

ARCA biopharma, Inc.  
Form 424B4  
July 16, 2015

Prospectus Supplement No. 40      Filed pursuant to Rule 424(b)(4)  
Registration No. 333-187508  
(to Prospectus dated May 30, 2013)

125,000 Shares of Series A Convertible Preferred Stock

12,500,000 Shares of Common Stock Underlying the Preferred Stock

Warrants to Purchase up to 6,250,000 Shares of Common Stock and

6,250,000 Shares of Common Stock Underlying the Warrants

ARCA biopharma, Inc.

This prospectus supplement supplements the prospectus dated May 30, 2013 (the “Prospectus”), as supplemented by that certain Prospectus Supplement No. 1 dated July 17, 2013 (“Supplement No. 1”), by that certain Prospectus Supplement No. 2 dated July 19, 2013 (“Supplement No. 2”), by that certain Prospectus Supplement No. 3 dated July 24, 2013 (“Supplement No. 3”), by that certain Prospectus Supplement No. 4 dated July 30, 2013 (“Supplement No. 4”), by that certain Prospectus Supplement No. 5 dated August 6, 2013 (“Supplement No. 5”), by that certain Prospectus Supplement No. 6 dated September 4, 2013 (“Supplement No. 6”), by that certain Prospectus Supplement No. 7 dated September 23, 2013 (“Supplement No. 7”), by that certain Prospectus Supplement No. 8 dated October 29, 2013 (“Supplement No. 8”), by that certain Prospectus Supplement No. 9 dated November 6, 2013 (“Supplement No. 9”), by that certain Prospectus Supplement No. 10 dated November 13, 2013 (“Supplement No. 10”), by that certain Prospectus Supplement No. 11 dated November 21, 2013 (“Supplement No. 11”), by that certain Prospectus Supplement No. 12 dated December 5, 2013 (“Supplement No. 12”), by that certain Prospectus Supplement No. 13 dated January 8, 2014 (“Supplement No. 13”), by that certain Prospectus Supplement No. 14 dated February 10, 2014 (“Supplement No. 14”), by that certain Prospectus Supplement No. 15 dated February 12, 2014 (“Supplement No. 15”), by that certain Prospectus Supplement No. 16 dated February 18, 2014 (“Supplement No. 16”), by that certain Prospectus Supplement No. 17 dated March 3, 2014 (“Supplement No. 17”), by that certain Prospectus Supplement No. 18 dated March 20, 2014 (“Supplement No. 18”), by that certain Prospectus Supplement No. 19 dated May 13, 2014 (“Supplement No. 19”), by that certain Prospectus Supplement No. 20 dated June 9, 2014 (“Supplement No. 20”), by that certain Prospectus Supplement No. 21 dated August 13, 2014 (“Supplement No. 21”), by that certain Prospectus Supplement No. 22 dated August 18, 2014 (“Supplement No. 22”), by that certain Prospectus Supplement No. 23 dated November 12, 2014 (“Supplement No. 23”), by that certain Prospectus Supplement No. 24 dated December 1, 2014 (“Supplement No. 24”), by

that certain Prospectus Supplement No. 25 dated December 10, 2014 (“Supplement No. 25”), by that certain Prospectus Supplement No. 26 dated December 11, 2014 (“Supplement No. 26”), by that certain Prospectus Supplement No. 27 dated December 30, 2014 (“Supplement No. 27”), by that certain Prospectus Supplement No. 28 dated February 4, 2015 (“Supplement No. 28”), by that certain Prospectus Supplement No. 29 dated February 17, 2015 (“Supplement No. 29”), by that certain Prospectus Supplement No. 30 dated February 23, 2015 (“Supplement No. 30”), by that certain Prospectus Supplement No. 31 dated March 16, 2015 (“Supplement No. 31”), by that certain Prospectus Supplement No. 32 dated March 19, 2015 (“Supplement No. 32”), by that certain Prospectus Supplement No. 33 dated April 13, 2015 (“Supplement No. 33”), by that certain Prospectus Supplement No. 34 dated April 14, 2015 (“Supplement No. 34”), by that certain Prospectus Supplement No. 35 dated May 12, 2015 (“Supplement No. 35”), by that certain Prospectus Supplement No. 36 dated June 5, 2015 (“Supplement No. 36”), by that certain Prospectus Supplement No. 37 dated June 11, 2015 (“Supplement No. 37”), and by that certain Prospectus Supplement No. 38 dated June 11, 2015 (“Supplement No. 38), and by that certain Prospectus Supplement No. 39 dated June 23, 2015 (“Supplement No. 39”, and together with Supplement No. 1, Supplement No. 2, Supplement No. 3, Supplement No. 4, Supplement No. 5, Supplement No. 6, Supplement No. 7, Supplement No. 8, Supplement No. 9, Supplement No. 10, Supplement No. 11, Supplement No. 12, Supplement No. 13, Supplement No. 14, Supplement No. 15, Supplement No. 16, Supplement No. 17, Supplement No. 18, Supplement No. 19, Supplement No. 20, Supplement No. 21, Supplement No. 22, Supplement No. 23, Supplement No. 24, Supplement No. 25, Supplement No. 26, Supplement No. 27, Supplement No. 28, Supplement No. 29, Supplement No. 30, Supplement No. 31, Supplement No. 32, Supplement No. 33, Supplement No. 34, Supplement No. 35, Supplement No. 36, Supplement No. 37, and Supplement No. 38, the “Supplements”), which form a part of our Registration Statement on Form S-1 (Registration No. 333-187508). This prospectus supplement is being filed to update and supplement the information in the Prospectus and the Supplements with the information contained in our Current Report on Form 8-K, filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission (the “Commission”) on July 16, 2015 (the “Current Report”). Accordingly, we have attached the Current Report to this prospectus supplement.

The Prospectus, the Supplements and this prospectus supplement relate to the offer and sale of up to 125,000 shares of Series A Convertible Preferred Stock (“Preferred Stock”) which are convertible into 12,500,000 shares of Common Stock, warrants to purchase up to 6,250,000 shares of our Common Stock and 6,250,000 shares of Common Stock underlying the warrants.

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This prospectus supplement should be read in conjunction with the Prospectus and the Supplements. This prospectus supplement updates and supplements the information in the Prospectus and the Supplements. If there is any inconsistency between the information in the Prospectus, the Supplements and this prospectus supplement, you should rely on the information in this prospectus supplement.

Our common stock is traded on the Nasdaq Global Market under the trading symbol “ABIO.” On July 16, 2015, the last reported sale price of our common stock was \$1.21 per share.

Investing in our securities involves a high degree of risk. You should review carefully the risks and uncertainties described under the heading “Risk Factors” beginning on page 5 of the Prospectus and beginning on page 22 of our quarterly report on Form 10-Q for the period ended March 31, 2015 before you decide whether to invest in shares of our common stock.

Neither the Securities and Exchange Commission nor any state securities commission has approved or disapproved of these securities or determined if the Prospectus or this prospectus supplement is truthful or complete. Any representation to the contrary is a criminal offense.

The date of this prospectus supplement is July 16, 2015

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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))

Section 3 — Securities and Trading Markets

Item 3.01. Notice of Delisting or Failure to Satisfy a Continued Listing Rule or Standard; Transfer of Listing.

On July 15, 2015, The Nasdaq Stock Market, notified ARCA biopharma, Inc. (“ARCA” or the “Company”) that the Company had regained compliance with the applicable minimum bid price rule of The NASDAQ Capital Market as set forth in NASDAQ Rule 5550(a)(2). Accordingly, the previous notice received by the Company on February 18, 2015 is now closed.

On June 22, 2015, the Company’s stockholders authorized the Company’s Board of Directors (the “Board”) for a period of up to one year, to effect a reverse split of the Company’s Common Stock, as described in more detail in the Company’s 2015 Proxy Statement. Although the Company has regained compliance with the Nasdaq listing standards, the Company’s Board may still elect to proceed with the reverse split if, in the Board’s judgment, it is considered to be in the best interest of the Company’s stockholders.

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.

Dated: July 16, 2015

ARCA biopharma, Inc.  
(Registrant)

By: /s/ Brian L. Selby  
Name: Brian L. Selby  
Title: Vice President, Finance and  
Chief Accounting Officer