

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): June 9, 2010

NEKTAR THERAPEUTICS

(Exact Name of Registrant as Specified in Charter)

Delaware
(State or Other Jurisdiction
of Incorporation)

0-24006
(Commission
File Number)

94-3134940
(IRS Employer
Identification No.)

201 Industrial Road
San Carlos, California 94070
(Address of Principal Executive Offices and Zip Code)

Registrant's telephone number, including area code: (650) 631-3100

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))
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Item 2.02 Results of Operations and Financial Condition

On June 9, 2010, Nektar Therapeutics, a Delaware corporation (“Nektar”), issued a press release (the “Press Release”) announcing initial results from a Phase 2 clinical study evaluating NKTR-102 in women with metastatic breast cancer. A copy of the Press Release is furnished herewith as Exhibit 99.1.

On June 3, 2010, Nektar announced that Howard W. Robin, President and Chief Executive Officer of Nektar, would present at the Jefferies 2010 Global Life Sciences Conference at The Grand Hyatt New York on Wednesday, June 9, 2010 at 10:00 a.m. Eastern Time. This presentation is being webcast and may be accessed in the Events Calendar section on the homepage of Nektar’s website at www.nektar.com. At this presentation Nektar expects to make certain forward-looking statements regarding the potential therapeutic benefit of NKTR-102, the future clinical development and regulatory plans for NKTR-102, NKTR-105, NKTR-118 and certain other of Nektar’s drug candidates in research and development, the potential and timing for a collaboration partnership for NKTR-102, the market potential of NKTR-102 and other of Nektar’s drug candidates, and certain other statements regarding the prospects and potential of Nektar’s business, technology platform and drug candidate pipeline. These forward-looking statements involve substantial risks and uncertainties, including but not limited to the following:

- (i) NKTR-102 is in early stage clinical development and the risk of failure remains high, and failure can unexpectedly occur at any stage for one or more of the cancer indications being studied (i.e., ovarian cancer, breast cancer, and colorectal cancer) due to lack of sufficient efficacy, safety concerns or other important factors that impact drug development and regulatory approval;
 - (ii) the Phase 2 results for NKTR-102 in breast cancer described in the Press Release and presented by Nektar management at the Jefferies conference remain subject to data audit confirmation procedures, and the reported results may change materially and adversely after such review is completed;
 - (iii) the initial preliminary RECIST response data for the NKTR-102 clinical trial in breast cancer reported in the Press Release and to be discussed at the Jefferies conference is subject to substantial change and such substantial change could be material and adverse—in particular, there is no way to predict whether unconfirmed responses will become confirmed responses as the clinical trial progresses;
 - (iv) additional important data will be reported by Nektar in the future regarding the NKTR-102 clinical study in breast cancer including but not limited to confirmed/unconfirmed RECIST response rates, progression-free survival, overall survival and further safety information regarding the frequency and severity of adverse events observed, and therefore the complete and final results for the Phase 2 breast cancer trial may differ materially and adversely from the results reported in the Press Release and at the Jefferies conference;
 - (v) the initial results from the NKTR-102 clinical study in breast cancer are not necessarily indicative or predictive of the future results of NKTR-102 in any other cancer indications for which it is currently being studied (i.e., ovarian and colorectal cancers);
 - (vi) the data package required and the timing for regulatory approval of a new drug application (NDA) by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) is very uncertain and difficult to predict due to broad regulatory discretion, changing standards of care, available approved therapies, the size of completed clinical trials and the statistical significance of the results, the potential need for comparative clinical studies against approved therapies, and other important factors that are very unpredictable and not within Nektar’s control;
 - (vii) approval of an NDA by the FDA almost always requires the sponsor to conduct Phase 3 clinical studies prior to consideration and approval of an NDA and, as a result, approval of an NDA by the FDA based on Phase 2 results prior to completion of Phase 3 clinical studies is highly unlikely;
 - (viii) the expansion of the Phase 2 study in women with platinum-resistant/refractory ovarian cancer in the Q21 dose group, which Nektar announced on Monday, June 7, 2010 at a webcast breakfast meeting, will necessarily result in changes to the final efficacy (e.g., overall response rates, progression-free survival, overall survival) and safety (i.e., frequency and severity of adverse events) results for the Phase 2 clinical trial in ovarian cancer, and, as such, the complete and final results in the Q21 dose group remain subject to change and could be materially and adversely different from the results previously announced by Nektar in a press release furnished on Exhibit 99.1 to the Current Report on Form 8-K filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on June 7, 2010;
 - (ix) the timing or success of the commencement or end of clinical trials and commercial launch of new drugs may be delayed or unsuccessful due to regulatory delays, clinical trial design, slower than anticipated patient enrollment, drug manufacturing challenges, changing standards of care, clinical outcomes, or delay or failure in obtaining regulatory approval in one or more important markets;
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- (x) scientific discovery of new medical breakthroughs is an inherently uncertain process, and the future success of the application of Nektar's technology platform to potential new drug candidates is therefore very uncertain and unpredictable and one or more research and development programs could fail;
- (xi) Nektar's patent applications for its proprietary or partner product candidates may not issue, patents that have issued may not be enforceable, or additional intellectual property licenses from third parties may be required in the future;
- (xii) the outcome of any existing or future intellectual property or other litigation related to Nektar's proprietary product candidates, including without limitation NKTR-102, NKTR-118, NKTR-105 and other of Nektar's drug candidates, is unpredictable and could have a material adverse effect on our business, results of operations and financial condition and the prospects for commercialization of one or more of Nektar's drug candidates;
- (xiii) the market potential for NKTR-102, NKTR-118, NKTR-105 and other of Nektar's drug candidates is based on management's current estimates only, and actual market size may differ materially and adversely;
- (xiv) if Nektar is unable to establish and maintain collaboration partnerships or appropriate transaction structures relating to its drug candidates (e.g., NKTR-102) on attractive commercial terms, our business, results of operations and financial condition could suffer;
- (xv) the timing of any new collaboration partnerships is difficult to predict due to availability of clinical data, the number of potential partners that need to complete due diligence and approval processes, and numerous other unpredictable factors that can delay, impede or prevent partnering transactions from being consummated; and
- (xvi) certain other important risks and uncertainties set forth in Nektar's Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the quarter ended March 31, 2010 filed on May 6, 2010, and the Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2009, filed on March 3, 2010.

Actual results could differ materially from the forward-looking statements contained in the Press Release and those made by Nektar management at the Jefferies conference. Nektar undertakes no obligation to update forward-looking statements whether as a result of new information, future events or otherwise, including without limitation updated clinical trial results or regulatory communications.

The information in this report, including the exhibit hereto, is being furnished and shall not be deemed "filed" for purposes of Section 18 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, or otherwise subject to the liabilities of that Section or Sections 11 and 12(a)(2) of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended. The information contained herein and in the accompanying exhibit shall not be incorporated by reference into any filing with the Securities and Exchange Commission made by Nektar Therapeutics, whether made before or after the date hereof, regardless of any general incorporation language in such filing.

Item 9.01 Financial Statements and Exhibits

Exhibit No.	Description
99.1	Press release titled "Nektar Therapeutics Announces Positive Initial Results from Phase 2 Study of NKTR-102 in Metastatic Breast Cancer" issued by Nektar Therapeutics on June 9, 2010.

SIGNATURES

Pursuant to the requirement 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.

By: /s/ Gil M. Labrucherie

Gil M. Labrucherie
General Counsel and Secretary

Date: June 9, 2010

EXHIBIT INDEX

Exhibit No.	Description
99.1	Press release titled "Nektar Therapeutics Announces Positive Initial Results from Phase 2 Study of NKTR-102 in Metastatic Breast Cancer" issued by Nektar Therapeutics on June 9, 2010.

News Release

Nektar Therapeutics Announces Positive Initial Results from Phase 2 Study of NKTR-102 in Metastatic Breast Cancer

San Carlos, Calif., June 9, 2010 – Nektar Therapeutics (Nasdaq: NKTR) today announced positive preliminary initial results from a two-stage Phase 2 clinical study evaluating single-agent NKTR-102 in women with advanced/metastatic breast cancer patients who have received a prior taxane. The increased use of taxanes in breast cancer often renders tumors resistant to these drugs by the time the disease recurs, thereby underscoring the urgent need for new treatment options with novel mechanisms of action for metastatic disease.

The single-agent NKTR-102 study recently completed enrollment with a total of 70 patients with metastatic breast cancer. A significant majority of the women had been treated with prior anthracycline/taxane with or without capecitabine. Of the 70 patients, 66 patients are currently evaluable per RECIST for the imaging-based primary endpoint of objective response rate. Confirmed and unconfirmed RECIST responses were 21% (14/66) overall for single-agent NKTR-102, with 18% (6/33) for the q14d dose regimen and 24% (8/33) for the q21d dose regimen. There are a significant number of patients in the study still on therapy with NKTR-102.

“This is a very promising result in patients with metastatic breast cancer who have failed prior taxanes and in most cases, prior anthracyclines,” said Prof. Ahmad Awada, Head of the Gynecologic Oncology Clinic at the Institut Jules Bordet in Brussels, Belgium. “I have patients who have not responded to any prior therapy but who have experienced a good response to NKTR-102. These data are quite encouraging, and NKTR-102 should be taken forward as a single agent and in combination therapy in patients with difficult-to-treat disease such as triple-negative breast cancer and anthracycline/taxane failures.”

Of the 70 patients enrolled in the study, approximately 85% had received prior anthracycline/ taxane, either with or without capecitabine therapy. The drug has been well-tolerated to-date. The most commonly observed grade 3 or grade 4 side effects in the study to date (every 14 day/every 21 day dose schedule) were diarrhea (14%/6%) and neutropenia (9%/6%). There were low rates of alopecia observed with single-agent NKTR-102, with only a small number of women experiencing Grade 2 alopecia.

“We are highly encouraged by the compelling preliminary activity observed to-date in the patients from our study,” said Lorianne Masuoka, M.D., Senior Vice President and Chief Medical Officer. “This, combined with our recent results presented at the 2010 ASCO meeting for single-agent NKTR-102 in women with platinum-resistant and refractory ovarian cancer, make us very excited about the future of NKTR-102 as a novel anti-cancer agent.”

About the Study

The Phase 2 study is evaluating two dose regimens (q14 day and q21 day) of single-agent NKTR-102 in women with metastatic breast cancer. The study employs a two-stage design, with 40 patients in the first stage and 30 patients in the second stage. Secondary endpoints of the Phase 2 study include progression-free survival and safety.

About Metastatic Breast Cancer

Breast cancer is one of the most common cancers among every major ethnic group of women in the United States. The chance of developing invasive breast cancer at some time in a woman's life is a little less than 1 in 8 (12%). According to the American Cancer Society, nearly 200,000 new cases of invasive breast cancer were diagnosed in women in 2009. Anthracyclines and taxanes are the most active and widely used chemotherapeutic agents for breast cancer, but the increased use of these agents at an early stage of disease often renders tumors resistant to these drugs by the time the disease recurs, thereby reducing the number of treatment options for metastatic disease. Drugs used to treat patients who progress following AT treatment can be as high as 20-30%; however, resistance develops rapidly and new agents with different mechanisms of action, such as topoisomerase I-inhibitors, are needed to allow novel ways to overcome the problem of drug resistance.¹ There are currently no FDA-approved topoisomerase-I inhibitors to treat breast cancer.

About NKTR-102

Nektar is developing NKTR-102, a topoisomerase I inhibitor-polymer conjugate with reduced peak concentrations and a continuous concentration profile. NKTR-102 was invented by Nektar using its advanced polymer conjugate technology platform, and is the first oncology product candidate to leverage Nektar's releasable polymer technology platform.

In addition to the fully-enrolled Phase 2 studies in platinum-resistant ovarian cancer and metastatic breast cancer, NKTR-102 is also being tested in a separate Phase 2 clinical trial in patients with second-line colorectal cancer and a Phase 1 clinical trial of NKTR-102 evaluating it in combination with 5-FU therapy.

About Nektar

Nektar Therapeutics is a biopharmaceutical company developing novel therapeutics based on its PEGylation and advanced polymer conjugation technology platforms. Nektar's technology and drug development expertise have enabled nine approved products in the U.S. or Europe for leading biopharmaceutical company partners, including UCB's Cimzia(R) for Crohn's disease and rheumatoid arthritis, Roche's PEGASYS(R) for hepatitis C and Amgen's Neulasta(R) for neutropenia.

Nektar has created a robust pipeline of potentially high-value therapeutics to address unmet medical needs by leveraging and expanding its technology platforms to improve and enable molecules. In addition to the releasable polymer technology, Nektar is the first company to create a permanent small molecule-polymer conjugate with enhanced oral bioavailability and restricted entry into the CNS. Nektar is currently conducting clinical and preclinical programs in oncology, pain and other therapeutic areas. Nektar recently entered into an exclusive worldwide license agreement with AstraZeneca for its oral NKTR-118 program to treat opioid-induced constipation and its NKTR-119 program for the treatment of pain without constipation side effects. NKTR-102 is being evaluated in Phase 2 clinical studies for the treatment of ovarian, breast and colorectal cancers. NKTR-105 is in a Phase 1 clinical study in cancer patients with refractory solid tumors.

Nektar is headquartered in San Carlos, California, with additional R&D operations in Huntsville, Alabama and Hyderabad, India. Further information about the company and its drug development programs and capabilities may be found online at <http://www.nektar.com>.

This press release contains forward-looking statements that reflect Nektar's current views regarding the potential of Nektar's technology platform, the potential of NKTR-102 for breast cancer patients, and preliminary initial results from the Phase 2 clinical trial of NKTR-102 in metastatic breast cancer. These forward-looking statements involve substantial risks and uncertainties, including but not limited to one or more of the following: (i) NKTR-102 is in early stage clinical development and the risk of failure remains high and failure can unexpectedly occur at any stage for one or more of the cancer indications being studied (i.e. ovarian cancer, breast cancer, and colorectal cancer) due to efficacy, safety or other unpredictable factors; (ii) the initial preliminary RECIST response data for the NKTR-102 clinical trial in breast cancer reported in this press release is subject to substantial change and such substantial change could be material and adverse—in particular, there is no way to predict whether unconfirmed responses will become confirmed responses as the clinical trial progresses; (iii) the Phase 2 results for NKTR-102 in breast cancer described in this press release remain subject to data audit confirmation procedures, and the reported results may change materially and adversely after such review is completed; (iv) additional important data will be reported by Nektar in the future regarding the NKTR-102 clinical study in breast cancer including but not limited to confirmed/unconfirmed RECIST response rates, progression-free survival, overall survival and further safety information regarding the frequency and severity of adverse events observed in the study, and therefore the complete and final results for the Phase 2 breast cancer trial may differ materially and adversely from these preliminary initial results; (v) the timing or success of the commencement or end of clinical trials and commercial launch of new drugs may be delayed or unsuccessful due to regulatory delays, clinical trial design, slower than anticipated patient enrollment, drug manufacturing challenges, changing standards of care, clinical outcomes, or delay or failure in obtaining regulatory approval in one or more important markets; (vi) this early preliminary data from the NKTR-102 clinical study for breast cancer is not necessarily predictive of the outcomes for other cancer indications for which NKTR-102 is being studied (i.e. ovarian and colorectal cancers); (vii) the data package required and the timing for regulatory approval of a new drug application is very uncertain and difficult to predict due to broad regulatory discretion, changing standards of care, available approved therapies, the size of the completed clinical trials and the statistical significance of the results, the potential need for comparative clinical studies against approved therapies, and other important variables that are not within the control of Nektar; (viii) Nektar's patent applications for its proprietary or partner product candidates may not issue, patents that have issued may not be enforceable, or additional intellectual property licenses from third parties may be required in the future; (ix) the uncertain outcome of any future intellectual property, commercial or other litigation related to Nektar's proprietary product candidates, including without limitation NKTR-102; (x) if Nektar is unable to establish and maintain collaboration partnerships on attractive commercial terms, our business, results of operations and financial condition could suffer; and (xi) certain other important risks and uncertainties set forth in Nektar's Current Report on Form 8-K filed today, the Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the quarter ended March 31, 2010, filed on May 6, 2010, and the most recent Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2009, filed on March 3, 2010. Actual results could differ materially from the forward-looking statements contained in this press release. Nektar undertakes no obligation to update forward-looking statements whether as a result of new information, future events or otherwise including without limitation future clinical and regulatory developments.

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¹ Alvaro and Perez, Mayo Clin Proc. 2009; 84(6):533-545
