

ALNYLAM PHARMACEUTICALS, INC.

Form S-8

February 26, 2010

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As filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on February 26, 2010

Registration No. 333-_____

**UNITED STATES
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
Washington, D.C. 20549
FORM S-8**

**REGISTRATION STATEMENT UNDER
THE SECURITIES ACT OF 1933**

Alnylam Pharmaceuticals, Inc.

(Exact Name of Registrant as Specified in Its Charter)

Delaware
(State or Other Jurisdiction of
Incorporation or Organization)

77-0602661
(I.R.S. Employer
Identification No.)

300 Third Street
Cambridge, Massachusetts
(Address of Principal Executive Offices)

02142
(Zip Code)

2009 Stock Incentive Plan
(Full Title of the Plan)

John M. Maraganore, Ph.D.
Chief Executive Officer

Alnylam Pharmaceuticals, Inc.
300 Third Street

Cambridge, Massachusetts 02142
(Name and Address of Agent For Service)

(617) 551-8200

(Telephone Number, Including Area Code, of Agent For Service)

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a large accelerated filer, an accelerated filer, a non-accelerated filer, or a smaller reporting company. See the definitions of large accelerated filer, accelerated filer and smaller reporting company in Rule 12b2 of the Exchange Act. (Check one):

Large accelerated filer <input type="checkbox"/>	Accelerated filer <input type="checkbox"/>	Non-accelerated filer <input type="checkbox"/>	Smaller reporting company <input type="checkbox"/>
		(Do not check if a smaller reporting company)	

CALCULATION OF REGISTRATION FEE

Title of Securities to be Registered	Amount to be Registered (1)	Proposed Maximum Offering Price Per Share (3)	Proposed Maximum Aggregate Offering Price (3)	Amount of Registration Fee
Common Stock (including associated Series A Junior Participating Preferred Stock Rights), \$0.01 par value per share	2,200,000 shares (2)	\$ 17.22	\$ 37,884,000	\$ 2,702

- (1) In accordance with Rule 416 under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended (the Securities Act), this registration statement shall be deemed to cover any additional securities that may from time to time be offered or issued to prevent dilution resulting from stock splits, stock dividends or similar transactions.
- (2) Consists of 2,200,000 shares issuable under the 2009 Stock Incentive Plan pursuant to the terms of such plan.
- (3) Estimated solely for the purpose of calculating the registration fee pursuant to Rules 457(c) and 457(h) of the Securities Act and based upon the average of the high and low prices of the Registrant's Common Stock as reported on

the NASDAQ
Global Market
on February 22,
2010.

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**PART I
INFORMATION REQUIRED IN THE SECTION 10(a) PROSPECTUS**

Item 1. Plan Information.

The information required by Item 1 is included in documents sent or given to participants in the plan covered by this registration statement pursuant to Rule 428(b)(1) of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended (the Securities Act).

Item 2. Registrant Information and Employee Plan Annual Information.

The written statement required by Item 2 is included in documents sent or given to participants in the plan covered by this registration statement pursuant to Rule 428(b)(1) of the Securities Act.

**PART II
INFORMATION REQUIRED IN THE REGISTRATION STATEMENT**

Item 3. Incorporation of Documents by Reference.

The registrant is subject to the informational and reporting requirements of Sections 13(a), 14, and 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the Exchange Act), and in accordance therewith files reports, proxy statements and other information with the Securities and Exchange Commission (the Commission). The following documents, which are on file with the Commission, are incorporated in this registration statement by reference:

(a) The registrant's latest annual report filed pursuant to Section 13(a) or 15(d) of the Exchange Act or the latest prospectus filed pursuant to Rule 424(b) under the Securities Act that contains audited financial statements for the registrant's latest fiscal year for which such statements have been filed.

(b) All other reports filed pursuant to Section 13(a) or 15(d) of the Exchange Act since the end of the fiscal year covered by the document referred to in (a) above.

(c) The description of the securities contained in the registrant's registration statement on Form 8-A filed under the Exchange Act, including any amendment or report filed for the purpose of updating such description.

All documents subsequently filed by the registrant pursuant to Sections 13(a), 13(c), 14 and 15(d) of the Exchange Act, prior to the filing of a post-effective amendment which indicates that all securities offered hereby have been sold or which deregisters all securities then remaining unsold, shall be deemed to be incorporated by reference in this registration statement and to be part hereof from the date of the filing of such documents. Any statement contained in a document incorporated or deemed to be incorporated by reference herein shall be deemed to be modified or superseded for the purposes of this registration statement to the extent that a statement contained herein or in any other subsequently filed document which also is or is deemed to be incorporated by reference herein modifies or supersedes such statement. Any statement so modified or superseded shall not be deemed, except as so modified or superseded, to constitute a part of this registration statement.

Item 4. Description of Securities.

Not applicable.

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Item 5. Interests of Named Experts and Counsel.

Wilmer Cutler Pickering Hale and Dorr LLP has opined as to the legality of the securities being offered by this registration statement.

Item 6. Indemnification of Directors and Officers.

Section 102 of the Delaware General Corporation Law (DGCL) allows a corporation to eliminate the personal liability of directors of a corporation to the corporation or its stockholders for monetary damages for a breach of fiduciary duty as a director, except where the director breached his duty of loyalty, failed to act in good faith, engaged in intentional misconduct or knowingly violated a law, authorized the payment of a dividend or approved a stock repurchase in violation of Delaware corporate law or obtained an improper personal benefit. The registrant has included such a provision in its Restated Certificate of Incorporation.

Under Section 145 of the DGCL, a corporation may indemnify any person who was or is a party or is threatened to be made a party to any threatened, pending or completed action, suit or proceeding, whether civil, criminal, administrative or investigative (other than an action by or in the right of the corporation) by reason of the fact that the person is or was a director, officer, employee or agent of the corporation, or is or was serving at the request of the corporation as a director, officer, employee or agent of another corporation, partnership, joint venture, trust or other enterprise, against expenses (including attorneys' fees), judgments, fines and amounts paid in settlement actually and reasonably incurred by the person in connection with such action, suit or proceeding if the person acted in good faith and in a manner the person reasonably believed to be in or not opposed to the best interests of the corporation, and, with respect to any criminal action or proceeding, had no reasonable cause to believe the person's conduct was unlawful.

Section 145 also provides that a corporation may indemnify any such person serving in any such capacity who was or is a party or is threatened to be made a party to any threatened, pending or completed action or suit by or in the right of the corporation to procure a judgment in its favor by reason of the fact that the person is or was a director or officer of the corporation against expenses (including attorneys' fees) actually and reasonably incurred by the person in connection with the defense or settlement of such action or suit if the person acted in good faith and in a manner the person reasonably believed to be in or not opposed to the best interests of the corporation. However, no indemnification shall be made in respect of any claim, issue or matter as to which such person shall have been adjudged to be liable to the corporation unless and only to the extent that the Court of Chancery or the court in which such action or suit was brought shall determine upon application that, despite the adjudication of liability but in view of all the circumstances of the case, such person is fairly and reasonably entitled to indemnity for such expenses which the Court of Chancery or such other court shall deem proper.

Notwithstanding the instances outlined above where a corporation may indemnify its current and former directors and officers, a corporation may purchase and maintain insurance on behalf of any person who is or was a director or officer of the corporation against any liability asserted against such person and incurred by such person in any such capacity, or arising out of such person's status as such. The registrant maintains insurance on behalf of its directors and executive officers insuring them against any liability asserted against them in their capacities as directors or officers or arising out of such status.

The registrant's Restated Certificate of Incorporation includes a provision that eliminates the personal liability of its directors for monetary damages for breach of fiduciary duty as a director, except for liability for any breach of the director's duty of loyalty to the registrant or its stockholders, for acts or omissions not in good faith or that involve intentional misconduct or a knowing violation of law, under

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Section 174 of the DGCL regarding unlawful dividends and stock purchases or for any transaction from which the director derived an improper personal benefit.

These provisions are permitted under Delaware law. The registrant's Restated Certificate of Incorporation provides that it must indemnify its directors and officers to the fullest extent permitted by Delaware law, it may indemnify its other employees and agents to the same extent that the registrant indemnified its officers and directors, unless otherwise determined by the registrant's Board of Directors and the registrant must advance expenses, as incurred, to its directors and executive officers in connection with a legal proceeding to the fullest extent permitted by Delaware law.

The indemnification provisions contained in the registrant's Restated Certificate of Incorporation and Amended and Restated Bylaws are not exclusive of any other rights to which a person may be entitled by law, agreement, vote of stockholders or disinterested directors, or otherwise.

Item 7. Exemption from Registration Claimed.

Not applicable.

Item 8. Exhibits.

The Exhibit Index immediately preceding the exhibits is incorporated herein by reference.

Item 9. Undertakings.

1. *Item 512(a) of Regulation S-K*. The undersigned registrant hereby undertakes:

(1) To file, during any period in which offers or sales are being made, a post-effective amendment to this registration statement:

(i) To include any prospectus required by Section 10(a)(3) of the Securities Act;

(ii) To reflect in the prospectus any facts or events arising after the effective date of the registration statement (or the most recent post-effective amendment thereof) which, individually or in the aggregate, represent a fundamental change in the information set forth in the registration statement; and

(iii) To include any material information with respect to the plan of distribution not previously disclosed in the registration statement or any material change to such information in the registration statement; *provided, however*, that paragraphs (i) and (ii) do not apply if the information required to be included in a post-effective amendment by those paragraphs is contained in reports filed with or furnished to the Commission by the registrant pursuant to Section 13 or Section 15(d) of the Exchange Act that are incorporated by reference in the registration statement.

(2) That, for the purpose of determining any liability under the Securities Act, each such post-effective amendment shall be deemed to be a new registration statement relating to the securities offered therein, and the offering of such securities at that time shall be deemed to be the initial *bona fide* offering thereof.

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(3) To remove from registration by means of a post-effective amendment any of the securities being registered which remain unsold at the termination of the offering.

2. Item 512(b) of Regulation S-K. The undersigned registrant hereby undertakes that, for purposes of determining any liability under the Securities Act, each filing of the registrant's annual report pursuant to Section 13(a) or Section 15(d) of the Exchange Act that is incorporated by reference in the registration statement shall be deemed to be a new registration statement relating to the securities offered therein, and the offering of such securities at that time shall be deemed to be the initial *bona fide* offering thereof.

3. Item 512(h) of Regulation S-K. Insofar as indemnification for liabilities arising under the Securities Act may be permitted to directors, officers and controlling persons of the registrant pursuant to the foregoing provisions, or otherwise, the registrant has been advised that in the opinion of the Securities and Exchange Commission such indemnification is against public policy as expressed in the Securities Act and is, therefore, unenforceable. In the event that a claim for indemnification against such liabilities (other than the payment by the registrant of expenses incurred or paid by a director, officer or controlling person of the registrant in the successful defense of any action, suit or proceeding) is asserted by such director, officer or controlling person in connection with the securities being registered, the registrant will, unless in the opinion of its counsel the matter has been settled by controlling precedent, submit to a court of appropriate jurisdiction the question whether such indemnification by it is against public policy as expressed in the Securities Act and will be governed by the final adjudication of such issue.

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SIGNATURES

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Act of 1933, the registrant certifies that it has reasonable grounds to believe that it meets all of the requirements for filing on Form S-8 and has duly caused this registration statement to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned, thereunto duly authorized, in the City of Cambridge, Commonwealth of Massachusetts, on this 26th day of February, 2010.

ALNYLAM PHARMACEUTICALS, INC.

By: /s/ John M. Maraganore, Ph.D.
John M. Maraganore, Ph.D.
Chief Executive Officer

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We, the undersigned officers and directors of Alnylam Pharmaceuticals, Inc., hereby severally constitute and appoint John M. Maraganore and Patricia L. Allen, and each of them singly, our true and lawful attorneys with full power to them, and each of them singly, to sign for us and in our names in the capacities indicated below, the registration statement on Form S-8 filed herewith and any and all subsequent amendments to said registration statement, and generally to do all such things in our names and on our behalf in our capacities as officers and directors to enable Alnylam Pharmaceuticals, Inc. to comply with the provisions of the Securities Act of 1933, and all requirements of the Securities and Exchange Commission, hereby ratifying and confirming our signatures as they may be signed by our said attorneys, or any of them, to said registration statement and any and all amendments thereto.

Pursuant to the Securities Act of 1933, this registration statement has been signed by the following persons in the capacities and on the dates indicated.

Signature	Title	Date
/s/ John M. Maraganore, Ph.D. John M. Maraganore, Ph.D.	Director and Chief Executive Officer (Principal Executive Officer)	February 26, 2010
/s/ Patricia L. Allen Patricia L. Allen	Vice President of Finance and Treasurer (Principal Financial and Accounting Officer)	February 26, 2010
/s/ John K. Clarke John K. Clarke	Director	February 26, 2010
/s/ Victor J. Dzau, M.D. Victor J. Dzau, M.D.	Director	February 26, 2010
/s/ Vicki L. Sato, Ph.D. Vicki L. Sato, Ph.D.	Director	February 26, 2010
/s/ Paul R. Schimmel, Ph.D. Paul R. Schimmel, Ph.D.	Director	February 26, 2010
/s/ Edward M. Scolnick, M.D. Edward M. Scolnick, M.D.	Director	February 26, 2010
/s/ Phillip A. Sharp, Ph.D. Phillip A. Sharp, Ph.D.	Director	February 26, 2010
/s/ Kevin P. Starr Kevin P. Starr	Director	February 26, 2010

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Signature	Title	Date
/s/ James L. Vincent James L. Vincent	Director	February 26, 2010

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Number	Description
4.1	Restated Certificate of Incorporation of the Registrant (filed as Exhibit 3.1 to the Registrant's Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q on August 11, 2005 (File No. 000-50743) and incorporated herein by reference)
4.2	Amended and Restated Bylaws of the Registrant (filed as Exhibit 3.4 to the Registrant's Registration Statement on Form S-1/A, as amended, on April 6, 2004 (File No. 333-113162) and incorporated herein by reference)
4.3	Rights Agreement dated July 13, 2005 between the Registrant and EquiServe Trust Company, N.A., as Rights Agent (filed as Exhibit 4.1 to the Registrant's Current Report of Form 8-K on July 14, 2005 (File No. 000-50743) and incorporated herein by reference)
5.1	Opinion of Wilmer Cutler Pickering Hale and Dorr LLP, counsel to the Registrant
23.1	Consent of Wilmer Cutler Pickering Hale and Dorr LLP (included in Exhibit 5.1)
23.2	Consent of PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP, Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm
23.3	Consent of Ernst & Young LLP, Independent Auditors of Regulus Therapeutics Inc.
24	Power of Attorney (included on the signature page of this registration statement)
99.1	2009 Stock Incentive Plan of the Registrant (filed as Exhibit 10.2 to the Registrant's Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q filed on August 7, 2009 (File No. 000-50743) for the quarterly period ended June 30, 2009 and incorporated herein by reference)