

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

**FORM 6-K**

**REPORT OF FOREIGN PRIVATE ISSUER PURSUANT TO RULE 13a-16 OR 15d-16 UNDER THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934**

**For the month of June 2024**

Commission File Number: **001-40488**

**Molecular Partners AG**

(Translation of registrant's name into English)

**Wagistrasse 14  
8952 Zurich-Schlieren  
Switzerland**

**(Address of principal executive office)**

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant files or will file annual reports under cover of Form 20-F or Form 40-F.  
Form 20-F  Form 40-F

On June 14, 2024, the Registrant issued a press release, a copy of which is attached hereto as Exhibit 99.1 and is incorporated herein by reference.

Exhibits 99.1, 99.2 and 99.3 to this Report on Form 6-K shall be deemed to be incorporated by reference into the Registrant's Registration Statements on Form F-3 (File No. 333-265960) and Form S-8 (File No. 333-272974) and to be a part thereof from the date on which this report is filed, to the extent not superseded by documents or reports subsequently filed or furnished.

**Exhibit**

99.1 [Press release dated June 14, 2024](#)

99.2 [Press release dated June 11, 2024](#)

99.3 [Press release dated June 1, 2024](#)

**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, thereunto duly authorized.

**Molecular Partners AG**  
(Registrant)

Date: June 14, 2024

/s/ PATRICK AMSTUTZ  
Patrick Amstutz  
Chief Executive Officer

## Molecular Partners Presents Positive Preclinical Data for First Switch-DARPin Candidate MP0621 at EHA 2024

- Proof-of-concept of Switch-DARPin platform established *in vivo*, enabling the use of logic-gated and reversible immune activators
- Preclinical safety, efficacy, and pharmacokinetics support MP0621's potential to selectively kill cKit-positive cells and conditionally block CD47 with limited systemic side effects
- MP0621 presently in IND-enabling studies with Phase 1 in AML anticipated in 2025

### ZURICH-SCHLIEREN, Switzerland and CONCORD, Mass., June 14, 2024 – Ad hoc announcement pursuant to Art. 53

LR Molecular Partners AG (SIX: MOLN; NASDAQ: MOLN), a clinical-stage biotech company developing a new class of custom-built protein drugs known as DARPin therapeutics, today announced preclinical proof-of-concept data from MP0621, a multispecific cKit x CD16a x CD47 Switch-DARPin program. The data validates the Switch-DARPin concept *in vivo* and MP0621's potential as a next-generation therapeutic supporting hematopoietic stem cell transplantation (HSCT), initially for the treatment of acute myeloid leukemia (AML) patients. The data will be presented today in a poster session at the European Hematology Association (EHA) 2024 Hybrid Congress taking place June 13-16 in Madrid, Spain.

"We designed our Switch-DARPin platform to unlock undruggable targets and enable safe use of powerful immune activators via logic-gated and reversible immune activation," said Anne Goubier, Ph.D., SVP Research & Early Development. "MP0621 is our first candidate in this series, with the aim to clear HSCs effectively and safely, by targeting cKit, engaging innate immune cells via CD16a, and blocking CD47 only on cKit+ cells. We're thrilled by these results, which validate our Switch-DARPin platform *in vitro* and *in vivo* and pave the way for a new generation of conditionally activated T cell engagers, with the potential to revolutionize therapy in areas of unmet need, such as solid tumors".

HSCT offers a potential cure for patients with AML and other malignant and non-malignant diseases. However, the toxicity of pre-HSCT conditioning often requires that it is carried out with reduced intensity, increasing the likelihood that diseased cells remain in the bone marrow and lead to relapse. Safer and more efficacious treatments are needed to improve HSCT outcomes for more patients with AML and other diseases requiring HSC transplant. MP0621 is intended to maximize the therapeutic potential of HSCT for AML patients, including those with poor cytogenetic risk profile, to extend the access to potentially curative HSCT for more patients, and to increase long term disease control post HSCT.

MP0621 is designed to induce eradication of HSCs while avoiding the toxicity associated with current high-intensity conditioning regimens. MP0621 engages natural killer cells and macrophages via CD16a to selectively kill targeted cKit-positive cells. cKit is critical for stem cell maintenance and renewal and thus an attractive target to select for HSCs as well as leukemic stem cells in AML. CD47 is widely expressed as "don't-eat-me" signal and prevents killing of cells, including HSCs/LSCs. Blocking CD47 can enhance damage to bound stem cells; however systemic anti-CD47 blockers cause significant toxicity, highlighting the need for conditional and targeted blockade of CD47.

The Switch-DARPin platform provides a logic-gated “on/off” function (the “Switch”) to multispecific DARPin candidates leading to target activation only in the presence of defined antigens. In MP0621, the Switch-DARPin binds to either cellular cKit or to the anti-CD47 DARPin binder. Upon MP0621 binding to cKit on cells, the Switch-DARPin will unmask the anti-CD47 DARPin, which in turn will bind CD47 and block the “don’t-eat-me” signal, leveraging the power of CD47 inhibition without its associated toxicity to healthy cells. The Company is presently conducting preclinical efficacy and safety studies for MP0621 with data expected in H2 2024.

**In the poster presented, preclinical studies demonstrate that:**

- MP0621 selectively blocks CD47 on cells expressing cKit
- Conditional blockade of CD47 enhances efficacy of cKit targeting, with phagocytosis comparable to a combo of anti-cKit and anti-CD47 monoclonal antibodies
- MP0621 depleted cKit+ cells in bone marrow of humanized mice without affecting circulating immune cells
- PK profile of MP0621 is suitable for HSCT therapy in humans

Poster details can be found below. The full poster will be made available on Molecular Partners' website after the presentation.

**Title:** *C-KIT X CD16A X CD47 Switch-DARPin with Conditional Blockade of CD47: A Next-generation Targeted Conditioning for Hematopoietic Stem Cell Transplantation*

**Session Title:** Stem Cell Transplantation – Experimental

**Abstract Number for Publication:** P1294

**Poster Session Timing:** June 14, 2024; 6-7 pm CET

**About Molecular Partners AG**

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### **Cautionary Note Regarding Forward-Looking Statements**

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## **Molecular Partners and Orano Med Share Positive Preclinical Data of their DLL3-Targeting Radio-DARPin Therapy (RDT) Candidate MP0712 at SNMMI 2024**

- MP0712, a  $^{212}\text{Pb}$ -Radio-DARPin targeting DLL3, as first candidate of Molecular Partners' RDT platform in development in partnership with Orano Med
- Positive tumor to kidney ratio and biodistribution, favorable antitumor activity and safety profile
- First-in-human study in planning with initial data expected in 2025
- RDT platform expanding with portfolio of additional targets under evaluation

**ZURICH-SCHLIEREN, Switzerland, CONCORD, Mass., and PARIS, France, June 11, 2024 – Ad hoc announcement pursuant to Art. 53 LR** Molecular Partners AG (SIX: MOLN; NASDAQ: MOLN), a clinical-stage biotech company developing a new class of custom-built protein drugs known as DARPin therapeutics and Orano Med, a clinical stage radiopharmaceutical company developing targeted alpha therapies with lead-212 ( $^{212}\text{Pb}$ ), today announced the debut of their lead Radio-DARPin therapy (RDT) candidate MP0712, targeting DLL3, in an oral presentation. The data presented today provide strong support for MP0712's clinical development in small-cell lung cancer (SCLC) and other DLL3<sup>+</sup> neuroendocrine tumors. MP0712 features  $^{212}\text{Pb}$  as a potent therapeutic payload. The data were presented today at the Society of Nuclear Medicine and Molecular Imaging (SNMMI) 2024 Annual Meeting taking place June 8-11 in Toronto, Canada.

"Three years ago, we started our venture into the radiotherapy space. We have made tremendous progress with our Radio-DARPins and are proud to present MP0712, our first RDT development candidate targeting DLL3 delivering and  $^{212}\text{Pb}$  to kill the tumor, in partnership with Orano Med," said Patrick Amstutz, Ph.D., Molecular Partners' Chief Executive Officer. "We have made key learnings how to reduce kidney accumulation and increase tumor uptake. We are now exploiting the long-known DARPin advantages to a full pipeline of candidates addressing high medical need. Kudos to both the Orano Med and Molecular Partners team for advancing the science to make this happen."

"We are extremely excited with the first preclinical results of the MP0712 program, which confirm the potential of the combination between Molecular Partners' targeting technology and  $^{212}\text{Pb}$ , an isotope perfectly suited for targeted alpha therapy. We eagerly anticipate advancing the drug's development and initiating clinical trials to provide solutions for patients with unmet medical needs." said Julien Dodet, CEO of Orano Med.

MP0712 is the first high-affinity DLL3-targeting RDT combining the advantages of DARPins as small protein-based delivery vectors and the short-lived alpha particle-emitting radioisotope  $^{212}\text{Pb}$ . DLL3 is expressed in >85% of SCLC patients and in other neuroendocrine tumors, while its expression in healthy tissues is low, making it a priority target for radiopharmaceutical therapy. SCLC is an aggressive form of lung cancer, with a poor five-year survival prognosis and a high unmet need for patients.

The preclinical package presented at SNMMI includes *in vivo* data demonstrating strong and homogeneous tumor uptake of  $^{212}\text{Pb}$ -DLL3 RDT, as well as significant and durable inhibition of tumor growth at clinically-relevant doses. The safety results seen across the tested dosing levels in mice suggest a favorable safety profile and potential for clinical use.  $^{212}\text{Pb}$ -DLL3 RDT candidates were engineered by tuning their biophysical properties to

achieve an optimal safety/antitumor activity profile *in vivo*. The selected lead candidate, MP0712, demonstrated a promising biodistribution profile in mouse xenograft tumor models, with close to 60% of injected dose detectable in the tumor and encouraging tumor to kidney ratios over two. The replicable DARPin learnings from the development of MP0712, as well as additional platform improvements, are being taken forward to the broader RDT portfolio.

The intrinsic properties of DARPins, such as small size, high affinity and selectivity, and a broad range of potential targets, make them ideal vector candidates for radiopharmaceutical therapeutics. Historically, small protein-based vectors faced challenges with kidney accumulation and toxicity, as well as suboptimal tumor uptake. Molecular Partners has evolved its RDT platform to address these limitations with its half-life extension technologies and surface engineering approaches, while preserving the advantages of the small protein format. In addition, Molecular Partners' DARPin candidates have been clinically validated with over 2500 patients treated worldwide and multiple DARPin mechanisms have been demonstrated as biologically active in for different indications, contributing to validation of the drug class and Molecular Partners as leader in the field of DARPin engineering and development.

Details of the presentation summarizing the MP0712 preclinical data at the SNMMI 2024 Annual Meeting can be found below. The presentation will be made available on Molecular Partners' website after the presentation.

**Presentation Title:** Lead-212 Radio-DARPin Therapeutic (RDT) targeting delta-like ligand 3 (DLL3) shows promising preclinical antitumor efficacy and tolerability in small cell lung cancer (SCLC)

**Session:** IS09 Integrated Session: Radionuclides (CMIIT/RPSC);

**Timing:** 11 June 2024; 8:00–9:15 am EDT

#### **About Molecular Partners AG**

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#### **About Orano Med SAS**

Orano Med is a clinical-stage biotechnology company which develops a new generation of targeted therapies against cancer using the unique properties of lead-212 ( $^{212}\text{Pb}$ ), a rare alpha-emitting radioisotope and one of the more potent therapeutic payloads against cancer cells known as Targeted Alpha-Emitter Therapy (TAT). The company develops several treatments using  $^{212}\text{Pb}$  combined with various targeting agents. Orano Med has  $^{212}\text{Pb}$  manufacturing facilities, laboratories, and R&D centers in France and in the US and is currently investing to further expand its GMP-manufacturing capacities for  $^{212}\text{Pb}$  radiolabeled



pharmaceuticals in North America and Europe. For more information, please visit: [www.oranomed.com](http://www.oranomed.com).

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## **Molecular Partners Presents Positive Data From Completed Phase 1 Trial Of MP0317 (FAP X CD40 DARPin) Monotherapy In Patients With Advanced Solid Tumors At ASCO 2024**

- Mechanism of action supported by observed MP0317 localization and immune cell activation in the tumor microenvironment
- Favorable and manageable safety profile observed at all tested dose levels
- Weekly and three-weekly dosing schedules established, supported by pharmacokinetics and pharmacodynamics
- Data support further clinical evaluation of MP0317 in combination settings

### **ZURICH-SCHLIEREN, Switzerland and CONCORD, Mass., June, 1, 2024 – Ad hoc announcement pursuant to Art. 53 LR**

Molecular Partners AG (SIX: MOLN; NASDAQ: MOLN), a clinical-stage biotech company pioneering the design and development of a new class of custom-built protein drugs known as DARPin therapeutics, today announced it had presented the final data from its Phase 1 dose-escalation study of MP0317 at the American Society of Clinical Oncology (ASCO) Annual Meeting 2024, held in Chicago, IL, USA. MP0317 is a CD40 agonist designed to activate immune cells specifically within the tumor microenvironment (TME) by anchoring to fibroblast activation protein (FAP) which is expressed in high amounts around tumors. This tumor-localized approach has the potential to deliver greater efficacy with fewer side effects compared to systemic CD40-targeting therapies.

“The Phase 1 data for MP0317 demonstrate the ability of the FAP x CD40 DARPin to avoid the systemic toxicities of CD40 agonists while showcasing truly promising modulation of the tumor microenvironment,” said Philippe Legenne, MD, MBA, Molecular Partners’ acting Chief Medical Officer. “This further deepens the clinical evidence supporting DARPins’ ability to deliver multi-specific candidates with enhanced capabilities in oncology including localized activation of powerful immunostimulatory molecules. We will continue discussions with potential partners towards clinical evaluation of MP0317 in combination with complementary approaches.”

#### **Mechanistic data & clinical response**

The final analysis of this phase 1 dose-escalation study included 46 patients with advanced solid tumors and confirms earlier reported interim analysis findings. MP0317 treatment resulted in target occupancy in tumor biopsies with evidence of TME remodeling as characterized by increases in dendritic cells (DC), T follicular helper cells and plasma cells, as well as IFN $\gamma$  downstream activation and DC maturation gene signature score increases. These findings were further supported by observed elevation of serum levels of CXCL10, a pro-inflammatory downstream effector of the IFN $\gamma$  signaling.

In terms of clinical response, one patient achieved an unconfirmed partial response and stable disease was observed in 14 additional patients. The data support further clinical evaluation of MP0317 in combination with complementary anticancer therapies. Dose-response analyses of the final trial data propose MP0317 at dosages of 1.5mg/kg or above as providing an optimal benefit-risk profile, with adjustable dosing frequency to match a combination dosing scheme.

### **Safety & tolerability**

MP0317 displayed a favorable and manageable safety profile across all nine planned dosing cohorts (0.03–10 mg/kg administered intravenously weekly (Q1W) or every 3 weeks (Q3W)). The most frequently observed adverse reactions were fatigue and lower grade infusion-related reactions (grade 1–2). Dose-limiting toxicity was reported in one patient (transient asymptomatic grade 3 elevation of liver enzymes) at the highest planned dose of 10 mg/kg administered Q3W.

Details of the poster presenting the final results from the MP0317 Phase 1 study at the 2024 ASCO Annual Meeting can be found below. The poster will be made available on Molecular Partners' website after the presentation.

**Title:** Effect of MP0317, a FAP x CD40 DARPin, on safety profile and tumor-localized CD40 activation in a phase 1 study in patients with advanced solid tumors

**Abstract number (poster board):** 2573 (52)

**Timing:** 1 June 2024; 9:00 am – 12:00 pm PST

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