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ANIKA THERAPEUTICS INC
Form 8-K
June 10, 2002

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): JUNE 6, 2002

ANIKA THERAPEUTICS, INC.

(Exact name of registrant as specified in charter)

| | | |
|---------------------------------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| MASSACHUSETTS | 000-21326 | 04-3145961 |
| ----- | ----- | ----- |
| (STATE OR OTHER JURISDICTION OF INCORPORATION) | (COMMISSION FILE NUMBER) | (IRS EMPLOYER IDENTIFICATION NO.) |

236 WEST CUMMINGS PARK, WOBURN, MASSACHUSETTS 01801

(ADDRESS OF PRINCIPAL EXECUTIVE OFFICES) (ZIP CODE)

(781) 932-6616

(REGISTRANT'S TELEPHONE NUMBER, INCLUDING AREA CODE)

ITEM 4. CHANGES IN REGISTRANT'S CERTIFYING ACCOUNTANT.

On June 6, 2002 Anika Therapeutics, Inc. (the "Company") notified Arthur

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Andersen LLP that it will engage other independent auditors and terminated the Company's engagement of Arthur Andersen LLP. The Audit Committee of the Company's Board of Directors recommended the dismissal of Arthur Andersen LLP as the Company's independent auditor, and such dismissal was approved by the Company's Board of Directors. Management and the Company's Audit Committee of the Board of Directors ("Board") have been conducting a search for a replacement independent auditor from qualified auditing firms, and will recommend such replacement firm to the Board for appointment as soon as practical.

The reports of Arthur Andersen LLP on the Company's financial statements for the fiscal years ended December 31, 2001 and 2000 did not contain an adverse opinion or disclaimer of opinion and were not qualified or modified as to uncertainty, audit scope or accounting principles. During the Company's two most recent fiscal years and subsequent interim periods, there were no disagreements with Arthur Andersen LLP on any matter of accounting principles or practices, financial statement disclosure or auditing scope or procedures, which disagreements, if not resolved to the satisfaction of Arthur Andersen LLP, would have caused it to make reference to such disagreements in its reports, nor were there any reportable events as defined in Item 304(a)(1)(v) of Regulation S-K.

The Company has requested Arthur Anderson LLP to furnish to it a copy of the letter addressed to the Securities and Exchange Commission stating whether it agrees with the above statements. A copy of that letter is filed as Exhibit 16.1 to this Form 8-K.

The Company will file a second Current Report on Form 8-K when a replacement independent auditor has been engaged.

ITEM 7. FINANCIAL STATEMENTS, PRO FORMA FINANCIAL INFORMATION AND EXHIBITS.

(c) EXHIBITS.

| EXHIBIT NO. | DESCRIPTION |
|-------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 16.1 | Letter from Arthur Andersen LLP regarding change in certifying accountant. |

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 thereunto duly authorized.

ANIKA THERAPEUTICS, INC.

Date: June 10, 2002

/S/ CHARLES H. SHERWOOD

Charles H. Sherwood
Chief Executive Officer and President

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