# The Biotech Growth Trust PLC



Information as at 31 March 2015





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

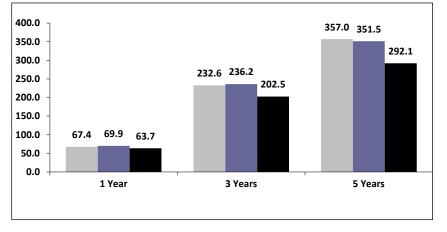
The Biotech Growth Trust PLC seeks capital appreciation through investment in the worldwide biotechnology industry. Performance is measured against its benchmark index, the NASDAQ Biotechnology Index (sterling adjusted).

#### **Cumulative Performance (%)**

Trust: The Biotech Growth Trust PLC – NAV

Trust: The Biotech Growth Trust PLC - Share Price

Index: NASDAQ Biotechnology Index (sterling adjusted)



## Discrete Performance – Calendar Years (%)

Percentage Growth	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	YTD
NAV	16.8	18.0	38.9	63.5	43.1	22.8
Share Price	15.5	14.6	50.6	60.1	44.9	17.0
Index	19.1	12.4	26.0	62.4	42.6	18.8

Source: Morningstar, mid-mid (share price), quoted in sterling. Past performance is not a guide to future performance.

## Commentary

In March the NAV was up 8.2%, the share price was up 6.5% and the benchmark NASDAQ Biotechnology Index was up 6.0%.

Receptos, Horizon Pharma, and Bluebird Bio were the top positive contributors to performance during the month. Receptos shares appreciated due to speculation that the company could sign a partnership. Horizon shares appreciated following the announcement that the company will acquire Hyperion Therapeutics for \$1.1 billion. The transaction will be immediately accretive to adjusted EPS and it will significantly expand Horizon's orphan disease business. Bluebird Bio shares continued to perform well due to high investor enthusiasm for its LentiGlobin program.

Pacira Pharmaceuticals was the largest negative contributor to performance during the month. Pacira shares declined following the rejection of the company's supplemental new drug application for Exparel in nerve block by the U.S. FDA.

## Biographies

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**Richard D. Klemm**, Ph.D., CFA, is a Public Equity Partner at OrbiMed focused on biotechnology companies. He completed a Ph.D. from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology in molecular biology in 2000. Dr. Klemm has published scientific articles in the fields of DNA replication and transcription. He received a B.A. from the University of California, Berkeley in 1994 with majors in molecular and cell biology and economics.

Geoffrey C. Hsu, CFA, is a Partner at OrbiMed, having joined in 2002 as a biotechnology analyst. Prior to joining OrbiMed, he worked as an analyst in the healthcare investment banking group at Lehman Brothers. Mr. Hsu received his A.B. degree summa cum laude from Harvard University and holds an M.B.A. from Harvard Business School. Prior to business school, he spent two years studying medicine at Harvard Medical School.

#### **Portfolio Manager Profile**

Portfolio management services are provided by OrbiMed Capital LLC (OrbiMed). OrbiMed is owned by six principals, including Samuel D. Isaly. The U.S.-based firm employs over 70 experienced investment professionals who between them have extensive scientific, medical, financial and operational expertise. They employ a bottom-up stock selection process driven by intensive proprietary research, which involves company visits and developing an understanding of commercial prospects and development programmes for individual drugs. The firm covers some 600 international pharmaceutical and biotechnology companies, two thirds of which are actively researched. OrbiMed is registered as an investment adviser under the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission.

#### 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 per cent. of the value of its gross assets in any one individual stock at the time of acquisition. It will not invest more than 10 per cent. of the value of its gross assets in direct unquoted investments at the time of acquisition. This limit does not include any investment in private equity funds managed by the Investment Manager or any affiliates of such entity. Up to US\$15m, after the deduction of proceeds of disposal and other returns of capital, may be invested in private equity funds managed by OrbiMed Capital LLC or an affiliate. The Company's borrowing policy is that borrowings will not exceed 10 per cent. of the Company's net assets. The Company may be unable to invest in certain countries. directly 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 per cent. of the gross assets of the Company at the time of entering into the contract

#### **Discount 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%. The Biotech Growth Trust PLC conducts its affairs so that its shares can be recommended by independent financial advisers ("IFAs") to retail private ivestors. The shares are excluded from the Financial Conduct Authority's ("FCA's") restrictions which apply to non-mainstream investment products because they are shares in a UK-listed investment trust.

# The Biotech Growth Trust PLC

# 10 Largest Holdings at 31 March 2015 (% of total investments)

Name	Total
Biogen	11.0
Celgene	7.9
Amgen	7.5
Gilead Sciences	6.7
Illumina	4.0
Alexion Pharmaceuticals	4.0
Medivation	3.7
Neurocrine Biosciences	3.7
Incyte	3.3
Shire	3.3
Total	55.1

## Sector Breakdown as at 31 March 2015 (%)

North America	84.8%		
Continental Europe	10.7%		
United Kingdom	2.1%		
Far East	1.8%		
Unquoted	0.6%		
Total	100.0%		

Source: All portfolio information sourced from Frostrow Capital LLP

# Share Price Total Return on £100 (£) as at 31 March 2015

1 year	169.9
3 years	336.2
5 years	451.5

Source: Morningstar. Past performance is not a guide to future performance.

#### Standardised Discrete Performance (%)

Percentage Growth 12 Month Return	Mar 10- Mar 11	Mar 11- Mar 12	Mar 12- Mar 13	Mar 13- Mar 14	Mar 14- Mar 15
NAV	1.9	34.9	48.2	34.2	67.4
Share Price	-5.6	42.2	55.9	26.9	69.9
Index	4.8	23.7	37.2	34.7	63.7

Source: Morningstar, mid-mid (share price), quoted in sterling. Past performance is not a guide to future performance.

#### Awards

Winner: Money Observer Trust Awards 2014, Category: Best Large Trust. Winner: Investment Week: Investment Trust of the Year Awards 2013, 2012, Category: Specialist.

Winner: UKtech Awards 2014 & 2013: Tech Fund Manager of the Year. Winner: Investment Trusts Magazine: Best Specialist Trust 2013, 2012 & 2011. Winner: What Investment, 2012, Category: Best Sector Specialist Investment Trust. Shortlisted: Investment Week: Investment Trust of the Year Awards 2011, Category: Specialist.

#### **Important Information**

The Biotech Growth Trust PLC (the "Company") is a UK investment trust listed on the London Stock Exchange and is a member of the Association of Investment Companies. As this Company may implement a gearing policy investors should be aware that the share price movement may be more volatile than movements in the price of underlying investments. 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 not get back the original amount invested. Changes in the rates of exchange between currencies may cause the value of an investments to fluctuate. Fluctuation may be particularly marked in the case of a higher volatility fund and the value of an investment may fall suddenly and substantially. Shares in the biotechnology sector can prove volatile and above average price movements can be expected. There can be no assurance that the Company's investment objective will be achieved and investment results may vary substantially over time. 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. Investment trust share prices may not fully reflect underlying net asset values. There may be a difference between the prices at which you may purchase ('the offer price') or sell ('the bid price') a share on the stock market which is known as "bid-offer' or "dealing" spread. This is set by the market makers and varies from share to share. This spread typically averages 1-2% each way on the mid-market price (the price halfway between the bid and offer prices), and can fluctuate and at times be higher than average. Net Asset Value per share is calculated in accordance with the guidelines of the Association of Investment Manager and no reliance should be given on any such views. Any research in this document has been procured and may have been acted upon by OrbiMed

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Fast Facts	As at 31 March 2015	
Launch Date	June 1997	
Annual Management Fee (payable by the Compar		
0.65% of ne	et assets plus 0.30% of market cap.	
	<u>plus</u> £60,000	
Performance fee	See Annual Report for details	
Ongoing charges	1.2%	
Continuation Vote	At AGM in 2015; every 5 years	
Year / Half Year	31 March / 30 September	
Capital Structure	63,888,516 Ordinary Shares	
-	of 25p (excluding treasury shares)	
	4.997.831 Treasury Shares	

# **Trust Characteristics**

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£533.1m
£507.0m
It is not anticipated that the Company will pay a dividend
9.4%
109.4%
793.50
834.43
(4.9)

# Codes

Sedol	0038551
ISIN	GB0000385517
Bloomberg	BIOG LN
Epic	BIOG
*Calculated at the financial year en	d, 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.

How to Contact Us

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