

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

**FORM 8-K**

**CURRENT REPORT**

**Pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934**

Date of Report (Date of earliest event reported): **March 8, 2019**

**Arsanis, Inc.**

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

**Delaware**

(State or other jurisdiction  
of incorporation)

**001-38295**

(Commission  
File Number)

**27-3181608**

(IRS Employer  
Identification No.)

**950 Winter Street, Suite 4500**

**Waltham, Massachusetts**

(Address of principal executive offices)

**02451**

(Zip Code)

Registrant's telephone number, including area code: **(781) 819-5704**

**Not applicable**

(Former Name or Former Address, if Changed Since Last Report)

Check the appropriate box below if the Form 8-K filing is intended to simultaneously satisfy the filing obligation of the registrant under any of the following provisions (see General Instruction A.2. below):

- Written communications pursuant to Rule 425 under the Securities Act (17 CFR 230.425)
- Soliciting material pursuant to Rule 14a-12 under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14a-12)
- Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 14d-2(b) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14d-2(b))
- Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 13e-4(c) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.13e-4(c))

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is an emerging growth company as defined in Rule 405 of the Securities Act of 1933 (§230.405 of this chapter) or Rule 12b-2 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (§240.12b-2 of this chapter).

Emerging growth company

If an emerging growth company, indicate by check mark if the registrant has elected not to use the extended transition period for complying with any new or revised financial accounting standards provided pursuant to Section 13(a) of the Exchange Act.

### **Item 1.01. Entry into a Material Definitive Agreement.**

On February 14, 2019, Arsanis, Inc. (“Arsanis”) filed a final proxy statement, prospectus and information statement (the “Definitive Proxy Statement”) with the Securities and Exchange Commission (the “SEC”) with respect to the special meeting of Arsanis’ stockholders scheduled to be held on March 11, 2019 in order to, among other things, obtain the stockholder approvals necessary to complete the planned merger (“Merger”) of Artemis AC Corp., a wholly owned subsidiary of Arsanis (“Merger Sub”), with X4 Pharmaceuticals, Inc. (“X4”), pursuant to the Agreement and Plan of Merger, dated as of November 26, 2018, as amended, by and among Arsanis, X4 and Merger Sub (the “Merger Agreement”), pursuant to which, among other matters, and subject to the satisfaction or waiver of the conditions set forth in the Merger Agreement, Merger Sub will merge with and into X4, with X4 continuing as a wholly owned subsidiary of Arsanis and the surviving corporation of the Merger.

With this filing, Arsanis is hereby supplementing its disclosure in the Definitive Proxy Statement in connection with the matters described below. Nothing in this Current Report on Form 8-K shall be deemed an admission of the legal necessity or materiality under applicable laws of any of the disclosures set forth herein.

#### **SUPPLEMENT TO DEFINITIVE PROXY STATEMENT**

##### *FFG Settlement*

On March 8, 2019, Arsanis, Merger Sub, X4 and Arsanis Biosciences GmbH (“Arsanis GmbH”), a wholly owned subsidiary of Arsanis, entered into a settlement agreement (the “Settlement Agreement”) with Österreichische Forschungsförderungsgesellschaft GmbH (“FFG”), in respect of the previously reported allegations by FFG that Arsanis and Arsanis GmbH breached certain reporting, performance and other obligations in connection with the grants and loans made by FFG to Arsanis GmbH to fund qualifying research and development expenditures (collectively, the “subsidiaries”).

Pursuant to the terms of the Settlement Agreement, in exchange for FFG’s waiver of all claims against Arsanis and Arsanis GmbH except for its claims for repayment of the loans and regular interest, including its waiver of claims for repayment of grants and interest exceeding regular interest, subject to compliance by Arsanis and Arsanis GmbH with the terms of the Settlement Agreement, Arsanis GmbH has agreed to repay the outstanding loan principal equal to EUR 8,505,204 (\$9.5 million, based on an exchange rate of US\$1.12 per EUR 1.00 on March 7, 2019) (plus regular interest accrued thereon) on an accelerated payment schedule of three years instead of five years, with the final accelerated installment due and payable on June 30, 2021. The parties have also agreed that (i) the portion of such loans to be repaid in 2019 is EUR 2,596,320 (\$2.9 million, based on an exchange rate of US\$1.12 per EUR 1.00 on March 7, 2019) (the “2019 Payment”) and such payment will be made on March 31, 2019, (ii) until all of the loans have been repaid and subject to other terms specified in the Settlement Agreement, a minimum cash balance equal to 70% of the then-outstanding principal amount of the loans will be maintained at Arsanis GmbH in an account held with an Austrian bank (the “minimum cash requirement”), (iii) at least until December 31, 2021 and subject to other terms specified in the Settlement Agreement, Arsanis GmbH will maintain a physical premises in Austria with a minimum of eight full-time equivalent employees, retain ownership rights to intellectual property (“IP”) which generated or may be generated (if any) from or in relation to the projects that are subject to the subsidy agreements with FFG in Austria, and to the extent that it licenses such IP to any third party it will receive arm’s length compensation as consideration and (iv) Arsanis GmbH will comply with specified quarterly financial reporting obligations. Arsanis agreed (i) to procure the timely transfer of sufficient funds to Arsanis GmbH to ensure the minimum cash requirement is met, (ii) to use its best efforts to enable Arsanis GmbH to comply with specified obligations and (iii) to refrain from any instructions and measures that might endanger compliance with the specified obligations. X4 and Merger Sub agreed (i) to use commercially reasonable efforts to enable Arsanis GmbH and Arsanis to comply with their above-mentioned obligations and (ii) to refrain from any instructions and measures that might endanger compliance with such specified obligations. If Arsanis or Arsanis GmbH breaches specified

obligations under the Settlement Agreement (and fails to cure such breach during any applicable grace period), FFG is entitled to accelerate the repayment of any outstanding loans. In addition, subject to the fulfillment of Arsanis GmbH's obligations and commitments under the Settlement Agreement, FFG has agreed that effective as of December 31, 2021, it will release the parties, as applicable, from all obligations and claims arising in relation to the subsidiaries and their commitments provided under the Settlement Agreement and under other documents in favor of Arsanis GmbH, as in effect as of the date of the Settlement Agreement.

The preceding summary is qualified in its entirety by reference to the Settlement Agreement, a copy of which will be filed as an exhibit to Arsanis' Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the fiscal quarter ended March 31, 2019.

#### *Merger Agreement Amendment*

In connection with the Settlement Agreement, on March 8, 2019, Arsanis, Merger Sub and X4 entered into a Second Amendment to Agreement and Plan of Merger (the "Merger Agreement Amendment") to the Merger Agreement.

Pursuant to the Merger Agreement Amendment, Arsanis and X4 have agreed to amend the terms of their previously announced Merger Agreement to reflect Arsanis' agreement that 1/3<sup>rd</sup> of the 2019 Payment, which equals EUR 865,440 (approximately \$968,600, based on an exchange rate of US\$1.12 per EUR 1.00 on March 7, 2019) (the "Arsanis accelerated payment amount"), would be deducted from Arsanis' "net cash" at closing (as defined in the Merger Agreement) and as a result would increase the exchange ratios for the X4 common stock and X4 preferred stock in the Merger. Specifically, the Merger Agreement currently excludes the approximately EUR 8.5 million principal amount of FFG loans to Arsanis GmbH from the deduction for unpaid indebtedness that otherwise reduces Arsanis' "net cash" at closing. The Merger Agreement Amendment provides that this excluded amount (and thus "net cash") be reduced by the Arsanis accelerated payment amount, to approximately EUR 7.6 million.

As previously disclosed by Arsanis, as a result of the Merger Agreement Amendment, and based on each company's respective expected equity ownership and Arsanis' expected net cash as of the closing of the Merger, the exchange ratios for the X4 common stock and X4 preferred stock pursuant to the Merger Agreement are estimated to be approximately 0.5632 shares of Arsanis common stock for each share of X4 capital stock. Based on foregoing assumptions, Arsanis stockholders would own approximately 31.5% of the combined company and X4 stockholders would own approximately 68.5% of the combined company on a pro forma basis.

Other than as expressly modified pursuant to (i) that certain First Amendment to Agreement and Plan of Merger, dated December 20, 2018, by and among Arsanis, Merger Sub and X4 and (ii) the Merger Agreement Amendment, the Merger Agreement, which was filed as Exhibit 2.1 to the Current Report on Form 8-K filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission by Arsanis on November 27, 2018, remains in full force and effect as originally executed on November 26, 2018. The preceding summary is qualified in its entirety by reference to the Merger Agreement Amendment, a copy of which is attached hereto as Exhibit 2.1 and is incorporated herein by reference.

#### **PARTICIPANTS IN THE SOLICITATION**

Arsanis, X4 and their respective directors and executive officers may be deemed to be participants in the solicitation of proxies from the holders of Arsanis common stock in connection with the proposed transaction. Information about Arsanis' directors and executive officers is included in the Definitive Proxy Statement. Additional information regarding these persons is set forth in Arsanis' Annual Report

on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2017, which was filed with the SEC on March 9, 2018, and the proxy statement for Arsanis' 2018 annual meeting of stockholders, which was filed with the SEC on April 23, 2018. Investors and security holders may obtain free copies of these documents as described in the paragraph below.

### **IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT THE TRANSACTION IS FILED WITH THE SEC**

In connection with the proposed Merger, Arsanis filed the Definitive Proxy Statement with the SEC on February 14, 2019. The Definitive Proxy Statement was first mailed on or about February 20, 2019 to Arsanis' stockholders of record as of the close of business on January 11, 2019. ARSANIS STOCKHOLDERS AND X4 EQUITY HOLDERS ARE URGED TO READ THE DEFINITIVE PROXY STATEMENT REGARDING THE PROPOSED TRANSACTION AND ANY OTHER RELEVANT DOCUMENTS FILED WITH THE SEC, AS WELL AS ANY AMENDMENTS OR SUPPLEMENTS TO THOSE DOCUMENTS, BECAUSE THEY CONTAIN IMPORTANT INFORMATION. Investors and security holders may obtain a free copy of the Definitive Proxy Statement and other filings containing information about Arsanis at the SEC's website at [www.sec.gov](http://www.sec.gov). The Definitive Proxy Statement and the other filings may also be obtained free of charge by contacting: Arsanis, Inc., 950 Winter Street, Suite 4500, Waltham, Massachusetts 02451, Attention: Investor Relations.

Additional information regarding the interests of those participants and other persons who may be deemed participants in the transaction may be obtained by reading the Definitive Proxy Statement. Free copies of this document may be obtained as described in the preceding paragraphs.

### **NO OFFERS OR SOLICITATIONS**

This communication shall not constitute an offer to sell or the solicitation of an offer to sell or the solicitation of an offer to buy any securities, nor shall there be any sale of securities in any jurisdiction in which such offer, solicitation or sale would be unlawful prior to registration or qualification under the securities laws of any such jurisdiction. No offer of securities shall be made except by means of a prospectus meeting the requirements of Section 10 of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended (the "Securities Act").

### **CAUTIONARY NOTE REGARDING FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS**

Certain statements in this Current Report on Form 8-K regarding the Merger, the expected exchange ratios under the Merger Agreement and the percentage ownership of the combined company following the Merger and the strategies, goals, prospects, plans, expectations, forecasts or objectives of Arsanis, X4 or the combined company constitute "forward-looking statements" within the meaning of Section 27A of the Securities Act and Section 21E of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the "Exchange Act"), and are usually identified by the use of words such as "anticipates," "believes," "estimates," "expects," "intends," "may," "plans," "projects," "seeks," "should," "will," "would," and variations of such words or similar expressions. Arsanis intends for these forward-looking statements to be covered by the safe harbor provisions for forward-looking statements contained in Section 27A of the Securities Act and Section 21E of the Exchange Act and is making this statement for purposes of complying with those safe harbor provisions. These forward-looking statements reflect Arsanis' current views about its plans, intentions, expectations, strategies and prospects, which are based on the information currently available to Arsanis and on assumptions it has made. Although Arsanis believes that its plans, intentions, expectations, strategies and prospects as reflected in or suggested by those forward-looking statements are reasonable, Arsanis can give no assurance that the plans, intentions, expectations or strategies will be attained or achieved. Furthermore, actual results may differ materially from those described in the

forward-looking statements and will be affected by a variety of important risks and factors that are beyond Arsanis' control.

Risks and uncertainties for Arsanis, X4 and the combined company include, but are not limited to, the: inability to complete the proposed Merger and other contemplated transactions; liquidity and trading market for shares prior to and following the consummation of the proposed Merger; costs and potential litigation associated with the proposed Merger; failure or delay in obtaining required approvals by the SEC or any other governmental or quasi-governmental entity necessary to consummate the proposed Merger, which may result in unexpected additional transaction expenses and operating cash expenditures on the parties; failure to obtain the necessary stockholder approvals or to satisfy other conditions to the closing of the proposed Merger and the other contemplated transactions; a superior proposal being submitted to either party; failure to issue Arsanis' or the combined company's common stock in other contemplated transactions exempt from registration or qualification requirements under applicable state securities laws; risks related to the costs, timing and regulatory review of the combined company's nonclinical studies and clinical trials; uncertainties in obtaining successful clinical results for product candidates such as X4's X4P-001 and unexpected costs that may result therefrom; inability or delay in obtaining required regulatory approvals for product candidates such as X4P-001, which may result in unexpected cost expenditures; failure to realize any value of certain product candidates developed and being developed, in light of inherent risks and difficulties involved in successfully bringing product candidates to market; inability to develop new product candidates; inability to commercialize and launch any product candidate that receives regulatory approval, including X4P-001; the combined company's anticipated capital expenditures, its estimates regarding its capital requirements and its need for future capital; uncertainties of cash flows and inability to meet working capital needs; cost reductions that may not result in anticipated level of cost savings or cost reductions prior to or after the consummation of the proposed Merger; the approval by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration and European Medicines Agency and any other similar foreign regulatory authorities of other competing or superior products brought to market; risks resulting from unforeseen side effects; risk that the market for the combined company's products may not be as large as expected; inability to obtain, maintain and enforce patents and other intellectual property rights or the unexpected costs associated with such enforcement or litigation; inability to obtain and maintain commercial manufacturing arrangements with third party manufacturers or establish commercial scale manufacturing capabilities; inability to establish and maintain licensing, collaboration or similar arrangements on favorable terms and the inability to attract collaborators with development, regulatory and commercialization expertise; inability to successfully commercialize any approved product candidates, including their rate and degree of market acceptance; unexpected cost increases and pricing pressures; the possibility of economic recession and its negative impact on customers, vendors or suppliers; and risks associated with the possible failure to realize certain benefits of the proposed Merger, including future financial, tax, accounting treatment, and operating results. Many of these factors that will determine actual results are beyond Arsanis', X4's, or the combined company's ability to control or predict.

Other risks and uncertainties are more fully described in the Definitive Proxy Statement, Arsanis' Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2017, filed with the SEC, and in other filings that Arsanis makes and may make with the SEC in connection with the proposed transactions described herein under "Important Information About the Transaction Is Filed with the SEC." Existing and prospective investors are cautioned not to place undue reliance on these forward-looking statements, which speak only as of the date hereof. The statements made in this Current Report on Form 8-K speak only as of the date stated herein, and subsequent events and developments may cause Arsanis' expectations and beliefs to change. While Arsanis may elect to update these forward-looking statements publicly at some point in the future, it specifically disclaims any obligation to do so, whether as a result of new information, future events or otherwise, except as required by law. These forward-looking statements should not be relied upon as representing Arsanis' views as of any date after the date stated herein.

**Item 9.01. Financial Statements and Exhibits.**

(d) *Exhibits*

<u>Exhibit No.</u>	<u>Description</u>
2.1	<a href="#"><u>Second Amendment to Agreement and Plan of Merger, dated March 8, 2019, by and among Arsanis, Inc., Artemis AC Corp. and X4 Pharmaceuticals, Inc.</u></a>

**SIGNATURE**

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, the registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned hereunto duly authorized.

ARSANIS, INC.

Date: March 8, 2019

By: /s/ Michael P. Gray  
Michael P. Gray  
President and Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer

**SECOND AMENDMENT TO AGREEMENT AND PLAN OF MERGER**

THIS SECOND AMENDMENT TO AGREEMENT AND PLAN OF MERGER, dated as of March 8, 2019 (this "Amendment"), is entered into by and among Arsanis, Inc., a Delaware corporation ("Public Company"), Artemis AC Corp., a Delaware corporation and a wholly-owned subsidiary of Public Company ("Merger Sub"), and X4 Pharmaceuticals, Inc., a Delaware corporation (the "Merger Partner" and together with Public Company and Merger Sub, the "Parties").

**RECITALS**

WHEREAS, the Parties have entered into an Agreement and Plan of Merger dated as of November 26, 2018, which was amended by a First Amendment to the Agreement and Plan of Merger dated as of December 20, 2018 (as so amended, the "Agreement");

WHEREAS, the Agreement includes a definition of "Net Cash" that sets forth the calculation of Public Company's net cash for purposes of the Agreement, including calculation of the Public Company Valuation and Common Stock Exchange Ratio;

WHEREAS, the definition of "Net Cash" deducts Public Company's unpaid Indebtedness, but excludes up to €8,505,000 of unpaid Indebtedness outstanding under Public Company's existing funding agreements with the Austrian Research Promotion Agency, Österreichische Forschungsförderungsgesellschaft mbH ("FFG");

WHEREAS, subsequent to the Agreement, FFG asserted breaches under the existing funding agreements and sought acceleration of all unpaid Indebtedness and repayment of certain related grants, and FFG, Public Company and Merger Partner have negotiated and are executing simultaneously herewith a settlement agreement that, among other things, accelerates certain payments of Indebtedness to FFG to be made as of March 31, 2019 (the "Accelerated Payments");

WHEREAS, the Public Company Board and Merger Partner Board believe the proposed settlement with FFG, including the Accelerated Payments, is advisable and in the best interests of the stockholders of their respective corporations;

WHEREAS, in light of the Accelerated Payments, the Parties wish to further amend the Agreement to revise the definition of "Net Cash" to reduce the €8,505,000 in excluded Indebtedness owing to FFG by an amount equal to one-third of the Accelerated Payments or €865,440 so that the total amount so excluded is equal to €7,639,560 that will result in an upward adjustment to the Common Stock Exchange Ratio; and

WHEREAS, the Agreement may be amended by an instrument in writing signed on behalf of each of Public Company, Merger Sub and Merger Partner and authorized by each of their respective boards of directors.



## AGREEMENT

THEREFORE, in consideration of the foregoing recitals (which are incorporated as an integral part hereof), the mutual agreements of the Parties set forth in the Agreement, and other good and valuable consideration (the receipt and sufficiency of which is hereby acknowledged), the Parties hereby agree as follows:

1. Defined Terms. Capitalized terms used in this Amendment that are not otherwise defined shall have the meanings set forth in the Agreement.
2. Amendment of Definition of “Net Cash” in Section 6.22(f)(i). Clause (C)(6) of Section 6.22(f)(i) of the Agreement is hereby amended and restated in its entirety to read as follows:

“(6) unpaid Indebtedness, other than up to €7,639,560 (Euros) of unpaid Indebtedness outstanding under Public Company’s existing funding agreements with Österreichische Forschungsförderungsgesellschaft mbH,”
3. Effective Date of this Amendment. This Amendment shall be effective when signed by the Parties hereto.
4. Reference to the Agreement. On and after the effective date of this Amendment, each reference in the Agreement to “the Agreement,” “this Agreement,” “hereunder” and “hereof” or words of like import shall refer to the Agreement as amended by this Amendment. The Agreement, as amended by this Amendment, is and shall continue to be in full force and effect and is hereby in all respects ratified and confirmed.
5. Governing Law. All matters arising out of or relating to this Amendment (including its interpretation, construction, performance and enforcement) shall be governed by and construed in accordance with the internal laws of the State of Delaware without giving effect to any choice or conflict of law provision or rule (whether of the State of Delaware or any other jurisdiction) that would cause the application of laws of any jurisdictions other than those of the State of Delaware
6. Entire Agreement. The Agreement (including the Schedules, Annexes and Exhibits thereto and the documents and instruments referred to therein that are to be delivered at the Closing), as amended by this Amendment, constitutes the entire agreement among the Parties and supersedes any prior understandings, agreements or representations by or among the Parties, or any of them, written or oral, with respect to the subject matter thereof and hereof and the Parties expressly disclaim reliance on any such prior understandings, agreements or representations to the extent not embodied in the Agreement. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the Confidentiality Agreement shall remain in effect in accordance with its terms.
7. Counterparts. This Amendment may be executed in two or more counterparts (including by facsimile or by an electronic scan delivered by electronic mail), each of which shall be deemed an original but all of which together shall be considered one and the same agreement and shall become effective when counterparts have been signed by each of the Parties and delivered to the other Parties, it being understood that all Parties need not sign the same

counterpart. This Amendment may be executed and delivered by facsimile or by an electronic scan delivered by electronic mail.

*[Remainder of Page Intentionally Left Blank]*

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties have executed this Amendment as of the date first written above.

ARSANIS, INC.

By: /s/ Michael P. Gray  
Name: Michael P. Gray  
Title: President and Chief Executive Officer and Chief  
Financial Officer

ARTEMIS AC CORP.

By: /s/ Michael P. Gray  
Name: Michael P. Gray  
Title: President

X4 PHARMACEUTICALS, INC.

By: /s/ Paula Ragan  
Name: Paula Ragan, Ph.D.  
Title: President and Chief Executive Officer

[Signature Page to Second Amendment to Agreement and Plan of Merger]