# UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

**WASHINGTON, D.C. 20549** 

# FORM S-8 REGISTRATION STATEMENT

UNDER
THE SECURITIES ACT OF 1933

## STOKE THERAPEUTICS, INC.

(Exact name of Registrant as specified in its charter)

Delaware (State or other jurisdiction of incorporation or organization) 47-1144582 (I.R.S. Employer Identification Number)

45 Wiggins Avenue Bedford, MA 01730 (781)-430-8200

(Address, including zip code, and telephone number, including area code, of Registrant's principal executive offices)

2019 Equity Incentive Plan 2019 Employee Stock Purchase Plan (Full title of the plans)

> Edward M. Kaye, M.D. Chief Executive Officer Stoke Therapeutics, Inc. 45 Wiggins Avenue Bedford, MA 01730 (781)-430-8200

(Name, address, including zip code, and telephone number, including area code, of agent for service)

Please send copies of all communications to:

Robert A. Freedman, Esq. Julia Forbess, Esq. Fenwick & West LLP 555 California Street, 12th Floor San Francisco, California 94104 (415) 875-2300

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a large accelerated filer, an accelerated filer, a non-accelerated filer, a smaller reporting company, or an emerging growth company. See the definitions of "large accelerated filer," "accelerated filer," "smaller reporting company," and "emerging growth company" in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act.

Large accelerated filer		Accelerated filer	
Non-accelerated filer	$\boxtimes$	Smaller reporting company	$\times$
		Emerging growth company	X
0 00	npany, indicate by check mark if the registrant has elected not to use the extended transition counting standards provided pursuant to Section 7(a)(2)(B) of the Securities Act. $\Box$	n period for complying with any	

#### CALCULATION OF REGISTRATION FEE

Title of Each Class 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				
— Reserved for future issuance under the 2019 Equity Incentive				
Plan	1,463,085(2)	\$51.35(3)	\$75,129,415	\$8,197
— Reserved for future issuance under the 2019 Employee Stock				
Purchase Plan	365,771(4)	\$43.65(5)	\$15,965,905	\$1,742
Total	1,828,856		\$91,095,320	\$9,939

- (1) Pursuant to Rule 416(a) under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended (the "*Securities Act*"), this Registration Statement shall also cover any additional shares of the Registrant's common stock that become issuable in respect of the securities identified in the above table by reason of any stock dividend, stock split, recapitalization, or other similar transaction effected without the Registrant's receipt of consideration that increases the number of the Registrant's outstanding shares of common stock.
- (2) Represents additional shares reserved for issuance under the 2019 Equity Incentive Plan as of the date of this Registration Statement.
- (3) Calculated solely for the purposes of this offering under Rules 457(c) and (h) of the Securities Act on the basis of the average of the high and low prices of the Registrant's Common Stock as reported on the Nasdaq Global Select Market on March 16, 2021.
- (4) Represents additional shares reserved for issuance under the 2019 Employee Stock Purchase Plan as of the date of this Registration Statement.
- (5) Calculated solely for the purposes of this offering under Rules 457(c) and (h) of the Securities Act on the basis of the average of the high and low prices of the Registrant's Common Stock as reported on the Nasdaq Global Select Market on March 16, 2021. In the case of the 2019 Employee Stock Purchase Plan, this price per share is multiplied by 85%, which is the percentage of the price per share applicable to purchases under the 2019 Employee Stock Purchase Plan.

#### REGISTRATION OF ADDITIONAL SHARES PURSUANT TO GENERAL INSTRUCTION E

Pursuant to General Instruction E of Form S-8, Stoke Therapeutics, Inc. (the "*Registrant*") is filing this Registration Statement with the Securities and Exchange Commission (the "*Commission*") to register 1,463,085 additional shares of Common Stock under the Registrant's 2019 Equity Incentive Plan ("*EIP*"), pursuant to the provisions of the EIP providing for an automatic increase in the number of shares reserved for issuance under the EIP, and 365,771 additional shares of Common Stock under the Registrant's 2019 Employee Stock Purchase Plan ("*ESPP*"), pursuant to the provisions of the ESPP providing for an automatic increase in the number of shares reserved for issuance under the ESPP. This Registration Statement hereby incorporates by reference the contents of the Registrant's registration statements on Form S-8 filed with the Commission on June 19, 2019 (Registration No. 333-232191) and March 23, 2020 (Registration Statement No. 333-237345). In accordance with the instructional note to Part I of Form S-8 as promulgated by the Commission, the information specified by Part I of the Form S-8 has been omitted from this Registration Statement.

## PART II INFORMATION REQUIRED IN THE REGISTRATION STATEMENT

#### Item 3. Incorporation of Documents by Reference.

The following documents filed by the Registrant with the Commission pursuant to the Securities Act and the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the "*Exchange Act*"), are incorporated herein by reference:

- (a) the Registrant's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2020, filed with the Commission on March 9, 2021;
- (b) all other reports filed pursuant to Section 13(a) or 15(d) of the Exchange Act since the end of the fiscal year covered by the Registrant's Annual Report referred to in (a) above; and
- (c) the description of the Registrant's common stock contained in the Registrant's registration statement on Form 8-A (File No. 001-38938) filed with the Commission on June 11, 2019 under Section 12(b) of the Exchange Act, including any amendment or report filed for the purpose of updating such description.

All documents filed by the Registrant pursuant to Section 13(a), 13(c), 14 or 15(d) of the Exchange Act subsequent to the filing of this Registration Statement and prior to the filing of a post-effective amendment, which indicates that all securities offered hereby have been sold or which deregisters all securities then remaining unsold, shall be deemed to be incorporated by reference into this Registration Statement and to be a part hereof from the date of filing such documents, except as to specific sections of such documents as set forth therein. Any statement contained in a document incorporated or deemed to be incorporated by reference herein shall be deemed to be modified or superseded for purposes of this Registration Statement to the extent that a statement contained in any subsequently filed document, which also is deemed to be incorporated by reference herein, modifies or supersedes such statement.

#### Item 8. Exhibits.

The following exhibits are filed herewith:

Exhibit Number	Exhibit Description	<u>Form</u>	Incorporated File No.	by Reference Exhibit	<u>re</u> <u>Filing Date</u>	Filed <u>Herewith</u>
4.1	Restated Certificate of Incorporation of the Registrant	10-Q	001-38938	3.1	8/14/2019	
4.2	Restated Bylaws of the Registrant	8-K	001-38938	3.1	4/15/2020	
4.3	Form of Registrant's Common Stock certificate	S-1/A	333-231700	4.1	6/7/2019	
5.1	Opinion of Fenwick & West LLP					X
23.1	Consent of Fenwick & West LLP (contained in Exhibit 5.1)					X
23.2	Consent of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm					X
24.1	Power of Attorney (included on the signature page to this Registration Statement)					X
99.1	2019 Equity Incentive Plan and forms of award agreements thereunder	S-1/A	333-231700	10.4	6/7/2019	
99.2	2019 Employee Stock Purchase Plan and forms of award agreements thereunder	S-1/A	333-231700	10.5	6/7/2019	

#### **SIGNATURES**

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, 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 Bedford, State of Massachusetts, on this 19th day of March, 2021.

### STOKE THERAPEUTICS, INC.

By: /s/ Edward M. Kaye
Edward M. Kaye, M.D.
Chief Executive Officer

#### POWER OF ATTORNEY

KNOW ALL PERSONS BY THESE PRESENTS, that each person whose signature appears below hereby constitutes and appoints Edward M. Kaye and Stephen J. Tulipano, and each of them, as his or her true and lawful attorney-in-fact and agent with the full power of substitution, for him or her in any and all capacities, to sign any and all amendments (including post-effective amendments) to this Registration Statement on Form S-8, and to file the same, with all exhibits thereto and other documents in connection therewith, with the Securities and Exchange Commission, granting unto said attorney-in-fact and agent full power and authority to do and perform each and every act and thing requisite and necessary to be done in connection therewith, as fully for all intents and purposes as he might or could do in person, hereby ratifying and confirming all that said attorney-in-fact and agent, or his or her substitute, may lawfully do or cause to be done by virtue hereof.

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, this Registration Statement has been signed by the following persons on behalf of the Registrant in the capacities and on the date indicated.

<u>Name</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Date</u>
/s/ Edward M. Kaye Edward M. Kaye, M.D.	Chief Executive Officer and Director (Principal Executive Officer)	March 19, 2021
/s/ Stephen J. Tulipano Stephen J. Tulipano	Chief Financial Officer (Principal Financial and Accounting Officer)	March 19, 2021
/s/ Jennifer C. Burstein Jennifer C. Burstein	Director	March 19, 2021
/s/ Seth L. Harrison Seth L. Harrison, M.D.	Director	March 19, 2021
/s/ Adrian R. Krainer Adrian R. Krainer, Ph.D.	Director	March 19, 2021
/s/ Arthur A. Levin Arthur A. Levin, Ph.D.	Director	March 19, 2021
/s/ Garry E. Menzel Garry E. Menzel, Ph.D.	Director	March 19, 2021
/s/ Julie Anne Smith Julie Anne Smith	Director	March 19, 2021
/s/ Arthur O. Tzianabos Arthur O. Tzianabos, Ph.D.	Director	March 19, 2021



555 California Street 12th Floor San Francisco, CA 94104 415.875.2300 Fenwick.com

March 19, 2021

Stoke Therapeutics, Inc. 45 Wiggins Avenue Bedford, MA 01730

Ladies and Gentlemen:

At your request, as your counsel, we have examined the Registration Statement on Form S-8 (the "*Registration Statement*") to be filed by Stoke Therapeutics, Inc., a Delaware corporation (the "*Company*") with the Securities and Exchange Commission (the "*Commission*") on or about March 19, 2021 in connection with the registration under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended (the "*Securities Act*"), of an aggregate of 1,828,856 shares (the "*Shares*") of the Company's Common Stock, \$0.0001 par value per share (the "*Common Stock*"), subject to issuance by the Company (a) upon the exercise or settlement of awards granted or to be granted under the 2019 Equity Incentive Plan (the "*2019 Plan*") and (b) pursuant to purchase rights to acquire shares of Common Stock granted or to be granted under the Company's 2019 Employee Stock Purchase Plan (the "*Purchase Plan*"). The plans referred to in clauses (a) and (b) above are collectively referred to as the "*Plans*".

In connection with our opinion, we have examined such matters of fact as we have deemed necessary, which included examination of originals or copies of: (a) the Company's current Certificate of Incorporation and Bylaws, as amended (collectively, the "Charter Documents"), the Plans, the Registration Statement and the exhibits thereto, (b) certain corporate proceedings of the Company's Board of Directors (the "Board") and the Company's stockholders relating to adoption or approval of the Company Charter Documents, the Plans, the reservation of the Shares for sale and issuance, the filing of the Registration Statement and the registration of the Shares under the Securities Act and documents regarding the Company's outstanding and reserved capital stock and other securities and (c) such other documents as we have deemed advisable, and we have examined such questions of law as we have considered necessary.

In our examination of documents for purposes of this opinion, we have assumed, and express no opinion as to, the authenticity and completeness of all documents submitted to us as originals, the genuineness of signatures on documents reviewed by us, the conformity to originals and the completeness of all documents submitted to us as copies, the legal capacity of all parties executing any documents (other than the Company), the lack of any undisclosed termination or modification or waiver of any document, the absence of any extrinsic agreements or documents that might change or affect the interpretation or terms of documents, and the due authorization, execution and delivery of all documents by each party thereto other than the Company. We have also assumed that any certificates or instruments representing the Shares, when issued, will be executed by the Company and by officers of the Company duly authorized to do so. In rendering our opinion, we have also relied upon a Certificate of Good Standing dated March 19, 2021 issued by the Delaware Secretary of State with respect to the Company and representations and certifications made to us by the Company, including without limitation representations in a Management Certificate addressed to us of even date herewith that the Company has available a sufficient number of authorized shares of Common Stock that are not currently outstanding or reserved for issuance under other outstanding securities or plans of the Company, to enable the Company to issue and deliver all of the Shares as of the date of this letter.

We render this opinion only with respect to, and we express no opinion herein concerning the application or effect of the laws of any jurisdiction other than, the existing Delaware General Corporation Law now in effect. We express no opinion with respect to the securities or "blue sky" laws of any state.

Based upon, and subject to, the foregoing, it is our opinion that when the 1,828,856 Shares of Common Stock that may be issued and sold by the Company (a) upon the exercise or settlement of awards granted or to be granted under the 2019 Plan and (b) pursuant to purchase rights to acquire Shares of Common Stock granted or to be granted under the Purchase Plan, have been issued and sold by the Company against the Company's receipt of payment therefor (in an amount and type of consideration not less than the par value per Share) in accordance with the terms (including, without limitation, payment and authorization provisions) of the Plans, and have been duly registered on the books of the transfer agent and registrar for the Shares in the name or on behalf of the holders thereof, such Shares will be validly issued, fully paid and non-assessable.

We consent to the use of this opinion as an exhibit to the Registration Statement and further consent to all references to us, if any, in the Registration Statement, the prospectuses constituting a part thereof and any amendments thereto. We do not thereby admit that we are within the category of persons whose consent is required under Section 7 of the Securities Act or the rules and regulations of the Commission thereunder. This opinion is intended solely for use in connection with issuance and sale of the Shares subject to the Registration Statement and is not to be relied upon for any other purpose. In providing this letter, we are opining only as to the specific legal issues expressly set forth above, and no opinion shall be inferred as to any other matter or matters. This opinion is rendered on, and speaks only as of, the date of this letter first written above, and does not address any potential change in facts or law that may occur after the date of this opinion letter. We assume no obligation to advise you of any fact, circumstance, event or change in the law or the facts that may hereafter be brought to our attention, whether or not such occurrence would affect or modify any of the opinions expressed herein.

Very truly yours,

/s/ Fenwick & West LLP

FENWICK & WEST LLP

### CONSENT OF INDEPENDENT REGISTERED PUBLIC ACCOUNTING FIRM

The Board of Directors Stoke Therapeutics, Inc.:

We consent to the use of our report dated March 9, 2021 incorporated by reference herein.

/s/ KPMG LLP

Boston, Massachusetts March 19, 2021