

**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 23, 2025**

**APTOSE BIOSCIENCES INC.**

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

**Canada**  
(State or Other Jurisdiction of Incorporation)

**001-32001**  
(Commission File Number)

**98-1136802**  
(I.R.S. Employer Identification No.)

**66 Wellington Street West, Suite 5300  
TD Bank Tower, Box 48  
Toronto, Ontario M5K 1E6  
Canada**  
(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))

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

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

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

Emerging growth company

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.

**Item 7.01. Regulation FD Disclosure.**

On April 23, 2025, 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.**

(d) Exhibits

<b><u>Exhibit Number</u></b>	<b><u>Description</u></b>
<a href="#"><u>99.1</u></a>	<a href="#"><u>Press Release dated April 23, 2025</u></a>
104	Cover Page Interactive Data File (embedded within the Inline XBRL document)

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**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 23, 2025

By: /s/ William G. Rice, Ph.D.  
William G. Rice, Ph.D.  
President and Chief Executive Officer

## Aptose Announces Auditor Not Standing for Re-Appointment

SAN DIEGO and TORONTO, April 23, 2025 (GLOBE NEWSWIRE) -- Aptose Biosciences Inc. (“Aptose” or the “Company”) (TSX:APS), a clinical-stage precision oncology company developing a tuspentinib (TUS) based triple drug frontline therapy to treat patients with newly diagnosed acute myeloid leukemia (AML), announces that effective on April 15, 2025, KPMG LLP, the current independent registered public accounting firm of the Company (the “KPMG”), informed the Company that it will not stand for re-appointment for the Company’s 2025 annual audit. The Company anticipates that KPMG will continue to review its quarterly interim financial results through the first two fiscal quarters of 2025. The Company has initiated a process to appoint a new independent registered public accounting firm.

KPMG did not seek the Company’s consent to its decision to not stand for re-appointment as the Company’s independent registered public accounting firm. As a result, neither the Company’s Board of Directors nor the Audit Committee of the Company’s Board of Directors participated in KPMG’s decision.

KPMG issued unqualified reports on the Company’s consolidated financial statements for the fiscal years ended December 31, 2024 and 2023. The Company is a “smaller reporting company”, so KPMG was not required to prepare reports on the effectiveness of the Company’s internal control over financial reporting for the years ended December 31, 2024 and 2023.

During the Company’s fiscal years ended December 31, 2024 and 2023, and the subsequent interim period through April 15, 2025, there were no: (1) “disagreements” between the Company and KPMG within the meaning of Item 304(a)(1)(iv) of Regulation S-K on any matter of accounting principles or practices, financial statement disclosure, or auditing scope or procedures, which disagreements if not resolved to their satisfaction would have caused them to make reference in connection with their opinion to the subject matter of the disagreement, or (2) “reportable events” within the meaning of Item 304(a)(1)(v) of Regulation S-K, except that KPMG communicated to the Company its views regarding the material weakness in its internal control over financial reporting as disclosed in Part II, Item 9A of the Company’s Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2024 pertaining to its accounting for complex financial instruments, specifically with regards to warrants. The Company has authorized KPMG to respond fully to the inquiries of the successor independent registered public accounting firm, once one is engaged.

The filings required pursuant to Canadian and United States securities laws are publicly available at [www.sedarplus.com](http://www.sedarplus.com) and [www.sec.gov](http://www.sec.gov).

### About Aptose

Aptose Biosciences is a clinical-stage biotechnology company committed to developing precision medicines 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’s lead clinical-stage compound tuspentinib (TUS), is an oral kinase inhibitor that has demonstrated activity as a monotherapy and in combination therapy in patients with relapsed or refractory acute myeloid leukemia (AML) and is being developed as a frontline triplet therapy in newly diagnosed AML. For more information, please visit [www.aptose.com](http://www.aptose.com).

### Forward Looking Statements

This press release contains forward-looking statements within the meaning of Canadian and U.S. securities laws, including, but not limited to, statements regarding the Company’s intentions to retain a new auditor and make the necessary filings and statements relating to the Company’s plans, objectives, expectations and intentions and other statements including words such as “continue”, “expect”, “intend”, “will”, “hope” “should”, “would”, “may”, “potential” and other similar expressions. Such statements reflect our current views with respect to future events and are subject to risks and uncertainties and are necessarily based upon a number of estimates and assumptions that, while considered reasonable by us, are inherently subject to significant business, economic, competitive, political and social uncertainties and contingencies. Many factors could cause our actual results, performance or achievements to be materially different from any future results, performance or achievements described in this press release. Such factors could include risks detailed from time-to-time in our ongoing current reports, quarterly filings, annual information forms, annual reports and annual filings with Canadian securities regulators and the United States Securities and Exchange Commission.

Should one or more of these risks or uncertainties materialize, or should the assumptions set out in the section entitled "Risk Factors" in our filings with Canadian securities regulators and the United States Securities and Exchange Commission underlying those forward-looking statements prove incorrect, actual results may vary materially from those described herein. These forward-looking statements are made as of the date of this press release and we do not intend, and do not assume any obligation, to update these forward-looking statements, except as required by law. We cannot assure you that such statements will prove to be accurate as actual results and future events could differ materially from those anticipated in such statements. Investors are cautioned that forward-looking statements are not guarantees of future performance and accordingly investors are cautioned not to put undue reliance on forward-looking statements due to the inherent uncertainty therein.

### For further information, please contact:

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