# UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

# FORM S-8 REGISTRATION STATEMENT

**UNDER THE SECURITIES ACT OF 1933** 

# **MEI Pharma, Inc.**

(Exact name of registrant as specified in charter)

Delaware

(State or other jurisdiction of incorporation or organization)

51-0407811 (I.R.S. Employer Identification No.)

11455 El Camino Real, Suite 250 San Diego, California 92130 (858) 369-7100

(Address, including zip code, and telephone number, including area code, of registrant's principal executive offices)

2021 Inducement Grant Equity Compensation Plan (Full title of the plan)

Daniel P. Gold President & Chief Executive Officer MEI Pharma, Inc. 11455 El Camino Real, Suite 250 San Diego, California 92130 (858) 369-7100 (Name, address, including zip code, and telephone number, including area code, of agent for service)

with copies to:

Steven A. Navarro, Esq. Finnbarr D. Murphy, Esq. Morgan, Lewis & Bockius LLP 101 Park Avenue New York, New York 10178 (212) 309-6000

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a large accelerated filer, an accelerated filer, a non-accelerated filer, a smaller reporting company or an emerging growth company. See the definitions of "large accelerated filer," "accelerated filer," "smaller reporting company" and "emerging growth company" in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act.

Large accelerated filer  $\Box$ 

Accelerated filer

Non-accelerated filer

Smaller reporting company

Emerging growth company  $\Box$ 

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 7(a)(2)(B) of Securities Act.

# **CALCULATION OF REGISTRATION FEE**

Title of Each Class of Securities	Amount to be	Proposed Maximum Offering Price	Proposed Maximum Aggregate	Amount of
to be Registered	Registered (1)(2)	Per Share (3)	Offering Price (3)	Registration Fee (3)
Common Stock, \$0.0000002 par value per share	2,500,000	\$3.48	\$8,700,000	\$949.17

- (1) Represents an aggregate 2,500,000 shares of common stock, par value \$0.00000002 per share (the "common stock"), of MEI Pharma, Inc. (the "Registrant"), comprised of 2,500,000 shares of common stock that may be issued pursuant to the Registrant's 2021 Inducement Grant Equity Compensation Plan (the "2021 Inducement Plan").
- (2) Pursuant to Rule 416 under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended (the "Securities Act"), this registration statement also covers additional shares that may become issuable under the 2021 Inducement Plan by reason of certain corporate transactions or events, including any common stock dividend, common stock split, recapitalization or any other similar transaction effected without the receipt of consideration which results in an increase in the number of the Registrant's outstanding common stock.
- (3) Calculated pursuant to paragraphs (c) and (h) of Rule 457 of the Securities Act (based upon the average of the high and low sales price for the Registrant's common stock as reported on the Nasdaq Capital Market on May 5, 2021). The foregoing calculation is solely for the purpose of determining the registration fee.

# EXPLANATORY NOTE

This Registration Statement on Form S-8 is filed by MEI Pharma, Inc. (the "Registrant," "we" or the "Company"), to register 2,500,000 shares of common stock issuable under the 2021 Inducement Plan. The 2021 Inducement Plan is intended to assist the Company and its Affiliates (as defined therein), in attracting and retaining selected individuals to serve as employees who are expected to contribute to the Company's success, by providing an inducement for such individuals to enter into employment with the Company or any of its Affiliates, and to achieve long-term objectives that will benefit stockholders of the Company through the additional incentives inherent in the grants thereunder. All grants under the 2021 Inducement Plan are intended to qualify as employment inducement grants as described in Rule 5635(c)(4), or any successor provision, of the Nasdaq Listing Rules.

The 2021 Inducement Grant Equity Compensation Plan is filed herewith as Exhibit 4.1.

#### PART I

# **INFORMATION REQUIRED IN THE SECTION 10(a) PROSPECTUS**

The documents containing the information specified in this Part I of Form S-8 (plan information and registrant information and other information) will be sent or given to participants in the 2021 Inducement Plan as specified by Rule 428(b)(1) under the Securities Act. Such documents need not be filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission (the "SEC") either as part of this registration statement or as prospectuses or prospectus supplements pursuant to Rule 424 under the Securities Act. These documents and the documents incorporated by reference in this registration statement pursuant to Item 3 of Part II of this Form S-8, taken together, constitute a prospectus that meets the requirements of Section 10(a) of the Securities Act.

# PART II

# INFORMATION REQUIRED IN THE REGISTRATION STATEMENT

#### Item 3. Incorporation of Documents by Reference.

The following documents filed by the Registrant with the SEC pursuant to the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the "Exchange Act"), are incorporated by reference into this registration statement:

(1) The Registrant's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2020 filed with the SEC on September 9, 2020;

(2) The Registrant's Quarterly Reports on Form 10-Q for the fiscal quarters ended September 30, 2020, December 31, 2020 and March 31, 2021, filed with the SEC on <u>November 10, 2020</u>, February 4, 2021 and <u>May 6, 2021</u>, respectively;

(3) The Registrant's Current Reports on Form 8-K filed with the SEC on November 10, 2020, December 17, 2020, April 13, 2021 and April 30, 2021;

(4) The information specifically incorporated by reference into the Registrant's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended June 30, 2020 from the Registrant's definitive proxy statement on <u>Schedule 14A</u> (other than information furnished rather than filed), which was filed with the SEC on October 27, 2020; and

(5) The description of the Registrant's common stock contained in the Description of Capital Stock of MEI Pharma, Inc. filed as <u>Exhibit 4.3</u> to its Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2020 and any further Description of Capital Stock of MEI Pharma, Inc. filed thereafter for the purpose of updating such description.

All reports and other documents subsequently filed by the Registrant pursuant to Sections 13(a), 13(c), 14 and 15(d) of the Exchange Act prior to the filing of a post-effective amendment to this registration statement that indicate that all of the shares of common stock offered have been sold or that deregister all of such shares then remaining unsold, shall be deemed to be incorporated by reference into this registration statement and to be a part hereof from the date of the filing of such reports and documents. Unless expressly incorporated into this registration statement, a report furnished but not filed on Form 8-K shall not be incorporated by reference into the extent furnished but not filed.

Any statement contained herein or in a document all or a portion of which is incorporated or deemed to be incorporated by reference herein shall be deemed to be modified or superseded for purposes of this registration statement to the extent that a statement contained herein (or in any other subsequently filed document which also is or is deemed to be incorporated by reference herein) modifies or supersedes such statement. Any such statement so modified or superseded shall not be deemed, except as so modified or superseded, to constitute a part of this registration statement.

# Item 4. Description of Securities.

Not Applicable.

#### Item 5. Interests of Named Experts and Counsel.

Not Applicable.

# Item 6. Indemnification of Directors and Officers.

Our Amended and Restated Certificate of Incorporation, as amended, provides that we will indemnify our directors and officers to the full extent permitted by the Delaware General Corporation Law, or DGCL. Section 145 of the DGCL provides that the extent to which a corporation may indemnify its directors and officers depends on the nature of the action giving rise to the indemnification right. In actions not on behalf of the corporation, directors and officers may be indemnified for acts taken in good faith and in a manner reasonably believed to be in or not opposed to the best interests of the corporation. In actions on behalf of the corporation, directors and officers may be indemnified for acts taken in good faith and in a manner reasonably believed to be in or not opposed to the best interests of the corporation, except for acts as to which the director or officer is adjudged liable to the corporation, unless the relevant court determines that indemnification is appropriate despite such liability. Section 145 of the DGCL also permits a corporation to (i) reimburse present or former directors or officers for their defense expenses to the extent they are successful on the merits or otherwise and (ii) advance defense expenses upon receipt of an undertaking to repay the corporation if it is determined that payment of such expenses is unwarranted.

To supplement the general indemnification right contained in our Restated Certificate of Incorporation, our Amended and Restated By-Laws provide for the specific indemnification rights permitted by Section 145 (as described above). Our Amended and Restated By-Laws also permit us to purchase Directors & Officers insurance, but no director or officer has a right to require this.

In addition to the indemnification rights described above, our Restated Certificate of Incorporation, as amended, eliminates any monetary liability of directors to us or our stockholders for breaches of fiduciary duty except for (i) breaches of the duty of loyalty, (ii) acts or omissions in bad faith, (iii) improper dividends or share redemptions and (iv) transactions from which the director derives an improper personal benefit.

Finally, we have entered into an indemnification agreement with each of our directors and executive officers. Subject to certain exceptions, the indemnification agreements provide that an indemnitee will be indemnified for all expenses incurred or paid by the indemnitee in connection with a proceeding to which the indemnitee was or is a party, or is threatened to be made a party, by reason of the indemnitee's status with or service to us or to another entity at our request. In connection with proceedings other than those by or in the right of our company and to which the indemnitee was or is a party, or is threatened to be made a party, by reason of the indemnitee was or is a party, or is threatened to be made a party, by reason of the indemnitee's status with or service to us or to another entity at our request, the indemnification agreements provide that an indemnitee will also be indemnified for all liabilities incurred or paid by the indemnitee. The indemnification agreements also provide for advancement of expenses incurred by an indemnitee in connection with an indemnifiable claim, subject to reimbursement in certain circumstances.

# Item 7. Exemption from Registration Claimed.

Not Applicable.

## Item 8. Exhibits.

See the attached Exhibit Index, which is incorporated herein by reference.

### Item 9. Undertakings.

(a) The undersigned Registrant hereby undertakes:

(1) To file, during any period in which offers or sales are being made, a post-effective amendment to this Registration Statement:

(i) To include any prospectus required by Section 10(a)(3) of the Securities Act;

(ii) To reflect in the prospectus any facts or events arising after the effective date of the Registration Statement (or the most recent posteffective amendment thereof) which, individually or in the aggregate, represent a fundamental change in the information in the Registration Statement. Notwithstanding the foregoing, any increase or decrease in volume of securities offered (if the total dollar value of securities offered would not exceed that which was registered) and any deviation from the low or high end of the estimated maximum offering range may be reflected in the form of prospectus filed with the SEC pursuant to Rule 424(b) if, in the aggregate, the changes in volume and price represent no more than a 20% change in the maximum aggregate offering price set forth in the "Calculation of Registration Fee" table in the effective Registration Statement; and

(iii) To include any material information with respect to the plan of distribution not previously disclosed in the Registration Statement or any material change to such information in the Registration Statement;

provided, however, that paragraphs (a)(1)(i) and (a)(1)(ii) of this section do not apply to this Registration Statement on Form S-8 if the information required to be included in a post-effective amendment by those paragraphs is contained in reports filed with or furnished to the SEC by the Company pursuant to Section 13 or Section 15(d) of the Exchange Act that are incorporated by reference in the Registration Statement.

(2) That, for the purpose of determining any liability under the Securities Act, each such post-effective amendment shall be deemed to be a new registration statement relating to the securities offered therein, and the offering of such securities at that time shall be deemed to be the initial bona fide offering thereof.

(3) To remove from registration by means of a post-effective amendment any of the securities being registered which remain unsold at the termination of the offering.

(b) The undersigned Registrant hereby undertakes that, for purposes of determining any liability under the Securities Act, each filing of the Registrant's annual report pursuant to Section 13(a) or Section 15(d) of the Exchange Act that is incorporated by reference in the Registration Statement shall be deemed to be a new registration statement relating to the securities offered therein, and the offering of such securities at that time shall be deemed to be the initial bona fide offering thereof.

(c) Insofar as indemnification for liabilities arising under the Securities Act may be permitted to directors, officers and controlling persons of the Registrant pursuant to the foregoing provisions, or otherwise, the Registrant has been advised that in the opinion of the SEC such indemnification is against public policy as expressed in the Securities Act and is, therefore, unenforceable. In the event that a claim for indemnification against such liabilities (other than the payment by the Registrant of expenses incurred or paid by a director, officer or controlling person of the Registrant in the successful defense of any action, suit or proceeding) is asserted by such director, officer or controlling person in connection with the securities being registered, the Registrant will, unless in the opinion of its counsel the matter has been settled by controlling precedent, submit to a court of appropriate jurisdiction the question whether such indemnification by it is against public policy as expressed in the Securities Act and will be governed by the final adjudication of such issue.

# EXHIBIT INDEX

Exhibit <u>No.</u>	Description
4.1	2021 Inducement Grant Equity Compensation Plan
5.1	<u>Opinion of Morgan, Lewis &amp; Bockius LLP.</u>
23.1	Consent of BDO USA, LLP.
23.2	Consent of Morgan, Lewis & Bockius LLP (included in Exhibit 5.1 filed herewith).

24.1 Power of Attorney (included on signature pages hereto).

#### SIGNATURES

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, MEI Pharma, Inc. certifies that it has reasonable grounds to believe that it meets all of the requirements for filing on Form S-8 and has duly caused this Registration Statement to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned, thereunto duly authorized, in the City of San Diego, California, on May 6, 2021.

# MEI PHARMA, INC.

By: /s/ Daniel P. Gold

Daniel P. Gold Chief Executive Officer

#### POWER OF ATTORNEY

Each person whose signature appears below hereby constitutes and appoints Daniel P. Gold and Brian G. Drazba, and each of them, as his true and lawful attorneys-in-fact and agents, with full power of substitution and resubstitution for him and in his name, place and stead, in any and all capacities, to sign any or all amendments or supplements to this Registration Statement, whether pre-effective or post-effective, and to file the same with all exhibits thereto and other documents in connection therewith, with the SEC, granting unto said attorneys-in-fact and agents, and each of them, full power and authority to do and perform each and every act and thing necessary or appropriate to be done with respect to this Registration Statement or any amendments or supplements hereto in the premises, as fully to all intents and purposes as he might or could do in person, hereby ratifying and confirming all that said attorneys-in-fact and agents, or any of them, or their or his substitute or substitutes, may lawfully do or cause to be done by virtue thereof.

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Act of 1933, this Registration Statement has been signed below by the following persons, in the capacities and on the date indicated:

Signature	Capacity in Which Signed	Date
/s/ Daniel P. Gold	President, Chief Executive Officer and Director (Principal Executive Officer)	May 6, 2021
Daniel P. Gold		
	Secretary, Chief Financial Officer	May 6, 2021
/s/ Brian G. Drazba	(Principal Financial and Accounting Officer)	
Brian G. Drazba		
/s/ Christine A. White	Chairman of the Board	May 6, 2021
Christine A. White		
/s/ Charles V. Baltic III	Director	May 6, 2021
Charles V. Baltic III		

/s/ Thomas C. Reynolds Thomas C. Reynolds	Director	May 6, 2021
,		
/s/ Nicholas R. Glover	Director	May 6, 2021
Nicholas R. Glover		
/s/ Kevan E. Clemens	Director	May 6, 2021
Kevan E. Clemens		
/s/ Frederick W. Driscoll	Director	May 6, 2021
Frederick W. Driscoll	-	
/s/ Tamar D. Howson	Director	May 6, 2021
Tamar D. Howson	-	
/s/ Cheryl L. Cohen	Director	May 6, 2021
Cheryl L. Cohen		

#### MEI PHARMA, INC.

# 2021 INDUCEMENT GRANT EQUITY COMPENSATION PLAN

#### Section 1. Purpose

The Plan is intended to assist the Company and its Affiliates, in attracting and retaining selected individuals to serve as employees who are expected to contribute to the Company's success, by providing an inducement material for such individuals to enter into employment with the Company or any of its Affiliates, and to achieve long-term objectives that will benefit stockholders of the Company through the additional incentives inherent in the Grants hereunder. All Grants under the Plan are intended to qualify as employment inducement grants as described in Rule 5635(c)(4), or any successor provision, of the Nasdaq Listing Rules.

## Section 2. Definitions

Capitalized terms used herein shall have the meanings set forth in this Section.

(a) "Affiliate" shall mean any Person which is included as a member with the Company in a controlled group of corporations, within the meaning of Code section 414(b), or which is a trade or business (whether or not incorporated) included with the Company in a group of trades or business under common control, within the meaning of Code section 414(c); provided, however, that in applying Code sections 1563(a)(1), (2) and (3) for purposes of determining a controlled group of corporations under Code section 414(b), the language "at least 20 percent" is used instead of "at least 80 percent" each place it appears in Code sections 1563(a)(1), (2) and (3), and in applying Treas. Reg. section 1.414(c)-2 for purposes of determining trades or businesses (whether or not incorporated) that are under common control for purposes of Code section 414(c), the language "at least 20 percent" is used instead of "at least 20 percent" each place it appears in Treas. Reg. section 1.414(c)-2. (c) "Board" shall mean the Board of Directors of the Company.

(b) "Cause" shall have the meaning ascribed thereto in any effective employment agreement between the Company and the Grantee, or if no employment agreement is in effect that contains a definition of cause, then Cause shall mean a finding by the Compensation Committee, in its sole and absolute discretion, that the Grantee has (i) committed a felony or a crime involving moral turpitude, (ii) committed any act of gross negligence or fraud, (iii) failed, refused or neglected to substantially perform his duties (other than by reason of a physical or mental impairment) or to implement the directives of the Company, (iv) materially violated any policy of the Company, or (v) engaged in conduct that is materially injurious to the Company, monetarily or otherwise.

# (c) "Change in Control" shall be deemed to have occurred if:

(i) Any "person" (as such term is used in sections 13(d) and 14(d) of the Exchange Act) becomes a "beneficial owner" (as defined in Rule 13d-3 under the Exchange Act), directly or indirectly, of securities of the Company representing more than 50% of the voting power of the then outstanding securities of the Company; provided that a Change in Control shall not be deemed to occur as a result of a transaction in which the Company becomes a subsidiary of another corporation and in which the stockholders of the Company, immediately prior to the transaction, will beneficially own, immediately after the transaction, shares entitling such stockholders to more than 50% of all votes to which all stockholders of the parent corporation would be entitled in the election of directors.

(ii) The consummation of (A) a merger or consolidation of the Company with another corporation where the stockholders of the Company, immediately prior to the merger or consolidation, will not beneficially own, immediately after the merger or consolidation, shares entitling such stockholders to more than 50% of all votes to which all stockholders of the surviving corporation would be entitled in the election of directors, or where the members of the Board, immediately prior to the merger or consolidation, would not, immediately after the merger or consolidation, constitute a majority of the board of directors of the surviving corporation, (B) a sale or other disposition of all or substantially all of the assets of the Company, or (C) a liquidation or dissolution of the Company.

Notwithstanding the foregoing, if a Grant constitutes deferred compensation subject to Code section 409A and the Grant provides for payment upon a Change in Control, then, for purposes of such payment provisions, no Change in Control shall be deemed to have occurred upon an event described in items (i) and (ii) above unless the event would also constitute a change in ownership or effective control of, or a change in the ownership of a substantial portion of the assets of, the Company under Code section 409A.

(d) "Code" shall mean the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended and the regulations promulgated thereunder.

(e) "Company" shall mean MEI Pharma, Inc., a corporation organized under the laws of the State of Delaware.

(f) "Compensation Committee" shall mean the members of the Board appointed by the Board to serve as the Compensation Committee with responsibility for the administration of the Plan, or if no such members of the Board are appointed, then the Compensation Committee shall consist of all of the members of the Board. The members of the Board appointed to serve as the Compensation Committee, if applicable, should consist of two or more Persons who are "non-employee directors" as defined under Rule 16b-3 under the Exchange Act. To the extent that the Board or a subcommittee administers the Plan, references in the Plan to the "Compensation Committee" shall be deemed to refer to the Board or such subcommittee.

(g) "Disability" or "Disabled" shall mean a Grantee's becoming disabled within the meaning of Code section 22(e)(3) or as otherwise determined by the Compensation Committee.

(h) "Effective Date" shall mean May 4, 2021.

(i) "Employee" shall mean any individual that is providing, or has agreed to provide, services to the Company or an Affiliate of the Company as an employee.

(j) "Exchange Act" shall mean the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended.

(k) "Exercise Price" shall mean the purchase price of a Share subject to an Option, which shall not be less than the Fair Market Value of a Share as of the date an Option is granted.

(1) "Fair Market Value" of a Share on any given date, unless the Compensation Committee determines otherwise with respect to a particular Grant, shall mean (i) if the principal trading market for the Shares is a national securities exchange, the last reported sale price during regular trading hours thereof of a Share on the relevant date or (if there were no trades on that date) the last reported sales price during regular trading hours on the latest preceding date upon which a sale was reported, (ii) if the Shares are not principally traded on such exchange, the mean between the last reported "bid" and "asked" prices of a Share during regular trading hours on the relevant date, as reported on the OTC Bulletin Board, or (iii) if the Shares are not publicly traded or, if publicly traded, are not so reported, the Fair Market Value per share shall be as determined by the Compensation Committee pursuant to any reasonable valuation method authorized under the Code.

(m) "Full Value Award" shall mean a Grant other than an Option or SAR, and which is settled in Shares.

(n) "Grant" shall mean a grant of Options, SARs, Stock Awards, Stock Units or Other Stock-Based Awards under the Plan.

(o) "Grant Letter" shall mean a letter, certificate or other agreement accepted by the Grantee (which may also be in electronic form), evidencing the making of a Grant hereunder and containing such terms and conditions, not inconsistent with the express provisions of the Plan, as the Compensation Committee shall approve.

(p) "Grantee" shall mean an Employee who is selected by the Compensation Committee to receive a Grant under the Plan in accordance with Rule 5635(c)(4), or any successor provision, of the Nasdaq Listing Rules.

(q) "Nonqualified Option" shall mean any Option granted pursuant to Section 5 of the Plan that is not an option which, when granted, is intended to qualify as an "incentive stock option" within the meaning of Code section 422.

(r) "Option" shall mean a Nonqualified Option to purchase Shares granted pursuant to the Plan and subject to the Plan.

(s) "Other Stock-Based Award" shall mean any Grant based on, measured by or payable in Shares (other than those described in Sections 5, 6, 7 and 8 of the Plan), as described in Section 9.

(t) "Performance Goals" shall mean objectively determinable performance goals that may be based on one or more of the following criteria: stock price, earnings per share, net earnings, operating earnings, earnings before income taxes, EBITDA (earnings before income tax expense, interest expense, and depreciation and amortization expense), return on assets, shareholder return, return on equity, growth in assets, unit volume, sales or market share, or strategic business criteria consisting of one or more objectives based on meeting specified revenue goals, market penetration goals, geographic business expansion goals, cost targets or

goals relating to acquisitions or divestitures; pre- or after-tax income or loss (before or after allocation of corporate overhead and bonus); appreciation in and/or maintenance of the price of the Shares or any other publicly-traded securities of the Company; improvement in or attainment of expense levels or working capital levels, including cash, inventory and accounts receivable; general and administrative expense savings; year-end cash; regulatory achievements (including submitting or filing applications or other documents with regulatory authorities or receiving approval of any such applications or other documents and passing pre-approval inspections (whether of the Company or the Company's third-party manufacturer) and validation of manufacturing processes (whether the Company's or the Company's third-party manufacturer's); clinical achievements (including initiating clinical studies, initiating enrollment, completing enrollment or enrolling particular numbers of subjects in clinical studies, completing phases of a clinical study (including the treatment phase), or announcing or presenting preliminary or final data from clinical studies, in each case, whether on particular timelines or generally); strategic partnerships or transactions (including in-licensing and out-licensing of intellectual property); establishing relationships with commercial entities with respect to the marketing, distribution and sale of the Company's products (including with group purchasing organizations, distributors and other vendors); co-development, co-marketing, profit sharing, joint venture or other similar arrangements; financing and other capital raising transactions (including sales of the Company's equity or debt securities); debt level year-end cash position; competitive market metrics; timely completion of new product roll-outs; sales or licenses of the Company's assets (including its intellectual property, whether in a particular jurisdiction or territory or globally, or through partnering transactions); royalty income; implementation, completion or attainment of measurable objectives with respect to research, development, manufacturing, commercialization, products or projects, acquisitions and divestitures, or such other criteria as the Compensation Committee determines. The business criteria may relate to the performance of the Company, or the performance of a parent company, a subsidiary, division, business segment or business unit of the Company or a subsidiary, or based upon performance relative to performance of other companies or upon comparisons or any of the indicators of performance relative to performance of other companies, or any combination of the foregoing. Any performance goals that are financial metrics, may be determined in accordance with U.S. Generally Accepted Accounting Principles ("GAAP"), in accordance with accounting principles established by the International Accounting Standards Board ("IASB Principles"), or may be adjusted when established to include or exclude any items otherwise includable or excludable under GAAP or under IASB Principles. The Compensation Committee may provide for exclusion of the impact of an event or occurrence which the Compensation Committee determines should appropriately be excluded, including (A) restructurings, discontinued operations, and other unusual, infrequently occurring or non-recurring charges, (B) an event either not directly related to the operations of the Company, Company subsidiary, division, business segment or business unit or not within the reasonable control of management, or (C) the cumulative effects of tax or accounting changes in accordance with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles.

(u) "Person" shall mean an individual, partnership, corporation, limited liability company or partnership, trust, unincorporated organization, joint venture, government (or agency or political subdivision thereof) or any other entity of any kind.

(v) "Plan" shall mean this MEI Pharma, Inc. 2021 Inducement Grant Equity Compensation Plan as set forth herein and as amended from time to time.

(w) "SAR" shall mean a stock appreciation right with respect to a Share.

(x) "Share" shall mean a share of common stock of the Company.

(y) "Stock Award" shall mean an award of Shares, with or without restrictions.

(z) "Stock Unit" shall mean a unit that represents a hypothetical Share.

(aa) "Substitute Awards" shall mean Grants made or Shares issued by the Company in assumption of, or in substitution or exchange for, awards previously granted, or the right or obligation to make future awards, in each case by a company acquired by the Company or any Company subsidiary or with which the Company or any subsidiary combines.

#### Section 3. Shares Available under the Plan

(a) <u>Shares Authorized</u>. Subject to adjustments as provided in Sections 3(b) and 12 below, as of the Effective Date, a total of 2,500,000 Shares shall be authorized for Grants under the Plan. Any Shares issued hereunder may consist, in whole or in part, of authorized and unissued shares, treasury shares or shares purchased in the open market or otherwise.

# (b) Share Counting.

(i) If any Shares subject to a Grant are forfeited, a Grant expires or a Grant is settled for cash (in whole or in part), then the Shares subject to such Grant shall, to the extent of such forfeiture, expiration or cash settlement, be added to the Shares available for Grants under the Plan.

(ii) Notwithstanding anything to the contrary contained herein, the following Shares shall not be added to the Shares that may be subject to Grants under the Plan: (A) Shares tendered by the Grantee or withheld by the Company in payment of the Exercise Price of an Option, (B) Shares tendered by the Grantee or withheld by the Company to satisfy any tax withholding obligation with respect to Grants, (C) Shares subject to a SAR that are not issued in connection with its stock settlement on exercise thereof, and (D) Shares reacquired by the Company on the open market or otherwise using cash proceeds from the exercise of Options.

(c) <u>Substitute Awards</u>. Substitute Awards shall not reduce the Shares authorized for grant under the Plan, nor shall Shares subject to a Substitute Award be added to the Shares available for issuance or transfer under the Plan as provided in Sections 3(a) and (b) above. Additionally, in the event that a company acquired by the Company or any Company subsidiary or with which the Company or any subsidiary combines has shares available under a pre-existing plan approved by stockholders and not adopted in contemplation of such acquisition or combination, the shares available for grant pursuant to the terms of such pre-existing plan (as adjusted, to the extent appropriate, using the exchange ratio or other adjustment or valuation ratio or formula used in such acquisition or combination to determine the consideration payable to the holders of common stock of the entities party to such acquisition or combination) may be used for Grants under the Plan and shall not reduce the Shares authorized for Grants under the Plan (and Shares subject to such Grants shall not be added to the Shares available for Grants under the Plan as provided in Sections 3(a) and (b) above); provided that Grants using such available shares shall not be made after the date awards or grants could have been made under the terms of the pre-existing plan, absent the acquisition or combination, and shall only be made to individuals who were not Employees or directors prior to such acquisition or combination.

# Section 4. Administration of the Plan

(a) <u>Authority of the Compensation Committee</u>. The Plan shall be administered by the Compensation Committee. The Compensation Committee shall have full and final authority to take the following actions, in each case subject to and consistent with the provisions of the Plan:

(i) to select the Employees to whom Grants may be made;

(ii) to determine the number of Shares subject to each such Grant;

(iii) to determine the terms and conditions of any Grant made under the Plan;

(iv) to determine whether to accelerate the exercisability of any or all applicable outstanding Grants at any time for any reason;

(v) to determine the restrictions or conditions related to the delivery, holding and disposition of Shares acquired pursuant to a Grant;

(vi) to prescribe the form of each Grant Letter;

(vii) to adopt, amend, suspend, waive and rescind such rules and regulations and appoint such agents as the Compensation Committee may deem necessary or advisable to administer the Plan;

(viii) to correct any defect or supply any omission or reconcile any inconsistency in the Plan and to construe and interpret the Plan and any Grant, Grant Letter or other instrument hereunder; and

(ix) to make all other decisions and determinations as may be required under the terms of the Plan or as the Compensation Committee may deem necessary or advisable for the administration of the Plan, including to comply with Rule 5635(c)(4), or any successor provision, of the Nasdaq Listing Rules.

All Grants shall be made conditional upon the Grantee's acknowledgement, in writing or by acceptance of the Grant, that all decisions and determinations of the Compensation Committee shall be final and binding on the Grantee, his or her beneficiaries and any other Person having or claiming an interest under such Grant.

(b) <u>Manner of Exercise of Compensation Committee Authority</u>. Any action of the Compensation Committee with respect to the Plan shall be final, conclusive and binding on all Persons, including the Company, its Affiliates, Grantees, or any Person claiming any rights under the Plan from or through any Grantee, except to the extent the Compensation Committee may subsequently modify, or take further action not inconsistent with, its prior action. If not specified in the Plan, the time at which the Compensation Committee must or may make any

determination shall be determined by the Compensation Committee, and any such determination may thereafter be modified by the Compensation Committee. The express grant of any specific power to the Compensation Committee, and the taking of any action by the Compensation Committee, shall not be construed as limiting any power or authority of the Compensation Committee. The Compensation Committee may delegate to officers or managers of the Company or any Affiliate of the Company the authority, subject to such terms as the Compensation Committee shall determine, to perform such functions as the Compensation Committee may determine, to the extent permitted under applicable law and the Nasdaq Listing Rules.

(c) <u>Limitation of Liability</u>. Each member of the Compensation Committee shall be entitled to, in good faith, rely or act upon any report or other information furnished to him by any officer or other employee of the Company or any of its Affiliates, the Company's independent certified public accountants or any executive compensation consultant, legal counsel or other professional retained by the Company to assist in the administration of the Plan. To the fullest extent permitted by applicable law, no member of the Compensation Committee, nor any officer or employee of the Company acting on behalf of the Compensation Committee, shall be personally liable for any action, determination or interpretation taken or made in good faith with respect to the Plan, and all members of the Compensation Committee and any officer or employee of the Company acting on its behalf shall, to the extent permitted by law, be fully indemnified and protected by the Company with respect to any such action, determination or interpretation.

#### Section 5. Options

The Compensation Committee may grant Options to a Grantee upon such terms as the Compensation Committee deems appropriate. The following provisions are applicable to Options:

(a) <u>Number of Shares</u>. The Compensation Committee shall determine the number of Shares that will be subject to each Grant of Options to a Grantee.

# (b) Type of Option and Price.

(i) The Compensation Committee may grant Nonqualified Stock Options in accordance with the terms and conditions set forth herein.

(ii) The Exercise Price of Shares subject to an Option shall be determined by the Compensation Committee and may be equal to or greater than the Fair Market Value of a Share on the date the Option is granted.

(c) <u>Option Term</u>. The Compensation Committee shall determine the term of each Option. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the term of any Option shall not exceed ten years from the date of grant.

(d) <u>Option Termination</u>. Except as provided below, an Option may only be exercised while the Grantee is employed or engaged by the Company or any Affiliate. Unless otherwise determined by the Compensation Committee and set forth in a Grant Letter, Options shall terminate on the earliest of:

(i) the date on which the Grantee is no longer employed or engaged by the Company and any Affiliate on account of the Grantee's termination for Cause. In addition, notwithstanding any other provisions of this Section 5, if the Compensation Committee determines that the Grantee has engaged in conduct that constitutes Cause at any time while the Grantee is employed or engaged by the Company and any Affiliate or after the Grantee's termination of employment or engagement, any Option held by the Grantee shall immediately terminate and the Grantee shall automatically forfeit all Shares underlying any exercised portion of an Option for which the Company has not yet delivered the Share certificates, upon refund by the Company of the Exercise Price paid by the Grantee for such Shares. Upon any exercise of an Option, the Company may withhold delivery of Share certificates pending resolution of an inquiry that could lead to a finding resulting in a forfeiture;

(ii) the 91st day following the date the Grantee is no longer employed or engaged by the Company and any Affiliate for any reason other than Cause, death, or Disability; <u>provided</u>, <u>however</u>, that in all cases the portion of any Option that is not vested on the date of termination of employment or engagement shall terminate immediately upon such termination;

(iii) the first anniversary of the date the Grantee's employment or engagement by the Company and any Affiliate terminates on account of the Grantee's death or Disability; <u>provided</u>, <u>however</u>, that the portion of any Option that is not vested on the date of such termination of employment or engagement shall terminate immediately upon such termination;

(iv) the tenth anniversary of the date of grant as set forth in the Grant Letter; and

(v) cancellation, termination or expiration of the Options pursuant to action taken by the Compensation Committee in accordance with Section 12.

Notwithstanding the foregoing, in the event that on the last business day of the term of an Option (i) the exercise of the Option is prohibited by applicable law or (ii) Shares may not be purchased or sold by certain employees or directors of the Company due to the "black-out period" of a Company policy or a "lock-up" agreement undertaken in connection with an issuance of securities by the Company, the term of the Option shall be extended for a period of 30 days following the end of the legal prohibition, black-out period or lock-up agreement, to the extent permitted under Code section 409A.

For purposes of the Plan, employment or engagement by the Company and any Affiliate shall mean employment or other service engagement (so that, for purposes of exercising Options, a Grantee shall not be considered to have terminated his employment or engagement until the Grantee ceases to be an Employee or otherwise provide service), unless the Compensation Committee determines otherwise.

(e) Exercise of Options. Only the vested portion of any Option may be exercised. A Grantee may exercise an Option that has become exercisable, in whole or in part, by delivering a notice of exercise to the Company. The Grantee shall pay the Exercise Price for an Option as specified by the Compensation Committee (i) in cash, (ii) unless the Compensation Committee determines otherwise, by delivering Shares owned by the Grantee and having a Fair Market Value on the date of exercise at least equal to the Exercise Price or by attestation (on a form prescribed by the Compensation Committee) to ownership of Shares having a Fair Market Value on the date of exercise at least equal to the Exercise Price, (iii) by payment through a broker in accordance with procedures permitted by Regulation T of the Federal Reserve Board, or (iv) by such other method as the Compensation Committee may approve. In addition, in the event the Compensation Committee so determines, to the extent an Option is at the time exercisable for vested shares of Company Stock, all or any part of that vested portion may be surrendered to the Company for an appreciation distribution payable in Shares with a Fair Market Value at the time of the Option surrender equal to the dollar amount by which the then Fair Market Value of the Shares subject to the surrendered portion exceeds the aggregate Exercise Price payable for those Shares. Shares used to exercise an Option shall have been held by the Grantee for the requisite period of time necessary to avoid adverse accounting consequences to the Company with respect to the Option. Payment for the Shares to be issued or transferred pursuant to the Option, and any applicable withholding taxes, must be received by the Company by the time specified by the Compensation Committee depending on the type of payment being made, but in all cases prior to the issuance or transfer of such Shares.

Notwithstanding the foregoing, a Grant Letter may provide that if on the last day of the term of an Option the Fair Market Value of one Share exceeds the Exercise Price per Share, the Grantee has not exercised the Option (or a tandem SAR, if applicable) and the Option has not expired, the Option shall be deemed to have been exercised by the Grantee on such day with payment made by withholding Shares otherwise issuable in connection with the exercise of the Option. In such event, the Company shall deliver to the Grantee the number of Shares for which the Option was deemed exercised, less the number of Shares required to be withheld for the payment of the total Exercise Price and applicable withholding taxes; provided, however, any fractional Share shall be settled in cash.

(f) <u>Grants to Non-Exempt Employees</u>. Notwithstanding the foregoing, Options granted to persons who are non-exempt employees under the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938, as amended, may not be exercisable for at least six months after the date of grant (except that such Options may become exercisable, as determined by the Compensation Committee, upon the Grantee's death, Disability or retirement, or upon a Change in Control or other circumstances permitted by applicable regulations).

#### Section 6. Stock Awards

The Compensation Committee may issue or transfer Shares to a Grantee under a Stock Award, upon such terms as the Compensation Committee deems appropriate. The following provisions are applicable to Stock Awards:

(a) <u>General Requirements</u>. Shares issued or transferred pursuant to Stock Awards may be issued or transferred for consideration or for no consideration, and subject to restrictions or no restrictions, as determined by the Compensation Committee. The Compensation Committee may, but shall not be required to, establish conditions under which restrictions on Stock Awards shall lapse over a period of time or according to such other criteria as the Compensation Committee deems appropriate, including, without limitation, restrictions based upon the achievement of specific Performance Goals. The period of time during which the Stock Awards will remain subject to restrictions will be designated in the Grant Letter as the "Restriction Period."

(b) <u>Number of Shares</u>. The Compensation Committee shall determine the number of Shares to be issued or transferred pursuant to a Stock Award and the restrictions applicable to such Shares.

(c) <u>Requirement of Employment or Service</u>. If the Grantee is no longer employed or engaged by the Company or any Affiliate during a period designated in the Grant Letter as the Restriction Period, or if other specified conditions are not met, the Stock Award shall terminate as to all Shares covered by the Grant as to which the restrictions have not lapsed, and those Shares must be immediately returned to the Company. The Compensation Committee may, however, provide for complete or partial exceptions to this requirement as it deems appropriate.

(d) <u>Restrictions on Transfer and Legend on Stock Certificate</u>. During the Restriction Period, a Grantee may not sell, assign, transfer, pledge or otherwise dispose of the Shares of a Stock Award except under Section 13(b) below. Unless otherwise determined by the Compensation Committee, the Company will retain possession of certificates for Shares of Stock Awards until all restrictions on such Shares have lapsed. Each certificate for a Stock Award, unless held by the Company, shall contain a legend giving appropriate notice of the restrictions in the Grant. The Grantee shall be entitled to have the legend removed from the stock certificate covering the Shares subject to restrictions when all restrictions on such Shares have lapsed. The Compensation Committee may determine that the Company will not issue certificates for Stock Awards until all restrictions on such Shares have lapsed.

(e) <u>Right to Vote and to Receive Dividends</u>. Unless the Compensation Committee determines otherwise, during the Restriction Period, the Grantee shall have the right to vote Shares of Stock Awards and to receive any dividends or other distributions paid on such Shares, subject to any restrictions deemed appropriate by the Compensation Committee, including, without limitation, the achievement of specific Performance Goals. Notwithstanding the provisions of this Section, any cash dividends, stock and any other property (other than cash) distributed as a dividend or otherwise with respect to any unvested Stock Award shall either (i) not be paid or credited or (ii) be accumulated and subject to restrictions and risk of forfeiture to the same extent as the Shares underlying the Stock Award with respect to which such cash, stock or other property has been distributed and shall not be paid unless and until the time such restrictions and risk of forfeiture lapse.

(f) <u>Lapse of Restrictions</u>. All restrictions imposed on Stock Awards shall lapse upon the expiration of the applicable Restriction Period and the satisfaction of all conditions, if any, imposed by the Compensation Committee. The Compensation Committee may determine, as to any or all Stock Awards, that the restrictions shall lapse without regard to any Restriction Period.

# Section 7. Stock Units

The Compensation Committee may grant Stock Units, each of which shall represent one hypothetical Share, to a Grantee upon such terms and conditions as the Compensation Committee deems appropriate. The following provisions are applicable to Stock Units:

(a) <u>Crediting of Units</u>. Each Stock Unit shall represent the right of the Grantee to receive a Share or an amount of cash based on the value of a Share, if and when specified conditions are met. All Stock Units shall be credited to bookkeeping accounts established on the Company's records for purposes of the Plan.

(b) <u>Terms of Stock Units</u>. The Compensation Committee may grant Stock Units that are payable if specified Performance Goals or other conditions are met, or under other circumstances. Stock Units may be paid at the end of a specified performance period or other period, or payment may be deferred to a date authorized by the Compensation Committee. The Compensation Committee shall determine the number of Stock Units to be granted and the requirements applicable to such Stock Units.

(c) <u>Requirement of Employment or Service</u>. If the Grantee is no longer employed or engaged by the Company or any Affiliate prior to the vesting of Stock Units, or if other conditions established by the Compensation Committee are not met, the Grantee's Stock Units shall be forfeited. The Compensation Committee may, however, provide for complete or partial exceptions to this requirement as it deems appropriate.

(d) <u>Payment With Respect to Stock Units</u>. Payments with respect to Stock Units shall be made in cash, Shares or any combination of the foregoing, as the Compensation Committee shall determine.

#### Section 8. Stock Appreciation Rights

The following provisions are applicable to SARs:

(a) <u>General Requirements</u>. The Compensation Committee may grant SARs to a Grantee separately or in tandem with any Option (for all or a portion of the applicable Option). Tandem SARs may be granted either at the time the Option is granted or at any time thereafter while the Option remains outstanding. The Compensation Committee shall establish the base amount of the SAR at the time the SAR is granted, which shall be equal to or greater than the Fair Market Value of a Share as of the date of grant of the SAR. The base amount of each SAR shall be equal to the per Share Exercise Price of the related Option, provided such Exercise Price is equal to or greater than the Fair Market Value of a Share as of the date of grant of the SAR or, if there is no related Option, an amount equal to or greater than the Fair Market Value of a Share as of the SAR. No SAR shall have a term that is greater than ten years.

Notwithstanding the foregoing, in the event that on the last business day of the term of a SAR (x) the exercise of the SAR is prohibited by applicable law or (y) Shares may not be purchased or sold by certain employees or directors of the Company due to the "black-out period" of a Company policy or a "lock-up" agreement undertaken in connection with an issuance of securities by the Company, the term shall be extended for a period of 30 days following the end of the legal prohibition, black-out period or lock-up agreement, to the extent permitted under Code section 409A.

(b) <u>Tandem SARs</u>. In the case of tandem SARs, the number of SARs granted to a Grantee that shall be exercisable during a specified period shall not exceed the number of Shares that the Grantee may purchase upon the exercise of the related Option during such period. Upon the exercise of an Option, the SARs relating to the Shares covered by such Option shall terminate. Upon the exercise of SARs, the related Option shall terminate to the extent of an equal number of Shares.

(c) <u>Exercisability</u>. A SAR shall be exercisable during the period specified by the Compensation Committee in the Grant Letter and shall be subject to such vesting and other restrictions as may be specified in the Grant Letter. SARs may only be exercised while the Grantee is employed or engaged by the Company or Affiliate or during the applicable period after termination of employment or engagement as described in Section 5(d) above. A tandem SAR shall be exercisable only during the period when the Option to which it is related is also exercisable.

A Grant Letter may provide that if on the last day of the term of a SAR the Fair Market Value of one Share exceeds the base amount per Share of the SAR, the Grantee has not exercised the SAR or the tandem Option (if applicable), and the SAR has not otherwise expired, the SAR shall be deemed to have been exercised by the Grantee on such day. In such event, the Company shall make payment to the Grantee in accordance with this Section, reduced by the number of Shares (or cash) for applicable withholding taxes; any fractional Share shall be settled in cash.

(d) <u>Grants to Non-Exempt Employees</u>. Notwithstanding the foregoing, SARs granted to persons who are non-exempt employees under the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938, as amended, may not be exercisable for at least six months after the date of grant (except that such SARs may become exercisable, as determined by the Compensation Committee, upon the Grantee's death, Disability or retirement, or upon a Change in Control or other circumstances permitted by applicable regulations).

(e) <u>Value of SARs</u>. When a Grantee exercises SARs, the Grantee shall receive in settlement of such SARs an amount equal to the value of the stock appreciation for the number of SARs exercised. The stock appreciation for a SAR is the amount by which the Fair Market Value of the underlying Share on the date of exercise of the SAR exceeds the base amount of the SAR as described in subsection (a) above.

(f) <u>Form of Payment</u>. The appreciation in a SAR shall be paid in Shares, cash or any combination of the foregoing, as the Compensation Committee shall determine. For purposes of calculating the number of Shares to be received, Shares shall be valued at their Fair Market Value on the date of exercise of the SAR.

#### Section 9. Other Stock-Based Awards

The Compensation Committee may grant Other Stock-Based Awards to a Grantee on such terms and conditions as the Compensation Committee shall determine. Other Stock-Based Awards may be awarded subject to the achievement of Performance Goals or other conditions and may be payable in cash, Company Stock or any combination of the foregoing, as the Compensation Committee shall determine.

# Section 10. Dividend Equivalents

The Compensation Committee may grant Dividend Equivalents in connection Stock Units or Other Stock-Based Awards. No Dividend Equivalents or dividends may be granted in connection with Options or SARs. Dividend Equivalents may be accrued as contingent cash obligations and may be payable in cash or Shares, and upon such terms as the Compensation Committee may establish, including, without limitation, the achievement of specific Performance Goals. Notwithstanding the foregoing in this Section 10, any Dividend Equivalents granted in connection with unvested Stock Units or Other Stock-Based Awards shall be payable only if and to the extent the underlying Stock Units or Other Stock-Based Awards are payable, as determined by the Compensation Committee.

#### Section 11. Deferrals

The Compensation Committee may permit or require a Grantee to defer receipt of the payment of cash or the delivery of Shares that would otherwise be due to such Grantee in connection with any Stock Units or Other Stock-Based Awards. If any such deferral election is permitted or required, the Compensation Committee shall establish rules and procedures for such deferrals and may provide for interest or other earnings to be paid on such deferrals. The rules and procedures for any such deferrals shall be consistent with applicable requirements of Code section 409A.

#### Section 12. Adjustment Upon Changes in Capitalization.

In the event any recapitalization, forward or reverse split, reorganization, merger, consolidation, spin-off, combination, repurchase, exchange or issuance of Shares or other securities, any stock dividend or other special and nonrecurring dividend or distribution (whether in the form of cash, securities or other property other than a regular cash dividend), liquidation, dissolution, or other similar transactions or events, affects the Shares or the value thereof, then the Compensation Committee shall make such adjustment, in such manner as the Compensation Committee deems appropriate, in order to prevent dilution or enlargement of the rights of Grantees under the Plan, including adjustment in (i) the number and kind of Shares deemed to be available thereafter for Grants under Section 3, (ii) the number and kind of Shares that may be delivered or deliverable in respect of outstanding Grants, and (iii) the price per share or the applicable market value of such Grants. In addition, the Compensation Committee shall make such adjustments as are appropriate in the terms and conditions of, and the criteria included in, Grants (including, without limitation, cancellation of out-of-the-money Grants for no consideration, substitution of Grants using securities of a successor or other entity, acceleration of the time that Grants expire, or adjustment of performance targets) in recognition of unusual or nonrecurring events (including, without limitation, a Change in Control or an event described in the preceding sentence) affecting the Company or any Affiliate of the Company or the financial statements of the Company or any Affiliate of the Company or the financial statements of the Company or any Affiliate of the Company, or in response to changes in applicable laws, regulations or accounting principles. Any adjustments to outstanding Grants shall be consistent with Code section 409A or 424, to the extent applicable. Any adjustments determined by the Compensation Committee shall be final, binding and conclusive.

# Section 13. Restrictions on Shares.

(a) <u>Restrictions on Issuing Shares</u>. No Shares shall be issued or transferred under the Plan unless and until all applicable legal requirements have been complied with to the satisfaction of the Compensation Committee. The Compensation Committee shall have the right to condition any Grant on the Grantee's undertaking in writing to comply with such restrictions on any subsequent disposition of the Shares issued or transferred thereunder as the Compensation Committee shall deem necessary or advisable as a result of any applicable law, regulation or official interpretation thereof.

#### (b) Transfer Restrictions.

(i) <u>Nontransferability of Grants</u>. Except as provided below, only the Grantee may exercise rights under a Grant during the Grantee's lifetime. No Grant under the Plan and no Shares that have not been issued or as to which any applicable restriction, performance or deferral period has not lapsed, may be sold, assigned, transferred, pledged or otherwise encumbered, except (A) by will or by the laws of descent and distribution or (B) pursuant to a domestic relations order. When a Grantee dies, the personal representative or other Person entitled to succeed to the rights of the Grantee may exercise such rights. Any such successor must furnish proof satisfactory to the Company of his or her right to receive the Grant under the Grantee's will or under the applicable laws of descent and distribution.

(ii) <u>Transfer of Nonqualified Stock Options</u>. Notwithstanding (i) above, the Compensation Committee may provide, in a Grant Letter, that a Grantee may transfer Nonqualified Options to family members, or one or more trusts or other entities for the benefit of or owned by family members, consistent with the applicable securities laws, according to such terms as the Compensation Committee may determine; provided that the Grantee receives no consideration for the transfer of the Nonqualified Option and the transferred Nonqualified Option shall continue to be subject to the same terms and conditions as were applicable to the Nonqualified Option immediately before the transfer.

(c) <u>Requirements for Issuance or Transfer of Shares</u>. No Shares shall be issued or transferred in connection with any Grant made hereunder unless and until all legal requirements applicable to the issuance or transfer of such Shares have been complied with to the satisfaction of the Compensation Committee. The Compensation Committee shall have the right to condition any Grant on the Grantee's undertaking in writing to comply with such restrictions on his or her subsequent disposition of the Shares as the Compensation Committee shall deem necessary or advisable, and certificates representing such Shares may be legended to reflect any such restrictions. Certificates representing Shares issued or transferred under the Plan may be subject to such stop-transfer orders and other restrictions as the Compensation Committee deems appropriate to comply with applicable laws, regulations and interpretations, including any requirement that a legend be placed thereon.

#### Section 14. Withholding of Taxes.

All Grants made under the Plan shall be subject to applicable federal (including FICA), state, local and foreign tax withholding requirements. The Company may require that the Grantee or other Person receiving or exercising Grants pay to the Company or any Affiliate the amount of any federal, state, local or foreign taxes that the Company or any Affiliate is required to withhold with respect to such Grants, or the Company or any Affiliate may deduct from other wages paid by the Company or any Affiliate the amount of any withholding taxes due with respect to such Grants. If the Compensation Committee deems it appropriate, the Compensation Committee shall be authorized to establish procedures that permit or require a Grantee to satisfy the applicable tax withholding obligation with respect to a Grant by having Shares that are otherwise deliverable in connection with a Grant withheld, subject to such limitations as may be imposed by the Compensation Committee.

#### Section 15. Consequences of a Change in Control.

The Compensation Committee may provide in a Grant Letter or otherwise terms under which Grants may vest and, as applicable, be exercisable or payable in the event of a Change in Control or in the event of a Grantee's termination of employment or engagement by the Company and any Affiliate in connection with, upon or within a specified time period after a Change of Control. In addition, in the event of a Change in Control, the Compensation Committee may take one or more of the following actions with respect to any or all outstanding Grants: the Compensation Committee may (i) require that Grantees surrender their outstanding vested Options and SARs in exchange for one or more payments by the Company, in cash or Shares as determined by the Compensation Committee, in an amount equal to the amount by which the then Fair Market Value of the Shares subject to the Grantee's unexercised, vested Options and SARs exceeds the Exercise Price of the vested Options or the base amount of the vested SARs, as applicable, (ii) provide for the cancellation of unvested Grants for no consideration, (iii) provide for the cancellation of out-of-the-money Grants for no consideration, (iv) after giving Grantees an opportunity to exercise their outstanding Options and SARs, terminate any or all unexercised Options and SARs at such time as the Compensation Committee deems appropriate, or (v) determine that outstanding Options and SARs that are not exercised shall be assumed by, or replaced with comparable options or rights by, the surviving corporation, (or a parent or subsidiary of the surviving corporation). Such surrender or termination shall take place as of the date of the Change in Control or such other date as the Compensation Committee may specify (subject to consummation of the Change in Control).

#### Section 16. General Provisions

(a) <u>Grant Letter</u>. Each Grant shall be evidenced by a Grant Letter. The terms and provisions of such Grant Letters may vary among Grantees and among different Grants made to the same Grantee.

(b) <u>No Right to Employment</u>. The making of a Grant in any year shall not give the Grantee any right to similar grants in future years, any right to continue such Grantee's employment relationship with the Company or its Affiliates, or, until Shares are issued, any rights as a stockholder of the Company. All Grantees shall remain subject to discharge to the same extent as if the Plan were not in effect. For purposes of the Plan, a sale of any Affiliate of the Company that employs or engages a Grantee shall be treated as the termination of such Grantee's employment or engagement, unless the Grantee shall otherwise continue to provide services to the Company or an Affiliate of the Company.

(c) <u>No Fractional Shares</u>. No fractional Shares shall be issued or delivered pursuant to the Plan or any Grant. Except as otherwise provided under the Plan, the Compensation Committee shall determine whether cash, other awards or other property shall be issued or paid in lieu of such fractional Shares or whether such fractional Shares or any rights thereto shall be forfeited or otherwise eliminated.

(d) <u>No Funding</u>. No Grantee, and no beneficiary or other Persons claiming under or through the Grantee, shall have any right, title or interest by reason of any Option to any particular assets of the Company or Affiliates of the Company, or any Shares allocated or reserved for the purposes of the Plan or subject to any Grant except as set forth herein. The Company shall not be required to establish any fund or make any other segregation of assets to assure satisfaction of the Company's obligations under the Plan.

(e) <u>Governing Law; Jurisdiction</u>. The Plan shall be governed by and construed in accordance with the laws of the State of Delaware, without giving effect to any choice of law or conflict of law provision or rule (whether of the State of Delaware or any other jurisdiction) that would cause the application of the laws of any jurisdiction other than the State of Delaware. To the extent the Grantee is a party to an employment agreement with the Company or any of its subsidiaries that provides for binding arbitration of employment disputes, then any disputes between the Company and such Grantee arising under the Plan shall be arbitrated in accordance with the procedures set forth in such employment agreement.

(f) <u>Compliance with Law</u>. The Plan, the exercise of Options and SARs and the obligations of the Company to issue or transfer Shares under Grants shall be subject to all applicable laws and regulations, and to approvals by any governmental or regulatory agency as may be required. With respect to Persons subject to section 16 of the Exchange Act, it is the intent of the Company that the Plan and all transactions under the Plan comply with all applicable provisions of Rule 16b-3 or its successors under the Exchange Act. In addition, it is the intent of the Company that, to the extent applicable, Grants be exempt from or comply with the requirements of Code section 409A. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the Compensation Committee makes no representation that the Grants awarded under the Plan shall be exempt from or comply with Code section 409A and makes no undertaking to preclude Code section 409A from applying to Grants awarded under the Plan. To the extent that any legal requirement of section 16 of the Exchange Act or Code section 409A as set forth in the Plan ceases to be required under section 16 of the Exchange Act or Code section 409A, that Plan provision shall cease to apply. To the extent applicable, if on the date of a Grantee's "separation from service" (as such term is defined under Code section 409A), Shares (or shares of any other company required to be aggregated with the Company for purposes of Code section 409A and its corresponding regulations) are publicly-traded on an established securities market or otherwise and the Grantee is a "specified employee" (as such term is defined in Code section

409A(a)(2)(B)(i) and its corresponding regulations) as determined by the Compensation Committee (or its delegate) in its discretion in accordance with the requirements of Code sections 409A and 416, then all Grants that are deemed to be deferred compensation subject to the requirements of Code section 409A and payable within six months following such Grantee's "separation from service" shall be postponed for a period of six months following the Grantee's "separation from service" shall be postponed for a period of six months following the Grantee's "separation from service" shall be postponed for a period of six months following the Grantee's "separation from service" shall be postponed for a period of six months following the Grantee's "separation from service" shall be postponed for a period of six months following the Grantee's "separation from service" shall be postponed for a period of six months following the Grantee's "separation from service" shall be postponed for a period of six months following the Grantee's "separation from service" shall be postponed for a period of six months following the Grantee's "separation from service" with the Company, to the extent necessary to avoid the imposition of penalty taxes thereunder. The Compensation Committee may revoke any Grant if it is contrary to law or modify a Grant to bring it into compliance with any valid and mandatory government regulation. The Compensation Committee may, in its sole discretion, agree to limit its authority under this Section.

(g) Grants made in Connection with Corporate Transactions and Otherwise. Nothing contained in the Plan shall be construed to (i) limit the right of the Compensation Committee to make Grants under the Plan in connection with the acquisition, by purchase, lease, merger, consolidation or otherwise, of the business or assets of any corporation, firm or association, including Grants to employees thereof who become Employees, or (ii) limit the right of the Company to grant stock options or make other awards outside of the Plan. The Compensation Committee may make a Grant to an employee of another corporation who becomes an Employee by reason of a corporate merger, consolidation, acquisition of stock or property, reorganization or liquidation involving the Company, in substitution for awards made by such corporation. Notwithstanding anything in the Plan to the contrary, the Compensation Committee may establish such terms and conditions of the new Grants as it deems appropriate, including setting the Exercise Price of Options at a price necessary to retain for the Grantee the same economic value as the prior options.

(h) <u>Application of Company Clawback Policy</u>. All Grants under the Plan are subject to the applicable provisions of the Company's clawback or recoupment policy approved by the Board or the Compensation Committee; as such policy may be in effect from time to time, and will be subject to recoupment as may be required by applicable law, regulation or listing exchange.

## Section 17. Amendment or Termination.

(a) <u>Amendment</u>. The Board may amend or terminate the Plan at any time; provided, however, that the Board shall not amend the Plan without stockholder approval if such approval is required in order to comply with the Code or other applicable law (including Rule 16b-3 under the Exchange Act), or to comply with applicable stock exchange requirements; and further provided that the Board may not, without the approval of the Company's stockholders, to the extent required by such applicable law or applicable listing exchange, amend the Plan to materially expand the class of persons eligible to participate in the Plan.

(b) <u>No Repricing Without Stockholder Approval</u>. Notwithstanding anything in the Plan to the contrary, and other than pursuant to Section 12, the Compensation Committee shall not without the approval of the Company's stockholders (a) lower the Exercise Price per Share of an Option (or grant price of a SAR) after it is granted, (b) cancel an Option or SAR in exchange for an Option or SAR with a lower Exercise Price, cash or another Grant (other than in connection with a Change in Control), or (c) take any other action with respect to an Option or SAR that would be treated as a repricing under the rules and regulations of the principal U.S. national securities exchange on which the Shares are listed.

(c) Termination of Plan. The Plan shall terminate on May 3, 2031, unless the Plan is terminated earlier by the Board or is extended by the Board.

(d) <u>Termination and Amendment of Outstanding Grants</u>. A termination or amendment of the Plan that occurs after a Grant is made shall not materially impair the rights of a Grantee unless the Grantee consents or unless the Compensation Committee acts under Section 16(f) above. The termination of the Plan shall not impair the power and authority of the Compensation Committee with respect to an outstanding Grant. Whether or not the Plan has terminated, an outstanding Grant may be terminated or amended under Section 16(f) above or may be amended by agreement of the Company and the Grantee consistent with the Plan.

# Morgan Lewis

May 6, 2021

MEI Pharma, Inc. 11455 El Camino Real, Suite 250 San Diego, CA 92130

# RE: MEI Pharma, Inc., Registration Statement on Form S-8

# Ladies and Gentlemen:

We have acted as counsel to MEI Pharma, Inc., a Delaware corporation (the "Company"), in connection with the filing of a Registration Statement on Form S-8 (the "Registration Statement") under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended (the "Securities Act"), with the Securities and Exchange Commission (the "SEC"). This Registration Statement relates to the registration of 2,500,000 shares of common stock, par value \$0.00000002 per share (the "Common Stock") under the MEI Pharma, Inc. 2021 Inducement Grant Equity Compensation Plan (the "Plan").

In connection with this opinion letter, we have examined the Registration Statement and originals, or copies certified or otherwise identified to our satisfaction, of the Amended and Restated Certificate of Incorporation and Amended and Restated By-Laws of the Company and such other documents, records and other instruments as we have deemed appropriate for purposes of the opinion set forth herein. In such examinations we have assumed the genuineness of all signatures, the authenticity of all documents submitted to us as originals, the conformity to original documents of all documents submitted to us as copies and the authenticity of the originals of all copies.

Based on the foregoing, we are of the opinion that such shares of Common Stock being registered pursuant to the Registration Statement to be issued under the Plan have been duly authorized and, if and when issued and paid for in full in accordance with the Plan as contemplated by the Registration Statement, will be validly issued, fully paid and non-assessable.

This opinion letter is rendered as of the date first written above and we disclaim any obligation to advise you of facts, circumstances, events or developments which hereafter may be brought to our attention and may alter, affect or modify the opinion expressed herein. Our opinion is expressly limited to the matters set forth above and we render no opinion, whether by implication or otherwise, to any other matters relating to the Company or the Common Stock.

We hereby consent to the use of this opinion as Exhibit 5.1 to the Registration Statement. In giving such consent, we do not admit that we are acting within the category of persons whose consent is required under the provisions of the Securities Act or the rules or regulations of the SEC thereunder.

Very truly yours,

/s/ Morgan, Lewis & Bocklus

MEI Pharma, Inc. San Diego, California

We hereby consent to the incorporation by reference in the Prospectus constituting a part of this Registration Statement on Form S-8 of our report dated September 9, 2020, relating to the financial statements of MEI Pharma, Inc. (the "Company"), appearing in the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended June 30, 2020.

/s/ BDO USA, LLP San Diego, California

May 6, 2021