NRX-CAD\$4.00 PT

## Action Summary - 29 March 2024

Analyst Theodore R. O'Neill - Reiterate our Buy rating and CAD\$4 price target.

- Reporting 4Q23 imminently. We expect the company to report 4Q23 soon and while there is no consensus, we are expecting an EPS loss of \$0.02 and zero reported revenue.
- Several significant developments since the end of the quarter.
  - Closes private placement for ~CAD\$2MM. On January 5, it announced it closed on a CAD\$2MM private placement with proceeds to be used for development activities with a focus on progressing towards the clinical phase, expanding the company's IP and general corporate purposes.
  - Launches licensing efforts for the ExoTherapy platform. On Feb. 14, it announced it is beginning
    efforts to license its ExoTherapy platform for creating nano drugs by loading molecular cargo into
    exosomes
  - Expanding its footprint to a leading-edge R&D facility. On March 8, the company announced it
    finalized a lease and construction agreement for 200 meters<sup>2</sup> of lab and office space at the Israel
    Institute of Technology.
  - Broadening market reach in the U.S. On March 15, it announced it filed for listing on the OTCQB market and applied for DTC eligibility.
  - Closes on both accelerated and non-accelerated warrants for ~CAD\$4MM gross. On March 27, the company announced it generated ~CAD\$4MM gross from the exercise of warrants from a private placement that closed June 15, 2022.
- Shares appear to be priced below absolute and comparative metrics. Our CAD\$4.00 price target is based on discounted future earnings. Using the current average peer 2025 Market cap to sales of 6.5x and assuming \$10MM in 2026 revenue, the market cap would be CAD\$88MM.

3/28 closing price: CAD\$0.77	Market cap: CAD\$37 million	Multiple of book: NMF	EV/2024 Sales: NMF
Shares outstanding: 48 million	Insider ownership: 9%	Avg. trading volume: ~10,000	Dividend/Yield: NA/NA

### GAAP estimates (EPS in dollars - Revenue in USD millions)

Period	EPS	Revenue	Op Margin
1Q22A	(\$0.08)	\$0.00	NME
2Q22A	(\$0.12)	\$0.00	
3Q22A	(\$0.03)	\$0.00	
4Q22A	(\$0.03)	<u>\$0.00</u>	
FY22A	(\$0.22)	\$0.00	
1Q23A 2Q23A 3Q23A 4Q23E FY23E	(\$0.02) (\$0.02) (\$0.02) (\$0.03) (\$0.02) (\$0.09)	\$0.00 \$0.00 \$0.00 \$0.00 \$0.00 \$0.00	<u>NMF</u>
1Q24E	(\$0.02)	\$0.00	<u>NMF</u>
2Q24E	(\$0.02)	\$0.00	
3Q24E	(\$0.02)	\$0.00	
4Q24E	(\$0.03)	<u>\$0.00</u>	
FY24E	(\$0.09)	<u>\$0.00</u>	

Note: Numbers may not add due to rounding or share count. See our full model at the back of this report.

## Cash balance (in USD millions)

•	2021A	•	\$2.23
•	2022A	•	\$2.52
•	2023E	•	\$0.45
•	2024E	•	\$0.24

### **Debt (in USD millions)**

•	2021A	• \$0.00
•	2022A	• \$0.00
•	2023E	• \$0.00
•	2024E	• \$0.00

### Risks/Valuation

- Risks include Highly regulated business, commercial development and marketing.
- Our CAD\$4.00 target is derived using a discounted future earnings model.

**Company description**: NurExone Biologic Inc. is a TSX Venture Exchange-listed pharmaceutical company that is developing a platform for biologically guided ExoTherapy to be delivered non-invasively to patients who suffered traumatic spinal cord injuries.





Source: FactSet

# **Valuation Methodology**

The value of NRX could come from multiple avenues. It could be acquired, form partnerships, license products or technology. We believe NRX is undervalued, and we support that belief with two valuation techniques: discounted future earnings and sales metrics compared to peers. To determine our price target we use a discounted future earnings model. Depending on the regulatory approval process, the timing of the first revenues may be this year or next. The following valuation techniques are being used:

- 1) The discounted value of all future earnings, used for our price target (see Figure 3)
- 2) Valuation based on peer sales metrics (see Figure 4)

## Discounted Future Earnings – Basis for Price Target

Our 12-month price target of CAD\$4.00 is based on a discounted earnings model, which is calculated in USD because that is how the company reports results and then converted to CAD\$. Figure 2 shows the implied value of all future earnings discounted at 12%. It is based on reaching breakeven in 2026 and implies a stock value of \$2.52, which we round to \$3.00 which is ~CAD\$4.00 at the current exchange rate.



Figure 2 – NurExone Biologic Inc. – US\$ Discounted Future Earnings

Discount	ed Earnings:	\$2.52
V	EDC	Discounted
Year	EPS	EPS
2023	(\$0.09)	(0.09)
2024	(\$0.09)	(80.0)
2025	(\$0.05)	(0.04)
2026	\$0.00	0.00
2027	\$0.10	0.06
2028	\$0.20	0.11
2029	\$0.28	0.14
2030	\$0.42	0.19
2031	\$0.44	0.18
2032	\$0.46	0.17
	Terminal Value:	1.87

Source: Litchfield Hills Research LLC

### Valuation Relative to Peers

To develop peer comparisons, we selected companies in the same general markets that also had or were developing a drug delivery platform with a market cap of <\$250MM, see Figure 4. We included companies engaged in exosome research/delivery platforms or other types of platforms. If we compare NRX to a simple average of its peers, the shares sell at a significant discount on the one measure we can use for comparison: Sales multiple. For this analysis, we take the current one-year out sales multiple (2025 peer average sales multiple of 6.5x) and apply it as if it were 2025 and look into 2026 when the company could reach breakeven. We assume the company will raise more capital and the share count will rise to 50MM. The implied share price is \$1.30 (CAD\$1.76), see Figure 3. This supports our view that the shares are undervalued. The companies we used in Figure 4 are in similar business lines, although none of them is a perfect match.

Figure 3 – NurExone Biologic Inc. – Peer Driven Valuation

Implied Share Price	USD\$1.30/CAD\$1.76
NRX 2024 Estimated share count	50MM
Implied Market Cap in 2025 at the Average out- year sales multiple	\$65MM
NRX potential 2026 revenue	USD\$10MM
Average Out-year 2025 Sales Multiple for Peers	6.5

Source: Litchfield Hills Research LLC and Refinitiv Eikon



Figure 4 – NurExone Biologic Inc. – Comp Table

	2025 Consensus						lultiples
					Market		
FactSet	0 N	Closing	Market	E) / (D) 45 4	Cap /	E) / /O	Price to
Ticker	Company Name	Price	Cap \$MM	EV \$MM	Sales	EV /Sales	Book
XOMA-US	XOMA Corporation	\$23.34	271	239	13.51	11.92	2.40
ZVRA-US	Zevra Therapeutics, Inc.	\$5.94	246	126	2.50	1.24	1.85
	Vaxart, Inc.	\$1.29	224	174	9.93	7.70	1.52
	Capricor Therapeutics, Inc.	\$6.77	213	147	2.82	1.96	6.74
COYA-US	Coya Therapeutics, Inc.	\$9.65	140	65	14.40	6.80	
ANVS-US	Annovis Bio Inc	\$12.03	132	102			3.87
RVPH-US	Reviva Pharmaceuticals Holdings, Inc.	\$3.90	109	89			7.06
ASMB-US	Assembly Biosciences, Inc.	\$13.38	73	13			0.77
MOC-PL	Molecure SA	\$4.33	73	53	17.96	10.70	1.58
INNO-CA	InnoCan Pharma Corporation	\$0.24	63	57			6.20
MTNB-US	Matinas BioPharma Holdings, Inc.	\$0.29	63	53			2.44
SABS-US	SAB Biotherapeutics, Inc.	\$4.22	39	24			0.96
MSCL-CA	Satellos Bioscience Inc	\$0.35	35	0			1.19
IIQ-AU	Inoviq Ltd	\$0.38	35	31	8.77	7.93	3.99
MARI-AT	Marinomed Biotech AG	\$22.72	35	32	1.09	1.68	
BCLI-US	Brainstorm Cell Therapeutics Inc.	\$0.60	29	28			
RLF-CH	RELIEF THERAPEUTICS Holding AG	\$1.47	21	7			0.91
SNTI-US	Senti Biosciences, Inc.	\$0.39	18	19			0.45
VBIV-US	VBI Vaccines. Inc.	\$0.58	14	30	0.46	0.78	1.57
OCEL-US	Zeo ScientifiX Inc.	\$2.00	12	12			
EVOK-US	Evoke Pharma, Inc.	\$0.59	5	2	0.24	0.11	
CING-US	Cingulate, Inc.	\$1.09	4	3	0.24	0.13	2.91
BWV-US	Onconetix Inc	\$0.16	4	8			0.75
ALBT-US	Avalon GloboCare Corp.	\$0.30	3	31			23.99
NBSE-US	NeuBase Therapeutics Inc	\$0.43	2	(6)			
	Average	•		` '	<u>6.54</u>	<u>4.63</u>	<u>3.74</u>

Source: Litchfield Hills Research LLC and FactSet

## **Guidance and Financial Forecasts**

The company provides no guidance. The company is pursuing a multi-prong strategy for growth including potential acquisition, commercialization, partnerships, and joint ventures. Our forecasts assume there is no revenue before 2024. In our 2023 research reports, we had assumed a 2024 capital raise of ~CAD\$6MM, which the company appears to have completed in 1Q24. The company continues to meet its milestones, which we highlight in Figure 5.



Figure 5 – NurExone Biologic Inc. – ExoPTEN Timeline



NurExone received an Orphan Drug Designation (ODD) approval for its Exo-PTEN for acute Spinal Cord Injury indication

Source: Company presentation, Nov 2023



Figure 6 – NurExone Biologic Inc. – Income Statement (US\$000)

December ending year	2021A		2022A 202				2A 2023E		2023E		202	24E		2024E		
	Year	Q1A	Q2A	Q3A	Q4A	Year	Q1A	Q2A	Q3A	Q4E	Year	Q1E	Q2E	Q3E	Q4E	Year
Total revenue	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Cost of Goods Gross Profit	<u>0</u> <b>0</b>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u> <b>0</b>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u> <b>0</b>	<u>0</u> <b>0</b>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u> <b>0</b>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u> <b>0</b>	<u>0</u> <b>0</b>	<u>0</u> <b>0</b>	<u>0</u> <b>0</b>
R&D SG&A Total Operating Expenses	573 <u>1,140</u> 1,713	281 <u>1,947</u> 2,228	303 <u>1,181</u> 1,484	422 <u>566</u> 988	385 <u>456</u> 841	1,391 <u>4,150</u> 5,541	374 <u>345</u> 719	457 <u>603</u> 1,060	402 <u>762</u> 1,164	450 <u>600</u> 1,050	1,683 <u>2,310</u> 3,993	450 <u>600</u> 1,050	500 <u>600</u> 1,100	600 <u>600</u> 1,200	800 <u>600</u> 1,400	2,350 <u>2,400</u> 4,750
Operating Income	(1,713)	(2,228)	(1,484)	(988)	(841)	(5,541)	(719)	(1,060)	(1,164)	(1,050)	(3,993)	(1,050)	(1,100)	(1,200)	(1,400)	(4,750)
Total Other Items Pre-Tax Income	<u>66</u> (1, <mark>647</mark> )	( <u>87)</u> ( <b>2,315)</b>	(2,315) (3,799)	<u>(53)</u> <b>(1,041)</b>	<u>(173)</u> <b>(1,014)</b>	(2,628) (8,169)	<u>14</u> (705)	<u>20</u> (1,040)	<u>6</u> (1,158)	<u>0</u> (1,050)	40 (3,953)	<u>15</u> (1,035)	( <u>1)</u> (1,101)	(1) (1,201)	( <u>1)</u> (1,401)	<u>13</u> (4,7 <mark>37</mark> )
Taxes (benefit) Tax Rate	0.00 0.0%	0.00 0.0%	0.00 0.0%	0.00 0.0%	0.00 0.0%	0.00 0.0%	0.00 0.0%	0.00 0.0%	0.00 0.0%	0.00 0.0%	0.00 0.0%	0.00 0.0%	0.00 0.0%	0.00 0.0%	0.00 0.0%	0.00 0.0%
Net Income (loss)	(\$1,647)	(\$2,315)	(\$3,799)	(\$1,041)	(\$1,014)	(\$8,169)	(\$705)	(\$1,040)	(\$1,158)	(\$1,050)	(\$3,953)	(\$1,035)	(\$1,101)	(\$1,201)	(\$1,401)	(\$4,737)
EPS	(\$0.10)	(\$0.08)	(\$0.12)	(\$0.03)	(\$0.03)	(\$0.22)	(\$0.02)	(\$0.02)	(\$0.03)	(\$0.02)	(\$0.09)	(\$0.02)	(\$0.02)	(\$0.02)	(\$0.03)	(\$0.09)
Diluted Shares Outstanding	16,452	28,810	32,885	36,086	37,734	37,734	42,855	42,885	43,534	48,000	44,318	48,000	50,000	50,000	52,000	50,000

Source: Company reports and Litchfield Hills Research LLC



Figure 7 – NurExone Biologic Inc. – Balance Sheet (US\$000)

December ending year	FY2024E	FY2023E	FY2022A	FY2021A
Balance sheet				
Current Assets				
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Cash and S.T.I. Accounts receivable	\$242 300	\$454 250	\$2,517 175	\$2,233 603
Inventories	0	230	1/3	003
Other assets	<u>0</u>	0	0	0
Total Current Assets	<u>∪</u> 542	<u>∪</u> 704	2,692	2,836
Total Guitent Assets	342	704	2,032	2,030
Net PP&E	125	100	51	0
Other non-current assets	<u>50</u>	<u>50</u>	<u>51</u>	<u>0</u>
Total Assets	\$ <u>717</u>	\$ <u>854</u>	\$ <u>2,794</u>	\$ <u>2,836</u>
Current Liabilities				
Accounts payable	\$350	\$300	\$278	\$259
Accrued expenses	375	325	305	87
Other current liabilities	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>1,285</u>
Total current liabilities	725	625	583	1,631
Conv. and Long Term Debt	0	0	0	0
Other non-current	100	<u>100</u>	115	28
Total Liabilities	825	725	698	1,659
				,
Stockholders' Equity				
Preferred stock	0	0	0	0
Common stock	0	0	0	0
Additional paid-in-capital	19,000	14,500	12,514	3,426
Retained earnings	(19,108)	(14,371)	(10,418)	(2,249)
Cum. trans. adj. and treasury stock	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
Total stockholders' equity	<u>(108)</u>	<u>129</u>	<u>2,096</u>	<u>1,177</u>
Total Liabilities and equity	\$ <u>717</u>	\$ <u>854</u>	\$ <u>2,794</u>	\$ <u>2,836</u>

Source: Company reports and Litchfield Hills Research LLC

Figure 8 – NurExone Biologic Inc. – Cash Flow (US\$000)

	2024E	2023E	2022A	2021A
Net Income	(\$4,737)	(\$3,953)	(\$8,169)	(\$1,647)
Accounts receivable	(50)	(75)	428	(603)
Inventories	0	0	0	0
Other assets	0	0	0	735
PP&E	(25)	(49)	(51)	0
Other non-current	0	1	(51)	356
	50	00	40	(000)
Accounts payable	50	22	19	(390)
Accrued expenses	50	20	218	(770)
Other current liabilities	0	0	(1,285)	1,285
Conv. and Long Term Debt	0	0	0	0
Other non-current	0	(15)	87	28
Preferred stock	0	0	0	0
Common stock	0	0	0	(14)
Additional paid-in-capital	4,500	1,986	9,088	(32,065)
Stock subscription receivable	0	0	0	0
Other				
Total Cash Flow	(\$212)	(\$2,063)	\$284	(\$33,086)

Source: Litchfield Hills Research LLC

### Disclosures:

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