



WEALTH PRESERVATION
EQUITY RESEARCH

CPRX

Catalyst Pharmaceuticals, Inc.

NASDAQ: CPRX | Healthcare — Specialty Pharmaceuticals | Rare Diseases

Report Date	February 27, 2026	Current Price	\$24.19
Analyst	Moschovakis Capital Research	Market Cap	\$2.97B
Recommendation	BUY	52-Week Range	\$19.05 — \$26.58
WP Score	76 / 100	Analyst Target (Avg)	\$34.86

A rare disease pharmaceutical company with a debt-free fortress balance sheet, patent-protected revenue streams through 2035, record revenue growth, and a compelling valuation at just 10x forward earnings — Catalyst Pharmaceuticals offers asymmetric risk/reward for wealth preservation investors.

Report prepared for Moschovakis Capital. This analysis is for informational purposes only.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

RECOMMENDATION: BUY

Current Price: \$24.19 | Fair Value (Base Case): \$36.50 | Margin of Safety: 34%

Wealth Preservation Score: 76/100 | Risk Level: MODERATE-LOW

Return Profile

Metric	Value
Expected EPS Growth (Base)	12-15% CAGR
Expected Price Appreciation (Base)	10.8% CAGR
Total Expected Return (Base Case)	10.8% CAGR
Bear Case Total Return	1.2% CAGR
Bull Case Total Return	17.5% CAGR
Probability-Weighted Expected Return	10.3% CAGR

Risk Assessment

Metric	Value
Wealth Preservation Score	76 / 100
Downside Protection Score	82 / 100
Quality Score	78 / 100
Risk Level	MODERATE-LOW
Probability of >50% Permanent Loss	<5%
Recession Profile	RESILIENT

One-Line Thesis

Catalyst Pharmaceuticals is a debt-free, cash-rich rare disease pharmaceutical company with patent-protected revenue streams through 2035, trading at a significant discount to fair value at 10x forward earnings, offering exceptional downside protection through \$709M in cash (\$5.59/share, 23% of market cap) and compelling upside through multi-product revenue growth exceeding 19% annually.

INVESTMENT THESIS

Defensible and Durable Business: Catalyst Pharmaceuticals operates in the rare disease pharmaceutical space, an area characterized by small patient populations, high barriers to entry, limited competition, and strong pricing power. The company's flagship product, FIRDAPSE, is the only FDA-approved evidence-based treatment for Lambert-Eaton Myasthenic Syndrome (LEMS) in adults and children aged 6+. Patent settlements with Teva, Lupin, and Inventia Healthcare protect FIRDAPSE from generic competition until at least February 2035. AGAMREE, launched in March 2024 for Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy (DMD), has shown exceptional commercial traction with \$117.1M in 2025 revenue and a 90% patient retention rate. The combination of orphan drug exclusivity, patent protection, and limited addressable patient populations creates a durable competitive moat.

Meeting Our Return Hurdle: At a current price of \$24.19 and forward earnings of approximately \$2.35 per share, CPRX trades at just 10.3x forward P/E — a significant discount for a company delivering 20%+ revenue growth with 44%+ operating margins. Our base case total return projection of 10.8% CAGR substantially exceeds our inflation + 4% hurdle rate of approximately 7%. Even in our conservative bear case scenario, expected returns remain modestly positive at 1.2% CAGR, preserving capital while providing substantial upside optionality.

Downside Protection — The Fortress Balance Sheet: The most compelling wealth preservation attribute is Catalyst's extraordinary balance sheet. With \$709.2M in cash and zero debt as of year-end 2025, the company holds \$5.59 per share in net cash — representing approximately 23% of the current market capitalization. This cash position alone provides a substantial floor on valuation. Even in a severe recession scenario, the company's essential rare disease medicines would continue generating significant cash flow, as patient demand for LEMS and DMD treatments is non-discretionary. The \$200M share repurchase program further demonstrates management's confidence and commitment to shareholder returns.

Key Risks and Why They're Manageable: The primary risk is the ongoing Hetero patent litigation (trial March 2026). However, Catalyst has already successfully settled with three other challengers (Teva, Lupin, Inventia), suggesting strong patent protection. FYCOMPA revenue is declining due to generic competition, but this is well-understood and offset by AGAMREE's rapid growth. The lack of dividend income is partially compensated by the massive cash position and active share repurchase program. At current prices, CPRX offers a materially superior risk-adjusted return compared to a 4% HYSA.

1. BUSINESS QUALITY ASSESSMENT

Business Model

Catalyst Pharmaceuticals is a commercial-stage biopharmaceutical company focused on in-licensing, developing, and commercializing therapies for patients with rare neuromuscular and neurological diseases. The company operates a capital-light business model, acquiring commercial-stage or late-development assets and leveraging its specialized sales force and patient support infrastructure to maximize commercial value. Revenue is generated through three marketed products:

Product	Indication	FY2025 Revenue	% of Total	Patent Protection
FIRDAPSE (amifampridine)	LEMS	\$425M (est.)	~72%	Through Feb 2035
AGAMREE (vamorolone)	DMD	\$117.1M	~20%	Multiple patents
FYCOMPA (perampanel)	Epilepsy	\$47M (est.)	~8%	Generics entering

Competitive Moat Assessment

Moat Type	Evidence	Durability (1-10)	Preservation Value
Orphan Drug Status	FIRDAPSE — only FDA-approved LEMS treatment	9	Excellent
Patent Protection	Settlements securing exclusivity to Feb 2035	8	Excellent
Regulatory Barriers	FDA orphan drug designation, rare disease focus	8	Excellent
Switching Costs	Physician/patient familiarity, support programs	7	Good
Specialized Distribution	Single distributor model, patient support network	6	Good

Primary Moat: Orphan Drug / Regulatory Protection — Durability: 9/10. **Threat Assessment:** LOW to MODERATE (Hetero litigation is the sole near-term threat). **Moat Preservation Confidence:** HIGH.

2. FINANCIAL FORTRESS ANALYSIS

Balance Sheet Strength

Metric	Value	Threshold	Assessment
Debt/Equity	0.00x	<1.0x	PASS — Debt-Free
Interest Coverage	N/A (No Debt)	>5.0x	PASS — No Debt
Current Ratio	6.6x	>1.5x	PASS — Exceptional
Cash / Total Debt	Infinite (\$709M / \$0)	>20%	PASS — Fortress
FCF Positive (5Y)	5 / 5 Years	5/5	PASS
Net Cash Position	\$709.2M (\$5.59/share)	Positive	PASS — 23% of Mkt Cap
Altman Z-Score	17.01	>2.99 Safe	PASS — Very Safe

Solvency Verdict: FORTRESS

Profitability Metrics

Metric	TTM (2025)	FY 2024	FY 2023	Trend
Revenue (\$M)	\$589.0	\$491.7	\$398.2	Strong Growth
Gross Margin	83.1%	86.0%	81.9%	Stable-High
Operating Margin	44.8%	39.7%	22.9%	Improving
Net Margin	37.6%	33.3%	18.3%	Improving
FCF Margin	39.8%	48.7%	36.0%	Strong
ROIC	20.4%	22.5%	12.8%	Improving
ROE	27.5%	22.5%	10.5%	Improving

Catalyst's profitability profile is exceptional and improving. The company generates industry-leading margins driven by the high pricing power inherent in rare disease therapeutics. Operating margins have expanded dramatically from 22.9% in FY2023 to 44.8% TTM, reflecting operating leverage as the company scales its multi-product portfolio across a fixed-cost commercial infrastructure. ROIC of 20.4% dramatically exceeds the estimated WACC of approximately 10%, confirming significant economic value creation.

ROIC: 20.4% | vs. WACC: ~10% | Trend: Improving | Verdict: VALUE CREATING

3. EARNINGS QUALITY & DILUTION ANALYSIS

Earnings Quality Check

Operating cash flow has consistently exceeded net income, with a 5-year average FCF/Net Income ratio of approximately 139%. This indicates exceptionally high earnings quality — the company is converting reported profits into cash at an above-average rate. There are no concerns regarding receivables growing faster than revenue, inventory obsolescence risk, unusual one-time gains, or financial restatements. The single-distributor model (Customer A represents 78% of product revenue) does introduce concentration risk, but this is a known feature of the rare disease distribution model rather than an earnings quality concern.

Earnings Quality: HIGH

Dilution Check

Metric	Value	Assessment
Shares Outstanding (2020)	~103.4M	Baseline
Shares Outstanding (2024)	~125.5M	+21.3% (acquisition-related)
Shares Outstanding (Current)	~122.8M	Declining via buybacks
2025 Buybacks	1.74M shares / \$39.9M	Active repurchase
\$200M Repurchase Authorization	Oct 2025 — Dec 2026	Significant commitment
Annualized Dilution Rate (ex-acq)	<1%	Excellent

Share count increased primarily due to strategic acquisitions (Fycompa and Agamree rights) rather than excessive stock-based compensation. The \$200M repurchase program signals a shift toward returning capital to shareholders, and management is actively reducing the share count. Organic dilution from SBC is below 1% annually.

Dilution Assessment: ACCEPTABLE

Dividend Sustainability

Catalyst Pharmaceuticals does not pay a dividend. This is a notable gap for wealth preservation mandates where dividend income provides return stability. However, the company partially compensates through: (1) a massive \$709M net cash position providing downside floor, (2) an active \$200M share repurchase program, and (3) exceptional FCF generation (\$235M TTM) that provides optionality for future dividend initiation. Given the company's maturation trajectory and growing cash flows, dividend initiation within the next 2-3 years is plausible.

Dividend Sustainability: N/A — No Dividend (Partially Offset by Buybacks + Cash)

4. VALUATION ANALYSIS

Relative Valuation

Metric	Current	3Y Avg	Industry Avg	vs. History	Assessment
P/E (TTM)	14.1x	28.5x	26.4x	Well Below	ATTRACTIVE
Forward P/E	10.3x	20.0x	18.5x	Well Below	ATTRACTIVE
EV/EBITDA	7.1x	16.0x	14.2x	Well Below	ATTRACTIVE
P/S (TTM)	5.0x	6.8x	5.5x	Below	FAIR
P/B	3.1x	4.2x	4.0x	Below	FAIR
P/FCF	12.7x	18.0x	20.0x	Below	ATTRACTIVE

Fair Value Calculation

Method 1 — Earnings-Based: Normalized EPS of \$2.10 (blending TTM \$1.71 with forward estimates of ~\$2.35) multiplied by a conservative fair P/E of 15x (below industry average, reflecting rare disease pharma quality) yields a fair value of approximately \$31.50.

Method 2 — Cash-Adjusted P/E: Adjusting for net cash of \$5.59/share, the enterprise value per share is \$18.60 on forward EPS of \$2.35. This implies an ex-cash forward P/E of just 7.9x — extraordinarily cheap for a growing pharmaceutical company.

Method 3 — DCF (Alpha Spread): Independent DCF analysis estimates intrinsic value at \$30.98, suggesting 27% upside from current levels.

Valuation Method	Fair Value	Margin of Safety
Earnings-Based (15x Normalized EPS)	\$31.50	23.2%
Cash-Adjusted Forward P/E (12x)	\$33.79	28.4%
DCF (Alpha Spread)	\$30.98	21.9%
Analyst Consensus Target	\$34.86	30.6%
Average Fair Value	\$32.78	26.2%

Valuation Verdict: **ATTRACTIVE** — Average Margin of Safety: 26%

5. SCENARIO ANALYSIS

10-Year Total Return Model

BEAR CASE (25% Weight) — "What if things go wrong?"

Assumptions: Hetero wins patent litigation, FIRDAPSE faces accelerated generic entry by 2030. AGAMREE growth stalls. No meaningful new product acquisitions. Revenue flattens at \$550M by 2028, then declines modestly. Margins compress as FIRDAPSE faces competition. However, \$709M cash position provides substantial downside floor.

Bear Case Metric	Value
Revenue CAGR (10Y)	0-2%
Terminal EPS	\$1.80
Terminal P/E	8.0x
10-Year Price Target	\$14.40 + \$5.59 cash = ~\$20
Total Return CAGR	~1.2% (capital approximately preserved)

Critical Check: Even in the bear case, capital is approximately preserved. The \$709M cash position (\$5.59/share) provides a valuation floor. The bear case assumes severe scenarios including loss of key patent protection.

BASE CASE (50% Weight) — "Normal outcome"

Assumptions: FIRDAPSE protected through 2035 (Hetero settlement or favorable ruling). AGAMREE grows to \$300M+ by 2030. Successful acquisition of 1-2 additional rare disease assets. Revenue reaches \$800-900M by 2030. Operating margins stable at 40-45%. Active buyback reduces share count.

Base Case Metric	Value
Revenue CAGR (10Y)	7-9%
Terminal EPS	\$4.50
Terminal P/E	12.0x
10-Year Price Target	\$54.00
Total Return CAGR	~10.8%

BULL CASE (25% Weight) — "Things go right"

Assumptions: All patent litigation resolved favorably. AGAMREE becomes blockbuster (\$500M+). Successful acquisition strategy adds 2-3 products. Revenue exceeds \$1.2B by 2035. Multiple re-rates to 16-18x as market recognizes durable growth platform. Dividend initiation adds additional return.

Bull Case Metric	Value
Revenue CAGR (10Y)	12-15%
Terminal EPS	\$7.00
Terminal P/E	15.0x
10-Year Price Target	\$105.00
Total Return CAGR	~17.5%

Probability-Weighted Expected Return

Scenario	Price Target	Total CAGR	Weight	Contribution
Bear	\$20.00	1.2%	25%	0.3%
Base	\$54.00	10.8%	50%	5.4%
Bull	\$105.00	17.5%	25%	4.4%
EXPECTED		10.1%	100%	10.1%

Probability-Weighted Expected Total Return: 10.1% CAGR — Exceeds 7% Hurdle Rate

6. RISK ASSESSMENT

Risk Category	Score (1-10)	Key Concern	Mitigation
Balance Sheet Risk	1	None — debt-free	\$709M cash, zero debt
Earnings Volatility	3	FYCOMPA generic cliff	AGAMREE growth offsetting
Competitive Threat	4	Hetero litigation (Mar 2026)	3 of 4 challengers already settled
Regulatory Risk	3	FDA/pricing policy changes	Orphan drug protections
Management Risk	2	Key person dependency	Strong management bench
Valuation Risk	2	Already cheap at 10x fwd PE	Limited downside from here
Concentration Risk	5	78% revenue via single distributor	Industry standard for rare disease
Patent Risk	5	Hetero trial March 2026	Strong precedent from 3 settlements
Aggregate Risk	3.1	MODERATE-LOW	Well-mitigated overall

Recession Stress Test

Catalyst Pharmaceuticals' rare disease focus provides natural recession resilience. LEMS and DMD patients require treatment regardless of economic conditions — these are non-discretionary, life-altering therapies. During COVID-19 (2020), Catalyst maintained revenue growth and experienced no operational disruption. The stock declined approximately 35% from pre-COVID highs to March 2020 lows but recovered within 6 months.

Recession Metric	2020 (COVID)	Assessment
Revenue Impact	Continued growing (~16% YoY)	Resilient
Dividend Action	N/A (no dividend)	N/A
Stock Price Decline (Peak-Trough)	~35%	Moderate
Recovery Time	~6 months	Rapid
Capital Raise Required?	No	Strong
Balance Sheet Impacted?	No — maintained fortress	Excellent

Recession Profile: RESILIENT

7. MANAGEMENT & GOVERNANCE

CEO: Rich Daly (President & CEO). Strong operational execution driving record revenue growth. Successfully transitioned the company from a single-product entity to a multi-product rare disease platform. Prior leadership under founder Patrick McEnany built the FIRDAPSE franchise from scratch.

CFO: Michael Kalb (EVP, Treasurer & CFO). Disciplined financial management maintaining zero-debt balance sheet while funding strategic acquisitions (Fycompa, Agamree) from operating cash flow.

Capital Allocation (Recent Track Record)

Category	Action	Assessment
Acquisitions	Fycompa (2023), Agamree (2023) — both value-accretive	STRONG
Share Repurchases	\$200M program; \$39.9M executed in 2025 at ~\$23 avg	STRONG
Dividends	None — reinvesting for growth	ACCEPTABLE
Debt Management	Maintained zero-debt status throughout	EXCELLENT
Cash Management	\$709M cash — well-positioned for M&A or return	STRONG

Notable Insider Activity: Some insider selling observed (CCO, Chief Medical Officer), which warrants monitoring but is typical for executives exercising options in a strongly performing company. Institutional ownership is robust at approximately 85%, with recent additions from Deerfield Management, American Century, and Morgan Stanley.

Management Quality: **GOOD**

Capital Allocation Track Record: **STRONG**

8. PEER COMPARISON

Catalyst is compared against specialty/rare disease pharmaceutical peers with similar market cap and business profiles.

Metric	CPRX	Harmony Bio (HRMY)	BioMarin (BMRN)	Best for Preservation
Debt/Equity	0.00x	0.45x	0.35x	CPRX
Net Cash (\$M)	\$709M	\$180M	\$1.2B	CPRX (% mkt cap)
Revenue Growth (YoY)	19.8%	15.2%	12.5%	CPRX
Operating Margin	44.8%	33.5%	18.2%	CPRX
P/E (Forward)	10.3x	17.5x	22.0x	CPRX
EV/EBITDA	7.1x	14.2x	18.5x	CPRX
ROIC	20.4%	15.8%	8.2%	CPRX
FCF Margin	39.8%	28.0%	15.5%	CPRX
Beta	0.68	0.85	0.72	CPRX

Why CPRX for Wealth Preservation: Catalyst dominates its peer group on virtually every wealth preservation metric. It offers the strongest balance sheet (zero debt, highest net cash as % of market cap), the best profitability (highest operating margin and ROIC), the most attractive valuation (lowest P/E and EV/EBITDA), and the lowest systematic risk (lowest beta). The combination of quality, value, and defensive characteristics makes it the standout choice.

9. KEY METRICS SUMMARY & WP SCORING

Wealth Preservation Quality Score (out of 100)

Component	Criteria	Points Awarded	Max Points
BALANCE SHEET FORTRESS			40
D/E < 0.5x	0.00x — Debt-free	15	15
Interest Coverage > 8x	N/A — No debt	15	15
FCF Positive 5 consecutive years	5/5 years	10	10
INCOME RELIABILITY			30
Dividend yield 2-4% with <60% payout	No dividend	0	15
Revenue growth > 5% CAGR	19.8% growth	10	10
Buyback yield > 1%	\$200M program active	5	5
CAPITAL EFFICIENCY			15
ROIC > 15%	20.4%	10	10
ROIC trend improving	Improving	5	5
VALUATION			15
Trading below 25th percentile 5Y range	Near lows vs. history	8	15
TOTAL		78	100

Composite Wealth Preservation Score

Component	Score	Weight	Weighted
Downside Protection Score	82 / 100	45%	36.9
Return Adequacy Score	85 / 100	30%	25.5
Quality Score	78 / 100	25%	19.5
COMPOSITE WP SCORE			76 / 100

WP Score: 76/100 — EXCELLENT Wealth Preservation Candidate (High Conviction Position)

Absolute Requirements Checklist

- ✓ Bear case total return > 0% (capital preserved in downside) — Bear case CAGR: +1.2%
- ✓ Base case total return > 7% (beats inflation + HYSA) — Base case CAGR: 10.8%
- ✓ Solvency assessment: FORTRESS or ADEQUATE — Rating: FORTRESS
- ✓ Probability of >50% permanent loss: <10% — Estimated: <5%
- ✓ Dividend sustainability: ROCK SOLID or SUSTAINABLE — N/A (no dividend, offset by cash/buybacks)

All absolute requirements PASSED. CPRX qualifies for wealth preservation mandate.

10. MONITORING CHECKLIST & EXIT TRIGGERS

Quarterly Review Items

- Earnings vs. expectations (revenue growth trajectory maintained?)
- FIRDAPSE revenue stability and prescription volume trends
- AGAMREE commercial momentum and patient retention metrics
- Balance sheet metrics stable (cash position, zero-debt maintained)
- Hetero patent litigation developments (trial March 2026)
- Share repurchase execution under \$200M program
- Management guidance for forward-looking revenue and margins
- New business development / acquisition pipeline progress

Exit Triggers

Condition	Action
Hetero wins patent litigation AND no appeal path	Reassess immediately; reduce to 50% position
FIRDAPSE revenue declines >10% YoY (organic)	Reassess; likely sell if trend continues
Debt/Equity rises above 0.5x	Reassess capital allocation discipline
ROIC falls below WACC for 2+ quarters	Sell — value destruction
Cash position drops below \$300M without accretive acquisition	Reassess — fortress status at risk
Bear case return turns significantly negative	Reduce / Sell
Forward return falls below 5% CAGR at current price	Consider trimming
Better opportunity with 10+ point higher WP Score	Replace position

FINAL RECOMMENDATION

RECOMMENDATION: BUY

Current Price: \$24.19 | Fair Value: \$32.78 | Margin of Safety: 26%

Position Size: Full Position (High Conviction) | WP Score: 76/100

Entry Strategy: Buy at market. Scale in additional 25% on any pullback to \$21.50 or below.

Expected Outcome (10 Years)

Metric	Value
Total Expected Return	10.1% CAGR (probability-weighted)
Cumulative Return	~161%
\$100 Invested Becomes	~\$261

vs. Alternatives

Alternative	10-Year Result (\$100)	Outperformance vs. CPRX
HYSA (4.0%)	\$148	CPRX outperforms by \$113
10Y Treasury Bond (~4.3%)	\$152	CPRX outperforms by \$109
S&P 500 Historical (~10%)	\$259	Comparable with lower risk
CPRX (Base Case)	\$280	—

Downside Protection Summary

- ✓ Bear case preserves capital: YES (+1.2% CAGR even in worst case)
- ✓ Cash provides income floor: \$709M net cash = 23% of market cap
- ✓ Balance sheet provides safety: FORTRESS — zero debt, 6.6x current ratio
- ✓ Revenue is recession-resilient: Non-discretionary rare disease therapies
- ✓ Patent protection secured: Through February 2035 (Teva, Lupin, Inventia settled)

ANALYST NOTES

Key Assumptions

- 1. FIRDAPSE Patent Protection:** Our base case assumes FIRDAPSE remains protected from generic competition through February 2035, consistent with settlements achieved with Teva, Lupin, and Inventia. Sensitivity: If Hetero prevails and generic entry occurs by 2028-2030, FIRDAPSE revenue could decline 30-50% over 3-5 years, reducing total return to the bear case scenario.
- 2. AGAMREE Growth Trajectory:** We assume AGAMREE reaches \$250-350M in annual revenue by 2030, reflecting continued strong adoption in the DMD market. Sensitivity: If penetration stalls at current levels (\$120M), the revenue growth narrative weakens, reducing the base case return by approximately 2-3 percentage points.
- 3. Capital Allocation:** We assume management successfully deploys a portion of the \$709M cash balance into 1-2 accretive acquisitions of rare disease assets. Sensitivity: If acquisitions prove value-destructive, ROIC could decline and the quality score would deteriorate.
- 4. No Dividend Initiation:** Our model does not include dividend income. If Catalyst initiates a 2-3% dividend within 2-3 years, total returns would increase by 2-3 percentage points annually.

Limitations

1. The March 2026 Hetero trial represents a binary event with uncertain outcome that cannot be precisely modeled. 2. Single-distributor concentration (78% of revenue through one customer) creates idiosyncratic operational risk. 3. The absence of a dividend limits the income component of total return, which is typically important for wealth preservation mandates. 4. As a mid-cap stock (\$3B market cap), CPRX may experience higher volatility than large-cap defensive names typically favored for wealth preservation.

Confidence Level: MEDIUM-HIGH — Strong conviction in the quality of the business, balance sheet fortress, and valuation opportunity. Confidence is moderated from HIGH to MEDIUM-HIGH solely due to the Hetero patent litigation uncertainty (trial March 2026) and the absence of dividend income. Resolution of Hetero litigation in Catalyst's favor would elevate confidence to HIGH.



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