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ZIOPHARM ONCOLOGY INC

Reported by

YOUSSOUFIAN HAGOP

FORM 4

(Statement of Changes in Beneficial Ownership)

Filed 01/04/12 for the Period Ending 12/30/11

Address	1180 AVENUE OF THE AMERICA 19TH FLOOR NEW YORK, NY 10036
Telephone	646-214-0700
CIK	0001107421
Symbol	ZIOP
SIC Code	8093 - Specialty Outpatient Facilities, Not Elsewhere Classified
Industry	Biotechnology & Drugs
Sector	Healthcare
Fiscal Year	12/31

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FORM 4

[ ] Check this box if no longer subject to Section 16. Form 4 or Form 5 obligations may continue. *See* Instruction 1(b).

UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
Washington, D.C. 20549

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STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF SECURITIES

Filed pursuant to Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, Section 17(a) of the Public Utility Holding Company Act of 1935 or Section 30(f) of the Investment Company Act of 1940

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person *	2. Issuer Name **and** Ticker or Trading Symbol	5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer (Check all applicable)
Youssoufian Hagop	**ZIOPHARM ONCOLOGY INC [ZIOP]**	_____ Director _____ 10% Owner
(Last) (First) (Middle) **C/O ZIOPHARM ONCOLOGY, INC.,, ONE FIRST AVENUE, BLDG. 14**	3. Date of Earliest Transaction (MM/DD/YYYY) **12/30/2011**	__ **X** __ Officer (give title below) _____ Other (specify below) **Executive VP, CMO**
(Street) **BOSTON, MA 02129** (City) (State) (Zip)	4. If Amendment, Date Original Filed (MM/DD/YYYY)	6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing (Check Applicable Line) _ **X** _ Form filed by One Reporting Person ___ Form filed by More than One Reporting Person

Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned

1.Title of Security (Instr. 3)	2. Trans. Date	2A. Deemed Execution Date, if any	3. Trans. Code (Instr. 8)		4. Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5)			5. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 3 and 4)	6. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)	7. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)
			Code	V	Amount	(A) or (D)	Price			
Common Stock	**12/30/2011**		**A** (1)		**65380**	**A**	**$ 0**	**115380**	**D**	

Table II - Derivative Securities Beneficially Owned (*e.g.* , puts, calls, warrants, options, convertible securities)

1. Title of Derivate Security (Instr. 3)	2. Conversion or Exercise Price of Derivative Security	3. Trans. Date	3A. Deemed Execution Date, if any	4. Trans. Code (Instr. 8)		5. Number of Derivative Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5)		6. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date		7. Title and Amount of Securities Underlying Derivative Security (Instr. 3 and 4)		8. Price of Derivative Security (Instr. 5)	9. Number of derivative Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transaction (s) (Instr. 4)	10. Ownership Form of Derivative Security: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)	11. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)
				Code	V	(A)	(D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amount or Number of Shares				

Explanation of Responses:

(1) 21,794 shares vest on 12/30/12; and 21,793 shares vest on each of 12/30/2013 and 12/30/2014.

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships			
	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other
Youssoufian Hagop **C/O ZIOPHARM ONCOLOGY, INC.,** **ONE FIRST AVENUE, BLDG. 14** **BOSTON, MA 02129**			**Executive VP, CMO**	

Signatures

Richard E. Bagley, Attorney-In-Fact **1/4/2012**

** Signature of Reporting Person Date

Reminder: Report on a separate line for each class of securities beneficially owned directly or indirectly.

***** If the form is filed by more than one reporting person, *see* Instruction 4(b)(v).

****** Intentional misstatements or omissions of facts constitute Federal Criminal Violations. *See* 18 U.S.C. 1001 and 15 U.S.C. 78ff(a).

Note: File three copies of this Form, one of which must be manually signed. If space is insufficient, *see* Instruction 6 for procedure.

Persons who respond to the collection of information contained in this form are not required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB control number.

POWER OF ATTORNEY

For Executing Forms 3, 4 and 5

Know all by these presents, that the undersigned hereby constitutes and appoints Jonathan Lewis and Richard E. Bagley, signing individually, his true and lawful attorneys-in-fact to:

1. Execute for and on behalf of the undersigned Initial Statements of Beneficial Ownership of Securities on Form 3, Statements of Changes of Beneficial Ownership of Securities on Form 4 and Annual Statements of Beneficial Ownership of Securities on Form 5, for the purpose of reporting transactions by the undersigned in securities issued by ZIOPHARM Oncology, Inc. in accordance with Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 and the rules thereunder;

2. Do and perform any and all acts for and on behalf of the undersigned which may be necessary or desirable to complete the execution of any such Form 3, 4 or 5 and the timely filing thereof with the United States Securities and Exchange Commission and any other applicable governmental or regulatory authority; and

3. Take any other action of any type whatsoever in connection with the foregoing which in the opinion of such attorney-in-fact, may be of benefit to, in the best interest of, or legally required by, the undersigned, it being understood that the documents executed by such attorney-in-fact on behalf of the undersigned pursuant to this Power of Attorney shall be in such form and shall contain such terms and conditions as such attorney-in-fact may approve in his discretion. The undersigned hereby grants to each such attorney-in-fact full power and authority to do and perform all and every act and thing whatsoever requisite, necessary and proper to be done in the exercise of any of the rights and powers herein granted, as fully to all intents and purposes as such attorney-in-fact might or could do if personally present, with full power of substitution or revocation, hereby ratifying and confirming all that such attorney-in-fact, or his substitute or substitutes, shall lawfully do or cause to be done by virtue of this power of attorney and the rights and powers herein granted. The undersigned acknowledges that the foregoing attorneys-in-fact, in serving in such capacity at the request of the undersigned, are not assuming any of the undersigned's responsibilities to comply with Section 16 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934. This Power of Attorney shall remain in full force and effect until the undersigned is no longer required to file Forms 3, 4 and 5 with respect to the undersigned's holdings of and transactions in securities issued by Ziopharm Oncology, Inc., unless earlier revoked by the undersigned in a signed writing delivered to the foregoing attorneys-in-fact. IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the undersigned has executed this Power of Attorney as of this 15th day of July, 2011.

/s/ H. Youssoufian
(signature)

Hagop Youssoufian
(print name)