

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

SCHEDULE 13G
Under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934

Ligand Pharmaceuticals Incorporated
(Name of Issuer)

Common Stock
(Title of Class of Securities)

53220K207
(CUSIP Number)

November 21, 2002

(Date of Event Which Requires Filing of this Statement)

Check the appropriate box to designate the rule pursuant to which this Schedule is filed:

Rule 13d-1(b)

Rule 13d-1(c)

Rule 13d-1(d)

*The remainder of this cover page shall be filled out for a reporting person's initial filing on this form with respect to the subject class of securities, and for any subsequent amendment containing information which would alter the disclosures provided in a prior cover page.

The information required in the remainder of this cover page shall not be deemed to be "filed" for the purpose of Section 18 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 ("Act") or otherwise subject to the liabilities of that section of the Act but shall be subject to all other provisions of the Act (however, see the Notes).

CUSIP No. 53220K207

1. Names of Reporting Persons.
I.R.S. Identification Nos. of above persons (entities only).

OrbiMed Advisors Inc.

2. Check the Appropriate Box if a Member Of a Group (See Instructions)

(a)
 (b)

3. SEC Use Only

4. Citizenship or Place of Organization

Delaware

5. Sole Voting Power 0

Number of
Shares Beneficially
Owned by
Each Reporting
Person With

6. Shared Voting Power 4,036,118

7. Sole Dispositive Power 0

8. Shared Dispositive Power 4,036,118

9. Aggregate Amount Beneficially Owned by Each Reporting Person
4,036,118

10. Check if the Aggregate Amount in Row (9) Excludes Certain Shares
(See Instructions)

11. Percent of Class Represented by Amount in Row (9) 5.46%

12. Type of Reporting Person (See Instructions) IA

2

CUSIP No. 53220K207

1. Names of Reporting Persons.

I.R.S. Identification Nos. of above persons (entities only).

OrbiMed Advisors LLC

2. Check the Appropriate Box if a Member of a Group (See Instructions)

(a)

(b)

3. SEC Use Only

4. Citizenship or Place of Organization

Delaware

5. Sole Voting Power 0

Number of

Shares

Beneficially

Owned by

Each Reporting

Person With

6. Shared Voting Power 4,036,118

7. Sole Dispositive Power 0

8. Shared Dispositive Power 4,036,118

9. Aggregate Amount Beneficially Owned by Each Reporting Person

4,036,118

10. Check if the Aggregate Amount in Row (9) Excludes Certain Shares
(See Instructions)

11. Percent of Class Represented by Amount in Row (9) 5.46%

12. Type of Reporting Person (See Instructions) IA

3

CUSIP No. 53220K207

1. Names of Reporting Persons.

I.R.S. Identification Nos. of above persons (entities only).

Samuel D. Isaly

2. Check the Appropriate Box if a Member of a Group (See Instructions)

(a)

(b)

3. SEC Use Only

4. Citizenship or Place of Organization

United States

5. Sole Voting Power 0

Number of

Shares

Beneficially

Owned by

Each Reporting

Person With

6. Shared Voting Power 4,036,118

7. Sole Dispositive Power 0

8. Shared Dispositive Power 4,036,118

9. Aggregate Amount Beneficially Owned by Each Reporting Person
4,036,118
10. Check if the Aggregate Amount in Row (9) Excludes Certain Shares
(See Instructions)
11. Percent of Class Represented by Amount in Row (9) 5.46%
12. Type of Reporting Person (See Instructions) HC

4

Item 1. (a) Issuer: Ligand Pharmaceuticals Incorporated

(b) Address: 10275 Science Center Drive
San Diego, California 92121

Item 2. (a) Name of Person Filing:

OrbiMed Advisors Inc.
OrbiMed Advisors LLC
Samuel D. Isaly

(b) Address of Principal Business Offices:

767 Third Avenue, 30th Floor
New York, New York 10017

(c) Citizenship:

Please refer to Item 4 on each cover sheet for each filing person

(d) Title of Class of Securities

Common stock

(e) CUSIP Number: 53220K207

Item 3. OrbiMed Advisors Inc. and OrbiMed Advisors LLC are investment advisors in accordance with ss.240.13-1 (b)(1)(ii)(E). Not applicable for Samuel D. Isaly.

Item 4. Ownership

Please see Items 5 - 9 and 11 for each cover sheet for each filing separately

Item 5. Ownership of Five Percent or Less of a Class Not Applicable

Item 6. Ownership of More than Five Percent on Behalf of Another Person.

Reporting persons are holding 5.46% of the securities on behalf of other persons who have the right to receive or the power to direct the receipt of dividends from or proceeds from sale of, such securities.

Item 7. Identification and Classification of the Subsidiary Which Acquired the Security Being Reported on By the Parent Holding Company

Not Applicable

Item 8. Identification and Classification of Members of the Group

Not Applicable

Item 9. Notice of Dissolution of Group

Not Applicable

5

Item 10. Certification

By signing below I certify that, to the best of my knowledge and belief, the securities referred to above were not acquired and are not held for the purpose of or with the effect of changing or influencing the control of the issuer of the securities and were not acquired and are not held in connection with or as a participant in any transaction having that purpose or effect.

SIGNATURE

After reasonable inquiry and to the best of my knowledge and belief, I certify that the information set forth in this statement is true, complete and correct.

Date: November 29, 2002

OrbiMed Advisors Inc.

By: /s/ Samuel D. Isaly

Name: Samuel D. Isaly
Title: President

OrbiMed Advisors LLC

By: /s/ Samuel D. Isaly

Name: Samuel D. Isaly
Title: Managing Member

Samuel D. Isaly

By: /s/ Samuel D. Isaly

Name: Samuel D. Isaly

By signing below I certify that, to the best of my knowledge and belief, the securities referred to above were acquired and held in the ordinary course of business and were not acquired and are not held for the purpose of or with the effect of changing or influencing the control of the issuer of the securities and were not acquired and are not held in connection with or as a participant in any transaction having that purpose or effect.

SIGNATURE

After reasonable inquiry and to the best of my knowledge and belief, I certify that the information set forth in this statement is true, complete and correct.

Date: November 29, 2002

OrbiMed Advisors Inc

By: /s/ Samuel D. Isaly

Name: Samuel D. Isaly
Title: President

6

OrbiMed Advisors LLC

By: /s/ Samuel D. Isaly

Name: Samuel D. Isaly
Title: Managing Member

Samuel D. Isaly

By: /s/ Samuel D. Isaly

Name: Samuel D. Isaly

Exhibit 1.1

JOINT FILING AGREEMENT

The undersigned hereby agree that the Statement on this Schedule 13G, dated November 29, 2002, (the "Schedule 13G"), with respect to the Common Stock, par value \$0.001 per share, of Ligand Pharmaceuticals Incorporated is filed on behalf of each of us pursuant to and in accordance with the provisions of Rule 13d-1(k) under the Securities and Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, and that this Agreement shall be included as an Exhibit to this Schedule 13G. Each of the undersigned agrees to be responsible for the timely filing of the Schedule 13G, and for the completeness and accuracy of the information concerning itself contained therein. This Agreement may be executed in any number of counterparts, all of which taken together shall constitute one and the same instrument.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the undersigned have executed this Agreement as of the 29th day of November, 2002.

OrbiMed Advisors Inc.

By: /s/ Samuel D. Isaly

Name: Samuel D. Isaly

Title: President

OrbiMed Advisors LLC

By: /s/ Samuel D. Isaly

Name: Samuel D. Isaly

Title: Managing Member

Exhibit 2.1

Statement of Control Person

The Statement on this Schedule 13G dated November 29, 2002 with respect to the common stock par value \$0.001 per share of Ligand Pharmaceuticals Incorporated is filed by Samuel D. Isaly in accordance with the provisions of Rule 13d-1(c) and Rule 13d-1(k) respectively as a control person (HC) of Orbimed Advisors LLC and Orbimed Advisors Inc.

Orbimed Advisors Inc. and OrbiMed Advisors LLC file this statement on Schedule 13G in accordance with the provisions of Rule 13d-1(b) and Rule 13d-1(k) respectively as investment advisors (IA).