# UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

# **SCHEDULE TO**

Tender Offer Statement Under Section 14(d)(1) or 13(e)(1) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (Amendment No. 3)

# SPARK THERAPEUTICS, INC.

(Name of Subject Company)

# 022019 MERGER SUBSIDIARY, INC.

(Offeror) A Wholly Owned Subsidiary of

# ROCHE HOLDINGS, INC.

(Parent of Offeror) (Names of Filing Persons—Offeror) Common Stock, Par Value \$0.001 Per Share (Title of Class of Securities)

#### 84652J103

(Cusip Number of Class of Securities)
Dr. Sean A. Johnston
Roche Holdings, Inc.
1 DNA Way, MS #24,
South San Francisco, CA 94080
Telephone: (650) 225-1000

(Name, Address and Telephone Number of Person Authorized to Receive Notices and Communications on Behalf of Filing Persons)

Copies to:

Marc O. Williams, Esq. Brian Wolfe, Esq. Davis Polk & Wardwell LLP 450 Lexington Avenue New York, New York 10017 Telephone: (212) 450-4000

#### CALCULATION OF FILING FEE

CHECCENTION OF THE NOTEE		
Transaction Valuation*	Amount of Filing Fee**	
\$4,805,265,563.50	\$582,398.19	

<sup>\*</sup> Estimated solely for purposes of calculating the filing fee pursuant to Rule 0-11(d) under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the "Exchange Act"). The Transaction Value was calculated by adding (i) the product of (A) 38,053,350 outstanding shares ("Shares") of common stock of Spark Therapeutics, Inc., of which 8,750 were restricted shares and (B) \$114.50 (the "Offer Price"); (ii) the product of (A) 4,157,775 Shares subject to issuance pursuant to Spark Stock Options granted and outstanding under the Spark Equity Incentive Plans and (B) \$71.74, which is the difference between the \$114.50 per share tender offer price and \$42.76, the average weighted exercise price of such options (all of which are "in-the-money"); (iii) the product of (A) outstanding restricted stock units in respect of 1,287,829 Shares subject to such restricted stock units (with any applicable performance conditions deemed to be achieved at maximum performance) and (B) the Offer

Price; and (iv) the product of (A) 21,151 Shares which are estimated to be subject to outstanding purchase rights under the 2015 Employee Stock Purchase Plan (assuming that the closing price per Share as reported on the NASDAQ Global Select Market on the last day of the offering period in effect under the 2015 Employee Stock Purchase Plan on May 31, 2019 was equal to the Offer Price) and (B) the Offer Price.

The foregoing figures have been provided by Spark Therapeutics, Inc. to the Offeror and Parent of Offeror and are as of February 28, 2019, the most recent practicable date.

**	The amount of the filing fee was calculated in accordance with Rule 0-11 of the Securities Exchange Act, by multiplying the Transaction V	Valuation by
	0.0001212.	

X	Check box if any part of the fee is offset as provided by Rule 0-11(a)(2) and identify the filing with which the offsetting fee was previously paid. Identify
	the previous filing by registration statement number, or the Form or Schedule and the date of its filing.

tile	previous fiffing by regist	ration statement number, of the Form of Sche	edute and the date of its fifth	g.	
Amour	nt Previously Paid:	\$582,398.19	Filing Party:	Roche Holdings, Inc.	
Form or Registration No.:		Schedule TO	Date Filed:	March 7, 2019	
□ Cl	neck the box if the filing	relates solely to preliminary communication	s made before the commence	ement of a tender offer.	
Check	the appropriate boxes be	elow to designate any transactions to which the	he statement relates:		
X	third-party tender offer	r subject to Rule 14d-1.			
	issuer tender offer subj	ect to Rule 13e-4.			
	going-private transact	ion subject to Rule 13e-3.			
	amendment to Schedu	le 13D under Rule 13d-2.			
Check	the following box if the	filing is a final amendment reporting the resu	ılts of the tender offer. £		

This Amendment No. 3 to the Tender Offer Statement on Schedule TO amends and supplements the Schedule TO filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on March 7, 2019 (as it may be amended and supplemented from time to time, the "Schedule TO") and relates to the offer by 022019 Merger Subsidiary, Inc., a Delaware corporation and a wholly owned subsidiary of Roche Holdings, Inc., a Delaware corporation ("Parent"), to purchase all outstanding shares of common stock, par value \$0.001 per share of Spark Therapeutics, Inc., a Delaware corporation ("Spark"), at \$114.50 per Share, net to the seller in cash, without interest and less applicable withholding taxes, upon the terms and subject to the conditions set forth in the Offer to Purchase, dated March 7, 2019, and in the related Letter of Transmittal, copies of which are incorporated by reference to Exhibits (a)(1)(i) and (a)(1)(ii), respectively, of the Schedule TO (which, together with any amendments or supplements thereto, collectively constitute the "Offer").

All information contained in the Offer to Purchase and the related Letter of Transmittal, including all schedules thereto, is hereby incorporated herein by reference in response to Items 1 through 9 and Item 11 in the Schedule TO. Capitalized terms used and not otherwise defined in this Amendment have the meanings given to such terms in the Offer to Purchase.

# Items 1 through 9; and Item 11.

1. The information set forth in Section 16—"Certain Legal Matters; Regulatory Approvals—Regulatory Matters" of the Offer to Purchase under the "U.S. Antitrust" subsection is hereby amended and restated in its entirety and replaced by the paragraphs set forth below.

Under the HSR Act and the rules that have been promulgated thereunder, certain acquisition transactions may not be consummated unless Premerger Notification and Report Forms have been filed with the Federal Trade Commission (the "FTC") and the Antitrust Division of the United States Department of Justice (the "Antitrust

Division") and certain waiting period requirements have been satisfied. The purchase of Shares pursuant to the Offer and the Merger is subject to such requirements.

Each of Parent and Spark filed a Premerger Notification and Report Form under the HSR Act with respect to the Offer and the Merger with the Antitrust Division and the FTC on March 1, 2019. On March 18, 2019, Parent withdrew the March 1, 2019 filing and refiled a Premerger Notification and Report Form under the HSR Act with respect to the Offer and the Merger with the Antitrust Division and the FTC. Parent has withdrawn the March 18, 2019 filing effective on April 2, 2019 and intends to refile a Premerger Notification and Report Form under the HSR Act with respect to the Offer and the Merger with the Antitrust Division and the FTC on or about April 10, 2019. Following such refiling, the waiting period applicable to the purchase of the Shares pursuant to the Offer will expire at 11:59 p.m., New York City time, on or about April 25, 2019, but this period may be shortened if the FTC or the Antitrust Division, as applicable, grants "early termination" of the waiting period, or it may change if Parent voluntarily withdraws and refiles its Premerger Notification and Report Form in order to restart the 15-day waiting period or if the reviewing agency issues a formal request for additional information and documentary material. If such a request is made, the waiting period will be extended until 11:59 p.m., New York City time, on the date that is ten calendar days after substantial compliance by Parent with such request. Thereafter, such waiting period can be extended only by court order or agreement of Parent, Purchaser, Spark and the Antitrust Division or the FTC, as applicable. See "—Section 15—Conditions to the Offer" for certain conditions to the Offer, including conditions with respect to certain governmental actions, and "—Section 13—The Transaction Documents—The Merger Agreement—Termination" for certain termination rights pursuant to the Merger Agreement with respect to certain governmental actions. It is also possible that Parent and Spark could enter into a timing agreement with the reviewing agency that could

2. The information set forth in Items 1 through 9 and Item 11 of the Schedule TO is hereby amended and supplemented by adding the following text thereto:

On April 3, 2019, in connection with the withdrawn Premerger Notification and Report Form under the HSR Act, pursuant to the Merger Agreement, Parent extended the expiration of the Offer. The Offer was previously scheduled to expire at 12:00 midnight, New York City Time, at the end of the day on April 3, 2019. The expiration date of the Offer is extended to 12:00 midnight, New York City Time, at the end of the day on May 2, 2019, unless further extended. The Depositary has advised us that, as of 5:00 p.m., New York City time, on April 2, 2019, approximately 11,259,852 Shares (none of which were tendered by Notice of Guaranteed Delivery) had been validly tendered and received, and not validly withdrawn, pursuant to the Offer, representing approximately 29.4% of the outstanding Shares.

On April 3, 2019, Parent issued a media release relating to the withdrawn Premerger Notification and Report Form and announcing the extension of the Offer. The full text of the press release is attached as Exhibit (a)(5)(xiv) to the Schedule TO and is incorporated herein by reference.

3. Amendments to the Offer to Purchase and the exhibits to the Schedule TO:

The information set forth in the Offer to Purchase and Items 1 through 9 and Item 11 of the Schedule TO, to the extent such Items incorporate by reference the information contained in the Offer to Purchase, is hereby amended and supplemented as follows:

All references to (i) "12:00 midnight, New York City Time, at the end of the day on April 3, 2019" or (ii) "12:00 Midnight, New York City Time, at the end of the day on April 3, 2019" forth in the Offer to Purchase (Exhibit (a)(1)(i)), Letter of Transmittal (Exhibit (a)(1)(ii)), Notice of Guaranteed Delivery (Exhibit (a)(1)(iii)), Letter to Brokers, Dealers, Commercial Banks, Trust Companies and Other Nominees (Exhibit (a)(1)(iv)), and Letter to Clients for use by Brokers, Dealers, Commercial Banks, Trust Companies and Other Nominees (Exhibit (a)(1)(v)) are hereby amended and replaced with (i) "12:00 midnight, New York City time, at the end of the day on May 2, 2019" or (ii) "12:00 Midnight, New York City time, at the end of the day on May 2, 2019", respectively.

4. The information set forth in Section 16—"Certain Legal Matters; Regulatory Approvals—Litigation Related to the Merger" of the Offer to Purchase is hereby amended and restated in its entirety and replaced by the paragraphs set forth below.

As of April 3, 2019, we are aware of three lawsuits pending in the United States District Court for the District of Delaware, two of which are putative class action lawsuits, and one lawsuit pending in the United States District Court for the Southern District of New York, challenging the disclosures concerning the transactions contemplated by the Merger Agreement, filed by purported Spark stockholders against various combinations of Spark, the members of the Spark Board, Parent and Purchaser. The actions are captioned Wang v. Spark Therapeutics, Inc., et al., Case No. 1:19-cv-00479, Kent v. Spark Therapeutics, Inc., et al., Case No. 1:19-cv-00485, Newman v. Spark Therapeutics, Inc., et al., Case No. 1:19-cv-00528 and Gomez v. Spark Therapeutics, Inc., et al., Case No. 1:19-cv-02487. The complaints generally allege, among other things, that the defendants violated various combinations of Sections 14(d), 14(e), and 20(a) of the Exchange Act, and Rule 14d-9 promulgated thereunder, by failing to disclose purportedly material information in the Schedule 14D-9 filed with the SEC in connection with the Offer. The complaints seek, among other things, to enjoin the expiration of the Offer and/or consummation of the transactions contemplated by the Merger Agreement, or in the event that an injunction is not awarded, unspecified money damages, and an award of attorney's fees and costs. Parent and Purchaser believe that the actions are without merit and intend to defend vigorously against all such claims. The full complaints are attached hereto as Exhibits (a)(5)(x), (a)(5)(xii), (a)(5)(xiii) and (a)(5)(xiiii) respectively.

Lawsuits arising out of or relating to the Offer, the Merger or any other transactions referenced herein may be filed in the future.

#### Item 12. Exhibits.

Item 12 of the Schedule TO and the Exhibit Index is hereby amended and supplemented by adding the following Exhibits to the List of Exhibits:

Exhibit No.	Description		
(a)(5)(xiii)* (a)(5)(xiv)* * Filed herewith	Complaint filed as of March 20, 2019 (Gomez v. Spark Therapeutics, Inc., et al., Case No. 1:19-cv-02487) Media Release issued by Roche Holdings, Inc., dated April 3, 2019		

# **SIGNATURES**

After due inquiry and to the best knowledge and belief of the undersigned, each of the undersigned certify that the information set forth in this statement is true, complete and correct.

Date: April 3, 2019

022019 MERGER SUBSIDIARY, INC.

By: /s/ Bruce Resnick

Name: Bruce Resnick Title: President

ROCHE HOLDINGS, INC.

By: /s/ Bruce Resnick

Name: Bruce Resnick Title: Vice President

# EXHIBIT INDEX

Exhibit No.	Description	
(a)(1)(i)	Offer to Purchase, dated as of March 7, 2019.	
(a)(1)(ii)	Letter of Transmittal (including Guidelines for Certification of Taxpayer Identification Number on IRS Form W-9).	
(a)(1)(iii)	Notice of Guaranteed Delivery.	
(a)(1)(iv)	Letter to Brokers, Dealers, Commercial Banks, Trust Companies and Other Nominees.	
(a)(1)(v)	Letter to Clients for use by Brokers, Dealers, Commercial Banks, Trust Companies and Other Nominees.	
(a)(1)(vi)	Summary Advertisement as published in the Wall Street Journal on March 7, 2019.	
(a)(5)(i)	Media Release issued by Spark Therapeutics, Inc. dated February 25, 2019 (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 99.1 of the Spark Therapeutics, Inc. Current Report on Form 8-K (File No. 001-36819) filed with the Commission on February 25, 2019).	
(a)(5)(ii)	Email sent to Spark Therapeutics, Inc. employees from Jeffrey Marrazzo, CEO of Spark Therapeutics, Inc., dated February 25, 2019 (incorporated by reference to the Spark Therapeutics, Inc. Solicitation/Recommendation Statement on Form 14D-9 (File No. 005-88577) filed with the Commission on February 25, 2019).	
(a)(5)(iii)	Spark Therapeutics, Inc. Current Report on Form 8-K dated February 25, 2019 (incorporated by reference to the Spark Therapeutics, Inc Current Report on Form 8-K (File No. 001-36819) filed with the Commission on February 25, 2019).	
(a)(5)(iv)	Social media post by Spark Therapeutics, Inc. on www.twitter.com (incorporated by reference to the Company's Solicitation/Recommendation Statement on Schedule 14D-9 filed on February 25, 2019).	
(a)(5)(v)	Social media post by Jeffrey D. Marrazzo, the Company's Chief Executive Officer, on www.twitter.com (incorporated by reference to the Company's Solicitation/Recommendation Statement on Schedule 14D-9 filed on February 25, 2019).	
(a)(5)(vi)	Q&A provided to employees of Spark Therapeutics, Inc. on February 25, 2019 (incorporated by reference to the Company's Solicitation/Recommendation Statement on Schedule 14D-9 filed on February 25, 2019).	
(a)(5)(vii)	Media Release issued by Roche Holdings, Inc. dated February 25, 2019 (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 99.1 of the first Roche Holdings, Inc. Pre-Commencement Communication on Schedule TO filed with the Commission on February 25, 2019).	
(a)(5)(viii)	Key Messages and Q&A dated February 25, 2019 (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 99.2 of the first Roche Holdings, Inc. Pre-Commencement Communication on Schedule TO filed with the Commission on February 25, 2019).	
(a)(5)(ix)	Roche Press Release announcing the commencement of the Offer, dated as of March 7, 2019.	
(a)(5)(x)	Complaint filed as of March 7, 2019 (Wang v. Spark Therapeutics, Inc., et al., Case No. 1:19-cv-00479)	
(a)(5)(xi)	Complaint filed as of March 11, 2019 (Kent v. Spark Therapeutics, Inc., et al., Case No. 1:19-cv-00485)	
(a)(5)(xii)	Complaint filed as of March 18, 2019 (Newman v. Spark Therapeutics, Inc., et al., Case No. 1:19-cv-00528)	

Exhibit No.	Description	
(a)(5)(xiii)*	Complaint filed as of March 20, 2019 (Gomez v. Spark Therapeutics, Inc., et al., Case No. 1:19-cv-02487)	
(a)(5)(xiv)*	Media Release issued by Roche Holdings, Inc., dated April 3, 2019	
(b)	Not applicable	
(c)	Not applicable.	
. , , ,	Agreement and Plan of Merger, dated as of February 22, 2019, by and among Spark Therapeutics, Inc., Roche Holdings, Inc. and 022019 Merger Subsidiary, Inc. (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 2.1 of the Spark Therapeutics, Inc. Current Report on Form 8-K (File No. 001-36819) filed with the Commission on February 25, 2019).	
(d)(2)	Confidentiality Agreement, dated as of October 9, 2018, between Roche Holdings, Inc. and Spark Therapeutics, Inc.	
(e)	Not applicable.	
· /	Section 262 of the Delaware General Corporation Law (included as Schedule II to the Offer to Purchase previously filed as Exhibit (a)(1) (i)).	
(g)	Not applicable.	
(h)	Not applicable.	

<sup>\*</sup> Filed herewith

	X
ZARRIN GOMEZ,	-A 
Plaintiff,	CASE NO.:
-against-	
SPARK THERAPEUTICS, INC., STEVEN M. ALTSCHULER, LARS EKMAN, KATHERINE A. HIGH, JEFFREY D. MARRAZZO, ANAND MEHRA, VINCENT MILANO, ROBERT J. PEREZ, ELLIOT SIGAL, and LOTA ZOTH,	
Defendants.	X

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

## COMPLAINT FOR VIOLATION OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934

Plaintiff Zarrin Gomez ("Plaintiff"), by and through his attorneys, alleges the following upon information and belief, including investigation of counsel and review of publicly-available information, except as to those allegations pertaining to Plaintiff, which are alleged upon personal knowledge:

## NATURE OF THE ACTION

1. This is an action brought by Plaintiff against Spark Therapeutics, Inc. ("Spark" or the "Company") and the members of the Company's board of directors (collectively referred to as the "Board" or the "Individual Defendants" and, together with Spark, the "Defendants") for their violations of Sections 14(d)(4), 14(e), and 20(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 ("Exchange Act"), 15 U.S.C. §§ 78n(d)(4), 78n(e), 78t(a), respectively, and United States Securities and Exchange Commission ("SEC") Rule 14d-9, 17 C.F.R. §240.14d-9(d) ("Rule 14d-9"). Plaintiff's claims arise in connection with the proposed tender offer by Roche Holdings, Inc. ("Parent") and 022019 MergerSubsidiary, Inc. ("Merger Sub," and together with Parent, "Roche")

to acquire all of the issued and outstanding shares of Spark (the "Tender Offer").

- 2. On February 22, 2019, Spark entered into an Agreement and Plan of Merger (the "Merger Agreement") by and among the Company and Roche, pursuant to which, among other things, Merger Sub will merge with and into Spark, the separate existence of Merger Sub will cease and Spark will continue as the surviving corporation and as a wholly owned subsidiary of Merck (the "Proposed Transaction").
- 3. Under the terms of the Merger Agreement, each shareholder of Spark common stock will be entitled to receive \$114.50 in cash (the "Offer Price").
- 4. On March 7, 2019, in order to convince Spark's public common shareholders to tender their shares, the Board authorized the filing of a materially incomplete and misleading Schedule 14D-9 Solicitation/Recommendation Statement (the "Recommendation Statement") with the SEC.
- 5. In particular, the Recommendation Statement contains materially incomplete and misleading information concerning: (i) financial projections for Spark; and (ii) the valuation analyses performed by Spark's financial advisor, Centerview Partners LLC ("Centerview") in support of its fairness opinion.
- 6. The Tender Offer is scheduled to expire at 11:59 p.m., Eastern Time, on April 3, 2019 (the "Expiration Time"). It is imperative that the material information that has been omitted from the Recommendation Statement is disclosed to the Company's shareholders prior to the Expiration Time so they can properly determine whether to tender their shares.
- 7. For these reasons, and as set forth in detail herein, Plaintiff asserts claims against Defendants for violations of Sections 14(d)(4), 14(e), and 20(a) of the Exchange Act and Rule 14d-9. Plaintiff seeks to enjoin Defendants from closing the Tender Offer or taking any steps to

consummate the Proposed Transaction unless and until the material information discussed below is disclosed to Spark's public common shareholders sufficiently in advance of the Expiration Time or, in the event the Proposed Transaction is consummated, to recover damages resulting from the Defendants' violations of the Exchange Act.

## JURISDICTION AND VENUE

- 8. This Court has jurisdiction over all claims asserted herein pursuant to Section 27 of the 1934 Act because the claims asserted herein arise under Sections 14(d)(4), 14(e), and 20(a) of the Exchange Act and Rule 14d-9.
- 9. Personal jurisdiction exists over each Defendant either because the Defendant conducts business in or maintains operations in this District, or is an individual who is either present in this District for jurisdictional purposes or has sufficient minimum contacts with this District as to render the exercise of jurisdiction over each Defendant by this Court permissible under the traditional notions of fair play and substantial justice. "Where a federal statute such as Section 27 of the [Exchange] Act confers nationwide service of process, the question becomes whether the party has sufficient contacts with the United States, not any particular state." Sec. Inv'r Prot. Corp. v. Vigman, 764 F.2d 1309, 1315 (9th Cir. 1985). "[S]o long as a defendant has minimum contacts with the United States, Section 27 of the Act confers personal jurisdiction over the defendant in any federal district court." Id. at 1316.
- 10. Venue is proper in this District under Section 27 of the ExchangeAct,15U.S.C.§78aa, as well as 28 U.S.C. § 1391, because Defendants are found or are inhabitants or transact business in this District. Indeed, Spark's common stock trades on the Nasdaq, which is also headquartered in this District. See, e.g., United States v. Svoboda, 347 F.3d 471, 484 n.13 (2d Cir. 2003) (collecting cases).

#### **PARTIES**

- 11. Plaintiff is, and has been continuously throughout all times relevant hereto, the owner of Spark common stock.
- 12. Defendant Spark is a Delaware corporation with its principal place of business located at 3737 Market Street, Suite 1300, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19104. Spark's common stock trades on the Nasdaq under the ticker symbol "ONCE."
  - 13. Defendant Steven M. Altschuler is a director of the Company.
  - 14. Defendant Larks Ekman a director of the Company.
  - 15. Defendant Katherine A. High is a director of the Company.
  - 16. Defendant Jeffrey D. Marrazzo is Chief Executive Officer and a director of the Company.
  - 17. Defendant Anand Mehra is a director of the Company.
  - 18. Defendant Vincent Milano is a director of the Company.
  - 19. Defendant Robert J. Perez is a director of the Company.
  - 20. Defendant Elliot Sigal is a director of the Company.
  - 21. Defendant Lota Zoth is a director of the Company.
- 22. The defendants identified in paragraphs 12 through 20 are collectively referred to herein as the "Board" or the "Individual Defendants," and together with Spark, the "Defendants."

# SUBSTANTIVE ALLEGATIONS

# Background of the Company and the Proposed Transaction

23. Spark Therapeutics, Inc. focuses on the development of gene therapy products for patients suffering from debilitating genetic diseases. Its products include LUXTURNA (voretigene neparvovec) for the treatment of patients with confirmed biallelic RPE65 mutation-associated

retinal dystrophy and viable retinal cells. The company's gene therapy product candidates comprise SPK-8011 and SPK-8016 for hemophilia; SPK-7001 for choroideremia; and SPK-9001 for hemophilia B. It is also developing other liver-directed gene therapies, including SPK-3006 for Pompe disease; and neurodegenerative disease product candidates to address Huntington's disease and others, as well as TPP1 deficiency, which is a form of Batten disease. The company's preclinical programs targets inherited retinal diseases, including Stargardt's disease. The company has collaboration agreement with Pfizer, Inc. for the development and commercialization of SPK- FIX product candidates in its gene therapy program for the treatment of hemophilia B. It also has licensing and commercialization agreement with Novartis to develop and commercialize voretigene neparvovec outside the United States. Merck, a leading global biopharmaceutical company known as MSD outside of the United States and Canada, has been inventing for life, bringing forward medicines and vaccines for many of the world's most challenging diseases.

- 24. On February 22, 2019, the Board caused the Company to enter into the Merger Agreement.
- 25. Pursuant to the terms of the Merger Agreement, the Company's current shareholders only expect to receive \$114.50 in cash for each share of Spark common stock they own.
- 26. According to the February 21, 2019, Spark and Merck issued a joint press release announcing the Proposed Transaction, which stated in relevant part:

Roche (SIX: RO, ROG; OTCQX: RHHBY) and Spark Therapeutics, Inc. (NASDAQ: ONCE) today announced that they have entered into a definitive merger agreement for Roche to fully acquire Spark Therapeutics at a price of US\$114.50 per share in an all-cash transaction. This corresponds to a total transaction value of approximately US\$ 4.3 billion on a fully diluted basis. This price represents a premium of approximately 122% to Spark Therapeutics'

closing price on 22 February 2019 and a premium of approximately 19% to Spark Therapeutics'52 week high share price on 9 July 2018. The merger agreement has been unanimously approved by the boards of Spark Therapeutics and Roche.

Under the terms of the merger agreement, Roche will promptly commence a tender offer to acquire all outstanding shares of Spark Therapeutics common stock, and Spark Therapeutics will file a recommendation statement containing the unanimous recommendation of the Spark Therapeutics board that Spark Therapeutics' shareholders tender their shares to Roche.

Spark Therapeutics, based in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, is a fully integrated, commercial company committed to discovering, developing and delivering gene therapies for genetic diseases, including blindness, haemophilia, lysosomal storage disorders and neurodegenerative diseases.

Spark Therapeutics' lead clinical asset is SPK-8011, a novel gene therapy for the treatment of haemophilia A, which is expected to start Phase 3 in 2019. Spark Therapeutics also has SPK-8016 in a phase 1/2 trial aimed at addressing the haemophilia A inhibitor population. Additionally, Spark Therapeutics was the first company to receive FDA approval for a gene therapy for a genetic disease in 2017.

LUXTURNA® (voretigene neparvovec-rzyl), a one-time gene therapy product indicated for the treatment of patients with confirmed biallelic RPE65 mutation- associated retinal dystrophy is currently marketed in the US by Spark Therapeutics. The European Commission granted marketing authorisation for LUXTURNA in 2018.

Spark Therapeutics' additional clinical assets include: SPK-9001, an investigational gene therapy for the potential treatment of haemophilia B in Phase 3 and SPK-7001 for choroideremia in Phase 1/2. The company is also developing SPK-3006 for Pompe disease and SPK-1001 for CLN2 disease (a form of Batten disease) which are expected to be ready for clinical development in 2019, as well as additional preclinical programmes for Huntington's disease and Stargardt disease....

#### Terms of the Agreement

Under the terms of the merger agreement, Roche will promptly commence a tender offer to acquire all of the outstanding shares of Spark Therapeutics' common stock at a price of US\$ 114.50 per share in cash. The closing of the tender offer will be subject to a majority of Spark Therapeutics' outstanding shares being tendered in the tender offer. In addition, the transaction is subject to the expiration or termination of the waiting period under the Hart-Scott-Rodino Antitrust Improvements Act of 1976 and other customary conditions.

Following completion of the tender offer, Roche will acquire all remaining shares at the same price of US\$ 114.50 per share through a second step merger. The closing of the transaction is expected to take place in the second quarter of 2019.

#### The Recommendation Statement Omits Material Information

- 27. On March 7, 2019, Defendants filed a materially incomplete and misleading Recommendation Statement with the SEC. The Individual Defendants were obligated to carefully review the Recommendation Statement before it was filed with the SEC and disseminated to the Company's shareholders to ensure that it did not contain any material misrepresentations or omissions. However, the Recommendation Statement misrepresents or omits material information that is necessary for Spark's public common shareholders to make an informed decision concerning whether to tender their shares, in violation of Sections 14(d)(4), 14(e), and 20(a) of the Exchange Act and Rule 14d-9.
- 28. First, the Recommendation Statement fails to fully disclose Spark's financial projections. Specifically, the Company's financial projections in the Recommendation Statement fails to disclose, for each Case 1 through 4: (i) all line items used to calculate unlevered free cash flow; and (ii) a reconciliation of all non-GAAP to GAAP metrics.
- 29. Furthermore, the Recommendation Statement fails to provide a concrete timeline for the creation of Case 1 through 4 of the Company's projections (ie were all created on the same date or at various different point in time).
- 30. Second, the Recommendation Statement describes each of the Centerview's fairness opinion and the various valuation analyses performed in support of their opinion. However, the description of Centerview's fairness opinion and analyses fails to include key inputs and assumptions underlying the analyses. Without this information, as described below, Spark's

shareholders are unable to fully understand these analyses and, thus, are unable to determine what weight, if any, to place on Centerview's fairness opinion in determining whether to tender their shares in the Tender Offer. This omitted information, if disclosed, would significantly alter the total mix of information available to Spark's common shareholders.

- 31. With respect to Centerview's Discounted Cash Flow Analysis, the Solicitation Statement fails to disclose: (i) all line items used to calculate unlevered free cash flow; (ii) the individual inputs and assumptions underlying the discount rates ranging from 11.0% to 13.0%; (iii) the implied terminal value of the Company; (iv) the value of tax savings from usage of net operating losses and future losses; (v) the value of preclinical non-Luxtuma / SPK-9001 / SPK-8011 / SPK-8016 /SPK-3006 / Huntington's program pipeline; and (vi) the number of fully-diluted outstanding Company shares.
- 32. With respect to Centerview's Analyst Price Target Analysis, the Solicitation Statement fails to disclose: (i) the price targets observed by Centerview in the analysis; and (ii) the sources thereof.
- 33. With respect to Centerview's Premia Paid Analysis, the Solicitation Statement fails to disclose the premiums paid in the transactions observed by Centerview in the analysis.
- 34. These key inputs are material to Spark's shareholders, and their omission renders the summaries of Centerview's analyses incomplete and misleading. As a highly-respected professor explained in one of the most thorough law review articles regarding the fundamental flaws with the valuation analyses bankers perform in support of fairness opinions, in a DCF analysis a banker takes management's forecasts, and then makes several key choices "each of which can significantly affect the final valuation." Steven M. Davidoff, *Fairness Opinions*, 55 Am. U.L. Rev. 1557, 1576 (2006). Such choices include "the appropriate discount rate, and the

terminal value..." Id. As Professor Davidoff explains:

There is substantial leeway to determine each of these, and any change can markedly affect the discounted cash flow value. For example, a change in the discount rate by one percent on a stream of cash flows in the billions of dollars can change the discounted cash flow value by tens if not hundreds of millions of dollars... This issue arises not only with a discounted cash flow analysis, but with each of the other valuation techniques. This dazzling variability makes it difficult to rely, compare, or analyze the valuations underlying a fairness opinion unless full disclosure is made of the various inputs in the valuation process, the weight assigned for each, and the rationale underlying these choices. The substantial discretion and lack of guidelines and standards also makes the process vulnerable to manipulation to arrive at the "right" answer for fairness. This raises a further dilemma in light of the conflicted nature of the investment banks who often provide these opinions.

Id. at 1577-78 (emphasis added). Without the above-mentioned information, Spark shareholders cannot evaluate for themselves the reliability of Centerview's analyses, make a meaningful determination of whether the illustrative present value per share reference ranges reflect the true value of the Company or was the result of Centerview's unreasonable judgment, and make an informed decision regarding whether to tender their shares in the Tender Offer

- 35. Defendants' failure to provide the foregoing material information renders the statements in the Recommendation Statement false and/or materially misleading.
- 36. In sum, the omission of the above-referenced information renders the Recommendation Statement materially incomplete and misleading, in contravention of the Exchange Act. Absent disclosure of the foregoing material information prior to the Expiration Time, Plaintiff will be unable to make an informed decision concerning whether to tender his shares, and he is thus threatened with irreparable harm, warranting the injunctive relief sought herein.

#### **COUNT I**

#### (Against All Defendants for Violation of Section 14(e) of the Exchange Act)

- 37. Plaintiff incorporates each and every allegation set forth above as if fully set forth herein.
- 38. Section 14(e) of the Exchange Act provides that it is unlawful "for any person to make any untrue statement of a material fact or omit to state any material fact necessary in order to make the statements made, in the light of the circumstances under which they are made, not misleading..." 15 U.S.C. §78n(e).
- 39. Defendants violated § 14(e) of the Exchange Act by issuing the Recommendation Statement in which they made untrue statements of material facts or failed to state all material facts necessary in order to make the statements made, in the light of the circumstances under which they are made, not misleading, in connection with the Tender Offer. Defendants knew or recklessly disregarded that the Recommendation Statement failed to disclose material facts necessary in order to make the statements made, in light of the circumstances under which they were made, not misleading.
- 40. The Recommendation Statement was prepared, reviewed, and/or disseminated by Defendants. It misrepresented and/or omitted material facts, including material information about the consideration offered to shareholders via the Tender Offer and the intrinsic value of the Company.
- 41. In so doing, Defendants made untrue statements of fact and/or omitted material facts necessary to make the statements made not misleading. Each of the Individual Defendants, by virtue of their roles as officers and/or directors, were aware of the omitted information but failed to disclose such information, in violation of Section 14(e). The Individual Defendants were

therefore reckless, as they had reasonable grounds to believe material facts existed that were misstated or omitted from the Recommendation Statement, but nonetheless failed to obtain and disclose such information to shareholders although they could have done so without extraordinary effort.

- 42. The omissions and incomplete and misleading statements in the Recommendation Statement are material in that a reasonable shareholder would consider them important in deciding whether to tender their shares or seek appraisal. In addition, a reasonable investor would view the information identified above which has been omitted from the Recommendation Statement as altering the "total mix" of information made available to shareholders.
- 43. Defendants knowingly or with deliberate recklessness omitted the material information identified above from the Recommendation Statement, causing certain statements therein to be materially incomplete and therefore misleading. Indeed, while Defendants undoubtedly had access to and/or reviewed the omitted material information in connection with approving the Proposed Transaction, they allowed it to be omitted from the Recommendation Statement, rendering certain portions of the Recommendation Statement materially incomplete and therefore misleading.
- 44. The misrepresentations and omissions in the Recommendation Statement are material to Plaintiff, and Plaintiff will be deprived of his entitlement to make a fully informed decision if such misrepresentations and omissions are not corrected prior to the Expiration Time.

#### **COUNT II**

#### (Against all Defendants for Violations of Section 14(d)(4) of the Exchange Act and SEC Rule 14d-9, 17 C.F.R. § 240.14d-9)

45. Plaintiff incorporates each and every allegation set forth above as if fully set forth herein.

- 46. Defendants have caused the Recommendation Statement to be issued with the intention of soliciting shareholder support of the Proposed Transaction.
- 47. Section 14(d)(4) of the Exchange Act and SEC Rule 14d-9 promulgated thereunder require full and complete disclosure in connection with tender offers. Specifically, Section 14(d)(4) provides that:

Any solicitation or recommendation to the holders of such a security to accept or reject a tender offer or request or invitation for tenders shall be made in accordance with such rules and regulations as the Commission may prescribe as necessary or appropriate in the public interest or for the protection of investors.

48. SEC Rule 14d-9(d), which was adopted to implement Section 14(d)(4) of the Exchange Act, provides that:

Information required in solicitation or recommendation. Any solicitation or recommendation to holders of a class of securities referred to in section 14(d)(1) of the Act with respect to a tender offer for such securities shall include the name of the person making such solicitation or recommendation and the information required by Items 1 through 8 of Schedule 14D-9 (§ 240.14d-101) or a fair and adequate summary thereof.

49. In accordance with Rule 14d-9, Item 8 of a Schedule 14D-9 requires a Company's directors to:

Furnish such additional information, if any, as may be necessary to make the required statements, in light of the circumstances under which they are made, not materially misleading.

- 50. The omission of information from a recommendation statement will violate Section 14(d)(4) and Rule 14d-9(d) if other SEC regulations specifically require disclosure of the omitted information.
  - 51. The Recommendation Statement violates Section 14(d)(4) and Rule 14d-9 because

it omits material facts, including those set forth above, which omissions render the Recommendation Statement false and/or misleading. Defendants knowingly or with deliberate recklessness omitted the material information identified above from the Recommendation Statement, causing certain statements therein to be materially incomplete and therefore misleading. Indeed, while Defendants undoubtedly had access to and/or reviewed the omitted material information in connection with approving the Proposed Transaction, they allowed it to be omitted from the Recommendation Statement, rendering certain portions of the Recommendation Statement materially incomplete and therefore misleading.

52. The misrepresentations and omissions in the Recommendation Statement are material to Plaintiff, and Plaintiff will be deprived of his entitlement to make a fully informed decision if such misrepresentations and omissions are not corrected prior to the Expiration Date.

#### **COUNT III**

## (Against all Defendants for Violations of Section 20(a) of the Exchange Act)

- 53. Plaintiff incorporates each and every allegation set forth above as if fully set forth herein.
- 54. The Individual Defendants acted as controlling persons of Spark within the meaning of Section 20(a) of the Exchange Act as alleged herein. By virtue of their positions as officers and/or directors of Spark, and participation in and/or awareness of the Company's operations and/or intimate knowledge of the incomplete and misleading statements contained in the Recommendation Statement filed with the SEC, they had the power to influence and control and did influence and control, directly or indirectly, the decision making of the Company, including the content and dissemination of the various statements that Plaintiff contends are materially incomplete and misleading.

- 55. Each of the Individual Defendants was provided with or had unlimited access to copies of the Recommendation Statement and other statements alleged by Plaintiff to be misleading prior to and/or shortly after these statements were issued and had the ability to prevent the issuance of the statements or cause the statements to be corrected.
- 56. In particular, each of the Individual Defendants had direct and supervisory involvement in the day-to-day operations of the Company, and, therefore, is presumed to have had the power to control or influence the particular transactions giving rise to the Exchange Act violations alleged herein, and exercised the same. The Recommendation Statement contains the unanimous recommendation of each of the Individual Defendants to approve the Tender Offer. They were thus directly involved in preparing the Recommendation Statement.
- 57. In addition, as the Proxy sets forth at length, and as described herein, the Individual Defendants were involved in negotiating, reviewing, and approving the Merger Agreement. The Proxy purports to describe the various issues and information that the Individual Defendants reviewed and considered. The Individual Defendants participated in drafting and/or gave their input on the content of those descriptions.
  - 58. By virtue of the foregoing, the Individual Defendants have violated Section 20(a) of the Exchange Act.
- 59. As set forth above, the Individual Defendants had the ability to exercise control over and did control a person or persons who have each violated Sections 14(e) and 14(d)(4) and Rule 14d-9, by their acts and omissions as alleged herein. By virtue of their positions as controlling persons, these defendants are liable pursuant to Section 20(a) of the Exchange Act. As a direct and proximate result of Individual Defendants' conduct, Plaintiff will be irreparably harmed.
  - 60. Plaintiff has no adequate remedy at law. Only through the exercise of this Court's

equitable powers can Plaintiff be fully protected from the immediate and irreparable injury that Defendants' actions threaten to inflict.

#### PRAYER FOR RELIEF

# WHEREFORE, Plaintiff prays for judgment and relief as follows:

- A. Preliminarily enjoining Defendants and all persons acting in concert with them from proceeding with the Tender Offer or taking any steps to consummate the Proposed Transaction, unless and until the Company discloses the material information discussed above which has been omitted from the Recommendation Statement;
  - B. Directing the Defendants to account to Plaintiff for all damages sustained as a result of their wrongdoing;
  - C. Awarding Plaintiff the costs and disbursements of this action, including reasonable attorneys' and expert fees and expenses; and
  - D. Granting such other and further relief as this Court may deem just and proper.

#### **JURY DEMAND**

Plaintiff demands a trial by jury on all issues so triable.

Dated: March 20, 2019 MONTEVERDE & ASSOCIATES PC

By: /s/Juan E. Monteverde

Juan E. Monteverde (JM-8169) The Empire State Building 350 Fifth Avenue, Suite 4405 New York, NY 10118 Tel: (212) 971-1341

Tel: (212) 971-1341 Fax: (212) 202-7880

Email: jmonteverde@monteverdelaw.com

Attorneys for Plaintiff

# Media Release



# Roche and Spark Therapeutics, Inc. announce withdrawal and refiling of Premerger Notification and Report Form under the HSR Act and extension of tender offer for shares of Spark Therapeutics, Inc.

Basel, 03 April 2019 - Roche (SIX: RO, ROG; OTCQX: RHHBY) and Spark Therapeutics, Inc. (NASDAQ: ONCE) ("Spark") today announced that Roche has withdrawn its Premerger Notification and Report Form under the Hart-Scott-Rodino Act (the "HSR Act") in connection with Roche's pending acquisition of Spark.

Roche and Spark both filed a Premerger Notification and Report Form under the HSR Act on March 1, 2019 with respect to the pending acquisition. On March 18, 2019, Roche withdrew the March 1, 2019 filing and refiled a Premerger Notification and Report Form.

Roche has withdrawn the March 18, 2019 filing effective on April 2, 2019 and intends to refile a Premerger Notification and Report Form under the HSR Act on or about April 10, 2019. Following such refiling, the waiting period applicable to the pending acquisition will expire at 11:59 p.m., New York City time, on or about April 25, 2019, but this period may be shortened if the government grants "early termination" of the waiting period, or it may change if Roche voluntarily withdraws and refiles its Premerger Notification and Report Form in order to restart the 15-day waiting period or if the reviewing agency issues a formal request for additional information and documentary material. The parties are working with the government to conduct the review as expeditiously as possible.

As a result of the withdrawal and refiling of the Premerger Notification and Report Form, Roche is extending the offering period of its previously announced tender offer to purchase all of the outstanding shares of common stock (the "Shares") of Spark for USD 114.50 per Share, net to the seller thereof in cash, without interest and subject to any withholding taxes required by applicable law and upon the terms and subject to the conditions set forth in the Offer to Purchase dated March 7, 2019 (as it may be amended and supplemented from time to time, the "Offer"). The Offer, which was previously scheduled to expire at 12:00 midnight, New York City time, at the end of Wednesday, April 3, 2019, is being extended until 12:00 midnight, New York City time, on Thursday, May 2, 2019, unless it is extended further under the

F. Hoffmann-La Roche Ltd

4070 Basel Switzerland Group Communications
Roche Group Media Relations

Tel. +41 61 688 88 88 www.roche.com

circumstances set forth in the Agreement and Plan of Merger, dated February 22, 2019, by and among Roche Holdings, Inc., 022019 Merger Subsidiary, Inc., and Spark. All terms and conditions of the Offer shall remain unchanged during the extended period.

Citibank, N.A., the depository for the Offer, has advised Roche that, as of 5:00 p.m., New York City time, on April 2, 2019, the last business day prior to the announcement of the extension of the Offer, approximately 11,259,852 Shares of Spark (none of which were tendered by notice of guaranteed delivery) had been validly tendered and received, and not validly withdrawn, pursuant to the Offer, representing approximately 29.4% of Spark's outstanding Shares. Shareholders who have already tendered their Shares of Spark do not have to re-tender their Shares or take any other action as a result of the extension of the expiration date of the Offer.

Closing of the tender offer is conditioned upon customary closing conditions, including the expiration or termination of the applicable waiting period under the Hart-Scott-Rodino Antitrust Improvements Act, and there being validly tendered and received, and not validly withdrawn, at least a majority of the outstanding Spark Shares.

MacKenzie Partners, Inc. is acting as information agent for the Offer. Requests for documents and questions regarding the Offer may be directed to MacKenzie Partners, Inc. by telephone, toll-free at (800) 322-2885 (please call (212) 929-5500 (collect) if you are located outside the US or Canada) or via email at tenderoffer@mackenziepartners.com.

#### **About Spark Therapeutics**

Spark Therapeutics is a fully integrated, commercial company committed to discovering, developing and delivering gene therapies. The company challenges the inevitability of genetic diseases, including blindness, haemophilia, lysosomal storage disorders and neurodegenerative diseases.

Founded in March 2013 as a result of the technology and know-how accumulated over two decades at Children's Hospital of Philadelphia (CHOP), Spark Therapeutics' investigational therapies have the potential to provide long-lasting effects, dramatically and positively changing the lives of patients with conditions where no, or only palliative, therapies exist. Greater understanding of the human genome and genetic abnormalities have allowed Spark Therapeutics' scientists to tailor investigational therapies to patients

suffering from very specific genetic diseases. This approach holds great promise in developing effective treatments to a host of inherited diseases.

Spark Therapeutics is headquartered in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

#### **About Roche**

Roche is a global pioneer in pharmaceuticals and diagnostics focused on advancing science to improve people's lives. The combined strengths of pharmaceuticals and diagnostics under one roof have made Roche the leader in personalised healthcare – a strategy that aims to fit the right treatment to each patient in the best way possible.

Roche is the world's largest biotech company, with truly differentiated medicines in oncology, immunology, infectious diseases, ophthalmology and diseases of the central nervous system. Roche is also the world leader in in vitro diagnostics and tissue-based cancer diagnostics, and a frontrunner in diabetes management.

Founded in 1896, Roche continues to search for better ways to prevent, diagnose and treat diseases and make a sustainable contribution to society. The company also aims to improve patient access to medical innovations by working with all relevant stakeholders. Thirty medicines developed by Roche are included in the World Health Organization Model Lists of Essential Medicines, among them life-saving antibiotics, antimalarials and cancer medicines. Moreover, for the tenth consecutive year, Roche has been recognised as the most sustainable company in the Pharmaceuticals Industry by the Dow Jones Sustainability Indices (DJSI).

The Roche Group, headquartered in Basel, Switzerland, is active in over 100 countries and in 2018 employed about 94,000 people worldwide. In 2018, Roche invested CHF 11 billion in R&D and posted sales of CHF 56.8 billion. Genentech, in the United States, is a wholly owned member of the Roche Group. Roche is the majority shareholder in Chugai Pharmaceutical, Japan. For more information, please visit www.roche.com. All trademarks used or mentioned in this release are protected by law.

#### CAUTIONARY STATEMENT REGARDING FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS

SOME OF THE STATEMENTS CONTAINED IN THIS ANNOUNCEMENT ARE FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS, INCLUDING STATEMENTS REGARDING, AMONG OTHER THINGS, THE EXPECTED CONSUMMATION OF THE

TRANSACTION, WHICH INVOLVES A NUMBER OF RISKS AND UNCERTAINTIES, INCLUDING THE SATISFACTION OF CLOSING CONDITIONS FOR THE TRANSACTION, INCLUDING REGULATORY APPROVAL, THE TENDER OF A MAJORITY OF THE OUTSTANDING SHARES OF COMMON STOCK OF SPARK THERAPEUTICS. THE POSSIBILITY THAT THE TRANSACTION WILL NOT BE COMPLETED, AND OTHER RISKS AND UNCERTAINTIES DISCUSSED IN SPARK THERAPEUTICS' PUBLIC FILINGS WITH THE UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION (THE "SEC"), INCLUDING THE "RISK FACTORS" SECTIONS OF SPARK THERAPEUTICS' ANNUAL REPORT ON FORM 10-K FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2018, AND IN ANY SUBSEQUENT PERIODIC REPORTS ON FORM 10-Q AND FORM 8-K, AS WELL AS THE TENDER OFFER DOCUMENTS FILED BY ROCHE AND ITS ACQUISITION SUBSIDIARY AND THE SOLICITATION/RECOMMENDATION FILED BY SPARK THERAPEUTICS. THESE STATEMENTS ARE BASED ON CURRENT EXPECTATIONS, ASSUMPTIONS, ESTIMATES AND PROJECTIONS, AND INVOLVE KNOWN AND UNKNOWN RISKS, UNCERTAINTIES AND OTHER FACTORS THAT MAY CAUSE RESULTS, LEVELS OF ACTIVITY, PERFORMANCE OR ACHIEVEMENTS TO BE MATERIALLY DIFFERENT FROM ANY FUTURE STATEMENTS. THESE STATEMENTS ARE GENERALLY IDENTIFIED BY WORDS OR PHRASES SUCH AS "BELIEVE", "ANTICIPATE", "EXPECT", "INTEND", "PLAN", "WILL", "MAY" "SHOULD", "ESTIMATE", "PREDICT", "POTENTIAL", "CONTINUE" OR THE NEGATIVE OF SUCH TERMS OR OTHER SIMILAR EXPRESSIONS. IF UNDERLYING ASSUMPTIONS PROVE INACCURATE OR UNKNOWN RISKS OR UNCERTAINTIES MATERIALIZE, ACTUAL RESULTS AND THE TIMING OF EVENTS MAY DIFFER MATERIALLY FROM THE RESULTS AND/OR TIMING DISCUSSED IN THE FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS, AND YOU SHOULD NOT PLACE UNDUE RELIANCE ON THESE STATEMENTS. ROCHE AND SPARK THERAPEUTICS DISCLAIM ANY INTENT OR OBLIGATION TO UPDATE ANY FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS AS A RESULT OF DEVELOPMENTS OCCURRING AFTER THE PERIOD COVERED BY THIS REPORT OR OTHERWISE.

## ADDITIONAL INFORMATION AND WHERE TO FIND IT

THIS ANNOUNCEMENT IS FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES ONLY AND DOES NOT CONSTITUTE AN OFFER TO PURCHASE OR A SOLICITATION OF AN OFFER TO SELL ANY SHARES OF THE COMMON STOCK OF SPARK THERAPEUTICS. THE TENDER OFFER IS ONLY BEING MADE PURSUANT TO AN OFFER TO PURCHASE AND RELATED MATERIALS. ROCHE AND ITS ACQUISITION SUBSIDIARY FILED A TENDER OFFER STATEMENT ON SCHEDULE TO WITH THE SEC ON MARCH 7, 2019, AND SPARK THERAPEUTICS FILED A SOLICITATION/RECOMMENDATION STATEMENT ON SCHEDULE 14D-9 WITH RESPECT TO THE OFFER WITH THE SEC ON MARCH 7, 2019, IN EACH CASE AS AMENDED FROM TIME TO TIME. INVESTORS AND SECURITY HOLDERS ARE URGED TO READ THESE MATERIALS (INCLUDING AN OFFER TO PURCHASE, A RELATED LETTER OF TRANSMITTAL AND CERTAIN OTHER TENDER OFFER DOCUMENTS), AS THEY MAY BE AMENDED FROM TIME TO TIME, CAREFULLY BEFORE ANY DECISION IS MADE WITH RESPECT TO THE TENDER OFFER SINCE THEY CONTAIN IMPORTANT INFORMATION, INCLUDING THE TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF THE OFFER. THE OFFER TO PURCHASE, SOLICITATION/RECOMMENDATION STATEMENT AND RELATED MATERIALS HAVE BEEN FILED WITH THE SEC, AND INVESTORS AND SECURITY HOLDERS MAY OBTAIN A FREE COPY OF THESE MATERIALS AND OTHER DOCUMENTS FILED BY ROCHE AND SPARK THERAPEUTICS WITH THE SEC AT THE WEBSITE MAINTAINED BY THE SEC AT WWW.SEC.GOV. INVESTORS AND SECURITY HOLDERS MAY ALSO OBTAIN FREE COPIES OF THE SOLICITATION/RECOMMENDATION STATEMENT AND OTHER DOCUMENTS FILED WITH THE SEC BY SPARK THERAPEUTICS AT WWW.SPARKTX.COM.

## **Roche Group Media Relations**

Phone: +41 61 688 8888 / e-mail: media.relations@roche.com

- Nicolas Dunant (Head)
- Patrick Barth
- Ulrike Engels-Lange
- Simone Oeschger
- Anja von Treskow