# 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): **May 16, 2017**

# ADAPTIMMUNE THERAPEUTICS PLC

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

| **England and Wales** | **1-37368** | **Not Applicable** |
|---|---|---|
| (State or other jurisdiction of incorporation) | (Commission File Number) | (IRS Employer Identification No.) |

**101 Park Drive, Milton Park**
**Abingdon, Oxfordshire OX14 4RY**
**United Kingdom**
(Address of principal executive offices, including zip code)

**(44) 1235 430000**
(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:

- ☐ 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))

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is an emerging growth company 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 May 16, 2017, Adaptimmune Therapeutics plc (the "Company") issued a press release announcing that it has initiated its MAGE-A4 SPEAR T-cell study in patients with multiple malignant solid tumors. The text of the press release is attached as Exhibit 99.1 and is incorporated by reference herein.

The information contained in Item 8.01 of this Form 8-K, including the attached Exhibit 99.1, shall not be deemed "filed" for purposes of Section 18 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the "Exchange Act"), or incorporated by reference in any filing made by the Company under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, or the Exchange Act, except as expressly set forth by the Company by specific reference in such a filing.

**Item 9.01 Financial Statements and Exhibits.**

(d) Exhibits. The following exhibit is furnished as part of this Report on Form 8-K:

| Exhibit No. | Description of Exhibit |
|---|---|
| 99.1 | Press Release dated May 16, 2017 |



**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.

ADAPTIMMUNE THERAPEUTICS PLC

Date: May 16, 2017

By: /s/ Margaret Henry

Name: Margaret Henry
Title: Corporate Secretary



**Exhibit Index**

| Exhibit No. | Description of Exhibit |
|---|---|
| 99.1 | Press Release dated May 16, 2017 |

**Exhibit 99.1**

**Adaptimmune Announces Initiation of Study to Evaluate SPEAR T-Cell Therapy Targeting MAGE-A4 in Multiple Solid Tumors**

PHILADELPHIA, Pa. and OXFORD, UK., May 16, 2017 — Adaptimmune Therapeutics plc (Nasdaq: ADAP), a leader in T-cell therapy to treat cancer, today announced that it has initiated the first site for its MAGE-A4 SPEAR T-cell study in patients with multiple malignant solid tumors. This study is now open for enrollment.

This is Adaptimmune's third wholly-owned therapeutic candidate to enter clinical trials. The Company already has ongoing studies to evaluate its T-cell therapies targeting the MAGE-A10 cancer antigen in patients with non-small cell lung cancer, urothelial cancer, melanoma, or head and neck cancers; and AFP in patients with hepatocellular carcinoma.

"We are excited to initiate this study to evaluate our MAGE-A4 T-cell therapeutic candidate in patients with multiple malignant solid tumors," said Rafael Amado, Adaptimmune's Chief Medical Officer. "Preclinical evaluations of our MAGE-A4 affinity matured T-cell receptor show optimized targeting of, and specificity for, MAGE-A4 expressing cancer cells. MAGE-A4 is among the most commonly expressed cancer embryonic antigens; therefore, we have the opportunity to evaluate the potential of this promising therapy in a wide range of cancers."

This is a Phase I, open label, dose escalation study designed to evaluate the safety and anti-tumor activity of Adaptimmune's MAGE-A4 therapeutic candidate in patients who are HLA-A*02 positive and have inoperable locally advanced or metastatic melanoma, urothelial, head and neck, ovarian, non-small cell lung, esophageal, and gastric cancers expressing MAGE-A4. The study will enroll up to 32 patients. The primary objective of the study is to evaluate the safety and tolerability of MAGE-A4 SPEAR T-cell therapy. Additional objectives include anti-tumor activity, persistence of genetically modified cells in the body, and evaluation of the phenotype and functionality of genetically modified cells isolated from peripheral blood or tumor post infusion.

Additional information about this study is available at www.clinicaltrials.gov by searching on NCT03132922.

**About Adaptimmune**

Adaptimmune is a clinical-stage biopharmaceutical company focused on the development of novel cancer immunotherapy products. The Company's unique SPEAR (Specific Peptide Enhanced Affinity Receptor) T-cell platform enables the engineering of T-cells to target and destroy cancer, including solid tumors. Adaptimmune has a number of proprietary clinical programs, and is also developing its NY-ESO SPEAR T-cell program under a strategic collaboration and licensing agreement with GlaxoSmithKline. The Company is located in Philadelphia, USA and Oxfordshire, U.K. For more information, please visit http://www.adaptimmune.com

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**Forward-Looking Statements**

This release contains "forward-looking statements" within the meaning of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995 (PSLRA). These forward-looking statements involve certain risks and uncertainties. Such risks and uncertainties could cause our actual results to differ materially from those indicated by such forward-looking statements, and include, without limitation: the success, cost and timing of our product development activities and clinical trials and our ability to successfully advance our TCR therapeutic candidates through the regulatory and commercialization processes. For a further description of the risks and uncertainties that could cause our actual results to differ materially from those expressed in these forward-looking statements, as well as risks relating to our business in general, we refer you to our Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) on May 10, 2017, and our other SEC filings. The forward-looking statements contained in this press release speak only as of the date the statements were made and we do not undertake any obligation to update such forward-looking statements to reflect subsequent events or circumstances.

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