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): October 26, 2026

APTEVO THERAPEUTICS INC.

(Exact name of Registrant as Specified in Its Charter)

Delaware	**001-37746**	**81-1567056**
(State or Other Jurisdiction of Incorporation)	**(Commission File Number)**	**(IRS Employer Identification No.)**
2401 4th Avenue Suite 1050 Seattle, Washington		**98121**
(Address of Principal Executive Offices)		**(Zip Code)**

Registrant's Telephone Number, Including Area Code: (206) 838-0500

Not Applicable
(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))

Securities registered pursuant to Section 12(b) of the Act:

Title of each class	Trading Symbol(s)	Name of each exchange on which registered
Common Stock, $0.001 par value	APVO	The Nasdaq Stock Market LLC

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is an emerging growth company as defined in Rule 405 of the Securities Act of 1933 (§ 230.405 of this chapter) or Rule 12b-2 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (§ 240.12b-2 of this chapter).

Emerging growth company ☐

If an emerging growth company, indicate by check mark if the registrant has elected not to use the extended transition period for complying with any new or revised financial accounting standards provided pursuant to Section 13(a) of the Exchange Act. ☐

Item 8.01 Other Events.

On October 26, 2026, Aptevo Therapeutics Inc. (the "Company") issued a press release announcing ten patients with newly diagnosed acute myeloid leukemia (AML) have advanced to allogeneic stem cell transplant following treatment with mipletamig in combination with venetoclax and azacitidine.

A copy of the press release is attached hereto as Exhibit 99.1 and is incorporated by reference herein.

Item 9.01 Financial Statements and Exhibits.

(d) Exhibits

The following exhibits are being filed herewith:

Exhibit No.	Description
99.1	Press release of Aptevo Therapeutics Inc. dated October 26, 2026.
104	Cover Page Interactive Data File (embedded within the Inline XBRL document)

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.

APTEVO THERAPEUTICS INC.

Date: October 26, 2026

By: /s/ Daphne Taylor
Daphne Taylor
Senior Vice President and Chief Financial Officer

Exhibit 99.1

Aptevo Reports Mipletamig Combination Therapy Enabled 21% of Frontline AML Patients to Advance to Potentially Curative Stem Cell Transplant

Ten patients initially deemed unfit for intensive chemotherapy proceeded to stem cell transplant
Transplant rate compares favorably with historical standard-of-care experience, adding to growing clinical evidence supporting mipletamig's potential to improve outcomes in frontline AML
Aptevo expects the RAINIER dose optimization trial to conclude by year-end, with FDA interaction and initiation of a Phase 2 clinical trial anticipated in the first half of 2027

SEATTLE, WA, October 26, 2026 — Aptevo Therapeutics Inc. (Nasdaq: APVO), a clinical-stage biotechnology company developing novel multispecific immuno-oncology therapeutics, today announced that ten patients with newly diagnosed acute myeloid leukemia (AML) have advanced to allogeneic stem cell transplant following treatment with mipletamig in combination with venetoclax and azacitidine. Stem cell transplant uses donor cells to replace a patient’s blood-forming stem cells and can offer eligible patients the possibility of long-term remission or cure.

Notably, ten of 47 (21%) evaluable frontline patients treated with mipletamig in combination with venetoclax and azacitidine (VEN+AZA) proceeded to allogeneic stem cell transplantation, a potentially curative treatment option. This includes nine patients from the ongoing Phase 1b RAINIER trial and one patient from the previously completed dose expansion trial. This finding is particularly encouraging in a patient population initially deemed unfit for intensive induction chemotherapy, where advanced age, underlying health conditions and other factors can limit treatment options. The ability of these patients to proceed to transplant provides an additional encouraging indication of mipletamig's clinical activity in combination with the current standard of care.

The finding is also notable in the context of historical clinical experience with VEN+AZA alone. In the pivotal Phase 3 VIALE-A trial, three of 286 patients (0.7%) receiving VEN+AZA subsequently underwent stem cell transplantation* compared with (21%). Although cross-trial comparisons are limited by differences in patient populations, study design and follow-up, these observations add to the growing body of evidence supporting mipletamig's potential to improve treatment outcomes and help patients reach potentially curative treatment options. *Gangat N, et al. Venetoclax and hypomethylating agent therapy in newly diagnosed acute myeloid leukemia: A Mayo Clinic series and comparison with VIALE-A study. American Journal of Hematology. 2024.

"Each subset analysis helps us better understand the potential of mipletamig in frontline AML," said Dirk Huebner, M.D., Chief Medical Officer of Aptevo. "Our previously reported TP53 findings were particularly encouraging given the historically poor outcomes associated with

that mutation. Now, we are seeing ten patients advance to stem cell transplant, a treatment that can offer AML patients the possibility of long-term remission or cure. These observations add another important dimension to the clinical activity we have reported and support continued evaluation of the mipletamig triplet."

Reaching transplant matters and achieving a deep remission is a prerequisite for a successful transplant procedure. Remission reflects a reduction in leukemia, while transplant is an optimal outcome that can offer selected patients the possibility of prolonged remission or cure. Reaching transplant requires an adequate response to initial treatment, medical eligibility, and a suitable donor and treatment plan.

Mipletamig is being evaluated with venetoclax and azacitidine in RAINIER, Aptevo's Phase 1b/2 study in newly diagnosed AML patients who are not eligible for intensive induction chemotherapy. The current stage of RAINIER is evaluating mipletamig dosing to guide the next stage of clinical testing. Aptevo expects to complete this work by year-end 2026 and discuss next steps with regulators in the first half of 2027.

About Mipletamig

Aptevo's wholly owned lead proprietary drug candidate, mipletamig, is being evaluated for the treatment of AML. Mipletamig is designed to redirect the patient's immune system to destroy leukemic cells and leukemic stem cells expressing CD123, which is overexpressed on leukemic stem cells and AML blasts. Mipletamig is designed to engage both leukemic cells and T cells of the immune system and bring them closely together to trigger the destruction of leukemic cells. Mipletamig is purposefully designed to reduce the likelihood and severity of cytokine release syndrome by using the CRIS-7-derived CD3 binding pathway, an approach that differentiates Aptevo from competitors.

About Aptevo

Aptevo Therapeutics Inc. (Nasdaq: APVO) is a clinical-stage biotechnology company focused on developing novel bispecific and trispecific immunotherapies for the treatment of cancer. The Company's lead clinical candidate, mipletamig, is currently being evaluated in RAINIER, a two-part Phase 1b/2 trial for the treatment of frontline acute myeloid leukemia in combination with standard-of-care venetoclax and azacitidine. Mipletamig has received orphan drug designation for AML under the Orphan Drug Act.

In the solid tumor space, Aptevo's lead assets are focused on well-established targets to progress novel immunomodulatory platform backbones that are conditionally active only in the tumor.

This work includes advancing APVO451, a targeted trispecific immunotherapy candidate for solid tumors, and a strategic collaboration with Niowave to develop up to three radiopharmaceutical oncology programs. The first radiopharmaceutical program is expected to target nectin-4, a tumor-associated antigen expressed in multiple solid tumor types. Both

preclinical molecules are expected to advance into investigational new drug (IND)-enabling studies in 2027.

The Company's eight pipeline candidates are created using its proprietary ADAPTIR™ and ADAPTIR-FLEX™ platforms, which are designed to generate differentiated multispecific therapeutics. For more information, please visit http://www.aptevotherapeutics.com.

Safe Harbor Statement
This press release includes forward-looking statements within the meaning of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. All statements, other than statements of historical fact, including, without limitation, statements regarding Aptevo's expectations about the activity, efficacy, safety, tolerability and durability of mipletamig, including in combination with venetoclax and azacitidine; statements related to the progress of the RAINIER trial, including statements related to anticipated clinical and regulatory milestones; statements related to a growing number of patients treated with the mipletamig triplet advancing to stem cell transplant and mipletamig's role in offering AML patients the possibility of long-term remission or cure, statements related to the responses observed in patients with TP53-mutated AML and whether further study of mipletamig in combination with venetoclax and azacitidine will continue to show clinical benefit in patients with TP53-mutated AML; whether Aptevo's strategy will translate into an improved overall survival rate in acute myeloid leukemia (AML); whether the mipletamig data in combination therapy will be indicative of later stage clinical trials; whether Aptevo's strategy will translate into improved overall survival in AML, especially among patient subgroups with poor prognosis; its expectations regarding the effectiveness of its ADAPTIR and ADAPTIR-FLEX platform; development and continued development of Aptevo's current and potential future molecules, including Aptevo's trispecific candidates and their future development and efficacy with respect to addressing multiple solid tumor types; whether pre-clinical studies of Aptevo's trispecific candidates will show the desired anti-tumor efficacy, mechanism of action and safety profile and whether Aptevo's trispecific candidates will function with new mechanisms of action compared to our previous candidates and synergistically induce a biological response; the potential benefits, timing, scope and outcomes of the co-development collaboration with Niowave; and any statements containing the words "may," "continue to," "believes," "expects," "potential," "designed," "promising," "plans," "will" and similar expressions are intended to identify forward-looking statements.
These forward-looking statements are based on Aptevo's current intentions, beliefs and expectations regarding future events. Aptevo cannot guarantee that any forward-looking statement will be accurate. Investors are cautioned not to place undue reliance on any forward-looking statement. There are several important factors that could cause Aptevo's actual results to differ materially from those indicated by such forward-looking statements, including a deterioration in Aptevo's business or prospects; further assessment of preliminary or interim data or different results from later clinical trials; adverse events and unanticipated problems; adverse developments in clinical development, including unexpected safety issues observed during a clinical trial; and changes in regulatory, social, macroeconomic and political conditions. Additional risks and factors that may affect results are set forth in Aptevo's filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission, including its Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the

quarterly period ended June 30, 2026, and its subsequent reports on Form 10-Q and current reports on Form 8-K. Any forward-looking statement speaks only as of the date of this press release, and, except as required by law, Aptevo does not assume any obligation to update any forward-looking statement to reflect new information, events or circumstances.

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