

26 April 2019

## Call for shareholder meeting | Ascendis Health

Over the past 5 months Mergence Investments Managers has built a holding in about 8% of the ordinary shares of Ascendis Health. We have recently proposed a number of very strong appointments to the board of Ascendis that we believe will strengthen the board and help restore investor confidence in the company. Ascendis currently faces the challenge of dealing with a highly leveraged balance sheet and the task of restoring confidence in the business after large shareholder value destruction that has occurred over the past few years.

Despite these challenges, Ascendis owns attractive businesses and the current share price does not reflect the full potential of the company. Our nominees bring extensive management experience in large listed companies and have a track record of delivering results. In our view, their appointment would strengthen the board, give the capital markets confidence and provide leadership and experience for the turnaround of the business. We believe our proposals have the support of the majority of Ascendis shareholders and are in the best interests of the company.

We have called on the board to act in the best interest of shareholders, implement our proposed changes to the board and avert the need for a public meeting of shareholders.

## For more information

Head: Listed Investments **Bradley Preston** 

Tel : 021 433 2960 Fax : 021 433 0675

E-mail: bradp@mergence.co.za

Head: Marketing & PR Ronel Bantjes 021 433 2960 021 433 0675

ronel@mergence.co.za

