# **REMUNERATION POLICY**

#### 1. INTRODUCTION

This remuneration policy has been prepared by the board of directors on recommendation of the remuneration and nomination committee in accordance with Article 7:89/1 of the Belgian Companies and Associations Code of 23 March 2019, as amended (the "BCAC") and the 2020 Belgian Code on Corporate Governance (the "2020 Code") and applies to the members of the board of directors and the executive management of Sequana Medical NV (the "Company" or "Sequana Medical").

This remuneration policy will be submitted for approval to the annual general shareholders' meeting of the Company to be held on 27 May 2022 and is aligned with the requirements of Article 7:89/1 BCAC. If a significant proportion of the votes were to be cast against this remuneration policy, the Company will take the necessary steps to address the concerns of those voting against it, and will consider adapting its remuneration policy. The present remuneration policy is intended to replace the previous remuneration policy that was approved by the annual general shareholders' meeting of the Company that was held on 27 May 2021. The main change against the previous remuneration policy is that the board of directors intends to have sufficient flexibility to grant share options or subscription rights also to non-executive independent directors.

#### 2. BACKGROUND AND OBJECTIVES

As a commercial stage medical devices company, Sequana Medical aims at achieving a strategy involving researching, developing, testing and eventually (after obtaining the necessary regulatory and other approvals) commercializing (potential) treatments for the management of diuretic-resistant fluid overload in liver disease, malignant ascites and heart failure. Successful implementation of the aforementioned strategy requires an intense long term effort of highly qualified experts. Therefore it is important that the Company is able to attract and retain Belgian and foreign directors and members of the executive management with the talent, knowledge, ability, experience, skills, values and behaviour to deliver on the Company's long-term strategy and goals, to support the Company's purpose and to promote continuous improvement in the Company's business.

This remuneration policy is based on meritocracy and a sense of ownership and is designed to reward performance in order to motivate members of the board of directors and the executive management of the Company in order to deliver increased shareholder value through superior business results. Levels of fixed and, as the case may be, variable, remuneration should be sufficient to attract, retain and motivate Belgian and foreign directors and members of the executive management who have the profile determined by the board of directors, to promote the achievements of strategic objectives in accordance with the Company's risk appetite and behavioural norms and to promote sustainable value creation and enhance patients' quality of life. Finally, it is also important that the remuneration policy of the Company is competitive in the (employment) markets in which the Company operates.

The board of directors determines the remuneration of the directors and the members of the executive management in accordance with the provisions of the BCAC and the 2020 Code, upon recommendation and proposal of the remuneration and nomination committee, while respecting the prerogatives of the general shareholders' meeting. The remuneration and nomination committee benchmarks (as the case may be with assistance of external advisors) the compensation of the members of the board of directors and the executive management against peer companies to ensure that it remains fair, competitive and in line with market practice. The remuneration of the members of the board of directors and the executive management are therefore market driven.

The specific powers and composition of the remuneration and nomination committee are set out in the corporate governance charter of the Company (approved by the board of directors on 23 April 2020).

In accordance with Article 7:89/1, §5 of the BCAC, the Company may temporarily derogate from this remuneration policy in exceptional circumstances. These exceptional circumstances cover situations in which the derogation is necessary to serve the long term interests and sustainability of the Company as a whole or to assure its viability. Such derogation requires the approval of both the remuneration and nomination committee and the board of directors. The remuneration report relating to the relevant financial year will include information on any derogation, including its justification.

## 3. COMPONENTS OF THE REMUNERATION

#### 3.1. Members of the board of directors

The level and structure of the remuneration of the members of the board of directors are determined based on their general and specific responsibilities and market practice. This remuneration includes a basic fixed yearly remuneration (irrespective of the number of board meetings that are held during the year). Directors are not entitled to any kind of performance cash bonus or other kind of variable remuneration. Directors are also not entitled to any kind of compensation when their mandate ends.

Furthermore, each director is in principle also entitled to receive share options or subscription rights. The aforementioned possibility to grant share options to non-executive directors is contrary to provision 7.6 of the 2020 Code, which provides that no share options should be granted to non-executive directors. The Company believes that this provision of the 2020 Code is not appropriate and does not take into account the realities of companies in the biotech and life sciences industry. Notably, the ability to remunerate non-executive directors with share options allows the Company to limit the portion of remuneration in cash that the Company would otherwise need to pay to attract or retain renowned global experts with the most relevant skills, knowledge and expertise. The Company is of the opinion that granting non-executive directors the opportunity to be remunerated in part in share-based incentives rather than all in cash enables the non-executive directors to link their effective remuneration to the performance of the Company and to strengthen the alignment of their interests with the interests of the Company's shareholders. The Company believes that this is in the interest of the Company and its stakeholders. Furthermore, the Company believes that this is customary for directors active in companies in the life sciences industry. For more information on the granting of share options to directors, see section 6 below.

In accordance with provision 7.6 of the 2020 Code, non-executive directors should receive a part of their remuneration in the form of shares of the Company. The Company has however no distributable reserves and therefore does not meet the legal requirements to effect a share buy-back. As a result, the Company does not have any treasury shares and is unable to grant existing shares to non-executive directors as part of their remuneration. The interests of the non-executive directors are however currently considered to be sufficiently oriented to the creation of long-term value for the Company. The directors are also paid in cash, leaving it their own initiative whether or not they wish to use such funds (in whole or in part) to acquire existing shares of the Company.

The directors who are also a member of the executive management are remunerated for the executive management mandate (see section 3.2 below), but not for their director mandate.

The Company also reimburses reasonable out of pocket expenses of directors (including travel and accommodation expenses) incurred in performing the activity of director. Without prejudice to the powers granted by law to the general shareholders' meeting, the board of directors sets and revises the rules for reimbursement of directors' business-related out of pocket expenses.

Furthermore, as permitted by the Company's articles of association, the Company has entered into indemnification arrangements with the directors and has implemented directors' and officers' insurance coverage in order to cover liability they may incur in the exercise of their mandates.

As mentioned above, the Company may temporarily derogate from this remuneration policy in accordance with Article 7:89/1, §5 of the BCAC.

## 3.2. Members of the executive management

The remuneration of the chief executive officer and the other member of the executive management is based on recommendations made by the remuneration and nomination committee. The chief executive officer participates in the meetings of the remuneration and nomination committee in an advisory capacity each time the remuneration of another member of the executive management is being discussed.

An appropriate proportion of the remuneration package should be structured so as to link rewards to corporate and individual performance, thereby aligning the interest of the executive management with the interests of the Company and its shareholders. The chief executive officer will determine whether the targets for the variable remuneration of the members of the executive management, as set by the board of directors, are met.

The remuneration of the executive management currently consists of the following main remuneration components:

annual base salary/fee (fixed);

- participation in share option plans;
- a performance bonus in cash; and
- other (fringe) benefits in whatever form (such as contribution for pension plan, insurance plan, car lease, transport allowance and medical plan).

The members of the executive management have a variable remuneration (i.e. remuneration linked to performance criteria) amounting to up to 50% of the base salary/fee for on target performance. The remuneration is closely linked to performance.

Bonuses, if any, are linked to identifiable objectives and to special projects and are set and measured on a calendar-year basis.

The performance objectives of the executive management members are primarily evaluated with regard to the following criteria: (i) respect of the board-approved annual budget, and (ii) meeting measurable operational targets. The various objectives and their weighting may differ for the individual managers.

The nomination and remuneration committee of the board of directors meets annually to review the performance of the managers, to compare the actual measurable results to the objectives that were predefined by the committee, and to establish the measurable objectives for the ensuing calendar year. For more information on the criteria for the award of variable remuneration, see section 5 below.

Furthermore, each member of the executive management is in principle entitled to receive share options or subscription rights. For more information on the granting of share options to members of the executive management, see section 6 below.

The chief executive officer is entitled to pension benefits. The contributions by the Company to the pension scheme amount to 5% of the annual salary.

The members of the executive management are also reimbursed for certain costs and expenses made in the performance of their function.

Furthermore, as permitted by the Company's articles of association, the Company has entered into indemnification arrangements with the members of the executive management and has implemented directors' and officers' insurance coverage in order to cover liability they may incur in the exercise of their mandates.

In accordance with provision 7.9 of the 2020 Code, the board of directors should set a minimum threshold of shares to be held by the members of the executive management. A part of the remuneration of the members of the executive management consists of options to subscribe for the Company's shares, which should allow the members of the executive management over time to acquire shares of the Company, in line with the objectives of the option plans.

As mentioned above, the Company may temporarily derogate from this remuneration policy in accordance with Article 7:89/1, §5 of the BCAC.

# 4. CONSIDERATION OF PAY AND EMPLOYMENT CONDITIONS OF EMPLOYEES

The Company wants to attract talented employees who combine expertise and passion for the medical devices business and strive to make the business grow, taking into account the governance and working procedures the Company has put in place. Therefore the Company pays competitive salaries.

For employees of the Company, the remuneration package is composed of a competitive fixed remuneration, rewarding their skills, expertise and experience, and, for certain employees, to the Company's discretion and to the extent that the results of the Company allow it, and depending on individual performance and the market practice, a variable remuneration, rewarding specific quantitative and qualitative targets. A yearly target setting and appraisal cycle, defines the targets for each employee. An intermediate appraisal and final year end appraisal process assesses the targets and actual results for all employees, which may lead to a variable remuneration, based on this process.

The remuneration and nomination committee takes into account the compensation of the employees when preparing the remuneration policy applicable to the directors and the members of the executive management. Particularly, the remuneration and nomination committee discusses and assesses key areas of remuneration policy for the wider workforce throughout the year, the annual bonus pool and

resulting pay outcomes for employees across the workforce and any material changes to the structure of workforce compensation.

#### 5. CRITERIA FOR THE AWARD OF VARIABLE REMUNERATION

The criteria for the award of variable remuneration are either of quantitative nature, either of qualitative nature. Each year the board of directors, upon recommendation and proposal of the remuneration and nomination committee, determines the criteria and parameters to be applied on the variable remuneration.

The Company's objectives have been determined by the board of directors at the beginning of the year on the basis of the Company's strategy and long-term interests. The level of achievement of these predetermined goals and objectives is reviewed in the beginning of the first subsequent year by the remuneration and nomination committee and finally established by the board of directors.

The company goals and objectives consist of Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) based on a range of business metrics that are composed of financial and non-financial KPIs which may be grouped into different KPI categories such as financial performance (sustainable growth in revenues, operate to budget and complete necessary financing rounds), execution and delivery on support projects for financial and commercial growth (feeding the pipeline of projects, clinical trial progression, delivering projects on time) and operational targets (quality and regulation as well as engineering and supply chain). The aforementioned criteria may change on a year-to-year basis. The criteria and the relative weight attributed to each of them are set by the board of directors annually. The board of directors is of the opinion that these KPIs contribute most to the realization of the Company's strategy, long-term interests and sustainable growth.

Each year, upon recommendation and proposal of the remuneration and nomination committee, the board of directors decides on the objectives of the executive management for the coming financial year and evaluates their performance for the period ending, in conformity with the procedure currently in place. The individual performance of each member of the executive management is determined by an individual assessment between the member of the executive management and the chief executive officer (or, for the chief executive officer, between the chief executive officer and the chairman of the board of directors). The assessment of the chief executive officer is reviewed by the remuneration and nomination committee which makes a recommendation to the board of directors for final decision. The chief executive officer does not participate to any decision regarding his own individual performance.

For the chief executive officer, the variable remuneration is based on 100% of the Company performance. For the other members of the executive management, the variable remuneration is based on 80% of Company performance and 20% of individual performance. Those target percentages may be multiplied by a factor from 0% to 200%, depending on the overall performance.

The variable remuneration paid out to the members of the executive management is awarded unconditionally and is not subject to any vesting mechanisms.

In accordance with provision 7.12 of the 2020 Code, the board of directors should include provisions in the contracts of the members of the executive management that would enable the Company to recover variable remuneration paid, or withhold the payment of variable remuneration, and specify the circumstances in which it would be appropriate to do so, insofar as enforceable by law. There are currently no contractual provisions in place between the Company and the chief executive officer or the other member of the executive management that give the Company a contractual right to reclaim from said executives any variable remuneration that would be awarded. The board of directors does not consider that it is necessary to apply claw-back provisions as (x) the pay-out of the variable remuneration, based on the achievement of corporate targets as set by the board of directors, is paid only upon achievement of those corporate targets, and (y) the Company does not apply any other performance based remuneration or variable compensation. Furthermore, the share option plans do contain bad leaver provisions that can result in the share options, whether vested or not, automatically and immediately becoming null and void. Notwithstanding the Company's position that share options are not to be qualified as variable remuneration, the board of directors is of the opinion that such bad leaver provisions sufficiently protect the Company's interests and that it is therefore currently not necessary to provide for additional contractual provisions that give the Company a contractual right to reclaim any (variable) remuneration from the members of the executive management.

#### 6. SHARE-BASED REMUNERATION

The Company may from time to time award share options (in the form of subscription rights) to members of the board of directors and executive management, at the discretion of the board of directors. On the date of this remuneration policy, the Company has the following outstanding plans:

- the "Executive Share Options" plan for staff members and consultants of the Company, entitling
  the holder thereof to acquire ca. 2.88 shares when exercising one of his, her or its share options;
  and
- the "2018 Share Options" plan for staff members and consultants of the Company, entitling the holder thereof to acquire one share when exercising one of his, her or its share options.
- the "2021 Share Options" plan for members of the personnel of the Company, entitling the holder thereof to acquire one share when exercising one of his, her or its share options.

For more information about the abovementioned share option plans, reference is made to the latest version of the Company's remuneration report.

The number of share options offered to each of the beneficiaries is freely determined by the board of directors, acting upon the recommendation of the remuneration and nomination committee. The number of share options to be granted is based on a benchmarking exercise which is regularly performed, to ensure that the grants are competitive and in line with market practice.

The granting or vesting of share options does not depend on variable objectives or performance criteria. The share options are therefore considered not to qualify as variable remuneration. This has also been confirmed by the general shareholders' meeting.

Pursuant to Article 7:91 of the BCAC and provision 7.11 of the 2020 Code, shares should not vest and share options should not be exercisable within three years as of their granting. Insofar as necessary, it is recalled that following the extraordinary shareholders' meeting of 28 May 2020, it has been expressly provided in the articles of association that the board of directors is explicitly authorised to deviate from the provisions of Article 7:91 of the BCAC, for all persons who fall within the scope of these provisions (whether directly or pursuant to Articles 7:108 and 7:121 of the BCAC, or otherwise). The Company is of the opinion that this allows for more flexibility when structuring share-based awards. For example, it is customary for option plans to provide for a vesting in several instalments over a well-defined period of time, instead of vesting after three years only. This seems to be more in line with prevailing practice.

The equity-linked remuneration intends to contribute to the Company's business strategy, long-term interests, and sustainability by incentivizing the beneficiaries to create shareholder value and enhance patients' quality of life.

# 7. AGREEMENTS WITH THE MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND THE EXECUTIVE MANAGEMENT

## 7.1. Non-executive directors

Each non-executive director exercises its mandates as self-employed workers. According to the articles of association of the Company, the term of a directors' mandate cannot exceed four (4) years, but may be renewed. The directors' mandates may be terminated "ad nutum" (at any time) without any form of compensation. There is no specific agreement between the Company and non-executive directors which waives or restrains this right of the Company to terminate "ad nutum" (at any time) the mandates of the directors.

# 7.2. Executive managers

In accordance with provision 7.12 of the 2020 Code, the board of directors approves, upon recommendation and proposal of the remuneration and nomination committee, the main terms and conditions of the contracts of the chief executive officer and the other members of the executive management.

The employment or service agreements with the members of the executive management have been entered into for an indefinite term.

The employment agreement with the chief executive officer of the Company provides that the agreement can be terminated by either the Company or the chief executive officer subject to four months' notice. If within six months after the completion of an "Exit Transaction" the chief executive officer is (i) no longer the chief executive officer of the Company, or (ii) required to change his current work pattern (the events in (i) and (ii) shall be an "Enforced Redundancy"), the chief executive officer shall be entitled to resign and shall no longer be required to work or perform until the end of the four months' notice period. The term "Exit Transaction" has been defined as (i) a transfer of more than 50% of the Company's shares or more than 50% of the voting rights to a third party or a group of persons exercising joint control in one or a series of related transactions to a propose acquirer who wishes to acquire a controlling majority of the shares, voting rights or assets pursuant to a bona fide purchase offer, (ii) the sale, lease, transfer, license or other disposition of all or substantially all of the Company's assets, or (iii) the consolidation or merger of the Company in which the Company is not the surviving entity or any other event pursuant to which the shareholders of the Company will have less than 50% plus one share of the voting power and/or of the shares of the surviving or acquiring company. In the event of an Enforced Redundancy, the chief executive officer will be entitled to a pro rata bonus. In the event of an Enforced Redundancy, the chief executive officer may also, at his sole discretion, elect to terminate the employment agreement with immediate effect and the Company shall then be required to make a payment in lieu of a notice equivalent to the basic salary only (but not the other benefits) to which the chief executive officer would have been entitled. The employment agreement also provides for a number of instances in which the agreement can be immediately terminated by the Company, including for cause.

The services agreement with the chief financial officer of the Company provides that it has been entered into for an unlimited term, and that it may be terminated in mutual agreement by the Company and the chief financial officer at any time. In case of termination of the agreement by the Company, the chief financial officer is entitled to three months' notice or to the payment of a quarter of the annual compensation in lieu of notice, or the payment of a pro rata part of one quarter of the fixed annual compensation in lieu of part of the notice. The agreement may be terminated by the chief financial officer subject to a notice period of three months. The agreement may be terminated by either the Company or the chief financial officer with immediate effect and without notice period (or, in case of termination by the Company, without notice period or indemnity) in case of wilful or serious breach or violation by a party of any of its covenants, obligations or duties under the agreement, or any wilful or serious neglect of or refusal to perform any of such covenants, obligations or duties.

# 7.3. Pension and early retirement schemes

The chief executive officer is entitled to pension benefits. The contributions by the Company to the pension scheme amount to 5% of the annual salary/fee of the chief executive officer. See also section 3.2 above.

There is no specific early retirement scheme for the members of the executive management.

# 8. DECISION-MAKING PROCESS

The board of directors, upon recommendation and proposal of the remuneration and nomination committee, validates the remuneration policy and proposes the remuneration policy to the annual general shareholders' meeting for approval. The board of directors assesses, on a yearly basis, if the remuneration policy needs to adapt.

The remuneration and nomination committee assesses on a yearly basis if all elements of the remuneration policy are in line with the strategic objectives of the Company and proposes improvements to the board of directors, where deemed appropriate.

As mentioned in the Company's corporate governance charter, the directors (thus members of the remuneration and nomination committee, or of any other concerned advisory committee) are deemed to avoid, to the extent possible, to perform any actions, to defend certain positions, and to pursue certain interests, if this would conflict, or would give the impression to conflict, with the interests of the Company. Each board member should, in particular, be attentive to conflicts of interests that may arise between the Company, its board members, its significant or controlling shareholder(s) and other shareholders. The board members who are proposed by significant or controlling shareholder(s) should also ensure that the interests and intentions of these shareholder(s) are sufficiently clear and communicated to the board in a timely manner.