

NEWLINK GENETICS CORP

Form SC 13G

June 05, 2017

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

Schedule 13G

**Under the
Securities
Exchange Act of
1934**

**(Amendment
No.)***

Newlink
Genetics
Corporation
(Name of Issuer)

Common Stock
(Title of Class of
Securities)

651511107
(CUSIP Number)

May 26, 2017
(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).

Persons who respond to the collection of information contained in this form are not required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB control number.

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**NAMES OF
REPORTING
PERSONS**

Great Point Partners,
LLC

1.

I.R.S.
IDENTIFICATION
NO. OF ABOVE
PERSON
(ENTITIES ONLY):

37-1475292

**CHECK THE
APPROPRIATE**

**2. BOX IF A
MEMBER OF A
GROUP**

(a)
(b)

**3. SEC USE ONLY
CITIZENSHIP OR
PLACE OF
ORGANIZATION**

4.

USA

SOLE VOTING POWER

5.
0

NUMBER OF SHARES

BENEFICIALLY

6. SHARED VOTING POWER

OWNED BY EACH

REPORTING PERSON 1,500,000

WITH

SOLE DISPOSITIVE POWER

7.
0

SHARED DISPOSITIVE POWER

8.
1,500,000

AGGREGATE AMOUNT BENEFICIALLY OWNED BY EACH REPORTING PERSON

9.
1,500,000

10. **CHECK BOX IF THE AGGREGATE AMOUNT IN ROW (9) EXCLUDES CERTAIN SHARES** (See Instructions)

PERCENT OF CLASS REPRESENTED BY AMOUNT IN ROW (9)

11.
5.13%¹

TYPE OF REPORTING PERSON (See Instructions)

12.
IA

¹Based on a total of 29,225,682 shares outstanding, as reported by the Issuer on a Form 10Q filed with the SEC on May 5, 2017.

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**NAMES OF
REPORTING
PERSONS**

Dr. Jeffrey R. Jay,
M.D.

1.

I.R.S.
IDENTIFICATION
NO. OF ABOVE
PERSON
(ENTITIES ONLY):

**CHECK THE
APPROPRIATE**

**2. BOX IF A
MEMBER OF A
GROUP**

(a)
(b)

**3. SEC USE ONLY
CITIZENSHIP OR
PLACE OF**

4. ORGANIZATION

USA

SOLE VOTING POWER

5.
0

NUMBER OF SHARES

SHARED VOTING POWER

BENEFICIALLY

OWNED BY EACH

6.
1,500,000

REPORTING PERSON

WITH

7. SOLE DISPOSITIVE POWER

0

SHARED DISPOSITIVE POWER

8.
1,500,000

AGGREGATE AMOUNT BENEFICIALLY OWNED BY EACH REPORTING PERSON

9.
1,500,000

10. CHECK BOX IF THE AGGREGATE AMOUNT IN ROW (9) EXCLUDES CERTAIN SHARES (See Instructions)

PERCENT OF CLASS REPRESENTED BY AMOUNT IN ROW (9)

11.
5.13%¹

TYPE OF REPORTING PERSON (See Instructions)

12.

IN

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**NAMES OF
REPORTING
PERSONS**

Mr. David Kroin

1.

I.R.S.
IDENTIFICATION
NO. OF ABOVE
PERSON
(ENTITIES ONLY):

**CHECK THE
APPROPRIATE**

**2. BOX IF A
MEMBER OF A
GROUP**

(a)
(b)

**3. SEC USE ONLY
CITIZENSHIP OR
PLACE OF
ORGANIZATION**

4.

USA

SOLE VOTING POWER

5.
0

**NUMBER OF SHARES SHARED VOTING POWER
BENEFICIALLY**

OWNED BY EACH 6.
1,500,000

**REPORTING PERSON 7. SOLE DISPOSITIVE POWER
WITH**

0

SHARED DISPOSITIVE POWER

8.
1,500,000

AGGREGATE AMOUNT BENEFICIALLY OWNED BY EACH REPORTING PERSON

9.
1,500,000

10. CHECK BOX IF THE AGGREGATE AMOUNT IN ROW (9) EXCLUDES CERTAIN SHARES (See Instructions)

PERCENT OF CLASS REPRESENTED BY AMOUNT IN ROW (9)

11.
5.13%¹

TYPE OF REPORTING PERSON (See Instructions)

12.
IN

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Item 1.

Name of Issuer

(a)

Newlink Genetics Corporation

Address of Issuer's Principal Executive Offices

(b)

2503 South Loop Drive, Ames, Iowa 50010

Item 2.

Name of Person Filing

(a) Great Point Partners, LLC

Dr. Jeffrey R. Jay, M.D.

Mr. David Kroin

The Reporting Persons have entered into a Joint Filing Agreement, dated June 5, 2017, a copy of which is filed with this Schedule 13G as Exhibit A, pursuant to which the Reporting Persons have agreed to file this statement jointly in accordance with the provisions of Rule 13d-1(k)(1) under the Act.

Address of Principal Business Office, or if none, Residence

The address of the principal business office of each of the Reporting Persons is

(b)

165 Mason Street, 3rd Floor
Greenwich, CT 06830

Citizenship

(c)

Great Point Partners, LLC is a limited liability company organized under the laws of the State of Delaware. Dr. Jeffrey R. Jay, M.D. is a citizen of the United States. Mr. David Kroin is a citizen of the United States.

Title of Class of Securities

(d)
Common Stock

CUSIP Number

(e)
651511107

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:

Not Applicable.

(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).

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- (f) o An employee benefit plan or endowment fund in accordance with §240.13d-1(b)(1)(ii)(F).
- (g) o A parent holding company or control person in accordance with §240.13d-1(b)(1)(ii)(G).
- (h) o A savings associations as defined in Section 3(b) of the Federal Deposit Insurance Act (12 U.S.C. 1813).
- (i) o 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) o Group, in accordance with §240.13d-1(b)(1)(ii)(J).

Item 4. Ownership

Biomedical Value Fund, L.P. (“BVF”) is the record owner of 414,000 shares (the “BVF Shares”). Great Point Partners, LLC (“Great Point”) is the investment manager of BVF, and by virtue of such status may be deemed to be the beneficial owner of the BVF Shares. Each of Dr. Jeffrey R. Jay, M.D. (“Dr. Jay”), as senior managing member of Great Point, and Mr. David Kroin (“Mr. Kroin”), as special managing member of Great Point, has voting and investment power with respect to the BVF Shares, and therefore may be deemed to be the beneficial owner of the BVF Shares.

Biomedical Offshore Value Fund, Ltd. (“BOVF”) is the record owner of 636,000 shares (the “BOVF Shares”). Great Point is the investment manager of BOVF, and by virtue of such status may be deemed to be the beneficial owner of the BOVF Shares. Each of Dr. Jay, as senior managing member of Great Point, and Mr. Kroin, as special managing member of Great Point, has voting and investment power with respect to the BOVF Shares, and therefore may be deemed to be the beneficial owner of the BOVF Shares.

GEF-SMA, L.P. (“GEF-SMA”) is the record owner of 450,000 shares (the “GEF-SMA Shares”). Great Point is the investment manager with respect to the GEF-SMA Shares, and by virtue of such status may be deemed to be the beneficial owner of the GEF-SMA Shares. Each of Dr. Jay, as senior managing member of Great Point, and Mr. Kroin, as special managing member of Great Point, has voting and investment power with respect to the GEF-SMA Shares, and therefore may be deemed to be the beneficial owner of the GEF-SMA Shares.

Notwithstanding the above, Great Point, Dr. Jay and Mr. Kroin disclaim beneficial ownership of the BVF Shares, the BOVF Shares and the GEF-SMA Shares, except to the extent of their respective pecuniary interests.

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

1. Great Point Partners, LLC

- (a) Amount beneficially owned: 1,500,000
- (b) Percent of class: 5.13%¹

(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: 1,500,000

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(iii) Sole power to dispose or to direct the disposition of: 0

(iv) Shared power to dispose or to direct the disposition of: 1,500,000

2. Dr. Jeffrey R. Jay, M.D.

(a) Amount beneficially owned: 1,500,000

(b) Percent of class: 5.13%¹

(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: 1,500,000

(iii) Sole power to dispose or to direct the disposition of: 0

(iv) Shared power to dispose or to direct the disposition of: 1,500,000

3. Mr. David Kroin

(a) Amount beneficially owned: 1,500,000

(b) Percent of class: 5.13%¹

(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: 1,500,000

(iii) Sole power to dispose or to direct the disposition of: 0

(iv) Shared power to dispose or to direct the disposition of: 1,500,000

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 each of the Reporting Persons has ceased to be the beneficial owner of more than five percent of the class of securities, check the following o.

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

See Item 4.

Item 7. Identification and Classification of the Subsidiary Which Acquired the Security Being Reported on by the Parent Holding Company

Not Applicable.

Item 8. Identification and Classification of Members of the Group

Not Applicable.

Item 9. Notice of Dissolution of Group

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Not Applicable.

Item 10. Certification

By signing below I certify that, to the best of my knowledge and belief, the securities referred to above 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 participant in any transaction having that purpose or effect.

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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.

Date: June 5, 2017

GREAT POINT PARTNERS,
LLC

By: /s/ Dr. Jeffrey R. Jay, M.D.
Dr. Jeffrey R. Jay, M.D.,
as senior managing member

/s/ Dr. Jeffrey R. Jay, M.D.
DR. JEFFREY R. JAY, M.D.

/s/ Mr. David Kroin
MR. DAVID KROIN

Exhibit A

AGREEMENT REGARDING THE JOINT FILING OF SCHEDULE 13G

The undersigned hereby agree as follows:

(i) Each of them is individually eligible to use the Schedule 13G to which this Exhibit is attached, and such Schedule 13G is filed on behalf of each of them; and

(ii) Each of them is responsible for the timely filing of such Schedule 13G and any amendments thereto, and for the completeness and accuracy of the information concerning such person contained therein; but none of them is responsible for the completeness or accuracy of the information concerning the other persons making the filing, unless such person knows or has reason to believe that such information is inaccurate.

Date: June 5, 2017

GREAT POINT PARTNERS,
LLC

By: /s/ Dr. Jeffrey R. Jay, M.D.
Dr. Jeffrey R. Jay, M.D.,
as senior managing member

/s/ Dr. Jeffrey R. Jay, M.D.
DR. JEFFREY R. JAY, M.D.

/s/ Mr. David Kroin
MR. DAVID KROIN