

METABASIS THERAPEUTICS INC

Form 8-K

October 20, 2009

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 14, 2009

Metabasis Therapeutics, Inc.

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Delaware
(State or other jurisdiction

of incorporation)

000-50785
(Commission File Number)

33-0753322
(I.R.S. Employer

Identification No.)

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11119 North Torrey Pines Road

La Jolla, California
(Address of principal executive offices)

92037
(Zip Code)

Registrant's telephone number, including area code: (858) 587-2770

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 (see General Instruction A.2. below):

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

(b) Due to the discontinuation of our research and development activities, we discontinued Barry Gumbiner, M.D.'s employment as our Vice President of Clinical Development and Chief Medical Officer, effective October 14, 2009. Following his departure, Dr. Gumbiner will continue to consult with us on matters related to the licensing or sale of our pipeline of product candidates and advanced discovery programs or other strategic alternatives.

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.

METABASIS THERAPEUTICS, INC.

By: /s/ **TRAN B. NGUYEN, M.B.A.**
Tran B. Nguyen, M.B.A.
Vice President, Chief Financial Officer,

Treasurer and Corporate Secretary

(Principal Financial Officer)

Date: October 20, 2009