# 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): **August 13, 2024**

## MERSANA THERAPEUTICS, INC.

**(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)**

| **Delaware** | **001-38129** | **04-3562403** |
|---|---|---|
| **(State or other jurisdiction of incorporation)** | **(Commission File Number)** | **(IRS Employer Identification No.)** |

| **840 Memorial Drive Cambridge, Massachusetts** | **02139** |
|---|---|
| **(Address of Principal Executive Offices)** | **(Zip Code)** |

Registrant's telephone number, including area code: **(617) 498-0020**

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

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

☐ Written communications pursuant to Rule 425 under the Securities Act (17 CFR 230.425)

☐ Soliciting material pursuant to Rule 14a-12 under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14a-12)

☐ Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 14d-2(b) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14d-2(b))

☐ Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 13e-4(c) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.13e-4(c))

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

| **Title of each class** | **Trading Symbol(s)** | **Name of each exchange on which registered** |
|---|---|---|
| Common Stock, $0.0001 par value | MRSN | The Nasdaq Stock Market LLC |

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

Emerging growth company ☐

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

**Item 2.02 Results of Operations and Financial Condition.**

On August 13, 2024, Mersana Therapeutics, Inc. (the "Company") issued a press release announcing business updates and financial results for the fiscal quarter ended June 30, 2024. A copy of the press release is being furnished as Exhibit 99.1 to this Current Report on Form 8-K.

The information furnished in this Item 2.02, including Exhibit 99.1, shall not be deemed "filed" for purposes of Section 18 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the "Exchange Act"), or otherwise subject to the liabilities of that section, nor shall such information be deemed incorporated by reference in any filing by the Company with the Securities and Exchange Commission (the "SEC") under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended (the "Securities Act"), or the Exchange Act, regardless of any general incorporation language contained in such filing, except as expressly set forth by specific reference in such a filing.

**Item 7.01 Regulation FD Disclosure.**

On August 13, 2024, the Company posted an updated corporate presentation on the Company's website. To access the presentation, investors should visit the "Events & Presentations" page under the "Investors & Media" section of the Company's website at ir.mersana.com.

The information furnished under this Item 7.01 shall not be deemed "filed" for purposes of Section 18 of the Exchange Act, or otherwise subject to the liabilities of that section, nor shall such information be deemed incorporated by reference in any filing by the Company with the SEC under the Securities Act or the Exchange Act, regardless of any general incorporation language contained in such filing, except as expressly set forth by specific reference in such a filing.

**Item 9.01. Financial Statements and Exhibits.**

(d) Exhibits

| Exhibit No. | Description |
|---|---|
| 99.1 | Press Release issued by the Company on August 13, 2024. |
| 104 | Cover Page Interactive Data File (embedded within the Inline XBRL document). |

**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.

**MERSANA THERAPEUTICS, INC.**

Date: August 13, 2024

By: /s/ Brian DeSchuytner
Brian DeSchuytner
Senior Vice President, Chief Operating Officer and Chief Financial Officer

**Exhibit 99.1**

**Mersana Therapeutics Provides Business Update and Announces Second Quarter 2024 Financial Results**

- *Dose escalation advancing in Phase 1 clinical trials of both XMT-1660 and XMT-2056*
- *Continue to expect to announce initial XMT-1660 clinical data and initiate expansion in the second half of 2024*
- *Capital resources expected to support current operating plan commitments into 2026*
- *Conference call today at 8:00 a.m. ET*

**CAMBRIDGE, Mass., August 13, 2024 –** Mersana Therapeutics, Inc. (NASDAQ: MRSN), a clinical-stage biopharmaceutical company focused on discovering and developing a pipeline of antibody-drug conjugates (ADCs) targeting cancers in areas of high unmet medical need, today provided a business update and reported financial results for the second quarter ended June 30, 2024.

"The second quarter of 2024 was a time of continued progress at Mersana as we advanced dose escalation in Phase 1 clinical trials of XMT-1660, our lead Dolasynthen ADC candidate, and XMT-2056, our lead Immunosynthen ADC candidate," said Martin Huber, M.D., President and Chief Executive Officer of Mersana Therapeutics. "At the same time, we made further progress in our collaborations while also benefiting from last year's efforts to reduce operating expenses. We believe these collective accomplishments have put us in a strong position as we approach our initial clinical data readout for XMT-1660, which is planned for the second half of this year."

**Recent Accomplishments, Strategic Priorities and Expected Milestones**

**XMT-1660:** Mersana continues to advance its Phase 1 clinical trial of XMT-1660, the company's lead Dolasynthen ADC candidate targeting B7-H4. The dose escalation portion of the trial is ongoing at a dose level of 80 milligrams per meter squared every four weeks, and a maximum tolerated dose has yet to be established. Additionally, the company has been proactively exploring more frequent dosing and enrolling patients in backfill cohorts to inform the optimal dose and schedule for expansion. Mersana plans to share initial safety, tolerability, efficacy and biomarker data from dose escalation and backfill cohorts and plans to initiate the expansion portion of the trial in the second half of 2024.

**XMT-2056:** Mersana continues to enroll patients in the dose escalation portion of its Phase 1 clinical trial of XMT-2056, the company's lead Immunosynthen ADC candidate targeting a novel HER2 epitope. GSK plc has an exclusive global license option to co-develop and commercialize XMT-2056. Additionally, mechanistic underpinnings related to Mersana's Immunosynthen platform were recently described in a *Nature Communications* publication entitled, "Tumor Cell-Directed STING Agonist Antibody Drug Conjugates Induce Type III Interferons and Anti-Tumor Innate Immune Responses."

**Collaborations:** Mersana continues to advance its Johnson & Johnson and Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany collaborations. The collaboration with Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany focuses on the discovery of novel Immunosynthen ADCs for up to two targets. The collaboration with Johnson & Johnson focuses on the discovery of novel Dolasynthen ADCs for up to three targets. In August 2024, Mersana earned an $8 million development milestone under the Johnson & Johnson collaboration, for which payment is due in the third quarter of 2024.

**Second Quarter 2024 Financial Results**

- Cash, cash equivalents and marketable securities as of June 30, 2024 were $162.7 million. Mersana continues to expect that its capital resources will be sufficient to support its current operating plan commitments into 2026.

- Net cash used in operating activities for the second quarter of 2024 was $21.8 million.

- Collaboration revenue for the second quarter of 2024 was $2.3 million, compared to $10.7 million for the same period in 2023. The year-over-year change was primarily related to reduced collaboration revenue recognized under Mersana's collaboration and license agreements with Johnson & Johnson and Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany.

- Research and development (R&D) expenses for the second quarter of 2024 were $17.2 million, compared to $49.0 million for the same period in 2023. Included in R&D expenses for the second quarter of 2024 were $2.4 million in non-cash stock-based compensation expenses. The year-over-year decline in R&D expenses was primarily related to reduced costs associated with manufacturing and clinical activities for UpRi, a discontinued ADC candidate, and reduced employee compensation expense following the company's restructuring in 2023.

- General and administrative (G&A) expenses for the second quarter of 2024 were $10.5 million, compared to $18.2 million during the same period in 2023. Included in G&A expenses for the second quarter of 2024 were $2.0 million in non-cash stock-based compensation expenses. The year-over-year decline in G&A expenses was primarily related to reduced consulting and professional services fees and reduced employee compensation expense following the aforementioned restructuring.

- Net loss for the second quarter of 2024 was $24.3 million, or $0.20 per share, compared to a net loss of $54.3 million, or $0.47 per share, for the same period in 2023.

**Conference Call Reminder**

Mersana will host a conference call today at 8:00 a.m. ET to discuss business updates and its financial results for the second quarter of 2024. To access the call, please dial 833-255-2826 (domestic) or 412-317-0689 (international). A live webcast of the presentation will be available on the Investors & Media section of the Mersana website at www.mersana.com, and a replay of the webcast will be available in the same location following the conference call for approximately 90 days.

**About Mersana Therapeutics**

Mersana Therapeutics is a clinical-stage biopharmaceutical company focused on the development of novel antibody-drug conjugates (ADCs) and driven by the knowledge that patients are waiting for new treatment options. The company has developed proprietary cytotoxic (Dolasynthen) and immunostimulatory (Immunosynthen) ADC platforms that are generating a pipeline of wholly-owned and partnered product candidates with the potential to treat a range of cancers. Its pipeline includes XMT-1660, a Dolasynthen ADC targeting B7-H4, and XMT-2056, an Immunosynthen ADC targeting a novel epitope of human epidermal growth factor receptor 2 (HER2). Mersana routinely posts information that may be useful to investors on the "Investors & Media" section of its website at www.mersana.com.

**Forward-Looking Statements**

This press release contains “forward-looking” statements and information within the meaning of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. These statements may be identified by words such as “aims,” “anticipates,” “believes,” “could,” “estimates,” “expects,” “forecasts,” “goal,” “intends,” “may,” “plans,” “possible,” “potential,” “seeks,” “will” and variations of these words or similar expressions, although not all forward-looking statements contain these words. Forward-looking statements in this press release include, but are not limited to, statements concerning Mersana’s plans regarding the clinical development of XMT-1660 and XMT-2056, including with respect to the progress and design of the clinical trials of these product candidates; Mersana’s planned data presentations, including with respect to its Phase 1 clinical trial of XMT-1660; Mersana’s cash runway; Mersana’s collaborations with third parties; and the development and potential of Mersana’s product candidates, platforms, technology and pipeline of ADC candidates. Mersana may not actually achieve the plans, intentions or expectations disclosed in these forward-looking statements, and you should not place undue reliance on these forward-looking statements. Actual results or events could differ materially from the plans, intentions and expectations disclosed in these forward-looking statements as a result of various factors, including, among other things, uncertainties inherent in research and development, in the advancement, progression and completion of clinical trials and in the clinical development of Mersana’s product candidates, including XMT-1660 and XMT-2056; the risk that Mersana may face delays in patient enrollment in its Phase 1 clinical trial of XMT-2056; the risk that Mersana may not realize the intended benefits of its platforms, technology and collaborations; and other important factors, any of which could cause Mersana’s actual results to differ from those contained in the forward-looking statements, that are described in greater detail in the section entitled “Risk Factors” in Mersana’s Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission (“SEC”) on May 9, 2024, as well as in other filings Mersana may make with the SEC in the future. Any forward-looking statements contained in this press release speak only as of the date hereof, and Mersana expressly disclaims any obligation to update any forward-looking statements contained herein, whether because of any new information, future events, changed circumstances or otherwise, except as otherwise required by law.

**Mersana Therapeutics, Inc.**
**Selected Condensed Consolidated Balance Sheet Data**
**(in thousands and unaudited)**

| | June 30, 2024 | December 31, 2023 |
|---|---|---|
| Cash, cash equivalents and marketable securities | $ 162,742 | $ 209,084 |
| Working capital[(1)] | 106,779 | 150,420 |
| Total assets | 179,128 | 226,060 |
| Total stockholders' equity | 8,427 | 36,904 |

[(1)] The company defines working capital as current assets less current liabilities.

**Mersana Therapeutics, Inc.**
**Condensed Consolidated Statement of Operations**
**(in thousands, except share and per share data, and unaudited)**

| | Three months ended | | Six months ended | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | June 30, 2024 | June 30, 2023 | June 30, 2024 | June 30, 2023 |
| Collaboration revenue | $ 2,293 | $ 10,654 | $ 11,538 | $ 18,456 |
| | | | | |
| Operating expenses: | | | | |
| Research and development | 17,245 | 48,968 | 35,931 | 96,243 |
| General and administrative | 10,503 | 18,187 | 22,063 | 36,515 |
| Total operating expenses | 27,748 | 67,155 | 57,994 | 132,758 |
| Total other income, net | 1,187 | 2,194 | 2,882 | 3,832 |
| Net loss | $ (24,268) | $ (54,307) | $ (43,574) | $ (110,470) |
| Net loss per share — basic and diluted | $ (0.20) | $ (0.47) | $ (0.36) | $ (0.99) |
| Weighted-average number of common shares — basic and diluted | 122,440,124 | 115,608,156 | 121,932,540 | 111,583,765 |

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