.

19. RESOLUTION OF DISPUTES.

Any disputes arising under or in connection with this Agreement may, at the election of the Executive or the Company, be resolved by binding arbitration, to be held in Massachusetts in accordance with the Rules and Procedures of the American Arbitration Association. If arbitration is elected, the Executive and the Company shall mutually select the arbitrator. If the Executive and the Company cannot agree on the selection of an arbitrator, each Party shall select an arbitrator and the two arbitrators shall select a third arbitrator, and the three arbitrators shall form an arbitration panel that shall resolve the dispute by majority vote. Judgment upon the award rendered by the arbitrator or arbitrators may be entered in any court having jurisdiction thereof. Costs of the arbitrator or arbitrators and other similar costs in connection with an arbitration shall be shared equally by the Parties; all other costs, such as attorneys' fees incurred by each Party, shall be borne by the Party incurring such costs.

20. NOTICES.

All notices that are required or permitted hereunder shall be in writing and sufficient if delivered personally, sent by facsimile (and promptly confirmed by personal delivery, registered or certified mail

or overnight courier), sent by nationally-recognized overnight courier or sent by registered or certified mail, postage prepaid, addressed as follows:

If to the Company: Vertex Pharmaceuticals Incorporated
130 Waverly Street
Cambridge, MA 02139-4242
Attn: Chief Executive Officer
with copies to:
the General Counsel

If to the Executive: at the Executive's home address listed in the Company records.

Any such notice shall be deemed to have been given: (a) when delivered if personally delivered or sent by facsimile on a business day; (b) on the business day after dispatch if sent by nationally-recognized overnight courier; and/or (c) on the fifth business day following the date of mailing if sent by mail.

21. HEADINGS.

The headings of the sections contained in this Agreement are for convenience only and shall not be deemed to control or affect the meaning or construction of any provision of this Agreement.

22. COUNTERPARTS.

This Agreement may be executed in two or more counterparts.

23. SECTION 409A COMPLIANCE.

It is the intention of the Company and the Executive that this Agreement and the payments provided for herein meet the requirements of Section 409A of the Code, to the extent applicable to this Agreement and such payments. The Company and the Executive agree to cooperate in good faith in preparing and executing, at such time as sufficient guidance is available under Section 409A and from time to time thereafter, such amendments to this Agreement, if any, as the Executive may reasonably request solely for the purpose of assuring that this Agreement and the payments provided hereunder meet the requirements of Section 409A. Nothing in this Section 23 shall require the Company to increase the Executive's compensation or make the Executive whole for any requested changes.

24. TAX WITHHOLDING; NO GUARANTEE OF ANY TAX CONSEQUENCES.

All payments hereunder shall be subject to all applicable withholding for any federal, state or local income taxes including any excise taxes under the Code. Notwithstanding any other provision of this Agreement to the contrary or other representation, the Company does not in any way guarantee the tax consequences of any payment or compensation under this Agreement including, without limitation, under Section 409A of the Code.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the undersigned have executed this Agreement as of the date first written above.

Vertex Pharmaceuticals Incorporated

/s/ JOSHUA S. BOGER

Joshua S. Boger
President & Chief Executive Officer

Executive

/s/ LISA KELLY-CROSWELL

Lisa Kelly-Croswell

QuickLinks

[Exhibit 10.3](#)

[EMPLOYMENT AGREEMENT
WITNESSETH](#)

EMPLOYMENT AGREEMENT

AGREEMENT, made and entered into as of February 11, 2008 by and between Vertex Pharmaceuticals Incorporated, a Massachusetts corporation (together with its successors and assigns, the "*Company*"), and Amit Sachdev (the "*Executive*").

WITNESSETH

WHEREAS, the Company is employing the Executive as the Company's Senior Vice President, Public Policy and Government Affairs;

WHEREAS, the Company and the Executive desire to enter into an employment agreement, which shall set forth the terms of such employment (this "*Agreement*"); and

WHEREAS, the Executive desires to enter into this Agreement and to continue such employment, subject to the terms and provisions of this Agreement.

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the premises and mutual covenants contained herein and for other good and valuable consideration, the receipt of which mutually is acknowledged, the Company and the Executive (each individually a "*Party*", and together the "*Parties*") agree as follows:

1. DEFINITIONS.

"*Base Salary*" shall mean the Executive's base salary in accordance with Section 4 below.

"*Board*" shall mean the Board of Directors of the Company.

"*Cause*" shall mean (i) the Executive is convicted of a crime of moral turpitude, (ii) the Executive willfully refuses or fails to follow a lawful directive or instruction of the Board or the individual to whom the Executive reports, *provided* that the Executive receives prior written notice of the directive(s) or instruction(s) that the Executive failed to follow and provided further that the Company, in good faith, gives the Executive thirty (30) days to correct any problems and further provided that the Executive shall not have corrected the problem(s) within such 30 day period, or (iii) the Executive, in carrying out the Executive's duties, commits (A) willful gross negligence or (B) willful gross misconduct resulting, in either case, in material harm to the Company unless such act, or failure to act, was believed by the Executive, in good faith, to be in the best interests of the Company, or (iv) the Executive violates the Company's policies made known to him regarding confidentiality, securities trading or inside information.

"*Change of Control*" shall have the meaning set forth in the Change of Control Agreement.

"*Change of Control Agreement*" shall mean the Change of Control letter agreement between the Company and the Executive of even date herewith.

"*Code*" shall mean the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended.

"*Common Stock*" shall mean the common stock of the Company.

"*Disability*" or "*Disabled*" shall mean a disability as determined under the Company's long-term disability plan or program in effect at the time the disability first occurs, or if no such plan or program exists at the time of disability, then a "disability" as defined under Section 22(e)(3) of the Code.

"*Effective Date*" shall mean February 11, 2008.

"*Good Reason*" shall mean that, without the Executive's consent, one or more of the following events occurs, and the Executive, at the Executive's own initiative, provides notice in writing to the Company's Chief Executive Officer of termination within 90 days after the first occurrence of such event:

- (i) the Executive is assigned to any duties or responsibilities that are inconsistent, in any significant respect, with the scope of duties and responsibilities customarily associated with the
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position and office of Senior Vice President, Public Policy and Government Affairs, provided that such reassignment of duties or responsibilities is not due to the Executive's Disability or performance, nor is at the Executive's request; or

- (ii) the Executive suffers a reduction in the authorities, duties, and responsibilities associated with the Executive's position as Senior Vice President, Public Policy and Government Affairs, provided that such reassignment of duties or responsibilities is not due to the Executive's Disability or the Executive's performance, and is not at the Executive's request or with the Executive's prior agreement; or
- (iii) the Executive's Base Salary is decreased below \$350,000 per year, other than a reduction that is part of an across-the-board proportionate reduction in the salaries of the senior management team; or
- (iv) the Executive's office is relocated thirty-five (35) or more miles from Washington, D.C. (other than in connection with relocation of the Company's offices).

"Pro-Rata Share of Restricted Stock" shall mean, for any grant of restricted stock as to which the Company's repurchase right lapses ratably over a specified period (e.g. in equal annual increments over four years), that number of shares as to which the Company's repurchase right with respect to those shares would have lapsed if the Executive's employment by the Company had continued for an additional 18 months. For any other shares of restricted stock, "Pro-Rata Share of Restricted Stock" shall mean, as to any shares of restricted stock which were granted on the same date and as to which the Company's repurchase right lapses on the same date, that portion of such shares calculated by multiplying the number of shares by a fraction, the numerator of which is the number of days that have passed since the date of grant (until the employment termination date), plus the number of days in the 18 months after the employment termination date, and the denominator of which is the total number of days from the date of the grant until the date (without regard to any provisions for earlier vesting upon achievement of a specified goal) on which the Company's repurchase right would lapse under the terms of the grant.

"Severance Payment" shall mean an amount equal to the sum of the Base Salary in effect on the date of termination of Executive's employment, plus the amount of the Target Bonus for the Executive for the year in which the Executive's employment is terminated; provided, however, that if the Executive terminates the Executive's employment for Good Reason based on a reduction in Base Salary, then the Base Salary to be used in calculating the Severance Payment shall be the Base Salary in effect immediately prior to such reduction in Base Salary.

"Target Bonus" shall mean the target cash bonus for which the Executive is eligible on an annual basis, at a level consistent with the Executive's title and responsibilities, under the Company's bonus program then in effect and applicable to the Company's senior executives generally.

2. TERM OF EMPLOYMENT.

The Company hereby employs the Executive, and the Executive hereby accepts such employment, continuing until termination in accordance with the terms of this Agreement. The period during which the Executive is employed hereunder is referred to in this Agreement as the "*term of employment*."

3. POSITION.

On the Effective Date, the Executive shall be employed as the Company's Senior Vice President, Public Policy and Government Affairs.

4. BASE SALARY.

The Executive's annualized Base Salary as of the date of this Agreement is \$355,249.78, payable in accordance with the regular payroll practices of the Company. The Base Salary shall be reviewed no

less frequently than annually, and any changes thereto (which shall thereafter be deemed the Executive's Base Salary) shall be solely within the discretion of the Board.

5. TARGET BONUS PROGRAM.

During the term of employment, the Executive shall be eligible to participate in the Company's Target Bonus program (and other cash incentive compensation programs) applicable to the Company's senior executives, as any such programs are established and modified from time to time by the Board in its sole discretion, and in accordance with the terms of such program.

6. INCENTIVE COMPENSATION PROGRAMS.

During the term of employment, the Executive shall be eligible to participate in the Company's incentive compensation programs applicable to the Company's senior executives, as such programs may be established and modified from time to time by the Board in its sole discretion.

7. EMPLOYEE BENEFIT PROGRAMS.

During the term of employment, the Executive shall be entitled to participate in all employee welfare and pension benefit plans, programs and/or arrangements offered by the Company to its senior executives, as such plans, programs and arrangements may be amended from time to time, to the same extent and on the same terms applicable to other senior executives. Nothing in this section shall preclude the Company from amending or terminating any of its employee benefit plans, programs or arrangements.

8. VACATION.

During the term of employment, the Executive shall be entitled to at least 4 weeks of paid vacation days each calendar year in accordance with the Company's vacation policy then in effect.

9. TERMINATION OF EMPLOYMENT.

(a) **Termination in Connection with a Change of Control.** To the extent the Executive is entitled, in connection with the Executive's termination of employment, to severance or other benefits under the Change of Control Agreement, the Executive shall not be entitled to corresponding benefits under this Section 9.

(b) **Termination by the Company for Cause; or Termination by the Executive without Good Reason.** If the Company terminates the Executive's employment for Cause, or if the Executive voluntarily terminates the Executive's employment, other than for Good Reason, death or Disability, the term of employment shall end as of the date specified below, and the Executive shall be entitled to the following:

- (i) Base Salary earned by Executive but not paid through the date of termination of Executive's employment under this Section 9(b); and
- (ii) any amounts earned, accrued or owing to the Executive but not yet paid under Sections 5, 6, or 7 above.

Termination by Company for Cause shall be effective as of the date noticed by the Company. Voluntary termination by Executive other than for Good Reason, death or Disability shall be effective upon 90 days' prior written notice to the Company and shall not be deemed a breach of this Agreement.

If the Executive voluntarily terminates his or her employment without Good Reason, the Company may elect to waive the period of notice, or any portion thereof, and, if the Company so elects, the Company will pay the Executive at the rate of the Executive's Base Salary for the notice period or for any remaining portion thereof.

(c) **Termination by the Company Without Cause; or Termination by the Executive for Good Reason.** If the Executive's employment is terminated by the Company without Cause (other than due to death or Disability), or is terminated by the Executive for Good Reason, the Executive shall be entitled to the following (provided that, with respect to (iii) and (v) such amounts shall be subject to and in exchange for a general release by Executive of all claims against the Company, its subsidiaries, and their officers, directors, agents and representatives):

- (i) Base Salary earned by Executive but not paid through the date of termination of Executive's employment under this Section 9(c);
- (ii) all incentive compensation awards earned by Executive but not paid prior to the date of termination of Executive's employment under this Section 9(c);
- (iii) a cash payment to the Executive in an amount equal to the Severance Payment, payable within ten days after the execution of a general release and expiration without revocation of any applicable revocation periods under the general release;
- (iv) any amounts earned, accrued or owing to the Executive but not yet paid under Sections 5, 6 or 7 above;
- (v) if COBRA coverage is elected by the Executive, the Company shall pay the cost of COBRA continuation premiums on the Executive's behalf to continue standard medical, dental and life insurance coverage for the Executive (or the cash equivalent of same in the event the Executive is ineligible for continued coverage) until the earlier of:
 - (A) the date 12 months after the date the Executive's employment is terminated; or
 - (B) the date, or dates, on which the Executive receives equivalent coverage and benefits under the plans, programs and/or arrangements of a subsequent employer (such coverage and benefits to be determined on a coverage-by-coverage or benefit-by-benefit basis).
- (vi) all stock options held by the Executive as of the date of the termination under this Section 9(c) that are not exercisable as of that date shall be deemed to have been held by the Executive for an additional 18 months, for purposes of vesting and exercise rights, and any options that become exercisable shall remain exercisable until the earlier of (1) the end of the 90-day period following the date of termination of employment or (2) the date the stock option would otherwise expire; and
- (vii) the Company's lapsing repurchase right shall lapse with respect to the Pro-Rata Share of Restricted Stock.

If Executive is a "specified employee" under Section 409A(a)(2)(B)(i) of the Code, any payment of "nonqualified deferred compensation" (as defined under Section 409A of the Code and related guidance) attributable to a "separation from service" (as defined under Section 409A of the Code and related guidance) shall not commence until the first full business day that is more than 6 months after the applicable separation from service ("*Deferred Payment Date*"). Any payments that would otherwise have been made between the separation from service and the Deferred Payment Date, but for this paragraph, shall be made in a lump sum on the Deferred Payment Date. Payments that, in any case, are scheduled to be made after the Deferred Payment Date shall continue according to the applicable payment schedule. To the extent that the termination of the Executive's employment does not constitute a separation of service under Section 409A(a)(2)(A)(i) of the Code (as the result of further services that reasonably are anticipated to be provided by the Executive to the Company at the time the Executive's employment is terminated), the payment of any nonqualified deferred compensation will be further delayed until the date that is the first full business day that is more than 6 months after the date of a subsequent event constituting a separation of service under Section 409A(a)(2)(A)(i) of the Code.

10. ASSIGNABILITY; BINDING NATURE.

This Agreement shall be binding upon and inure to the benefit of the Parties and their respective successors, heirs (in the case of the Executive) and assigns. No rights or obligations of the Company under this Agreement may be assigned or transferred by the Company except that such rights or obligations may be assigned or transferred pursuant to a merger or consolidation in which the Company is not the continuing entity, or the sale or liquidation of all or substantially all of the assets of the Company; *provided, however*, that the assignee or transferee is the successor to all or substantially all of the assets of the Company and such assignee or transferee assumes the liabilities, obligations and duties of the Company, as contained in this Agreement, either contractually or as a matter of law.

11. REPRESENTATIONS.

The Company represents and warrants that it is fully authorized and empowered to enter into this Agreement, and that the performance of its obligations under this Agreement will not violate any agreement between it and any other person, firm or organization. The Executive represents and warrants that no agreement exists between him and any other person, firm or organization that would be violated by the performance of the Executive's obligations under this Agreement.

12. INDEMNIFICATION; INSURANCE.

The Executive shall at all times be indemnified and eligible for advancement of expenses on the same basis as is provided for the Company's other executive officers and in accordance with the provisions of the Company's charter and by-laws then in effect. The Executive shall also be covered under all of the Company's policies of liability insurance maintained for the benefit of its directors and officers on the same basis as is provided for its other executive officers.

13. ENTIRE AGREEMENT; TERMINATION.

This Agreement, the agreements referenced herein, and the Employee Non-Disclosure, Non-Competition & Inventions Agreement between the Executive and the Company, contain the entire understanding and agreement between the Parties concerning the subject matter hereof and supersedes all prior agreements, understandings, discussions, negotiations and undertakings, whether written or oral, between the Parties with respect thereto. Subject to the terms of this Agreement, the Company shall be entitled to terminate the Executive's employment at any time, and the Executive may terminate the Executive's employment by the Company, at any time, in each case by written notice provided in accordance with Section 20 of this Agreement.

14. AMENDMENT OR WAIVER.

No provision in this Agreement may be amended unless such amendment is agreed to in writing and signed by the Executive and an authorized officer of the Company. No waiver by either Party of any breach by the other Party of any condition or provision contained in this Agreement to be performed by such other Party shall be deemed a waiver of a similar or dissimilar condition or provision at the same or any prior or subsequent time. Any waiver must be in writing and signed by the Executive or an authorized officer of the Company, as the case may be.

15. SEVERABILITY.

If any provision or portion of this Agreement shall be determined to be invalid or unenforceable for any reason, in whole or in part, the remaining provisions of this Agreement shall be unaffected thereby and shall remain in full force and effect to the fullest extent permitted by law.

16. SURVIVORSHIP.

The respective rights and obligations of the Parties hereunder shall survive any termination of the Executive's employment to the extent necessary to the intended preservation of such rights and obligations.

17. BENEFICIARIES/REFERENCES.

The Executive shall be entitled, to the extent permitted under any applicable law, to select and change a beneficiary or beneficiaries to receive any compensation or benefit payable hereunder following the Executive's death by giving the Company written notice thereof. In the event of the Executive's death or a judicial determination of the Executive's incompetence, reference in this Agreement to the Executive shall be deemed, where appropriate, to refer to the Executive's beneficiary, estate or other legal representative.

18. GOVERNING LAW/JURISDICTION.

This Agreement shall be governed by and construed and interpreted in accordance with the laws of The Commonwealth of Massachusetts without reference to principles of conflict of laws.

19. RESOLUTION OF DISPUTES.

Any disputes arising under or in connection with this Agreement may, at the election of the Executive or the Company, be resolved by binding arbitration, to be held in Massachusetts in accordance with the Rules and Procedures of the American Arbitration Association. If arbitration is elected, the Executive and the Company shall mutually select the arbitrator. If the Executive and the Company cannot agree on the selection of an arbitrator, each Party shall select an arbitrator and the two arbitrators shall select a third arbitrator, and the three arbitrators shall form an arbitration panel that shall resolve the dispute by majority vote. Judgment upon the award rendered by the arbitrator or arbitrators may be entered in any court having jurisdiction thereof. Costs of the arbitrator or arbitrators and other similar costs in connection with an arbitration shall be shared equally by the Parties; all other costs, such as attorneys' fees incurred by each Party, shall be borne by the Party incurring such costs.

20. NOTICES.

All notices that are required or permitted hereunder shall be in writing and sufficient if delivered personally, sent by facsimile (and promptly confirmed by personal delivery, registered or certified mail or overnight courier), sent by nationally-recognized overnight courier or sent by registered or certified mail, postage prepaid, addressed as follows:

If to the Company:	Vertex Pharmaceuticals Incorporated 130 Waverly Street Cambridge, MA 02139-4242 Attn: Chief Executive Officer with copies to: the General Counsel
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If to the Executive:	at the Executive's home address listed in the Company records.
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Any such notice shall be deemed to have been given: (a) when delivered if personally delivered or sent by facsimile on a business day; (b) on the business day after dispatch if sent by nationally-recognized overnight courier; and/or (c) on the fifth business day following the date of mailing if sent by mail.

21. HEADINGS.

The headings of the sections contained in this Agreement are for convenience only and shall not be deemed to control or affect the meaning or construction of any provision of this Agreement.

22. COUNTERPARTS.

This Agreement may be executed in two or more counterparts.

23. SECTION 409A COMPLIANCE.

It is the intention of the Company and the Executive that this Agreement and the payments provided for herein meet the requirements of Section 409A of the Code, to the extent applicable to this Agreement and such payments. The Company and the Executive agree to cooperate in good faith in preparing and executing, at such time as sufficient guidance is available under Section 409A and from time to time thereafter, such amendments to this Agreement, if any, as the Executive may reasonably request solely for the purpose of assuring that this Agreement and the payments provided hereunder meet the requirements of Section 409A. Nothing in this Section 23 shall require the Company to increase the Executive's compensation or make the Executive whole for any requested changes.

24. TAX WITHHOLDING; NO GUARANTEE OF ANY TAX CONSEQUENCES.

All payments hereunder shall be subject to all applicable withholding for any federal, state or local income taxes including any excise taxes under the Code. Notwithstanding any other provision of this Agreement to the contrary or other representation, the Company does not in any way guarantee the tax consequences of any payment or compensation under this Agreement including, without limitation, under Section 409A of the Code.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the undersigned have executed this Agreement as of the date first written above.

Vertex Pharmaceuticals Incorporated

/s/ JOSHUA S. BOGER

Joshua S. Boger
President & Chief Executive Officer

Executive

/s/ AMIT SACHDEV

Amit Sachdev

QuickLinks

[Exhibit 10.4](#)

[EMPLOYMENT AGREEMENT
WITNESSETH](#)

EMPLOYMENT AGREEMENT

AGREEMENT, made and entered into as of February 11, 2008 by and between Vertex Pharmaceuticals Incorporated, a Massachusetts corporation (together with its successors and assigns, the "*Company*"), and Richard (Bink) C. Garrison (the "*Executive*").

WITNESSETH

WHEREAS, the Company is employing the Executive as the Company's Senior Vice President and Catalyst;

WHEREAS, the Company and the Executive desire to enter into an employment agreement, which shall set forth the terms of such employment (this "*Agreement*"); and

WHEREAS, the Executive desires to enter into this Agreement and to continue such employment, subject to the terms and provisions of this Agreement.

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the premises and mutual covenants contained herein and for other good and valuable consideration, the receipt of which mutually is acknowledged, the Company and the Executive (each individually a "*Party*", and together the "*Parties*") agree as follows:

1. DEFINITIONS.

"*Base Salary*" shall mean the Executive's base salary in accordance with Section 4 below.

"*Board*" shall mean the Board of Directors of the Company.

"*Cause*" shall mean (i) the Executive is convicted of a felony crime of moral turpitude, (ii) the Executive willfully refuses or fails to follow a lawful directive or instruction of the Board or the individual to whom the Executive reports, *provided* that the Executive receives prior written notice of the directive(s) or instruction(s) that the Executive failed to follow and provided further that the Company, in good faith, gives the Executive thirty (30) days to correct any problems and further provided that the Executive shall not have corrected the problem(s) within such 30 day period, or (iii) the Executive, in carrying out the Executive's duties, commits (A) willful gross negligence or (B) willful gross misconduct resulting, in either case, in material harm to the Company unless such act, or failure to act, was believed by the Executive, in good faith, to be in the best interests of the Company, or (iv) the Executive violates the Company's policies made known to him regarding confidentiality, securities trading or inside information.

"*Change of Control*" shall have the meaning set forth in the Change of Control Agreement.

"*Change of Control Agreement*" shall mean the Change of Control letter agreement between the Company and the Executive dated December 5, 2005, as amended.

"*Code*" shall mean the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended.

"*Common Stock*" shall mean the common stock of the Company.

"*Disability*" or "*Disabled*" shall mean a disability as determined under the Company's long-term disability plan or program in effect at the time the disability first occurs, or if no such plan or program exists at the time of disability, then a "disability" as defined under Section 22(e)(3) of the Code.

"*Effective Date*" shall mean February 11, 2008.

"*Good Reason*" shall mean that, without the Executive's consent, one or more of the following events occurs, and the Executive, at the Executive's own initiative, provides notice in writing to the Company's Chief Executive Officer of termination within 90 days after the first occurrence of such event:

- (i) the Executive is assigned to any duties or responsibilities that are inconsistent, in any significant respect, with the scope of duties and responsibilities currently performed in the
-

Executive's positions and offices, provided that such reassignment of duties or responsibilities is not due to the Executive's Disability or performance, nor is at the Executive's request or with the Executive's prior agreement; or

- (ii) the Executive suffers a reduction in the authorities, duties, and responsibilities associated with the Executive's positions and offices, on the basis of which the Executive makes a determination in good faith that the Executive can no longer carry out such positions or offices in the manner contemplated at the time this Agreement was entered into, provided that such reassignment of duties or responsibilities is not due to the Executive's Disability or the Executive's performance, and is not at the Executive's request or with the Executive's prior agreement; or
- (iii) the Executive's Base Salary is decreased; or
- (iv) the Executive's office is relocated thirty-five (35) or more miles from Cambridge, Massachusetts.

"Pro-Rata Share of Restricted Stock" shall mean, for any grant of restricted stock as to which the Company's repurchase right lapses ratably over a specified period (e.g. in equal annual increments over four years), that number of shares as to which the Company's repurchase right with respect to those shares would have lapsed if the Executive's employment by the Company had continued for an additional 18 months. For any other shares of restricted stock, "Pro-Rata Share of Restricted Stock" shall mean, as to any shares of restricted stock which were granted on the same date and as to which the Company's repurchase right lapses on the same date, that portion of such shares calculated by multiplying the number of shares by a fraction, the numerator of which is the number of days that have passed since the date of grant, plus the number of days in 18 months, and the denominator of which is the total number of days from the date of the grant until the date (without regard to any provisions for earlier vesting upon achievement of a specified goal) on which the Company's repurchase right would lapse under the terms of the grant.

"Severance Payment" shall mean an amount equal to the sum of the Base Salary in effect on the date of termination of Executive's employment, plus the amount of the Target Bonus for the Executive for the year in which the Executive's employment is terminated; provided, however, that if the Executive terminates the Executive's employment for Good Reason based on a reduction in Base Salary, then the Base Salary to be used in calculating the Severance Payment shall be the Base Salary in effect immediately prior to such reduction in Base Salary.

"Target Bonus" shall mean the target cash bonus for which the Executive is eligible on an annual basis, at a level consistent with the Executive's title and responsibilities, under the Company's bonus program then in effect and applicable to the Company's senior executives generally.

2. TERM OF EMPLOYMENT.

The Company hereby employs the Executive, and the Executive hereby accepts such employment, continuing until termination in accordance with the terms of this Agreement. The period during which the Executive is employed hereunder is referred to in this Agreement as the "*term of employment*."

3. POSITION.

On the Effective Date, the Executive shall be employed as the Company's Senior Vice President and Catalyst.

4. BASE SALARY.

The Executive's annualized Base Salary as of the date of this Agreement is \$340,018.45, payable in accordance with the regular payroll practices of the Company. The Base Salary shall be reviewed no

less frequently than annually, and any changes thereto (which shall thereafter be deemed the Executive's Base Salary) shall be solely within the discretion of the Board.

5. TARGET BONUS PROGRAM.

During the term of employment, the Executive shall be eligible to participate in the Company's Target Bonus program (and other cash incentive compensation programs) applicable to the Company's senior executives, as any such programs are established and modified from time to time by the Board in its sole discretion, and in accordance with the terms of such program.

6. INCENTIVE COMPENSATION PROGRAMS.

During the term of employment, the Executive shall be eligible to participate in the Company's incentive compensation programs applicable to the Company's senior executives, as such programs may be established and modified from time to time by the Board in its sole discretion.

7. EMPLOYEE BENEFIT PROGRAMS.

During the term of employment, the Executive shall be entitled to participate in all employee welfare and pension benefit plans, programs and/or arrangements offered by the Company to its senior executives, as such plans, programs and arrangements may be amended from time to time, to the same extent and on the same terms applicable to other senior executives. Nothing in this section shall preclude the Company from amending or terminating any of its employee benefit plans, programs or arrangements.

8. VACATION.

During the term of employment, the Executive shall be entitled to paid vacation days each calendar year in accordance with the Company's vacation policy then in effect.

9. TERMINATION OF EMPLOYMENT.

(a) **Termination in Connection with a Change of Control.** To the extent the Executive is entitled, in connection with the Executive's termination of employment, to severance or other benefits under the Change of Control Agreement, the Executive shall not be entitled to corresponding benefits under this Section 9.

(b) **Termination by the Company for Cause; or Termination by the Executive without Good Reason.** If the Company terminates the Executive's employment for Cause, or if the Executive voluntarily terminates the Executive's employment, other than for Good Reason, death or Disability, the term of employment shall end as of the date specified below, and the Executive shall be entitled to the following:

- (i) Base Salary earned by Executive but not paid through the date of termination of Executive's employment under this Section 9(b); and
- (ii) any amounts earned, accrued or owing to the Executive but not yet paid under Sections 5, 6, or 7 above.

Termination by Company for Cause shall be effective as of the date noticed by the Company. Voluntary termination by Executive other than for Good Reason, death or Disability shall be effective upon 90 days' prior written notice to the Company and shall not be deemed a breach of this Agreement.

If the Executive voluntarily terminates his or her employment without Good Reason, the Company may elect to waive the period of notice, or any portion thereof, and, if the Company so elects, the Company will pay the Executive at the rate of the Executive's Base Salary for the notice period or for any remaining portion thereof.

(c) **Termination by the Company Without Cause; or Termination by the Executive for Good Reason.** If the Executive's employment is terminated by the Company without Cause (other than due to death or Disability), or is terminated by the Executive for Good Reason, the Executive shall be entitled to the following (provided that, with respect to (iii) and (v) such amounts shall be subject to and in exchange for a general release by Executive of all claims against the Company, its subsidiaries, and their officers, directors, agents and representatives):

- (i) Base Salary earned by Executive but not paid through the date of termination of Executive's employment under this Section 9(c);
- (ii) all incentive compensation awards earned by Executive but not paid prior to the date of termination of Executive's employment under this Section 9(c);
- (iii) a cash payment to the Executive in an amount equal to the Severance Payment, payable within ten days after the execution of a general release and expiration without revocation of any applicable revocation periods under the general release;
- (iv) any amounts earned, accrued or owing to the Executive but not yet paid under Sections 5, 6 or 7 above;
- (v) if COBRA coverage is elected by the Executive, the Company shall pay the cost of COBRA continuation premiums on the Executive's behalf to continue standard medical, dental and life insurance coverage for the Executive (or the cash equivalent of same in the event the Executive is ineligible for continued coverage) until the earlier of:
 - (A) the date 12 months after the date the Executive's employment is terminated; or
 - (B) the date, or dates, on which the Executive receives equivalent coverage and benefits under the plans, programs and/or arrangements of a subsequent employer (such coverage and benefits to be determined on a coverage-by-coverage or benefit-by-benefit basis);
- (vi) if the date of termination of employment is on or before December 5, 2009, all stock options held by the Executive as of the date of the termination under this Section 9(c) that are not exercisable as of that date shall be deemed to have been held by the Executive for an additional 18 months, for purposes of vesting and exercise rights, and any options that become exercisable shall remain exercisable until the earlier of (1) the end of the one-year period following the date of termination of employment or (2) the date the stock option would otherwise expire;
- (vii) if the date of termination of employment is on or before December 5, 2009, all exercisable stock options held by the Executive as of the date of termination shall remain exercisable until the earlier of (1) the end of the one-year period following the date of termination of employment or (2) the date the stock option otherwise would expire; and
- (viii) if the date of termination of employment is on or before December 5, 2009, the Company's lapsing repurchase right shall lapse with respect to the Pro-Rata Share of Restricted Stock.

If Executive is a "specified employee" under Section 409A(a)(2)(B)(i) of the Code, any payment of "nonqualified deferred compensation" (as defined under Section 409A of the Code and related guidance) attributable to a "separation from service" (as defined under Section 409A of the Code and related guidance) shall not commence until the first full business day that is more than 6 months after the applicable separation from service ("*Deferred Payment Date*"). Any payments that would otherwise have been made between the separation from service and the Deferred Payment Date, but for this paragraph, shall be made in a lump sum on the Deferred Payment Date. Payments that, in any case, are scheduled to be made after the Deferred Payment Date shall continue according to the applicable payment schedule. To the extent that the termination of the Executive's employment does not

constitute a separation of service under Section 409A(a)(2)(A)(i) of the Code (as the result of further services that reasonably are anticipated to be provided by the Executive to the Company at the time the Executive's employment is terminated), the payment of any nonqualified deferred compensation will be further delayed until the date that is the first full business day that is more than 6 months after the date of a subsequent event constituting a separation of service under Section 409A(a)(2)(A)(i) of the Code.

10. ASSIGNABILITY; BINDING NATURE.

This Agreement shall be binding upon and inure to the benefit of the Parties and their respective successors, heirs (in the case of the Executive) and assigns. No rights or obligations of the Company under this Agreement may be assigned or transferred by the Company except that such rights or obligations may be assigned or transferred pursuant to a merger or consolidation in which the Company is not the continuing entity, or the sale or liquidation of all or substantially all of the assets of the Company; *provided, however*, that the assignee or transferee is the successor to all or substantially all of the assets of the Company and such assignee or transferee assumes the liabilities, obligations and duties of the Company, as contained in this Agreement, either contractually or as a matter of law.

11. REPRESENTATIONS.

The Company represents and warrants that it is fully authorized and empowered to enter into this Agreement, and that the performance of its obligations under this Agreement will not violate any agreement between it and any other person, firm or organization. The Executive represents and warrants that no agreement exists between him and any other person, firm or organization that would be violated by the performance of the Executive's obligations under this Agreement.

12. INDEMNIFICATION; INSURANCE.

The Executive shall at all times be indemnified and eligible for advancement of expenses on the same basis as is provided for the Company's other executive officers and in accordance with the provisions of the Company's charter and by-laws then in effect. The Executive shall also be covered under all of the Company's policies of liability insurance maintained for the benefit of its directors and officers on the same basis as is provided for its other executive officers.

13. ENTIRE AGREEMENT; TERMINATION.

This Agreement, the agreements referenced herein, and the Employee Non-Disclosure, Non-Competition & Inventions Agreement between the Executive and the Company, contain the entire understanding and agreement between the Parties concerning the subject matter hereof and supersedes all prior agreements, understandings, discussions, negotiations and undertakings, whether written or oral, between the Parties with respect thereto. Subject to the terms of this Agreement, the Company shall be entitled to terminate the Executive's employment at any time, and the Executive may terminate the Executive's employment by the Company, at any time, in each case by written notice provided in accordance with Section 20 of this Agreement.

14. AMENDMENT OR WAIVER.

No provision in this Agreement may be amended unless such amendment is agreed to in writing and signed by the Executive and an authorized officer of the Company. No waiver by either Party of any breach by the other Party of any condition or provision contained in this Agreement to be performed by such other Party shall be deemed a waiver of a similar or dissimilar condition or provision at the same or any prior or subsequent time. Any waiver must be in writing and signed by the Executive or an authorized officer of the Company, as the case may be.

15. SEVERABILITY.

If any provision or portion of this Agreement shall be determined to be invalid or unenforceable for any reason, in whole or in part, the remaining provisions of this Agreement shall be unaffected thereby and shall remain in full force and effect to the fullest extent permitted by law.

16. SURVIVORSHIP.

The respective rights and obligations of the Parties hereunder shall survive any termination of the Executive's employment to the extent necessary to the intended preservation of such rights and obligations.

17. BENEFICIARIES/REFERENCES.

The Executive shall be entitled, to the extent permitted under any applicable law, to select and change a beneficiary or beneficiaries to receive any compensation or benefit payable hereunder following the Executive's death by giving the Company written notice thereof. In the event of the Executive's death or a judicial determination of the Executive's incompetence, reference in this Agreement to the Executive shall be deemed, where appropriate, to refer to the Executive's beneficiary, estate or other legal representative.

18. GOVERNING LAW/JURISDICTION.

This Agreement shall be governed by and construed and interpreted in accordance with the laws of The Commonwealth of Massachusetts without reference to principles of conflict of laws.

19. RESOLUTION OF DISPUTES.

Any disputes arising under or in connection with this Agreement may, at the election of the Executive or the Company, be resolved by binding arbitration, to be held in Massachusetts in accordance with the Rules and Procedures of the American Arbitration Association. If arbitration is elected, the Executive and the Company shall mutually select the arbitrator. If the Executive and the Company cannot agree on the selection of an arbitrator, each Party shall select an arbitrator and the two arbitrators shall select a third arbitrator, and the three arbitrators shall form an arbitration panel that shall resolve the dispute by majority vote. Judgment upon the award rendered by the arbitrator or arbitrators may be entered in any court having jurisdiction thereof. Costs of the arbitrator or arbitrators and other similar costs in connection with an arbitration shall be shared equally by the Parties; all other costs, such as attorneys' fees incurred by each Party, shall be borne by the Party incurring such costs.

20. NOTICES.

All notices that are required or permitted hereunder shall be in writing and sufficient if delivered personally, sent by facsimile (and promptly confirmed by personal delivery, registered or certified mail or overnight courier), sent by nationally-recognized overnight courier or sent by registered or certified mail, postage prepaid, addressed as follows:

If to the Company:	Vertex Pharmaceuticals Incorporated 130 Waverly Street Cambridge, MA 02139-4242 Attn: Chief Executive Officer with copies to: the General Counsel
--------------------	--

If to the Executive:	at the Executive's home address listed in the Company records.
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Any such notice shall be deemed to have been given: (a) when delivered if personally delivered or sent by facsimile on a business day; (b) on the business day after dispatch if sent by nationally-

recognized overnight courier; and/or (c) on the fifth business day following the date of mailing if sent by mail.

21. HEADINGS.

The headings of the sections contained in this Agreement are for convenience only and shall not be deemed to control or affect the meaning or construction of any provision of this Agreement.

22. COUNTERPARTS.

This Agreement may be executed in two or more counterparts.

23. SECTION 409A COMPLIANCE.

It is the intention of the Company and the Executive that this Agreement and the payments provided for herein meet the requirements of Section 409A of the Code, to the extent applicable to this Agreement and such payments. The Company and the Executive agree to cooperate in good faith in preparing and executing, at such time as sufficient guidance is available under Section 409A and from time to time thereafter, such amendments to this Agreement, if any, as the Executive may reasonably request solely for the purpose of assuring that this Agreement and the payments provided hereunder meet the requirements of Section 409A. Nothing in this Section 23 shall require the Company to increase the Executive's compensation or make the Executive whole for any requested changes.

24. TAX WITHHOLDING; NO GUARANTEE OF ANY TAX CONSEQUENCES.

All payments hereunder shall be subject to all applicable withholding for any federal, state or local income taxes including any excise taxes under the Code. Notwithstanding any other provision of this Agreement to the contrary or other representation, the Company does not in any way guarantee the tax consequences of any payment or compensation under this Agreement including, without limitation, under Section 409A of the Code.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the undersigned have executed this Agreement as of the date first written above.

Vertex Pharmaceuticals Incorporated

/s/ JOSHUA S. BOGER

Joshua S. Boger
President & Chief Executive Officer

Executive

/s/ RICHARD C. GARRISON

Richard C. Garrison

QuickLinks

[Exhibit 10.5](#)

[EMPLOYMENT AGREEMENT
WITNESSETH](#)

EXECUTIVE COMPENSATION PROGRAM

The description of our executive compensation program set forth under the caption "Compensation Discussion and Analysis" on pages 24-40 of our definitive proxy statement on Schedule 14A, filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on April 8, 2008, is incorporated herein by reference.

QuickLinks

[Exhibit 10.6](#)

[EXECUTIVE COMPENSATION PROGRAM](#)

CERTIFICATION

I, Joshua S. Boger, certify that:

1. I have reviewed this Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q of Vertex Pharmaceuticals Incorporated;
2. Based on my knowledge, this report does not contain any untrue statement of a material fact or omit to state a material fact necessary to make the statements made, in light of the circumstances under which such statements were made, not misleading with respect to the period covered by this report;
3. Based on my knowledge, the financial statements, and other financial information included in this report, fairly present in all material respects the financial condition, results of operations and cash flows of the registrant as of, and for, the periods presented in this report;
4. The registrant's other certifying officer and I are responsible for establishing and maintaining disclosure controls and procedures (as defined in Exchange Act Rules 13a-15(e) and 15d-15(e)) and internal control over financial reporting (as defined in Exchange Act Rules 13a-15(f) and 15d-15(f)) for the registrant and have:
 - (a) designed such disclosure controls and procedures, or caused such disclosure controls and procedures to be designed under our supervision, to ensure that material information relating to the registrant, including its consolidated subsidiaries, is made known to us by others within those entities, particularly during the period in which this report is being prepared;
 - (b) designed such internal control over financial reporting, or caused such internal control over financial reporting to be designed under our supervision, to provide reasonable assurance regarding the reliability of financial reporting and the preparation of financial statements for external purposes in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles;
 - (c) evaluated the effectiveness of the registrant's disclosure controls and procedures and presented in this report our conclusions about the effectiveness of the disclosure controls and procedures, as of the end of the period covered by this report based on such evaluation; and
 - (d) disclosed in this report any change in the registrant's internal control over financial reporting that occurred during the registrant's most recent fiscal quarter (the registrant's fourth fiscal quarter in the case of an annual report) that has materially affected, or is reasonably likely to materially affect, the registrant's internal control over financial reporting; and
5. The registrant's other certifying officer and I have disclosed, based on our most recent evaluation of internal control over financial reporting, to the registrant's auditors and the audit committee of the registrant's board of directors (or persons performing the equivalent functions):
 - (a) All significant deficiencies and material weaknesses in the design or operation of internal control over financial reporting which are reasonably likely to adversely affect the registrant's ability to record, process, summarize and report financial information; and
 - (b) Any fraud, whether or not material, that involves management or other employees who have a significant role in the registrant's internal control over financial reporting.

Date: May 12, 2008

/s/ JOSHUA S. BOGER

Joshua S. Boger
President and Chief Executive Officer

QuickLinks

[Exhibit 31.1](#)

CERTIFICATION

I, Ian F. Smith, certify that:

1. I have reviewed this Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q of Vertex Pharmaceuticals Incorporated;
2. Based on my knowledge, this report does not contain any untrue statement of a material fact or omit to state a material fact necessary to make the statements made, in light of the circumstances under which such statements were made, not misleading with respect to the period covered by this report;
3. Based on my knowledge, the financial statements, and other financial information included in this report, fairly present in all material respects the financial condition, results of operations and cash flows of the registrant as of, and for, the periods presented in this report;
4. The registrant's other certifying officer and I are responsible for establishing and maintaining disclosure controls and procedures (as defined in Exchange Act Rules 13a-15(e) and 15d-15(e)) and internal control over financial reporting (as defined in Exchange Act Rules 13a-15(f) and 15d-15(f)) for the registrant and have:
 - (a) designed such disclosure controls and procedures, or caused such disclosure controls and procedures to be designed under our supervision, to ensure that material information relating to the registrant, including its consolidated subsidiaries, is made known to us by others within those entities, particularly during the period in which this report is being prepared;
 - (b) designed such internal control over financial reporting, or caused such internal control over financial reporting to be designed under our supervision, to provide reasonable assurance regarding the reliability of financial reporting and the preparation of financial statements for external purposes in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles;
 - (c) evaluated the effectiveness of the registrant's disclosure controls and procedures and presented in this report our conclusions about the effectiveness of the disclosure controls and procedures, as of the end of the period covered by this report based on such evaluation; and
 - (d) disclosed in this report any change in the registrant's internal control over financial reporting that occurred during the registrant's most recent fiscal quarter (the registrant's fourth fiscal quarter in the case of an annual report) that has materially affected, or is reasonably likely to materially affect, the registrant's internal control over financial reporting; and
5. The registrant's other certifying officer and I have disclosed, based on our most recent evaluation of internal control over financial reporting, to the registrant's auditors and the audit committee of the registrant's board of directors (or persons performing the equivalent functions):
 - (a) All significant deficiencies and material weaknesses in the design or operation of internal control over financial reporting which are reasonably likely to adversely affect the registrant's ability to record, process, summarize and report financial information; and
 - (b) Any fraud, whether or not material, that involves management or other employees who have a significant role in the registrant's internal control over financial reporting.

Date: May 12, 2008

/s/ IAN F. SMITH

Ian F. Smith
Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer

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[Exhibit 31.2](#)

Certification
Pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002
(Subsections (a) and (b) of Section 1350,
Chapter 63 of Title 18, United States Code)

Pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002 (subsections (a) and (b) of Section 1350, Chapter 63 of Title 18, United States Code), each of the undersigned officers of Vertex Pharmaceuticals Incorporated, a Massachusetts corporation (the "Company"), does hereby certify, to such officer's knowledge, that the Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the quarter ended March 31, 2008 (the "Form 10-Q") of the Company fully complies with the requirements of Section 13(a) or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, and the information contained in the Form 10-Q fairly presents, in all material respects, the financial condition and results of operations of the Company.

Dated: May 12, 2008

/s/ JOSHUA S. BOGER

Joshua S. Boger
President and Chief Executive Officer
(principal executive officer)

Dated: May 12, 2008

/s/ IAN F. SMITH

Ian F. Smith
Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer
(principal financial officer)

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[Exhibit 32.1](#)