

UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION WASHINGTON, D.C. 20549

DIVISION OF CORPORATION FINANCE

September 26, 2017

Yuichi Iwaki Chief Executive Officer Medicinova, Inc. 4275 Executive Square, Suite 650 La Jolla, CA 92037

> Re: Medicinova, Inc. Registration Statement on Form S-3 Filed September 22, 2017 File No. 333-220593

Dear Mr. Iwaki:

This is to advise you that we have not reviewed and will not review your registration statement.

Please refer to Rules 460 and 461 regarding requests for acceleration. We remind you that the company and its management are responsible for the accuracy and adequacy of their disclosures, notwithstanding any review, comments, action or absence of action by the staff.

Please contact Ada D. Sarmento at (202) 551-3798 with any questions.

Division of Corporation Finance Office of Healthcare & Insurance

cc: Kirt W. Shuldberg, Esq.