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Filed by Rocket Pharmaceuticals, Inc.  
pursuant to Rule 425 under the Securities Act of 1933  
and deemed filed pursuant to Rule 14a-12  
under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934

Subject Company: Renovacor, Inc.  
Commission File No.: 001-39271  
Date: September 20, 2022

This filing relates to the proposed acquisition of Renovacor, Inc., a Delaware corporation (the "Company"), by Rocket Pharmaceuticals, Inc., a Delaware corporation ("Parent"), pursuant to the terms of that certain Agreement and Plan of Merger, dated as of September 19, 2022, by and among the Company, Parent, Zebrafish Merger Sub, Inc., a Delaware corporation and a direct wholly owned subsidiary of Parent, and Zebrafish Merger Sub II, LLC, a Delaware limited liability company and a direct wholly owned subsidiary of Parent.

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# ROCKET PHARMA ACQUISITION OF RENOVACOR

September 20, 2022



## DISCLAIMER

Various statements in this release concerning Rocket's future expectations, plans and prospects, including without limitation, Rocket's expectations regarding its guidance for 2022 in light of COVID-19, the safety, effectiveness and timing of product candidates that Rocket may develop, to treat Fanconi Anemia (FA), Leukocyte Adhesion Deficiency-I (LAD-I), Pyruvate Kinase Deficiency (PKD), and Danon Disease, and the safety, effectiveness and timing of related pre-clinical studies and clinical trials and related data readouts, may constitute forward-looking statements for the purposes of the safe harbor provisions under the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995 and other federal securities laws and are subject to substantial risks, uncertainties and assumptions. You should not place reliance on these forward-looking statements, which often include words such as "believe," "expect," "anticipate," "intend," "plan," "will give," "estimate," "seek," "will," "may," "suggest" or similar terms, variations of such terms or the negative of those terms. Although Rocket believes that the expectations reflected in the forward-looking statements are reasonable, Rocket cannot guarantee such outcomes. Actual results may differ materially from those indicated by these forward-looking statements as a result of various important factors, including, without limitation, Rocket's ability to monitor the impact of COVID-19 on its business operations and take steps to ensure the safety of patients, families and employees, the interest from patients and families for participation in each of Rocket's ongoing trials, our expectations regarding when clinical trial sites will resume normal business operations, our expectations regarding the delays and impact of COVID-19 on clinical sites, patient enrollment, trial timelines and data readouts, our expectations regarding our drug supply for our ongoing and anticipated trials, actions of regulatory agencies, which may affect the initiation, timing and progress of pre-clinical studies and clinical trials of its product candidates, Rocket's dependence on third parties for development, manufacture, marketing, sales and distribution of product candidates, the outcome of litigation, and unexpected expenditures, as well as those risks more fully discussed in the section entitled "Risk Factors" in Rocket's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2021, filed February 28, 2022 with the SEC and subsequent filings with the SEC including our Quarterly Reports on Form 10-Q. Accordingly, you should not place undue reliance on these forward-looking statements. All such statements speak only as of the date made, and Rocket undertakes no obligation to update or revise publicly any forward-looking statements, whether as a result of new information, future events or otherwise.

# Agenda

## **Introduction** ----- Gaurav Shah, CEO

- Strategic rationale
- Transaction details
- Synergies

## **About Renovacor** ----- Gaurav Shah, CEO

- BAG3 program
- Preclinical data
- Development

## **Conclusion** ----- Gaurav Shah, CEO

- Next Steps
- Financial position
- Q&A

Martin Wilson, General Counsel &  
Chief Compliance Officer

## Vision: Seeking Gene Therapy Cures



**Values**

- Trust
- Curiosity
- Elevate
- Generosity

**Mission**

To develop **first-in-class** and **best-in-class curative gene therapies** for patients with devastating diseases

## Rocket Pharma to Acquire Renovacor as a Strategic Move

Adds BAG3 opportunity to create leading cardiac AAV gene therapy franchise by expanding clinical/near clinical assets

### Strategic Rationale – the 3Ps, Pipeline, Property (Intellectual), People

- Pipeline**
  - Significant unmet medical need in BAG3-DCM with ability to be first, best and only-in-class with clear on-target MOA and commercial opportunity similar to Danon Disease
- Property (Intellectual)**
  - Broad IP portfolio provides freedom to operate and optionality for addressing BAG3-associated dilated cardiomyopathy (BAG3-DCM)
- People**
  - Acquisition adds cardiac and gene therapy expertise to Rocket's growing team

**Expected to add approximately \$38M in projected net cash at closing, extending cash runway into 2Q'24**

## Transaction Overview

- Rocket has signed a definitive agreement to acquire Renovacor in an all-stock transaction at an exchange ratio of 0.1676, an implied per-share value of \$2.60
  - RCOR shareholders to own 4.6% of pro forma entity
  - Implied total equity value of approximately \$52M at close based on common shares outstanding
- Offer preserves cash resources of pro forma company and allows Renovacor shareholders to share in future upside
- Proposal has been approved by the Boards of Directors of both Rocket and Renovacor, with voting agreements in place with significant shareholders

**Transaction expected to close by first quarter of 2023**

# Addition of Renovacor's Programs and Capabilities Aligns with Our Core Strategy

Renovacor Acquisition Matches our Mission of Developing **First-, Best- and Only-in-Class** Therapies for Rare Diseases **With Extensive Unmet Needs**



## Strong science, carefully-selected assets and smart execution

- Clear MOA: corrected protein made in target cells responsible for disorder caused by single gene mutations
- Well-defined, achievable clinical endpoints
- CMC compatible with Rocket's in-house AAV cGMP manufacturing capabilities



## Personnel with proven development expertise

- Deep cardiac and gene therapy scientific expertise complementary to Rocket's experience
- Strong drug development track record
- Engagement with health authorities to outline a predictable review pathway



# Renovacor Adds High Value Assets and Capabilities to Rocket's Cardiac AAV Franchise

## DETERMINANTS OF SUCCESS IN GENE THERAPY



**Promising therapeutic candidates** targeting genetically-defined diseases



**Well-defined** developmental and regulatory pathway, with **clear endpoints**



**Proprietary technologies** imparting competitive advantage



**Scientific and developmental expertise** in modality and therapeutic area

## RENOVACOR VALUE ADD

**BAG3-DCM** – near-clinical program with compelling preclinical data in monogenic indication of significant unmet need

**Monogenic target disease (BAG3-DCM)** with relevant functional endpoints clearly impacting patient prognosis

**Proprietary BAG3 mouse model** accelerates development efforts and strengthens IP moat in disease area

**Additional personnel and capabilities** in cardiac AAV gene therapy bolster Rocket's industry-leading cardiac platform

# Acquisition Strengthens Cardiac AAV Gene Therapy Franchise

## Criteria used to select programs



First-, best- and only-in-class

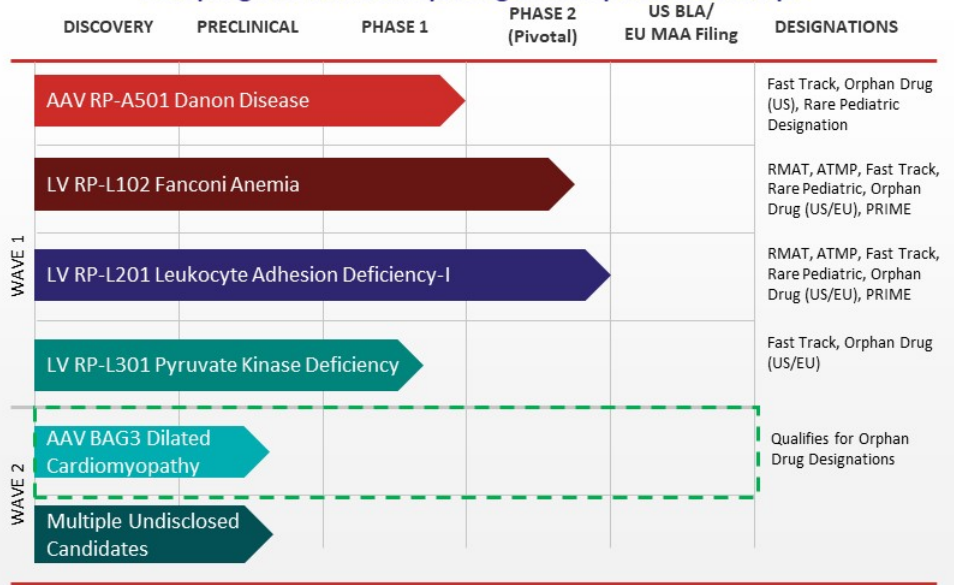


On-target MOA; clear endpoints



Sizeable market to maximize patient impact

## Five programs with compelling clinical proof of concept



# BAG3 Regulates Critical Functions in Cardiomyocytes

## Cardiac contractility

Enhances contractility by linking the  $\beta$ -adrenergic receptor and L-type  $Ca^{2+}$  channel

## Structural support

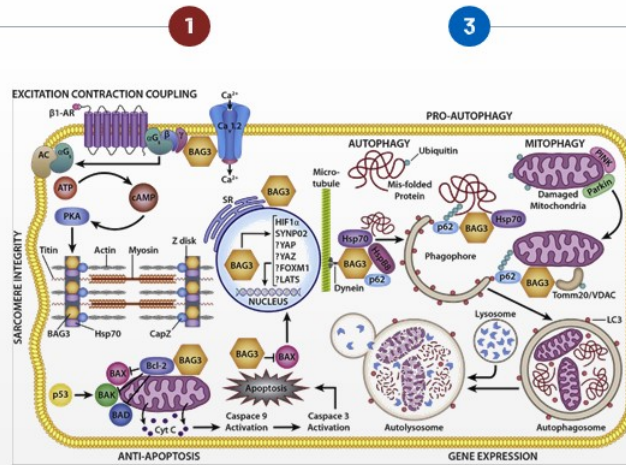
Provides support for the sarcomere by linking actin myofibrils with the Z-disc

## Protein quality control

Facilitates autophagy as a co-chaperone with heat shock proteins, recycling misfolded proteins

## Anti-apoptosis

Inhibits apoptosis (programmed cell death) through binding of BCL2

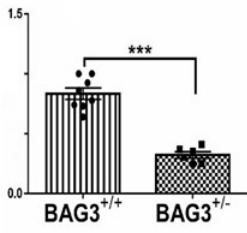


We believe that a gene therapy approach is best positioned to restore the broad biological functions of BAG3 in the heart

# AAV9 BAG3 Prevents the Onset of Cardiac Impairment in Genetic Mouse Model of BAG3-Associated DCM

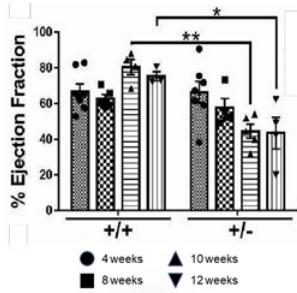
**BAG3 +/- mice have ~50% of BAG3 protein and develop a reduced ejection fraction (EF)**

BAG3 protein levels



~50% BAG3 protein levels seen in BAG3 +/- mice

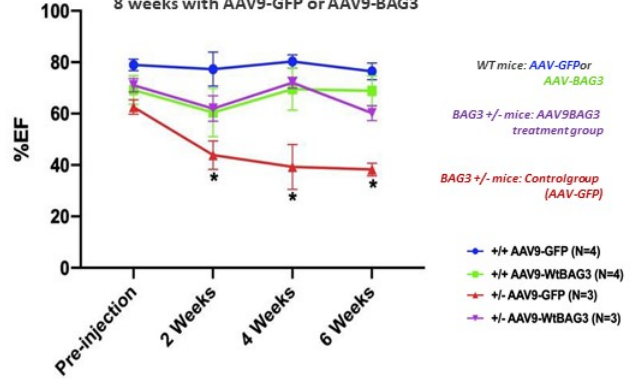
Ejection fraction



BAG3 +/- mice develop reduced EF, recapitulating the DCM clinical phenotype

**AAV9 BAG3 has demonstrated the prevention of onset of reduced ejection fraction**

Ejection fraction in WT and BAG3 +/- mice treated at age 6-8 weeks with AAV9-GFP or AAV9-BAG3



\*p=.04, .01 and .003 respectively at 2, 4 and 6 weeks for +/- AAV9-GFP vs. +/- AAV9-BAG3 arms; dose =  $1 \times 10^9$  genome copies (gc). Weeks on X-axis denote time since treatment.

## BAG3-DCM Represents a Significant Market with Unmet Need

- Dilated cardiomyopathy (DCM) is the most common form of cardiomyopathy
- 20-50% of DCM patients have familial DCM; up to 40% of whom have an identifiable genetic cause<sup>(1)</sup>
- Scientific societies recently endorsed clinical genetic testing for DCM patients and families<sup>(2,3)</sup>
- Prevalence of BAG3 DCM in US estimated to be as high as 30,000 patients<sup>(4)</sup> and is expected to grow with increasing genetic testing and disease awareness

1. American Heart Association Statistical Update: Heart Disease and Stroke Statistics – 2022, mortality rate includes myocarditis.

2. Ackerman MJ et al. Heart Rhythm 2011.

3. Musumura K et al. Circulation: Genomic and Precision Medicine 2020.

4. Virani et al., Circ. 2021; Steinberg et al., Circ. 2012; Brauwuers et al., Eur Heart J. 2013; Bhambhani et al., Eur J Heart Fail. 2018; Kapoor et al., JACC:Heart Fail. 2016; Pfeffer et al., Lancet 2003; Balmforth et al., JACC:Heart Fail. 2019; Felker et al., NEJM 2000; Haas et al., Eur Heart J. 2015; Kindel et al., J Card Fail. 2012; Pugh et al., Genet Med. 2014; Petretta et al., Am J Cardiol. 2011; McNally and Mestroni, Circ Res. 2017; Sweet et al., Exp. Op. Orphan Drugs 2016; Ganesch et al., Circ. 2013; Aragam et al., AHA Scient. Sess. 2021; Villard et al., Eur. Heart J. 2011; Franaszczyk et al., J Trans Med. 2014; Chami et al., Can J Cardiol. 2014; Arimura et al., Human Mut. 2011; Dominguez et al., JACC 2018; Norton et al., Am J Human Gen. 2011.

# Rocket Pharmaceuticals: Elevating Gene Therapy to New Heights

## WHERE WE ARE



- Recognized as a premier gene therapy company
- Specialized in monogenic diseases
- Pioneer in the development of both *ex vivo* LV and *in vivo* AAV therapies
- AAV9-based gene therapy for Danon disease, a major value driver based on size of indication and lack of other therapies
- LV-based programs to provide near term commercialization

## WHERE WE'RE GOING



- Commercial company with initial therapies and revenue build for FA, LAD-I and PKD, plus leading cardiac franchise led by Danon disease followed by BAG3 DCM
- Broad pipeline of additional new Wave 2 therapies targeting potentially larger opportunities
- Potential new technologies employed

# Strengthen Balance Sheet with Cash Runway Extended into 2Q'24

## Current cash runway into 1H24

- Cash and Cash Equivalent on hand of \$321.4 million as of 6/30/22

## Extend cash runway into 2Q'24

- \$46 million in net ATM proceeds to date
- Expected to add \$38M in projected net cash at RCOR closing by 1Q23

## Additional alternatives to extend cash runway further

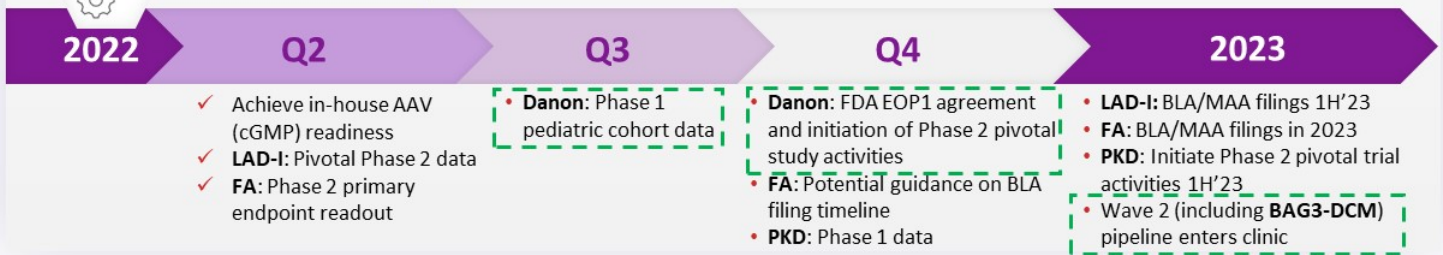
- Consider options of private / public financings
- Two PRVs may be used for monetization upon FA/LAD-I FDA approvals in 1H24

# Conclusion & Expected Next Steps

## ROCKET'S LEADING CARDIAC GENE THERAPY FRANCHISE HAS A PIVOTAL YEAR AHEAD

- Phase 1 pediatric cohort data in Danon expected in Q3; opportunity for strong validation of Rocket's efforts in cardiac AAV gene therapy
- Initiation of Phase 2 pivotal trial
- Preclinical data and updates on clinical development pathway in BAG3-DCM anticipated in near term
- Potential for Phase 1 initiation in BAG3-DCM in 2023

### Near term inflection points drive value





## Forward-Looking Statements

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These forward-looking statements generally can be identified by phrases such as “will,” “should,” “expects,” “plans,” “anticipates,” “could,” “intends,” “target,” “projects,” “contemplates,” “believes,” “predicts,” “potential,” “continues,” “foresees,” “forecasts,” “estimates” or other words or phrases of similar import. It is uncertain whether any of the events anticipated by the forward-looking statements will transpire or occur, or if any of them do, what impact they will have on the results of operations and financial condition of the combined companies or the price of Parent’s or the Company’s stock. These forward-looking statements involve certain risks and uncertainties, many of which are beyond the parties’ control, that could cause actual results to differ materially from those indicated in such forward-looking statements, including but not limited to: the impact of public health crises, such as pandemics (including coronavirus (COVID-19)) and epidemics and any related company or government policies and actions to protect the health and safety of individuals or government policies or actions to maintain the functioning of national, global economies and markets; the effect of the announcement of the merger on the ability of Parent or the Company to retain and hire key personnel and maintain relationships with customers, suppliers and others with whom Parent or the Company do business, or on Parent’s or the Company’s operating results and business generally; risks that the merger disrupts current plans and operations and the potential difficulties in employee retention as a result of the merger; uncertainties related to the initiation, timing and conduct of studies and other development requirements for the Company’s product candidates; the risk that any one or more of the Company’s product candidates will not be successfully developed and commercialized; the interest from patients and families for participation in each of Parent’s ongoing trials; expectations regarding the delays and impact of COVID-19 on clinical sites, patient enrollment, trial timelines and data readouts; our expectations regarding our drug supply for our ongoing and anticipated trials; actions of regulatory agencies, which may affect the initiation, timing and progress of pre-clinical studies and clinical trials of its product candidates; the risk that the results of preclinical studies and clinical trials may not be predictive of future results in connection with future studies or trials; the outcome of any legal proceedings related to the merger; the ability of the parties to consummate the proposed transaction on a timely basis or at all; the satisfaction of the conditions precedent to consummation of the proposed transaction, including the ability to secure regulatory approvals on the terms expected, at all or in a timely manner; the ability of Parent to successfully integrate the Company’s operations; the ability of Parent to implement its plans, forecasts and other expectations with respect to Parent’s business after the completion of the transaction and realize expected synergies; the risk of litigation, and/or regulatory actions related to the proposed transaction; and business disruption following the merger. These risks, as well as other risks related to the proposed transaction, will be included in the registration statement on Form S-4 and proxy statement/prospectus that will be filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission (“SEC”) in connection with the proposed transaction. While the list of factors presented here is, and the list of factors to be presented in the registration statement on Form S-4 are, considered representative, no such list should be considered to be a complete statement of all potential risks and uncertainties. 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### No Offer or Solicitation

This communication is not intended to and shall not constitute an offer to buy or sell or the solicitation of an offer to buy or sell any securities, or a solicitation of any vote or approval, nor shall there be any sale of securities in any jurisdiction in which such offer, solicitation or registration or qualification under the securities laws of any such jurisdiction. No offering of securities shall be made, except by means of a prospectus meeting the requirements of Section 10 of the U.S. Securities Act of 1933, as amended.

### Additional Information about the Merger and Where to Find It

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**THANK YOU!**





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