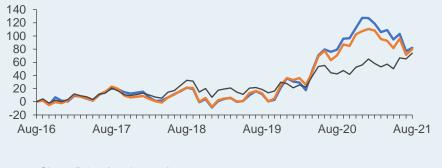


### **Investment Objective and Benchmark Index**

The Biotech Growth Trust PLC seeks capital appreciation through investment in the worldwide biotechnology industry. Performance is measured against its benchmark index, the NASDAQ Biotechnology Index (sterling adjusted).

#### **Five Year Performance** (%)

Past performance is not a guide to future performance. The value of investments and the income from them may fall as well as rise and is not guaranteed; an investor may receive back less than the original amount invested.



Share Price (total return) +81.9%

Net Asset Value per share (total return) +80.0%

■ Benchmark: NASDAQ Biotechnology Index (sterling adjusted) +73.9%

Source: Morningstar, Index - Bloomberg.

### Ten Largest Holdings as at 31 August 2021 (% of total investments)

Name	Total
Horizon Therapeutics	4.7
Neurocrine Biosciences	4.2
Guardant Health	3.7
GH Research	3.6
Vertex Pharmaceuticals	3.5
Yisheng	3.0
Biogen	2.9
Singular Genomics Systems	2.8
ImmunoGen	2.7
Gilead Sciences	2.7
Total	33.8



Portfolio Manager Geoffrey Hsu



<b>Fast Facts</b>	As at 31 July 2021	
Launch Date	June 1997	
AIC Sector	Biotechnology & Healthcare	
Date of of A	ppointment of OrbiMed	
	19 May 2005	
Annual Management Fee (payable by the Company)		
0.659/ of not conoto	plue 0.200/ per appum	

0.65% of net assets plus 0.30% per annum on the Company's market capitalisation up to £500m, 0.20% on market capitalisation above £500m to £1bn and 0.10% on market capitalisation over £1bn

Performance fee	See Annual Report for details
Ongoing Charges Ratio (OCR) *	1.1%
Continuation Vote	2025 AGM and every 5th AGM thereafter
Year / interim end	31 March / 30 September
Capital Structure	41,734,769 Ordinary Shares of 25p

Trust Characteristics		
Number of Holdings 87		
Net Assets (£m)		£556.3m
Market Capitalisation (£m)		£525.9m
Dividend It is not anticipated that the Company will pay a dividend		
Gearing (AIC basis) 1.3%		
Leverage**		Gross 103.1% Commitment 102.5%
Share Price (	p)	1260.00
NAV (p)		1332.94
(Discount) / Premium		(5.5%)
Portfolio Turi	nover p.a.	90.9%
Active Share	***	76.8%



Geographical Breakdown as at 31 Aug	ust 2021 (%)
North America	70.4%
Continental Europe	12.8%
China (quoted)	7.4%
*Unquoted	7.2%
Singapore	0.9%
South Korea	0.8%
United Kingdom	0.5%
Total	100.0%

<sup>\*</sup> No more than 10% of gross assets will be invested in unquoted investments at the time of acquisition. This limit includes any investment or commitment to invest in private equity funds managed by OrbiMed or an affiliate thereof. Investments or commitments to invest in such private equity funds will be limited to US15m, after the deduction of proceeds of disposal and other returns of capital. Of the 7.2% unquoted investments, 6.8% as China, and 0.4% as Asia.

Source: All portfolio information sourced from Frostrow Capital LLP

### Discrete Performance - Calendar Years (%)

Percentage Growth 12 Month Return	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	YTD
NAV	-7.6	9.9	-14.3	47.4	52.4	-13.2
Share Price	-4.7	12.1	-19.9	48.5	67.7	-20.1
Index	-6.5	10.5	-3.8	19.6	22.1	11.5

### **Standardised Discrete Performance (%)**

Percentage Growth 12 Month Return	Aug 16- Aug 17	Aug 17- Aug 18	Aug 18- Aug 19	Aug 19- Aug 20	Aug 20- Aug 21
NAV	23.3	-1.3	-6.9	50.9	5.4
Share Price	20.4	1.0	-8.1	60.5	1.4
Index	21.1	9.5	-10.3	19.8	22.0

Past performance is not a guide to future performance. The value of investments and the income from them may fall as well as rise and is not guaranteed.

Source: NAV (total return; fully diluted) & Share Price (total return) – Morningstar. Index - Bloomberg.

\*Calculated at the financial year end, includes management fees and all other operating expenses, excludes performance fees.

\*\*The Board has set the leverage limit for both the Gross and the Commitment basis at 130% of the Company's Net Asset Value.

\*\*\*Active Share is expressed as a percentage and shows the extent to which a fund's holdings and their weightings differ from those of the fund's benchmark index. A fund that closely tracks its index might have a low Active Share of less than 20% and be considered passive, while a fund with an Active Share of 60% or higher is generally considered to be actively managed.

Codes		
Sedol	0038551	
ISIN	GB0000385517	
Legal Entity Identifier (LEI)		
	549300Z41EP32MI2DN29	
Global Intermedia	nry	
Identification Number (GIIN)		
	U1MQ70.99999.SL.826	
Bloomberg	BIOG LN	
EPIC	BIOG	

### **Investment Policy**

In order to achieve its investment objective, the Company invests in a diversified portfolio of shares and related securities in biotechnology companies on a worldwide basis. The Company will not invest more than 15% of the value of its gross assets in any one individual stock at the time of acquisition. No more than 10% of gross assets will be invested in unquoted investments at the time of acquisition. This limit includes any investment or commitment to invest in private equity funds managed by OrbiMed or an affiliate thereof. Investments or commitments to invest in such private equity funds will be limited to US15m, after the deduction of proceeds of disposal and other returns of capital. The Company's borrowing policy is that borrowings will not exceed 20% of the Company's net assets. The Company may be unable to invest directly in certain countries. In these circumstances, the Company may gain exposure to companies in such countries by investing indirectly through swaps. Where the Company invests in swaps, exposure to underlying assets will not exceed 5% of the gross assets of the Company at the time of entering into the contract.





### **Commentary**

In August, the NAV per share was up 5.1%, the share price was up 2.8% and the benchmark NASDAQ Biotechnology Index (sterling adjusted) was up 5.2%.

In August, biotechnology resurged and outperformed the broader market. The announcement of Pfizer's acquisition of oncology company Trillium Therapeutics likely catalyzed the late-month bounce, improving investor sentiment in the sector. While the biotech sector continues to lag the broader market year-to-date, we believe the recent drawdown in small cap biotech has largely played out and that the segment is poised for a recovery for the balance of the year.

With regards to COVID, there are promising signs that Delta variant cases in the U.S. may be peaking, with some of the more heavily affected states in the south now showing declines. Case trends once children go back to school in September will be of particular focus for investors. The need for potential COVID booster vaccinations dominated headlines in mid-August as investor conversations on the mRNA COVID vaccine stocks centered on what was reflected for the booster/third dose opportunity. Soon after the August 13th recommendation from the CDC for use of a third mRNA vaccine dose for immunocompromised individuals, the Biden administration announced plans to begin offering booster shots to the broader American population starting September 20th. We continue to believe that the COVID vaccine companies are richly valued and remain underweight these names.

Trillium Therapeutics, Guardant Health, and Mersana Therapeutics were the largest positive contributors to performance during the month. Trillium's share price soared after Pfizer announced its plans to acquire the company for nearly \$2.3B, representing an approximate 200% premium to Trillium's stock price. Trillium's lead asset is an anti-CD47 antibody for hematologic cancers. Guardant Health traded up on no fundamental news, rebounding off lows and rising alongside other healthcare tools and diagnostics peers. Mersana shares outperformed in late August in anticipation of an interim data readout in ovarian cancer.

Theravance Biopharma, HBM Holdings, and Hansoh Pharmaceuticals were the largest negative contributors to performance during the month. Theravance declined in August after its Phase 2 trial in ulcerative colitis missed its primary endpoint. Stocks of HBM and Hansoh plunged along with the Chinese stock market as investors became increasingly concerned about tightening regulatory restrictions from the Chinese central government, which have negatively impacted Chinese Internet and education companies. Hansoh also reported weak first half results. Our long-term thesis for China biotech remains unchanged, as the sector directionally aligns with the Chinese government's mandate to promote biotech innovation in the country. We do not believe the recent regulatory tightening from the Chinese government will affect the biotech industry.

### Discount / Premium Control Mechanism

The Directors have adopted an active discount management policy to establish and support an improved rating in the Company's shares through the use of share buybacks, with a view to limiting the discount to NAV per share at which the shares trade to no more than 6%. Shares bought back will be cancelled.

#### **How to Contact Us**

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Website: <a href="www.frostrow.com">www.frostrow.com</a></a> Email: <a href="mailto:info@frostrow.com">info@frostrow.com</a></a>





### **Risk Warnings**

This document is for information purposes only and does not constitute an offer or invitation to purchase shares in the Company and has not been prepared in connection with any such offer or invitation. Before investing in the Company, or any other investment product, you should satisfy yourself as to its suitability and the risks involved, and you may wish to consult a financial adviser.

Any return you receive depends on future market performance and is uncertain. The Company does not seek any protection from future market performance so you could lose some or all of your investment. Shares of the Company are bought and sold on the London Stock Exchange (LSE). The price you pay or receive, like other listed shares, is determined by supply and demand and may be at a discount or premium to the underlying net asset value of the Company. Usually, at any given time, the price you pay for a share will be higher than the price you could sell it. For further information on the principal risks the Company is exposed to please refer to the Company's Annual Report or Investor Disclosure Document available at www.biotechgt.com. The Company can borrow to purchase investments, this could potentially magnify any losses or gains made by the Company.

### **Important Information**

The Biotech Growth Trust PLC is a public limited company whose shares are premium listed on the LSE and is registered with HMRC as an investment trust. The Company has an indeterminate life, although shareholders consider and vote on the continuation of the Company every five years (the next such vote will be held will be held in 2025).