# ECURITIES 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): December 18, 2020

## SYNTHETIC BIOLOGICS, INC.

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Nevada001-1258413-3808303(State or other jurisdiction of incorporation)(Commission File No.)(IRS Employer Identification No.)

#### 9605 Medical Center Drive, Suite 270 Rockville, MD 20850

(Address of principal executive offices and zip code)

Registrant's telephone number, including area code: (301) 417-4364

N/A

(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 (see General Instruction A.2. below):

- 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 \$0.001 per share	SYN	NYSE American

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is an emerging growth company as defined in Rule 405 of the Securities Act of 1933 (17 CFR §230.405 of this chapter) or Rule 12b-2 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (17 CFR §240.12b-2 of this chapter).

Emerging growth company "

If an emerging growth company, indicate by checkmark 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 8.01 Other Events

On December 22, 2020, Synthetic Biologics, Inc. (the "Company") announced that it had received approval from the Institutional Review Board (IRB) at Washington University School of Medicine in St. Louis (Washington University), to commence the Phase 1b/2a clinical trial of SYN-004 (ribaxamase) in allogeneic hematopoietic cell transplant (HCT) recipients. As a result, the Company expects to commence patient enrollment for the Phase 1b/2a clinical trial in the first quarter of 2021.

## **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.

Dated: December 22, 2020

SYNTHETIC BIOLOGICS, INC.

By: /s/ Steven A. Shallcross

Name: Steven A. Shallcross
Title: Chief Executive Officer
and Chief Financial Officer