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): April 21, 2020

Aptose Biosciences Inc.

(Exact Name of Registrant as Specified in Charter)

Canada (State or Other Jurisdiction of Incorporation) **001-32001** (Commission File Number)

98-1136802 (I.R.S. Employer Identification Number)

251 Consumers Road, Suite 1105, Toronto, Ontario, Canada M2J 4R3 (Address of Principal Executive Offices) (Zip Code)

647-479-9828

(Registrant's telephone number, including area code)

(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))

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is an emerging growth company as defined in Rule 405 of the Securities Act of 1933 (17 CFR §230.405) or Rule 12b-2 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (17 CFR §240.12b-2). Emerging growth company [X]

If an emerging growth company, indicate by check mark if the registrant has elected not to use the extended transition period for complying with any new or revised financial accounting standards provided pursuant to Section 13(a) of the Exchange Act. [X]

Securities registered pursuant to Section 12(b) of the Act:

1

Title of each class	Trading Symbol(s)	Name of each exchange on which registered
Common Shares, no par value	APTO	Nasdaq Capital Market

Item 8.01. Other Events.

On April 21, 2020, the Registrant issued a press release, a copy of which is attached hereto as Exhibit 99.1 and is incorporated herein by reference.

In accordance with General Instruction B.2 of Form 8-K, the information in the press release attached as Exhibit 99.1 hereto shall not be deemed to be "filed" for purposes of Section 18 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the "Exchange Act"), nor shall such information be deemed incorporated by reference in any filing under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, or the Exchange Act, except as shall be expressly set forth by specific reference in such filing.

Item 9.01. Financial Statements and Exhibits.

Exhibit 99.1. Press release dated April 21, 2020

SIGNATURE

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.

Aptose Biosciences Inc.

Date: April 21, 2020

By: <u>/s/ Gregory K. Chow</u> Gregory K. Chow Senior Vice President and Chief Financial Officer

Aptose to Release First Quarter Ended March 31, 2020 Financial Results and Hold Conference Call on May 5, 2020

SAN DIEGO and TORONTO, April 21, 2020 (GLOBE NEWSWIRE) -- Aptose Biosciences Inc. (Nasdaq: APTO; TSX: APS), a clinical-stage company developing highly differentiated therapeutics that target the underlying mechanisms of cancer, will release its financial results for the quarter ended March 31, 2020, on Tuesday, May 5, 2020, after the close of the market.

Conference Call & Webcast:

Date:	Tuesday, May 5, 2020
Time:	5:00 PM Eastern Time
Dial In - Toll-Free:	1 844-882-7834
Dial In - International:	1 574-990-9707
Passcode:	6470926
Webcast:	<u>LINK</u>

Replay available through May 19, 2020:

Dial In - Toll-Free:	1 855-859-2056
Dial In - International:	1 404-537-3406
Replay Passcode:	6470926

The live conference call can also be accessed through a link on the Investor Relations section of Aptose's website at <u>https://www.aptose.com/investors/news-events/ir-calendar.</u> An archived version of the webcast along with a transcript will be available on the company's website for 30 days.

The press release, the financial statements and the management's discussion and analysis for the quarter ended March 31, 2020 will be available on SEDAR at www.sedar.com and EDGAR at www.sec.gov/edgar.shtml.

About Aptose Biosciences

Aptose Biosciences is a clinical-stage biotechnology company committed to developing personalized therapies addressing unmet medical needs in oncology, with an initial focus on hematology. The Company's small molecule cancer therapeutics pipeline includes products designed to provide single agent efficacy and to enhance the efficacy of other anti-cancer therapies and regimens without overlapping toxicities. The Company has two clinical-stage investigational products for hematologic malignancies: CG-806, an oral, first-in-class mutation-agnostic FLT3/BTK kinase inhibitor, is in a Phase 1 trial in patients with relapsed or refractory B cell malignancies, including chronic lymphocytic leukemia (CLL), small lymphocytic lymphoma (SLL) and non-Hodgkin lymphoma (NHL), who have failed or are intolerant to standard therapies; APTO-253, the only clinical stage agent that directly targets the MYC oncogene and supresses its expression, is in a Phase 1 b clinical trial for the treatment of patients with relapsed or refractory acute myeloid leukemia (AML) or high risk myelodysplastic syndrome (MDS). For further information, please visit <u>www.aptose.com</u>

For further information, please contact:

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