

EPIX Pharmaceuticals, Inc.  
Form 8-K  
March 09, 2006

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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): March 7, 2006  
EPIX Pharmaceuticals, Inc.**

(Exact Name of Registrant as Specified in Its Charter)  
**Delaware**

(State or Other Jurisdiction of Incorporation)

**000-21863**

**04-3030815**

(Commission File Number)

(IRS Employer Identification No.)

**161 First Street, Cambridge, Massachusetts 02142**

(Address of Principal Executive Offices)

(Zip Code)

**(617) 250-6000**

(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 (*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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EX-99.2 Press Release dated March 8, 2006

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**Item 1.01. Entry into a Material Definitive Agreement.**

On March 7, 2006, EPIX Pharmaceuticals, Inc. ( EPIX or the Company ) amended its employment agreement, dated September 14, 2005 (the Agreement ), with Interim Chief Executive Officer, Michael J. Astrue, to extend the term of the Agreement (the Agreement Term ) through May 31, 2006. Mr. Astrue has served as EPIX Interim CEO since September 14, 2005 pursuant to the Agreement, which had an original Agreement Term of four months plus an option for two additional months (the Option ). As previously reported, the Board of Directors of EPIX exercised the Option on December 12, 2005.

The terms and conditions of the amendment are incorporated herein by reference from the text of the amendment filed as Exhibit 99.1 hereto. All other terms of the Agreement remain the same and are incorporated herein by reference to EPIX Current Report on Form 8-K filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on September 21, 2005 (File No. 000-21863).

**Item 8.01. Other Events.**

On March 8, 2006, EPIX issued a press release announcing the enrollment of the final patient in EPIX Phase IIa study of its thrombus-imaging agent, EP-2104R, on March 7, 2006. A copy of the press release is attached to this Current Report on Form 8-K as Exhibit 99.2 and incorporated herein by reference.

**Item 9.01. Financial Statements and Exhibits.**

(d) The following exhibits are furnished with this report:

| Exhibit Number | Description   |
|----------------|---|
| 99.1           | Amendment Number One to Employment Agreement, dated as of September 14, 2005, between EPIX Pharmaceuticals, Inc. and Michael J. Astrue, dated March 7, 2006 |
| 99.2           | Press Release dated March 8, 2006   |

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**SIGNATURES**

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, the Registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned hereunto duly authorized.

EPIX Pharmaceuticals, Inc.  
(Registrant)

Date: March 9, 2006

/s/ Michael J. Astrue  
Michael J. Astrue  
*Interim Chief Executive Officer*