## **UNITED STATES** SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

### FORM S-8 **REGISTRATION STATEMENT** UNDER

**THE SECURITIES ACT OF 1933** 

# Aileron Therapeutics, Inc.

(Exact Name of Registrant as Specified in Its Charter)

Delaware (State or Other Jurisdiction of **Incorporation or Organization**)

285 Summer Street, Unit 111 Boston, MA (Address of Principal Executive Offices)

13-4196017 (I.R.S. Employer **Identification No.)** 

> 02110 (Zip Code)

2017 Stock Incentive Plan (Full Title of the Plan)

Manuel C. Alves Aivado, M.D., Ph.D. **President and Chief Executive Officer** Aileron Therapeutics, Inc. 285 Summer Street, Unit 111 Boston, MA 02110 (Name and Address of Agent For Service)

(617) 995-0900 (Telephone Number, Including Area Code, of Agent For Service)

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 

 $\times$ Non-accelerated filer

 $\mathbf{X}$ Smaller reporting company

Emerging growth company  $\mathbf{X}$ 

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 the Securities Act.

Accelerated filer 

#### CALCULATION OF REGISTRATION FEE

	Amount	Proposed Maximum	Proposed Maximum	
Title of Securities to be Registered	to be Registered(1)	Offering Price Per Share	Aggregate Offering Price	Amount of Registration Fee
Common Stock, \$0.001 par value per share	1,244,816 shares (2)	\$1.63 (3)	\$2,029,050.08 (3)	\$221.37

(1) In accordance with Rule 416 under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, this registration statement shall be deemed to cover any additional securities that may from time to time be offered or issued to prevent dilution resulting from stock splits, stock dividends or similar transactions.

(2) Consists of 1,244,816 additional shares issuable under the 2017 Stock Incentive Plan (the "2017 Plan").
(3) Estimated solely for the purpose of calculating the registration fee pursuant to Rules 457(c) and 457(h) of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, and based upon the average of the high and low prices of the Registrant's Common Stock as reported on the Nasdaq Capital Market on March 17, 2021.

#### STATEMENT OF INCORPORATION BY REFERENCE

This registration statement on Form S-8 is being filed for the purpose of registering the offer and sale of an additional 1,244,816 shares of Common Stock, \$0.001 par value per share, of Aileron Therapeutics, Inc. (the "Registrant") to be issued under the Registrant's 2017 Plan. In accordance with General Instruction E to Form S-8, this registration statement on Form S-8 registers additional securities of the same class as other securities for which a registration statement on Form S-8 has previously been filed and is effective. Accordingly, this registration statement incorporates by reference the contents of the Registrant's following registration statements on Form S-8 previously filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission (the "SEC"), except in each case for Item 8, Exhibits with respect to which the Exhibit Index immediately preceding the exhibits attached hereto is incorporated by reference:

- (1) Registration Statement on Form S-8 (File No. 333-219158), filed with the SEC on July 5, 2017 by the Registrant, relating to the Registrant's 2006 Stock Incentive Plan, 2016 Stock Incentive Plan, 2017 Plan and 2017 Employee Stock Purchase Plan;
- (2) Registration Statement on Form S-8 (File No. 333-224785), filed with the SEC on May 9, 2018 by the Registrant, relating to the Registrant's 2017 Plan;
- (3) Registration Statement on Form S-8 (File No. 333-230592), filed with the SEC on March 29, 2019 by the Registrant, relating to the Registrant's 2017 Plan; and
- (4) Registration Statement on Form S-8 (File No. 333-237480), filed with the SEC on March 30, 2020 by the Registrant, relating to the Registrant's 2017 Plan.

#### Item 8. Exhibits

Exhibit <u>Number</u>	Description
4.1	Restated Certificate of Incorporation of the Registrant (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 3.1 to the Registrant's Current Report on Form 8-K (File No. 001-38130) filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on July 5, 2017)
4.2	Amended and Restated By-Laws of the Registrant (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 3.2 to the Registrant's Current Report on Form 8-K (File No. 001-38130) filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on July 5, 2017)
5.1	Opinion of Wilmer Cutler Pickering Hale and Dorr LLP, counsel to the Registrant
23.1	Consent of PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP, independent registered public accounting firm
23.2	Consent of Wilmer Cutler Pickering Hale and Dorr LLP (included in Exhibit 5.1)
24.1	Power of Attorney (included on the signature page)
99.1	2017 Stock Incentive Plan (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.8 to the Registrant's Registration Statement on Form S-1 (File No. 333-218474) filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on June 19, 2017)

#### SIGNATURES

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, the registrant 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 Watertown, Commonwealth of Massachusetts on this 24th day of March, 2021.

AILERON THERAPEUTICS, INC.

By: /s/ Manuel C. Alves Aivado

Manuel C. Alves Aivado, M.D., Ph.D. President and Chief Executive Officer

#### POWER OF ATTORNEY AND SIGNATURES

We, the undersigned officers and directors of Aileron Therapeutics, Inc., hereby severally constitute and appoint Manuel C. Alves Aivado, M.D., Ph.D. and Richard J. Wanstall and each of them singly, our true and lawful attorneys with full power to them, and each of them singly, to sign for us and in our names in the capacities indicated below, the registration statement on Form S-8 filed herewith and any and all subsequent amendments to said registration statement, and generally to do all such things in our names and on our behalf in our capacities as officers and directors to enable Aileron Therapeutics, Inc. to comply with the provisions of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, and all requirements of the Securities and Exchange Commission, hereby ratifying and confirming our signatures as they may be signed by our said attorneys, or any of them, to said registration statement and any and all amendments thereto.

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, this registration statement has been signed by the following persons in the capacities and on the dates indicated.

Signature	Title	Date
/s/ Manuel C. Alves Aivado	President, Chief Executive Officer and Director	
Manuel C. Alves Aivado, M.D., Ph.D.	(principal executive officer)	March 24, 2021
/s/ Richard J. Wanstall	Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer	
Richard J. Wanstall	(principal financial officer and principal accounting officer)	March 24, 2021
/s/ Jeffrey A. Bailey	Chairman of the Board of Directors	
Jeffrey A. Bailey		March 24, 2021
/s/ Reinhard J. Ambros	Director	
Reinhard J. Ambros, Ph.D.		March 24, 2021
/s/ William T. McKee	Director	
William T. McKee		March 24, 2021
/s/ Jodie P. Morrison	Director	
Jodie P. Morrison		March 24, 2021
/s/ Nolan Sigal	Director	
Nolan Sigal, M.D., PhD.	-	March 24, 2021
/s/ Josef H. Von Rickenbach	Director	
Josef H. Von Rickenbach	-	March 24, 2021

Exhibit 5.1

### WILMERHALE

March 24, 2021

+1 617 526 6000 (t) +1 617 526 5000 (f) wilmerhale.com

Aileron Therapeutics, Inc. 285 Summer Street, Suite 111 Boston, MA 02110

#### Re: <u>Registration Statement on Form S-8: 2017 Stock Incentive Plan</u>

Ladies and Gentlemen:

We have assisted in the preparation of a Registration Statement on Form S-8 (the "**Registration Statement**") to be filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission (the "**Commission**") under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended (the "**Securities Act**"), relating to an aggregate of 1,244,816 shares of common stock, \$0.001 par value per share (the "**Shares**"), of Aileron Therapeutics, Inc., a Delaware corporation (the "**Company**"), issuable under the Company's 2017 Stock Incentive Plan (the "**Plan**").

We have examined the Certificate of Incorporation and By-laws of the Company, each as amended and restated to date, and originals, or copies certified to our satisfaction, of all pertinent records of the meetings of the directors and stockholders of the Company, the Registration Statement and such other documents relating to the Company as we have deemed material for the purposes of this opinion.

In our examination of the foregoing documents, 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 certified, photostatic or other copies, the authenticity of the originals of any such documents and the legal competence of all signatories to such documents.

We assume that the appropriate action will be taken, prior to the offer and sale of the Shares in accordance with the Plan, to register and qualify the Shares for sale under all applicable state securities or "blue sky" laws.

We express no opinion herein as to the laws of any state or jurisdiction other than the state laws of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, the General Corporation Law of the State of Delaware and the federal laws of the United States of America.

It is understood that this opinion is to be used only in connection with the offer and sale of the Shares while the Registration Statement is in effect.

 Wilmer Cutler Pickering Hale and Dorr LLP, 60 State Street, Boston, Massachusetts 02109

 Beijing
 Berlin Boston Brussels Denver Frankfurt London Los Angeles New York Palo Alto San Francisco Washington

### WILMERHALE

Aileron Therapeutics, Inc. March 24, 2021 Page 2

Please note that we are opining only as to the matters expressly set forth herein, and no opinion should be inferred as to any other matters.

Based on the foregoing, we are of the opinion that the Shares have been duly authorized for issuance and, when the Shares are issued and paid for in accordance with the terms and conditions of the Plan, the Shares will be validly issued, fully paid and nonassessable.

We hereby consent to the filing of this opinion with the Commission in connection with the Registration Statement in accordance with the requirements of Item 601(b)(5) of Regulation S-K under the Securities Act. In giving such consent, we do not hereby admit that we are in the category of persons whose consent is required under Section 7 of the Securities Act or the rules and regulations of the Commission.

Very truly yours,

WILMER CUTLER PICKERING HALE AND DORR LLP

By: /s/ Stuart M. Falber

Stuart M. Falber, a Partner

#### CONSENT OF INDEPENDENT REGISTERED PUBLIC ACCOUNTING FIRM

We hereby consent to the incorporation by reference in this Registration Statement on Form S-8 of Aileron Therapeutics, Inc. of our report dated March 24, 2021 relating to the financial statements, which appears in Aileron Therapeutics, Inc.'s Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2020.

/s/ PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP

Boston, Massachusetts March 24, 2021