

Prospectus

\$150,000,000



NGM Biopharmaceuticals, Inc.

Common Stock

We have entered into an Open Market Sale AgreementSM, or the sales agreement, with Jefferies LLC, or Jefferies, relating to the sale of shares of our common stock offered by this prospectus. In accordance with the terms of the sales agreement, we may offer and sell shares of our common stock having an aggregate offering price of up to \$150,000,000 from time to time through Jefferies, acting as our sales agent.

Our common stock is listed on The Nasdaq Global Select Market under the symbol "NGM." On June 15, 2020, the last reported sale price of our common stock was \$21.58 per share.

Sales of our shares, if any, under this prospectus may be made in sales deemed to be an "at the market offering" as defined in Rule 415(a) (4) promulgated under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, or the Securities Act. Jefferies is not required to sell any specific number or dollar amount of securities, but will act as a sales agent using commercially reasonable efforts consistent with its normal trading and sales practices, on mutually agreed terms between Jefferies and us. There is no arrangement for funds to be received in any escrow, trust or similar arrangement.

Jefferies will be entitled to compensation under the terms of the sales agreement at a fixed commission rate of up to 3.0% of the gross sales price per share sold under the sales agreement. See "Plan of Distribution" beginning on page 17 for additional information regarding Jefferies' compensation. In connection with the sale of common stock on our behalf, Jefferies will be deemed to be an "underwriter" within the meaning of the Securities Act and the compensation of Jefferies will be deemed to be underwriting commissions or discounts. We have also agreed to provide indemnification to Jefferies against certain liabilities, including liabilities under the Securities Act or the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, or the Exchange Act. See section titled "Plan of Distribution" on page 17 of this prospectus.

Investing in our common stock involves a high degree of risk. Before making an investment decision, please read the information contained in and incorporated by reference under the heading "[Risk Factors](#)" on page 4 of this prospectus, and under similar headings in the other documents that we have filed or that are filed after the date hereof and incorporated by reference into this prospectus.

Neither the Securities and Exchange Commission nor any state securities commission has approved or disapproved of these securities or determined if this prospectus is truthful or complete. Any representation to the contrary is a criminal offense.

Jefferies

Prospectus dated June 16, 2020.

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ABOUT THIS PROSPECTUS

This prospectus is part of a registration statement that we have filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission, or SEC, utilizing a “shelf” registration process. Under the shelf registration statement, we may, from time to time, offer and sell, either individually or in combination, in one or more offerings shares of our common stock, preferred stock, debt securities and warrants, including common stock or preferred stock upon conversion of debt securities, common stock upon conversion of preferred stock, or common stock, preferred stock or debt securities upon the exercise of warrants, having an aggregate offering price of up to \$400,000,000. Under this prospectus, we may offer and sell shares of our common stock having an aggregate offering price of up to \$150,000,000 from time to time at prices and on terms to be determined by market conditions at the time of offering.

This prospectus describes the terms of this offering of common stock and also adds to and updates information contained in the documents incorporated by reference into this prospectus. To the extent there is a conflict between the information contained in this prospectus, on the one hand, and the information contained in any document incorporated by reference into this prospectus that was filed with the SEC before the date of this prospectus, on the other hand, you should rely on the information in this prospectus. If any statement in one of these documents is inconsistent with a statement in another document having a later date (for example, a document incorporated by reference into this prospectus), the statement in the document having the later date modifies or supersedes the earlier statement.

We have not, and Jefferies has not, authorized anyone to provide any information other than that contained or incorporated by reference in this prospectus or in any free writing prospectus that we have authorized for use in connection with this offering. We and Jefferies take no responsibility for, and can provide no assurance as to the reliability of, any other information that others may give you. This prospectus does not constitute an offer to sell, or a solicitation of an offer to purchase, the securities offered by this prospectus in any jurisdiction to or from any person to whom or from whom it is unlawful to make such offer or solicitation of an offer in such jurisdiction. The information appearing in this prospectus or any related free writing prospectus is accurate only as of the date on the front of the document and any information we have incorporated by reference is accurate only as of the date of the document incorporated by reference, regardless of the time of delivery of this prospectus or any related free writing prospectus, or any sale of shares of our common stock. Our business, financial condition, results of operations and prospects may have changed since those dates. It is important for you to read and consider all information contained in this prospectus and any free writing prospectus that we have authorized for use in connection with this offering, including the documents incorporated by reference herein and therein, in making your investment decision. You should also read and consider the information in the documents to which we have referred you in the sections titled “Where You Can Find Additional Information” and “Incorporation of Certain Information by Reference” in this prospectus.

This prospectus contains and incorporates by reference market data and industry statistics and forecasts that are based on independent industry publications and other publicly available information. Although we believe that these sources are reliable, we do not guarantee the accuracy or completeness of this information and we have not independently verified this information. Although we are not aware of any misstatements regarding the market data and industry statistics and forecasts presented in this prospectus and the documents incorporated herein by reference, these estimates involve risks and uncertainties and are subject to change based on various factors, including those discussed under the heading “Risk Factors” contained in this prospectus and any related free writing prospectus, and under similar headings in the other documents that are incorporated by reference into this prospectus. Accordingly, investors should not place undue reliance on this information.

This prospectus contains summaries of certain provisions contained in some of the documents described herein, but reference is made to the actual documents for complete information. All of the summaries are qualified in their entirety by the actual documents. Copies of some of the documents referred to herein have been filed, will be filed or will be incorporated by reference as exhibits to the registration statement of which this prospectus is a part, and you may obtain copies of those documents as described below under the section titled “Where You Can Find Additional Information.”

PROSPECTUS SUMMARY

This summary highlights selected information appearing elsewhere in this prospectus or incorporated by reference in this prospectus, and does not contain all of the information that you need to consider in making your investment decision. You should carefully read the entire prospectus and any related free writing prospectus, including the risks of investing in our securities discussed under the heading "Risk Factors" contained in this prospectus and any related free writing prospectus, and under similar headings in the other documents that are incorporated by reference into this prospectus. You should also carefully read the other 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.

NGM Biopharmaceuticals, Inc.

Overview

We are a biopharmaceutical company focused on developing novel therapeutics based on our scientific understanding of key biological pathways underlying cardio-metabolic, liver, oncologic and ophthalmic diseases. These diseases represent leading causes of morbidity and mortality and a significant burden for healthcare systems. Since the commencement of our operations in 2008, we have generated a robust portfolio of product candidates. We have created this portfolio using our research and drug discovery approach that employs unbiased, *in vivo*-based discovery to identify proprietary insights into critical biological processes. We combine this approach with our protein and antibody engineering expertise to find the appropriate modality to enhance each product candidate's therapeutic potential.

Our most advanced programs are focused on novel discoveries in hormone pathways that regulate cardio-metabolic processes and liver function, including those driving NASH, type 2 diabetes and obesity. We have identified multiple hormone pathways of interest, the most advanced of which are: FGF19, which plays a critical role in controlling bile acid, lipid and glucose metabolism; FGFR1c/KLB, which regulates insulin sensitivity, blood glucose and liver fat; and GDF15, which drives profound metabolic activity by regulating fuel flux and has been considered a challenging therapeutic target. We believe these hormone pathways work through distinct mechanisms and play an important role in metabolic regulation. Our five most advanced proprietary product candidates are summarized below.

PRODUCT CANDIDATE	PRODUCT DESCRIPTION (DOSING FREQUENCY)	POTENTIAL INDICATIONS	STAGE OF DEVELOPMENT	WORLDWIDE COMMERCIAL RIGHTS
Aldafermin (NGM282)	FGF19 Analog (Once Daily)	NASH	Phase 2b	 Wholly-Owned
NGM313 (MK-3655)	FGFR1c/KLB Agonistic Antibody (Once Monthly)	NASH, Type 2 Diabetes	Phase 1b	 Licensed 
NGM120	GFRAL Antagonistic Antibody (Long Acting)	Cancer, Cancer Anorexia/Cachexia Syndrome (CACS)	Phase 1a/1b	  Option
NGM621	Complement C3 Inhibitory Antibody (Long Acting)	Dry AMD / Geographic Atrophy	Phase 1	  Option
NGM395	GDF15 Analog (Long Acting)	Metabolic	Phase 1	 Wholly-Owned

Corporate Information

We were incorporated in Delaware in December 2007 and commenced operations in 2008. Our principal executive offices are located at 333 Oyster Point Blvd., South San Francisco, CA 94080-7014, and our telephone number is (650) 243-5555. Our website address is <http://www.ngmbio.com>. The contents of and information accessible through our website are not incorporated into this prospectus and our reference to the URL for our website is intended to be an inactive textual reference only.

As used in this prospectus, "NGM Biopharmaceuticals", "NGM", "we", "us" and "our" refer to NGM Biopharmaceuticals, Inc. and its wholly-owned subsidiary taken as a whole. This prospectus and the information incorporated herein by reference include trademarks, service marks and trade names owned by us or other companies. All trademarks, service marks and trade names included or incorporated by reference into this prospectus, any applicable prospectus supplement or any related free writing prospectus are the property of their respective owners. We do not intend our use or display of other companies' trademarks or trade names to imply a relationship with, or endorsement or sponsorship of us by, any other companies or products.

Our common stock is currently listed on The Nasdaq Global Select Market under the symbol "NGM."

THE OFFERING

Common stock offered by us	Shares of our common stock having an aggregate offering price of up to \$150,000,000.
Manner of offering	"At-the-market" offering that may be made from time to time through our sales agent, Jefferies. See "Plan of Distribution" on page 17 of this prospectus.
Use of proceeds	We currently expect to use the net proceeds from this offering for working capital and other general corporate purposes, which may include funding research and development, general and administrative activities and capital expenditures.
Risk factors	Investing in our common stock involves significant risks. See "Risk Factors" beginning on page 4 of this prospectus, and under similar headings in documents incorporated by reference into this prospectus, for a discussion of factors you should consider before buying shares of our common stock.
Nasdaq Global Select Market symbol	"NGM"

RISK FACTORS

Investing in our common stock involves a high degree of risk. Before deciding whether to invest in our common stock, you should consider carefully the risks and uncertainties described below and under the heading "Risk Factors" contained in any related free writing prospectus, and discussed under the section titled "Risk Factors" contained in our most recent Annual Report on Form 10-K and in our most recent Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q, as well as any amendments thereto reflected in subsequent filings with the SEC, which are incorporated by reference into this prospectus in their entirety, together with other information in this prospectus, the documents incorporated by reference and any free writing prospectus that we may authorize for use in connection with this offering. The risks described in these documents are not the only ones we face, but those that we consider to be material. There may be other unknown or unpredictable economic, business, competitive, regulatory or other factors that could have material adverse effects on our future results. Past financial performance may not be a reliable indicator of future performance, and historical trends should not be used to anticipate results or trends in future periods. If any of these risks actually occurs, our business, financial condition, results of operations or cash flow could be seriously harmed. This could cause the trading price of our common stock to decline, resulting in a loss of all or part of your investment. Please also read carefully the section below titled "Special Note Regarding Forward-Looking Statements."

Risks Related to this Offering and Ownership of Our Common Stock

You may incur immediate and substantial dilution as a result of this offering.

The offering price per share of our common stock in this offering may exceed the net tangible book value per share of our common stock outstanding prior to this offering. Assuming that an aggregate of 6,950,880 shares of our common stock are sold at a price of \$21.58 per share, the last reported sale price of our common stock on The Nasdaq Global Select Market on June 15, 2020, for aggregate gross proceeds of \$150.0 million, and after deducting commissions and estimated offering expenses payable by us, you would experience immediate dilution of \$15.39 per share, representing the difference between our as adjusted net tangible book value per share as of March 31, 2020, after giving effect to this offering, and the assumed public offering price. The exercise of outstanding stock options and vesting of restricted stock units could result in further dilution of your investment. See "Dilution" beginning on page 10 of this prospectus for a more detailed description of the dilution to new investors in this offering.

We will have broad discretion in the use of proceeds from this offering and may invest or spend the proceeds in ways with which you do not agree and in ways that may not yield a return.

We will have broad discretion over the use of proceeds from this offering. You may not agree with our decisions, and our use of the proceeds may not yield any return on your investment in us. Our failure to apply the net proceeds of this offering effectively could result in financial losses that could materially impair our ability to pursue our growth strategy, cause the price of our common stock to decline, delay development of our products or require us to raise additional capital.

You may experience future dilution as a result of future equity offerings.

In order to raise additional capital, we may offer additional shares of our common stock or other securities convertible into or exchangeable for our common stock in the future. We cannot assure you that we will be able to sell shares or other securities in any other offering at a price per share that is equal to or greater than the price per share paid by investors in this offering, and investors purchasing shares or other securities in the future could have rights superior to existing stockholders. The price per share at which we sell additional shares of our common stock or other securities convertible into or exchangeable for our common stock in future transactions may be higher or lower than the price per share in this offering.

The market price of our stock has been and may continue to be volatile, and you could lose all or part of your investment

The market price for our common stock has fluctuated significantly from time to time, for example, varying between a high of \$23.39 on May 12, 2020 and a low of \$8.81 on October 7, 2019. The trading price of our common stock has been and may continue to be highly volatile and subject to wide fluctuations in response to various factors, some of which we cannot control. In addition to the factors discussed in this “*Risk Factors*” section, these factors include:

- developments associated with our collaboration with Merck Sharp & Dohme Corp., or Merck including any non-renewal, termination or other change in our relationship with Merck;
- the success of competitive products or technologies;
- regulatory actions with respect to our product candidates or our competitors’ product candidates or products;
- results of clinical trials of our product candidates or those of our competitors;
- actual or anticipated changes in our growth rate relative to our competitors;
- announcements by us or our competitors or collaborators of significant acquisitions, strategic collaborations, joint ventures, collaborations or capital commitments;
- regulatory, legal or payor developments in the United States and other countries;
- developments or disputes concerning patent applications, issued patents or other proprietary rights;
- the recruitment or departure of key personnel;
- the level of expenses related to any of our product candidates or clinical development programs;
- the results of our efforts to in-license or acquire additional product candidates or products;
- actual or anticipated changes in estimates as to financial results, development timelines or recommendations by securities analysts;
- variations in our financial results or those of companies that are perceived to be similar to us;
- fluctuations in the valuation of companies perceived by investors to be comparable to us;
- share price and volume fluctuations attributable to inconsistent trading volume levels of our shares;
- announcement or expectation of additional financing efforts;
- sales of our common stock by us, our insiders or our other stockholders;
- changes in the structure of healthcare payment systems;
- market conditions in the pharmaceutical and biotechnology sectors; and
- general economic, industry and market conditions.

In addition, the stock market in general, and The Nasdaq Global Select Market and biotechnology companies in particular, have experienced extreme price and volume fluctuations that have often been unrelated or disproportionate to the operating performance of these companies, including very recently in connection with the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, which has resulted in decreased stock prices for many companies notwithstanding the lack of a fundamental change in their underlying business models or prospects. Broad market and industry factors, including potentially worsening economic conditions and other adverse effects or developments relating to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, may negatively affect the market price of our common stock, regardless of our actual operating performance. The realization of any of the above risks or any of a broad range of other risks, including those described in this “*Risk Factors*” section, could have a dramatic and material adverse impact on the market price of our common stock.

Sales of a substantial number of shares of our common stock in the public market could cause our stock price to fall.

Sales of a substantial number of shares of our common stock in the public market could occur at any time. These sales, or the perception in the market that the holders of a large number of shares intend to sell shares, could reduce the market price of our common stock. Moreover, certain holders of our common stock have rights, subject to certain conditions, to require us to file registration statements covering their shares or to include their shares in registration statements that we may file for ourselves or other stockholders.

We do not intend to pay dividends on our common stock so any returns will be limited to the value of our stock.

We currently anticipate that we will retain future earnings for the development, operation and expansion of our business and do not anticipate declaring or paying any cash dividends for the foreseeable future. Any return to stockholders will therefore be limited to the appreciation of their stock.

SPECIAL NOTE REGARDING FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS

This prospectus and the documents we have filed with the SEC that are incorporated by reference contain “forward-looking statements” within the meaning of Section 27A of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, or the Securities Act, and Section 21E of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, or the Exchange Act. These statements relate to future events or to our future operating or financial performance and involve known and unknown risks, uncertainties and other factors which may cause our actual results, performance or achievements to be materially different from any future results, performances or achievements expressed or implied by the forward-looking statements. Forward-looking statements may include, but are not limited to, statements about:

- the success, cost and timing of our product development activities and clinical trials;
- our or our partners’ ability to obtain and maintain regulatory approval for aldafermin (NGM282), NGM313 (MK-3655), NGM120, NGM621, NGM395 and any of our future product candidates, and any related restrictions, limitations, and/or warnings in the label of an approved product candidate;
- our belief that aldafermin may have the potential to be a treatment for non-alcoholic steatohepatitis, or NASH, patients with moderate to advanced fibrosis;
- our belief regarding the impact of our product candidate side effects and our ability to effectively manage these side effects;
- our belief that MK-3655 (formerly NGM313) may have the potential to be a treatment for NASH patients with early to moderate fibrosis with or without type 2 diabetes;
- the potential renewal of our research collaboration, product development and license agreement with Merck and the possibility that Merck will decide to exercise its option to license certain programs upon our completion of a proof-of-concept study in humans;
- our ability to obtain funding for our operations;
- the commercialization of our product candidates, if approved;
- our plans to research, develop and commercialize our product candidates;
- our ability to attract additional collaborators with development, regulatory and commercialization expertise;
- current and future agreements with third parties in connection with the commercialization of aldafermin, NGM313, NGM120, NGM621, NGM395 or any other future approved product;
- the size and growth potential of the markets for our product candidates, and our ability to serve those markets;
- the rate and degree of market acceptance of our product candidates, as well as the reimbursement coverage for our product candidates;
- regulatory developments in the United States and foreign countries;
- the performance of, and our ability to obtain sufficient supply of clinical trial materials in a timely manner from, third-party suppliers and manufacturers;
- the success of competing therapies that are or may become available;
- our ability to attract and retain key scientific, development and management personnel;
- our estimates regarding future expenses, revenue, capital requirements and needs for additional financing;
- our expectations regarding the period during which we qualify as an emerging growth company under the Jumpstart Our Business Startups Act of 2012, as amended;
- our expectations regarding our ability to obtain, maintain, protect and enforce intellectual property protection for our product candidates; and
- our anticipated use of the net proceeds from this offering.

In some cases, you can identify forward-looking statements by terms such as “may,” “will,” “should,” “could,” “would,” “expects,” “plans,” “anticipates,” “believes,” “estimates,” “projects,” “predicts,” “potential” and similar expressions intended to identify forward-looking statements. These statements reflect our current views with respect to future events and are based on assumptions and are subject to risks and uncertainties. Given these uncertainties, you should not place undue reliance on these forward-looking statements. We discuss in greater detail many of these

risks under the heading "Risk Factors" contained in the applicable prospectus supplement, in any free writing prospectuses we may authorize for use in connection with this offering, and in our most recent Annual Report on Form 10-K and in our most recent Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q, as well as any amendments thereto reflected in subsequent filings with the SEC, which are incorporated by reference into this prospectus in their entirety. Also, these forward-looking statements represent our estimates and assumptions only as of the date of the document containing the applicable statement. Unless required by law, we undertake no obligation to update or revise any forward-looking statements to reflect new information or future events or developments. Thus, you should not assume that our silence over time means that actual events are bearing out as expressed or implied in such forward-looking statements. You should read this prospectus, the applicable prospectus supplement, together with the documents we have filed with the SEC that are incorporated by reference and any free writing prospectus that we may authorize for use in connection with this offering completely and with the understanding that our actual future results may be materially different from what we expect. We qualify all of the forward-looking statements in the foregoing documents by these cautionary statements.

USE OF PROCEEDS

We currently expect to use the net proceeds from this offering for working capital and other general corporate purposes, which may include funding research and development, general and administrative activities and capital expenditures. Pending the application of the net proceeds, we expect to invest the proceeds in investment-grade, interest-bearing instruments or other securities. We will retain broad discretion over the use of the net proceeds from this offering.

DILUTION

Our net tangible book value at March 31, 2020 was approximately \$319.0 million, or approximately \$4.70 per share of common stock. Net tangible book value per share is determined by dividing our total tangible assets, less total liabilities, by the number of shares of our common stock outstanding as of March 31, 2020. Dilution in net tangible book value per share represents the difference between the amount per share paid by purchasers of shares of common stock in this offering and the as adjusted net tangible book value per share of our common stock immediately after giving effect to this offering.

After giving effect to the assumed sale of 6,950,880 shares of our common stock by us in this offering at an assumed public offering price of \$21.58 per share, which was the last reported sale price of our common stock on The Nasdaq Global Select Market on June 15, 2020, after deducting commissions and estimated offering expenses payable by us, our as adjusted net tangible book value as of March 31, 2020 would have been \$463.5 million, or \$6.19 per share. This would represent an immediate increase in net tangible book value per share of \$1.49 to existing stockholders and immediate dilution of \$15.39 in net tangible book value per share to new investors purchasing common stock in this offering at the assumed public offering price.

The following table illustrates this dilution on a per share basis. The as adjusted information is illustrative only and will change based on the actual price to the public, the actual number of shares sold and other terms of the offering determined at the time shares of our common stock are sold pursuant to this prospectus. The as adjusted information assumes that all of our common stock in the aggregate amount of \$150.0 million is sold at the assumed public offering price of \$21.58 per share, the last reported sale price of our common stock on The Nasdaq Global Select Market on June 15, 2020. The shares sold in this offering, if any, will be sold from time to time at various prices.

Assumed public offering price per share		\$21.58
Net tangible book value per share as of March 31, 2020	\$4.70	
Increase in net tangible book value per share attributable to the offering	<u>1.49</u>	
As adjusted net tangible book value per share after giving effect to the offering		6.19
Dilution in net tangible book value per share to new investors in the offering		<u>\$15.39</u>

An increase of \$1.00 per share in the price at which the shares are sold from the assumed public offering price of \$21.58 per share shown in the table above, assuming that the aggregate dollar amount of shares sold by us remains at \$150.0 million, would increase our as adjusted net tangible book value per share after this offering to \$6.22 per share and would increase the dilution in net tangible book value per share to new investors to \$16.36 per share, after deducting commissions and estimated aggregate offering expenses payable by us. A decrease of \$1.00 per share in the price at which the shares are sold from the assumed public offering price of \$21.58 per share shown in the table above, assuming that the aggregate dollar amount of shares sold by us remains at \$150.0 million, would decrease our as adjusted net tangible book value per share after this offering to \$6.16 per share and would decrease the dilution in net tangible book value per share to new investors to \$14.42 per share, after deducting commissions and estimated aggregate offering expenses payable by us. The information discussed above is illustrative only and will adjust based on the actual public offering price, the actual number of shares that we offer in this offering, and other terms of this offering determined at the time of each offer and sale.

The foregoing discussion and table are based on 67,936,438 shares of our common stock outstanding as of March 31, 2020, and exclude, in each case as of March 31, 2020, the following:

- 10,824,034 shares of our common stock issuable upon the exercise of outstanding stock options with a weighted-average exercise price of \$8.90 per share;

- 7,012,247 shares of our common stock available for issuance or future grant under our Amended and Restated 2018 Equity Incentive Plan, as well as any automatic increases in the number of shares of common stock reserved for future issuance under this benefit plan;
- 897,255 shares of our common stock available for issuance under our 2019 Employee Stock Purchase Plan, as well as any automatic increases in the number of shares of common stock reserved for future issuance under this benefit plan; and
- 28,274 shares of our common stock reserved for future issuance under our NGM Biopharmaceuticals Matching Plan.

To the extent that any of the outstanding options are exercised there could be further dilution to new investors. In addition, we may choose to raise additional capital due to market conditions or strategic considerations even if we believe we have sufficient funds for our current or future operating plans. To the extent that we raise additional capital through the sale of equity securities, the issuance of such securities could result in further dilution to our stockholders.

DESCRIPTION OF CAPITAL STOCK

General

As of the date of this prospectus, our authorized capital stock consists of 400,000,000 shares of common stock, \$0.001 par value per share, and 10,000,000 shares of preferred stock, \$0.001 par value per share.

The following summary description of our capital stock is based on the provisions of our amended and restated certificate of incorporation, our amended and restated bylaws and applicable provisions of the General Corporation Law of the State of Delaware. The description is intended as a summary, and is qualified in its entirety by reference to our amended and restated certificate of incorporation, our amended and restated bylaws and the General Corporation Law of the State of Delaware. For information on how to obtain copies of our amended and restated certificate of incorporation and our amended and restated bylaws, which are exhibits to the registration statement of which this prospectus is a part, see "Where You Can Find Additional Information."

Common Stock

Voting Rights

Each holder of common stock is entitled to one vote for each share on all matters submitted to a vote of the stockholders. In addition to any vote of holders of a specific class or series, or required by law or the amended and restated certificate of incorporation, the affirmative vote of holders of at least 66 2/3% of the voting power of all of the then outstanding shares of capital stock, voting as a single class, is required to amend certain provisions of our amended and restated certificate of incorporation, including provisions relating to amending our amended and restated bylaws, the classified board, the size of our board, removal of directors, director liability, vacancies on our board, special meetings, stockholder notices, actions by written consent and exclusive jurisdiction.

Dividends

Subject to preferences that may apply to any outstanding preferred stock, holders of our common stock are entitled to receive ratably any dividends that our board of directors may declare out of funds legally available for that purpose.

Liquidation

In the event of our liquidation, dissolution or winding up, holders of our common stock are entitled to share ratably in all assets remaining after payment of liabilities and the liquidation preference of any outstanding preferred stock.

Rights and Preferences

Holders of our common stock have no preemptive, conversion, subscription or other rights, and there are no redemption or sinking fund provisions applicable to our common stock. The rights, preferences and privileges of the holders of our common stock are subject to and may be adversely affected by the rights of the holders of shares of any series of our preferred stock that we may designate in the future.

Fully Paid and Nonassessable

When we issue shares of common stock under this prospectus, the shares will be fully paid and nonassessable.

Preferred Stock

Our board of directors has the authority, without further action by our stockholders, to issue up to 10,000,000 shares of preferred stock in one or more series and to fix the number, rights, preferences, privileges and restrictions thereof. These rights, preferences and privileges could include dividend rights, conversion rights, voting rights, terms of redemption, liquidation preferences and sinking fund terms, and the number of shares constituting any series or the designation of such series, any or all of which may be greater than the rights of common stock.

Our board of directors will fix the designations, voting powers, preferences and rights of the preferred stock of each series we issue under this prospectus, as well as the qualifications, limitations or restrictions thereof, in the

certificate of designation relating to that series. We will file as an exhibit to the registration statement of which this prospectus is a part, or will incorporate by reference from reports that we file with the SEC, the form of any certificate of designation that contains the terms of the series of preferred stock we are offering. We will describe in the applicable prospectus supplement the terms of the series of preferred stock being offered, including, to the extent applicable:

- the title and stated value;
- the number of shares we are offering;
- the liquidation preference per share;
- the purchase price;
- the dividend rate, period and payment date and method of calculation for dividends;
- whether dividends will be cumulative or non-cumulative and, if cumulative, the date from which dividends will accumulate;
- the procedures for any auction and remarketing;
- the provisions for any sinking fund;
- the provisions for redemption or repurchase, if applicable, and any restrictions on our ability to exercise those redemption and repurchase rights;
- any listing of the preferred stock on any securities exchange or market;
- whether the preferred stock will be convertible into our common stock, and, if applicable, the conversion price, or how it will be calculated, and the conversion period;
- whether the preferred stock will be exchangeable into debt securities, and, if applicable, the exchange price, or how it will be calculated, and the exchange period;
- voting rights of the preferred stock;
- preemptive rights;
- restrictions on transfer, sale or other assignment;
- whether interests in the preferred stock will be represented by depositary shares;
- a discussion of material U.S. federal income tax considerations applicable to the preferred stock;
- the relative ranking and preferences of the preferred stock as to dividend rights and rights if we liquidate, dissolve or wind up our affairs;
- any limitations on the issuance of any class or series of preferred stock ranking senior to or on a parity with the series of preferred stock as to dividend rights and rights if we liquidate, dissolve or wind up our affairs; and
- any other specific terms, preferences, rights or limitations of, or restrictions on, the preferred stock.

When we issue shares of preferred stock under this prospectus, the shares will be fully paid and non-assessable.

Unless we specify otherwise in the applicable prospectus supplement, the preferred stock will rank, with respect to dividends and upon our liquidation, dissolution or winding up:

- senior to all classes or series of our common stock and to all of our equity securities ranking junior to the preferred stock;
- on a parity with all of our equity securities the terms of which specifically provide that the equity securities rank on a parity with the preferred stock; and
- junior to all of our equity securities the terms of which specifically provide that the equity securities rank senior to the preferred stock.

The term "equity securities" does not include convertible debt securities.

The General Corporation Law of the State of Delaware, the state of our incorporation, provides that the holders of preferred stock will have the right to vote separately as a class on any proposal involving fundamental changes in the rights of holders of that preferred stock. This right is in addition to any voting rights that may be provided for in the applicable certificate of designation.

The issuance of our preferred stock could adversely affect the voting power of holders of common stock and the likelihood that such holders will receive dividend payments and payments upon liquidation. In addition, the issuance of preferred stock could have the effect of delaying, deferring or preventing a change in control or other corporate action.

Anti-takeover Effects of Provisions of our Certificate of Incorporation and Bylaws and Delaware Law

Certificate of Incorporation and Bylaws

Our amended and restated certificate of incorporation and amended and restated bylaws include a number of provisions that may deter or impede hostile takeovers or changes of control or management. These provisions include:

- **Issuance of Undesignated Preferred Stock:** Our board of directors has the authority, without further action by the stockholders, to issue up to 10,000,000 shares of undesignated preferred stock with rights and preferences, including voting rights, designated from time to time by our board of directors. The existence of authorized but unissued shares of preferred stock enables our board of directors to make it more difficult to attempt to obtain control of us by means of a merger, tender offer, proxy contest or otherwise.
- **Classified Board:** Our amended and restated certificate of incorporation provides for a classified board of directors consisting of three classes of directors, with staggered three-year terms. Only one class of directors will be elected at each annual meeting of our stockholders, with the other classes continuing for the remainder of their respective three-year terms. This provision may have the effect of delaying a change in control of our board.
- **Board of Directors Vacancies:** Our amended and restated certificate of incorporation and amended and restated bylaws authorize only our board of directors to fill vacant directorships, subject to the rights of the holders of any series of preferred stock or as otherwise provided by applicable law. In addition, the number of directors constituting our board of directors may be set only by resolution adopted by a majority vote of our entire board of directors. These provisions prevent a stockholder from increasing the size of our board of directors and gaining control of our board of directors by filling the resulting vacancies with its own nominees.
- **Stockholder Action; Special Meetings of Stockholders:** Our amended and restated certificate of incorporation provides that our stockholders may not take action by written consent, but may only take action at annual or special meetings of our stockholders. Stockholders are not permitted to cumulate their votes for the election of directors. Our amended and restated bylaws provide that only the chairman of our board of directors, our chief executive officer, or a majority of our board of directors may call special meetings of our stockholders.
- **Advance Notice Requirements for Stockholder Proposals and Director Nominations:** Our amended and restated bylaws provide advance notice procedures for stockholders seeking to bring business before our annual meeting of stockholders, or to nominate candidates for election as directors at our annual meeting of stockholders. Our amended and restated bylaws also specify certain requirements as to the form and content of a stockholder's notice. These provisions may make it more difficult for our stockholders to bring matters before our annual meeting of stockholders or to nominate directors at annual meetings of stockholders.

We designed these provisions to enhance the likelihood of continued stability in the composition of our board of directors and its policies, to discourage certain types of transactions that may involve an actual or threatened acquisition of us and to reduce our vulnerability to an unsolicited acquisition proposal. We also designed these provisions to discourage certain tactics that may be used in proxy fights. However, these provisions could have the effect of discouraging others from making tender offers for our shares and, as a consequence, they may also reduce fluctuations in the market price of our shares that could result from actual or rumored takeover attempts.

Section 203 of the Delaware General Corporation Law

We are subject to Section 203 of the General Corporation Law of the State of Delaware, or the DGCL, which prohibits a Delaware corporation from engaging in a business combination with any interested stockholder for a period of three years following the date the person became an interested stockholder, with the following exceptions:

- before such date, the board of directors of the corporation approved either the business combination or the transaction that resulted in the stockholder becoming an interested holder;
- upon completion 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 began, excluding for purposes of determining the voting stock outstanding (but not the outstanding voting stock owned by the interested stockholder) those shares owned (a) by persons who are directors and also officers and (b) pursuant to 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; and
- on or after such date, the business combination is approved by the board of directors and authorized at an annual or special meeting of the 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.

In general, Section 203 defines business combination to include the following:

- 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 or 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 by or through the corporation.

In general, Section 203 of the DGCL defines an interested stockholder as an entity or person who, together with the entity's or person's affiliates and associates, beneficially owns, or is an affiliate of the corporation and within three years prior to the time of determination of interested stockholder status did own, 15% or more of the outstanding voting stock of the corporation.

A Delaware corporation may opt out of these provisions with an express provision in its certificate of incorporation. We have not opted out of these provisions, which may, as a result, discourage or prevent mergers or other takeover or change in control attempts of us.

Choice of Forum

Our amended and restated certificate of incorporation provides that the Court of Chancery of the State of Delaware will be the exclusive forum for the following types of actions or proceedings under Delaware statutory or common law: (i) any derivative action or proceeding brought on our behalf; (ii) any action asserting a breach of fiduciary duty owed by any director, officer or other employee to us or our stockholders; (iii) any action asserting a claim against us or any director or officer or other employee arising pursuant to the Delaware General Corporation Law, our amended and restated certificate of incorporation or amended and restated bylaws; or (iv) any action asserting a claim against us or any director or officer or other employee that is governed by the internal affairs doctrine. This provision would not apply to claims brought to enforce a duty or liability created by the Exchange Act or any other claim for which the federal courts have exclusive jurisdiction. Our amended and restated certificate of incorporation further provides that the federal district courts of the United States of America will be the exclusive forum for resolving any complaint asserting a cause of action arising under the Securities Act.

Transfer Agent and Registrar

Our transfer agent and registrar for our common stock is American Stock Transfer & Trust Company, LLC.

Listing on the Nasdaq Global Select Market

Our common stock is listed on The Nasdaq Global Select Market under the symbol "NGM."

PLAN OF DISTRIBUTION

We have entered into a sales agreement with Jefferies, under which we may offer and sell up to \$150,000,000 of our shares of common stock from time to time through Jefferies acting as agent. Sales of our shares of common stock, if any, under this prospectus will be made by any method that is deemed to be an “at the market offering” as defined in Rule 415(a)(4) under the Securities Act.

Each time we wish to issue and sell our shares of common stock under the sales agreement, we will notify Jefferies of the number of shares to be issued, the dates on which such sales are anticipated to be made, any limitation on the number of shares to be sold in any one day and any minimum price below which sales may not be made. Once we have so instructed Jefferies, unless Jefferies declines to accept the terms of such notice, Jefferies has agreed to use its commercially reasonable efforts consistent with its normal trading and sales practices to sell such shares up to the amount specified on such terms. The obligations of Jefferies under the sales agreement to sell our shares of common stock are subject to a number of conditions that we must meet.

The settlement of sales of shares between us and Jefferies is generally anticipated to occur on the second trading day following the date on which the sale was made. Sales of our shares of common stock as contemplated in this prospectus will be settled through the facilities of The Depository Trust Company or by such other means as we and Jefferies may agree upon. There is no arrangement for funds to be received in an escrow, trust or similar arrangement.

We will pay Jefferies a commission of up to 3.0% of the aggregate gross proceeds we receive from each sale of our shares of common stock. Because there is no minimum offering amount required as a condition to close this offering, the actual total public offering amount, commissions and proceeds to us, if any, are not determinable at this time. In addition, we have agreed to reimburse Jefferies for the fees and disbursements of its counsel, payable upon execution of the sales agreement, in an amount not to exceed \$50,000, in addition to certain ongoing disbursements of its legal counsel. We estimate that the total expenses for the offering, excluding any commissions or expense reimbursement payable to Jefferies under the terms of the sales agreement, will be approximately \$950,000. The remaining sale proceeds, after deducting any other transaction fees, will equal our net proceeds from the sale of such shares.

Jefferies will provide written confirmation to us before the open on The Nasdaq Global Select Market on the day following each day on which our shares of common stock are sold under the sales agreement. Each confirmation will include the number of shares sold on that day, the aggregate gross proceeds of such sales and the proceeds to us.

In connection with the sale of our shares of common stock on our behalf, Jefferies will be deemed to be an “underwriter” within the meaning of the Securities Act, and the compensation of Jefferies will be deemed to be underwriting commissions or discounts. We have agreed to indemnify Jefferies against certain civil liabilities, including liabilities under the Securities Act. We have also agreed to contribute to payments Jefferies may be required to make in respect of such liabilities.

The offering of our shares of common stock pursuant to the sales agreement will terminate upon the earlier of (i) the sale of all shares of common stock subject to the sales agreement and (ii) the termination of the sales agreement as permitted therein. We and Jefferies may each terminate the sales agreement at any time upon ten trading days' prior notice.

This summary of the material provisions of the sales agreement does not purport to be a complete statement of its terms and conditions. A copy of the sales agreement is filed as an exhibit to the registration statement of which this prospectus forms a part.

Jefferies and its affiliates may in the future provide various investment banking, commercial banking, financial advisory and other financial services for us and our affiliates, for which services they may in the future receive customary fees. In the course of its business, Jefferies may actively trade our securities for its own account or for the accounts of customers, and, accordingly, Jefferies may at any time hold long or short positions in such securities.

A prospectus in electronic format may be made available on a website maintained by Jefferies, and Jefferies may distribute the prospectus electronically.

LEGAL MATTERS

Cooley LLP is serving as our counsel in this offering. Davis Polk & Wardwell LLP is acting as counsel for Jefferies in connection with certain legal matters relating to the shares of common stock offered by this prospectus. GC&H Investments, LLC, an entity that includes current and former partners and associates of Cooley LLP, beneficially owns 10,000 shares of our common stock.

EXPERTS

Ernst & Young LLP, independent registered public accounting firm, has audited our consolidated financial statements included in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2019, as set forth in their report, which is incorporated by reference in this prospectus and elsewhere in this registration statement. Our consolidated financial statements are incorporated by reference in reliance on Ernst & Young LLP's report, given on their authority as experts in accounting and auditing.

WHERE YOU CAN FIND ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

This prospectus is part of the registration statement on Form S-3 we filed with the SEC under the Securities Act and does not contain all the information set forth in the registration statement. Whenever a reference is made in this prospectus to any of our contracts, agreements or other documents, the reference may not be complete and you should refer to the exhibits that are a part of the registration statement or the exhibits to the reports or other documents incorporated by reference into this prospectus for a copy of such contract, agreement or other document. Because we are subject to the information and reporting requirements of the Exchange Act, we file annual, quarterly and current reports, proxy statements and other information with the SEC. Our SEC filings are available to the public over the internet at the SEC's website at <http://www.sec.gov>.

INCORPORATION OF CERTAIN INFORMATION BY REFERENCE

The SEC allows us to incorporate by reference information from other documents that we file with it, which means that we can disclose important information to you by referring you to those documents. The information incorporated by reference is considered to be part of this prospectus. Information in this prospectus supersedes information incorporated by reference that we filed with the SEC prior to the date of this prospectus, while information that we file later with the SEC will automatically update and supersede the information in this prospectus. We incorporate by reference into this prospectus and the registration statement of which this prospectus is a part the information or documents listed below that we have filed with the SEC (Commission File No. 001-38853):

- our Annual Report on [Form 10-K](#), for the year ended December 31, 2019, filed with the SEC on March 17, 2020;
- our Definitive Proxy Statement on [Schedule 14A](#), filed with the SEC on April 8, 2020 (excluding those portions that are not incorporated by reference into our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2019);
- our Quarterly Report on [Form 10-Q](#), for the quarter ended March 31, 2020, filed with the SEC on May 13, 2020;
- our Current Reports on Form 8-K filed with the SEC on [February 13, 2020](#), [February 24, 2020](#), [March 9, 2020](#), [May 27, 2020](#) and [June 8, 2020](#); and
- the description of our common stock set forth in our registration statement on [Form 8-A](#), filed with the SEC on March 29, 2019, including any amendment or report filed for the purpose of updating such description.

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 Exchange Act, including those made after the date of the initial 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, which will become a part of this prospectus from the date that such documents are filed with the SEC. Information in such future filings updates and supplements the information provided in this prospectus. Any statements in any such future filings will automatically be deemed to modify and supersede any information in any document we previously filed with the SEC that is incorporated or deemed to be incorporated herein by reference to the extent that statements in the later-filed document modify or replace such earlier statements. We will furnish without charge to each person, including any beneficial owner, to whom a prospectus is delivered, upon written or oral request, a copy of any or all of the documents incorporated by reference into this prospectus but not delivered with the prospectus, including exhibits that are specifically incorporated by reference into such documents. You should direct any requests for documents to:

NGM Biopharmaceuticals, Inc.
333 Oyster Point Boulevard
South San Francisco, California 94080
(650) 392-1768
Attn: Secretary

\$150,000,000



NGM Biopharmaceuticals, Inc.

Common Stock

PROSPECTUS

Jefferies

June 16, 2020
