

SECURITIES & EXCHANGE COMMISSION EDGAR FILING

Hepion Pharmaceuticals, Inc.

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UNITED STATES
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, DC 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): January 8, 2020

Hepion Pharmaceuticals, Inc.
(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Delaware
(State or other jurisdiction
of incorporation or organization)

001-36856
(Commission
File Number)

46-2783806
IRS Employer
Identification No.)

399 Thornall Street, First Floor
Edison, NJ 08837
(Address of principal executive offices)

Registrant's telephone number, including area code: (732) 902-4000

(Former name or former address, if changed since last report)

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

<u>Title of each class:</u>	<u>Trading Symbol(s)</u>	<u>Name of each exchange on which registered:</u>
Common Stock	HEPA	Nasdaq Capital Market

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 communication 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 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 8.01 Other Events

On January 8, 2020, Hepion Pharmaceuticals, Inc. issued a press release announcing that it will present a poster at the NASH-TAG 2020 Conference to be held in Park City, UT from January 9-11, 2020. A copy of the press release is furnished as Exhibit 99.1 to this Form 8-K.

Item 9.01 Financial Statements and Exhibits

(d) Exhibits

99.1 [Hepion Pharmaceuticals, Inc. Press Release dated January 8, 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.

Dated: January 8, 2020

HEPION PHARMACEUTICALS, INC.

By: /s/ Robert Foster

Robert Foster

Chief Executive Officer

Hepion Pharmaceuticals Presents Update on CRV431 Nonclinical Studies at NASH-TAG 2020 Conference

EDISON, N.J., January 8, 2020 - Hepion Pharmaceuticals, Inc. (NASDAQ:HEPA), a biopharmaceutical company focused on the development of therapeutic drugs for the treatment of liver disease arising from non-alcoholic steatohepatitis ("NASH"), today announced that it will present a poster at the NASH-TAG 2020 Conference to be held in Park City, UT from January 9-11, 2020.

The presentation will provide further data from four nonclinical studies demonstrating that CRV431 decreases liver fibrosis in animal and human tissue experimental models.

Dr. Daren Ure, Chief Scientific Officer of Hepion Pharmaceuticals, who will be presenting the poster, said, "To date, independent investigators across North America and Europe have conducted nine nonclinical studies, all of which have shown that CRV431 reduces fibrotic scarring of the liver arising from several types of liver injury. Since human liver fibrosis results from many types of insults – including hepatitis viruses and alcohol, as well as poor diet in the case of NASH – these findings provide compelling evidence that CRV431's ability to directly target fibrotic mechanisms could make it an important and versatile drug treatment."

Dr. Robert Foster, Chief Executive Officer, added, "Fibrotic scarring plays a major role in liver dysfunction, leading to cirrhosis and liver failure, and a reduction in liver fibrosis is the most important outcome sought in NASH clinical trials. These studies have been instrumental in highlighting CRV431's therapeutic strengths and have helped guide our current planning of NASH clinical trials."

Presentation Details**CRV431 Directly Targets Liver Fibrosis in Murine NASH Models and Human Liver Slices**

Authors: Ure D¹, Kuo J², Trepanier D¹, Mayo P¹, Gallay P², and Foster RT¹

¹Hepion Pharmaceuticals, Inc. ²The Scripps Research Institute

Location: The Chateaux Deer Valley, Renoir Ballroom

The NASH-TAG Conference is designed to bring together clinicians and researchers in academia and the pharmaceutical industry for a focused interactive educational update highlighting the most relevant advances and challenges in the diagnosis and therapy of NASH and liver fibrosis. NASH-TAG 2020 will take place over three, days providing attendees an understanding of current and future directions in diagnostic procedures, prospects and challenges in drug discovery and development for both NASH and liver fibrosis.

About Hepion Pharmaceuticals

Hepion Pharmaceuticals is a clinical stage biopharmaceutical company focused on the development of targeted therapies for liver disease arising from non-alcoholic steatohepatitis (NASH) and other types of hepatitis. The Company's lead drug candidate, CRV431, reduces liver fibrosis and hepatocellular carcinoma tumor burden in experimental models of NASH. Preclinical studies also have demonstrated antiviral activities towards HBV, HCV, and HDV through several mechanisms. These diverse therapeutic activities result from CRV431's potent inhibition of cyclophilins, which are involved in many disease processes. Currently in clinical phase development, CRV431 shows potential to play an important role in the overall treatment of liver disease - from triggering events through to end-stage disease.

Forward Looking Statements

Certain statements in this press release are forward-looking within the meaning of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. These statements may be identified by the use of forward-looking words such as “anticipate,” “believe,” “forecast,” “estimated,” and “intend,” among others. These forward-looking statements are based on Hepion Pharmaceuticals’ current expectations and actual results could differ materially. There are a number of factors that could cause actual events to differ materially from those indicated by such forward-looking statements. These factors include, but are not limited to, substantial competition; our ability to continue as a going concern; our need for additional financing; uncertainties of patent protection and litigation; uncertainties with respect to lengthy and expensive clinical trials, that results of earlier studies and trials may not be predictive of future trial results; uncertainties of government or third party payer reimbursement; limited sales and marketing efforts and dependence upon third parties; and risks related to failure to obtain FDA clearances or approvals and noncompliance with FDA regulations. As with any drug candidates under development, there are significant risks in the development, regulatory approval, and commercialization of new products. There are no guarantees that future clinical trials discussed in this press release will be completed or successful, or that any product will receive regulatory approval for any indication or prove to be commercially successful. Hepion Pharmaceuticals does not undertake an obligation to update or revise any forward-looking statement. Investors should read the risk factors set forth in Hepion Pharmaceuticals’ Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2018 and other periodic reports filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission.

For further information, please contact:

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