ATHERSYS, INC / NEW Form 8-K January 03, 2011

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): December 31, 2010

Athersys, Inc.

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Delaware (State or other Jurisdiction of Incorporation) **001-33876** (Commission File Number) **20-4864095** (IRS Employer Identification No.)

3201 Carnegie Avenue, Cleveland, Ohio (Address of Principal Executive Offices)

44115-2634 (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:

o Written communications pursuant to Rule 425 under the Securities Act (17 CFR 230.425)

o Soliciting material pursuant to Rule 14a-12 under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14a-12)

o Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 14d-2(b) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14d-2(b))

o 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 December 31, 2010, Dr. Floyd Loop notified Athersys, Inc. (the "Company") that he was resigning as a member of the Company's Board of Directors, effective immediately. Dr. Loop served on the Nominations and Corporate Governance Committee of the Board. Dr. Loop's decision to resign was not the result of any disagreement with the Company. Dr. Loop will continue to provide advisory services as a consultant to the Company.

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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: December 31, 2010

ATHERSYS, INC.

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

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