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**UNITED STATES  
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20549**

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**FORM 8-K**

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**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 19, 2011**

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**ALEXION PHARMACEUTICALS, INC.**

**(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)**

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**Delaware**  
**(State or other jurisdiction of  
incorporation or organization)**

**000-27756**  
**(Commission  
File Number)**

**13-3648318**  
**(I.R.S. Employer  
Identification No.)**

**352 Knottter Drive, Cheshire, Connecticut 06410**  
**(Address of Principal Executive Offices) (Zip Code)**

**Registrant's telephone number, including area code: (203) 272-2596**

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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 (see General Instruction A.2. below):

- 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))
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**Item 8.01. Other Events**

On October 19, 2011, Alexion Pharmaceuticals, Inc. received notice that the European Patent Office (EPO) has rejected the opposition filed by Novartis Institutes for Biomedical Research, Inc. in August 2010 to Alexion's European Patent 0758904 (EP 0758904). The EPO concluded that EP 0758904 as originally granted meets the requirements of the European Patent Convention; and following this rejection of the opposition the claims of the patent as originally issued by the EPO in November 2009 remain unchanged, valid and in force.

**Signature**

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.

ALEXION PHARMACEUTICALS, INC.

By: /s/ Michael V. Greco

Date: October 20, 2011

Name: Michael V. Greco

Title: Associate General Counsel and Corporate Secretary