

ZIOPHARM ONCOLOGY INC  
Form 8-K  
October 16, 2018

**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): October 10, 2018**

**ZIOPHARM Oncology, Inc.**

**(Exact Name of Registrant as Specified in Charter)**

**Delaware**  
**(State or Other Jurisdiction**

**of Incorporation)**

**One First Avenue, Parris Building 34, Navy Yard Plaza**

**001-33038**  
**(Commission File Number)**

**84-1475642**  
**(IRS Employer**

**Identification No.)**

**02129**

**Boston, Massachusetts**  
**(Address of Principal Executive Offices)**  
**(617) 259-1970**

**(Zip Code)**

**(Registrant's telephone number, including area code)**

**Not applicable**

**(Former Name or Former Address, if Changed Since Last Report)**

Check the appropriate box below if the Form 8-K 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)).  
Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is an emerging growth company as defined in Rule 405 of the Securities Act (17 CFR 230.405) or Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.12b-2).

Emerging growth company

If an emerging growth company, indicate by check mark if the registrant has elected not to use the extended transition period for complying with any new or revised financial accounting standards provided pursuant to Section 13(a) of the Exchange Act.

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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.**

*Election of New Director*

Effective October 15, 2018, Laurence Cooper, M.D., Ph.D., the President and Chief Executive Officer of Ziopharm Oncology, Inc., or the Company, was elected as a director to fill an existing vacancy on the Company's Board of Directors, or the Board. Dr. Cooper will serve as a director until the Company's 2019 Annual Meeting of Stockholders and until such time as his successor is duly elected and qualified, or until his earlier death, resignation or removal. Dr. Cooper has not been appointed to any committee of the Board.

The compensation of Dr. Cooper, as the Company's President and Chief Executive Officer, is described in the Company's definitive proxy statement on Schedule 14A relating to its 2018 Annual Meeting of Stockholders, or the 2018 Proxy Statement, which was filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on August 8, 2018. Dr. Cooper will not receive any additional compensation for his service on the Board.

Dr. Cooper was not selected as a director pursuant to any arrangements or understandings with the Company or with any other person. Except as described in the 2018 Proxy Statement, there are no related party transactions between Dr. Cooper and the Company that would require disclosure under Item 404(a) of Regulation S-K.

*Departure of Executive Officer*

On October 10, 2018, Francois Lebel, M.D. notified the Company that he was stepping down from his position as the Company's Executive Vice President, Research and Development and Chief Medical Officer, effective October 26, 2018.

On October 16, 2018, the Company issued a press release announcing the election of Dr. Cooper to the Board and Dr. Lebel's departure from the Company. The press release is attached to this Current Report on Form 8-K as Exhibit 99.1.

**Item 9.01. Financial Statements and Exhibits.**

(d) Exhibits

**Exhibit**

| <b>No.</b> | <b>Description</b>  |
|------------|---|
| 99.1       | <u>Press release of Ziopharm Oncology, Inc. dated October 16, 2018.</u> |

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.

**ZIOPHARM ONCOLOGY, INC.**

By: /s/ Robert Hadfield

Name: Robert Hadfield

Title: General Counsel and Secretary

Date: October 16, 2018