



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): **March 3, 2005**

**Biogen Idec Inc.**

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

**Delaware**  
(State or other jurisdiction  
of incorporation)

**0-19311**  
(Commission  
File Number)

**33-0112644**  
(I.R.S. Employer  
Identification No.)

**14 Cambridge Center, Cambridge, Massachusetts**  
(Address of principal executive offices)

**02142**  
(Zip Code)

Registrant's telephone number, including area code: **(617) 679-2000**

**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))
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### **Item 8.01 Other Events**

On March 3, 2005, the Registrant publicly disseminated a press release announcing an update on the voluntary suspension in the marketing of TYSABRI® (natalizumab), a treatment for multiple sclerosis. 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.

99.1 The Registrant's Press Release dated March 3, 2005.

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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 hereunto duly authorized.

**Biogen Idec Inc.**

By: /s/ Anne Marie Cook

Anne Marie Cook

Vice President, Chief Corporate Counsel

Date: March 7, 2005

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**EXHIBIT INDEX**

Exhibit Number	Description
99.1	The Registrant's Press Release dated March 3, 2005



**For More Information Contact:**

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**BIOGEN IDEC AND ELAN ANNOUNCE UPDATE ON TYSABRI®**

**Cambridge, MA and Dublin, Ireland – March 3, 2005** – Biogen Idec (NASDAQ: BIIB) and Elan Corporation, plc (NYSE:ELN) announced today an update on the voluntary suspension in the marketing of TYSABRI® (natalizumab), a treatment for multiple sclerosis (MS).

- On February 28, 2005, the companies reported that they had suspended marketing of TYSABRI based on one confirmed case and one suspected case of progressive multifocal leukoencephalopathy (PML), a rare and frequently fatal, demyelinating disease of the central nervous system. The investigator has now changed the status of the second case from suspected to confirmed. The companies are continuing to examine these two cases. As indicated in the announcement on February 28, 2005, both patients received more than two years of TYSABRI therapy in combination with AVONEX® (Interferon beta-1a).
- To date, the companies have received no reports of PML in patients receiving TYSABRI monotherapy for MS or in patients with Crohn's disease or rheumatoid arthritis. Biogen Idec has not received any reports of PML in patients treated with AVONEX alone, a product on the market since 1996.
- Biogen Idec and Elan will work with clinical investigators to evaluate TYSABRI-treated patients and will consult with leading experts to better understand the possible risk of PML. Based on the full results of these evaluations, the companies, in consultation with regulatory authorities, will determine the appropriate next steps.

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In addition, Biogen Idec and Elan have undertaken to provide information to the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) in connection with the voluntary suspension in the marketing of TYSABRI. The companies are cooperating with the agency regarding these matters.

**About Biogen Idec**

Biogen Idec creates new standards of care in oncology 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 for TYSABRI. These statements are based on the companies' current beliefs and expectations, and are subject to risks and uncertainties that could cause actual results to differ materially. There is no assurance, for example, that the serious adverse events discussed above were not caused by TYSABRI, that there are not or will not be more such serious adverse events or that we will be able to gain sufficient information to fully understand the risks associated with the product. There is also no assurance that the companies will be able to resume marketing and sales of TYSABRI. For more detailed information on the risks and uncertainties associated with TYSABRI and the companies' drug development and other activities, see the periodic and other reports of Biogen Idec Inc. and Elan Corporation, plc 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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