

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

**FORM 8-K**

**CURRENT REPORT**  
Pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d)  
of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934

Date of Report (Date of earliest event reported): July 29, 2022

**Vaccinex, Inc.**

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Delaware  
(State or other jurisdiction  
of incorporation)

001-38624  
(Commission  
File Number)

16-1603202  
(IRS Employer  
Identification No.)

1895 Mount Hope Avenue, Rochester, New York  
(Address of principal executive offices)

14620  
(Zip Code)

(585) 271-2700  
(Registrant's telephone number, including area code)

(Former name or former address, if changed since last report)

Check the appropriate box below if the Form 8-K filing is intended to simultaneously satisfy the filing obligation of the registrant under any of the following provisions:

- Written communications pursuant to Rule 425 under the Securities Act (17 CFR 230.425)
- Soliciting material pursuant to Rule 14a-12 under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14a-12)
- Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 14d-2(b) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14d-2(b))
- Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 13e-4(c) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.13e-4(c))

Securities registered pursuant to Section 12(b) of the Act:

Title of each class	Trading Symbol(s)	Name of each exchange on which registered
Common Stock, par value \$0.0001 per share	VCNX	Nasdaq Capital Market

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is an emerging growth company as defined in Rule 405 of the Securities Act of 1933 (§230.405 of this chapter) or Rule 12b-2 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (§240.12b-2 of this chapter).

Emerging growth company

If an emerging growth company, indicate by check mark if the registrant has elected not to use the extended transition period for complying with any new or revised financial accounting standards provided pursuant to Section 13(a) of the Exchange Act.

**Item 7.01 Regulation FD Disclosure.**

On July 29, 2022, Vaccinex, Inc. (the "Company") issued a press release announcing it was presenting a virtual poster with an accompanying pre-recorded video presentation during the 2022 Alzheimer's Association International Conference ("AAIC 22") from Sunday July 31, 2022 through Thursday August 4, 2022. A copy of the press release and of the virtual poster being presented by the Company at the AAIC 22 are furnished herewith as Exhibit 99.1 and Exhibit 99.2, respectively. A copy of the virtual poster is available on the Company's website located at [www.vaccinex.com](http://www.vaccinex.com) under the heading "Investors" and subheading "Presentations."

The information furnished pursuant to this Item 7.01, including Exhibit 99.1 and Exhibit 99.2, shall not be deemed "filed" for purposes of Section 18 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the "Exchange Act") or otherwise subject to the liabilities under such section and shall not be deemed to be incorporated by reference into any filing of the Company under the Securities Act of 1944, as amended, or the Exchange Act.

**Item 9.01 Financial Statements and Exhibits.**

<u>Exhibit No.</u>	<u>Description</u>
99.1	<a href="#">Press Release, dated July 29, 2022</a>
99.2	<a href="#">AAIC 22 Poster: SEMA4D blocking antibody, pepinemab, is a novel potential treatment for neurodegenerative disease: clinical proof of concept in Phase 2 HD study supports ongoing clinical development in Phase 1b/2a AD Study</a>
104	Cover Page Interactive Data File (embedded within the Inline XBRL document)

**SIGNATURES**

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned hereunto duly authorized.

Date: August 1, 2022

**VACCINEX, INC.**

By: /s/ Scott E. Royer  
Scott E. Royer  
Chief Financial Officer



**Vaccinex, Inc. Announces Presentation at the 2022 Alzheimer's Association International Conference Updating the SIGNAL-AD Study of Pepinemab in Patients with Alzheimer's Disease**

**ROCHESTER, N.Y., July 29, 2022** — Vaccinex, Inc. (Nasdaq: VCNX), a clinical-stage biotechnology company pioneering a differentiated approach to treating cancer and neurodegenerative disease through the inhibition of SEMA4D, today announced that it has been **selected for poster presentation related to its ongoing Phase 1/2a SIGNAL-AD study of pepinemab in patients with early Alzheimer's Disease during the upcoming 2022 Alzheimer's Association International Conference**, taking place from July 31<sup>st</sup> to August 4<sup>th</sup> in San Diego via in person and virtual attendance (Link to meeting).

**Details are shown below:**

**Poster title:** SEMA4D blocking antibody, pepinemab, is a novel potential treatment for neurodegenerative disease: clinical proof of concept in Phase 2 HD study supports ongoing clinical development in Phase 1/2a AD study

**Presenter:** Terrence Fisher, PhD, VP Clinical Science

**Poster #:** 65554

**Session:** Virtual Platform

**Dates:** Sunday July 31<sup>st</sup>, 2022 (virtual poster will be available 7:00am PDT on the AAIC virtual platform and at <https://ir.vaccinex.com/events>)

**Venue:** San Diego Convention Center, 111 W. Harbor Drive, San Diego, CA, USA

Vaccinex has global commercial and development rights to pepinemab and is sponsor of the SIGNAL-AD study of pepinemab in early Alzheimer's disease which is being funded in part by the Alzheimer's Drug Discovery Foundation and by a grant from the Alzheimer's Association under its 2020 Part the Cloud Program. Additional information about the study is available at: <https://www.vaccinex.com/patient-signal-ad-trial/>

**About Pepinemab**

SEMA4D is upregulated in neurons during progression of Alzheimer's (AD) and Huntington's Disease (HD). The major immune cells of the brain, astrocytes and microglia, express receptors for SEMA4D which triggers their reactive transformation and loss of their normal homeostatic functions (*Evans et al., 2022, In Press*).

Pepinemab is a humanized IgG4 monoclonal antibody that inhibits SEMA4D. The SIGNAL phase 2 clinical trial of pepinemab in early manifest HD demonstrated that treatment reduced brain atrophy, reversed the characteristic decline in metabolic activity seen in most brain regions during both HD and AD, and we believe showed promise in slowing or preventing cognitive decline (*Feigin et al., 2022, In Press*).

The ongoing SIGNAL-AD study is evaluating the safety, tolerability and the effects on cognition and brain metabolic activity of pepinemab in early AD.

**About Vaccinex, Inc.**

Vaccinex, Inc. is pioneering a differentiated approach to treating slowly progressive neurodegenerative diseases and cancer through the inhibition of semaphorin 4D (SEMA4D). The Company's lead drug candidate, pepinemab, blocks SEMA4D, a potent biological effector that it believes triggers inflammation in chronic diseases of the brain and prevents immune infiltration into tumors. Pepinemab is being evaluated in a Phase 1/2a study in Alzheimer's Disease, and in a Phase 1b/2 study in recurrent or metastatic head and neck cancer.

**Forward Looking Statements**

To the extent that statements contained in this presentation are not descriptions of historical facts regarding Vaccinex, Inc. ("Vaccinex," "we," "us," or "our"), they are forward-looking statements reflecting management's current beliefs and expectations. Such statements include, but are not limited to, statements about our plans, expectations and objectives with respect to the results and timing of our clinical trials of pepinemab in various indications, the use and potential benefits of pepinemab in Huntington's and Alzheimer's disease and other indications, and other statements identified by words such as "may," "will," "appears," "expect," "hope," "planned," "anticipate," "estimate," "intend," "hypothesis," "potential," "suggest," "advance," and similar expressions or their negatives (as well as other words and expressions referencing future events, conditions, or circumstances). Forward-looking statements involve substantial risks and uncertainties that could cause the outcome of our research and pre-clinical development programs, clinical development programs, future results, performance, or achievements to differ significantly from those expressed or implied by the forward-looking statements. Such risks and uncertainties include, among others, uncertainties inherent in the execution, cost and completion of preclinical and clinical trials, uncertainties related to regulatory approval, risks related to our dependence on our lead product candidate pepinemab, the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, and other matters that could affect our development plans or the commercial potential of our product candidates. Except as required by law, we assume no obligation to update these forward-looking statements. For a further discussion of these and other factors that could cause future results to differ materially from any forward-looking statement, see the section titled "Risk Factors" in our periodic reports filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission ("SEC") and the other risks and uncertainties described in the Company's most recent year-end Annual Report on Form 10-K and subsequent filings with the SEC.

**Investor Contact**

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# SEMA4D blocking antibody, pepinemab, shows clinical proof of concept in Phase 2

Terrence Fisher<sup>1</sup>, E. Evans<sup>1</sup>, M. Boise<sup>1</sup>, A. Foster<sup>1</sup>, V. Mishra<sup>1</sup>, C. Mallow<sup>1</sup>, E. Smith<sup>1</sup>,  
<sup>1</sup> Vaccinex, Inc.; <sup>2</sup> for the Huntington Study Group, and SIGNAL-HD investigators at the University of Rochester; <sup>3</sup> for the University of Florida; <sup>4</sup> for the University of Texas at Dallas; <sup>5</sup> for the University of Michigan; <sup>6</sup> for the University of California, San Diego; <sup>7</sup> for the University of California, Los Angeles; <sup>8</sup> for the University of California, San Francisco; <sup>9</sup> for Neuropsychiatric Research Center of Southwest Florida

## Pepinemab is an antibody that blocks a key driver of neurodegenerative disease pathology

### Mechanism of Action

SEMA4D is upregulated in Alzheimer's Disease (AD) and Huntington's Disease (HD) in response to stress in CNS. SEMA4D signals to receptors on glial cells to trigger reactive inflammation and loss of normal homeostatic functions (Evans et al., *J. Neuroinflammation*, 2022, *In Press*)

Antibody blockade of SEMA4D can reduce neuroinflammation, restore normal function of astrocytes and improve synaptic function and behavioral deficits in HD (Feigin et al., *Nature Medicine*, 2022, *In Press*) and in a preclinical model of AD.

### Clinical Experience

Pepinemab was well tolerated, showed promise of slowing or preventing cognitive decline and a striking increase in brain metabolic activity in most brain regions as measured by FDG-PET in a Phase 2 clinical trial of participants with early HD.

### Alzheimer's Disease

The ongoing SIGNAL-AD study is evaluating the safety, tolerability and the effects on cognition and brain metabolism of pepinemab in early AD.

# Targeting common pathology in Neurodegeneration

Many current intervention strategies targeting disease-associated biomarkers have had limited efficacy.

*An alternative and potentially complementary strategy* may target inflammation and underlying disease pathology.

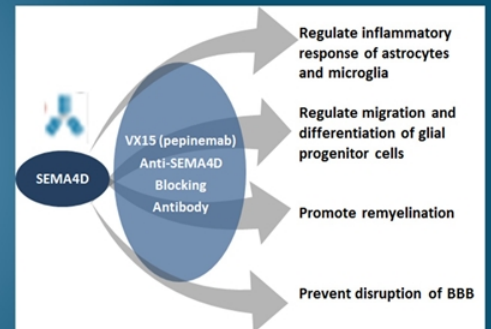
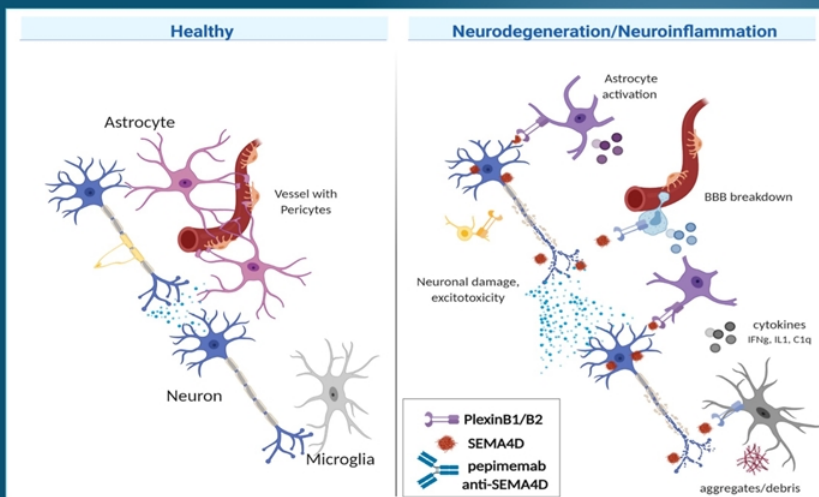
## Targeting dysregulated proteins

- AD: antibodies to A $\beta$ , Tau; BACE inhibitors
- HD: gene therapy to reduce mHTT
- **Most have not demonstrated significant disease modifying effects in the clinic**

## Pepinemab: Targets reactive glia

- Neurons under stress upregulate semaphorin 4D (SEMA4D)
- Astrocytes and microglia express plexin B1/B2 receptors for SEMA4D, which triggers activation and inflammation
- Pepinemab anti-SEMA4D antibody blocks its activity and the glial cell activation that contributes to and aggravates pathogenesis

## SEMA4D regulates Glia activation



Smith, et al. *Neurobiology of Disease*, 73:254–268. 2015

Evans et al. *Journal of Neuroinflammation*, 2022, In Press.

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