## 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): November 27, 2017

**Arbutus Biopharma Corporation** (Exact Name of Registrant as Specified in Charter)

(Exact Name of Registrant as Specified in

BRITISH COLUMBIA, CANADA

(State or Other Jurisdiction of Incorporation)

**001-34949** (Commission File Number) 980597776 (I.R.S. Employer Identification Number)

**100-8900 Glenlyon Parkway, Burnaby, British Columbia, Canada V5J 5J8** (Address of Principal Executive Offices) (Zip Code)

(604) 419-3200

(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:

[] 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 (17 CFR §230.405) or Rule 12b-2 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (17 CFR §240.12b-2). 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 November 27, 2017, the Registrant issued a press release, a copy of which is attached hereto as Exhibit 99.1 and is incorporated herein by reference.

#### Item 9.01. Financial Statements and Exhibits.

Exhibit 99.1. Press release dated November 27, 2017

#### 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.

## Arbutus Biopharma Corporation

Date: November 27, 2017

By: <u>/s/ Bruce G. Cousins</u> Bruce G. Cousins Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer

## **Arbutus Announces Presentations at HepDART 2017**

VANCOUVER, British Columbia and WARMINSTER, Pa., Nov. 27, 2017 (GLOBE NEWSWIRE) -- Arbutus Biopharma Corporation (Nasdaq:ABUS), an industry-leading Hepatitis B Virus (HBV) therapeutic solutions company, today announced two oral presentations and one poster presentation at HepDART 2017 being held on December 3 - 7, 2017 in Kona, Hawaii.

#### **Presentations Include:**

<u>Oral Presentation:</u> "Controlling HBsAg as a Key Component of a Combination Strategy to Affect an HBV Cure" by Michael J. Sofia, Chief Scientific Officer

• December 5, 2017, 6:50pm - 7:10pm (HST), Shifting the Tide of Drug Development Towards HBV, NASH, and HCC: Battling Giant Killers

Summary: HBV produces significant quantities of surface antigen (HBsAg)-containing subviral particles, which is believed to play a major role in the immune exhaustion observed in chronic HBV patients, suggesting that reducing or eliminating HBsAg may be critical for developing a curative regimen. An update will be presented on HBsAg reducing strategies for HBV treatment that include lipid nanoparticle (LNP) siRNAs and small molecule RNA destabilizers. In addition, in vitro and in vivo combination studies of HBsAg reducing agents with other mechanism of action agents will be described.

<u>Oral and Poster Presentation #8:</u> "A Next Generation HBV Capsid Inhibitor, AB-506: *In Vitro* and *In Vivo* Antiviral Characterization" *by Nagraj Mani, Senior Principal Scientist* 

- December 5, 2017, 3:30pm 5:00pm (HST), Poster Session
- December 6, 2017, 12:00pm 12:10pm (HST), Oral Abstract Session IV

Summary: Arbutus' next-generation, highly selective HBV capsid inhibitor AB-506, has the potential to be a best-in-class capsid inhibitor based on its favorable drug-like properties and potent inhibition of HBV replication both *in vitro* and *in vivo*. In a HBV cell culture model, AB-506 treatment resulted in empty capsid formation devoid of the viral genome. AB-506's improved potency is a result of improved binding interaction with the core protein and represents enhanced target engagement compared to earlier capsid inhibitors. This molecule has the potential for once daily oral dosing and is expected to be the subject of a regulatory filing in mid-2018.

These presentations will be available by visiting the Investor section of www.arbutusbio.com and selecting Events and Presentations.

#### **About Arbutus**

Arbutus Biopharma Corporation is a biopharmaceutical company dedicated to discovering, developing and commercializing a cure for patients suffering from chronic HBV infection. Arbutus is headquartered in Vancouver, BC, and has facilities in Warminster, PA. For more information, visit www.arbutusbio.com.

#### **Contact Information**

## **Investors**

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