

TRANSGENOMIC INC
Form S-3
February 06, 2015

As filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on February 5, 2015

Registration No. 333-

UNITED STATES

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, DC 20549

FORM S-3

REGISTRATION STATEMENT UNDER

THE SECURITIES ACT OF 1933

TRANSGENOMIC, INC.

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Delaware

(State or other jurisdiction of incorporation or organization)

91-1789357

(I.R.S. Employer Identification No.)

12325 Emmet Street

Omaha, Nebraska 68164

(402) 452-5400

**(Address, including zip code, and telephone number,
including area code, of registrant's principal executive offices)**

Paul Kinnon

President and Chief Executive Officer

Transgenomic, Inc.

12325 Emmet Street

Omaha, Nebraska 68164

(402) 452-5400

**(Name, address, including zip code, and telephone number,
including area code, of agent for service)**

Copies to:

Jeffrey T. Hartlin, Esq.

Paul Hastings LLP

1117 S. California Avenue

Palo Alto, CA 94304

(650) 320-1804

Approximate date of commencement of proposed sale to the public:

From time to time after of this registration statement becomes effective

If the only securities being registered on this form are being offered pursuant to dividend or interest reinvestment plans, please check the following box. £

If any of the securities being registered on this form are to be offered on a delayed or continuous basis pursuant to Rule 415 under the Securities Act of 1933, other than securities offered only in connection with dividend or interest reinvestment plans, check the following box. T

If this Form is filed to register additional securities for an offering pursuant to Rule 462(b) under the Securities Act, please check the following box and list the Securities Act registration statement number of the earlier effective registration statement for the same offering. £

If this Form is a post-effective amendment filed pursuant to Rule 462(c) under the Securities Act, check the following box and list the Securities Act registration statement number of the earlier effective registration statement for the same offering. £

If this Form is a registration statement pursuant to General Instruction I.D. or a post-effective amendment thereto that shall become effective upon filing with the Commission pursuant to Rule 462(e) under the Securities Act, check the following box. £

If this Form is a post-effective amendment to a registration statement filed pursuant to General Instruction I.D. filed to register additional securities or additional classes of securities pursuant to Rule 413(b) under the Securities Act, check the following box. £

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a large accelerated filer, an accelerated filer, a non-accelerated filer, or a smaller reporting company. See the definitions of "large accelerated filer," "accelerated filer" and "smaller reporting company" in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act.

Large accelerated filer Accelerated filer Non-accelerated filer £

Smaller reporting company
 T

(Do not check if a smaller reporting
company)

CALCULATION OF REGISTRATION FEE

Title of Each Class of Securities to be Registered	Amount to be Registered	Proposed Maximum Offering Price Per Share	Proposed Maximum Aggregate Offering Price	Amount of Registration Fee (3)
Common Stock, par value \$0.01 per share	(1)	(2)	(2)	—
Preferred Stock, par value \$0.01 per share	(1)	(2)	(2)	—
Debt Securities	(1)	(2)	(2)	—
Warrants	(1)	(2)	(2)	—
Units	(1)	(2)	(2)	—
Total:	(1)		\$50,000,000	\$ 5,810

There are being registered hereunder such indeterminate number of shares of common stock and preferred stock, such indeterminate principal amount of debt securities, such indeterminate number of warrants to purchase common stock, preferred stock and/or debt securities and such indeterminate number of units consisting of any combination of common stock, preferred stock, debt securities and/or warrants as may be sold by the Registrant as shall have an aggregate initial offering price not to exceed \$50,000,000. Any securities registered hereunder may be sold separately or in combination with other securities registered hereunder. The proposed maximum offering price of the securities will be determined, from time to time, by the Registrant in connection with the issuance by the Registrant of the securities registered hereunder. If any debt securities are issued at an original issue discount, then the offering price of such debt securities shall be in such greater principal amount as shall result in an (1) aggregate offering price not to exceed \$50,000,000, less the aggregate dollar amount of all securities previously issued hereunder. The securities registered hereunder also include such indeterminate number of shares of common stock and preferred stock and amount of debt securities as may be issued upon conversion of or exchange for preferred stock or debt securities that provide for conversion or exchange, or upon exercise of warrants or units or pursuant to anti-dilution provisions of any such securities. In addition, pursuant to Rule 416 under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, the shares of common stock and preferred stock being registered hereunder include such indeterminate number of shares of common stock and preferred stock as may be issuable with respect to such shares being registered hereunder as a result of stock splits, stock dividends or similar transactions, as applicable.

The proposed maximum aggregate offering price per class of security will be determined from time to time by the Registrant in connection with the issuance by the Registrant of the securities registered hereunder and is not (2) specified as to each class of security pursuant to General Instruction II.D. of Form S-3 under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended.

(3) Calculated pursuant to Rule 457(o) of the rules and regulations of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended.

The Registrant hereby amends this Registration Statement on such date or dates as may be necessary to delay its effective date until the Registrant shall file a further amendment that specifically states that this

Registration Statement shall thereafter become effective in accordance with Section 8(a) of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, or until the Registration Statement shall become effective on such date as the Securities and Exchange Commission, acting pursuant to said Section 8(a), may determine.

The information in this prospectus is not complete and may be changed. These securities may not be sold until the registration statement filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission is effective. This prospectus is not an offer to sell these securities and it is not soliciting an offer to buy these securities in any state where the offer or sale is not permitted.

Subject to Completion, dated February 5, 2015

PROSPECTUS

Transgenomic, Inc.

\$50,000,000

Common Stock

Preferred Stock

Debt Securities

Warrants

Units

We may offer and sell up to \$50,000,000 in the aggregate of any combination of the securities identified above from time to time in one or more offerings, either individually or in combination with other securities. We may also offer common stock or preferred stock upon conversion of debt securities, common stock upon conversion of preferred stock, or common stock, preferred stock or debt securities upon the exercise of warrants.

Each time we offer and sell securities, we will provide a supplement to this prospectus that contains specific information about the offering and the amounts, prices and terms of the securities. We may also authorize one or more free writing prospectuses to be provided to you in connection with these offerings. The prospectus supplement and any related free writing prospectuses may also add, update or change information contained in this prospectus with respect to that offering. You should carefully read this prospectus and the applicable prospectus supplement and any related free writing prospectus, as well as any documents incorporated by reference, before you invest in any of our securities.

We may offer and sell the securities described in this prospectus and any prospectus supplement to or through one or more underwriters, dealers and agents, or directly to purchasers, or through a combination of these methods. If any underwriters, dealers or agents are involved in the sale of any of the securities, their names and any applicable purchase price, fee, commission or discount arrangement between or among them will be set forth, or will be calculable from the information set forth, in the applicable prospectus supplement. See the sections of this prospectus entitled "About this Prospectus" and "Plan of Distribution" for more information. No securities may be sold without delivery of this prospectus and the applicable prospectus supplement describing the method and terms of the offering of such securities.

Investing in our securities involves a high degree of risk. You should review carefully the risks and uncertainties described under the heading "Risk Factors" on page 1 of this prospectus, any applicable prospectus supplement and in any applicable free writing prospectuses, and under similar headings in the documents that are incorporated by reference into this prospectus.

Our common stock is currently listed on the NASDAQ Capital Market under the symbol "TBIO". On February 3, 2015, the last reported sales price for our common stock was \$3.32 per share. The applicable prospectus supplement will contain information, where applicable, as to any other listing on the NASDAQ Capital Market or any securities market or other exchange of the securities, if any, covered by the applicable prospectus supplement.

Neither the Securities and Exchange Commission nor any state securities commission has approved or disapproved of these securities or determined if this prospectus is truthful or complete. Any representation to the contrary is a criminal offense.

The date of this prospectus is _____, 2015.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

	Page
<u>Summary</u>	1
<u>Risk Factors</u>	1
<u>Disclosure Regarding Forward-Looking Statements</u>	2
<u>Use of Proceeds</u>	3
<u>Ratio of Earnings to Fixed Charges and Preferred Share Dividends</u>	3
<u>Description of Capital Stock</u>	4
<u>Description of Debt Securities</u>	8
<u>Description of Warrants</u>	16
<u>Description of Units</u>	18
<u>Legal Ownership of Securities</u>	19
<u>Plan of Distribution</u>	22
<u>Legal Matters</u>	24
<u>Experts</u>	24
<u>Where You Can Find More Information</u>	24
<u>Important Information Incorporated by Reference</u>	25

ABOUT THIS PROSPECTUS

This prospectus is part of a registration statement on Form S-3 that we filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission, or the SEC, utilizing a “shelf” registration process. Under this shelf registration process, we may offer and sell shares of our common stock and preferred stock, various series of debt securities, warrants to purchase any of such securities and/or units consisting of any combination of such securities, either individually or in combination with other securities, in one or more offerings, up to a total dollar amount of \$50,000,000. This prospectus provides you with a general description of the securities we may offer.

Each time we offer securities under this prospectus, we will provide a prospectus supplement that will contain more specific information about the terms of that offering. We may also authorize one or more free writing prospectuses to be provided to you that may contain material information relating to these offerings. The prospectus supplement and any related free writing prospectus we have authorized for use in connection with a specific offering may also add, update or change any of the information contained in this prospectus or in the documents that we have incorporated by reference into this prospectus. We urge you to read carefully this prospectus, any applicable prospectus supplement and any free writing prospectuses we have authorized for use in connection with a specific offering, together with the information incorporated herein by reference as described under the section entitled “Important Information Incorporated by Reference”, before buying any of the securities being offered.

This prospectus may not be used to consummate a sale of securities unless it is accompanied by a prospectus supplement.

You should rely only on the information contained in, or incorporated by reference into, this prospectus and any applicable prospectus supplement, along with the information contained in any free writing prospectuses we have authorized for use in connection with a specific offering. We have not authorized anyone to provide you with different or additional information. This prospectus is an offer to sell only the securities offered hereby, but only under circumstances and in jurisdictions where it is lawful to do so.

The information appearing in this prospectus, any applicable prospectus supplement or any related free writing prospectus is accurate only as of the date on the front of the document and any information we have incorporated by reference is accurate only as of the date of the document incorporated by reference, regardless of the time of delivery of this prospectus, any applicable prospectus supplement or any related free writing prospectus, or any sale of a security. Our business, financial condition, results of operations and prospects may have changed since those dates.

This prospectus contains summaries of certain provisions contained in some of the documents described herein, but reference is made to the actual documents for complete information. All of the summaries are qualified in their entirety by the actual documents. Copies of some of the documents referred to herein have been filed, will be filed or will be incorporated by reference as exhibits to the registration statement of which this prospectus is a part, and you may obtain copies of those documents as described below under the heading "Where You Can Find More Information".

SUMMARY

This summary highlights selected information contained elsewhere in this prospectus or incorporated by reference in this prospectus, and does not contain all of the information that you need to consider in making your investment decision. You should carefully read the entire prospectus, any applicable prospectus supplement and any related free writing prospectus, including the risks of investing in our securities discussed under the heading “Risk Factors” contained in any applicable prospectus supplement and any related free writing prospectus, and under similar headings in the other documents that are incorporated by reference into this prospectus. You should also carefully read the information incorporated by reference into this prospectus, including our financial statements, and the exhibits to the registration statement of which this prospectus is a part. Unless otherwise mentioned or unless the context requires otherwise, all references in this prospectus to “Transgenomic”, “the Company”, “we”, “us”, “our” or similar references mean Transgenomic, Inc. together with its consolidated subsidiary.

Transgenomic, Inc.

We are a global biotechnology company advancing personalized medicine in the detection and treatment of cancer and inherited diseases through our proprietary molecular technologies and clinical and research services. We have two complementary business segments:

Laboratory Services. Our laboratories specialize in genetic testing for cardiology, neurology, mitochondrial disorders and oncology. Our Patient Testing laboratories located in New Haven, Connecticut and Omaha, Nebraska are certified under the Clinical Laboratory Improvement Amendment as high complexity labs and our Omaha facility is also accredited by the College of American Pathologists. Our Biomarker Identification laboratory located in Omaha, Nebraska also provides pharmacogenomics research services supporting Phase II and Phase III clinical trials conducted by pharmaceutical companies. Our laboratories employ a variety of genomic testing service technologies, including ICE COLD-PCR technology. ICE COLD-PCR is a proprietary platform technology that can be run in any laboratory with standard PCR technology and that enables detection of multiple unknown mutations from virtually any sample type, including tissue biopsies, blood, cell-free DNA and circulating tumor cells at levels greater than 1,000-fold higher than standard DNA sequencing techniques.

Genetic Assays and Platforms. Our proprietary product is the WAVE® System, which has broad applicability to genetic variation detection in both molecular genetic research and molecular diagnostics. We also distribute bioinstruments produced by other manufacturers, or OEM Equipment, through our sales and distribution network. Service contracts to maintain installed systems are sold and supported by our technical support personnel. The installed WAVE base and some OEM Equipment platforms generate a demand for consumables that are required for the continued operation of the bioinstruments. We develop, manufacture and sell these consumable products. In addition, we manufacture and sell consumable products that can be used on multiple, independent platforms. These products include a range of chromatography columns.

For a complete description of our business, financial condition, results of operations and other important information, we refer you to our filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission, or the SEC, that are incorporated by reference in this prospectus, including our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2013. For instructions on how to find copies of these documents, see “Where You Can Find More Information”.

We were incorporated in Delaware on March 6, 1997. Our principal office is located at 12325 Emmet Street, Omaha, Nebraska 68164 and our telephone number is 402-452-5400. Our website address is www.transgenomic.com. Information on our website, or that can be accessed through our website, is not incorporated by reference into this prospectus and does not constitute part of this prospectus.

RISK FACTORS

Investing in any securities offered pursuant to this prospectus and the applicable prospectus supplement involves a high degree of risk. Before making an investment decision, you should carefully consider the risks described under “Risk Factors” in any applicable prospectus supplement and in our most recent Annual Report on Form 10-K, or any updates in our Quarterly Reports on Form 10-Q, together with all of the other information appearing in or incorporated by reference into this prospectus and any applicable prospectus supplement, before deciding whether to purchase any of the securities being offered. Our business, financial condition or results of operations could be materially adversely affected by any of these risks. The occurrence of any of these risks might cause you to lose all or part of your investment in the offered securities.

DISCLOSURE REGARDING FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS

This prospectus and the documents incorporated by reference into this prospectus may contain forward-looking statements within the meaning of Section 27A of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, or the Securities Act, and Section 21E of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, or the Exchange Act, about the Company and its subsidiaries. These forward-looking statements are intended to be covered by the safe harbor for forward-looking statements provided by the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. Forward-looking statements are not statements of historical fact, and can be identified by the use of forward-looking terminology such as “believes”, “expects”, “may”, “will”, “could”, “should”, “projects”, “plans”, “goal”, “targets”, “potential”, “estimates”, “pro forma”, “seek”, “anticipates” or the negative thereof or comparable terminology. Forward-looking statements include discussions of strategy, financial projections, guidance and estimates (including their underlying assumptions), statements regarding plans, objectives, expectations or consequences of various transactions, and statements about the future performance, operations, products and services of the Company and its subsidiaries. We caution our stockholders and other readers not to place undue reliance on such statements.

You should read this prospectus and the documents incorporated by reference completely and with the understanding that our actual future results may be materially different from what we currently expect. Our business and operations are and will be subject to a variety of risks, uncertainties and other factors. Consequently, actual results and experience may materially differ from those contained in any forward-looking statements. Such risks, uncertainties and other factors that could cause actual results and experience to differ from those projected include, but are not limited to, the risk factors set forth in Part I - Item 1A, “Risk Factors”, in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2013, as filed with the SEC on March 27, 2014, and elsewhere in the documents incorporated by reference into this prospectus.

You should assume that the information appearing in this prospectus, any accompanying prospectus supplement, any related free writing prospectus and any document incorporated herein by reference is accurate as of its date only. Because the risk factors referred to above could cause actual results or outcomes to differ materially from those expressed in any forward-looking statements made by us or on our behalf, you should not place undue reliance on any forward-looking statements. Further, any forward-looking statement speaks only as of the date on which it is made. New factors emerge from time to time, and it is not possible for us to predict which factors will arise. In addition, we cannot assess the impact of each factor on our business or the extent to which any factor, or combination of factors, may cause actual results to differ materially from those contained in any forward-looking statements. All written or oral forward-looking statements attributable to us or any person acting on our behalf made after the date of this prospectus are expressly qualified in their entirety by the risk factors and cautionary statements contained in and incorporated by reference into this prospectus. Unless legally required, we do not undertake any obligation to release publicly any revisions to such forward-looking statements to reflect events or circumstances after the date of this prospectus or to reflect the occurrence of unanticipated events.

USE OF PROCEEDS

Except as described in any applicable prospectus supplement or in any free writing prospectuses we have authorized for use in connection with a specific offering, we currently intend to use the net proceeds from this offering, if any, for working capital and general corporate purposes, which may include, without limitation, supporting asset growth and engaging in acquisitions or other business combinations. We also may use a portion of the proceeds to repay debt.

The amounts and timing of our use of the net proceeds from this offering will depend on a number of factors, such as the timing and progress of our research and development efforts, the timing and progress of any partnering and commercialization efforts, technological advances and the competitive environment for our products. As of the date of this prospectus, we cannot specify with certainty all of the particular uses for the net proceeds to us from this offering. Accordingly, our management will have broad discretion in the timing and application of these proceeds. Pending application of the net proceeds as described above, we intend to temporarily invest the proceeds in short-term, interest-bearing instruments.

RATIO OF EARNINGS TO FIXED CHARGES AND PREFERRED SHARE DIVIDENDS

The following table sets forth the historical ratios of earnings to fixed charges and preferred share dividends for Transgenomic and its subsidiary for the periods indicated.

	Year Ended December 31,					Nine Months Ended
	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	September 30, 2014
Ratio of earnings (loss) to fixed charges(1)	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ratio of earnings (loss) to combined fixed charges and preferred share dividends(2)	-	-	-	-	-	-

(1) We did not record earnings for any of the years ended December 31, 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012 or 2013 or the nine months ended September 30, 2014. Accordingly, our earnings were insufficient to cover fixed charges for such periods and we are unable to disclose a ratio of earnings to fixed charges for such periods. The dollar amount of the deficiency in earnings available for fixed charges for the years ended December 31, 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012 and 2013 and the nine months ended September 30, 2014 was approximately \$1.878 million, \$2.984 million, \$9.737 million, \$8.181 million, \$16.041 million and \$7.678 million.

(2) We did not record earnings for any of the years ended December 31, 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012 or 2013 or the nine months ended September 30, 2014. Accordingly, our earnings were insufficient to cover combined fixed charges and preference dividends for such periods and we are unable to disclose a ratio of earnings to combined fixed charges and preference dividends for such periods. The dollar amount of the deficiency in earnings available for combined fixed charges and preference dividends for the years ended December 31, 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012 and 2013 and the nine months ended September 30, 2014 was approximately \$1.878 million, \$2.984 million, \$10.747 million, \$8.841 million, \$16.767 million and \$8.517 million.

DESCRIPTION OF CAPITAL STOCK

General Matters

Under our Third Amended and Restated Certificate of Incorporation, as amended from time to time, or the Certificate of Incorporation, we are authorized to issue up to 150,000,000 shares of common stock, \$0.01 par value per share, or the Common Stock, from time to time, as provided in a resolution or resolutions adopted by our Board of Directors.

Common Stock

As of January 31, 2015, 8,283,179 shares of Common Stock were issued and outstanding, held by approximately 82 stockholders of record, not including beneficial holders whose shares are held in names other than their own.

Dividends, Voting Rights and Liquidation

Holders of Common Stock are entitled to one vote for each share held of record on all matters submitted to a vote of the stockholders and do not have cumulative voting rights. Holders of Common Stock are entitled to receive ratably such dividends, if any, as may be declared from time to time by our Board of Directors out of funds legally available for dividend payments. All outstanding shares of Common Stock are fully paid and non-assessable. The holders of Common Stock have no preferences or rights of conversion, exchange, pre-emption or other subscription rights. There are no redemption or sinking fund provisions applicable to the Common Stock. In the event of any liquidation, dissolution or winding-up of our affairs, holders of Common Stock will be entitled to share ratably in our assets that are remaining after payment or provision for payment of all of our debts and obligations. The rights, preferences and privileges of the Common Stock are subject to, and may be adversely affected by, the rights of the holders of shares of any series of preferred stock currently outstanding or which we may designate and issue in the future.

Preferred Stock

General Matters

Under the Certificate of Incorporation, we have the authority to issue up to 15,000,000 shares of preferred stock, \$0.01 par value per share, or the Preferred Stock, issuable in specified series and having specified voting, dividend, conversion, liquidation and other rights and preferences as our Board of Directors may determine, subject to limitations set forth in the Certificate of Incorporation. The Preferred Stock may be issued for any lawful corporate purpose without further action by our stockholders. The issuance of any Preferred Stock having conversion rights might have the effect of diluting the interests of our other stockholders. In addition, shares of Preferred Stock could be issued with rights, privileges and preferences which would deter a tender or exchange offer or discourage the acquisition of control of the Company.

Of the number of shares of Preferred Stock authorized by our Certificate of Incorporation, as of January 31, 2015 (i) 3,879,307 shares had been designated Series A Convertible Preferred Stock with such rights, privileges and preferences as set forth in the Certificate of Amendment of Certificate of Designation of Series A Convertible Preferred Stock filed with the Secretary of State of the State of Delaware on March 5, 2014, or the Series A Certificate of Designation, and (ii) 1,443,297 shares had been designated Series B Convertible Preferred Stock with such rights, privileges and preferences as set forth in the Certificate of Designation of Series B Convertible Preferred Stock filed with the Secretary of State of the State of Delaware on March 5, 2014, or the Series B Certificate of Designation. As of January 31, 2015, 2,586,205 shares of the Series A Convertible Preferred Stock, or the Series A Preferred, were issued and outstanding, and 1,443,297 shares of the Series B Convertible Preferred Stock, or the Series B Preferred, were issued and outstanding. The Series A Preferred and the Series B Preferred are sometimes referred to in this prospectus, together, as the Preferred Shares.

Dividends, Voting Rights and Liquidation

Each of the Series A Certificate of Designation and the Series B Certificate of Designation provides that the holders of Preferred Shares shall be entitled, as a separate voting group, at each annual or special election of directors, to elect two directors of the Company.

Certain rights of the holders of the Series B Preferred are senior to the rights of the holders of the Series A Preferred and to the rights of the holders of our Common Stock. The Series B Preferred has a liquidation preference equal to its original price per share, plus any accrued and unpaid dividends thereon. The Series B Preferred accrues cumulative dividends at the rate of 6.0% of the original price per share per annum. Additionally, the Series B Certificate of Designation also contains an optional redemption provision whereby the holders of a majority of the then issued and outstanding Series B Preferred, voting together as a separate class, may, after March 5, 2019, the fifth anniversary of the closing of the private placement in which the shares of Series B Preferred were issued, require the Company to redeem all of the then issued and outstanding shares of Series B Preferred at the initial price per share of the Series B Preferred, as adjusted for any stock dividends, combinations or splits, plus all accrued but unpaid dividends.

Certain rights of the holders of the Series A Preferred are senior to the rights of the holders of our Common Stock. Subject to the liquidation preference of the Series B Preferred, the Series A Preferred has a liquidation preference equal to its original price per share, plus any accrued and unpaid dividends thereon. After the payment of dividends to the holders of Series B Preferred, the Series A Preferred accrues cumulative dividends at the rate of 10.0% of the original price per share per annum.

All outstanding shares of Series B Preferred will be automatically converted into Common Stock, at an initial conversion rate of 1:1, and all outstanding shares of Series A Preferred will be automatically converted into Common Stock, at an initial conversion rate of 4:1, at the election of the holders of a majority of the then-outstanding Preferred Shares, voting together as a single class on an as-converted to Common Stock basis. The initial conversion rate for each of the Series A Preferred and the Series B Preferred is subject to adjustment in the event of certain stock splits, stock dividends, mergers, reorganizations and reclassifications. After giving effect to the 1-for-12 reverse split of the Common Stock effected in January 2014, the conversion rate for the Series A Preferred was adjusted to 1:3.

Generally, the holders of the Preferred Shares are entitled to vote together as a single group with the holders of Common Stock on an as-converted to Common Stock basis. However, each of the Series A Certificate of Designation and the Series B Certificate of Designation provides that we will not perform the following activities, subject to certain exceptions, without the affirmative vote of the holders of at least two-thirds of the outstanding Preferred Shares, voting together as a single class on an as-converted to Common Stock basis:

authorize, create or issue any other class or series of capital stock having rights, preferences or privileges senior to or in parity with the Preferred Shares;

alter or change the rights, preferences or privileges of the Preferred Shares or increase or decrease the authorized number of Preferred Shares, Series A Preferred or Series B Preferred;

authorize or declare any dividends on the shares of Common Stock or any other shares of capital stock other than the Preferred Shares, other than dividends payable solely in shares of Common Stock;

authorize any offering of equity securities of the Company representing (on a pro forma basis after giving effect to the issuance of such equity securities) the right to receive not less than 10% of any amounts or funds that would, as of immediately following such issuance, be legally available for distribution in connection with a liquidation event;

redeem any shares of capital stock (other than pursuant to employee agreements or the terms of the capital stock);

increase or decrease the authorized number of members of the Board of Directors;

Edgar Filing: TRANSGENOMIC INC - Form S-3

enter into any binding agreement with any director, employee or any affiliate of the Company, excluding employment-related and equity award agreements;

materially change the nature of the Company's business, enter into new lines of business or exit the current line of business or invest in any person or entity engaged in a business that is not substantially similar to the Company's business, or change the location of any permanent location of any part of the Company's business;

make any loans or advances, individually or in the aggregate in excess of \$1,000,000, to, or own any securities of, any subsidiary or other corporation or other entity unless it is wholly owned by the Company;

make any loan or advance to any natural person, including, without limitation, any employee or director of the Company, except advances and similar expenditures in the ordinary course of business;

guarantee, directly or indirectly, any indebtedness, except for trade accounts of the Company arising in the ordinary course of business;

sell or otherwise dispose of any assets of the Company with a value, individually or collectively, in excess of \$500,000, other than in the ordinary course of business;

liquidate, dissolve or wind-up the business and affairs of the Company or effect a change in control or any other liquidation event;

incur any indebtedness in excess of \$1,000,000 in the aggregate, other than trade credit incurred in the ordinary course of business;

expend funds in excess of \$500,000 in the aggregate per year for capital improvements, other than any such expenditure that is consistent with a budget approved by the Board of Directors, including the directors elected by the holders of Preferred Shares;

obligate the Company to make aggregate annual payments in excess of \$500,000 or sell, transfer, pledge or license any material technology or intellectual property of the Company, other than a non-exclusive license in the ordinary course of business; or

increase the number of shares reserved and issuable under any of the Company's equity or option incentive compensation plans.

Anti-Takeover Effects Under Section 203 of the General Corporation Law of the State of Delaware

We are subject to Section 203 of the General Corporation Law of the State of Delaware, or the DGCL, which prohibits a Delaware corporation from engaging in any business combination with any interested stockholder for a period of three years after the date that such stockholder became an interested stockholder, with the following exceptions:

before such date, the board of directors of the corporation approved either the business combination or the transaction that resulted in the stockholder becoming an interested stockholder;

upon completion of the transaction that resulted in the stockholder becoming an interested stockholder, the interested stockholder owned at least 85% of the voting stock of the corporation outstanding at the time the transaction began, excluding for purposes of determining the voting stock outstanding (but not the outstanding voting stock owned by the interested stockholder) those shares owned (i) by persons who are directors and also officers and (ii) employee stock plans in which employee participants do not have the right to determine confidentially whether shares held subject to the plan will be tendered in a tender or an exchange offer; or

on or after such date, the business combination is approved by the board of directors and authorized at an annual or a special meeting of the stockholders, and not by written consent, by the affirmative vote of at least 66²/₃% of the outstanding voting stock that is not owned by the interested stockholder.

In general, Section 203 of the DGCL defines "business combination" to include the following:

any merger or consolidation involving the corporation or any direct or indirect majority owned subsidiary of the corporation and the interested stockholder or any other corporation, partnership, unincorporated association, or other entity if the merger or consolidation is caused by the interested stockholder and as a result of such merger or consolidation the transaction is not excepted as described above;

any sale, transfer, pledge, or other disposition (in one transaction or a series) of 10% or more of the assets of the corporation involving the interested stockholder;

subject to certain exceptions, any transaction that results in the issuance or transfer by the corporation of any stock of the corporation to the interested stockholder;

any transaction involving the corporation that has the effect of increasing the proportionate share of the stock or any class or series of the corporation beneficially owned by the interested stockholder; or

the receipt by the interested stockholder of the benefit of any loss, advances, guarantees, pledges, or other financial benefits by or through the corporation.

In general, Section 203 of the DGCL defines an “interested stockholder” as an entity or a person who, together with the person’s affiliates and associates, beneficially owns, or within three years prior to the time of determination of interested stockholder status did own, 15% or more of the outstanding voting stock of the corporation.

A Delaware corporation may “opt out” of these provisions with an express provision in its original certificate of incorporation or an express provision in its certificate of incorporation or bylaws resulting from a stockholders’ amendment approved by at least a majority of the outstanding voting shares. We have not opted out of these provisions. As a result, mergers or other takeover or change in control attempts of us may be discouraged or prevented.

Anti-Takeover Effects Under Certain Provisions of our Certificate of Incorporation and Bylaws

Our Certificate of Incorporation and our Amended and Restated Bylaws, or the Bylaws, include a number of provisions that may have the effect of deterring hostile takeovers or delaying or preventing changes in control of the management of the Company.

First, our Certificate of Incorporation provides that all stockholder actions must be effected at a duly called meeting of holders and not by a consent in writing.

Second, our Bylaws provide that special meetings of the holders may be called only by the chairman of our Board of Directors, the Chief Executive Officer or our Board of Directors pursuant to a resolution adopted by a majority of the total number of authorized directors.

Third, our Certificate of Incorporation provides that our Board of Directors can issue up to 15,000,000 shares of Preferred Stock without further action by our stockholders, as described under “—Preferred Stock” above.

Fourth, our Certificate of Incorporation and Bylaws provide for a classified Board of Directors in which approximately one-third of the directors are elected each year. Consequently, any potential acquirer would need to successfully complete two proxy contests in order to take control of our Board of Directors. As a result of the provisions of the Certificate of Incorporation and Delaware law, stockholders will not be able to cumulate votes for directors.

Fifth, our Certificate of Incorporation prohibits a business combination with an interested stockholder without the approval of the holders of 75% of all voting shares and the vote of a majority of the voting shares held by disinterested stockholders, unless it has been approved by a majority of the disinterested directors.

Finally, our Bylaws establish procedures, including advance notice procedures, with regard to the nomination of candidates for election as directors and stockholder proposals. These provisions of our Certificate of Incorporation and Bylaws could discourage potential acquisition proposals and could delay or prevent a change in control of the management of our company.

Listing

Our common stock is listed on the NASDAQ Capital Market under the symbol “TBIO”.

Transfer Agent and Registrar

The transfer agent and registrar for our common stock is Wells Fargo Shareowner Services. Its address is 1110 Centre Pointe Curve, Suite 101, Mendota Heights, MN 55120 and its telephone number is 1-855-217-6361.

DESCRIPTION OF DEBT SECURITIES

We may issue debt securities from time to time, in one or more series, as either senior or subordinated debt or as senior or subordinated convertible debt. While the terms we have summarized below will apply generally to any debt securities that we may offer under this prospectus, we will describe the particular terms of any debt securities that we may offer in more detail in the applicable prospectus supplement. The terms of any debt securities offered under a prospectus supplement may differ from the terms described below. Unless the context requires otherwise, whenever we refer to the indenture, we also are referring to any supplemental indentures that specify the terms of a particular series of debt securities.

We will issue the debt securities under the indenture that we will enter into with the trustee named in the indenture. The indenture will be qualified under the Trust Indenture Act of 1939, as amended, or the Trust Indenture Act. We have filed the form of indenture as an exhibit to the registration statement of which this prospectus is a part, and supplemental indentures and forms of debt securities containing the terms of the debt securities being offered will be filed as exhibits to the registration statement of which this prospectus is a part or will be incorporated by reference from reports that we file with the SEC.

The following summary of material provisions of the debt securities and the indenture is subject to, and qualified in its entirety by reference to, all of the provisions of the indenture applicable to a particular series of debt securities. We urge you to read the applicable prospectus supplements and any related free writing prospectuses we authorize for use in connection with a specific offering of debt securities, as well as the complete indenture that contains the terms of the debt securities.

General Matters

The indenture does not limit the amount of debt securities that we may issue. It provides that we may issue debt securities up to the principal amount that we may authorize and in any currency or currency unit that we may designate. Except for the limitations on consolidation, merger and sale of all or substantially all of our assets contained in the indenture, the terms of the indenture do not contain any covenants or other provisions designed to give holders of any debt securities protection against changes in our operations or financial condition or transactions involving us.

We may issue the debt securities issued under the indenture as “discount securities”, which means they may be sold at a discount below their stated principal amount. These debt securities, as well as other debt securities that are not issued at a discount, may be issued with “original issue discount”, or OID, for U.S. federal income tax purposes because of interest payment and other characteristics or terms of the debt securities. Material U.S. federal income tax

considerations applicable to debt securities issued with OID will be described in more detail in any applicable prospectus supplement.

We will describe in the applicable prospectus supplement the terms of the series of debt securities being offered, including:

the title of the series of debt securities;

any limit upon the aggregate principal amount that may be issued;

the maturity date or dates;

the form of the debt securities of the series;

the applicability of any guarantees;

whether or not the debt securities will be secured or unsecured, and the terms of any secured debt;

whether the debt securities rank as senior debt, senior subordinated debt, subordinated debt or any combination thereof, and the terms of any subordination;

if the price (expressed as a percentage of the aggregate principal amount thereof) at which the debt securities will be issued is a price other than the principal amount thereof, the portion of the principal amount thereof payable upon declaration of acceleration of the maturity thereof, or if applicable, the portion of the principal amount of such debt securities that is convertible into another security or the method by which any such portion shall be determined;

the interest rate or rates, which may be fixed or variable, or the method for determining the rate and the date interest will begin to accrue, the dates interest will be payable and the regular record dates for interest payment dates or the method for determining such dates;

our right, if any, to defer payment of interest and the maximum length of any such deferral period;

if applicable, the date or dates after which, or the period or periods during which, and the price or prices at which, we may, at our option, redeem the series of debt securities pursuant to any optional or provisional redemption provisions and the terms of those redemption provisions;

the date or dates, if any, on which, and the price or prices at which we are obligated, pursuant to any mandatory sinking fund or analogous fund provisions or otherwise, to redeem, or at the holder's option to purchase, the series of debt securities and the currency or currency unit in which the debt securities are payable;

the denominations in which we will issue the series of debt securities, if other than denominations of \$1,000 and any integral multiple thereof;

any and all terms, if applicable, relating to any auction or remarketing of the debt securities of that series and any security for our obligations with respect to such debt securities and any other terms which may be advisable in connection with the marketing of debt securities of that series;

whether the debt securities of the series shall be issued in whole or in part in the form of a global security or securities; the terms and conditions, if any, upon which such global security or securities may be exchanged in whole or in part for other individual securities, and the depositary for such global security or securities;

if applicable, the provisions relating to conversion or exchange of any debt securities of the series and the terms and conditions upon which such debt securities will be so convertible or exchangeable, including the conversion or exchange price, as applicable, or how it will be calculated and may be adjusted, any mandatory or optional (at our option or at the holders' option) conversion or exchange features, the applicable conversion or exchange period and the manner of settlement for any conversion or exchange;

if other than the full principal amount thereof, the portion of the principal amount of debt securities of the series which shall be payable upon declaration of a