
**UNITED STATES
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION**

Washington, D.C. 20549

FORM 8-K

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

Date of Report (Date of earliest event reported): March 12, 2021

Silverback Therapeutics, Inc.

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Delaware
(State or other jurisdiction
of incorporation)

001-39756
(Commission
File Number)

81-1489190
(IRS Employer
Identification No.)

500 Fairview Ave N, Suite 600
Seattle, Washington
(Address of principal executive offices)

98109
(Zip Code)

Registrant's telephone number, including area code: (206) 456-2900

N/A
(Former name or former address, if changed since last report.)

Check the appropriate box below if the Form 8-K filing is intended to simultaneously satisfy the filing obligation of the registrant under any of the following provisions:

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

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

<u>Title of each class</u>	<u>Trading Symbol(s)</u>	<u>Name of each exchange on which registered</u>
Common Stock, \$0.0001 par value per share	SBTX	The Nasdaq Stock Market LLC

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

Emerging growth company

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

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

(d)

On March 12, 2021, the Board of Directors (the “Board”) of Silverback Therapeutics, Inc. (the “Company”) appointed Maria Koehler, M.D., Ph.D. as a Class I director of the Company, with a term of office expiring at the 2021 annual meeting of stockholders. There are no arrangements or understandings between Dr. Koehler and any other person pursuant to which she was selected as a director. In addition, there are no transactions in which Dr. Koehler has an interest that would require disclosure under Item 404(a) of Regulation S-K.

In lieu of the initial option grant to which Dr. Koehler would otherwise be entitled upon her appointment as a director pursuant to the Company’s Non-Employee Director Compensation Policy (the “Compensation Policy”), Dr. Koehler was granted on the date of her appointment an option to purchase 25,000 shares of the Company’s common stock, which vests monthly over a three year period and will vest in full in the event of a change in control (as defined in the Company’s equity incentive plan). Pursuant to the Compensation Policy, Dr. Koehler will receive an annual cash retainer of \$35,000 for her service on the Board. Dr. Koehler has also entered into the Company’s standard form of Indemnification Agreement.

Dr. Koehler will also serve as a member of the Nominating Committee of the Board (the “Nominating Committee”). Pursuant to the Compensation Policy, Dr. Koehler will receive an additional annual cash retainer of \$4,000 for her service in such capacity as a member of the Nominating Committee. Robert Hershberg, M.D., Ph.D. and Vickie Capps will continue as chair and a member, respectively, of the Nominating Committee.

Item 9.01 Financial Statements and Exhibits.

(d) Exhibits.

<u>Exhibit No.</u>	<u>Description</u>
99.1	Press Release, dated March 15, 2021.

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.

SILVERBACK THERAPEUTICS, INC.

By: /s/ Laura Shawver, Ph.D.

Laura Shawver, Ph.D.

Chief Executive Officer

Dated: March 15, 2021



Silverback Therapeutics Announces the Appointment of Dr. Maria Koehler to its Board of Directors

SEATTLE – March 15, 2021 – Silverback Therapeutics, Inc. (Nasdaq: SBTX) (“Silverback”), a clinical-stage biopharmaceutical company leveraging its proprietary ImmunoTAC technology platform to develop systemically delivered, tissue targeted therapeutics for the treatment of cancer, chronic viral infections, and other serious diseases, today announced the appointment of Maria Koehler, M.D., Ph.D. to Silverback’s Board of Directors.

“On behalf of the board of directors and senior management team at Silverback, I am pleased to welcome Maria to the board,” said Peter Thompson, M.D., Co-founder and Chair of the Silverback Board of Directors. “Maria is an accomplished biopharmaceutical veteran who has led world-class clinical development teams that have delivered transformative therapies to cancer patients. Her leadership and clinical experience will be invaluable at this stage of Silverback’s growth, as we advance our lead program SBT6050 through clinical development and drive additional assets into the clinic.”

Dr. Koehler joins the Silverback Board of Directors with more than 20 years of experience in the biopharmaceutical industry as a leader in clinical development. Board certified in hematology/oncology, she has experience in both early drug development and bringing new drugs to global markets, having developed strategies for all stages of cancer drug development and medical affairs. Dr. Koehler currently serves as the Chief Medical Officer at Repare Therapeutics, leading clinical strategy and overseeing all operations. Prior to joining Repare, Dr. Koehler was Chief Medical Officer at Bicycle Therapeutics. Prior to Bicycle, she was Vice President of Strategy and Innovation for Pfizer Oncology, where she led the development of palbociclib (IBRANCE) and contributed to the strategic direction of the oncology portfolio. Dr. Koehler received her M.D. and Ph.D. from the Silesian Medical School in Poland and has co-authored over 150 publications, book chapters, and patents.

“Silverback’s pipeline of tissue-targeted immuno-oncology agents, which harnesses both innate and adaptive immune responses, is an elegant approach to treating solid tumors,” said Dr. Koehler. “It is an important time for our industry as we bring forward more drugs with curative intent, and I am thrilled to join a passionate board of directors united by this vision.”

About Silverback Therapeutics

Silverback Therapeutics, Inc. is a clinical-stage biopharmaceutical company focused on leveraging its proprietary ImmunoTAC technology platform to develop systemically delivered and tissue targeted therapeutics for the treatment of cancer, chronic viral infections, and other serious diseases. Silverback's platform enables the strategic pairing of proprietary payloads that modulate key disease modifying pathways with monoclonal antibodies directed at specific disease sites. Initially, Silverback is creating a new class of targeted immuno-oncology agents that direct a TLR8 agonist myeloid cell activator to the tumor microenvironment in solid tumors to promote cancer cell killing. Silverback Therapeutics is located in Seattle, Washington. To learn more, visit www.silverbacktx.com.

Forward-Looking Statements

This news release contains certain forward-looking statements that involve risks and uncertainties that could cause actual results to be materially different from historical results or from any future results expressed or implied by such forward-looking statements. Such forward-looking statements include statements regarding, among other things, Silverback's ability to bring new treatments to patients in need, and the progress and expected timing of Silverback's drug development programs and clinical trials. Factors that may cause actual results to differ materially include the risk that compounds that appeared promising in early research or clinical trials do not demonstrate safety and/or efficacy in later preclinical studies or clinical trials, the risk that Silverback may not obtain approval to market its product candidates, uncertainties associated with performing clinical trials, regulatory filings and applications, risks associated with reliance on third parties to successfully conduct clinical trials, the risks associated with reliance on outside financing to meet capital requirements, and other risks associated with the process of discovering, developing and commercializing drugs that are safe and effective for use as human therapeutics, and in the endeavor of building a business around such drugs. You are urged to consider statements that include the words "may," "will," "would," "could," "should," "believes," "estimates," "projects," "promise," "potential," "expects," "plans," "anticipates," "intends," "continues," "designed," "goal," or the negative of those words or other comparable words to be uncertain and forward-looking. For a further list and description of the risks and uncertainties that Silverback faces, please refer to Silverback's periodic and other filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission, which are available at www.sec.gov. Such forward-

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looking statements are current only as of the date they are made, and Silverback assumes no obligation to update any forward-looking statements, whether as a result of new information, future events or otherwise.

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