

May 1, 2009

T. ROWE PRICE

Health Sciences Portfolio

An aggressive stock fund seeking long-term capital growth through investments in companies expected to benefit from changes in the health care, medicine, or life sciences fields.



The Securities and Exchange Commission has not approved or disapproved these securities or passed upon the adequacy of this prospectus. Any representation to the contrary is a criminal offense.

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Founded in 1937 by the late Thomas Rowe Price, Jr., T. Rowe Price Associates, Inc. (T. Rowe Price), and its affiliates managed \$276.3 billion for more than 11 million individual and institutional investor accounts as of December 31, 2008. T. Rowe Price is the fund's investment manager.

Mutual fund shares are not deposits or obligations of, or guaranteed by, any depository institution. Shares are not insured by the FDIC, Federal Reserve, or any other government agency, and are subject to investment risks, including possible loss of the principal amount invested.

T. Rowe Price Equity Series, Inc.

T. Rowe Price Health Sciences Portfolio

OBJECTIVE, STRATEGY, RISKS, AND EXPENSES

The fund should be used as an investment option for variable annuity and variable life insurance contracts.

What is the fund's objective?

The fund seeks long-term capital appreciation.

What is the fund's principal investment strategy?

The fund will normally invest at least 80% of net assets in the common stocks of companies engaged in the research, development, production, or distribution of products or services related to health care, medicine, or the life sciences (collectively termed "health sciences"). While the fund can invest in companies of any size, the majority of fund assets are expected to be invested in large- and mid-capitalization companies.

The fund defines the health sciences industry broadly and divides it into four main areas: pharmaceutical companies, health care services companies, medical products and devices providers, and biotechnology firms. Our allocation among these four areas will vary depending on the relative potential we see within each area and the outlook for the overall health sciences sector.

The fund will use fundamental, bottom-up analysis that seeks to identify high-quality companies and the most compelling investment opportunities. In general, the fund will follow a growth investment strategy, seeking companies whose earnings are expected to grow faster than inflation and the economy in general. When stock valuations seem unusually high, however, a "value" approach, which gives preference to seemingly undervalued companies, may be emphasized.

In pursuing its investment objective, the fund has the discretion to purchase some securities that do not meet its normal investment criteria, as previously described, when it perceives an unusual opportunity for gain. These special situations might arise when the fund's management believes a security could increase in value for a variety of reasons, including an extraordinary corporate event, a new product introduction, a favorable competitive development, or a change in management.

While most assets will be invested in U.S. common stocks, the fund may invest in other securities, including foreign stocks, and use futures and options in keeping with fund objectives.

In addition, the fund writes call and put options primarily as a means of generating additional income. Normally, the fund will own the securities on which it writes these options. The premium income received by writing covered calls can help reduce but not eliminate portfolio volatility.

The fund may sell securities for a variety of reasons, such as to secure gains, limit losses, or redeploy assets into more promising opportunities.

Certain investment restrictions, such as a required minimum or maximum investment in a particular type of security, are measured at the time the fund purchases a security. The status, market value, maturity, credit quality, or other characteristics of the fund's securities may change after they are purchased, and this may cause the amount of the fund's assets invested in such securities to exceed the stated maximum restriction or fall below the stated minimum restriction. If any of these changes

occur, it would not be considered a violation of the investment restriction. However, purchases by the fund during the time it is above or below the stated percentage restriction would be made in compliance with applicable restrictions.

► ***For details about the fund's investment program, please see the Investment Policies and Practices section.***

What are the main risks of investing in the fund?

Since this fund is concentrated in the health sciences industry, it is less diversified than stock funds investing in a broader range of industries and, therefore, could experience significant volatility. It may invest a considerable portion of assets in companies in the same business, such as pharmaceuticals, or in related businesses, such as hospital management and managed care.

Developments that could adversely affect the fund's share price include:

- increased competition within the health care industry;
- changes in legislation or government regulations;
- reductions in government funding;
- product liability or other litigation; and
- the obsolescence of popular products.

The level of risk will be increased to the extent that the fund has significant exposure to smaller or unseasoned companies (those with less than a three-year operating history), which may not have established products or more experienced management.

Growth stocks can have steep declines if their earnings disappoint investors' expectations. The value approach carries the risk that the market will not recognize a security's intrinsic value for a long time or that a stock judged to be undervalued may actually be appropriately priced.

As with all equity funds, this fund's share price can fall because of weakness in the broad market, a particular industry, or specific holdings. The market as a whole can decline for many reasons, including adverse political or economic developments here or abroad, changes in investor psychology, or heavy institutional selling. The prospects for an industry or company may deteriorate because of a variety of factors, including disappointing earnings or changes in the competitive environment. In addition, our assessment of companies held by the fund may prove incorrect, resulting in losses or poor performance even in a rising market. Finally, the fund's investment approach could fall out of favor with the investing public, resulting in lagging performance versus other types of stock funds.

Foreign stock holdings may lose value because of declining foreign currencies or adverse political or economic events overseas. The use of futures and options, if any, may subject the fund to additional volatility and potential losses.

Writing call options on securities that it owns exposes the fund to the risk that it will have to sell those securities at a price below their market value and forgo the benefit otherwise available from an increase in the value of the securities. Writing put options exposes the fund to the risk that it will have to purchase securities at a price above their market value and can increase fund losses if the value of the securities declines. Losses associated with these risks can exceed any premium income received by the fund for writing options.

As with any mutual fund, there can be no guarantee the fund will achieve its objective.

► ***The fund's share price may decline, so when you sell your shares, you may lose money.***

How can I tell if the fund is appropriate for me?

Consider your investment goals, your time horizon for achieving them, and your tolerance for risk. If you seek an aggressive approach to capital growth through investment in health sciences stocks, and can accept the potential for above-average price fluctuations, the fund could be an appropriate part of your overall investment strategy. This fund should not represent your complete investment program or be used for short-term trading purposes.

► **Equity investors should have a long-term investment horizon and be willing to wait out bear markets.**

How has the fund performed in the past?

The bar chart showing calendar year returns and the average annual total returns table indicate risk by illustrating how much returns can differ from one year to the next and over time. Past fund performance is no guarantee of future returns.

The fund can also experience short-term performance swings, as shown by the best and worst calendar quarter returns during the years depicted.

Updated performance information is available through troweprice.com or may be obtained by calling 1-800-469-5304.

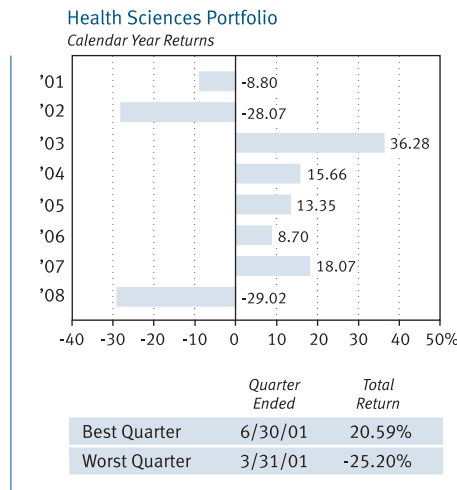


Table 1 Average Annual Total Returns

	Periods ended December 31, 2008		
	1 year	5 years	Since inception (12/29/00)
Health Sciences Portfolio	-29.02%	3.61%	0.82%
S&P 500 Index	-37.00	-2.19	-2.89
Lipper Variable Annuity Underlying Health/Biotechnology Funds Average	-25.05	1.53	-0.47*

These figures include changes in principal value, reinvested dividends, and capital gain distributions, if any.

Figures do not reflect fees at the insurance product or contract level; if those fees were included, returns would be lower.

S&P 500 Index tracks the stocks of 500 U.S. companies.

* Since 12/31/00.

What fees and expenses will I pay?

The fees and expenses set forth in the following table are paid by the fund and borne indirectly by contract holders. There are additional expenses charged by insurance companies, which apply to your insurance contract or policy, and these are described in the variable annuity and variable life contract prospectuses.

Table 2 Fees and Expenses of the Fund

	<i>Annual fund operating expenses (expenses that are deducted from fund assets)</i>
Management fee	0.95%
Other expenses	—
Total annual fund operating expenses	0.95%

Example. The following table gives you an idea of how expense ratios may translate into dollars and helps you to compare the cost of investing in this fund with that of other mutual funds. Although your actual costs may be higher or lower, the table shows how much you would pay if operating expenses remain the same, you invest \$10,000, earn a 5% annual return, hold the investment for the following periods, and then redeem:

<i>1 year</i>	<i>3 years</i>	<i>5 years</i>	<i>10 years</i>
\$97	\$303	\$525	\$1,166

OTHER INFORMATION ABOUT THE FUND

What are some of the fund's potential rewards?

The fund's investment program reflects the view of T. Rowe Price that rapid advances in the health care, medicine, and life sciences fields offer substantial opportunities for superior long-term capital appreciation. The health care field is experiencing unprecedented change, and there have been significant efforts by consumers, corporations, insurers, and governments to slow escalating costs. At the same time, the aging of the American population could result in a higher portion of gross domestic product being spent on health care and medicine in the future. Industry consolidation, the shift from medical treatment to prevention, quicker approval of new drugs, the possible restructuring of Medicare/Medicaid, and the prolonging of life through new technology are major forces transforming health sciences companies. These factors could present favorable prospects over the long term for companies that can provide quality products and services at a competitive price.

Is there other information I can review before making a decision?

Investment Policies and Practices in Section 3 discusses various types of portfolio securities the fund may purchase as well as types of management practices the fund may use.

The Statement of Additional Information contains more detailed information about the fund and its investments, operations, and expenses.

As an investor in a T. Rowe Price fund through your variable annuity or variable life insurance contract, you will want to know about the following policies and procedures that apply to the funds. For instructions on how to purchase and redeem shares, read the insurance contract prospectus.

PRICING SHARES AND RECEIVING SALE PROCEEDS

Shares of the fund are designed to be offered to insurance company separate accounts established for the purpose of funding variable annuity and life insurance contracts. Variable annuity and variable life contract holders or participants are not the shareholders of the fund. Rather, the separate account of the insurance company is the shareholder. The variable annuity and variable life contracts are described in separate prospectuses issued by the insurance companies. The fund assumes no responsibility for such prospectuses, or variable annuity or variable life contracts.

Shares of the fund are sold and redeemed without the imposition of any sales commission or redemption charge. However, certain other charges may apply to annuity or life contracts. Those charges are disclosed in the insurance contract prospectus.

Your ability to exchange from this fund to any other T. Rowe Price fund that serves as an investment option under your insurance contract is governed by the terms of that contract and the insurance contract prospectus, as well as the fund's excessive trading policy described in this section.

How and When Shares Are Priced

The share price (also called "net asset value" or NAV per share) for a fund is calculated at the close of the New York Stock Exchange, normally 4 p.m. ET, each day that the exchange is open for business. To calculate the NAV, the fund's assets are valued and totaled, liabilities are subtracted, and the balance, called net assets, is divided by the number of shares outstanding. Market values are used to price stocks and bonds. Market values represent the prices at which securities actually trade or evaluations based on the judgment of the fund's pricing services. If a market value for a security is not available, the fund will make a good faith effort to assign a fair value to the security by taking into account factors that have been approved by the fund's Board of Directors. This value may differ from the value the fund receives upon sale of the securities. Amortized cost is used to price securities held by money market funds and certain other debt securities held by a fund. Investments in mutual funds are valued at the closing NAV per share of the mutual fund on the day of valuation.

Non-U.S. equity securities are valued on the basis of their most recent closing market prices at 4 p.m. ET except under the circumstances described below. Most foreign markets close before 4 p.m. ET. For securities primarily traded in the Far East, for example, the most recent closing prices may be as much as 15 hours old at 4 p.m. ET. If a fund determines that developments between the close of a foreign market and 4 p.m. ET will, in its judgment, materially affect the value of some or all of the fund's securities, the fund will adjust the previous closing prices to reflect what it believes to be the fair value of the securities as of 4 p.m. ET. In deciding whether to make these adjustments, the fund reviews a variety of factors, including developments in foreign markets, the performance of U.S. securities markets, and the performance of instruments trading in U.S. markets that represent foreign securities and baskets of foreign securities. The fund may also fair value securities in other situations, for example, when a particular foreign market is closed but the fund is open. The fund uses outside pricing services to provide it with closing market prices and information used for adjusting those prices. The fund cannot predict how often it will use closing prices and how often it will adjust those prices. As a means of

evaluating its fair value process, the fund routinely compares closing market prices, the next day's opening prices in the same markets, and adjusted prices. Other mutual funds may adjust the prices of their securities by different amounts.

How Your Purchase, Sale, or Exchange Price Is Determined

Purchases

The insurance companies purchase shares of the fund for their separate accounts, using premiums allocated by the contract holders or participants. Shares are purchased at the NAV next determined after the insurance company receives the premium payment in acceptable form. Initial and subsequent payments allocated to the fund are subject to the limits stated in the insurance contract prospectus issued by the insurance company.

When authorized by the fund, certain financial institutions or retirement plans purchasing fund shares on behalf of customers or plan participants through Financial Institution Services or Retirement Plan Services may place a purchase order unaccompanied by payment. Payment for these shares must be received by the time designated by the fund (not to exceed the period established for settlement under applicable regulations). If payment is not received by this time, the order may be cancelled. The financial institution or retirement plan is responsible for any costs or losses incurred by the fund or T. Rowe Price if payment is delayed or not received.

Redemptions

The insurance companies redeem shares of the fund to make benefit or surrender payments under the terms of its contracts. Redemptions are processed on any day on which the New York Stock Exchange is open and are priced at the fund's NAV next determined after the insurance company receives a surrender request in acceptable form.

Note: The time at which transactions and shares are priced and the time until which orders are accepted may be changed in case of an emergency or if the New York Stock Exchange closes at a time other than 4 p.m. ET. There may be times when you are unable to contact us by telephone or access your account by computer due to extreme market activity, the unavailability of the T. Rowe Price Web site, or other circumstances. Should this occur, your order must still be placed and accepted prior to the time the New York Stock Exchange closes to be priced at that business day's NAV.

How You Can Receive the Proceeds From a Sale

Payment for redeemed shares will be made promptly, but in no event later than seven calendar days after receipt of your redemption order. However, the right of redemption may be suspended or the date of payment postponed in accordance with the Investment Company Act of 1940 ("1940 Act"). The amount received upon redemption of the shares of the fund may be more or less than the amount paid for the shares, depending on the fluctuations in the market value of the assets owned by the fund.

Excessive and Short-Term Trading

- ▶ *T. Rowe Price may bar excessive and short-term traders from purchasing shares.*

Excessive or short-term trading in fund shares may disrupt management of a fund and raise its costs. Short-term traders in funds investing in foreign securities may seek to take advantage of an anticipated difference between the price of the fund's shares and price movements in overseas markets (see Pricing Shares and Receiving Sale Proceeds—How and When Shares Are Priced). While there is no assurance that T. Rowe Price can prevent all excessive and short-term trading, the Boards of Directors of the T. Rowe Price funds have adopted the following policies to deter such activity. Persons trading directly with T. Rowe Price or indirectly through intermediaries in violation of this policy or persons believed

to be short-term traders may be barred permanently from further purchases of T. Rowe Price funds. Purchase transactions placed by such persons are subject to rejection without notice. These policies apply to contract holders notwithstanding any provisions in your insurance contract.

- All persons purchasing shares held directly with a T. Rowe Price fund who make more than one purchase and one sale or one sale and one purchase involving the same fund within any 90-day calendar period will violate the policy.
- All persons purchasing fund shares held through an insurance company who hold the shares for less than 90 calendar days will violate the policy.

Omnibus Accounts

Intermediaries often establish omnibus accounts in the T. Rowe Price funds for their customers. In such situations, T. Rowe Price cannot always monitor trading activity by underlying contract holders. However, T. Rowe Price reviews trading activity at the omnibus account level and looks for activity that indicates potential excessive or short-term trading. If it detects suspicious trading activity, T. Rowe Price contacts the intermediary to determine whether the excessive trading policy has been violated and may request and receive personal identifying information and transaction histories for some or all contract holders to make this determination. If T. Rowe Price believes that its excessive trading policy has been violated, it will instruct the intermediary to take action with respect to the underlying contract holder in accordance with the policy.

Exceptions to Policy

Systematic purchases and redemptions are exempt from these policies. Redemptions to fund the periodic deduction of contract charges and fees and to pay death benefits are also exempt. Transactions in certain rebalancing and asset allocation programs may be exempt from the excessive trading policy subject to prior written approval by designated persons at T. Rowe Price. In addition, transactions by certain T. Rowe Price funds in other T. Rowe Price funds, as well as certain transactions by approved accounts managed by T. Rowe Price, may also be exempt.

T. Rowe Price generally seeks to enforce its excessive trading policies against individual contract holders when violations of its policies are discovered. The terms of your insurance contract may also restrict your ability to trade between the investment options available under your contract. T. Rowe Price reserves the right to modify the 90-day policy set forth above and apply your insurance company's excessive trading policy (for example, in situations where an insurance contract or insurance company has restrictions on trading that differ from a T. Rowe Price fund's policy). These modifications would be authorized only if T. Rowe Price believes that the modified policy would provide protection to the fund that is reasonably equivalent to the fund's regular policy. If you are trading your fund shares through an intermediary, you should consult with the intermediary to determine the excessive trading policy that applies to your trades in the fund.

There may be limitations on the ability of insurance companies to impose restrictions on the trading practices of certain contract holders. As a result, T. Rowe Price's ability to discourage excessive trading practices in this fund may be limited.

- ▶ ***There is no guarantee that T. Rowe Price will be able to detect or prevent excessive or short-term trading. In addition, T. Rowe Price cannot always detect excessive or short-term trading through intermediaries with omnibus accounts.***

RIGHTS RESERVED BY THE FUNDS

T. Rowe Price funds and their agents, in their sole discretion, reserve the following rights: (1) to waive or lower investment minimums; (2) to accept initial purchases by telephone or telegram; (3) to refuse any purchase or exchange order; (4) to cancel or rescind any purchase or exchange order placed through an intermediary, no later than the business day after the order is received by the intermediary (including, but not limited to, orders deemed to result in excessive trading, market timing, or 5% ownership); (5) to cease offering fund shares at any time to all or certain groups of investors; (6) to freeze any account and suspend account services when notice has been received of a dispute between the registered or beneficial account owners or there is reason to believe a fraudulent transaction may occur; (7) to otherwise modify the conditions of purchase and any services at any time; (8) to waive any wire fees charged to a group of shareholders; (9) to act on instructions reasonably believed to be genuine; and (10) to involuntarily redeem your account at the net asset value calculated the day the account is redeemed, in cases of threatening conduct, suspected fraudulent or illegal activity, or if the fund or its agent is unable, through its procedures, to verify the identity of the person(s) or entity opening an account.

In an effort to protect T. Rowe Price funds from the possible adverse effects of a substantial redemption in a large account, as a matter of general policy, no contract holder or participant or group of contract holders or participants controlled by the same person or group of persons will knowingly be permitted to purchase in excess of 5% of the outstanding shares of the fund, except upon approval of the fund's management.

DIVIDENDS AND OTHER DISTRIBUTIONS

For a discussion of the tax status of your variable annuity contract, please refer to the insurance contract prospectus.

Dividends and Other Distributions

The policy of the fund is to distribute all of its net investment income and net capital gains each year to its shareholders, which are the separate accounts established by the various insurance companies in connection with their issuance of variable annuity and variable life contracts. Dividends from net investment income are declared daily and paid monthly for the Limited-Term Bond and Prime Reserve Portfolios; declared and paid quarterly for the Equity Income, Equity Index 500, and Personal Strategy Balanced Portfolios; and declared and paid annually for all other portfolios. All fund distributions made to a separate account will be reinvested automatically in additional fund shares, unless a shareholder (separate account) elects to receive distributions in cash. Under current law, dividends and distributions made by the fund to separate accounts generally are not taxable to the separate accounts, the insurance company, or the contract holder, provided that the separate account meets the diversification requirements of Section 817(h) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended, (Code) and other tax-related requirements are satisfied. The fund intends to diversify its investments in the manner required under Code Section 817(h).

ORGANIZATION AND MANAGEMENT

How is the fund organized?

T. Rowe Price Equity Series, Inc. (the “corporation”) was incorporated in Maryland in 1994. Currently, the corporation consists of seven series, each representing a separate pool of assets with different objectives and investment policies.

The Health Sciences Portfolio is managed in a manner similar to the T. Rowe Price Health Sciences Fund, a fund with the same investment objective and program as the portfolio but offered to the general public and not to insurance company separate accounts. However, investors should be aware that the Health Sciences Portfolio is not the same as the fund and will not have the same performance. Investments made by the Health Sciences Portfolio at any given time may not be the same as those made by T. Rowe Price Health Sciences Fund. Different performance will result due to factors such as differences in the cash flows into and out of the portfolio and fund, different fees and expenses, and differences in net assets and size of holdings.

- ▶ *Shareholders benefit from T. Rowe Price’s 72 years of investment management experience.*

What is meant by “shares”?

Contract holders and participants indirectly (through the insurance company separate account) purchase shares when they put money in a fund offered as an investment option in their insurance contracts. These shares are part of a fund’s authorized capital stock, but share certificates are not issued.

Each share and fractional share entitles the shareholder (the insurance company separate account) to cast one vote per share on certain fund matters, including the election of fund directors, changes in fundamental policies, or approval of changes in the fund’s management contract.

The shares of the fund have equal voting rights. The various insurance companies own the outstanding shares of the fund in their separate accounts. These separate accounts are registered under the 1940 Act or are exempted from registration thereunder. Under current law, the insurance companies must vote the shares held in registered separate accounts in accordance with voting instructions received from variable contract holders or participants having the right to give such instructions.

Do T. Rowe Price funds have annual shareholder meetings?

The funds are not required to hold annual meetings and, to avoid unnecessary costs to fund shareholders, do not do so except when certain matters, such as a change in fundamental policies, must be decided. In addition, shareholders representing at least 10% of all eligible votes may call a special meeting for the purpose of voting on the removal of any fund director or trustee. If a meeting is held and you cannot attend, you can vote by proxy. Before the meeting, the insurance company will send or make available to you the fund’s proxy materials that explain the issues to be decided and include instructions on voting.

Who runs the fund?

General Oversight

The fund is governed by a Board of Directors that meets regularly to review fund investments, performance, expenses, and other business affairs. The Board elects the fund’s officers. At least 75% of Board members are independent of T. Rowe Price.

- ▶ *All decisions regarding the purchase and sale of fund investments are made by T. Rowe Price—specifically by the fund’s portfolio manager.*

Portfolio Management

T. Rowe Price has established an Investment Advisory Committee with respect to the fund. The committee members are: Kris H. Jenner, M.D., D. Phil., Chairman, G. Mark Bussard, M.D., Melissa Gallagher, M.D., Andrew Hyman, John H. Laporte, Jay S. Markowitz, M.D., Graham M. McPhail, Jason Nogueira, Charles G. Pepin, John C.A. Sherman, and Taymour R. Tamaddon. The committee chairman has day-to-day responsibility for managing the fund's portfolio and works with the committee in developing and executing the fund's investment program. Dr. Jenner has been chairman of the committee since 2000. He joined T. Rowe Price as an analyst in 1997 and his investment experience dates from 1992. The Statement of Additional Information provides additional information about the portfolio manager's compensation, other accounts managed by the portfolio manager, and the portfolio manager's ownership of securities in the fund.

The Management Fee

The fund pays T. Rowe Price an annual fee that includes investment management services and ordinary, recurring operating expenses, but does not cover interest, taxes, brokerage, nonrecurring or extraordinary items. The fee is based on fund average daily net assets and is calculated and accrued daily. The fee for the fund for the most recent fiscal year was 0.95%.

In addition, from time to time, T. Rowe Price may make payments from its own resources to eligible insurance companies for recordkeeping and administrative services they provide to the fund for contract holders. These payments range from 0.15% to 0.25% of the average annual total assets invested by the separate accounts of the insurance company in the fund. T. Rowe Price may also reimburse insurance companies, broker-dealers, and other distributors for certain bona fide selling expenses associated with distribution of the insurance contracts in which the fund serves as an investment option. All payments described by this paragraph are paid by T. Rowe Price and not by the fund. As a result, the total expense ratio of the fund will not be affected by any such payments.

A discussion about the factors considered by the Board and its conclusions in approving the fund's investment management contract with T. Rowe Price appears in the fund's semiannual report to contract holders for the period ended June 30.

Variable Annuity and Variable Life Charges

Variable annuity and variable life fees and charges imposed on contract holders and participants by the insurance companies are in addition to those described previously and are described in the variable annuity and variable life contract prospectuses.

Variable Annuity and Variable Life Conflicts

The fund may serve as an investment medium for both variable annuity contracts and variable life insurance policies. Shares of the fund may be offered to separate accounts established by any number of insurance companies. The fund currently does not foresee any disadvantages to variable annuity contract owners due to the fact that the fund may serve as an investment medium for both variable life insurance policies and annuity contracts; however, due to differences in tax treatment or other considerations, it is theoretically possible that the interests of owners of annuity contracts and insurance policies for which the fund serves as an investment medium might at some time be in conflict. The fund's Board of Directors is required to monitor events to identify any material conflicts between variable annuity contract owners and variable life policy owners, and will determine what action, if any, should be taken in the event of such a conflict. If such a conflict were to occur, an insurance company participating in the fund might be required to redeem the investment of one or more of its separate accounts from the fund. This might force the fund to sell securities at disadvantageous prices.

UNDERSTANDING PERFORMANCE INFORMATION

This section should help you understand the terms used to describe fund performance. You may see these terms used in shareholder reports you receive from your insurance company.

Total Return

This tells you how much an investment has changed in value over a given period. It reflects any net increase or decrease in the share price and assumes that all dividends and capital gains (if any) paid during the period were reinvested in additional shares. Therefore, total return numbers include the effect of compounding.

Advertisements may include cumulative or average annual total return figures, which may be compared with various indices, other performance measures, or other mutual funds.

Cumulative Total Return

This is the actual return of an investment for a specified period. A cumulative return does not indicate how much the value of the investment may have fluctuated *during* the period. For example, an investment could have a 10-year positive cumulative return, despite experiencing some years of negative returns during that time.

Average Annual Total Return

This is always hypothetical and should not be confused with actual year-by-year results. It smoothes out variations in annual performance to tell you what *constant* year-by-year return would have produced the investment's actual cumulative return. This gives you an idea of an investment's annual contribution to your portfolio, provided you held it for the entire period.

Total returns quoted for the fund include the effect of deducting the fund's expenses, but may not include charges and expenses attributable to any particular insurance product. Since you can only purchase shares of the fund through an insurance product, you should carefully review the prospectus of the insurance product you have chosen for information on relevant charges and expenses. Excluding these charges from quotations of the fund's performance has the effect of increasing the performance quoted.

INVESTMENT POLICIES AND PRACTICES

This section takes a detailed look at some of the types of fund securities and the various kinds of investment practices that may be used in day-to-day portfolio management. Fund investments are subject to further restrictions and risks described in the Statement of Additional Information.

Shareholder approval is required to substantively change fund objectives. Shareholder approval is also required to change certain investment restrictions noted in the following section as "fundamental policies." Portfolio managers also follow certain "operating policies" that can be changed without shareholder approval. Shareholders will receive at least 60 days' prior notice of a change in the policy requiring the fund to normally invest at least 80% of net assets in the health sciences industry. Fund investment restrictions and policies apply at the time of purchase. A later change in circumstances will not require the sale of an investment if it was proper at the time it was made. (This exception does not apply to the fund's borrowing policy.)

Fund holdings of certain kinds of investments cannot exceed maximum percentages of total assets, which are set forth in this prospectus. For instance, fund investments in certain derivatives are limited to 10% of total assets. While these restrictions provide a useful level of detail about fund investments,

investors should not view them as an accurate gauge of the potential risk of such investments. For example, in a given period, a 5% investment in derivatives could have significantly more of an impact on a fund's share price than its weighting in the portfolio. The net effect of a particular investment depends on its volatility and the size of its overall return in relation to the performance of all other fund investments.

Changes in fund holdings, fund performance, and the contribution of various investments are discussed in the shareholder reports sent to you by your insurance company.

- ▶ ***Fund managers have considerable discretion in choosing investment strategies and selecting securities they believe will help achieve fund objectives.***

Types of Portfolio Securities

In seeking to meet its investment objective, fund investments may be made in any type of security or instrument (including certain potentially high-risk derivatives described in this section) whose investment characteristics are consistent with its investment program. The following pages describe various types of fund securities and investment management practices.

Diversification As a fundamental policy, the fund will not purchase a security if, as a result, with respect to 75% of its total assets, more than 5% of the fund's total assets would be invested in securities of a single issuer or more than 10% of the outstanding voting securities of the issuer would be held by the fund.

Industry Concentration The fund will concentrate its investments in the health sciences industry as defined by this prospectus. As noted, the fund's narrower investment focus and concentration in a relatively volatile sector of the market will likely make this fund's NAV fluctuate more than that of a broadly diversified portfolio. As a matter of fundamental policy, the fund will concentrate (invest more than 25% of total assets) in the health sciences industry as defined in this prospectus.

Fund investments are primarily in common stocks and, to a lesser degree, other types of securities as described below.

Common and Preferred Stocks

Stocks represent shares of ownership in a company. Generally, preferred stock has a specified dividend and ranks after bonds and before common stocks in its claim on income for dividend payments and on assets should the company be liquidated. After other claims are satisfied, common stockholders participate in company profits on a pro-rata basis; profits may be paid out in dividends or reinvested in the company to help it grow. Increases and decreases in earnings are usually reflected in a company's stock price, so common stocks generally have the greatest appreciation and depreciation potential of all corporate securities. While most preferred stocks pay a dividend, a fund may decide to purchase preferred stock where the issuer has omitted, or is in danger of omitting, payment of its dividend. Such investments would be made primarily for their capital appreciation potential.

Convertible Securities and Warrants

Investments may be made in debt or preferred equity securities convertible into, or exchangeable for, equity securities. Traditionally, convertible securities have paid dividends or interest at rates higher than common stocks but lower than nonconvertible securities. They generally participate in the appreciation or depreciation of the underlying stock into which they are convertible, but to a lesser degree than common stock. Some convertible securities combine higher or lower current income with options and other features. Warrants are options to buy, directly from the issuer, a stated number of shares of common stock at a specified price anytime during the life of the warrants (generally, two or more years). Warrants can be highly volatile, have no voting rights, and pay no dividends.

Foreign Securities

Investments may be made in foreign securities. These include nondollar-denominated securities traded outside of the U.S. and dollar-denominated securities of foreign issuers traded in the U.S. Investing in foreign securities involves special risks that can increase the potential for losses. These include: exposure to potentially adverse local, political, and economic developments such as war, political instability, hyperinflation, currency devaluations, and overdependence on particular industries; government interference in markets such as nationalization and exchange controls, expropriation of assets, or imposition of punitive taxes; potentially lower liquidity and higher volatility; possible problems arising from accounting, disclosure, settlement, and regulatory practices and legal rights that differ from U.S. standards; and the chance that fluctuations in foreign exchange rates will decrease the investment's value (favorable changes can increase its value). These risks are heightened for investments in emerging markets. The fund may purchase American Depositary Receipts (ADRs) and Global Depositary Receipts (GDRs), which are certificates evidencing ownership of shares of a foreign issuer. ADRs and GDRs trade on established markets and are alternatives to directly purchasing the underlying foreign securities in their local markets and currencies. Such investments are subject to many of the same risks associated with investing directly in foreign securities.

Operating policy Fund investments in foreign securities are limited to 35% of total assets. Subject to the overall limit on fund investments in foreign securities, there is no limit on the amount of foreign investments that may be made in emerging markets.

Hybrid Instruments

These instruments (a type of potentially high-risk derivative) can combine the characteristics of securities, futures, and options. For example, the principal amount, redemption, or conversion terms of a security could be related to the market price of some commodity, currency, securities, or securities index. Such securities may or may not bear interest or pay dividends. Under certain conditions, the redemption value of a hybrid could be zero.

► ***Hybrids can have volatile prices and limited liquidity, and their use may not be successful.***

Operating policy Fund investments in hybrid instruments are limited to 10% of total assets.

Illiquid Securities

Some fund holdings may be considered illiquid because they are subject to legal or contractual restrictions on resale or because they cannot be sold in the ordinary course of business at approximately the prices at which they are valued. The determination of liquidity involves a variety of factors. Illiquid securities may include private placements that are sold directly to a small number of investors, usually institutions. Unlike public offerings, such securities are not registered with the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC). Although certain of these securities may be readily sold, for example under Rule 144A of the Securities Act of 1933, others may have resale restrictions and be illiquid. The sale of illiquid securities may involve substantial delays and additional costs, and the fund may only be able to sell such securities at prices substantially less than what the fund believes they are worth.

Operating policy Fund investments in illiquid securities are limited to 15% of net assets.

Types of Investment Management Practices

Reserve Position

A certain portion of fund assets will be held in reserves. Fund reserve positions can consist of: 1) shares of one or both of the T. Rowe Price internal money funds; 2) short-term, high-quality U.S. and foreign dollar-denominated money market securities, including repurchase agreements; and 3) U.S. dollar or non-U.S. dollar currencies. For temporary, defensive purposes, there is no limit on a fund's holdings in reserves. If a fund has significant holdings in reserves, it could compromise the

fund's ability to achieve its objectives. The reserve position provides flexibility in meeting redemptions, paying expenses, and in the timing of new investments and can serve as a short-term defense during periods of unusual market volatility. Non-U.S. dollar reserves are subject to currency risk.

Borrowing Money and Transferring Assets

The fund may borrow from banks and other T. Rowe Price funds for temporary emergency purposes to facilitate redemption requests, or for other purposes consistent with fund policies as set forth in this prospectus. Such borrowings may be collateralized with fund assets, subject to restrictions.

Fundamental policy Borrowings may not exceed 33 $\frac{1}{3}$ % of total assets.

Operating policy Fund transfers of portfolio securities as collateral will not be made except as necessary in connection with permissible borrowings or investments, and then such transfers may not exceed 33 $\frac{1}{3}$ % of total assets. Fund purchases of additional securities will not be made when borrowings exceed 5% of total assets.

Futures and Options

Futures, a type of potentially high-risk derivative, are often used to manage or hedge risk because they enable the investor to buy or sell an asset in the future at an agreed-upon price. Options, another type of potentially high-risk derivative, give the investor the right (when the investor purchases the option), or the obligation (when the investor "writes" or sells the option), to buy or sell an asset at a predetermined price in the future. Futures and options contracts may be bought or sold for any number of reasons, including: to manage exposure to changes in securities prices, foreign currencies, and credit quality; as an efficient means of increasing or decreasing a fund's exposure to a specific part or broad segment of the U.S. market or a foreign market; in an effort to enhance income; to protect the value of portfolio securities; and to serve as a cash management tool. Call or put options may be purchased or sold on securities, futures, financial indices, and foreign currencies.

Futures contracts and options may not always be successful hedges; their prices can be highly volatile; using them could lower fund total return; and the potential loss from the use of futures can exceed a fund's initial investment in such contracts.

Operating policies Initial margin deposits on futures and premiums on options used for non-hedging purposes will not exceed 5% of net asset value. The total market value of securities covering call or put options may not exceed 25% of total assets. No more than 5% of total assets will be committed to premiums when purchasing call or put options.

Exchange Traded Funds (ETFs)

An ETF is a type of index fund bought and sold on a securities exchange. An ETF trades like common stock and typically represents a portfolio of securities designed to track a particular market index. The fund could purchase an ETF to temporarily gain exposure to a portion of the U.S. or a foreign market while awaiting purchase of underlying securities. The risks of owning an ETF are generally similar to the risks of owning the underlying securities in the index it is designed to track, although lack of liquidity in an ETF could result in it being more volatile and ETFs have management fees that increase their costs.

Managing Foreign Currency Risk

Investors in foreign securities may attempt to hedge their exposure to potentially unfavorable currency changes. The primary means of doing this is through the use of forwards, which are contracts to exchange one currency for another on some future date at a specified exchange rate. However, futures, swaps, and options on foreign currencies may also be used. In certain circumstances, a different currency may be substituted for the currency in which the investment is denominated, a strategy known as proxy hedging. If the fund were to engage in any of these foreign currency transactions, it would be

primarily to protect its foreign securities from adverse currency movements relative to the dollar. Such transactions involve the risk that anticipated currency movements will not occur, which could reduce fund total return. There are certain markets, including many emerging markets, where it is not possible to engage in effective foreign currency hedging.

Lending of Portfolio Securities

A fund may lend its securities to broker-dealers, other institutions, or other persons to earn additional income. Risks include the potential insolvency of the broker-dealer or other borrower that could result in delays in recovering securities and capital losses. Additionally, losses could result from the reinvestment of collateral received on loaned securities in investments that default or do not perform as expected.

Fundamental policy The value of loaned securities may not exceed 33¹/₃% of total assets.

Portfolio Turnover

Turnover is an indication of frequency of trading. The fund will not generally trade in securities for short-term profits, but, when circumstances warrant, securities may be purchased and sold without regard to the length of time held. Each time the fund purchases or sells a security, it incurs a cost. This cost is reflected in the fund's net asset value but not in its operating expenses. The higher the turnover rate, the higher the transaction costs and the greater the impact on the fund's total return. Higher turnover can also increase the possibility of taxable capital gain distributions. The fund's portfolio turnover rates are shown in the Financial Highlights table.

DISCLOSURE OF FUND PORTFOLIO INFORMATION

The fund's portfolio holdings are disclosed on a regular basis in its semiannual and annual reports to shareholders, and on Form N-Q, which is filed with the SEC within 60 days of the fund's first and third fiscal quarter-end. In addition, the fund discloses its calendar quarter-end portfolio holdings on troweprice.com 15 calendar days after each quarter. Under certain conditions, up to 5% of the fund's holdings may be included in this portfolio list without being individually identified. Generally, securities would not be individually identified if they are being actively bought or sold and it is determined that the quarter-end disclosure of the holding could be harmful to the fund. A security will not be excluded for these purposes from a fund's quarter-end holdings disclosure for more than one year. The fund also discloses its largest 10 holdings on troweprice.com on the seventh business day after each month-end. These holdings are listed in alphabetical order along with the aggregate percentage of the fund's total assets that they represent. The quarter-end portfolio will remain on the Web site for one year. Each monthly top 10 list will remain on the Web site for six months. A description of the fund's policy and procedures with respect to the disclosure of portfolio information is in the Statement of Additional Information.

FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

Table 3, which provides information about the fund's financial history, is based on a single share outstanding throughout the periods shown. The table is part of the fund's financial statements, which are included in its annual report and are incorporated by reference into the Statement of Additional Information (available upon request). The total returns in the table represent the rate that an investor would have earned or lost on an investment in the fund (assuming reinvestment of all dividends and

distributions and no payment of account or [if applicable] redemption fees). The financial statements in the annual report were audited by the fund's independent registered public accounting firm, PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP.

Table 3 Financial Highlights

	<i>Year ended December 31</i>				
	<i>2004</i>	<i>2005*</i>	<i>2006*</i>	<i>2007*</i>	<i>2008*</i>
Net asset value, beginning of period	\$ 8.94	\$10.34	\$ 11.72	\$ 12.74	\$ 13.94
Income From Investment Operations					
Net investment income	(0.05)	(0.07)	(0.06)	(0.04)	(0.04)
Net gains or losses on securities (both realized and unrealized)	1.45	1.45	1.08	2.34	(4.01)
Total from investment operations	1.40	1.38	1.02	2.30	(4.05)
Less Distributions					
Dividends (from net investment income)	—	—	—	(1.10)	(0.12)
Distributions (from capital gains)	—	—	—	—	—
Returns of capital	—	—	—	—	—
Total distributions	—	—	—	(1.10)	(0.12)
Net asset value, end of period	\$10.34	\$11.72	\$ 12.74	\$ 13.94	\$ 9.77
Total return	15.66%	13.35%	8.70%	18.07%	(29.02)%
Ratios/Supplemental Data					
Net assets, end of period (in thousands)	\$6,513	\$8,046	\$11,057	\$12,966	\$ 8,512
Ratio of expenses to average net assets	0.95%	0.95%	0.95%	0.95%	0.95%
Ratio of net income to average net assets	(0.60)%	(0.65)%	(0.50)%	(0.31)%	(0.33)%
Portfolio turnover rate	49.3%	53.8%	48.1%	61.7%	53.5%

* Per share amounts calculated using average shares outstanding method.

A Statement of Additional Information for the T. Rowe Price family of funds has been filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission and is incorporated by reference into this prospectus. Further information about fund investments, including a review of market conditions and the manager's recent strategies and their impact on performance, is available in the annual and semiannual shareholder reports. To obtain a free copy of a fund report or Statement of Additional Information, or for inquiries, contact your insurance company. The Statement of Additional Information and updated performance information are available through troweprice.com.

Fund information and Statements of Additional Information are also available from the Public Reference Room of the Securities and Exchange Commission. Information on the operation of the Public Reference Room may be obtained by calling the SEC at 1-202-942-8090. Fund reports and other fund information are available on the EDGAR Database on the SEC's Internet site at <http://www.sec.gov>. Copies of this information may be obtained, after paying a duplicating fee, by electronic request at publicinfo@sec.gov, or by writing the Public Reference Room, Washington D.C. 20549-0102.

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