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Aeterna Zentaris Inc.  
Form 6-K  
October 11, 2006

FORM 6-K  
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION  
Washington, D.C. 20549

REPORT OF FOREIGN ISSUER  
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Pursuant to Rule 13a-16 or 15d-16 of  
the Securities Exchange Act of 1934

For the month of October 2006

AETERNA ZENTARIS INC.  
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1405, boul. du Parc-Technologique  
Quebec, Quebec  
Canada, G1P 4P5  
(Address of principal executive offices)

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant files or will file annual reports  
under cover of Form 20-F or Form 40-F.

Form 20-F                      Form 40-F X  
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Indicate by check mark whether the registrant by furnishing the information  
contained in this Form is also thereby furnishing the information to the  
Commission pursuant to Rule 12g3-2(b) under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934

Yes                              No    X  
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If "Yes" is marked, indicate below the file number assigned to the registrant  
in connection with Rule 12g3-2(b): 82-\_\_\_\_\_

DOCUMENTS INDEX  
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Documents Description  
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1.                              Press release dated October 10, 2006: AEterna Zentaris  
Announces Delay in Closing of Secondary Offering of Shares of  
Atrium Biotechnologies Inc.

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AETERNA ZENTARIS INC. 1405 du Parc-Technologique Blvd.  
Quebec (Quebec) Canada G1P 4P5 T 418 652-8525 F 418 652-0881  
www.aeternazentaris.com

PRESS RELEASE

For immediate release

AETERNA ZENTARIS ANNOUNCES DELAY IN CLOSING OF SECONDARY  
OFFERING OF SHARES OF ATRIUM BIOTECHNOLOGIES INC.

THIS RELEASE IS INTENDED FOR DISTRIBUTION IN CANADA ONLY AND IS NOT INTENDED FOR  
DISTRIBUTION TO UNITED STATES NEWSWIRE SERVICES OR FOR DISSEMINATION IN THE  
UNITED STATES

QUEBEC CITY, QUEBEC (CANADA), OCTOBER 10, 2006 -- AETerna Zentaris Inc. (TSX:  
AEZ; NASDAQ: AEZS), a growing global biopharmaceutical company focused on  
endocrine therapy and oncology, announced today that the closing of its  
previously announced "bought deal" secondary offering of 3,850,000 subordinate  
voting shares of Atrium Biotechnologies Inc., originally scheduled for October  
10, 2006 has been delayed pending the receipt of one consent letter from the  
former auditors of HVL Parent Incorporated, a company acquired by Atrium  
Biotechnologies in December 2005, relating to the financial statements of HVL  
Parent Incorporated for its fiscal year ended September 30, 2005. The closing is  
now expected to take place within the next week, subject to the rights of the  
underwriters under the terms of their agreement with Atrium Biotechnologies,  
AETerna Zentaris and the other selling shareholders.

This press release shall not constitute an offer to sell or the solicitation of  
an offer to buy any securities in any jurisdiction. The subordinate voting  
shares of Atrium Biotechnologies have not been, and will not be, registered  
under the U.S. Securities Act of 1933, as amended, or any state securities laws,  
and may not be offered or sold in the United States absent registration or an

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applicable exemption from registration requirements.

### ABOUT AETERNA ZENTARIS INC.

Aeterna Zentaris Inc. is a growing global biopharmaceutical company focused on oncology and endocrine therapy with proven expertise in drug discovery, development and commercialization.

News releases and additional information are available at [www.aeternazentaris.com](http://www.aeternazentaris.com).

### FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS

This press release contains forward-looking statements made pursuant to the safe harbor provisions of the U.S. Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. Statements that are not historical facts, including statements preceded by, followed by, or that include the words "believes", "anticipates", "intends",

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"plans", "expects", "estimates", "will," "may", "should", "approximately", and the negative or other variations of those terms or comparable terminology, are forward-looking statements. Such statements reflect management's current views, intentions, strategies and plans and are based on certain assumptions.

Forward-looking statements involve known and unknown risks and uncertainties, which could cause the Company's actual results to differ materially from those in the forward-looking statements. Investors should consult the Company's quarterly and annual filings with the Canadian and U.S. securities commissions for additional information on risks and uncertainties relating to the forward-looking statements. Investors are cautioned not to rely on these forward-looking statements. The Company does not undertake to update these forward-looking statements.

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### CONTACTS

#### MEDIA RELATIONS

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#### INVESTOR RELATIONS

Jenene Thomas  
(418) 655-6420 or (908) 996-3154  
[jenene.thomas@aeternazentaris.com](mailto:jenene.thomas@aeternazentaris.com)  
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SIGNATURE  
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Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned, thereunto duly authorized.

AETERNA ZENTARIS INC.

Date: October 11, 2006  
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By: /s/Mario Paradis  
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Mario Paradis  
Vice President, Finance & Administration  
and Corporate Secretary