

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

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FORM 8-K

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CURRENT REPORT

PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934

Date of Report: March 10, 2011  
(Date of earliest event reported)

**NOVELOS THERAPEUTICS, INC.**  
(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

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**Delaware**

(State or other jurisdiction  
of incorporation)

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**333-119366**

(Commission  
File Number)

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**04-3321804**

(IRS Employer  
Identification Number)

**One Gateway Center, Suite 504**  
**Newton, MA 02458**  
(Address of principal executive offices)

**(617) 244-1616**  
(Registrant's telephone number, including area code)

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 5.02 Departure of Directors or Principal Officers; Election of Directors; Appointment of Principal Officers**

On March 10, 2011, Novelos Therapeutics, Inc. (the “Company”) terminated the employment of Elias B. Nyberg, its Vice President of Regulatory, Quality and Compliance. In connection with his termination, which was without cause, Dr. Nyberg received a payment of approximately \$83,000 pursuant to the terms of the executive retention agreement between him and the Company dated May 14, 2010.

**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.

**NOVELOS THERAPEUTICS, INC.**

Dated: March 16, 2011

By: /s/ Harry S. Palmin

Name: Harry S. Palmin

Title: President and Chief Executive Officer