# UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

## FORM S-8 REGISTRATION STATEMENT UNDER THE SECURITIES ACT OF 1933

# **Cerulean Pharma Inc.**

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Delaware (State or other jurisdiction of incorporation or organization)

840 Memorial Drive Cambridge, MA (Address of Principal Executive Offices)

> 2014 Stock Incentive Plan 2014 Employee Stock Purchase Plan (Full title of the plan)

Christopher D.T. Guiffre, J.D. President and Chief Executive Officer Cerulean Pharma Inc. 840 Memorial Drive Cambridge, MA 02139 (Name and address of agent for service)

(617) 551-9600 (Telephone number, including area code, of agent for service) 20-4139823 (I.R.S. Employer Identification No.)

> 02139 (Zip Code)

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a large accelerated filer, an accelerated filer, a non-accelerated filer, or a smaller reporting company. See the definitions of "large accelerated filer," "accelerated filer" and "smaller reporting company" in Rule 12b of the Exchange Act.

Large accelerated filer

Non-accelerated filer  $\Box$  (Do not check if a smaller reporting company)

Accelerated filer

Smaller reporting company

### CALCULATION OF REGISTRATION FEE

Title of Securities to be Registered	Amount to be Registered(1)	Proposed Maximum Offering Price Per Share	Proposed Maximum Aggregate Offering Price	Amount of Registration Fee
Common Stock, \$0.0001 par value per share	1,006,252 shares(2)	\$5.98(3)	\$6,017,387(3)	\$700

(1) In accordance with Rule 416 under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, this registration statement shall be deemed to cover any additional securities that may from time to time be offered or issued to prevent dilution resulting from stock splits, stock dividends or similar transactions.

(2) Consists of (i) 805,002 shares issuable under the 2014 Stock Incentive Plan, and (ii) 201,250 shares issuable under the 2014 Employee Stock Purchase Plan.

(3) Estimated solely for the purpose of calculating the registration fee pursuant to Rules 457(c) and Rule 457(h) and based upon the average of the high and low sale prices of the registrant's common stock on the NASDAQ Global Market on May 1, 2015.

#### Statement of Incorporation by Reference

This Registration Statement on Form S-8 is being filed to register the offer and sale of an additional 805,002 shares of Common Stock, \$0.0001 par value per share (the "Common Stock"), of Cerulean Pharma Inc. (the "Registrant") to be issued under the Registrant's 2014 Stock Incentive Plan and an additional 201,250 shares of Common Stock to be issued under the Registrant's 2014 Employee Stock Purchase Plan. In accordance with General Instruction E to Form S-8, this Registration Statement incorporates by reference the contents of the Registration Statement on Form S-8 filed by the Registrant on August 13, 2014 (File No. 333-198126) relating to the Registrant's 2014 Stock Incentive Plan and its 2014 Employee Stock Purchase Plan, except for Item 8, Exhibits, with respect to which the Exhibit Index immediately preceding the exhibits attached hereto is incorporated by reference.

## SIGNATURES

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Act of 1933, the registrant certifies that it has reasonable grounds to believe that it meets all of the requirements for filing on Form S-8 and has duly caused this registration statement to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned, thereunto duly authorized, in the City of Cambridge, Commonwealth of Massachusetts, on this 8th day of May, 2015.

## CERULEAN PHARMA INC.

By: /s/ Christopher D.T. Guiffre

Name: Christopher D.T. Guiffre, J.D. Title: President and Chief Executive Officer

#### POWER OF ATTORNEY AND SIGNATURES

We, the undersigned officers and directors of Cerulean Pharma Inc., hereby severally constitute and appoint Christopher D. T. Guiffre and Karen L. Roberts, and each of them singly, our true and lawful attorneys with full power to them, and each of them singly, to sign for us and in our names in the capacities indicated below, the registration statement on Form S-8 filed herewith and any and all subsequent amendments to said registration statement, and generally to do all such things in our names and on our behalf in our capacities as officers and directors to enable Cerulean Pharma Inc. to comply with the provisions of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, and all requirements of the Securities and Exchange Commission, hereby ratifying and confirming our signatures as they may be signed by our said attorneys, or any of them, to said registration statement and any and all amendments thereto.

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Act of 1933, this registration statement has been signed by the following persons in the capacities and on the dates indicated.

Signature	Title	Date
/s/ Christopher D.T. Guiffre Christopher D.T. Guiffre.	President, Chief Executive Officer and Director (principal executive officer)	May 8, 2015
/s/ Karen L. Roberts Karen L. Roberts	Senior Vice President, Finance and Administration (principal financial and accounting officer)	May 8, 2015
/s/ Paul A. Friedman Paul A. Friedman, M.D.	Director	May 8, 2015
/s/ Alan S. Crane Alan S. Crane	Director	May 8, 2015
/s/ Steven E. Hall Steven E. Hall, Ph.D.	Director	May 8, 2015
/s/ William T. McKee William T. McKee	Director	May 8, 2015
/s/ William H. Rastetter William H. Rastetter, Ph.D.	Director	May 8, 2015
/s/ Ram Sasisekharan Ram Sasisekharan, Ph.D.	Director	May 8, 2015
/s/ Robert I. Tepper Robert I. Tepper, M.D.	Director	May 8, 2015
/s/ David R. Parkinson David R. Parkinson, M.D.	Director	May 8, 2015
/s/ Susan L. Kelley Susan L. Kelley, M.D.	Director	May 8, 2015

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### INDEX TO EXHIBITS

4.1(1)	Restated Certificate of Incorporation of the Registrant
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- 4.2(1)Amended and Restated By-Laws of the Registrant
- Opinion of Wilmer Cutler Pickering Hale and Dorr LLP, counsel to the Registrant 5.1
- Consent of Wilmer Cutler Pickering Hale and Dorr LLP (included in Exhibit 5.1) 23.1
- 23.2 Consent of Deloitte & Touche LLP

- Power of attorney (included on the signature pages of this registration statement) 24.1
- 99.1(2) 2014 Stock Incentive Plan

Description

Number

- 99.2(2) 2014 Employee Stock Purchase Plan
- (1) Previously filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission as an Exhibit to the Registrant's Current Report on Form 8-K (File No. 001- 36395) filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on April 16, 2014.
- Previously filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on March 31, 2014 as an Exhibit to Amendment No. 2 to the Registrant's Registration (2) Statement on Form S-1 (File No. 333- 194442) and incorporated herein by reference.

Exhibit 5.1

## WILMERHALE

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wilmerhale.com

May 8, 2015

Cerulean Pharma Inc. 840 Memorial Drive Cambridge, MA 02139

2014 Stock Incentive Plan 2014 Employee Stock Purchase Plan

Ladies and Gentlemen:

We have assisted in the preparation of a Registration Statement on Form S-8 (the "Registration Statement") to be filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission (the "Commission") under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended (the "Securities Act"), relating to an aggregate of 1,006,252 shares of common stock, \$0.0001 par value per share (the "Shares"), of Cerulean Pharma Inc., a Delaware corporation (the "Company"), issuable under the Company's 2014 Stock Incentive Plan and 2014 Employee Stock Purchase Plan (collectively, the "Plans").

We have examined the Certificate of Incorporation and By-Laws of the Company, each as amended and restated to date, and originals, or copies certified to our satisfaction, of all pertinent records of the meetings of the directors and stockholders of the Company, the Registration Statement and such other documents relating to the Company as we have deemed material for the purposes of this opinion.

In our examination of the foregoing documents, we have assumed the genuineness of all signatures, the authenticity of all documents submitted to us as originals, the conformity to original documents of all documents submitted to us as certified, photostatic or other copies, the authenticity of the originals of any such documents and the legal competence of all signatories to such documents.

We assume that the appropriate action will be taken, prior to the offer and sale of the Shares in accordance with the Plans, to register and qualify the Shares for sale under all applicable state securities or "blue sky" laws.

We express no opinion herein as to the laws of any state or jurisdiction other than the state laws of The Commonwealth of Massachusetts, the General Corporation Law of the State of Delaware and the federal laws of the United States of America.

It is understood that this opinion is to be used only in connection with the offer and sale of the Shares while the Registration Statement is in effect.

Please note that we are opining only as to the matters expressly set forth herein, and no opinion should be inferred as to any other matters.

Based on the foregoing, we are of the opinion that the Shares have been duly authorized for issuance and, when the Shares are issued and paid for in accordance with the terms and conditions of the Plans, the Shares will be validly issued, fully paid and nonassessable.

We hereby consent to the filing of this opinion with the Commission in connection with the Registration Statement in accordance with the requirements of Item 601(b)(5) of Regulation S-K under the Securities Act. In giving such consent, we do not hereby admit that we are in the category of persons whose consent is required under Section 7 of the Securities Act or the rules and regulations of the Commission.

Very truly yours,

WILMER CUTLER PICKERING HALE AND DORR LLP

By: /s/ Lia Der Marderosian

Lia Der Marderosian, a Partner

## CONSENT OF INDEPENDENT REGISTERED PUBLIC ACCOUNTING FIRM

We consent to the incorporation by reference in this Registration Statement on Form S-8 of our report relating to the consolidated financial statements of Cerulean Pharma Inc. (the "Company") dated March 19, 2015 appearing in the Annual Report on Form 10-K of the Company for the year ended December 31, 2014.

/s/ Deloitte & Touche LLP

Boston, MA May 8, 2015