

MEDICINOVA INC  
Form 425  
March 20, 2009

**UNITED STATES**  
**SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION**  
**WASHINGTON, DC 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 19, 2009**

**MEDICINOVA, INC.**

(Exact name of Registrant as Specified in Its Charter)

**DELAWARE**  
(State or Other Jurisdiction

**001-33185**  
(Commission File Number)

**33-0927979**  
(IRS Employer

of Incorporation)

**4350 LA JOLLA VILLAGE DRIVE, SUITE 950, SAN DIEGO, CA 92122**

Identification No.)

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(Address of Principal Executive Offices) (Zip Code)

Registrant's telephone number, including area code: (858) 373-1500

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))

**Item 8.01. Other Events**

On March 19, 2009, MediciNova, Inc. ( MediciNova ) issued a press release (the Press Release ) containing a letter from Yuichi Iwaki, M.D., Ph.D., President and Chief Executive Officer of MedicNova, to the Board of Directors of Avigen, Inc. ( Avigen ), whereby Dr. Iwaki expressed MediciNova's extreme disappointment with the process by which Avigen, to date, has reviewed MediciNova's offer to pursue a proposed merger with Avigen. Attached as Exhibit 99.1 hereto is a copy of the Press Release.

The information in this Current Report on Form 8-K, including Exhibit 99.1 furnished herewith, is being furnished and shall not be deemed filed for any purpose of Section 18 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the Exchange Act ), or otherwise subject to the liabilities of such Section. The information in this current report on Form 8-K shall not be deemed to be incorporated by reference into any filing under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, or the Exchange Act, except as shall be expressly set forth by specific reference in such filing.

**Item 9.01. Financial Statements and Exhibits**

(d) Exhibits.

99.1 Press Release dated March 19, 2009.

**SIGNATURES**

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

**MEDICINOVA, INC.**

Date: March 20, 2009

By: /s/ Shintaro Asako  
Name: Shintaro Asako  
Title: Chief Financial Officer