

PROSPECTUS

5,695,898 Shares



Common Stock

This prospectus relates to the resale by the stockholders listed in the section of this prospectus entitled “Selling Stockholders” (the “Selling Stockholders”), of up to 5,695,898 shares of our common stock, par value \$0.0001 per share (the “Common Stock”). The 5,695,898 shares of Common Stock consist of: (i) 1,197,448 shares of Common Stock (the “Shares”), (ii) up to 1,546,700 shares of Common Stock issuable upon conversion of our outstanding Series D Convertible Preferred Stock, par value \$0.0001 per share (the “Series D Preferred Stock”) and (iii) up to 2,951,750 shares of Common Stock issuable upon exercise of outstanding warrants to purchase shares of Common Stock (the “Warrants” and together with the Shares and the Series D Preferred Stock, the “Resale Shares”).

We will receive none of the proceeds from the sale of the shares by the selling stockholders. We will receive proceeds upon the exercise of outstanding warrants for shares of common stock covered by this prospectus if the warrants are exercised for cash. We will bear all expenses of registration incurred in connection with this offering, but all selling and other expenses incurred by the selling stockholders will be borne by them.

Our common stock is listed on the Nasdaq Capital Market under the symbol “CRDF.” On May 21, 2020, the last reported sale price per share of our common stock on the Nasdaq Capital Market was \$2.05.

There is no established trading market for the warrants, and we do not expect an active trading market to develop. We do not intend to list the warrants on any securities exchange or other trading market. Without an active trading market, the liquidity of the warrants will be limited.

Investing in our securities involves a high degree of risk. You should review carefully the risks and uncertainties described under the heading “Risk Factors” beginning on page 6 of this prospectus, and under similar headings in any amendments or supplements to this prospectus.

Neither the Securities and Exchange Commission nor any state securities commission has approved or disapproved of these securities or passed upon the adequacy or accuracy of this prospectus. Any representation to the contrary is a criminal offense.

The date of this prospectus is June 2, 2020

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You may rely only on the information contained in this prospectus. We have not authorized anyone to provide you with different information. This prospectus does not constitute an offer to sell or a solicitation of an offer to buy any securities other than the securities offered by this prospectus. This prospectus does not constitute an offer to sell or a solicitation of an offer to buy any securities in any circumstances in which such offer or solicitation is unlawful. The information contained in this prospectus is accurate only as of the date on the front cover of this prospectus, regardless of the time of delivery of this prospectus or of any sale of shares of our securities. Neither the delivery of this prospectus nor any sale made in connection with this prospectus shall, under any circumstances, create any implication that there has been no change in our affairs since the date of this prospectus.

CAUTIONARY NOTE REGARDING FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS

This prospectus and the documents incorporated by reference herein contain, in addition to historical information, certain forward-looking statements. within the meaning of Section 27A of the Securities Act or 1933, as amended (the “Securities Act”), and Section 21E of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, that include information relating to future events, future financial performance, strategies, expectations, competitive environment, regulation and availability of resources. Such forward-looking statements include those that express plans, anticipation, intent, contingency, goals, targets or future development and/or otherwise are not statements of historical fact. These forward-looking statements are based on our current expectations and projections about future events and they are subject to risks and uncertainties known and unknown that could cause actual results and developments to differ materially from those expressed or implied in such statements.

In some cases, you can identify forward-looking statements by terminology, such as “expects,” “anticipates,” “intends,” “estimates,” “plans,” “believes,” “seeks,” “may,” “should”, “could” or the negative of such terms or other similar expressions. Accordingly, these statements involve estimates, assumptions and uncertainties that could cause actual results to differ materially from those expressed in them. Any forward-looking statements are qualified in their entirety by reference to the factors discussed throughout this prospectus or incorporated herein by reference.

You should read this prospectus and the documents we have incorporated by reference or filed as exhibits to the registration statement, of which this prospectus is part, completely and with the understanding that our actual future results may be materially different from what we expect. You should not assume that the information contained in this prospectus or any prospectus supplement or free writing prospectus is accurate as of any date other than the date on the front cover of those documents, or that the information contained in any document incorporated by reference is accurate as of any date other than the date of the document incorporated by reference, regardless of the time of delivery of this prospectus or any sale of a security.

Risks, uncertainties and other factors that may cause our actual results, performance or achievements to be different from those expressed or implied in our written or oral forward-looking statements may be found in this prospectus under the heading “Risk Factors” and in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2019 under the headings “Risk Factors” and “Business,” as updated in our Quarterly Report(s) on Form 10-Q.

Forward-looking statements speak only as of the date they are made. You should not put undue reliance on any forward-looking statements. We assume no obligation to update forward-looking statements to reflect actual results, changes in assumptions or changes in other factors affecting forward-looking information, except to the extent required by applicable securities laws. If we do update one or more forward-looking statements, no inference should be drawn that we will make additional updates with respect to those or other forward-looking statements.

New factors emerge from time to time, and it is not possible for us to predict which factors will arise. In addition, we cannot assess the impact of each factor on our business or the extent to which any factor, or combination of factors, may cause actual results to differ materially from those contained in any forward-looking statements. We qualify all of the information presented in this prospectus and incorporated herein by reference, and particularly our forward-looking statements, by these cautionary statements.

PROSPECTUS SUMMARY

The following summary highlights certain of the information contained elsewhere in or incorporated by reference into this prospectus. Because this is only a summary, however, it does not contain all the information you should consider before investing in our securities and it is qualified in its entirety by, and should be read in conjunction with, the more detailed information included elsewhere in or incorporated by reference into this prospectus. Before you make an investment decision, you should read this entire prospectus carefully, including the risks of investing in our securities discussed under the section of this prospectus entitled "Risk Factors" and similar headings in the other documents that are incorporated by reference into this prospectus. You should also carefully read the information incorporated by reference into this prospectus, including our financial statements, and the exhibits to the registration statement of which this prospectus is a part.

Unless the context otherwise requires, references to "we," "our," "us," "Cardiff" or the "Company" in this prospectus mean Cardiff Oncology, Inc.

Overview

We are a clinical-stage, oncology therapeutics company, taking a Precision Cancer Medicine™ ("PCM™") approach to develop drugs that target mitosis (cell division) to treat various types of cancer, including prostate, colorectal and leukemia. By integrating a biomarker strategy into our development programs, we will be able to identify patients more likely to respond to treatment.

On March 15, 2017, we announced that we licensed onvansertib, a PLK1 inhibitor, from Nerviano, pursuant to a license agreement with Nerviano dated March 13, 2017. This exclusive, world-wide license agreement includes 3 issued patents for onvansertib which cover composition of matter, salt forms of onvansertib and combination of onvansertib with other drugs. Onvansertib was developed to have high selectivity to PLK1 (at low nanomolar IC₅₀ levels), to have ideal pharmacokinetics, including oral bioavailability and administration and a drug half-life of approximately 24 hours, allowing for flexible dosing and scheduling, and is well tolerated and safe with only mild to moderate side effects reported to-date. A Phase 1 safety study of onvansertib has been successfully completed in patients with advanced metastatic solid tumors and published in 2017 in *Investigational New Drugs*.

We currently have three active clinical trials: a Phase 1b/2 open-label clinical trial of onvansertib in combination with FOLFIRI and Avastin® in patients with mCRC with a KRAS mutation, being conducted at USC Norris Comprehensive Cancer Center and The Mayo Clinic; a Phase 2 open-label clinical trial of onvansertib in combination with abiraterone acetate (Zytiga®) and prednisone in patients with mCRPC, being conducted at Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center ("BIDMC"), Dana-Farber Cancer Institute ("DFCI"), and Massachusetts General Hospital ("MGH"); and a Phase 1b/2 open-label clinical trial of onvansertib in combination with standard-of-care chemotherapy, decitabine, in patients with AML, being conducted at eight sites across the U.S.

Onvansertib is a first-in-class, third-generation, oral and highly-selective PLK1 inhibitor with demonstrated antitumor activity in different preclinical models. Polo-like kinase family consists of 5 members (PLK1-PLK5) and they are involved in multiple functions in cell division, including the regulation of centrosome maturation, checkpoint recovery, spindle assembly, cytokinesis, apoptosis and many others. PLK1 is essential for the maintenance of genomic stability during cell division. The over-expression of PLK1 can lead to immature cell division followed by aneuploidy and cell death, a hallmark of cancer. PLK1 is over-expressed in a wide variety of leukemias/lymphomas and solid tumor cancers, including acute myeloid leukemia, non-Hodgkin lymphoma, prostate, lung, breast, ovarian, colorectal and adrenocortical carcinoma. In addition, several studies have shown that over-expression of PLK1 is associated with poor prognosis. Blocking the expression of PLK1 by kinase inhibitors, such as onvansertib, can effectively inhibit growth of, and induce, tumor cell death.

We believe the high-selectivity of onvansertib to PLK1, its 24-hour half-life and oral bioavailability, as well as its demonstrated safety and tolerability, with expected on-target, easy to manage and reversible side effects, may prove useful in addressing clinical therapeutic needs across a variety of cancers.

Onvansertib has been tested in-vivo in different xenograft and transgenic models suggesting tumor growth inhibition or tumor regression when used in combination with other therapies. Onvansertib has been tested for antiproliferative activity on a panel of 148 tumor cell lines and appeared highly active with an IC₅₀ (a measure concentration for 50% target inhibition) below 100 nM in 75 cell lines and IC₅₀ values below 1 uM in 133 out of 148 cell lines. Onvansertib also appears active in cells expressing multi-drug resistant (“MDR”) transporter proteins and we believe its apparent ability to overcome the MDR transporter resistance mechanism in cancer cells could prove useful in broader drug combination applications.

In in-vitro and in-vivo preclinical studies, synergy (interaction of discrete drugs such that the total effect is greater than the sum of the individual effects) has been demonstrated with onvansertib when used in combination with numerous different chemotherapies, including cisplatin, cytarabine, doxorubicin, gemcitabine and paclitaxel, as well as targeted therapeutics, such as abiraterone acetate (Zytiga®), histone deacetylase (“HDAC”) inhibitors, such as belinostat (Beleodaq®), quizartinib (AC220), a development stage FLT3 inhibitor, and bortezomib (Velcade®). These therapies are used clinically for the treatment of solid tumor cancers, leukemias and lymphomas including mCRPC, mCRC, triple negative breast cancer (“TNBC”), AML and non-Hodgkin lymphoma (“NHL”).

Company Information

We were incorporated in the State of Florida on April 26, 2002. On July 2, 2004, we acquired Xenomics, a California corporation, which was in business to develop and commercialize urine-based molecular diagnostics technology. In 2007, we changed our fiscal year end from January 31 to December 31 and in January 2010, we re-domesticated our state of incorporation from Florida to Delaware and our name was changed to Trovagene, Inc. On May 6, 2020, we announced a change in our company name from Trovagene, Inc. to Cardiff Oncology, Inc. We have trademarks for the name TROVAGENE, TROVAGENE PRECISION CANCER MEDICINE, TROVAGENE ONCOLOGY and PIPELINE WITHIN A MOLECULE and we have applied for the trademark for Cardiff Oncology. Our principal executive offices are located at 11055 Flintkote Avenue, San Diego, CA 92121, and our telephone number is 858-952-7570. Our website address is www.cardiffoncology.com. The information on our website is not part of this prospectus. We have included our website address as a factual reference and do not intend it to be an active link to our website.

RISK FACTORS

An investment in our common stock involves risks. Prior to making a decision about investing in our common stock, you should consider carefully the risks together with all of the other information contained or incorporated by reference in this prospectus, including any risks in the section entitled “Risk Factors” contained in any supplements to this prospectus and in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2019 and in our subsequent filings with the SEC. Each of the referenced risks and uncertainties could adversely affect our business, operating results and financial condition, as well as adversely affect the value of an investment in our securities. Additional risks not known to us or that we believe are immaterial may also adversely affect our business, operating results and financial condition and the value of an investment in our securities.

REGISTERED OFFERING AND PRIVATE PLACEMENT OF SECURITIES

On March 30, 2020 and April 9, 2020, we entered into Securities Purchase Agreements (the “Purchase Agreements”) with Lincoln Park Capital Fund, LLC (“LPC”), pursuant to which we offered to LPC, in registered direct offerings, an aggregate of (i) 1,704,970 shares (the “Shares”) of common stock, par value \$0.0001 per share and (ii) 386,967 pre-funded warrants to purchase shares of our common stock.

In concurrent private placements, we also sold to LPC warrants to purchase an aggregate 2,091,937 shares of common stock. The Series J Warrants are exercisable for an aggregate 931,967 shares of common stock beginning on September 30, 2020 at an exercise price of \$0.948 per share and will expire 5.5 years following the date of issuance. The

Series L Warrants are exercisable for an aggregate 1,159,970 shares of common stock beginning on October 9, 2020 at an exercise price of \$0.81 per share and will expire 5.5 years following the date of issuance.

On May 8, 2020, we entered into a Stock and Warrant Subscription Agreement with POC Capital, LLC, or POC, pursuant to which we issued to POC at an aggregate issue price of \$2,300,000 (i) 602,833 shares of our common stock, (ii) 154,670 shares of its Series D Preferred Stock and (iii) a warrant exercisable for 859,813 shares of our common stock, in exchange for POC funding clinical development of onvansertib, our first-in-class, 3rd generation oral and highly selective PLK1 inhibitor in a Phase 1b/2 clinical trial in patients with metastatic colorectal cancer pursuant to a Master Services Agreement dated as of January 25, 2019 by and among us, Integrium, LLC and POC, as amended. The warrant is exercisable at any time beginning November 8, 2020 until November 7, 2025 at an exercise price of \$1.50 per share.

On May 12, 2020, we entered into a Securities Purchase Agreement with one of our directors pursuant to which we sold 447,761 shares of common stock at a purchase price of \$1.34 per share for gross proceeds of approximately \$600,000.

On May 14, 2020, we entered into a Securities Purchase Agreement with certain of our directors and CEO pursuant to which we sold 146,854 shares of Common Stock at a purchase price of \$1.43 per share for gross proceeds of \$210,000.

USE OF PROCEEDS

We will not receive any of the proceeds from any sale or other disposition of the common stock covered by this prospectus. All proceeds from the sale of the common stock will be paid directly to the selling stockholders. We may, however, receive cash proceeds equal to the total exercise price of the Warrants to the extent that the Warrants are exercised for cash. However, the Warrants contain a “cashless exercise” feature that allow the holders to exercise the Warrants without making a cash payment to us in the event that there is no registration statement registering the Resale Shares. There can be no assurance that any of these Warrants will be exercised by the Selling Stockholders at all or that the Warrants will be exercised for cash rather than pursuant to the “cashless exercise” feature. To the extent we receive proceeds from the cash exercise of the Warrants, we intend to use such proceeds for working capital purposes.

SELLING STOCKHOLDERS

This prospectus covers the resale, from time to time by the selling stockholders identified below, of up to 5,695,898 shares of our common stock issuable upon exercise of certain warrants held by such selling stockholders.

We will not receive any proceeds from the sale of these shares by the selling stockholders. We will bear all costs relating to the registration of these shares of our common stock. We are registering the shares hereby pursuant to the terms of our agreements with certain stockholders, in order to permit the selling stockholders identified in the table below to offer the shares for resale from time to time.

The table below sets forth certain information regarding the selling stockholders and the shares of our common stock offered by them in this prospectus. The selling stockholders have not had a material relationship with us within the past three years other than as described in the footnotes to the table below or as a result of their acquisition of our shares or other securities. To our knowledge, subject to community property laws where applicable, each person named in the table has sole voting and investment power with respect to the shares of common stock set forth opposite such person’s name.

Selling Stockholder	Number of Shares Beneficially Owned Prior to this Offering		Number of Shares Being Offered (2)	Number of Shares Beneficially Owned After this Offering			
	Number	Percent (1)		Number	Percent (1)		
Lincoln Park Capital Fund, LLC (3)	709,000	(4)	4.9	2,091,937	(5)	709,000	4.9
PoC Capital, LLC (6)	677,000	(7)	4.9	3,009,346	(8)	155,000	1.1
Pace Trust Dated Jan. 24th 2013 (9)	447,761		3.3	447,761		—	—
Lale E. White Trust dtd 3/4/2020 (10)	69,930		*	69,930		—	—
Rodney Markin	75,129	(11)	*	20,979		54,150	*
Gary S. Jacob	66,800	(12)	*	17,483		49,317	*
Thomas Adams	124,780	(13)	*	13,986		110,794	*
James O. Armitage	10,490		*	10,490		—	*
John Brancaccio	56,919	(14)	*	6,993		49,926	*
Mark Erlander	82,165	(15)	*	6,993		75,172	*

*less than 1%

- (1) Percentages are based on 13,501,222 shares outstanding as of May 21, 2020. Shares of our common stock subject to options, warrants or conversion rights that are currently exercisable or convertible, or exercisable or convertible within 60 days of May 20, 2020 are deemed to be outstanding for the purpose of computing the percentage ownership of the person holding those options, warrants or conversion rights, but are not treated as outstanding for the purpose of computing the percentage ownership of any other person.
- (2) Assumes all of the shares of common stock registered on the registration statement of which this prospectus is a part are sold in the offering, that shares of common stock beneficially owned by the selling stockholders but not being offered pursuant to this prospectus (if any) are not sold, and that no additional shares of common stock are purchased or otherwise acquired by the selling stockholders.
- (3) Joshua Scheinfeld and Jonathan Cope, the principals of Lincoln Park are deemed to be beneficial owners of all the shares of common stock owned by Lincoln Park. Messrs. Scheinfeld and Cope have shared voting and disposition power over the shares being offered. The address for Lincoln Park Capital Fund, LLC is 440 North Wells, Suite 410, Chicago, IL 60654.
- (4) Consists of (i) 23,000 shares of common stock, (ii) 12,732 shares of common stock issuable upon exercise of December 19, 2017 warrants, (iii) 200,000 shares of common stock issuable upon exercise of June 12, 2018 warrants, (iv) 382,166 shares of common stock issuable upon exercise of Series B warrants, (v) 91,102 shares of common stock issuable upon exercise of Series D warrants. Excludes 2,197,251 shares of common stock issuable upon exercise of warrants with a 4.9% beneficial ownership limitation.
- (5) Consists of (i) 931,967 shares of common stock issuable upon exercise of Series J warrants and (ii) 1,159,970 shares of common stock issuable upon exercise of Series L warrants.
- (6) Daron Evans as Managing Director of PoC Capital, LLC has voting and dispositive power over the securities held by such entity.
- (7) Consists of (i) 602,833 shares of common stock and (ii) 74,167 shares of common stock issuable upon conversion of 154,670 shares of Series D Preferred Stock. Excludes 1,472,533 shares of common stock issuable upon conversion of Series D Preferred Stock and 155,000 shares issuable upon exercise of warrants with a 4.9% beneficial ownership limitation .

- (8) Consists of (i) 602,833 shares of common stock, (ii) 1,546,700 shares of common stock issuable upon conversion of 154,670 shares of Series D Preferred Stock and (iii) 859,813 shares of common stock issuable upon exercise of warrants.
- (9) Gary W. Pace has voting and dispositive power over the securities held by such entity.
- (10) Lale E. White has voting and dispositive power over the securities held by such entity.
- (11) Includes 46,969 shares of common stock issuable upon exercise of stock options.
- (12) Includes 47,248 shares of common stock issuable upon exercise of stock options.
- (13) Includes 105,905 shares of common stock issuable upon exercise of stock options.
- (14) Includes 47,659 shares of common stock issuable upon exercise of stock options.
- (15) Includes 68,796 shares of common stock issuable upon exercise of stock options.

DESCRIPTION OF SECURITIES

General

We are authorized to issue up to 150,000,000 shares of common stock, \$0.0001 par value per share, and 20,000,000 shares of preferred stock, \$0.001 par value per share.

As of May 21, 2020, a total of 13,501,222 shares of our common stock were issued and outstanding and 60,600 and 154,670 shares of our Series A Convertible Preferred Stock and Series D Convertible Preferred Stock were issued and outstanding, respectively.

Common Stock

The holders of our common stock are entitled to one vote per share. Our certificate of incorporation does not provide for cumulative voting. The holders of our common stock are entitled to receive ratably such dividends, if any, as may be declared by our board of directors out of legally available funds; however, the current policy of our board of directors is to retain earnings, if any, for operations and growth. Upon liquidation, dissolution or winding-up, the holders of our common stock are entitled to share ratably in all assets that are legally available for distribution. Except for a stockholder who has the right to participate, until April 10, 2021, in any issuance by us of common stock in a subsequent financing up to 50% of the subsequent financing, the holders of our common stock have no preemptive, subscription, redemption or conversion rights. The rights, preferences and privileges of holders of our common stock are subject to, and may be adversely affected by, the rights of the holders of any series of preferred stock, which may be designated solely by action of our board of directors and issued in the future.

Preferred Stock

The following is a summary of the material terms of our Series A Convertible Preferred Stock. This summary is not complete. The following summary is qualified in its entirety by reference to the Certificate of Designation of the Series A Convertible Preferred Stock, incorporated by reference herein, which has been filed as an exhibit to the registration statement of which this prospectus is a part.

Series A Convertible Preferred Stock

The material terms of the Series A Convertible Preferred Stock consist of:

Dividends. Holders of our Series A Convertible Preferred Stock are entitled to receive cumulative dividends at the rate per share of 4% per annum, payable quarterly on March 31, June 30, September 30 and December 31, beginning with September 30, 2005. Dividends are payable, at our sole election, in cash or shares of Common Stock. As of December 31, 2019 and 2018, we had \$365,255 and \$341,015, respectively in accrued cumulative unpaid preferred stock dividends, included in

accrued liabilities in our consolidated balance sheets, and \$24,240 and \$24,240 of accrued dividends was recorded during the years ended December 31, 2019 and 2018, respectively.

Voting Rights. Shares of the Series A Convertible Preferred Stock have no voting rights. However, so long as any shares of Series A Convertible Preferred Stock are outstanding, we may not, without the affirmative vote of the holders of the shares of Series A Convertible Preferred Stock then outstanding, (a) adversely change the powers, preferences or rights given to the Series A Convertible Preferred Stock, (b) authorize or create any class of stock senior or equal to the Series A Convertible Preferred Stock, (c) amend its certificate of incorporation or other charter documents, so as to affect adversely any rights of the holders of Series A Convertible Preferred Stock or (d) increase the authorized number of shares of Series A Convertible Preferred Stock.

Liquidation. Upon any liquidation, dissolution or winding-up of our company, the holders of the Series A Convertible Preferred Stock are entitled to receive an amount equal to the Stated Value per share, which is currently \$10 per share plus any accrued and unpaid dividends.

Conversion Rights. Each share of Series A Convertible Preferred Stock is convertible at the option of the holder into that number of shares of Common Stock determined by dividing the Stated Value, currently \$10 per share, by the conversion price, which at the time of issuance was \$928.80 per share.

Subsequent Equity Sales. The conversion price is subject to adjustment for dilutive issuances for a period of 12 months beginning upon registration of the Common Stock underlying the Series A Convertible Preferred Stock. The relevant registration statement became effective on March 17, 2006 and the conversion price was adjusted to \$691.20 per share.

Automatic Conversion. If the price of our Common Stock equals \$1,857.60 per share for 20 consecutive trading days, and an average of 116 shares of Common Stock per day are traded during the 20 trading days, we will have the right to deliver a notice to the holders of the Series A Convertible Preferred Stock, requesting the holders to convert any portion of the shares of Series A Convertible Preferred Stock into shares of Common Stock at the applicable conversion price.

Series D Convertible Preferred Stock

General. Our board of directors has designated up to 154,670 shares of the 20,000,000 authorized shares of preferred stock as Series D Convertible Preferred Stock ("Series D Preferred"). When issued, the shares of Series D Preferred will be validly issued, fully paid and non-assessable.

Conversion. Each share of Series D Preferred will be convertible at the option of the holder into ten shares of Common Stock (subject to adjustment as provided in the certificate of designation). Holders of Series D Preferred will be prohibited from converting Series D Preferred into shares of our Common Stock if, as a result of such conversion, the holder, together with its affiliates, would beneficially own more than 4.99% (or upon the election by a holder, 9.99%) of the total number of shares of our Common Stock then issued and outstanding.

Liquidation Preference. In the event of our liquidation, dissolution or winding-up, holders of Series D Preferred will be entitled to receive the same amount that a holder of our Common Stock would receive if the Series D Preferred were fully converted into shares of our Common Stock at the conversion price which amounts shall be paid *pari passu* with all holders of Common Stock.

Voting Rights. The holders of Series D Preferred shall have the right to vote as-if-converted to Common Stock (limited to 93.41% of the then as if converted Common Stock) all matters submitted to a vote of holders of our Common Stock.. The holders of Series D Preferred shall vote together with all other classes and series of Common Stock as a single class on all actions to be taken by the Common Stock holders except to the extent that voting as a separate class or series is required by law.

Dividends. Shares of Series D Preferred will not be entitled to receive any dividends, unless and until specifically declared by our board of directors.

Warrants

On March 30, 2020 and April 9, 2020, we sold to LPC warrants to purchase an aggregate 2,091,937 shares of common stock. The Series J Warrants are exercisable for an aggregate 931,967 shares of common stock beginning on September 30, 2020 at an exercise price of \$0.948 per share and will expire 5.5 years following the date of issuance. The Series L Warrants

are exercisable for an aggregate 1,159,970 shares of common stock beginning on October 9, 2020 at an exercise price of \$0.81 per share and will expire 5.5 years following the date of issuance.

On May 8, 2020, we sold to POC warrants to purchase an aggregate 859,813 shares of common stock. The warrants are exercisable beginning on November 8, 2020 at an exercise price of \$1.50 per share and will expire on November 7, 2025.

Anti-Takeover Effects of Certain Provisions of our Certificate of Incorporation, Bylaws and the DGCL

Delaware Law

We are subject to Section 203 of the Delaware General Corporation Law. This provision generally prohibits a Delaware corporation from engaging in any business combination with any interested stockholder for a period of three years following the date the stockholder became an interested stockholder, unless:

- prior to such date, the board of directors approved either the business combination or the transaction that resulted in the stockholder becoming an interested stockholder;
- upon consummation of the transaction that resulted in the stockholder becoming an interested stockholder, the interested stockholder owned at least 85% of the voting stock of the corporation outstanding at the time the transaction commenced, excluding for purposes of determining the number of shares outstanding those shares owned by persons who are directors and also officers and by employee stock plans in which employee participants do not have the right to determine confidentially whether shares held subject to the plan will be tendered in a tender or exchange offer; or
- on or subsequent to such date, the business combination is approved by the board of directors and authorized at an annual meeting or special meeting of stockholders and not by written consent, by the affirmative vote of at least 66 2/3% of the outstanding voting stock that is not owned by the interested stockholder.

Section 203 defines a business combination to include:

- any merger or consolidation involving the corporation and the interested stockholder;
- any sale, transfer, pledge or other disposition of 10% or more of the assets of the corporation involving the interested stockholder;
- subject to certain exceptions, any transaction that results in the issuance or transfer by the corporation of any stock of the corporation to the interested stockholder;
- any transaction involving the corporation that has the effect of increasing the proportionate share of the stock of any class or series of the corporation beneficially owned by the interested stockholder; or
- the receipt by the interested stockholder of the benefit of any loans, advances, guarantees, pledges or other financial benefits provided by or through the corporation.

In general, Section 203 defines an “interested stockholder” as any entity or person beneficially owning 15% or more of the outstanding voting stock of a corporation, or an affiliate or associate of the corporation and was the owner of 15% or more of the outstanding voting stock of a corporation at any time within three years prior to the time of determination of interested stockholder status; and any entity or person affiliated with or controlling or controlled by such entity or person.

These statutory provisions could delay or frustrate the removal of incumbent directors or a change in control of our Company. They could also discourage, impede, or prevent a merger, tender offer, or proxy contest, even if such event would be favorable to the interests of stockholders.

Our amended and restated certificate of incorporation and bylaws contain provisions that could have the effect of discouraging potential acquisition proposals or making a tender offer or delaying or preventing a change in control, including changes a stockholder might consider favorable. In particular, our certificate of incorporation and bylaws, as applicable, among other things:

- provide our board of directors with the ability to alter our bylaws without stockholder approval; and
- provide that vacancies on our board of directors may be filled by a majority of directors in office, although less than a quorum.

Such provisions may have the effect of discouraging a third-party from acquiring us, even if doing so would be beneficial to our stockholders. These provisions are intended to enhance the likelihood of continuity and stability in the composition of our board of directors and in the policies formulated by them, and to discourage some types of transactions that may involve an actual or threatened change in control of our Company. These provisions are designed to reduce our vulnerability to an unsolicited acquisition proposal and to discourage some tactics that may be used in proxy fights. We believe that the benefits of increased protection of our potential ability to negotiate with the proponent of an unfriendly or unsolicited proposal to acquire or restructure our Company outweigh the disadvantages of discouraging such proposals because, among other things, negotiation of such proposals could result in an improvement of their terms.

However, these provisions could have the effect of discouraging others from making tender offers for our shares that could result from actual or rumored takeover attempts. These provisions also may have the effect of preventing changes in our management.

Disclosure of SEC Position on Indemnification for Securities Act Liabilities

Insofar as indemnification for liabilities arising under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended (the “Securities Act”), may be permitted for directors, officers and persons controlling our Company, we understand that it is the SEC’s opinion that such indemnification is against public policy as expressed in the Securities Act and may therefore be unenforceable.

PLAN OF DISTRIBUTION

The selling security holders, including their transferees, donees, pledgees, assignees and successors-in-interest, may, from time to time, sell, transfer or otherwise dispose of any or all of the shares of common stock offered by this prospectus from time to time on any stock exchange, market or trading facility on which the shares are traded or in private transactions. These dispositions may be at fixed prices, at market prices prevailing at the time of sale, at prices related to prevailing market price, at varying prices determined at the time of sale or at negotiated prices. The selling security holders may use any one or more of the following methods when selling shares:

- ordinary brokerage transactions and transactions in which the broker-dealer solicits purchasers;
- block trades in which the broker-dealer will attempt to sell the shares as agent but may position and resell a portion of the block as principal to facilitate the transaction;
- purchases by a broker-dealer as principal and resale by the broker-dealer for its account;
- an exchange distribution in accordance with the rules of the applicable exchange;
- privately negotiated transactions;
- settlement of short sales entered into after the date of this prospectus;
- broker-dealers may agree with the selling security holders to sell a specified number of the shares at a stipulated price per share;
- through the writing or settlement of options or other hedging transactions, whether through an options exchange or otherwise;
- a combination of any of these methods of sale; or
- any other method permitted pursuant to applicable law.

Broker-dealers engaged by the selling security holders may arrange for other brokers-dealers to participate in sales. Broker-dealers may receive commissions or discounts from the selling security holders (or, if any broker-dealer acts as agent

for the purchaser of shares, from the purchaser) in amounts to be negotiated. Each selling security holder does not expect these commissions and discounts relating to its sales of shares to exceed what is customary in the types of transactions involved.

Under applicable rules and regulations under the Exchange Act, any person engaged in the distribution of the shares may not simultaneously engage in market making activities with respect to our common stock for a period of two business days prior to the commencement of the distribution. In addition, the selling security holders will be subject to applicable provisions of the Exchange Act and the rules and regulations thereunder, including Regulation M, which may limit the timing of purchases and sales of shares of our common stock by the selling security holders or any other person. We have advised the selling security holders that the anti-manipulation rules of Regulation M under the Exchange Act may apply to sales of shares in the market and to the activities of the selling security holders and their affiliates. In addition, we will make copies of this prospectus available to the selling security holders for the purpose of satisfying the prospectus delivery requirements of the Securities Act and have informed them of the need to deliver a copy of this prospectus to each purchaser at or prior to the time of the sale.

In connection with the sale of our common stock or interests therein, the selling security holders may enter into hedging transactions with broker-dealers or other financial institutions, which may in turn engage in short sales of the common stock in the course of hedging the positions they assume. The selling security holders may also sell shares of our common stock short and deliver these securities to close out their short positions, or loan or pledge the common stock to broker-dealers that in turn may sell these securities. The selling security holders may also enter into option or other transactions with broker-dealers or other financial institutions or the creation of one or more derivative securities which require the delivery to these broker-dealers or other financial institutions of shares offered by this prospectus, which shares these broker-dealers or other financial institutions may resell pursuant to this prospectus (as supplemented or amended to reflect these transactions).

The selling security holders and any broker-dealers or agents that are involved in selling the shares may be deemed to be “underwriters” within the meaning of the Securities Act in connection with these sales. In this event, any commissions received by these broker-dealers or agents and any profit on the resale of the shares purchased by them may be deemed to be underwriting commissions or discounts under the Securities Act. Each selling security holder has informed us that it does not have any agreement or understanding, directly or indirectly, with any person to distribute the common stock. In no event shall any broker-dealer receive fees, commissions and markups which, in the aggregate, would exceed eight percent (8%).

We are required to pay certain fees and expenses incurred by us incident to the registration of the shares. We have agreed to indemnify the selling security holders against certain losses, claims, damages and liabilities, including liabilities under the Securities Act.

The selling security holders may agree to indemnify any agent, dealer or broker-dealer that participates in transactions involving sales of the shares against certain liabilities, including liabilities arising under the Securities Act.

Because selling security holders may be deemed to be “underwriters” within the meaning of the Securities Act, they will be subject to the prospectus delivery requirements of the Securities Act. In addition, any securities covered by this prospectus which qualify for sale pursuant to Rule 144 under the Securities Act may be sold under Rule 144 rather than under this prospectus. There is no underwriter or coordinating broker acting in connection with the proposed sale of the shares by the selling security holders.

LEGAL MATTERS

The validity of the securities being offered by this prospectus will be passed upon for us by Sheppard Mullin Richter & Hampton LLP, New York, New York.

EXPERTS

The consolidated financial statements as of December 31, 2019 and 2018 and for the years then ended incorporated by reference in this prospectus and in the registration statement have been so incorporated in reliance on the reports of BDO USA, LLP, an independent registered public accounting firm (the report on the consolidated financial statements contains an explanatory paragraph regarding the Company’s ability to continue as a going concern), incorporated herein by reference, given on the authority of said firm as experts in auditing and accounting.

WHERE YOU CAN FIND MORE INFORMATION

We have filed a registration statement on Form S-1 with the SEC to register resale of shares of our Common Stock being offered by this prospectus. For further information with respect to us and our Common Stock, please see the registration statement on Form S-1 and the exhibits thereto. In addition, we file annual, quarterly and current reports, proxy statements and other information with the SEC. The SEC maintains a website, <http://www.sec.gov> that contains reports, proxy statements and information statements and other information regarding registrants that file electronically with the SEC, including us. Our SEC filings are also available to the public from commercial document retrieval services. Information contained on our website should not be considered part of this prospectus.

You may also request a copy of these filings, at no cost, by writing or telephoning us at: 11055 Flintkote Avenue, San Diego, California, 92121, (858) 952-7570.

INCORPORATION OF CERTAIN INFORMATION BY REFERENCE

The SEC allows us to incorporate by reference the information and reports we file with it, which means that we can disclose important information to you by referring you to these documents. The information incorporated by reference is an important part of this prospectus. We are incorporating by reference the documents listed below (other than information furnished under Item 2.02 or Item 7.01 of Form 8-K and exhibits filed on such form that are related to such items unless such Form 8-K expressly provides to the contrary), which we have already filed with the SEC:

- [our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2019 filed on February 27, 2020;](#)
- our Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the quarter ended March 31, 2020 filed on [May 7, 2020](#);
- our Current Reports on Form 8-K filed [January 13, 2020](#), [January 21, 2020](#), [January 27, 2020](#), [January 29, 2020](#), [January 30, 2020](#), [February 5, 2020](#), [February 13, 2020](#), [February 27, 2020](#), [March 5, 2020](#), [March 31, 2020](#), [April 1, 2020](#), [April 8, 2020](#), [April 10, 2020](#), [April 17, 2020 \(2\)](#), [April 22, 2020](#), [April 28, 2020](#), [May 6, 2020](#), [May 13, 2020](#) and [May 19, 2020](#); and
- [the description of our common stock contained in our Registration Statement on Form 8-A filed with the Commission on May 23, 2012.](#)

We also incorporate by reference any future filings (other than current reports furnished under Item 2.02 or Item 7.01 of Form 8-K and exhibits filed on such form that are related to such items unless such Form 8-K expressly provides to the contrary) made with the SEC pursuant to Sections 13(a), 13(c), 14 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, including those made after the date of the filing of the registration statement of which this prospectus is a part and prior to effectiveness of such registration statement, until we file a post-effective amendment that indicates the termination of the offering of the securities made by this prospectus and will become a part of this prospectus from the respective dates that such documents are filed with the SEC. Any statement contained herein or in a document incorporated or deemed to be incorporated by reference herein shall be deemed to be modified or superseded for purposes hereof to the extent that a statement contained herein or in any other subsequently filed document which is also incorporated or deemed to be incorporated herein modifies or supersedes such statement. Any such statement so modified or superseded shall not be deemed, except as so modified or superseded, to constitute a part of this prospectus.

Documents incorporated by reference are available from us, without charge. You may obtain documents incorporated by reference in this prospectus by requesting them in writing or by telephone at the following address:

Cardiff Oncology, Inc.
11055 Flintkote Avenue
San Diego, CA 92121
Telephone: (858) 952-7570

You also may access these filings on our Internet site at www.cardiffoncology.com. Our web site and the information contained on that site, or connected to that site, are not incorporated into this prospectus or the registration statement of which this prospectus is a part.

5,695,898 Shares



Common Stock

PROSPECTUS

June 2, 2020