
**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): July 15, 2017

Sucampo Pharmaceuticals, Inc.

(Exact Name of Registrant as Specified in Charter)

Delaware
(State or Other Jurisdiction of Incorporation)

001-33609
(Commission File Number)

30-0520478
(I.R.S. Employer Identification Number)

805 King Farm Blvd, Suite 550, Rockville, Maryland 20850
(Address of Principal Executive Offices) (Zip Code)

(301) 961-3400
(Registrant's telephone number, including area code)

N/A
(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))

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is an emerging growth company as defined in Rule 405 of the Securities Act of 1933 (17 CFR §230.405) or Rule 12b-2 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (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.

Item 5.02. Departure of Directors or Certain Officers; Election of Directors; Appointment of Certain Officers; Compensatory Arrangements of Certain Officers.

On July 15, 2017, the Board of Directors (the "Board") of Sucampo Pharmaceuticals, Inc. (the "Company") (i) voted to increase the authorized size of the Board by one, from six to seven, and (ii) appointed Dr. Karen Smith to the Board as a Class II member to fill the new vacancy on the Board and to hold office until the 2020 annual meeting of stockholders and until a successor is elected and qualified, or until her earlier resignation or removal. The Company issued a press release announcing Dr. Smith's appointment on July 18, 2017.

Dr. Smith's director compensation will be similar to other non-employee directors of the Company, as described under "Board of Directors Compensation" in the Company's 2017 proxy statement on Schedule 14A as filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on April 21, 2017. On July 15, 2017, in accordance with the Company's Non-Employee Board of Directors' Compensation Plan, the Board granted Dr. Smith an option to purchase 30,000 shares of the Company's Class A common stock at an exercise price equal to the closing price of the Company's Class A common stock on the Nasdaq Global Market on that date. The shares underlying the grant will vest in 12 equal quarterly installments at the end of each successive three-month period following the date of grant, subject to Dr. Smith's continuous service with the Company at each vesting date.

There are no arrangements or understandings between Dr. Smith and any other persons pursuant to which Dr. Smith was selected as a director. There are no transactions, or proposed transactions, during the last two years with the Company to which Dr. Smith was or is to be a party, in which Dr. Smith, or any member of her immediate family, has a direct or indirect material interest that would require disclosure under Item 404(a) of Regulation S-K. There is no familial relationship between Dr. Smith and any other director or executive officer of the Company.

Item 7.01. Regulation FD Disclosure.

On July 18, 2017, the Company issued a press release announcing Dr. Smith's appointment. A copy of this press release is furnished herewith as Exhibit 99.1 to this Current Report.

Item 9.01. Financial Statements and Exhibits.

(d) Exhibits

Exhibit Number Exhibit Description

99.1 Press Release, dated July 18, 2017, "Dr. Karen Smith Joins Sucampo's Board of Directors"

SIGNATURE

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.

Sucampo Pharmaceuticals, Inc.

Date: July 19, 2017

By: /s/ Alex Driggs
Alex Driggs
Acting General Counsel and Corporate Secretary

Dr. Karen Smith Joins Sucampo's Board of Directors

ROCKVILLE, Md., July 18, 2017 (GLOBE NEWSWIRE) -- Sucampo Pharmaceuticals, Inc. (Sucampo) (NASDAQ:SCMP), a global biopharmaceutical company, today announced that Karen Smith, M.D., Ph.D., M.B.A., LL.M., has joined the Company's Board of Directors on July 15. Dr. Smith is Executive Vice President, R&D, and Chief Medical Officer at Jazz Pharmaceuticals.

"I am excited to welcome Karen to Sucampo's Board of Directors," said Peter Greenleaf, Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of Sucampo. "As a proven leader and innovation strategist with significant clinical and product development expertise, Karen will be an indispensable part of our continued growth and evolution as we advance our late-stage pipeline in highly specialized areas of significant unmet medical need."

Dr. Smith brings to Sucampo over 25 years of senior leadership and executive experience with both major pharmaceutical companies and start-up biotechnology organizations. Her product development expertise spans various therapeutic areas and includes over 20 major drug and device approvals in North and Latin America, Asia, Europe and Australia. From 2011 to 2015, she was Senior Vice President of Global Medical Affairs and Global Therapeutic Area Head for Allergan, a multi-specialty health care company. From 2007 to 2010, Dr. Smith served initially as AstraZeneca's Vice President of External Medical Relations, and later Vice President of Global Development. She held an array of management and medical roles at the Bristol-Myers Squibb Company in Australia, Canada and the United States. In 2001, she was also the Chief Executive Officer of Boron Molecular, a specialist fine chemicals manufacturing company. Dr. Smith previously served on the Women's Advisory Board for Ironman Corporation, Susan G. Komen and Girl Scouts; and is currently Advisor to the CEO of Forward Pharma.

Dr. Smith holds a B.A.Sc. and a B.Sc. from the Curtin University, an M.D. from the University of Warwick (UK), a Ph.D. in oncology molecular genetics from the University of Western Australia, an M.B.A. from the University of New England (Australia) and a L.L.M. in medical law from the University of Salford (UK).

About Sucampo Pharmaceuticals, Inc.

Sucampo Pharmaceuticals, Inc. is a biopharmaceutical company focused on the development and commercialization of highly specialized medicines. Sucampo has a late-stage pipeline of product candidates in clinical development for orphan disease areas, including VTS-270, a 2-hydroxypropyl-beta-cyclodextrin product with a specific compositional fingerprint that has been granted orphan designation in the U.S. and Europe and is in a pivotal Phase 2b/3 clinical trial for the treatment of Niemann-Pick Disease Type C-1, a rare progressive genetic disorder. VTS-270 also has been granted breakthrough therapy designation in the U.S. Sucampo has an exclusive option for the North American rights to CPP1-x/sulindac, which is in Phase 3 development for the treatment of familial adenomatous polyposis and has been granted orphan drug designation in the U.S. The company has two marketed products – AMITIZA and RESCULA. For more information, please visit www.sucampo.com.

The Sucampo logo and the tagline, The Science of Innovation, AMITIZA and RESCULA are registered trademarks of Sucampo and its affiliates.

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Contact

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