

MEDICINOVA INC  
Form 425  
December 23, 2008

**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 earliest event reported): December 23, 2008

**MEDICINOVA, INC.**

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

**Delaware**  
(State or other jurisdiction  
of incorporation)

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

**33-0927979**  
(IRS Employer

**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:

- 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 December 23, 2008, MediciNova, Inc. (the Registrant) issued a press release announcing its proposal to acquire Avigen, Inc. (Avigen). The proposal was communicated on December 22, 2008, in a letter from Jeff Himawan, Ph.D., the Chairman of the Board of the Registrant, to Zola Horowitz, Ph.D., the Chairman of the Board of Avigen. Attached as Exhibit 99.1 hereto is a copy of the letter delivered to Dr. Horowitz on December 22, 2008. Attached as Exhibit 99.2 hereto is a copy of the press release issued by the Registrant on December 23, 2008.

The information in this Current Report, including Exhibit 99.1 and Exhibit 99.2 furnished herewith, is being furnished and shall not be deemed filed for any purpose, including for purposes of Section 18 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the Exchange Act), or otherwise subject to the liabilities of that Section. The information in this Current Report shall not be deemed 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 a filing.

**Item 9.01 Financial Statements and Exhibits.**

(d) Exhibits

99.1 Letter to Avigen, Inc. dated December 22, 2008.

99.2 Press Release issued December 23, 2008.

**SIGNATURES**

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 hereunto duly authorized.

Dated: December 23, 2008

MEDICINOVA, INC.

By: /s/ Shintaro Asako  
Shintaro Asako

Chief Financial Officer

EXHIBIT INDEX

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