

# PEREGRINE PHARMACEUTICALS INC

## **FORM 8-K** (Current report filing)

Filed 09/11/17 for the Period Ending 09/11/17

Address	14282 FRANKLIN AVE TUSTIN, CA, 92780
Telephone	7145086000
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Symbol	PPHM
SIC Code	2834 - Pharmaceutical Preparations
Industry	Pharmaceuticals
Sector	Healthcare
Fiscal Year	04/30

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**UNITED STATES  
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION**  
Washington, DC 20549

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**FORM 8-K**

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**CURRENT REPORT**

**Pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d) of the  
Securities Exchange Act of 1934**

Date of Report (Date of earliest event reported): **September 11, 2017**

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**PEREGRINE PHARMACEUTICALS, INC.**

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

**Delaware**  
(State of other jurisdiction  
of incorporation)

**001-32839**  
(Commission File Number)

**95-3698422**  
(IRS Employer  
Identification No.)

**14282 Franklin Avenue, Tustin, California 92780**  
(Address of Principal Executive Offices)

Registrant's telephone number, including area code: **(714) 508-6000**

**Not Applicable**

(Former name or former address, if changed since last report)

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

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

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

Emerging growth company

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

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**Item 8.01 Other Events.**

On September 11, 2017, Peregrine Pharmaceuticals, Inc. (the “Company”) issued a press release announcing the appointment of Roger J. Lias, Ph.D. as the new president of Avid Bioservices, Inc., the Company’s wholly-owned contract development and manufacturing organization subsidiary, and his appointment to the Company’s Board of Directors. A copy of the press release is attached hereto as Exhibit 99.1.

**Important Additional Information**

Peregrine intends to file a proxy statement with the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) in connection with the solicitation of proxies for Peregrine’s 2017 Annual Meeting (Proxy Statement) with an associated WHITE proxy card. Peregrine, its directors and certain of its executive officers will be participants in the solicitation of proxies from stockholders in respect of the 2017 Annual Meeting. Information regarding the names of Peregrine’s directors and executive officers and their respective interests in Peregrine by security holdings or otherwise is set forth in the Annual Report on Form 10-K of Peregrine, for the fiscal year ended April 30, 2017, filed with the SEC on July 14, 2017, and Peregrine’s proxy statement for the 2016 Annual Meeting, filed with the SEC on August 26, 2016. To the extent holdings of such participants in Peregrine’s securities are not reported, or have changed since the amounts described, in the 2016 proxy statement, such changes have been reflected on Initial Statements of Beneficial Ownership on Form 3 or Statements of Change in Ownership on Form 4 filed with the SEC. Details concerning the nominees of Peregrine’s Board of Directors for election at the 2017 Annual Meeting will be included in the Proxy Statement. BEFORE MAKING ANY VOTING DECISION, INVESTORS AND STOCKHOLDERS OF THE COMPANY ARE URGED TO READ ALL RELEVANT DOCUMENTS FILED WITH OR FURNISHED TO THE SEC, INCLUDING THE COMPANY’S DEFINITIVE PROXY STATEMENT AND ANY SUPPLEMENTS THERETO, BECAUSE THEY WILL CONTAIN IMPORTANT INFORMATION. Investors and stockholders will be able to obtain a copy of the definitive proxy statement and other documents filed by Peregrine free of charge from the SEC’s website, [www.sec.gov](http://www.sec.gov). Peregrine’s stockholders will also be able to obtain, without charge, a copy of the definitive Proxy Statement and other relevant filed documents by directing a request by mail to Peregrine, Corporate Secretary’s Office, 14282 Franklin Avenue, Tustin, CA 92780, by calling Peregrine’s proxy solicitor, MacKenzie Partners, Inc., toll-free at (800) 322-2885, or from Peregrine’s website at [www.peregrineinc.com](http://www.peregrineinc.com).

**Item 9.01 Financial Statements and Exhibits.**

- (d) Exhibits. The following material is filed as an exhibit to this Current Report on Form 8-K:

**Exhibit  
Number**

99.1 [Press Release issued September 11, 2017.](#)

**SIGNATURES**

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

PEREGRINE PHARMACEUTICALS, INC.

Date: September 11, 2017

By: /s/ Paul J. Lytle  
Paul J. Lytle  
Chief Financial Officer

**EXHIBIT INDEX**

**Exhibit  
Number**

**Description**

99.1

[Press Release issued September 11, 2017.](#)



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## **Peregrine Pharmaceuticals Announces Appointment of Roger J. Lias, Ph.D. as President of Avid Bioservices**

*-- Senior Executive with More Than Two Decades of CDMO Management Experience to Also Join Peregrine's Board of Directors --*

**TUSTIN, Calif., September 11, 2017** – Peregrine Pharmaceuticals, Inc. (NASDAQ:PPHM) (NASDAQ:PPHMP), a biopharmaceutical company committed to improving patient lives by manufacturing high quality products for biotechnology and pharmaceutical companies and through its proprietary R&D pipeline, today announced the appointment of Roger J. Lias, Ph.D., as the new president of Avid Bioservices, the company's wholly-owned contract development and manufacturing organization (CDMO) subsidiary. Dr. Lias, who has more than 20 years of CDMO management experience, will also join Peregrine's board of directors. In conjunction with this appointment, Steven King will step down from his role as president of Avid on September 25, 2017 and remain as president and chief executive officer of Peregrine.

"We have been in the process of transforming the company from a research and development focused organization offering CDMO services to a pure play CDMO. We have been looking for someone with a breadth of experience in the biologics contract development and manufacturing industry. We are very pleased to have the opportunity to bring someone with Roger's impressive track record within the CDMO industry to help guide expansion and growth of the business," said Mr. King. "Roger has a solid track record of success in driving business expansion, growing revenues and building stockholder value. We are looking forward to seeing the positive impact Roger can have on the Avid business and I look forward to closely working with him to maintain the continuity of the business during the coming transition."

Throughout his career, Dr. Lias has held senior management positions at several leading CDMOs including Cytovance Biologics, KBI BioPharma, Diosynth RTP (formerly Covance Biotechnology Services) and Lonza Biologics. At each of these companies, he was primarily charged with overseeing commercial operations, including growing and diversifying their respective client bases. During this time, Dr. Lias' achievements ranged from building start-up Cytovance's contract process development and biopharmaceutical cGMP production business, to increasing revenues at Diosynth from \$16 million to \$120 million over a four-year period. Additionally, he has built a reputation as a highly regarded CDMO industry advocate who has contributed to the acceptance and growth of the biologics contract manufacturing market. Dr. Lias earned his Ph.D. from Clare College at the University of Cambridge in the United Kingdom.

"As someone with a long history in the CDMO space, I was impressed by the level of sophistication of the current Avid operation ranging from the recently opened state-of-the-art Myford facility to the industry leading services and capabilities available to its clients," said Dr. Lias. "The Avid team has successfully put the key pieces in place to allow the company to become a significant player in the rapidly expanding CDMO industry. I am excited work to build upon that foundation and help the company take the next important step in establishing itself as the CDMO of choice for high quality cGMP clinical and commercial manufacturing services."

Dr. Lias most recently served as executive director, head of global biologics business development for Allergan plc., where he was responsible for developing and executing strategies designed to support the company's business development activities related to innovative biologics, biosimilars and complex injectable products. In this role, he was instrumental in identifying, structuring and negotiating a biosimilars co-development collaboration with Amgen for four oncology biosimilar monoclonal antibody products. Prior to Allergan, Dr. Lias was president and group commercial director for Eden Biodesign, an established biopharmaceutical contract manufacturer and consultancy and wholly-owned subsidiary of Eden Biopharma Group. During his time with Eden Biodesign, he successfully transitioned the company's CDMO client base from early-stage biotechnology companies to established biotechnology and multinational pharmaceutical companies, while also playing a key role in the eventual sale of Eden Biopharma Group to Watson Pharmaceuticals (now Allergan).

"We recently initiated a search for individuals with relevant biologics contract manufacturing experience as part of our efforts to expand and change the makeup of the board of directors as we move toward a focus on growing the Avid CDMO business. We were fortunate to identify Roger as an ideal candidate early in the process and he quickly established himself as the clear choice for not only joining the board but also as the candidate for president. He has had a long and successful career in the CDMO space, as well as a clear vision for achieving success for Avid in the near and long-term," said David H. Pohl, member of the Peregrine board of directors and head of the company's nominating committee. "We look forward to having Roger join the board and the contributions he can make to the continued success of the business."

Avid Bioservices was established out of Peregrine's internal biologics manufacturing and development capabilities and began formal operations in January 2002. The company has grown from an internal support operation to a full service CDMO that manufactures bulk drug substance for products that are approved and marketed in over 18 countries by leading biopharma companies. Avid was recently recognized as a leading CDMO by *Life Science Leader* as a recipient of multiple 2017 Contract Manufacturing Leadership Awards for Quality, Reliability, Capabilities, Expertise and Compatibility. The company has an outstanding regulatory inspection history and state-of-the-art cGMP manufacturing facilities. Mr. King has served as president of Avid since its formation in addition to his role as president and CEO of Peregrine Pharmaceuticals since 2003.

**About Peregrine Pharmaceuticals, Inc.**

Peregrine Pharmaceuticals, Inc. is a biopharmaceutical company committed to improving the lives of patients by delivering high quality pharmaceutical products through its contract development and manufacturing organization (CDMO) services and through advancing and licensing its investigational immunotherapy and related products. Peregrine's in-house CDMO services, including cGMP manufacturing and development capabilities, are provided through its wholly-owned subsidiary Avid Bioservices, Inc. ([www.avidbio.com](http://www.avidbio.com)), which provides development and biomanufacturing services for both Peregrine and third-party customers. The company is also working to evaluate its lead immunotherapy candidate, bavituximab, in combination with immune stimulating therapies for the treatment of various cancers, and developing its proprietary exosome technology for the detection and monitoring of cancer. For more information, please visit [www.peregrineinc.com](http://www.peregrineinc.com).

**About Avid Bioservices, Inc.**

Avid Bioservices, a wholly owned subsidiary of Peregrine Pharmaceuticals, provides a comprehensive range of process development, high quality cGMP clinical and commercial manufacturing services for the biotechnology and biopharmaceutical industries. With over 20 years of experience producing monoclonal antibodies and recombinant proteins in batch, fed-batch and perfusion modes, Avid's services include cGMP clinical and commercial product manufacturing, purification, bulk packaging, stability testing and regulatory strategy, submission and support. The company also provides a variety of process development activities, including cell line development and optimization, cell culture and feed optimization, analytical methods development and product characterization. For more information about Avid, please visit [www.avidbio.com](http://www.avidbio.com).