

ATHERSYS, INC / NEW  
Form 8-K  
October 19, 2010

**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): October 18, 2010**

**Athersys, Inc.**

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

**Delaware**

(State or other Jurisdiction of  
Incorporation)

**001-33876**

(Commission File Number)

**20-4864095**

(IRS Employer Identification No.)

**3201 Carnegie Avenue, Cleveland, Ohio**

(Address of Principal Executive Offices)

**44115-2634**

(Zip Code)

Registrant's telephone number, including area code: **(216) 431-9900**

(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))

**Item 5.02. Departure of Directors or Certain Officers; Election of Directors; Appointment of Certain Officers; Compensatory Arrangements of Certain Officers.**

On October 18, 2010, the Board of Directors (the “Board”) of Athersys, Inc. (the “Company”) elected Dr. Ismail Kola, as a Director, effective October 18, 2010.

As a non-employee Director, Dr. Kola will receive compensation in the same manner as the Company’s other non-employee Directors, which compensation the Company previously disclosed in its Proxy Statement for the Company’s 2010 Annual Meeting of Stockholders filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on April 28, 2010.

**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.

Date: October 19, 2010

ATHERSYS, INC.

By: /s/ Laura K. Campbell  
Name: Laura K. Campbell  
Title: Vice President, Finance