

UNITED STATES
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
Washington, D.C. 20549

SCHEDULE 13G

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

Verona Pharma plc

(Name of Issuer)

Common Stock

(Title of Class of Securities)

GB00B06GSH43

(CUSIP Number)

December 31, 2016

(Date of Event Which Requires Filing of this Statement)

Check the appropriate box to designate the rule pursuant to which this Schedule is filed:

- Rule 13d-1(b)
 Rule 13d-1(c)
 Rule 13d-1(d)

*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 the disclosures provided in a prior cover page.

The information required in 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 ("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.

1. Names of Reporting Persons
Tekla Capital Management LLC

2. Check the Appropriate Box if a Member of a Group (See Instructions)

(a)

(b)

3. SEC Use Only

4. Citizenship or Place of Organization
Delaware

5. Sole Voting Power
0

Number of
Shares
Beneficially
Owned by
Each
Reporting
Person With

6. Shared Voting Power
154,842,289

7. Sole Dispositive Power
154,842,289

8. Shared Dispositive Power
0

9. Aggregate Amount Beneficially Owned by Each Reporting Person
154,842,289

10. Check if the Aggregate Amount in Row (9) Excludes Certain Shares (See Instructions)

11. Percent of Class Represented by Amount in Row (9)
5.9%

12. Type of Reporting Person (See Instructions)
IN

CUSIP No.

1. Names of Reporting Persons
Daniel R. Omstead

2. Check the Appropriate Box if a Member of a Group (See Instructions)

(a)

(b)

3. SEC Use Only

4. Citizenship or Place of Organization
Delaware

5. Sole Voting Power
0

Number of
Shares
Beneficially
Owned by
Each
Reporting
Person With

6. Shared Voting Power
154,842,289

7. Sole Dispositive Power
154,842,289

8. Shared Dispositive Power
0

9. Aggregate Amount Beneficially Owned by Each Reporting Person
154,842,289

10. Check if the Aggregate Amount in Row (9) Excludes Certain Shares (See Instructions)

11. Percent of Class Represented by Amount in Row (9)
5.9%

12. Type of Reporting Person (See Instructions)
IN

Item 1.

- (a) Name of Issuer
Verona Pharma plc
-
- (b) Address of Issuer's Principal Executive Offices
3 More London Riverside, London SE1 2RE
-

Item 2.

- (a) Name of Person Filing
Tekla Capital Management LLC
-
- (b) Address of Principal Business Office or, if none, Residence
100 Federal Street, 19th Floor, Boston, MA 02110
-
- (c) Citizenship
Delaware Corporation
-
- (d) Title of Class of Securities
Common Stock
-
- (e) CUSIP Number
GB00B06GSH43
-

Item 3. If this statement is filed pursuant to §§240.13d-1(b) or 240.13d-2(b) or (c), check whether the person filing is a:

- (a) Broker or dealer registered under section 15 of the Act (15 U.S.C. 78o);
- (b) Bank as defined in section 3(a)(6) of the Act (15 U.S.C. 78c);
- (c) Insurance company as defined in section 3(a)(19) of the Act (15 U.S.C. 78c);
- (d) Investment company registered under section 8 of the Investment Company Act of 1940 (15 U.S.C. 80a-8);
- (e) An investment adviser in accordance with §240.13d-1(b)(1)(ii)(E);
- (f) An employee benefit plan or endowment fund in accordance with §240.13d-1(b)(1)(ii)(F);
- (g) A parent holding company or control person in accordance with §240.13d-1(b)(1)(ii)(G);
- (h) A savings association as defined in Section 3(b) of the Federal Deposit Insurance Act (12 U.S.C. 1813);
- (i) A church plan that is excluded from the definition of an investment company under section 3(c)(14) of the Investment Company Act of 1940 (15 U.S.C. 80a-3);
- (j) A non-U.S. institution in accordance with § 240.13d-1(b)(1)(ii)(J);
- (k) Group, in accordance with § 240.13d-1(b)(1)(ii)(K). If filing as a non-U.S. institution in accordance with § 240.13d-1(b)(1)(ii)(J), please specify the type of institution: _____

Item 4. Ownership

Provide the following information regarding the aggregate number and percentage of the class of securities of the issuer identified in Item 1.

(a) Amount beneficially owned:

154,842,289

(b) Percent of class:

154,842,289

(c) Number of shares as to which the person has:

(i) Sole power to vote or to direct the vote

0

(ii) Shared power to vote or to direct the vote

154,842,289

(iii) Sole power to dispose or to direct the disposition of

154,842,289

(iv) Shared power to dispose or to direct the disposition of

0

Item 5. Ownership of Five Percent or Less of a Class

If this statement is being filed to report the fact that as of the date hereof the reporting person has ceased to be the beneficial owner of more than five percent of the class of securities, check the following .

Item 6. Ownership of More than Five Percent on Behalf of Another Person

Not applicable.

Item 7. Identification and Classification of the Subsidiary Which Acquired the Security Being Reported on By the Parent Holding Company or Control Person

See attached Exhibit A.

Item 8. Identification and Classification of Members of the Group

Not applicable.

Item 9. Notice of Dissolution of Group

N/A

Item 10. Certification

By signing below I certify that, to the best of my knowledge and belief, the securities referred to above were acquired and are held in the ordinary course of business and were not acquired and are not held for the purpose of or with the effect of changing or influencing the control of the issuer of the securities and were not acquired and are not held in connection with or as a participant in any transaction having that purpose or effect.

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.

February 13, 2017

Date

/s/ Laura Woodward

Signature

Laura Woodward, Treasurer

Name/Title

Exhibit A

Tekla Capital Management LLC (“TCM”), an investment adviser registered pursuant to Section 203 of the Investment Advisers Act of 1940, is the beneficial owner of 154,842,289 shares (or 5.9%) of the Common Stock of Verona Pharma plc (the “Company”) as a result of acting as investment adviser to Tekla Life Sciences Investors (“HQL”) and Tekla World Healthcare Fund (“THW”), each of which is registered as an investment company pursuant to Section 8 of the Investment Company Act of 1940. Each of TCM and Daniel R. Omstead, through his control of TCM, has sole power to dispose of the 154,842,289 shares beneficially owned by HQL and THW. Neither TCM nor Daniel R. Omstead has the sole power to vote or direct the vote of the shares beneficially owned by HQL and THW, which power resides in each fund’s Board of Trustees. TCM carries out the voting of the shares under written guidelines established by each fund’s Board of Trustees.

Joint Filing Agreement

The undersigned persons, on February 13, 2017, agree and consent to the joint filing on their behalf of this Schedule 13G in connection with their beneficial ownership of the Common Stock of Verona Pharma plc on December 31, 2016.

Tekla Capital Management LLC

By /s/ Laura Woodward
Laura Woodward

Daniel R. Omstead

By /s/ Daniel R. Omstead
Daniel R. Omstead
