

**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 17, 2005

MEDICINOVA, INC.

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Delaware
(State or other jurisdiction
of incorporation)

000-51133
(Commission File Number)

33-0927979
(IRS Employer
Identification No.)

**4350 La Jolla Village Drive, Suite 950
San Diego, CA 92122**
(Address of principal executive offices) (Zip Code)

Registrant's telephone number, including area code: (858) 373-1500

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:

- 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 June 17, 2005, MediciNova, Inc. announced in a press release the initiation of a second Phase I study with MN-029 in patients with solid tumors. MN-029 is a vascular targeting agent, or VTA, that in pre-clinical studies demonstrated greater potency with possibly less cardiovascular and central nervous system toxicity than first generation VTAs.

Attached as Exhibit 99.1 hereto and incorporated herein by reference in its entirety is the press release issued by MediciNova on June 17, 2005.

Item 9.01 Financial Statements and Exhibits.**(c) Exhibits.**

<u>Exhibit</u>	<u>Description</u>
99.1	Press Release issued June 17, 2005.

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.

Dated: June 17, 2005.

MEDICINOVA, INC.

By: /s/ Takashi Kiyozumi

Takashi Kiyozumi, M.D., Ph.D.
President and Chief Executive Officer

EXHIBIT INDEX

<u>Exhibit No.</u>	<u>Description</u>
99.1	Press Release issued June 17, 2005.



CONTACT: Brian Anderson
MediciNova, Inc.
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Email: banderson@medicinova.com

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

MediciNova Initiates a Second Phase I Clinical Trial with MN-029 in Cancer Patients

Novel Vascular Targeting Agent Well Tolerated in Earlier Trial

SAN DIEGO, Calif. – June 17, 2005 — MediciNova, Inc., a specialty pharmaceutical company that is publicly traded on the Hercules Market of the Osaka Securities Exchange (Code number: 4875), today announced the initiation of a second Phase I study with MN-029 in patients with solid tumors. MN-029 is a vascular targeting agent (VTA) that in preclinical studies demonstrated greater potency with possibly less cardiovascular and central nervous system toxicity than first generation VTAs. In September of 2004, the Company initiated a Phase I clinical trial in patients with solid tumors. That study is nearing completion.

“MN-029 has been well tolerated at each dosing level throughout the current Phase I clinical study, and we are planning in this second study to implement a more aggressive, yet simpler dosing schedule that will be compatible with a wide range of cancer treatment regimens,” stated Richard E. Gammans, Ph.D., Chief Development Officer at MediciNova.

MediciNova has exclusive worldwide rights to MN-029, which was acquired from Angiogene Pharmaceuticals of Oxford, U.K., in 2002.

About MediciNova

MediciNova, Inc. is a publicly traded specialty pharmaceutical company focused on accelerating the global development and commercialization of innovative pharmaceutical products. MediciNova's pipeline, which includes several compounds in clinical testing, targets a variety of prevalent medical conditions, including premature labor, cancer, asthma, multiple sclerosis and anxiety disorders. For more information on MediciNova Inc., please visit www.medicinova.com.

This press release may contain "forward looking statements" as defined by the Securities and Exchange Commission. All statements, other than statements of historical facts, included in this press release that address activities, events or developments that the Company expects, believes or anticipates will or may occur in the future are forward-looking statements. These statements are based on certain assumptions made by the Company based on management's experience and perception of historical trends, current conditions, expected future developments and other factors it believes are appropriate in the circumstances. Such statements are subject to a number of assumptions, risks and uncertainties, many of which are beyond the control of the Company, which may cause the Company's actual results to differ materially from those implied or expressed by the forward-looking statements. These risks include the risk factors detailed in MediciNova's Securities and Exchange Commission filings.