# SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION WASHINGTON, D.C. 20549

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FORM 8-K

#### CURRENT REPORT

Pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934

January 16, 1998 Date of Report (Date of earliest event reported)

DISCOVERY LABORATORIES, INC. (Exact name of Registrant as specified in its charter)

Delaware 000-26422 (State or other jurisdiction (Commission File Number) of incorporation)

94-3171943 (IRS Employer Identification Number)

509 Madison Avenue, 14th Floor New York, New York 10022 (Address of principal executive offices)

(212) 223-9504 (Registrant's telephone number, including area code)

#### Item 4. Changes in Registrant's Certifying Accountant

On January 16, 1998, the Audit Committee of Discovery Laboratories, Inc. (the "Company") retained Richard A. Eisner & Company, LLP ("RAE"), as the independent accountants to audit the Company's financial statements for fiscal year 1997. Prior to the merger of Discovery Laboratories, Inc., a former Delaware corporation ("Old Discovery"), with and into the Company (the "Merger"), which Merger became effective on November 25, 1997, RAE served as the independent accountants for Old Discovery. In connection with the Merger, the Company's executive offices and principal accounting functions were consolidated with Old Discovery's and, accordingly, the Company has determined to maintain the professional relationship established with RAE by Old Discovery. On Januray 16, 1998, the Company advised Ernst & Young, LLP ("Ernst & Young"), the Company's previous independent accountants, that the Company would not be retaining Ernst & Young to audit the Company's financial statements for fiscal year 1997.

The Company believes that, with respect to the years ended December 31, 1995 and 1996, the Company did not have any disagreement on any matter of accounting principals or practices, financial statement disclosure or auditing scope or procedure, which disagreement, if not resolved to the satisfaction of Ernst & Young would have caused it to make reference in connection with its report on the Company's financial statements to the subject matter of the disagreement.

The 1995 and 1996 audit reports issued by Ernst & Young for the Company did not contain an adverse opinion or a disclaimer of opinion, and were not qualified or modified as to uncertainty, audit scope or accounting principles. However, in reissuing its audit report on the Company's 1996 financial statements in connection with the filing by the Company of the Company's registration statement on Form S-4 filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on August 25, 1997 (and the amendments thereto), Ernst & Young added an explanatory paragraph to such report with respect to the ability of the Company to continue as a going concern. During those years there were no events described in Item 304(a)(1)(iv) (B) of Regulation S-B promulgated under the Act.

- Item 7. Financial Statements, Pro Forma Financial Statements and Exhibits
  - (c) Exhibits:
    - 16.1 Letter on Change in Certifying Accountant.

## **SIGNATURES**

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

DISCOVERY LABORATORIES, INC.

Date: January 16, 1998

/s/ James S. Kuo By:

Name: James S. Kuo, M.D.

Title: Chief Executive Officer

## Exhibit Index

Exhibit
Number Description
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16.1 Letter on Change in Certifying Accountant

January 19, 1998

Securities and Exchange Commission 450 Fifth Street, N.W. Washington, D.C. 20549

### Gentlemen:

We have read Item 4 of Form 8-K dated January 16, 1998, of Discovery Laboratories, Inc. and are in agreement with the statements contained therein, with the exception of the first sentence of the first paragraph on which we have no basis to agree or disagree.

/s/ ERNST & YOUNG LLP