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): August 22, 2016

ONCOGENEX PHARMACEUTICALS, INC.

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Delaware (State or other Jurisdiction of Incorporation) 033-80623 (Commission File Number) 95-4343413 (IRS Employer Identification No.)

19820 North Creek Parkway Bothell, Washington (Address of Principal Executive Offices)

98011 (Zip Code)

Registrant's telephone number, including area code: (425) 686-1500

N/A (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))

Item 3.01 Notice of Delisting or Failure to Satisfy a Continued Listing Rule or Standard; Transfer of Listing.

On August 22, 2016, OncoGenex Pharmaceuticals, Inc. (the "Company") received written notice from The NASDAQ Stock Market, LLC ("NASDAQ") indicating that the Company is not in compliance with the \$1.00 minimum bid price requirement for continued listing on The NASDAQ Capital Market, as set forth in Listing Rule 5550(a)(2). In accordance with Listing Rule 5810(c)(3)(A), the Company has a period of 180 calendar days, or until February 21, 2017, to regain compliance with the minimum bid price requirement. To regain compliance, the closing bid price of the Company's common stock must meet or exceed \$1.00 per share for a minimum of ten consecutive business days during this 180-day period.

If the Company is not in compliance by February 21, 2017, the Company may be afforded a second 180 calendar day period to regain compliance. To qualify, the Company would be required to meet the continued listing requirement for market value of publicly held shares and all other initial listing standards for The NASDAQ Capital Market, except for the minimum bid price requirement. In addition, the Company would be required to notify NASDAQ of its intent to cure the minimum bid price deficiency, which may include, if necessary, implementing a reverse stock split.

If the Company does not regain compliance within the allotted compliance periods, including any extensions that may be granted by NASDAQ, NASDAQ will provide notice that the Company's common stock will be subject to delisting. The Company would then be entitled to appeal the NASDAQ Staff's determination to a NASDAQ Listing Qualifications Panel and request a hearing.

The Company intends to monitor the closing bid price of its common stock and consider options to resolve the noncompliance with the minimum bid price requirement. There can be no assurance that the Company will be able to regain compliance with the minimum bid price requirement or will otherwise be in compliance with other NASDAQ listing criteria.

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SIGNATURES

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

Date: August 22, 2016

ONCOGENEX PHARMACEUTICALS, INC.

/s/ John Bencich John Bencich Chief Financial Officer