Table of Contents

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:

August 9, 2005

(Date of earliest event reported)

Biogen Idec Inc.

(Exact Name of Registrant as Specified in Charter)

Delaware	**0-19311**	**33-0112644**
(State or other Jurisdiction of Incorporation)	(Commission File No.)	(IRS Employer Identification No.)

14 Cambridge Center
Cambridge, Massachusetts 02142
(Address of principal executive offices, including zip code)

(617) 679-2000

(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 filing is intended to simultaneously satisfy the filing obligation of the Registrant under any of the following provisions:

o Written communications pursuant to Rule 425 under the Securities Act (17 CFR 230.425)

o Soliciting material pursuant to Rule 14a-12 under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14a-12)

o Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 14d-2(b) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14d-2(b))

o Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 13e-4(c) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.13e-4(c))

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Table of Contents

Item 8.01. OTHER EVENTS.

On August 9, 2005, Biogen Idec Inc. publicly disseminated a press release announcing an update of its safety evaluation of TYSABRI® (natalizumab). The information contained in the press release is incorporated herein by reference and filed as Exhibit 99.1 hereto.

Item 9.01. FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AND EXHIBITS.

(c) ***Exhibits***

Exhibit Number	Description of Exhibit
99.1	Press Release, dated August 9, 2005, issued by Biogen Idec Inc. and Elan Corporation, plc

Table of Contents

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.

BIOGEN IDEC INC.

By: /s/ Raymond G. Arner
Name: Raymond G. Arner
Title: Acting General Counsel

Date: August 11, 2005

Table of Contents

EXHIBIT INDEX

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99.1	Press Release, dated August 9, 2005, issued by Biogen Idec Inc. and Elan Corporation, plc

Exhibit 99.1

For More Information Contact:

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BIOGEN IDEC AND ELAN ANNOUNCE TYSABRI® SAFETY EVALUATION UPDATE

Cambridge, MA and Dublin, Ireland — August 9, 2005 - Biogen Idec (NASDAQ: BIIB) and Elan Corporation, plc (NYSE: ELN) announced today that findings from their safety evaluation of TYSABRI® (natalizumab) in patients with multiple sclerosis (MS) resulted in no new confirmed cases of progressive multifocal leukoencephalopathy (PML). The companies have previously reported three confirmed cases of PML, two of which were fatal. The ongoing safety evaluation in Crohn's disease and rheumatoid arthritis is on track to be completed by the end of the summer. The companies anticipate making submissions to regulatory authorities in early fall of 2005. The companies are taking preliminary steps to restart clinical trials in MS.

More than 2,000 MS patients from clinical trials were eligible for the safety evaluation. To date, 91% of these MS patients participated in the safety evaluation. The remaining 9% of patients did not participate in the safety review. A total of 99% of patients participating in the evaluation visited their treating physician and had a neurological exam. In addition, 98% of participants had an MRI exam. The safety evaluation also included the review of any reports of potential PML in patients receiving TYSABRI in the commercial setting.

"Our ongoing TYSABRI safety evaluation is a rigorous medical and scientific undertaking that has been led by some of the world's leading experts in neurology and neuroradiology," said Whaijen Soo, MD, PhD, senior vice president, Medical Research, Biogen Idec. "Given the high unmet medical need in MS and the therapeutic benefit we have seen with TYSABRI, we are encouraged by these safety findings."

-MORE-

"The findings announced today are an important milestone in understanding the appropriate benefit-risk profile for TYSABRI. Patient safety remains our top priority. We are committed to finalizing the safety evaluation for Crohn's disease and rheumatoid arthritis, which is progressing well and on track to be completed by the end of the summer. We look forward to working with regulatory authorities to determine the path forward for TYSABRI," said Lars Ekman, MD, PhD, executive vice president and president, Research and Development, Elan.

On February 28, 2005, Biogen Idec and Elan announced that they voluntarily suspended TYSABRI from the U.S. market and all ongoing clinical trials based on reports of PML, a rare and potentially fatal, demyelinating disease of the central nervous system. Biogen Idec and Elan's comprehensive safety evaluation concerning TYSABRI and any possible link to PML is ongoing. The results of this safety evaluation will be discussed with regulatory agencies to determine the appropriate path forward for TYSABRI.

Biogen Idec and Elan will host a webcast for the media and investment community at 8:30 a.m. EST today to discuss the TYSABRI safety evaluation update. This webcast can be accessed through the investor relations' sections of the companies' websites.

About Biogen Idec
Biogen Idec creates new standards of care in oncology, neurology and immunology. As a global leader in the development, manufacturing, and commercialization of novel therapies, Biogen Idec transforms scientific discoveries into advances in human healthcare. For product labeling, press releases and additional information about the company, please visit http://www.biogenidec.com.

About Elan
Elan Corporation, plc is a neuroscience-based biotechnology company. We are committed to making a difference in the lives of patients and their families by dedicating ourselves to bringing innovations in science to fill significant unmet medical needs that continue to exist around the world. Elan shares trade on the New York, London and Dublin Stock Exchanges. For additional information about the company, please visit http://www.elan.com

Safe Harbor/ Forward Looking Statements
This press release contains forward-looking statements regarding the potential, regulatory path forward, re-start of MS clinical trials and safety evaluation of TYSABRI. The potential, regulatory path forward and re-start of clinical trials for TYSABRI are subject to a number of risks and uncertainties. Factors which could cause actual results to differ materially from the companies current expectations include the risk that concerns may arise from additional data or analysis, including the ongoing safety evaluation, or that the companies may encounter other unexpected delays or hurdles. There is also no assurance that the companies will be able to gain

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sufficient information to fully understand the risks associated with TYSABRI or that the companies will be able to resume marketing and sales of TYSABRI. The completion of the safety evaluation is subject to a number of risks and uncertainties, including the difficulty of analyzing complex data and results and unanticipated logistical hurdles. Drug development and commercialization involves a high degree of risk. For more detailed information on the risks and uncertainties associated with the companies' drug development and other activities, see the periodic reports that Biogen Idec and Elan have filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission. The companies assume no obligation to update any forward-looking statements, whether as a result of new information, future events or otherwise.

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