

**UNITED STATES  
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION**  
Washington, D.C. 20549

---

**FORM 8-K**

---

**CURRENT REPORT**  
**Pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d)**  
**of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934**

**Date of Report (Date of earliest event reported): December 20, 2023**

---

**ALPINE IMMUNE SCIENCES, INC.**  
(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

---

**Delaware**  
(State or Other Jurisdiction  
of Incorporation)

**001-37449**  
(Commission  
File Number)

**20-8969493**  
(IRS Employer  
Identification No.)

**188 East Blaine Street, Suite 200**  
**Seattle, Washington 98102**  
(Address of Principal Executive Offices, including zip code)

**(206) 788-4545**

**(Registrant's telephone number, including area code)**  
**N/A**  
(Former Name or Former Address, if Changed Since Last Report)

---

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:

- ☐ 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))

Securities registered pursuant to Section 12(b) of the Act:

Title of each class  
Common Stock, par value \$0.001 per share

Trading Symbol  
ALPN

Name of each exchange on which registered  
The Nasdaq Stock Market LLC

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is an emerging growth company as defined in Rule 405 of the Securities Act of 1933 (§230.405 of this chapter) or Rule 12b-2 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (§240.12b-2 of this chapter).

Emerging growth company ☐

If an emerging growth company, indicate by check mark if the registrant has elected not to use the extended transition period for complying with any new or revised financial accounting standards provided pursuant to Section 13(a) of the Exchange Act. ☐

---

## Item 1.01. Entry into a Material Definitive Agreement

As previously disclosed, in June 2020, Alpine Immune Sciences, Inc. (the “Company”) entered into an Option and License Agreement, as amended in April 2022 (as amended, the “Agreement”), with AbbVie Ireland Unlimited Company (“AbbVie”). Under the terms of the Agreement the Company granted to AbbVie an exclusive option (the “Option”) to obtain an exclusive, royalty-bearing, sublicensable license to certain intellectual property rights for the research, development and commercialization of acazicolcept and any other molecule owned or controlled by the Company that binds to or directly modulates or targets ICOS at certain agreed-upon levels (collectively, the “Compounds”), on a worldwide basis for all human and non-human diagnostic, prophylactic and therapeutic uses, subject to certain exceptions set forth in the Agreement. Through the date of this Current Report on Form 8-K, the Company has received \$105.0 million in upfront and pre-Option exercise development milestones as part of the Agreement.

On December 20, 2023, the Company and AbbVie Global Enterprises Ltd. (as assignee of AbbVie) entered into a letter amending the Agreement (the “Amendment”). Pursuant to the terms of the Amendment, within 30 days of the date of the Amendment, the Company will stop enrollment of any new patients in its ongoing Phase 2 clinical trial in systemic lupus erythematosus (the “Phase 2 Trial”) and conduct a final analysis (the “Analysis”) after the last patient enrolled in the Phase 2 Trial has completed the study protocol. The Company agreed to provide AbbVie with a data package based on the Analysis and including certain information described in the Amendment (the “Revised Data Package”). AbbVie may exercise the Option until its expiration 90 days following the date the Company delivers to AbbVie the Revised Data Package, subject to certain extensions as described in the Amendment.

Among other changes, under the terms of the Amendment, the Option exercise fee was reduced from \$75 million to \$10 million, other potential payments related to future development, commercial, and sales-based milestones as well as sales-based royalties under the Agreement were reduced by 25% from the originally agreed upon amounts, a pre-Option exercise development milestone was removed, and the timeline of the Phase 2 Trial and process for the Company to provide the Revised Data Package was revised.

As a result of the Amendment, if AbbVie exercises the Option, it will make cash payments to the Company in the period following the exercise of the Option upon AbbVie’s achievement of certain development and commercial milestones, up to an aggregate amount of \$153.75 million. AbbVie will also make certain sales-based cash milestone payments to the Company upon the achievement of certain annual net sales targets up to an aggregate of \$337.5 million. AbbVie will also pay the Company royalties based on future net sales of any pharmaceutical product that contains a Compound. Such royalty percentages range from a mid-single digit percentage to a high-single digit percentage of net sales, with the specific royalty rate depending on the aggregate net sales.

The foregoing description of the Agreement does not purport to be complete and is qualified in its entirety by reference to, and should be read in conjunction with, the full text of the Agreement and related amendments, copies of which are filed as Exhibits 10.22 and 10.30 to the Company’s Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2022 filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on March 23, 2023, and are incorporated herein by reference.

The foregoing summary and description of the Amendment does not purport to be complete and is qualified in its entirety by reference to, and should be read in conjunction with, the full text of the Amendment. A copy of the Amendment will be filed as an exhibit to the Company’s Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2023.

On December 21, 2023, the Company issued a press release announcing the entry into the Amendment. A copy of the press release is attached hereto as Exhibit 99.1 and is incorporated herein by reference.

## Item 9.01. Financial Statements and Exhibits

(d) Exhibits.

Exhibit No.	Description
99.1	<a href="#">Press release issued by Alpine Immune Sciences, Inc. dated December 21, 2023</a>
104	Cover Page Interactive Data File (formatted in Inline XBRL document)

## **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.

Date: December 21, 2023

**ALPINE IMMUNE SCIENCES, INC.**

By: /s/ Paul Rickey  
Name: Paul Rickey  
Title: Senior Vice President and Chief Financial Officer



## Alpine Immune Sciences Announces Amendment of Acazicolcept Option and License Agreement with AbbVie

*-- Enrollment in the phase 2 study of acazicolcept in systemic lupus erythematosus (Synergy) will be stopped to allow for early assessment of data --*

*-- Final analysis after last patient completes study protocol expected to occur by the end of 2024 --*

**SEATTLE, Washington, December 21, 2023** - Alpine Immune Sciences, Inc. (NASDAQ: ALPN), a leading clinical-stage immunotherapy company focused on developing innovative treatments for autoimmune and inflammatory diseases, announced today that the Company has amended the previously announced 2020 option and license agreement with AbbVie for acazicolcept.

### **Key terms of the amended agreement:**

- Company will stop enrollment under the amended agreement in the phase 2 study of acazicolcept in systemic lupus erythematosus within 30 days. Currently enrolled patients will be allowed to complete the study. Patients who are currently in the screening process and meet eligibility requirements will be allowed to enter and complete the study.
- Final analysis will be conducted after the last patient completes the study protocol which is expected to occur by the end of 2024.
- AbbVie retains an exclusive option to obtain an exclusive worldwide license to acazicolcept which is exercisable by AbbVie at any time and will expire 90 days from delivery of an agreed upon data package by the Company to AbbVie.
- The previously disclosed option exercise fee of \$75 million has been reduced to \$10 million and the remaining pre-option development milestone has been removed.
- Potential future development, commercial, and sales-based milestones and sales-based royalties have been reduced by 25 percent from the originally agreed upon amounts.
- Company has received \$105 million in non-refundable upfront and milestone payments to-date as part of the option and license agreement.

"AbbVie has been a tremendous partner, and we appreciate their flexibility in amending our agreement for the development of acazicolcept. While enrollment in the Synergy study will be stopped early, we still anticipate that sufficient clinical and pharmacodynamic data will be available to enable a thorough evaluation of the study," said Mitchell H. Gold, MD, Executive Chairman and Chief Executive Officer. "We plan to focus our development resources to advance povetacept into a broad development plan."

### **About Acazicolcept and the Synergy Study**

Acazicolcept is a first-in-class, dual inhibitor of the CD28 and ICOS T-cell costimulatory pathways being developed for treatment of systemic lupus erythematosus (SLE). By simultaneously blocking two key costimulatory pathways, acazicolcept has the potential to improve outcomes in patients suffering from severe autoimmune/inflammatory diseases. Preclinical studies have demonstrated efficacy in models of SLE, Sjögren's syndrome, arthritis,

inflammatory bowel disease, multiple sclerosis, type 1 diabetes, uveitis, and graft versus host disease.

Synergy ([NCT04835441](#)) is a global, randomized, double-blind, placebo-controlled Phase 2 clinical study of acazicolcept in moderate-to-severe systemic lupus erythematosus (SLE) that initiated enrollment in June 2021.

### **About Alpine Immune Sciences**

Alpine Immune Sciences is committed to leading a new wave of immune therapeutics. With world-class research and development capabilities, a highly productive scientific platform, and a proven management team, Alpine is seeking to create first- or best-in-class multifunctional immunotherapies via unique protein engineering technologies to improve patients' lives. Alpine has entered into strategic collaborations with leading global biopharmaceutical companies and has a diverse pipeline of clinical and preclinical candidates in development. For more information, visit [www.alpineimmunesciences.com](http://www.alpineimmunesciences.com). Follow @AlpineImmuneSci on X and LinkedIn.

### **Forward-Looking Statements**

This release contains forward-looking statements within the meaning of Section 27A of the Securities Act of 1933, Section 21E of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 and the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. These forward-looking statements are not based on historical fact and include statements regarding our platform technology and potential therapies; the potential efficacy, safety profile, future development plans, addressable market, regulatory success, and commercial potential of our product candidates; the timing of and results from clinical trials and pre-clinical development activities; clinical and regulatory objectives and the timing thereof; our ability to achieve milestones in our collaboration with AbbVie; the efficacy of our clinical trial designs; and our ability to successfully develop and achieve milestones in our development programs. Forward-looking statements generally include statements that are predictive in nature and depend upon or refer to future events or conditions and include words such as “may,” “will,” “should,” “would,” “expect,” “plan,” “intend,” and other similar expressions, among others. These forward-looking statements are based on current assumptions that involve risks, uncertainties, and other factors that may cause actual results, events, or developments to be materially different from those expressed or implied by such forward-looking statements. These risks and uncertainties, many of which are beyond our control, include, but are not limited to: clinical trials may not demonstrate safety and efficacy of any of our product candidates; our ongoing discovery and preclinical efforts may not yield additional product candidates; our discovery-stage and preclinical programs may not advance into the clinic or result in approved products; any of our product candidates may fail in development, may not receive required regulatory approvals, or may be delayed to a point where they are not commercially viable; we may not achieve additional milestones in our proprietary or partnered programs; the impact of competition; adverse conditions in the general domestic and global economic markets; we may be unable to advance povetacicept directly into a pivotal trial in IgA nephropathy or a phase 2 study in systemic lupus erythematosus in 2024; the impact of pandemics, or other related health crises on our business, research and clinical development plans and timelines and results of operations, including the impact on our clinical trial sites, collaborators, and contractors who act for or on our behalf; as well as the other risks identified in our filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission. These forward-looking statements speak only as of the date hereof and we undertake no obligation to update forward-looking statements, and readers are cautioned not to place undue reliance on such forward-looking statements.

**Source:** Alpine Immune Sciences, Inc.

---

**Media and Investor Relations Contact:**

Temre Johnson

Alpine Immune Sciences, Inc.

[ir@alpineimmunesciences.com](mailto:ir@alpineimmunesciences.com)

[media@alpineimmunesciences.com](mailto:media@alpineimmunesciences.com)