



**Date:** November 20, 2020  
**TO:** MIAX PEARL Equities Members  
**FROM:** MIAX PEARL Equities Listings Department  
**Re:** ETFis Series Trust I - BBC

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MIAX PEARL, LLC (“Exchange”) commenced trading of equity securities on September 25, 2020 followed by a security-by-security phase-in period. This Product Circular is being issued to advise you that the following security has been approved for trading pursuant to unlisted trading privileges (“UTP”) on the Exchange as a UTP Derivative Security pursuant to Exchange Rule 2900, and will begin trading on MIAX PEARL during the phase-in period. See the [Exchange’s Website](#) for the phase-in schedule.

**Security (the “Fund”)**

**Symbol**

Virtus LifeSci Biotech Clinical Trials ETF

BBC

**Issuer/Trust:** ETFis Series Trust I

**Issuer Website:** <https://www.virtus.com/>

**Primary Listing Exchange:** NYSE Arca

The purpose of this Product Circular is to outline various rules and policies that will be applicable to trading in this new product pursuant to the Exchange’s unlisted trading privileges, as well as to provide certain characteristics and features of the Shares. For a more complete description of the Issuer, the Shares and the underlying market instruments or indexes, visit the Issuer Website, consult the Prospectus available on the Issuer Website, examine the Issuer Registration Statement or review the most current information bulletin issued by the Primary Listing Exchange. The Issuer Website, the Prospectus, the Issuer Registration Statement and the Primary Exchange Circular are hereafter collectively referred to as the “Issuer Disclosure Materials.”

**Background Information on the Fund**

The Virtus LifeSci Biotech Clinical Trials ETF (the “Clinical Trials Fund”) seeks investment results that correspond, before fees and expenses, to the price and yield performance of the LifeSci Biotechnology Clinical Trials Index (the “Clinical Trials Index”).

Under normal market conditions, the Clinical Trials Fund will invest not less than 80% of its assets in component securities of the Clinical Trials Index. The Clinical Trials Index seeks to track the performance of the common stock of U.S. exchange-listed biotechnology companies with a primary product offering (“lead drug”) that is typically in a Phase 1, Phase 2 or Phase 3 clinical trial stage of development, but

prior to receiving marketing approval. The Clinical Trials Index is sponsored by LifeSci Index Partners, LLC (the "Index Provider"). The Index Provider utilizes a selection committee comprised of its employees (the "Index Committee") that is responsible, pursuant to the rules included in the methodology for the Clinical Trials Index, for making certain determinations for the Clinical Trials Index, as more fully described below. The Index Committee utilizes various public data sources to make determinations, including, but not limited to, Securities and Exchange Commission ("SEC") filings, public documents from the U.S. Food and Drug Administration ("FDA"), company press releases and official corporate websites.

The Index Provider defines a biotechnology company as one whose primary business (i.e., the source of all or a majority of the company's revenue) is the research and development and/or marketing and sale of novel drugs or other therapeutics used in the treatment of human diseases.

Excluded Companies.

Pursuant to the methodology for the Clinical Trials Index, the Index Committee must exclude from the Clinical Trials Index companies that are not pure biotechnology companies because they are classified, based on publicly available information, within one of the following 12 distinct sub-industries of the Biotechnology subsector: Animal Health, Diversified Healthcare, Investment Management, Healthcare Services, Non-Healthcare, Large Pharmaceuticals, Specialty Pharmaceuticals, Medical Devices, Vaccines, Nutraceuticals, OTC Healthcare, or Tools ("Excluded Companies"). Companies with a lead drug candidate still in preclinical testing or research stage, prior to entering into human clinical trials, are also excluded from the Clinical Trials Index. The methodology for the Clinical Trials Index requires the Index Committee to determine a company's lead drug based on publicly available information. While other existing biotechnology index products may include many of the Excluded Companies, the Index Provider believes that by excluding them, the Clinical Trials Index will more accurately capture the performance of traditional biotechnology companies.

Phase 1, Phase 2 and Phase 3:

Clinical trials are conducted in a series of steps, called "phases," and each phase is designed to answer a separate research question, as described below:

- Phase 1: In a Phase 1 trial, researchers test a new drug or treatment in a small group of people (20-80) for the first time to evaluate its safety, determine a safe dosage range and identify side effects.
- Phase 2: In a Phase 2 trial, the drug or treatment is given to a larger group of people (100-300) to see if it is effective and to further evaluate its safety.
- Phase 3: In a Phase 3 trial, the drug or treatment is given to large groups of people (500-3,000) to confirm its effectiveness, monitor side effects, compare it to commonly used treatments and collect information that will allow the drug or treatment to be used safely.

The Clinical Trials Index.

To initially be considered for the Clinical Trials Index, a security must have the following characteristics ("Initial Index Criteria"):

- Security: Common Stock

- Primary Exchange: United States
- Sector: Classified according to the Industry Classification Benchmark (ICB) as Pharmaceuticals and Biotechnology
- Market Capitalization: \$250 million or more
- 6-Month Average Daily Trading Volume: \$2 million or more
- 1-Month Average Daily Trading Volume: \$1 million or more
- Seasoning Period of IPOs and New Issues: 3 months
- Corporate Activity: issuer may not currently be in bankruptcy proceedings or have entered into a definitive agreement or other arrangement which would likely result in the security no longer being eligible.

The Clinical Trials Index then excludes each issuer meeting the Initial Index Criteria that is an Excluded Company. The methodology for the Clinical Trials Index then requires the Index Provider to determine, based on publicly available information, the appropriate categorization of each of the remaining issuers based on the issuer's lead drug:

- Product Stage: The lead drug of these companies has received FDA approval.
- Clinical Trial Stage: The lead drug of these companies is in a Phase 1, Phase 2 or Phase 3 clinical trial stage of development.
- Pre-Clinical Trial Stage: The lead drug of these companies is in its pre-clinical trial stage of development.

The methodology for the Clinical Trials Index then requires the Index Provider to select for inclusion in the Clinical Trials Index only the common stock of those remaining issuers with a lead drug determined to be in the Clinical

Trials Stage.

As of December 31, 2019, the Clinical Trials Index contained the common stock of 96 constituents. The Index Provider reconstitutes the Clinical Trials Index semi-annually, upon the open of the first trading days after June 15 and December 15 of each year, with equal weightings among all constituent securities. An issuer's security will typically be removed from the Clinical Trials Index, at the time of the Clinical Trials Index's next reconstitution, if the issuer's lead drug is granted FDA approval. In addition, an issuer's security will typically be removed from the Clinical Trials Index, at the time of the next reconstitution, if the issuer's lead drug fails in development and is no longer being pursued by the issuer, such that the issuer no longer has a lead drug in the Clinical Trials Stage. A security may also be removed from the Clinical Trials Index prior to a scheduled reconstitution if, for any consecutive 60-day period, the security's market capitalization falls below \$50 million and the security's minimum 6-month average daily trading volume falls below \$500,000, or if the security's issuer has entered into a definitive merger or acquisition agreement or has filed for bankruptcy. The Clinical Trials Index is calculated and published daily by Indxx, LLC, which is not affiliated with the Clinical Trials Fund, the Index Provider or Virtus ETF

Advisers LLC, the Clinical Trials Fund's investment adviser (the "Adviser").

The Clinical Trials Fund will not seek to "beat" the performance of the Clinical Trials Index and will not seek temporary defensive measures when markets decline or appear overvalued. Instead, the Clinical Trials Fund uses a "passive" or indexing investment approach to try to approximate the investment performance of the Clinical Trials Index by investing in a portfolio of securities that generally replicates the Clinical Trials Index; however, there may be times when the Clinical Trials Fund does not hold every security in the Clinical Trials Index. The Adviser expects that, over time, the correlation between the Clinical Trials Fund's performance, before fees and expenses, and that of the Clinical Trials Index will be 95% or better. A figure of 100% would indicate perfect correlation.

Under normal market conditions, the Clinical Trials Fund will invest not less than 80% of its net assets (plus the amount of any borrowings for investment purposes) in securities of biotechnology companies with a lead drug that is typically in a clinical trials stage of development. The Clinical Trials Fund concentrates its investments (i.e., holds 25% or more of its total assets) in the securities of issuers engaged primarily in the biotechnology industry.

Unlike conventional investment companies, the Clinical Trials Fund generally issues and redeems Shares on a continuous basis, at NAV, in blocks of 50,000 Shares or whole multiples thereof ("Creation Units"). The Clinical Trials Fund's Creation Units may be issued and redeemed only by certain large institutions, referred to as "Authorized Participants," that enter into agreements with the Clinical Trials Fund's principal underwriter. Retail investors may acquire and sell Shares only on the Exchange through a broker-dealer. Shares of the Clinical Trials Fund will trade on the Exchange at market price rather than NAV. As such, Shares may trade at a price greater than NAV (premium) or less than NAV (discount).

### **Principal Risks**

Interested persons are referred to the discussion in the prospectus for the Fund of the principal risks of an investment in the Fund. These include tracking error risk (factors causing a Fund's performance to not match the performance of its underlying index), market trading risk (for example, trading halts, trading above or below net asset value), investment style risk, sector risk, investment approach risk, non-diversification risk, issuer-specific risk, management risk, concentration risk, equity securities risk, sector risk and passive investment risk.

### **Exchange Rules Applicable to Trading in the Shares**

Trading in the Shares on MIAX PEARL is subject to MIAX PEARL trading rules.

### **Trading Hours**

The value of the Index underlying the Shares will be disseminated to data vendors every 15 seconds during the Regular Trading Session.

The Shares will trade on MIAX PEARL between 9:30 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. Please note that trading in the Shares during the Exchange's Pre-Market and Post-Market Sessions ("Extended Market Sessions") may result in additional trading risks which include: (1) that the current underlying indicative value may not be updated during the Extended Market Sessions, (2) lower liquidity in the Extended Market Sessions may

impact pricing, (3) higher volatility in the Extended Market Sessions may impact pricing, (4) wider spreads may occur in the Extended Markets Sessions, and (5) because the indicative value is not calculated or widely disseminated during the Extended Market Sessions, an investor who is unable to calculate an implied value for the Shares in those sessions may be at a disadvantage to market professionals.

**Dissemination of Data**

The Consolidated Tape Association will disseminate real time trade and quote information for the Shares to Tape B.

Name	Listing Market	Trading Symbol	IOPV Symbol	NAV Symbol
Virtus LifeSci Biotech Clinical Trials ETF	NYSE Arca	BBC	BBC.IV	BBC.NV

**Delivery of a Prospectus**

MIAX PEARL Equity Members should be mindful of applicable prospectus delivery requirements under the federal securities laws with respect to transactions in the Fund. Prospectuses may be obtained through the Fund’s website. The prospectus for the Fund does not contain all of the information set forth in the Fund’s Registration Statement (including the exhibits to the Registration Statement), parts of which have been omitted in accordance with the rules and regulations of the SEC. For further information about the Fund, please refer to its Registration Statement.

In the event that the Fund relies upon an order by the SEC exempting the Shares from certain prospectus delivery requirements under Section 24(d) of the Investment Company Act of 1940 and in the future make available a written product description, MIAX PEARL Rules requires that MIAX PEARL Equity Members provide to all purchasers of Shares a written description of the terms and characteristics of such securities, in a form prepared by the Issuer of the Fund, no later than the time a confirmation of the first transaction in the Shares is delivered to such purchaser. In addition, MIAX PEARL Equity Members shall include such a written description with any sales material relating to the Shares that is provided to customers or the public. Any other written materials provided by an MIAX PEARL Equity Member to customers or the public making specific reference to the Shares as an investment vehicle must include a statement in substantially the following form: “A circular describing the terms and characteristics of [the UTP Exchange Traded Products] has been prepared by the [open-ended management investment company name] and is available from your broker. It is recommended that you obtain and review such circular before purchasing [the UTP Exchange Traded Products].”

A MIAX PEARL Equity Member carrying an omnibus account for a non-member broker-dealer is required to inform such non-member that execution of an order to purchase Shares for such omnibus account will be deemed to constitute agreement by the non-member to make such written description available to its customers on the same terms as are directly applicable to MIAX PEARL Equity Member under this rule.

Upon request of a customer, MIAX PEARL Members also shall provide a copy of the Prospectus.

## **Suitability**

Trading in the securities on the Exchange will be subject to the provisions of MIAX PEARL Rule 2107 and other applicable suitability rules. Equity Members recommending transactions in the securities to customers should make a determination that the recommendation is suitable for the customer.

## **Trading Halts**

MIAX PEARL will halt trading in the Shares of a security in accordance with MIAX PEARL Rules. The grounds for a halt under MIAX PEARL Rules include a halt by the primary market because the intraday indicative value of the security and/or the value of its underlying index are not being disseminated as required, or a halt for other regulatory reasons. In addition, MIAX PEARL will stop trading the Shares of a security if the primary market de-lists the security.

## **Exemptive, Interpretive and No-Action Relief Under Federal Securities Regulations**

The Securities and Exchange Commission (the "SEC") has issued letters granting exemptive, interpretive and no-action relief from certain provisions of rules under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 for exchange-traded securities listed and traded on a registered national securities exchange that meet certain criteria.

AS WHAT FOLLOWS IS ONLY A SUMMARY OF THE RELIEF OUTLINED IN THE NO-ACTION LETTERS REFERENCED ABOVE, THE EXCHANGE ADVISES INTERESTED PARTIES TO CONSULT THE NO- ACTION LETTERS FOR MORE COMPLETE INFORMATION REGARDING THE MATTERS COVERED THEREIN AND THE APPLICABILITY OF THE RELIEF GRANTED IN RESPECT OF TRADING IN SECURITIES. INTERESTED PARTIES SHOULD ALSO CONSULT THEIR PROFESSIONAL ADVISORS.

## **Regulation M Exemptions**

Generally, Rules 101 and 102 of Regulation M prohibit any "distribution participant" and its "affiliated purchasers" from bidding for, purchasing, or attempting to induce any person to bid for or purchase any security which is the subject of a distribution until after the applicable restricted period, except as specifically permitted in Regulation M. The provisions of the Rules apply to underwriters, prospective underwriters, brokers, dealers, and other persons who have agreed to participate or are participating in a distribution of securities.

The SEC has granted an exemption from Rule 101 under Regulation M to permit persons participating in a distribution of shares of the above-mentioned Fund to engage in secondary market transactions in such shares during their participation in such a distribution. In addition, the SEC has granted relief under Regulation M to permit persons who may be deemed to be participating in the distribution of Shares of the above-mentioned Fund (i) to purchase securities for the purpose of purchasing Creation Unit Aggregations of Fund Shares and (ii) to tender securities for redemption in Creation Unit Aggregations. Further, the SEC has clarified that the tender of Fund Shares to the Fund for redemption does not constitute a bid for or purchase of any of the Fund's securities during the restricted period of Rule 101.

The SEC has also granted an exemption pursuant to paragraph (e) of Rule 102 under Regulation M to allow the redemption of Fund Shares in Creation Unit Aggregations during the continuous offering of Shares.

#### **Rule 10b-10 (Customer Confirmations for Creation or Redemption of Fund Shares)**

Broker-dealers who handle purchases or redemptions of Fund Shares in Creation Unit size for customers will be permitted to provide such customers with a statement of the number of Creation Unit Aggregations created or redeemed without providing a statement of the identity, number and price of shares of the individual securities tendered to the Fund for purposes of purchasing Creation Unit Aggregations (“Deposit Securities”) or the identity, number and price of shares to be delivered by the Trust for the Fund to the redeeming holder (“Redemption Securities”). The composition of the securities required to be tendered to the Fund for creation purposes and of the securities to be delivered on redemption will be disseminated each business day and will be applicable to requests for creations or redemption, as the case may be, on that day. This exemptive relief under Rule 10b-10 with respect to creations and redemption is subject to the following conditions:

- 1) Confirmations to customers engaging in creations or redemptions must state that all information required by Rule 10b-10 will be provided upon request;
- 2) Any such request by a customer for information required by Rule 10b-10 will be filed in a timely manner, in accordance with Rule 10b-10(c); and
- 3) Except for the identity, number, and price of shares of the component securities of the Deposit Securities and Redemption Securities, as described above, confirmations to customers must disclose all other information required by Rule 10b-10(a).

#### **Rule 10b-17 (Untimely Announcement of Record Dates)**

The SEC has granted an exemption from the requirements of Rule 10b-17 that will cover transactions in the Shares.

#### **Section 11(d)(1); Rule 11d1-2 (Customer Margin)**

The SEC has taken a no-action position under Section 11(d)(1) that will permit broker-dealers that do not create Shares but engage in both proprietary and customer transactions in such Shares exclusively in the secondary market to extend or maintain or arrange for the extension or maintenance of credit on the Shares, in connection with such secondary market transactions. For broker-dealers that engage in the creation of Shares, the SEC has also taken a no-action position under Rule 11d1-2 that will cover the extension or maintenance or the arrangement for the extension or maintenance of credit on the Shares that have been owned by the persons to whom credit is provided for more than 30 days.

#### **Rule 14e-5**

An exemption from Rule 14e-5 has been granted to permit any person acting as a dealer-manager of a tender offer for a component security of the Fund (1) to redeem Fund Shares in Creation Unit Aggregations from the issuer that may include a security subject to such tender offer and (2) to purchase Fund Shares

during such tender offer. In addition, a no-action position has been taken under Rule 14e-5 if a broker-dealer acting as a dealer-manager of a tender offer for a security of the Fund purchases or arranges to purchase such securities in the secondary market for the purpose of tendering such securities to purchase one or more Creation Unit Aggregations of Shares, if made in conformance with the following:

- 1) such bids or purchases are effected in the ordinary course of business, in connection with a basket of 20 or more securities in which any security that is the subject of a distribution, or any reference security, does not comprise more than 5% of the value of the basket purchase; or
- 2) purchases are effected as adjustments to such basket in the ordinary course of business as a result of a change in the composition of the underlying index; and
- 3) such bids or purchases are not effected for the purpose of facilitating such tender offer.

**SEC Rule 15c1-5 and 15c1-6 (Disclosure of Control and interest in Distributions)**

The SEC has taken a no-action position under Rule 15c1-5 that will permit a broker-dealer to execute transactions in Shares without disclosing any control relationship with an issuer of a component security. In addition, the SEC has taken a no-action position under Rule 15c1-6 that will permit a broker dealer to execute transactions in the Shares without disclosing its participation or interest in a primary or secondary distribution of a component security.

This Product Circular is not a statutory prospectus. MIAX PEARL Equity Members should consult the prospectus for a security and the security's website for relevant information.

Please direct product listing questions to MIAX PEARL Equities Listings at [Listings@MIAXOptions.com](mailto:Listings@MIAXOptions.com) or (609) 897-7308.

Please direct regulatory questions to the MIAX PEARL Regulatory Department at [Regulatory@MIAXOptions.com](mailto:Regulatory@MIAXOptions.com) or (609) 897-7309.