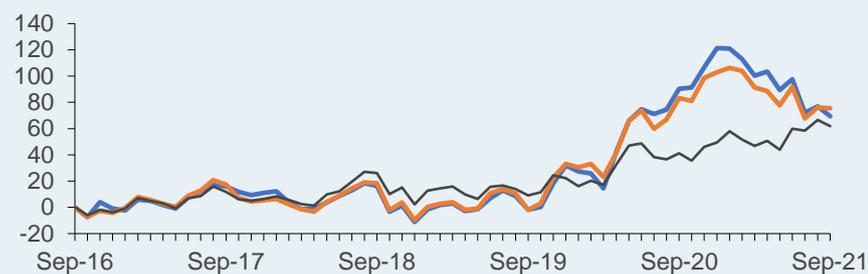


### Investment Objective and Benchmark Index

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) +69.4%  
 — Net Asset Value per share (total return) +75.4%  
 — Benchmark: NASDAQ Biotechnology Index (sterling adjusted) +61.9%

Source: Morningstar, Index - Bloomberg.

### Ten Largest Holdings as at 30 September 2021 (% of total investments)

Name	Total
Horizon Therapeutics	4.7
Neurocrine Biosciences	3.7
Guardant Health	3.6
Sichuan	3.4
GH Research	3.4
Vertex Pharmaceuticals	3.1
Yisheng	3.0
Gilead Sciences	2.6
ImmunoGen	2.5
Biogen	2.4
<b>Total</b>	<b>32.4</b>



Portfolio Manager Geoffrey Hsu



**OrbiMed**  
 Healthcare Fund Management

### Fast Facts As at 30 September 2021

<b>Launch Date</b>	June 1997
<b>AIC Sector</b>	Biotechnology & Healthcare
<b>Date of Appointment of OrbiMed</b>	19 May 2005
<b>Annual Management Fee (payable by the Company)</b>	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
<b>Performance fee</b>	See Annual Report for details
<b>Ongoing Charges Ratio (OCR) *</b>	1.1%
<b>Continuation Vote</b>	2025 AGM and every 5th AGM thereafter
<b>Year / interim end</b>	31 March / 30 September
<b>Capital Structure</b>	41,622,156 Ordinary Shares of 25p

### Trust Characteristics

<b>Number of Holdings</b>	88
<b>Net Assets (£m)</b>	£552.4m
<b>Market Capitalisation (£m)</b>	£502.0m
<b>Dividend Policy</b>	It is not anticipated that the Company will pay a dividend
<b>Gearing (AIC basis)</b>	4.7%
<b>Leverage**</b>	Gross 106.6% Commitment 105.9%
<b>Share Price (p)</b>	1206.00
<b>NAV (p)</b>	1327.08
<b>(Discount) / Premium</b>	(9.1%)
<b>Portfolio Turnover p.a.</b>	96.1%
<b>Active Share***</b>	79.0%

### Geographical Breakdown as at 30 September 2021 (%)

North America	70.5%
Continental Europe	11.7%
*Unquoted	9.6%
China (quoted)	6.5%
South Korea	0.7%
United Kingdom	0.5%
Singapore	0.5%
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

\* 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 US\$15m, after the deduction of proceeds of disposal and other returns of capital. Of the 9.6% unquoted investments, 9.2% 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	-13.6
Share Price	-4.7	12.1	-19.9	48.5	67.7	-23.5
Index	-6.5	10.5	-3.8	19.6	22.1	8.4

### Standardised Discrete Performance (%)

Percentage Growth 12 Month Return	Sep 16- Sep 17	Sep 17- Sep 18	Sep 18- Sep 19	Sep 19- Sep 20	Sep 20- Sep 21
NAV	17.4	0.9	-17.1	86.5	-4.2
Share Price	15.9	0.4	-15.7	94.3	-11.1
Index	11.7	12.8	-13.5	29.6	14.6

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.

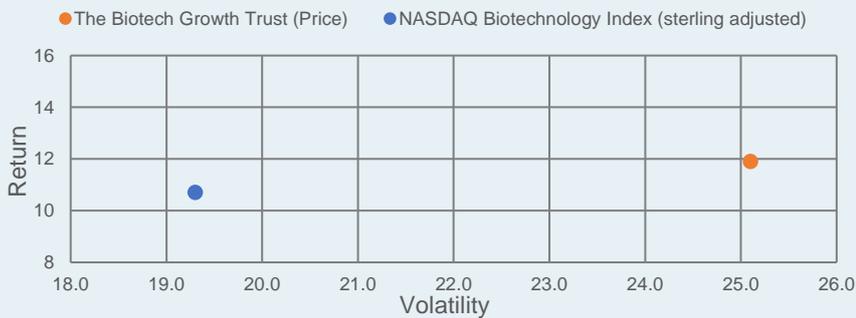
### Codes

<b>Sedol</b>	0038551
<b>ISIN</b>	GB0000385517
<b>Legal Entity Identifier (LEI)</b>	549300Z41EP32MI2DN29
<b>Global Intermediary Identification Number (GIIN)</b>	U1MQ70.99999.SL.826
<b>Bloomberg</b>	BIOG LN
<b>EPIC</b>	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 US\$15m, 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.

**Return vs Volatility (5 Years Annualised) – Chart (%)**



**Commentary**

In September, the NAV per share was down 0.4%, the share price was down 4.3% and the benchmark NASDAQ Biotechnology Index (sterling adjusted) was down 2.9%.

In September, biotechnology performed in line with the broader market, which declined due to concerns about inflation and rising interest rates. Meanwhile, Congressional Democrats continued to debate a proposed \$3.5 trillion social programs bill which will likely contain some drug pricing provisions. While some investors may be wary of investing in biotech in advance of that bill's passage, we continue to believe the razor-thin majority that the Democrats have in the House and Senate will preclude any extreme drug pricing legislation from passing. A final decision on drug pricing provisions will provide more clarity for the sector and may contribute to a positive re-rating in biotech. With the recent decline in biotech valuations, M&A activity in the sector appears to be continuing, with Merck's \$11.5 bn acquisition of Acceleron Pharma (a biotech company developing a drug for pulmonary hypertension), and Sanofi's \$1.9 bn acquisition of Kadmon Holdings (a biotech company with a drug for graft-versus-host disease). Given the magnitude of the underperformance of small cap biotech from the February highs, we are optimistic that small cap biotech will rebound into year-end. The drawdown that we have witnessed relative to the broader market is on par with the maximum drawdowns we have seen in this market segment previously, and historically, such drawdowns have been followed by rallies of outperformance. The portfolio remains overweight small cap biotech and underweight large cap biotech relative to the benchmark index, so the fund is well positioned to capture a small cap recovery when it materializes.

Despite children returning to school in September, the Delta-driven COVID cases in the U.S. have dropped about 35% since peaking in the beginning of the month. We believe this may be the last major COVID wave in the U.S., given that most individuals are now either vaccinated or have been infected previously. Coinciding with the decline in COVID cases, COVID vaccine stocks like Moderna and BioNTech have begun pulling back from their highs. We do not own these stocks as we think they remain richly valued and are not convinced the ongoing revenues from COVID vaccines will be as robust as some investors think.

Sichuan Clover, DICE Therapeutics, and Gracell Biotechnologies were the largest positive contributors to performance during the month. Sichuan Clover, a private Chinese vaccine company, announced positive Phase 2/3 results for their COVID-19 protein subunit vaccine, which showed 79% efficacy against the Delta variant. This is the first large-scale randomized clinical trial demonstrating efficacy of a COVID vaccine against the Delta variant. Sichuan Clover is expected to go public in Hong Kong in October at a significant premium to our cost basis. Shares of DICE Therapeutics soared in its trading debut following its upsized IPO. The company is developing a promising oral drug for psoriasis. Gracell Biotechnologies traded up on no fundamental news, rebounding off the lows in August.

Singular Genomics, Mersana Therapeutics, and Janux Therapeutics were the largest negative contributors to performance during the month. Singular Genomics slipped in September largely due to market-related factors that saw early-stage tools companies and recent IPOs come under pressure. We continue to view Singular Genomics as an exciting sequencing company on the cusp of a commercial launch later this year. Mersana Therapeutics shares underperformed after the company reported updated data for its ovarian cancer therapy that raised questions about the drug's safety profile. The sell-off in Janux Therapeutics is likely due to investors taking profits after its rally from June through August. We still believe the company has a differentiated platform that aims to address safety and half-life shortcomings observed with other T-cell engagers.

**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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### **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](http://www.biotechgt.com). The Company can borrow to purchase investments, this could potentially magnify any losses or gains made by the Company.

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### **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 in 2025).