

Investment Objective and Benchmark Index

The Biotech Growth Trust PLC (the "Company") seeks capital appreciation through investment in the worldwide biotechnology industry. Performance is measured against its benchmark index, the NASDAQ Biotechnology Index (net, total return, sterling adjusted).



Portfolio Manager
Geoffrey Hsu

Portfolio Manager
Josh Golomb



Fast Facts

As at 30 September 2024

Launch Date June 1997

AIC Sector Biotechnology & Healthcare

Date of Appointment of OrbiMed
19 May 2005

Annual Management Fee (payable by the Company)

0.65% of net assets plus 0.30% per annum on the Company's market capitalisation up to £500m, 0.20% on market capitalisation above £500m to £1bn and 0.10% on market capitalisation over £1bn

Performance fee See Annual Report for details

Ongoing Charges Ratio (OCR) * 1.2%

Continuation Vote 2025 AGM and every 5th AGM thereafter

Year / interim end 31 March / 30 September

Capital Structure 31,963,979 Ordinary Shares of 25p

Trust Characteristics

Number of Holdings 67

Net Assets (£m) £354.1m

Market Capitalisation (£m) £328.0m

Dividend Policy It is not anticipated that the Company will pay a dividend

Gearing (AIC basis) 6.0%

Leverage** Gross
108.6%
Commitment
107.5%

Share Price (p) 1,026.00

NAV (p) 1,107.75

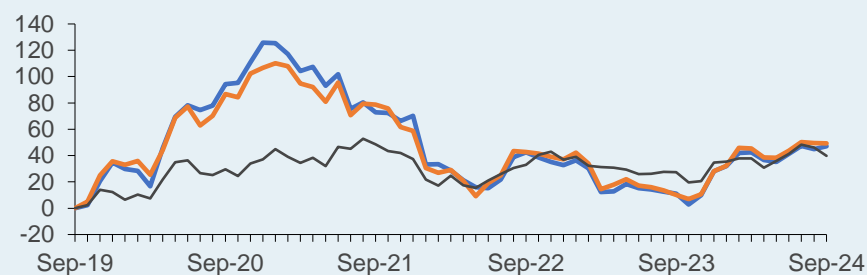
(Discount) / Premium (7.4%)

Portfolio Turnover p.a. 132.5%

Active Share*** 68.8%

Five Year Performance (%)

Past performance is not a guide to future performance. The value of investments and the income from them may fall as well as rise and is not guaranteed; an investor may receive back less than the original amount invested.



— Share Price (total return) +47.0%
— Net Asset Value per share (total return) +49.1%
— Benchmark: NASDAQ Biotechnology Index (net, total return, sterling adjusted) +39.8%

Source: Morningstar, Index - Bloomberg.

Ten Largest Holdings as at 30 September 2024 (% of total investments)

Name	Total
Amgen	8.2
QuantumPharm	7.7
Argenx	4.6
Sarepta Therapeutics	4.4
Alnylam Pharmaceuticals	3.2
Ionis Pharmaceuticals	3.0
Phathom Pharmaceuticals	2.8
Avidity Biosciences	2.8
CG oncology	2.6
Gilead Sciences	2.5
Total	41.8

Geographical Breakdown as at 30 September 2024 (%)†

North America	73.5%
China (quoted)	17.7%
Continental Europe	8.2%
Unquoted ‡	0.6%

Total **100.0%**

† Calculation based on economic exposure and expressed as a % of the total economic exposure. This includes all derivatives as an economically equivalent position in the underlying holding.

‡ No more than 10% of gross assets will be invested in unquoted investments at the time of acquisition. This limit includes any investment or commitment to invest in private equity funds managed by OrbiMed or an affiliate thereof. Investments or commitments to invest in such private equity funds will be limited to US\$15m, after the deduction of proceeds of disposal and other returns of capital. Of the 0.6% unquoted investments, 0.3% was in China and 0.3% was in Asia.

Source: All portfolio information sourced from Frostrow Capital LLP

Discrete Performance – Calendar Years (%)

Percentage Growth 12 Month Return	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	YTD
NAV	47.4	52.4	-23.1	-13.6	-7.2	16.9
Share Price	48.5	67.7	-24.6	-22.1	-3.5	14.8
Index	19.6	22.1	0.2	-0.3	-1.7	3.9

Standardised Discrete Performance (%)

Percentage Growth 12 Month Return	Sep 19-Sep 20	Sep 20-Sep 21	Sep 21-Sep 22	Sep 22-Sep 23	Sep 23-Sep 24
NAV	86.5	-4.2	-20.9	-22.1	35.5
Share Price	94.3	-11.1	-17.6	-21.9	32.2
Index	29.6	14.6	-10.4	-4.3	9.8

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Source: NAV (total return; fully diluted) & Share Price (total return) – Morningstar. Index - Bloomberg.

*Calculated at the financial year end, includes management fees and all other operating expenses, excludes performance fees.

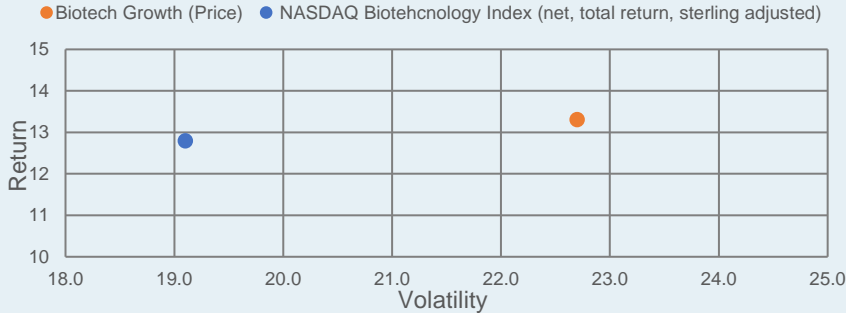
**The Board has set the leverage limit for both the Gross and the Commitment basis at 130% of the Company's Net Asset Value.

***Active Share is expressed as a percentage and shows the extent to which a fund's holdings and their weightings differ from those of the fund's benchmark index. A fund that closely tracks its index might have a low Active Share of less than 20% and be considered passive, while a fund with an Active Share of 60% or higher is generally considered to be actively managed.

Investment Policy

In order to achieve its investment objective, the Company invests in a diversified portfolio of shares and related securities in biotechnology companies on a worldwide basis. The Company will not invest more than 15% of the value of its gross assets in any one individual stock at the time of acquisition. No more than 10% of gross assets will be invested in unquoted investments at the time of acquisition. This limit includes any investment or commitment to invest in private equity funds managed by OrbiMed or an affiliate thereof. Investments or commitments to invest in such private equity funds will be limited to US\$15m, after the deduction of proceeds of disposal and other returns of capital. The Company's borrowing policy is that borrowings will not exceed 20% of value of the Company's net assets. The Company may be unable to invest directly or efficiently in certain countries or share classes. In these circumstances, the Company may gain exposure by investing indirectly through swaps or other derivative instruments. Exposure to these financial instruments will count towards and be subject to the following limits: Derivative transactions (excluding equity swaps) can be used to mitigate risk and/or enhance return and will be restricted to an aggregate net exposure of 5% of the value of the gross assets measured at the time of the relevant transaction; Equity swaps may be used for efficient portfolio management purposes and aggregate net counterparty exposure through a combination of derivatives and equity swap transactions is restricted to 12% of the value of the gross assets of the Company at the time of the transaction.

Return vs Volatility (Annualised since Date of Appointment of OrbiMed) – Chart (%)



Commentary

In September, the NAV per share was down 0.2%, the share price was up 1.4% and the benchmark NASDAQ Biotechnology Index (net, total return, sterling adjusted) was down 4.4%.

Biotech underperformed the general markets in September as the US Treasury 10-year yield rose shortly after the US Federal Reserve cut interest rates by 0.50%. An interest rate cut had already been widely expected by investors. We are optimistic that further interest rate cuts in the months ahead will gradually reduce the interest rate headwind that has dampened performance of the sector over the past couple of years.

There were four biotech initial public offerings (IPOs) in the month of September, raising over \$900 million. All four new issues closed up on the month, in contrast to the mixed performance of biotech IPOs earlier in the year. We believe a trend of successful offerings could rekindle generalist investor interest in the sector. The Company has been very selective in participating in IPOs in 2024 to date but did invest in two of the four offerings in September.

QuantumPharm, Vaxcyte, and Edgewise Therapeutics were the largest positive contributors to performance during the month. The stock price of QuantumPharm, a Chinese artificial intelligence drug discovery company, appreciated on no fundamental news, though we note that the announcement of more dramatic economic stimulus by the Chinese government has recently led to a broad-based stock market rebound in China. Vaxcyte's stock appreciated in September after announcing positive Phase 1/2 data for its 31-valent pneumococcal conjugate vaccine. Edgewise outperformed in September after announcing positive Phase 2 data for its drug for obstructive hypertrophic cardiomyopathy.

Ionis Pharmaceuticals, Regeneron Pharmaceuticals, and Dyne Therapeutics were the largest negative contributors to performance during the month. Ionis underperformed in September after announcing a \$500 million follow-on offering that absorbed a lot of the short-term demand for the stock. Regeneron's share price declined in September when a US District Court denied Regeneron's request for a preliminary injunction with respect to a potential competitor launching a biosimilar version of the company's eye drug Eylea. The share price of Dyne fell after disclosing two safety events in a Phase 1/2 trial for DYNE-251 for the treatment of Duchenne muscular dystrophy.

Codes

Sedol	0038551
ISIN	GB0000385517
Legal Entity Identifier (LEI)	549300Z41EP32MI2DN29
Global Intermediary Identification Number (GIIN)	U1MQ70.99999.SL.826
Bloomberg	BIOG LN
EPIC	BIOG

Discount / Premium Control Mechanism

The Directors have adopted an active discount management policy to establish and support an improved rating in the Company's shares through the use of share buybacks, with a view to limiting the discount to NAV per share at which the shares trade to no more than 6%. Shares bought back will be cancelled.

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Risk Warnings

This document is for information purposes only and does not constitute an offer or invitation to purchase shares in the Company and has not been prepared in connection with any such offer or invitation. Before investing in the Company, or any other investment product, you should satisfy yourself as to its suitability and the risks involved, and you may wish to consult a financial adviser.

Any return you receive depends on future market performance and is uncertain. The Company does not seek any protection from future market performance so you could lose some or all of your investment. Shares of the Company are bought and sold on the London Stock Exchange (LSE). The price you pay or receive, like other listed shares, is determined by supply and demand and may be at a discount or premium to the underlying net asset value of the Company. Usually, at any given time, the price you pay for a share will be higher than the price you could sell it. For further information on the principal risks the Company is exposed to please refer to the Company's Annual Report or Investor Disclosure Document available at www.biotechgt.com. The Company can borrow to purchase investments, this could potentially magnify any losses or gains made by the Company.

Target Market

The Company is suitable for investors seeking an investment that aims to deliver total returns over the longer term (at least five years), is compatible with the needs for retail clients, professional clients and eligible counterparties, and is eligible for all distribution channels.

The Company may not be suitable for investors who are concerned about short-term volatility and performance, have low or no risk tolerance or are looking for capital protection, who are seeking a guaranteed or regular income, or a predictable return profile. The Company does not offer capital protection.

Value Assessment

Frostrow Capital LLP has conducted an annual Value Assessment on the Company in line with Financial Conduct Authority (FCA) rules set out in the Consumer Duty regulation. The Assessment focuses on the nature of the product, including benefits received and its quality, limitations that are part of the product, expected total costs to clients and target market considerations.

Within this, the assessment considers quality of services, performance of the Company (against both benchmark and peers), total fees (including management fees and entry and exit fees as applicable to the Company), and also considers whether vulnerable consumers are able to receive fair value from the product.

Frostrow Capital LLP concluded that the Company is providing value based on the above assessment.

Important Information

The Biotech Growth Trust PLC is a public limited company whose shares are listed on the LSE and is registered with HMRC as an investment trust. The Company has an indeterminate life, although shareholders consider and vote on the continuation of the Company every five years (the next such vote will be held in 2025).

This financial promotion is issued by Frostrow Capital LLP which is authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority ("FCA").



The Biotech Growth Trust PLC
Information as at 30 September 2024