

ATHERSYS, INC / NEW  
Form 8-K  
February 27, 2012

**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): February 24, 2012**

**Athersys, Inc.**

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

**Delaware**  
(State or other jurisdiction)

**001-33876**  
(Commission)

**20-4864095**  
(IRS Employer)

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(State of incorporation)

(File Number)

(Identification No.)

**3201 Carnegie Avenue, Cleveland, Ohio 44115-2634**  
(Address of principal executive offices, including 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 (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))

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

On February 24, 2012, the Board of Directors of Athersys, Inc. (the Company), upon the recommendation of the Compensation Committee of the Board of Directors of the Company, approved the following cash bonuses to the named executive officers of the Company, based on individual performance and achievement of corporate goals in 2011:

<b>Name</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Award</b>
Dr. Gil Van Bokkelen	Chief Executive Officer	\$40,000
William Lehmann, Jr.	President and Chief Operating Officer	\$27,000
Dr. John Harrington	Chief Scientific Officer and Executive Vice President	\$27,000
Dr. Robert Deans	Executive Vice President of Regenerative Medicine	\$24,300
Laura Campbell	Vice President of Finance	\$15,300

**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: February 27, 2012

ATHERSYS, INC.

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