
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 the earliest event reported): January 14, 2009

NEUROCRINE BIOSCIENCES, INC.

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Delaware
(State or other
jurisdiction of
incorporation or
organization)

0-22705
(Commission File
Number)

33-0525145
(IRS Employer
Identification No.)

12780 El Camino Real, San Diego, California
(Address of principal executive offices)

92130
(Zip Code)

Registrant's telephone number, including area code: **(858) 617-7600**

N/A

(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:

- 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))
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Item 5.02. Departure of Directors or Certain Officers; Election of Directors; Appointment of Certain Officers; Compensatory Arrangements of Certain Officers

(e)

2009 Bonus Plan

The Company maintains a bonus program for all employees of the Company, including its executive officers (the “Bonus Plan”). With respect to the Company’s President and Chief Executive Officer, the Bonus Plan is administered annually by the Company’s Board, and with respect to executive officers other than the Chief Executive Officer, by the Compensation Committee of the Board (the “Compensation Committee”). The purpose of the Bonus Plan is to reward employees, including executive officers, for successful achievement of specified performance goals.

On January 14, 2009, the Board and Compensation Committee approved the Bonus Plan for 2009. The performance goals, eligible bonus percentages and weighting for executive officers under the 2009 Bonus Plan are substantially similar to those utilized in the Bonus Plan for 2008. The Board and Compensation Committee may, in its sole discretion, eliminate any individual bonus or reduce or increase the amount of compensation payable with respect to any individual bonus. An executive officer must be an employee of the Company on the date of payment to qualify for a bonus. Any executive officer who leaves the employment of the Company, voluntarily or involuntarily, prior to the payment date, is ineligible for any bonus. An employee who becomes an executive officer during the fiscal year may be eligible for a pro-rated bonus at the option of the Compensation Committee, provided the participant has been employed a minimum of three months during the calendar year.

The Board and Compensation Committee’s approval of the terms of the 2009 Bonus Plan shall not be deemed to create an enforceable agreement between the Company and any eligible participant and the Board and the Compensation Committee retains the discretion to change plan design and participants without notice to, or approval of, any participants. No entitlement to payouts under the 2009 Bonus Plan shall exist until the payments are authorized by the Board or Compensation Committee.

2008 Bonus Plan and Base Salary

On January 14, 2009, the Board and Compensation Committee determined that in order to conserve cash, there would be no payouts under the Bonus Plan for 2008 to executive officers and that base salaries for all executives would remain unchanged from 2008 levels.

SIGNATURES

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

Dated: January 16, 2009

NEUROCRINE BIOSCIENCES, INC.

/s/ Timothy P. Coughlin

Timothy P. Coughlin

Vice President and Chief Financial Officer