



## **Investment Objective**

To invest in the global healthcare sector with the objective of achieving a high level of capital growth. In order to achieve its investment objective, the Company invests worldwide in a diversified portfolio of shares in pharmaceutical and biotechnology companies and related securities in the healthcare sector. It uses gearing, and derivative transactions to enhance returns and mitigate risk. Performance is measured against the MSCI World Health Care Index (net total return, sterling adjusted).

## **Five Year Performance (%)**

Past performance is not a guide to future performance. The value of investments and the income from them may fall as well as rise and is not guaranteed; an investor may receive back less than the original amount invested.



Net Asset Value per share (total return) +23.0%

Share Price (total return) +6.0%

 Benchmark: MSCI World Health Care Index (net total return; sterling adjusted) +53.9%

Source: Frostrow Capital LLP

## Ten Largest Holdings as at 31 March 2025

Name	Region	Sector	Total
Eli Lilly	North America	Pharmaceuticals	10.0
Boston Scientific	North America	Health Care Equipment & Supplies	9.2
Biotech M&A Target Swap	North America	Swap Baskets	8.5
AstraZeneca	Europe	Pharmaceuticals	6.3
Intuitive Surgical	North America	Health Care Equipment & Supplies	4.8
Stryker	North America	Health Care Equipment & Supplies	4.6
UnitedHealth	North America	Health Care Providers & Services	4.1
Edwards Lifesciences	North America	Health Care Equipment & Supplies	3.7
Pfizer	North America	Pharmaceuticals	3.4
Argenx	Europe	Biotechnology	3.0
Total			57.6





Portfolio Manager Trevor Polischuk

Portfolio Manager Sven H. Borho

# orbimed

<b>Fast Facts</b>	As at 31 March 2025
AIC Sector	Biotechnology & Healthcare
Launch Date &	annointment

of Portfolio Manager

**April 1995** 

Annual Management Fee (payable by the Company): 0.65% of net assets plus 0.30% of market cap. up to £150m; in the range £150m to £500m 0.2%; in the range £500m to £1bn 0.15%; in the range £1bn to £1.5bn 0.125%; over £1.5bn 0.075% plus £57,500.

Performance Fee	See Annual Report for details
Ongoing Charges (OCR)*	0.9%
Continuation Vote	2029 AGM and every 5 <sup>th</sup> AGM thereafter
Year / Half Year	31 March / 30 September
Capital Structure	494,631,804 shares# 107,033,396 (treasury)

# excludes shares held in treasury

Trust Characteristics				
Number of Holdi	ngs	48		
Net Assets (£m)		1,680.9		
Market Capitalisa	ation (£m)	1,471.5		
Dividends	Provisional paym Janu	nent dates: uary & July		
Indicative Yield		0.9%		
Net Cash		1.7%		
Leverage**	Gro Commitme	ss 116.5% ent 112.0%		
Share Price (p)		297.50		
NAV per share (p) ( income)	cum	339.83		
(Discount) / Pren	nium	(12.5%)		
Portfolio Turnov	er p.a.	54.7%		
Active Share***		66.7%		





Sector, Region**	&	<b>Asset</b>	Class***	<b>Breakdown</b>	at	31	March	2025*	(%)	)
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Healthcare Equipment / Supplies	28.0	North America	77.4	Listed Equities	83.9
Pharmaceutical	25.8	Europe	10.2	Equity Swaps	11.0
Biotechnology	18.9	China / Hong Kong	8.6	Unquoteds	5.1
Healthcare Providers / Services	11.2	Japan	2.7	Total	100.0
SWAP Baskets	8.5	India	1.1		
Life Sciences Tools &	7.6	Total	400.0		

#### Total 100.0

\*Calculation based on economic exposure and expressed as a % of the total economic exposure. This includes all derivatives as an economically equivalent position in the underlying holding.

- \*\*Geographical analysis based on country of primary listing.
- \*\*\*Unquoted securities will not exceed 10% of the portfolio at the time of acquisition.

Source: All portfolio information sourced from Frostrow Capital LLP. Analysis excludes cash and cash equivalents, including liquidity funds.

### Discrete Performance - Calendar Years (%)

Percentage Growth 12 Month Return	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	YTD
NAV	20.0	-0.4	-3.3	0.4	6.4	-7.4
Share Price	19.9	-2.6	-9.8	-2.6	2.1	-5.6
Index	10.3	20.8	5.8	-1.6	3.1	1.9

## **Standardised Discrete Performance (%)**

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Percentage Growth 12 Month Return	Mar 20- Mar 21	Mar 21- Mar 22	Mar 22- Mar 23	Mar 23- Mar 24	Mar 24- Mar 25
NAV	30.0	-5.8	-0.1	11.9	-10.2
Share Price	27.4	-10.8	-4.1	8.6	-10.5
Index	16.0	20.7	2.5	10.9	-3.3

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Source: NAV (total return; fully diluted) & share price (total return) - Frostrow Capital LLP.

\*Calculated at the financial year end, includes management fees and all other operating expenses, and excludes performance fees.

\*\* The Board has set the maximum leverage limit for both the Gross and the Commitment basis at 140% of the Company's Net Asset Value.

\*\*\* Active Share is expressed as a percentage and shows the extent to which a fund's holdings and their weightings differ from those of the fund's benchmark index. A fund that closely tracks its index might have a low Active Share of less than 20% and be considered passive, while a fund with an Active Share of 60% or higher is generally considered to be actively managed.

Codes			
Sedol	BN455J5		
ISIN	GB00BN455J50		
Legal Entity Ide	entifier (LEI) 5493003YBCY4W1IMJU04		
Global Intermediary Identification Number (GIIN)			
	FIZWRN.99999.SL.826		
Bloomberg	WWH LN		
EPIC	WWH		

## **Investment Policy**

The healthcare sector is global and accessing this market as a UK investor can be difficult. The Company offers an opportunity to gain exposure to pharmaceutical, biotechnology and related companies in the healthcare sector on a global scale. The Company invests in large companies with market capitalisations of over U.S.\$10bn, smaller companies below that size, as well as unquoted companies. The portfolio ranges from large multinational pharmaceutical companies with multiple products to unquoted emerging biotechnology companies. The Company's investment policy allows gearing, through borrowing, of up to 20% of net assets and a net exposure to derivative investments (excluding swaps) of up to 5% of the portfolio. Equity swaps may also be used, counterparty exposure here is limited to 12% of the portfolio at the time of acquisition. Unquoted securities will not exceed 10% of the portfolio at the time of acquisition.







## Commentary

In March, the NAV per share total return was -9.2%, the share price total return was -8.2% and the MSCI World Health Care Index was -4.7%, on a net total return, sterling adjusted basis.

The market volatility that began in February intensified in March and continued into April. Factors such as tariffs, persistent inflation, and the looming threat of global economic turmoil have severely impacted investors. As a result, global indices saw significant declines; in sterling terms, the MSCI was down 6.7%, the S&P 500 fell 8.0%, and the NASDAQ experienced a drop of 10.4%. The healthcare sector proved to be relatively defensive, but its decline was still notable, being only slightly less significant than the broader market.

The Company's performance mirrored the macroeconomic dynamics that dominated the markets. With our positioning favoring innovation and growth in comparison to the Benchmark, the Company underperformed on a relative basis. This underperformance was largely driven by an overweight allocation to Biotech, particularly in small and midcap stocks. For instance, the S&P Biotech ETF (XBI) decreased by 10.8% in March. This decline was exacerbated by the steep fall of Sarepta Therapeutics, following the tragic disclosure of a patient death related to its lead commercial asset, the gene therapy Elevidys, which treats muscular dystrophy. Another key detractor was Healthcare Equipment & Supplies, where popular longs Boston Scientific and Intuitive Surgical underperformed.

In China, the volatility surrounding Jiangxi Rimag Group continued in March, especially as the stock approached its lock-up expiration in June 2025; its share price lost nearly 60% of its value in the month alone.

On a positive note, sources of alpha generation in March included Pharmaceuticals, where our underweight positioning yielded benefits, as well as Life Science Tools, which also benefited from strategic positioning. Notably, Japan Pharmaceuticals offered resilience, as Daiichi-Sankyo maintained its value amidst the broader market decline.

With market volatility reaching historic levels and global trade discussions intensifying, it is challenging for investors to find a strategic pivot. We remain committed to fundamental analysis and aim to enhance the quality of the Company's investments, particularly where we identify significant price dislocations. Achieving increased clarity on tariff discussions would be an advantageous starting point.

#### **DISCOUNT/PREMIUM CONTROL**

It is the Board's policy to buy back the Company's shares if the share price discount to the net asset value per share exceeds 6% on an ongoing basis. Shares repurchased are held as treasury shares. Treasury shares can be sold back to the market at a later date at a premium to the cum income net asset value per share. Shareholders should note, however, that it remains very possible for the discount to be greater than 6% for extended periods of time particularly when sentiment towards the Company, the sector and to investment trusts generally remains poor.

While buy backs may prove unable to prevent the discount from widening, they also enhance the net asset value per share for remaining shareholders and go some way to dampening discount volatility which can adversely affect investors' risk adjusted returns.

At times when there are unsatisfied buying orders for the Company's shares in the market, the Company has the ability to issue new shares or to re-issue treasury shares at a small premium to the cum income net asset value per share. This acts as an effective share price premium management tool.

#### **How to Contact Us**

Frostrow Capital LLP 25 Southampton Buildings London, WC2A 1AL

Tel.: 0203 008 4910 Fax: 0203 043 8889

Website: <a href="www.frostrow.com">www.frostrow.com</a></a> Email: <a href="mailto:info@frostrow.com">info@frostrow.com</a>







## **Risk Warnings**

This document is for information purposes only and does not constitute an offer or invitation to purchase shares in the Company and has not been prepared in connection with any such offer or invitation. Before investing in the Company, or any other investment product, you should satisfy yourself as to its suitability and the risks involved, and you may wish to consult a financial adviser.

Any return you receive depends on future market performance and is uncertain. The Company does not seek any protection from future market performance so you could lose some or all of your investment. For information on the principal risks the Company is exposed to please refer to the Company's Annual Report or Investor Disclosure Document available at <a href="https://www.worldwidewh.com">www.worldwidewh.com</a>.

Shares in the Company are bought and sold on the London Stock Exchange. The price you pay or receive, like other listed shares, is determined by supply and demand and may be at a discount or premium to the underlying net asset value of the Company. Usually, at any given time, the price you pay for a share will be higher than the price you could sell it.

The Company has increased its exposure to investments via the use of an overdraft facility and derivatives, and this could potentially magnify any losses or gains made by the Company. The Annual Report and Investor Disclosure Document, available on the Company's website, include further details on the use of, and exposure to, derivatives.

#### **Target Market**

The Company is suitable for investors seeking an investment that aims to deliver total returns over the longer term (at least five years), is compatible with the needs for retail clients, professional clients and eligible counterparties, and is eligible for all distribution channels.

The Company may not be suitable for investors who are concerned about short-term volatility and performance, have low or no risk tolerance or are looking for capital protection, who are seeking a guaranteed or regular income, or a predictable return profile. The Company does not offer capital protection.

#### **Value Assessment**

Frostrow Capital LLP has conducted an annual Value Assessment on the Company in line with Financial Conduct Authority (FCA) rules set out in the Consumer Duty regulation. The Assessment focuses on the nature of the product, including benefits received and its quality, limitations that are part of the product, expected total costs to clients and target market considerations.

Within this, the assessment considers quality of services, performance of the Company (against both benchmark and peers), total fees (including management fees and entry and exit fees as applicable to the Company), and also considers whether vulnerable consumers are able to receive fair value from the product.

Frostrow Capital LLP concluded that the Company is providing value based on the above assessment.

#### **Important Information**

Worldwide Healthcare Company PLC (the Company) is a public limited company whose shares are listed on the London Stock Exchange (LSE) and is registered with HMRC as an investment Company. The Company has an indeterminate life, although shareholders consider and vote on the continuation of the Company every five years (the next such vote will be held in 2029). This financial promotion is issued by Frostrow Capital LLP which is authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority ("FCA").

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