

**UNITED STATES  
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION  
Washington, DC 20549**

**FORM S-8  
REGISTRATION STATEMENT  
UNDER  
THE SECURITIES ACT OF 1933**

**Aquestive Therapeutics, Inc.**

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

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

**30 Technology Drive  
Warren, NJ 07059**  
(Address of Principal Executive Offices)  
(Zip Code)

**82-3827296**  
(I.R.S. Employer Identification No.)

**Aquestive Therapeutics, Inc. 2018 Equity Incentive Plan**  
(Full title of the plan)

**A. Ernest Toth, Jr.  
Chief Financial Officer  
Aquestive Therapeutics, Inc.  
30 Technology Drive  
Warren, NJ 07059**  
(Name and address of agent for service)

**(908) 941-1900**  
(Telephone number, including area code, of agent for service)

*Copies of all communications to:*

Ellen S. Knarr, Esq.  
Day Pitney LLP  
605 Third Avenue  
31<sup>st</sup> Floor  
New York, NY 10158  
(212) 297-5800

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   
Non-accelerated filer

Accelerated filer   
Smaller reporting company   
Emerging growth company

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.

**CALCULATION OF REGISTRATION FEE**

| Title of Securities to be Registered      | Amount to be Registered <sup>(1)</sup> | Proposed Maximum Offering Price Per Share | Proposed Maximum Aggregate Offering Price | Amount of Registration Fee |
|---|--|---|---|----------------------------|
| Common Stock, par value \$0.001 per share | 1,235,399 <sup>(2)</sup>               | \$4.05 <sup>(2)</sup>                     | \$5,003,365.95                            | \$463.82                   |

- (1) The number of shares of common stock, par value \$0.001 per share (the “Common Stock”), of Aquestive Therapeutics, Inc., a Delaware corporation (the “Registrant”), available for issuance under the Aquestive Therapeutics, Inc. 2018 Equity Incentive Plan (the “2018 Plan”) is subject to an automatic annual increase on the first day of each fiscal year prior to the termination of the 2018 Plan, with such annual increase equal to (i) 4.0% of the number of shares of Common Stock outstanding on December 31<sup>st</sup> of the immediately preceding calendar year or (ii) such lesser amount determined by the Board of Directors of the Registrant (the “Board”) in its discretion (the “Evergreen Provision”). Pursuant to the Evergreen Provision, the number of shares of Common Stock available for issuance under the 2018 Plan was automatically increased by 1,235,399 shares effective January 1, 2022, which is 3.0% of the total number of shares of Common Stock outstanding as of December 31, 2021. This registration statement (this “Registration Statement”) registers these 1,235,399 additional shares of Common Stock for issuance under the 2018 Plan. Pursuant to Rule 416(a) under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended (the “Securities Act”), this Registration Statement also covers such additional shares of Common Stock as may be issued in the event of a stock dividend, stock split, recapitalization or other similar transaction.
- (2) Shares of Common Stock newly reserved under the 2018 Plan. Pursuant to Rules 457(c) and 457(h) under the Securities Act, the proposed maximum offering price per share was calculated on the basis of the average of the high and low prices per share of the Common Stock as reported on the Nasdaq Global Market on January 3, 2022.

## EXPLANATORY NOTE

This Registration Statement is being filed by the Registrant for the purpose of registering an additional 1,235,399 shares of Common Stock available for issuance under the 2018 Plan. The Registrant previously filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission (the “Commission”) registration statements on Form S-8 on July 27, 2018 (SEC File No. 333-226399) and on January 8, 2021 (SEC File No. 333-251984) (collectively, the “Prior Registration Statements”) registering shares of Common Stock issuable under the 2018 Plan. This Registration Statement relates to securities of the same class as those to which the Prior Registration Statements relate and is submitted in accordance with General Instruction E of Form S-8 regarding Registration of Additional Securities. Pursuant to General Instruction E of Form S-8, the contents of the Prior Registration Statements are incorporated herein by reference and made part of this Registration Statement, except for Items 3 and 8, which are being updated by this Registration Statement below.

### PART II

#### INFORMATION REQUIRED IN THE REGISTRATION STATEMENT

##### Item 3. Incorporation of Documents by Reference.

The following documents, as originally filed with the Commission by the Registrant, are incorporated herein by reference; provided, however, that any reports or portions thereof that are furnished, including under Item 2.02 or Item 7.01 of a Current Report on Form 8-K and any exhibits included with such items, shall not be deemed incorporated by reference in this Registration Statement:

- (a) The Registrant’s Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2020, filed with the Commission pursuant to the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the “Exchange Act”), on March 9, 2021;
- (b) The Registrant’s Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the quarter ended March 31, 2021, filed with the Commission on May 4, 2021;
- (c) The Registrant’s Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the quarter ended June 30, 2021, filed with the Commission on August 3, 2021;
- (d) The Registrant’s Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the quarter ended September 30, 2021, filed with the Commission on November 2, 2021;
- (e) The Registrant’s Current Reports on Form 8-K, filed with the Commission on January 7, 2021, January 21, 2021, February 9, 2021, February 25, 2021, March 25, 2021, March 26, 2021, June 21, 2021, June 24, 2021, July 21, 2021, July 30, 2021, August 9, 2021, October 6, 2021, October 8, 2021, October 25, 2021, December 16, 2021, and December 21, 2021; and
- (f) The description of the Common Stock contained in the Registrant’s Registration Statement on Form 8-A (SEC File No. 001-38599) filed with the Commission on July 20, 2018, pursuant to Section 12(b) of the Exchange Act, including any amendments or reports filed for the purpose of updating such description.

All documents subsequently filed by the Registrant pursuant to Sections 13(a), 13(c), 14 and 15(d) of the Exchange Act, prior to the filing of a post-effective amendment to this Registration Statement that indicates that all securities offered have been sold or which deregisters all securities then remaining unsold, shall be deemed to be incorporated herein by reference from the date of filing of such documents; provided, however, that any reports or portions thereof that are furnished, including under Item 2.02 or Item 7.01 of a Current Report on Form 8-K and any exhibits included with such items, shall not be deemed incorporated by reference in this Registration Statement. Any statement contained herein or in a document incorporated by reference in this Registration Statement shall be deemed to be modified or superseded for all purposes to the extent that a statement contained in this Registration Statement or in any other subsequently filed document which is incorporated by reference herein modifies or replaces such statement. Any such statement so modified or superseded shall not be deemed, except as so modified or amended, to constitute a part of this Registration Statement.

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**Item 8. Exhibits.**

| <b>Exhibit Number</b> | <b>Description of Exhibit</b>  |
|-----------------------|--|
| 4.1                   | <a href="#"><u>Aquestive Therapeutics, Inc. 2018 Equity Incentive Plan (filed as Exhibit 10.14 to the Pre-Effective Amendment No. 1, as filed on July 16, 2018, to the Registration Statement on Form S-1 of the Registrant (SEC File No. 333-225924) and incorporated by reference herein).</u></a> |
| 5.1                   | <a href="#"><u>Opinion of Day Pitney LLP, filed herewith.</u></a>  |
| 23.1                  | <a href="#"><u>Consent of KPMG LLP, filed herewith.</u></a>  |
| 23.2                  | <a href="#"><u>Consent of Day Pitney LLP, filed herewith (included in Exhibit 5.1).</u></a>  |
| 24.1                  | <a href="#"><u>Powers of Attorney, filed herewith (included on the signature page of this Registration Statement under the caption “Power of Attorney”).</u></a>   |

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## POWER OF ATTORNEY

KNOW TO ALL PERSONS BY THESE PRESENTS, that each person whose signature appears below constitutes and appoints Keith J. Kendall, A. Ernest Toth, Jr. and Lori J. Braender, and each or any one of them, as such person's true and lawful attorney-in-fact and agent, with full power of substitution and resubstitution, for such person and in such person's name, place and stead, in any and all capacities, to sign any and all amendments (including post-effective amendments) to this Registration Statement and to file the same, with all exhibits thereto, with the Commission, granting unto such attorneys-in-fact and agents, and each of them, full power and authority to do and perform each and every act and thing requisite and necessary in connection with such matters and hereby ratifying and confirming all that each such attorney-in-fact, or his agent or substitutes, may do or cause to be done by virtue hereof.

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:

| <b>Signature</b>  | <b>Title</b>   | <b>Date</b>     |
|---|--|-----------------|
| <u>/s/ Keith J. Kendall</u><br>Keith J. Kendall             | President, Chief Executive Officer and Member of the Board of Directors<br>(Principal Executive Officer) | January 7, 2022 |
| <u>/s/ A. Ernest Toth, Jr.</u><br>A. Ernest Toth, Jr.       | Chief Financial Officer<br>(Principal Financial Officer and Principal Accounting Officer)                | January 7, 2022 |
| <u>/s/ Santo J. Costa</u><br>Santo J. Costa                 | Chairman of the Board of Directors   | January 7, 2022 |
| <u>/s/ Gregory B. Brown, M.D.</u><br>Gregory B. Brown, M.D. | Member of the Board of Directors   | January 7, 2022 |
| <u>/s/ John Cochran</u><br>John Cochran                     | Member of the Board of Directors   | January 7, 2022 |
| <u>/s/ Julie Krop, M.D.</u><br>Julie Krop, M.D.             | Member of the Board of Directors   | January 7, 2022 |
| <u>/s/ Nancy S. Lurker</u><br>Nancy S. Lurker               | Member of the Board of Directors   | January 7, 2022 |
| <u>/s/ James S. Scibetta</u><br>James S. Scibetta           | Member of the Board of Directors   | January 7, 2022 |
| <u>/s/ Marco Taglietti, M.D.</u><br>Marco Taglietti, M.D.   | Member of the Board of Directors   | January 7, 2022 |

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**DAY PITNEY LLP**  
Attorneys at Law  
One Jefferson Road  
Parsippany, NJ 07054

January 7, 2022

Aquestive Therapeutics, Inc.  
30 Technology Drive  
Warren, NJ 07059

We refer to the Registration Statement on Form S-8 (the "Registration Statement") filed by Aquestive Therapeutics, Inc., a Delaware corporation (the "Company"), relating to the registration under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended (the "Act"), of 1,235,399 shares of common stock of the Company, par value \$0.001 per share (the "Shares"), issuable under the Aquestive Therapeutics, Inc. 2018 Equity Incentive Plan (the "Plan").

In connection with our opinion, we have examined originals, or copies certified or otherwise identified to our satisfaction, of the Plan, the Registration Statement, the Amended and Restated Certificate of Incorporation of the Company, and the Amended and Restated Bylaws of the Company, each as currently in effect, relevant resolutions of the Board of Directors of the Company or committees thereof, and such corporate records, documents, agreements, instruments and certificates of public officials of the State of Delaware and of officers of the Company as we have deemed necessary or appropriate in order to express the opinion hereinafter set forth.

In our examination of such documents and records, we have assumed the genuineness of all signatures, the authenticity of all documents submitted to us as originals, the legal capacity of natural persons and the conformity with the originals of all documents submitted to us as copies.

Based upon the foregoing and in reliance thereon, and subject to the assumptions, qualifications, limitations and exceptions set forth herein, we are of the opinion that, when the Registration Statement shall have become effective under the Act and the Shares have been duly issued and delivered in the manner contemplated by the Registration Statement and the Plan, the Shares will be validly issued, fully paid and non-assessable.

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Aquestive Therapeutics, Inc.  
January 7, 2022  
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The foregoing opinion is limited to the General Corporation Law of the State of Delaware. We express no opinion as to the effect of the laws of any other jurisdiction. The opinion set forth herein is made as of the date hereof and is subject to, and may be limited by, future changes in the factual matters set forth herein, and we undertake no duty to advise you of the same. The opinion expressed herein is based upon the law in effect (and published or otherwise generally available) on the date hereof, and we assume no obligation to revise or supplement such opinion should such law be changed by legislative action, judicial action or otherwise.

We hereby consent to the use of this opinion letter as an exhibit to the Registration Statement. In giving such consent, we do not hereby concede that we are within the category of persons whose consent is required under Section 7 of the Act, or the Rules and Regulations of the Securities and Exchange Commission thereunder.

Very truly yours,

/s/ DAY PITNEY LLP

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**Consent of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm**

We consent to the use of our report dated March 9, 2021, with respect to the consolidated financial statements of Aquestive Therapeutics, Inc. incorporated herein by reference.

/s/ KPMG LLP  
New York, New York  
January 7, 2022

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