

ONCOLYTICS BIOTECH INC

Form 6-K

December 22, 2006

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SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION  
Washington, D.C. 20549

Form 6-K

Report of Foreign Private Issuer

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

For the month of December, 2006

Commission File Number 000-31062

**Oncolytics Biotech Inc.**

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*(Translation of registrant's name into English)*

**Suite 210, 1167 Kensington Crescent NW  
Calgary, Alberta, Canada T2N 1X7**

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*(Address of principal executive offices)*

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

Form 20-F

Form 40-F

Indicate by check mark if the registrant is submitting the Form 6-K in paper as permitted by Regulation S-T Rule 101(b)(1):

**Note:** Regulation S-T Rule 101(b)(1) only permits the submission in paper of a Form 6-K if submitted solely to provide an attached annual report to security holders.

Indicate by check mark if the registrant is submitting the Form 6-K in paper as permitted by Regulation S-T Rule 101(b)(7):

**Note:** Regulation S-T Rule 101(b)(7) only permits the submission in paper of a Form 6-K if submitted to furnish a report or other document that the registrant foreign private issuer must furnish and make public under the laws of the jurisdiction in which the registrant is incorporated, domiciled or legally organized (the registrant's home country), or under the rules of the home country exchange on which the registrant's securities are traded, as long as the report or other document is not a press release, is not required to be and has not been distributed to the registrant's security holders, and, if discussing a material event, has already been the subject of a Form 6-K submission or other Commission filing on EDGAR.

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

Yes

No

If Yes is marked, indicate below the file number assigned to the registrant in connection with Rule 12g3-2(b): 82 - \_\_\_\_\_

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**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, thereunto duly authorized.

**Oncolytics Biotech Inc.**  
(Registrant)

Date: December 22, 2006

By: /s/ Doug Ball

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Doug Ball  
Chief Financial Officer

210, 1167 Kensington Cr. N.W.  
Calgary, Alberta  
Canada T2N 1X7

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Oncolytics Biotech Inc. Announces Approval for U.K. Clinical Trial  
Investigating REOLYSIN® in Combination with Paclitaxel and Carboplatin**

**CALGARY, AB December 22, 2006** Oncolytics Biotech Inc. ( Oncoytics ) (TSX:ONC, NASDAQ:ONCY) announced today that it has received a letter of approval from the U.K. Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency (MHRA) for its Clinical Trial Application (CTA) to begin a clinical trial using intravenous administration of REOLYSIN® in combination with paclitaxel and carboplatin in patients with advanced cancers including melanoma, lung, and ovarian. The principal investigators are Dr. Kevin Harrington of The Institute of Cancer Research and The Royal Marsden NHS Foundation Trust and Dr. Geoff Hall of St. James' s Hospital in Leeds, U.K. The combination of paclitaxel and carboplatin chemotherapy is used in cancer patients with ovarian and lung cancers, and is also used widely in the treatment of many other types of cancer.

The approval of this trial represents an important step forward for Oncolytics, allowing us to move quickly into a treatment combination that could result in a first-line therapy indication for REOLYSIN®, said Dr. Brad Thompson, President and CEO of Oncolytics.

In studies conducted by the U.S. National Cancer Institute (NCI), the combination of REOLYSIN® and paclitaxel was uniformly synergistic against six non-small cell lung cancer cell lines examined, including cell lines resistant to paclitaxel or REOLYSIN®. Preclinical studies conducted at Cornell University also found that REOLYSIN® in combination with platinum drugs enhanced the cytotoxicity of the chemotherapeutic agents.

This trial (REO-011) has two components. The first is an open-label, dose-escalating, non-randomized study of REOLYSIN® given intravenously with paclitaxel and carboplatin every three weeks. Standard dosages of paclitaxel and carboplatin will be delivered with escalating dosages of REOLYSIN® intravenously. A maximum of three cohorts will be enrolled in the REOLYSIN® dose escalation portion. The second component of the trial will immediately follow and will include the enrolment of a further 12 patients at the maximum dosage of REOLYSIN® in combination with standard dosages of paclitaxel and carboplatin.

Eligible patients include those who have been diagnosed with advanced or metastatic solid tumours such as melanoma, lung and ovarian cancers that are refractory (have not responded) to standard therapy or for which no curative standard therapy exists. The primary objective of the trial is to determine the Maximum Tolerated Dose (MTD), Dose-Limiting Toxicity (DLT), recommended dose and dosing schedule and safety profile of REOLYSIN® when administered in combination with carboplatin and paclitaxel. Secondary objectives include the evaluation of immune response to the drug combination, the body's response to the drug combination compared to chemotherapy alone and any evidence of anti-tumour activity.

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In the U.K. and the U.S., more than 300,000 people are diagnosed annually with melanoma, lung and ovarian cancers.

**About Oncolytics Biotech Inc.**

Oncolytics is a Calgary-based biotechnology company focused on the development of oncolytic viruses as potential cancer therapeutics. Oncolytics' clinical program includes a variety of Phase I and Phase II human trials using REOLYSIN<sup>®</sup>, its proprietary formulation of the human reovirus, alone and in combination with radiation or chemotherapy. For further information about Oncolytics, please visit [www.oncolyticsbiotech.com](http://www.oncolyticsbiotech.com)

For more information about paclitaxel and carboplatin, visit [www.bms.com](http://www.bms.com)

*This press release contains forward-looking statements, within the meaning of Section 21E of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended. Forward-looking statements, including the Company's expectations related to the U.K. combination REOLYSIN<sup>®</sup>/paclitaxel and carboplatin clinical trial, and the Company's belief as to the potential of REOLYSIN<sup>®</sup> as a cancer therapeutic, 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. Such risks and uncertainties include, among others, the availability of funds and resources to pursue research and development projects, the efficacy of REOLYSIN<sup>®</sup> as a cancer treatment, the tolerability of REOLYSIN<sup>®</sup> outside a controlled test, the success and timely completion of clinical studies and trials, the Company's ability to successfully commercialize REOLYSIN<sup>®</sup>, uncertainties related to the research and development of pharmaceuticals and uncertainties related to the regulatory process. 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 against placing undue reliance on forward-looking statements. The Company does not undertake to update these forward-looking statements.*

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT:**

Oncolytics Biotech Inc.  
Cathy Ward  
210, 1167 Kensington Cr NW  
Calgary, Alberta T2N 1X7  
Tel: 403.670.7377  
Fax: 403.283.0858  
[cathy.ward@oncolytics.ca](mailto:cathy.ward@oncolytics.ca)

The Equicom Group  
Nick Hurst  
600, 205 5<sup>th</sup> Ave. SW  
Calgary, Alberta, T2P 2V7  
Tel: 403.538.4845  
Fax: 403.266.2453  
[nhurst@equicomgroup.com](mailto:nhurst@equicomgroup.com)

The Investor Relations Group  
Damian McIntosh  
11 Stone St, 3rd Floor  
New York, NY 10004  
Tel: 212.825.3210  
Fax: 212.825.3229  
[dmcintosh@investorrelationsgroup.com](mailto:dmcintosh@investorrelationsgroup.com)