UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20549

SCHEDULE 13D

Under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (Amendment No. 2)*

Verona Pharma plc

(Name of Issuer)

Ordinary Shares, nominal value £0.05 per share American Depositary Shares, each representing eight Ordinary Shares (Title of Class of Securities)

> 925050106 (CUSIP Number)

Peter Haahr Novo Holdings A/S Tuborg Havnevej 19 Hellerup, Denmark DK-2900 +45 3527 6592

Copy to:

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(Name, Address and Telephone Number of Person Authorized to Receive Notices and Communications)

September 30, 2020 (Date of Event which Requires Filing of this Statement)

If the filing person has previously filed a statement on Schedule 13G to report the acquisition which is subject of this Schedule 13D, and is filing his statement because of Rule 13d-1(e), 13d-1(f) or 13d-1(g), check the following box. □

Note: Schedules filed in paper format shall include a signed original and five copies of the schedule, including all exhibits. See Rule 13d-7(b) for other parties to whom copies are to be sent.

* The remainder of this cover page shall be filled out for a reporting person's initial filing on this form with respect to the subject class of securities, and for any subsequent amendment containing information which would alter disclosures provided in a prior cover page.

The information required on the remainder of this cover page shall not be deemed to be "filed" for the purpose of Section 18 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (the "Act") or otherwise subject to the liabilities of that section of the Act but shall be subject to all other provisions of the Act (however, see the Notes).

CUSIP No.: 925050106 Name of Reporting Person: Novo Holdings A/S Check the Appropriate Box if a Member of Group (See Instructions): 2. (a) □ **(b)** □ **SEC Use Only:** 3. Source of Funds: WC Check if Disclosure of Legal Proceedings is Required Pursuant to Items 2(d) or 2(e): 5. Citizenship or Place of Organization: 6. Denmark **Sole Voting Power:** 7. Number of 22,639,667(1) Shares **Shared Voting Power:** Beneficially Owned By Each **Sole Dispositive Power:** Reporting Person 22.639.667(1) With: 10. **Shared Dispositive Power:** Aggregate Amount Beneficially Owned by Each Reporting Person: 22,639,667(1) 12. Check if the Aggregate Amount in Row (11) Excludes Certain Shares:

(1) Consists of (a) 6,464,065 ordinary shares, (b) 1,800,747 American Depository Shares ("<u>ADSs</u>") that each represent 8 ordinary shares, totaling 14,405,976 ordinary shares, and (c) vested warrants to purchase 1,769,626 ordinary shares (or 221,203 ADSs, at the election of Novo Holdings A/S).

13.

14.

5.4%(2)

CO

Type of Reporting Person:

Percent of Class Represented By Amount In Row (11):

(2) Based upon 414,545,590 ordinary shares (assuming conversion of ADSs to ordinary shares) as reported by the Issuer on its website and Novo's vested warrants to purchase 1,769,626 ordinary shares.

Explanatory Note

This amendment ("<u>Amendment No. 2</u>"), amends the Schedule 13D originally filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission ("<u>SEC</u>") on April 2, 2019, subsequently amended by Amendment No. 1 filed on July 24, 2020 (collectively the "<u>Schedule</u>") to report and reflect that Martin Edwards, a board member of the Issuer, no longer serves as an employee of, and is no longer affiliated with, Novo Holdings A/S. Accordingly, effective with this filing, Novo Holdings A/S will be eligible to revert back to a 13G filing status and thus all future filings will be made on a Form 13G amendment in accordance with the 13G filing requirements. All capitalized terms contained herein but not otherwise defined shall have the meanings ascribed to such terms in the Schedule.

Item 2. Identity and Background

Item 2 is amended and replaced in its entirety as follows:

- (a) Novo Holdings A/S is a Danish limited liability company that is wholly owned by Novo Nordisk Fonden (the "Foundation"), a Danish commercial foundation. Novo Holdings A/S is the holding company in the group of Novo companies (currently comprised of Novo Nordisk A/S and Novozymes A/S) and is responsible for managing the Foundation's assets, including its financial assets. Based on the governance structure of Novo Holdings A/S and the Foundation, the Foundation is not deemed to have any beneficial ownership of the securities of the Issuer held by Novo Holdings A/S.
 - The name of each director and executive officer of both Novo Holdings A/S and the Foundation is set forth on <u>Schedule I</u> to this Schedule 13D.
- (b) The business address of both Novo Holdings A/S and the Foundation is Tuborg Havnevej 19, 2900 Hellerup, Denmark.
 - The residence or business address of each director and executive officer of both Novo Holdings A/S and the Foundation is set forth on Schedule I to this Schedule 13D.
- (c) Novo Holdings A/S, a holding company that is responsible for managing the Foundation's assets, provides seed and venture capital to development stage companies and invests in well-established companies within the life science and biotechnology sector.
 - The Foundation is a Danish self-governing and profit-making foundation, whose objectives are to provide a stable basis for commercial and research activities undertaken by the group of Novo companies and to support scientific, humanitarian and social purposes through grants.
- (d) Within the last five years, neither Novo Holdings A/S, the Foundation, nor any person named in <u>Schedule I</u> has been convicted in any criminal proceedings.
- (e) Within the last five years, neither Novo Holdings A/S, the Foundation, nor any person named in <u>Schedule I</u> was a party to a civil proceeding of a judicial or administrative body of competent jurisdiction and as a result of such proceeding was or is subject to a judgment, decree or final order enjoining future violations of, or prohibiting or mandating activities subject to, federal or state securities laws or finding any violation with respect to such laws.

Item 4. Purpose of Transaction

Item 4 is amended and replaced in its entirety as follows:

The acquisitions of Issuer securities made by Novo Holdings A/S, as described in this Schedule 13D, were for investment purposes. Novo Holdings A/S intends to review its investments in the Issuer on a continuing basis and any actions Novo Holdings A/S might undertake will be dependent upon its review of numerous factors from time to time, including, but not limited to: an ongoing evaluation of the Issuer's business, financial condition, operations and prospects; price levels of the Issuer's securities; general market, industry and economic conditions; the relative

attractiveness of alternative business and investment opportunities; and other future developments. Novo Holdings A/S may, at any time and from time to time, acquire additional securities of the Issuer, or retain or sell all or a portion of the securities of the Issuer then held, in the open market or in privately negotiated transactions. Other than as described herein, Novo Holdings A/S currently does not have any plans or proposals that relate to, or would result in, any of the matters listed in Items 4(a)–(j) of Schedule 13D, although, depending on the factors discussed herein, Novo Holdings A/S may review or reconsider or change its purpose or formulate different plans, strategies, or proposals with respect thereto at any time.

Item 5. Interest in Securities of the Issuer

Item 5(a) and (b) is amended and replaced in its entirety as follows:

- (a) Novo Holdings A/S beneficially owns 22,639,667 ordinary shares (the "Novo Shares") representing approximately 5.4% of the Issuer's outstanding ordinary shares, based upon 414,545,590 ordinary shares (assuming conversion of ADSs to ordinary shares) as reported by the Issuer on its website and Novo's vested warrants to purchase 1,769,626 ordinary shares.
- (b) Novo Holdings A/S is a Danish limited liability company wholly owned by the Novo Nordisk Foundation. Novo Holdings A/S, through its Board of Directors (the "Novo Board"), has the sole power to vote and dispose of the Novo Shares. The Novo Board may exercise voting and dispositive control over the Novo Shares with approval by a majority of the Novo Board. As such, no individual member of the Novo Board is deemed to hold any beneficial ownership or reportable pecuniary interest in the Novo Shares. Except as described above regarding the Novo Board, neither the Foundation nor any person listed on Schedule I has the power to direct the vote as to, or the disposition of, the Novo Shares.

Item 5(c) is supplemented to add the following:

(c) Novo Holdings A/S sold in broker transactions the following securities of the Issuer at the following weighted average prices:

On August 26, 2020, 7,170 ADSs at \$7.5627 per ADS;

On August 27, 2020, 27,784 ADSs at \$7.5733 per ADS;

On August 28, 2020, 2,204 ADSs at \$7.5234 per ADS;

On September 16, 2020, 1,800 ADSs at \$6.6917 per ADS;

On September 17, 2020, 9,246 ADSs at \$6.7555 per ADS; and

On September 18, 2020, 2,900 ADSs at \$6.7507 per ADS.

Except as described herein, Novo Holdings A/S has not effected any transactions in the Issuer's securities within the past 60 days and neither the Foundation nor any person listed on Schedule I has effected any transactions in the Issuer's securities within the past 60 days.

- (d) Novo Holdings A/S does not know of any other person having the right to receive or the power to direct the receipt of dividends from, or the proceeds from the sale of, the Novo Shares.
 - (e) Not applicable.

SIGNATURE

After reasonable inquiry and to the best of my knowledge and belief, I certify that the information set forth in this statement is true, complete and correct.

Dated: October 5, 2020 Novo Holdings A/S

/s/ Peter Haahr

By: Peter Haahr

Its: Chief Financial Officer

Schedule I

Information regarding each director and executive officer of both Novo Holdings A/S and the Novo Nordisk Foundation is set forth below.

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Novo Holdings A/S							
Name, Title	Address	Principal Occupation	Citizenship				
Lars Rebien Sørensen, Chairman of the Board	Christianholms Tværvej 27, 2930 Klampenborg Denmark	Professional Board Director	Denmark				
Steen Riisgaard, Vice Chairman of the Board	Hestetangsvej 155, 3520 Farum, Denmark	Professional Board Director	Denmark				
Jean-Luc Butel, Director	235 Arcadia Road, #03-04, 28984 Singapore	Global Healthcare Advisor, President, K8 Global Pte Ltd.	Singapore				
Jeppe Christiansen, Director	Løngangstræde 21 A, 5., 1468 København K Denmark	Chief Executive Officer, Fondsmaeglerselskabet Maj Invest A/S	Denmark				
Francis Michael Cyprian Cuss, Director	111 Rippling Brook Way, Bernardsville, NJ 07924 USA	Former Executive Vice President and Chief Scientific Officer of Bristol-Myers Squibb	United Kingdom				
Viviane Monges, Director	Chemin de Craivavers 32, 1012 Lausanne, Switzerland	Professional Board Director	France				
Poul Carsten Stendevad, Director	3220 Idaho Ave NW Washington, DC 20016 USA	Senior Fellow, Bridgewater Associates	Denmark				
Kasim Kutay, Chief Executive Officer of Novo Holdings A/S	Bredgade 65, 3.tv. 1260 Copenhagen K. Denmark	Chief Executive Officer of Novo Holdings A/S	United Kingdom				
Peter Haahr, Chief Financial Officer of Novo Holdings A/S	Ordrup Have 21 2900 Charlottenlund Denmark	Chief Financial Officer of Novo Holdings A/S	Denmark				
	Novo Nordisk Foundation						
Name, Title	Address	Principal Occupation	Citizenship				
Lars Rebien Sørensen, Chairman of the Board	Christianholms Tværvej 27 2930 Klampenborg Denmark	Professional Board Director	Denmark				
Marianne Philip, Vice Chairman of the Board	Annasvej 28 2900 Hellerup	Attorney	Denmark				

Professional Board Director

Denmark

Denmark

3520 Farum Denmark

Hestetangsvej 155

Steen Riisgaard,

Director

Novo Nordisk Foundation						
Name, Title	Address	Principal Occupation	Citizenship			
Birgitte Nauntofte, Chief Executive Officer	Engbakkevej 24 2920 Charlottenlund Denmark	Chief Executive Officer, Novo Nordisk Foundation	Denmark			
Niels Peder Nielsen, Deputy CEO	Winthersvej 10, 3480 Fredensborg Denmark	Deputy CEO, Novo Nordisk Foundation	Denmark			
Anne Marie Kverneland, Director	Nybrovej 216 2800 Kgs. Lyngby Denmark	Laboratory technician, Novo Nordisk A/S	Denmark			
Lars Bo Køppler, Director	Anemonevej 7 3550 Slangerup Denmark	Technician, Novozymes A/S	Denmark			
Lars Fugger, Director	72 Staunton Road, Headington OX3 7TP Great Britain	Professor, John Radcliffe Hospital, University of Oxford, Oxford, Great Britain	Denmark			
Lars Henrik Munch, Director	Galionsvej 46 1437 København K Denmark	Professional Board Director	Denmark			
Mads Boritz Grøn, Director	Horsevænget 4 3400 Hillerød Denmark	Senior Lead Auditor	Denmark			
Liselotte Højgaard, Director	Grønningen 21 1270 København K Denmark	Professor	Denmark			